

HOST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

The host communications utility (HCOMM) for the 9520 Software Development System provides the ability to transfer ASCII files between the 9520 and other devices. It can be executed under either MP/M or CP/M on a 9520. The transfer is made over an RS-232 type link. HCOMM responds to and manages the RS-232 control lines DTR and DSR. In addition, two software protocols (positive/negative acknowledge and XON/XOFF) are supported. The transferred files are composed of 7- or 8-bit ASCII characters in variable length records. Each record is normally terminated by a selectable end-of-record sequence. The entire file may be terminated by a selectable end-of-file sequence. Other devices HCOMM may communicate with may be another computer (through either a terminal or a non-terminal port) or a piece of equipment (such as a PROM programmer). Virtually any device supporting RS-232 communications may be used.

General Operations

Several steps are required to prepare for and perform a file transfer. First, the type of connection must be determined. This may be either to a terminal (console) port on another computer or to a non-terminal port on another computer or piece of equipment. Then, the physical link must be established. This requires knowledge of the signals originating from and expected by both the 9520 and the other device. A special cable or a breakout box may be needed to make the correct connections. Next, each of the options controlling a file transfer must be considered and correctly selected. The option selections depend on the operating parameters of the interface, the structure of the transferred file, the protocol used, and the type of connection. The options may also depend on the direction of the file transfer. After the options for a particular transfer have been selected, they may be saved in an options file and quickly loaded again in a subsequent invocation of HCOMM. Finally, files may be transferred. To do this, knowledge of how to operate both HCOMM and the other device is required.

Three examples are included in this document to describe HCOMM usage in detail. The examples are presented in a step-by-step manner, with each step following the description of the relevant HCOMM display. The displays are in the order that an operator would normally consider them in performing a transfer. Generally, the following questions are answered for each step: Where was the information obtained that was required in this example? How was the information used to select an option or prescribe an action? And what, if anything, was entered in response to the HCOMM queries?

In this chapter, sets of example descriptions are preceded and followed by thick bold lines. Examples of actual HCOMM displays and queries are preceded and followed by thin bold lines. Operator entries are presented in bold print. Three special operator entries are enclosed in angle brackets:

- <CR> carriage-return character - return key pressed
- <^T> terminal mode entry character - control and T keys pressed simultaneously
- <^E> null character - control and E keys pressed simultaneously (shift may also be required for E key)

AT COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

tion of specific products, not produced or sold by Millennium, should not be construed as a recommendation, by Millennium, of their merits over other, similar products. They have been chosen, as examples of actual transfers, merely to illustrate some types of HCOMM usage, and how a user, faced with a similar task, is to proceed.

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

In this example, an Intel hex format file was transferred from the Inteltec to the 9520. Intel hex format is a means of specifying object files using ASCII characters. Each record contains an introductory character, a record length, an address, a record type, memory data, and a checksum. All items except the introductory character are represented in hexadecimal digits. The 9520 has facilities for manipulating and executing Intel hex format files.

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

Two operations were performed in this example. In one, a TEKHEX format file was transferred from the 9520 to the 8002's memory. TEKHEX is an object file format, developed by Tektronix, that is similar to the Intel hex format. In the other operation, a text file was transferred from the 8002 to the 9520.

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

In this example, text files were transferred in both directions between a computer running the UNIX system and the 9520. Communication with the UNIX system is through a modem connection over a dial-up telephone line.

Invoking and Using HCOMM

The host communications utility may be invoked in either of two forms:

OAHCOMM

OAHCOMM filename

In the first form the HCOMM options are initialized with their default values. In the second form the specified options file is loaded to initialize the HCOMM options (see display K). The filename may include an extension.

HCOMM initially presents its menu. A menu item (display) may be selected by pressing the appropriate letter (upper or lower case) and pressing the "return" key. The console screen is then filled with the selected display. Some displays are purely informational. Others control options. These present

HOST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Information about the options as well as their current values. The operator may alter the values of the options in response to the display's queries. Entering a blank line (pressing the "return" key and nothing else) in response to any query leaves the value of the option unaltered. The menu is presented again after the operator has responded to all queries in a display. Other displays control file actions. In these a blank line immediately returns the operator to the menu. The remaining menu items allow the operator to request the menu be presented again, or to exit HCOMM. An example of the menu, display selection, and return to the menu is shown below.

