

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Computer Centre

NEWSLETTER

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1 NEW VERSION OF BATCON, THE BATCH CONTROLLER

Version 12 replaces version 11 of BATCON. Apart from being more reliable, the functional differences are few and fairly minor:

- 1.1 Leading spaces or tabs on a control file line are no longer ignored.
- 1.2 The operation of "+" (up-arrow or circumflex) is slightly different, e.g. ↑C becomes Control-C, and ↑↑C becomes ↑C as before, but ↑↑↑C now becomes ↑Control-C instead of ↑↑C.
- 1.3 "\$" (dollar sign) no longer has special meaning in control files. This change will not affect card deck setups, since SPRINT does not put \$ control cards in the control file.
- 1.4 There are no "semifatal" errors. Any incorrect use of the batch command language results in an error message and control is transferred to "%FIN::".
- 1.5 Confusion over the interaction of dialogue mode (.OPERATOR) and error correction via .IF commands has been clarified.
- 1.6 .ERROR specifies an additional character to be used in error detection. "?" is always in effect (unless .NOERROR is specified).
- 1.7 Labels in control files must begin with a letter and be terminated by "::" (two colons).
- 1.8 Specifying a .KJOB command is not a recommended practice.

2 LINK - NEW SYSTEM LINKING LOADER

LINK-10 now replaces LOADER as the standard system linking loader.

The only difference apparent to the average user is that the /SEARCH switch should be used to specify library search mode of loading.

LINK-10 is fully documented in the third edition of the DECsystem-10 Assembly Language Handbook.