

INTRODUCTION AND PREFACE to MERT RELEASE 0 Manual

Why MERT RELEASE 0 ?

The number of MERT installations within Bell Laboratories is approaching 20, and their support by the inventors of MERT, Heinz Lycklama and Douglas Bayer, is becoming more and more impractical. The Small Systems Planning and Development Department (8234) at Murray Hill, which has been supporting UNIX for more than four years, is taking over support of MERT. This manual accompanies the first release (Release 0) of MERT from this organization. It reflects the status of MERT as of the fall of 1977. Notice that the accompanying UNIX commands are not compatible with either the USG Generic 3 (PG 1C300-03) or the PWB/UNIX System, although an effort has been made to keep the differences small. (See Preface to UNIX Programmer's Manual in this binder). The next release of MERT is planned for fall 1978 and will run under the name UNIX/RT. That system is intended to be compatible with its time-sharing counterpart, UNIX/TS, which will be based on UNIX Research Version 7, with additions from UNIX Generic 3 and the Programmer's Workbench System.

Composition of this Manual

The MERT Release 0 Manual consists of the UNIX PROGRAMMER'S MANUAL (Generic 3 with additional update pages), a new edition of the MERT PROGRAMMER'S MANUAL (Second Edition), some documents needed to accept and use the software distributed as MERT Release 0, and the latest C Reference Manual.

The UNIX PROGRAMMER'S MANUAL of this release is based on the Generic 3 edition (PG 1C300 - Issue 3), which in unchanged form does *not* accurately reflect the UNIX facilities offered under MERT Release 0. To complete the MERT Release 0 Manual, recipients are required to modify the enclosed UNIX manual (unless the insertions have been done already) by replacing certain pages with the supplied update pages, when inserting the manual in this binder. Updating instructions can be found behind the UNIX divider.

Machine Readable Manuals

The text of this manual is also distributed in machine readable form, ready for the *nroff* or *troff* formatters. The text is in a file system *lman*. Instructions can also be found in the directory of this name. Schedule pressures being what they are, after this manual has gone to press, it is very likely that additional corrections have become necessary. List the directory *manlchanges* to find out what has changed since printing, and follow the instructions there to obtain additional update pages. When using the *man* command to obtain UNIX or MERT manual pages, you will of course get the latest updated version.

Problem Reporting

Problems with MERT Release 0 as well as corrections to the contents of this publication should be reported to the Trouble Reporting System on the Murray Hill UNIX System (Extension 7690, login *mtrob*), or an informal statement of the problem should be sent to Mrs. Rhoda J. Fiore, Murray Hill, N.J., room 2F-219, who also handles the distribution of the monthly Minisystems Newsletter, which periodically publishes the latest trouble reports.

G.W.R.L.

This page has been left blank intentionally.