File Transfer Utility - Asynchronous Communications Interface - Version 1.0

Menu:

- A General information regarding protocol
- B RS-232 link information
- C DTR/DSR information
- D Interface parameters options
- E End-of-record sequence option
- F End-of-file sequence option
- G Abort sequence option
- H ACK/NAK options
- I XON/XOFF option
- J Terminal mode options
- K Save or load selected options to or from a file
- L Transfer files from interface to disk
- M Transfer files from interface to disk
- N — Display this menu
- O Exit file transfer utility

In response to any query, the new options (blank or comma separated) must be entered with a carriage-return. A blank line leaves the options unaltered. Striking CTL-C as the first character returns control to the operating system.

Enter desired menu item letter (Q <letter> - skips informative text): A <cr>

COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

General Information Regarding Protocol

File Transfer Utility is used to transfer ASCII files between the 9520 and other devices over an RS232 type link. The other device may be a computer, ROM programmer or anything else capable of meeting the interface and protocol requirements.

Data is transferred in variable length records terminated by an operator selectable, end-of-record sequence. The maximum record length is 255 characters (excluding the end-of-record sequence).

Various methods of synchronizing and acknowledging record transfers are available (DTR/DSR, ACK/NAK, and XON/XOFF). Any or all of these protocols may be selected, but at sufficiently low transfer rates (2400 or less) none are needed. The DTR/DSR protocol is always selected, but it may be disregarded if certain hardware considerations are met (see DTR/DSR Information).

Transfers are terminated normally by an operator selectable, end-of-file sequence. An abnormal termination is signalled by the transfer of an operator selectable, abort sequence.

Press blank line to return to menu: <Cr>

Transfer Utility - Asynchronous Communications Interface - Version 1.0

- A General information regarding protocol
- B RS-232 link information
- C DTR/DSR information
- D Interface parameters options
- E End-of-record sequence option
- F End-of-file sequence option
- G Abort sequence option
- H ACK/NAK options
- I XON/XOFF option
- J Terminal mode options
- K Save or load selected options to or from a file
- L Transfer files from interface to disk
- M Transfer files from interface to disk
- N Display this menu
- O Exit file transfer utility

In response to any query, the new options (blank or comma separated) must be entered with a carriage-return. A blank line leaves the options unaltered. Pressing CTL-C as the first character returns control to the operating system.

Press desired menu item letter (Q <letter> - skips informative text):

HOST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

If the operator wishes to suppress the informative text of a display the quiet option should be used. This is done by typing a "Q" or "q" followed by a blank line, a comma and then the desired menu item letter. If the selected display controls options their current values are presented before the display's queries. The menu is not presented again on return from a display that was selected with the quiet option. Only a reminder of how to request the menu is displayed, as shown below.

Enter desired menu item letter (Q <letter> - skips informative text): Q A <cr>

Enter a blank line (or anything) to return to menu: <cr>

NOTE: Item N displays the full menu

Enter desired menu item letter (Q <letter> - skips informative text):

HCOMM operates in three modes. It is in entry mode whenever it is waiting for the operator to type something in response to a query. The operating system provides a means to abort HCOMM, while in entry mode, by typing control-C as the first character of a response. A control-T entered as the first character of a response puts HCOMM in terminal mode after the "return" key is pressed. When terminal mode is exited the remainder of the line (following the control-T) is taken as the response to the query, unless it is blank, in which case the query is repeated. For more information on terminal mode see display J. Finally, HCOMM is in transfer mode when a file transfer is taking place. A description of transfer mode may be found preceding the description of display L.

Initial Connection Decision

The first decision facing the user is how the 9520 is to be connected to the other device. The other device may treat the 9520 either as a terminal or a non-terminal. Most computer systems provide utilities to display ASCII text files at a terminal and accept input from a terminal to be stored in a file. The 9520 can be connected to these systems as a terminal and make use of these utilities to transfer files. Also, some computer systems provide special utilities that support communications through alternate I/O ports. The 9520 can be connected to these as a non-terminal. And of course, other equipment may be terminal peripherals themselves so with these the 9520 must not be considered a terminal.

