

## Configuration Codes

With effect from the 1st January 1993 a major simplification is being introduced to the ordering of configuration codes for the current versions of System Manager (version 7.0 and version 8.0).

### SECTION 1 – HISTORICAL BACKGROUND TO CONFIGURATION CODES

If you are not interested in the history skip this and the next section and resume at section 3 overleaf.

Global System Manager for BOS has been around since 1977. Since 1979 we have found it necessary to have various different configurations available for a particular computer. This was because:-

- Some computers would not bootstrap if expected peripherals were not present;
- Users wished to use and parameterise a growing range of peripherals. Since 1981 we have given up any attempt to pre-configure all combinations of peripherals by making available Global Configurator.

When ordering System Manager between 1981 and 1989 resellers had to either ask us to create a configuration to match their requirements or rely on lists of configuration files distributed from time to time.

Since 1989 when ordering System Manager resellers have been able to select the configuration which most closely matches their requirements and then use Configurator to tune the system to the exact specification.

During the entire period since Configurator was introduced in 1981, configuration numbers have been allocated to coincide with now-obsolete commercial policy or now-superseded computers; thus the list of configurations for System Manager for BOS (on standard 80x86 computers) is untidy and very difficult for new resellers and new staff at existing resellers to get to grips with.

Configurations for Unix and MS-DOS have, by comparison, been simple. Nevertheless the spurious requirement to select a configuration code from the handbook is there for these operating systems purely to fit in with System Manager for BOS.

### SECTION 2 – WHY THIS SHOULD CHANGE

This should change for two reasons:-

- Firstly to remove the need to select a configuration code from the complex tables in the handbook – all that should be necessary is the configuration number.
- Secondly to simplify the choice of configuration number for BOS.

We can change now because computers with incorrect configurations tend not to fail to bootstrap any more.

## SECTION 3 – THE CHANGES AS FROM 1ST JANUARY

It will no longer be necessary to select a configuration code from the handbook as from January 1993; indeed configuration codes will not be printed in issue 12 and later of the handbook. All you need to do is select the configuration number and indicate the price level (i.e. number of screens plus, if 1 screen only, an indication of whether the system is concurrent).

Separate LAN configuration numbers are available for computers where LAN and Multi-user are alternatives (e.g. BOS and MS-DOS configurations).

Previously we have attempted to hold the 'default configuration' information for a site such as a reseller's site or a LAN where many configurations might be current. This default was never reliable and led to many problems of 'incorrect generations'. We are abandoning any pretence at maintaining this information.

All BOS configuration numbers (5500 to 5519) are being abandoned and new numbers allocated in the range 5700 to 5799. These are more logically allocated. **Configurations in the range 5500 to 5519 will not be updated with zaps or bug fixes during 1993** and we recommend that you do not attempt to order such configuration numbers in 1993. They will become unavailable (even for re-generations) from 1<sup>st</sup> January 1994.

The configurations for BOS have been allocated to take account of the following variables:-

- Is the configuration LAN or MU?
- Will the machine boot from BACRES and allow SDCOPY, Configurator and INSBOS to operate? The three important variables here are:
  - Is the bus MCA-compatible or ISA-/EISA-compatible?
  - Is the diskette the correct size (3½" or 5¼")?
  - Is the hard disk accessed via the BIOS or via an Adaptec SCSI host adaptor?We have not attempted to resolve the problems of providing configurations which allow bootstrap of computers without an integral screen. The large number of different ways the 'master' serial console can be connected make this unfeasible. Resellers will need to modify configuration files before BACRES is booted for such computers.

Analysis of the above list has led us to produce the following twelve configurations:-

| Config number | Bus         | Diskette format | Hard disk assumed | LAN?    |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------|
| 5700          | ISA or EISA | 5¼" G           | via BIOS          | non-LAN |
| 5701          | ISA or EISA | 5¼" G           | via BIOS          | LAN     |
| 5702          | ISA or EISA | 5¼" C           | via BIOS          | non-LAN |
| 5703          | ISA or EISA | 5¼" C           | via BIOS          | LAN     |
| 5704          | ISA or EISA | 3½" B           | via BIOS          | non-LAN |
| 5705          | ISA or EISA | 3½" B           | via BIOS          | LAN     |
| 5706          | ISA or EISA | 5¼" G           | Adaptec           | non-LAN |
| 5707          | ISA or EISA | 5¼" G           | Adaptec           | LAN     |
| 5708          | ISA or EISA | 3½" B           | Adaptec           | non-LAN |
| 5709          | ISA or EISA | 3½" B           | Adaptec           | LAN     |
| 5710          | MCA         | 3½" B           | via BIOS          | non-LAN |
| 5711          | MCA         | 3½" B           | via BIOS          | LAN     |

Configurations 5702 and 5703 are clearly obsolescent (there are few computers still running which only support low-density 5¼" diskettes). These two configurations will be withdrawn at the end of 1993.

