SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH COUNCIL

RUTHERFORD APPLETON LABORATORY
COMPUTING DIVISION

DISTRIBUTED INTERACTIVE COMPUTING NOTE 661

ICL/PERQ/SERC Collaboration Meeting   Issued by
2 August 1982 - Current Action List   J M Loveluck

                                                       3 August 1982

DISTRIBUTION: ICL   R Ashbrook
                              D Bandy
                              C H Barfield
                              A Brown
                              M R Carter
                              R Chamberlain
                              C Denholm
                              P Lever
                              D Pearson
                              I C Ritchie
                              M Robinson
                              P Saxon
                              J R Stonehouse
                              H S Woodgate

                    SERC   L O Ford
                              F R A Hopgood
                              J M Loveluck
                              K Robinson
                              R E Thomas
                              R W Witty

Attached is an updated Current Actions list for ICL and SERC, including actions
arising from the Collaboration Meeting of 2 August 1982.

1. ICL CURRENT ACTION LIST

    1.1   Report on the status of Ethernet strategy, in particular as it affects X25 implementation.

    1.2   Report on ICL interest in an ICL/SERC/UMIST collaboration on grey scales.

    1.3   Describe plans for future developments on PERQ-DAP software.

    1.4   Catalogue the UNIX utilities to be supported.

    1.5   Provide a draft PPSS for UNIX.

    1.6   Provide the completion criteria for UNIX.

    1.7   Define ICL plans for X25 implementation on the PERQ.

    1.8   Investigate the problem of simultaneous connection of Cambridge Ring and DAP to the PERQ, given that they may need the same I/O board slot.

    1.9   Supply a copy of the PERQ DAP specification to SERC.

    1.10 Investigate the feasibility of marketing a "glass teletype" version of PERQ UNIX.

    1.11 Provide SERC with a template indicating ICL requirements for UNIX documentation.

    1.12 Complete arrangements for the communications link between RAL and ICL Dalkeith, via ICL Bracknell.

    1.13 Request 3RCC to investigate the possibility of an IPSS communications link via TELENET.

    1.14 Provide a ½Mbyte memory board at CMU, in order that L Ford may demonstrate Accent bugs, and the performance problems of PERQ UNIX.

    1.15 M Robinson to meet weekly with RAL staff to review progress on UNIX implementation.

    1.16 Report on progress towards adoption of the ECMA communication protocols as an ISO standard.

    1.17 Clarify ICL policy on Pascal compilers, including the question of user modifications to POS.

    1.18 Provide a quotation for a binary UNIX licence before the end of August, when UNIX is expected to be released to universities.

    1.19 Inform RAL by 13 August whether ICL may issue source licences for UNIX.

    1.20 Report on the evaluation of alternative printers for the PERQ.

    1.21 Provide SERC with a specification of the new I/O board.

1.22 Report on whether it will be possible to upgrade existing PERQs with the new I/O board.

1.23 Report on decisions on ICL policy towards user microprogramming on PERQ.

1.24 Report on performance of the new Z80 firmware, and to provide SERC with a copy of the latest specification document.

2. SERC CURRENT ACTION LIST

   2.1   Make available to ICL an early version of PERQ UNIX.

   2.2   Report on progress on the GPIB/Camac interface at Daresbury Laboratory.

   2.3   Report on meetings with BTG concerning proprietary rights for SERC UNIX.

   2.4   Provide ICL with the Cambridge Ring '82 specification documents.

   2.5   Provide ICL with future requirements (eg real-time control) for future developments of ACCENT.

   2.6   Prepare for SERC adoption of the ICL/Hewlett Packard/DEC/Siemens Ethernet standard.

   2.7   Arrange a meeting between ICL, GEC and SERC to discuss possible collaboration on a 50Mbit Cambridge Ring.

   2.8   Formulate a policy on Smalltalk implementation and on non-procedural languages (LISP, PROLOGUE, etc) on PERQ.

   2.9   Reply to the 3RCC request for views on requirements for a PERQ colour display.

   2.10 Provide design and maintenance documentation for SERC UNIX.

   2.11 Investigate the possibility of an early UNIX troff implementation on the PERQ, as an aid to producing common documentation.

   2.12 Make a statement of views on the ICL overall development plans for the PERQ.

   2.13 Clarify the problems of implementation of IEEE floating point arithmetic under PERQ UNIX, and formulate a strategy for dealing with them.

   2.14 RAL staff to meet weekly with M Robinson to review progress on UNIX implementation.

   2.15 Report on the tender exercise for the PERQ/Cambridge ring interface.

   2.16 Specify the test procedure for UNIX commands, and to report the results of these tests.

   2.17 Provide information on the system call interface of PERQ UNIX.

   2.18 Provide ICL with an amended Cooperative Grant Proposal (RG2) for a Window Manager (long term solution) for PERQ UNIX.

   2.19 Comment on the ICL document comparing POS and UNIX Fortran 77, indicating any modifications to UNIX Fortran 77 in the PERQ ACCENT implementation

   2.20 Reply to the ICL proposal for a new series of meetings to replace the current monthly meetings.