Sample #1 Intellec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

The Intellec had an alternate port (TTY) that was connected to a line printer. This printer was known to utilize the type of RS-232 communications required by HCOMM. By reading the associated manual, it was learned that the Intellec had facilities for copying ASCII text files to its TTY port. Since the intended transfer was only from the Intellec to the 9520, these capabilities were deemed sufficient. It was decided, therefore, to connect the 9520 as a non-terminal to the TTY port on the Intellec.

COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

Reading the associated manual, it was learned that the 8002 had a terminal as well as an alternate remote I/O port. For the text file transfer either could have been used. On reading further, however, it was found that the EX format file transfer could only be accomplished with an 8002 utility that only the remote I/O port. It was decided, therefore, to use the remote I/O for both transfers and to connect the 9520 to it as a non-terminal.

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

The only available connection to the UNIX system was through a modem. By reading the UNIX system manuals, it was learned that utilities existed for both writing a text file to a terminal and accepting input from a terminal to be stored in a text file. Therefore, text file transfers both to and from the UNIX system were possible. The 9520 was necessarily connected to the modem as a terminal.

Display A - Establishing the Physical Link

Display B - RS-232 Link Information

To establish the physical link, the user must connect the RS-232 like, line printer port (J12) on the 9520 to a similar port on the other device. HCOMM handles its port in a fashion similar to Data Communications Equipment (DCE). The other device's ability to manage and respond to these lines must be determined. It may be necessary to make a special cable, or use a breakout box, to cross connect certain lines. A detailed description of the RS-232 lines handled by HCOMM and the 9520 is presented in display B, as shown below.

RS-232 Link Information

The interface to the 9520 involves an RS-232 type link. The pins connected, the lines assigned to them, the directions of the signals, and their uses are indicated below:

- Protective Ground (common)
- TXD / Transmitted Data (to 9520) - data transmitted from other device
- RXD / Received Data (from 9520) - data received by other device
- RTS / Request to Send (to 9520) - ignored
- CTS / Clear to Send (from 9520) - same as DSR
- DSR / Data Set Ready (from 9520) - controls other device transmission
- Signal Ground (common)
- RLSD / Rec. Line Sis. Det. (from 9520) - held marking (ON)
- DTR / Data Terminal Ready (to 9520) - controls 9520 transmission

For more information on the "control" lines, see DTR/DSR Information.

Enter a blank line (or anything) to return to menu: <cr>

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

The Inteltec was found to use the line printer attached to its TTY port in the same manner as the 9520 used that printer. From this fact it was concluded that the Inteltec TTY port was performing like DCE, as does the printer port on the 9520. To connect the 9520 to the Inteltec's TTY port, therefore, an RS-232 breakout box was used to connect the 9520's TXD pin to the Inteltec's RXD pin. Since the data were only transferred from the Inteltec to the 9520, the other data line (9520's RXD to Inteltec's TXD) was unnecessary, and therefore not connected. Also, by examining the cable connecting the Inteltec's TTY port to the line printer, it was learned that the printer's DTR pin was connected to the Inteltec's CTS pin. Since the printer was known to manage the DTR line correctly (and hence that the Inteltec had to respond to it correctly) the 9520's DSR pin was connected to the Inteltec's CTS pin. And, of course, signal ground was

ST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

connected. The connections that were used are tabulated below.

	9520 pin	to	Intellec pin
(TXD)	2	- - - -	3 (RXD)
(DSR)	6	- - - -	5 (CTS)
	7	-(common)-	7

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

By reading the associated manual, it was learned that the 8002 remote I/O port performs as Data Terminal Equipment (DTE) and managed and responded to the DTR and DSR control lines. Therefore, the 9520 was connected directly to the 8002 remote I/O port with a flat ribbon cable. The necessary connections are tabulated below.

	9520 pin	to	8002 pin
(TXD)	2	- - - -	2 (TXD)
(RXD)	3	- - - -	3 (RXD)
(DSR)	6	- - - -	6 (DSR)
	7	-(common)-	7
(DTR)	20	- - - -	20 (DTR)

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

The modem performed like DCE, of course; therefore, a breakout box was used to pass connect the data lines. Also, by reading the modem's manual, it was learned that the modem required an active DTR signal from the connected terminal. The 9520's DSR pin was connected to the modem's DTR pin for this purpose. The modem was also found to hold its CTS pin active when it was ready. This pin was connected to the 9520's DTR pin. The connections that were used are tabulated below.