The peripherals supported by the above are shown in 1 (for 5700 to 5709) and 1 (for 5710 to 5711).

Clearly Figures I and II allow a greater proportion of the computers being sold to be easily matched with a configuration number. The following table shows the mapping from existing configurations to new configurations.

| <i>Old configuration</i> | <i>New configuration name</i> | <i>Number non-LAN</i> | <i>Number LAN</i> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 5500 IBM AT              | ISA or EISA; 5½" G; BIOS      | 5700                  | 5701              |
| 5505 Apricot 5½" C       | ISA or EISA; 5½" C; BIOS      | 5702                  | 5703              |
| 5506 Foundation          | ISA or EISA; 5½" G; BIOS      | 5700                  | 5701              |
| 5508 Apricot 3½"         | ISA or EISA; 3½" B; BIOS      | 5704                  | 5705              |
| 5512 IBM PS/2 30         | ISA or EISA; 3½" B; BIOS      | 5704                  | 5705              |
| 5513 IBM PS/2 50         | MCA                           | 5710                  | 5711              |
| 5515 Foundation 386HP    | ISA or EISA; 5½" G; Adaptec   | 5706                  | 5707              |
| 5517 Apricot 5½" G       | ISA or EISA; 5½" G; BIOS      | 5700                  | 5701              |
| 5518 iServer             | ISA or EISA; 5½" G; Adaptec   | 5706                  | 5707              |
| 5519 IBM PC and XT       | ISA or EISA; 5½" C; BIOS      | 5702                  | 5703              |

The reseller will need to run Configurator to define the position of the master serial terminal for Foundation 386HPs and other computers with no integral screen.

All configurations are aimed at IBM-AT-style or PS/2-model-30-style computers. They may operate on clones. Configurations are supplied with the following items in the configuration file:

| Type     | Device                              | Configurations |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| disk     | 2 variable-size integral drives     | 5700 to 5705   |
|          | 2 variable-size Adaptec SCSI drives | 5706 to 5709   |
| diskette | 1 5½" and 1 3½" diskette drives     | all            |
| console  | 1 colour or monochrome screen       | all            |
|          | 1 serial terminal on COM1           | all            |
| printer  | 2 parallel printers on LPT1 & LPT2  | all            |
|          | 1 serial printer on COM2            | all            |
| tape     | 1 QIC-02 tape drive                 | 5700 to 5705   |
|          | 1 Adaptec SCSI tape drive           | 5706 to 5709   |

Configurations can be modified using Global Configurator to add, amend or delete any of the above and also to add one or more of the following so long as the restrictions on number of screens and network/multi-user restrictions are not breached:

| Type          | Device                                    | Device                          |
|---------------|---|---------------------------------|
| disk          | OMTI 510 SCSI disk                        | Adaptec SCSI                    |
| disk          | Tandon disk pack                          |                                 |
| diskette      | 3½" diskette drive                        | 5½" diskette                    |
| drive         |   |                                 |
| console       | COM2/COM3/COM4                            | Arnet Multiport                 |
| & Twinport    |   |                                 |
| CC/8D         | Arnet Smartport plus 8<br>TCL +4D and +8D | Arnet Octaport<br>TCL CC/4D and |
| card          | Hyperport & Hyper Mx                      | Apricot Quad                    |
| printer       | COM1/COM2/COM3/COM4                       | Arnet Multiport                 |
| & Twinport    |   |                                 |
| CC/8D         | Arnet Smartport plus 8<br>TCL +4D and +8D | Arnet Octaport<br>TCL CC/4D and |
| card          | Hyperport & Hyper Mx                      | Apricot Quad                    |
| network       | SMC Arcnet-PC                             | SMC Arcnet-                     |
| PC100         |   |                                 |
| comms         | DSP ARC-200<br>ASYNCH on COM1             | DSP ARC-260X<br>SYNCH on IBM    |
| bi-synch card | ASYNCH on COM2                            |                                 |

**Figure I** – ISA and EISA bus configurations for BOS

All configurations are aimed at PS/2 style computers. They may operate on clones. All configurations are supplied with the following items in the configuration file:

| <i>Type</i> | <i>Device</i>                      |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| disk        | 2 variable-size integral drives    |
| diskette    | 1 5¼" and 1 3½" diskette drives    |
| console     | 1 colour or monochrome screen      |
|             | 1 serial terminal on COM1          |
| printer     | 2 parallel printers on LPT1 & LPT2 |
|             | 1 serial printer on COM2           |
| tape        | 1 QIC-02 tape drive                |

Configurations can be modified using Global Configurator to add, amend or delete any of the above and also to add one or more of the following so long as the restrictions on number of screens and network/multi-user restrictions are not breached:

| <i>Type</i> | <i>Device</i>                     | <i>Device</i>              |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| disk        | Adaptec SCSI disk                 |                            |
| diskette    | 3½" diskette drive                | 5¼" diskette drive         |
| console     | COM2/COM3/COM4                    | SERIAL1 to SERIAL8         |
|             | Arnet Multiport/2 TCL +4D and +8D |                            |
| printer     | TCL CC/4D and CC/8D               | Hyperport & Hyper Mx       |
|             | COM2/COM3/COM4                    | SERIAL1 to SERIAL8         |
|             | Arnet Multiport/2 TCL +4D and +8D |                            |
|             | TCL CC/4D and CC/8D               | Hyperport & Hyper Mx       |
| network     | DSP ARC-500                       |                            |
| comms       | ASYNCH on COM1 or COM2            | SYNCH on IBM bi-synch card |

**Figure II** – MCA bus configurations for BOS

Those interested may wish to know that the actual configuration code generated will be 57nnx where x is the 'price code' as follows:-

- W single user
- A concurrent
- B 2 to 3 screens
- X 4 to 7 screens
- Y 8 to 12 screens
- D 13 to 24 screens
- E 25 to 39 screens
- F 40 to 59 screens
- G 60 to 99 screens

The concurrent and single-user configurations are not available for the LAN configuration numbers.

## SECTION 4 – THE NEW ORDER FORM AND USING THE OLD ORDER FORM

New order forms are available which:-

- Have a simplified configuration section
- Allow for the one-off rental fee
- Correspond to the new delivery charge policy.

We recommend that you use the new order form; supplies are available from the city despatch department. If you do continue to use the new order form after 1st January, please merely specify the configuration number omitting the two-character suffix.

## SECTION 5 – SUMMARY OF ALL V7.0 AND V8.0 CONFIGURATION NUMBERS

The following table shows all version 7.0 and version 8.0 configurations:-

|                        |                              |                |                |
|------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Unix                   | Bull DPX/2                   | 5½" G.....5525 |                |
|                        | HP 9000 (HP-UX V7)           | tape.....5531  | 5½" C.....5530 |
|                        | HP 9000 (HP-UX V8)           | tape.....5541  | 3½" B.....5540 |
|                        | IBM RS/6000 (AIX V3.1)       | 3½" B.....5524 |                |
|                        | IBM RS/6000 (AIX V3.2)       | 3½" B.....5539 |                |
|                        | MIPS Riscomputer             | tape.....5520  |                |
|                        | Motorola Delta               | tape.....5529  | 5½" G.....5534 |
|                        | Motorola MPC88               | tape.....5536  | 5½" G.....5535 |
|                        | SCO                          | 5½" G.....5522 | 3½" B.....5527 |
|                        | Sun SPARC (Sun/OS)           | 3½" B.....5523 |                |
|                        | TIS iServer                  | 5½" G.....5521 |                |
| MSDOS<br>and<br>Novell | MSDOS; 5½" G                 | <i>non-LAN</i> |                |
|                        | MSDOS; 3½" B                 | 5600           | 5601           |
|                        | Novell 5½" G                 | 5602           | 5603           |
|                        | Novell 3½" B                 |                | 5606           |
| BOS                    | Novell 3½" B                 |                | 5607           |
|                        | ISA/EISA bus; 5½" G; BIOS    | <i>non-LAN</i> |                |
|                        | ISA/EISA bus; 5½" C; BIOS    | 5700           | 5701           |
|                        | ISA/EISA bus; 3½" B; BIOS    | 5702           | 5703           |
|                        | ISA/EISA bus; 5½" G; Adaptec | 5704           | 5705           |
|                        | ISA/EISA bus; 3½" B; Adaptec | 5706           | 5707           |
|                        | MCA bus; 3½" B               | 5708           | 5709           |
|                        |                              | 5710           | 5711           |