	9520 pin	to	modem pin
(TXD)	2	- - - -	3 (RXD)
(RXD)	3	- - - -	2 (TXD)
(DSR)	6	- - - -	20 (DTR)
	7	-(common)-	7
(DTR)	20	- - - -	5 (CTS)

Play C - DTR/DSR Information

The primary protocol for controlling transfer synchronization and speed is two "ready/not ready" control lines, DTR and DSR. The DSR line is held active when the 9520 is ready to receive and is inactive when HCOMM is not ready to receive. The other device cannot respond to this signal a software protocol must be used to control the transfer of data to the 9520. However, no protocol is necessary if the data is sent to the 9520 at less than 280 characters/second. HCOMM will not transmit data unless the incoming DTR line is active. If

HOST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

If the other device does not manage this line correctly it must either be held active at all times or remain disconnected. Also, in that event, a software protocol must be selected if the other device cannot accept the transferred data as quickly as HDCOMM sends them. This information is reiterated in display C, as shown below.

DTR/DSR Information

The interface's DTR line controls transmission from the 9520. The DSR line controls transmission from the other device. Of the other two commonly used control signals, RTS is ignored and CTS is held the same as DSR (see RS-232 Link Information).

The 9520 will not transmit unless the other device indicates that it is ready to receive by holding the DTR line in an active state. Similarly, the 9520 will hold the DSR line in an active state only when it is ready to receive. Thus, these lines provide synchronization and speed controls if the other device is capable of managing and responding to them.

If the other device cannot manage and respond to these lines, synchronization and speed controls, if needed, must be accomplished with either an ACK/NAK or HD/XOFF protocol, or both. Furthermore, the DTR line must be held in an active state. This is done automatically in the 9520 hardware if the other device is not connected to the DTR line. If the other device is connected, however, it must be responsible for holding the DTR line in an active state.

Enter blank line (or anything) to return to menu: <cr>

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

From previous use of the line printer it was known that the Inteltec's TTY port correctly responded to a control line signal. For this reason the 9520's DSR line was connected as explained previously. Since the data were only transferred from the Inteltec to the 9520, the other control line (9520's DTR to Inteltec's CTS) was unnecessary, and therefore not connected.

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

The DTR and DSR control lines were found to be correctly managed and responded to by the 8002 remote I/O port. (As will be explained later, however, an ACK/NAK protocol was necessary to control synchronization for the TEKHEX format file transfer.)

COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

#1 #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

the transfer speed and synchronization of the UNIX system could not be used with the control lines over a modem connection, the control line conditions were only required for correct operation of the modem.

Options Selection

Display D - Interface Parameters Options

Having established the physical link it is necessary to inform HCOMM1 of the interface parameters. There are four such: the size of each data character (either 7- or 8-bit ASCII), the selection of parity generation and checking for each character, the number of stop bits transmitted with each character, and the transmission rate (bits/second). In response to the query the user may enter a list of up to four letters, separated by blanks or a comma. The letters correspond to one option selected for each parameter and may be typed in any order. Provided there is no entry error, when the "return" key is pressed any new options entered are selected and the user is returned to the menu. The interface parameters options are controlled by display D, as shown below.

Interface Parameters Options

The interface may have one of the appropriate options, listed below, selected for each of its four parameters.

Data Size:	A - 7 bits	B - 8 bits	
Parity:	C - None	D - Odd	F - Mark (7-bit data size only)
		E - Even	G - Space (7-bit data size only)
Stop Bits:	H - 1	I - 2	
Baud Rate:	J - 110	N - 2400	
	K - 300	O - 4800	
	L - 600	P - 9600	
	M - 1200	Q - 19200	

Interface parameters options:

Size: B - 8 bits Parity: D - None Stop Bits: H - 1 Rate: P - 9600

Enter new options: <cr>

Note: The mark and space "parity" options are different from the others. The rest of the options are used to directly set up the interface hardware. The mark and space options, however, actually use 8-bit transmission and reception and use software to generate and check the most significant bit for the appropriate condition. If used with the 8-bit data size option they are the same as the no parity option.

COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

On the Inteltec's use of the line printer it was known that three of its interface parameters had to be: 8 bit data size, no parity, and one stop bit. The rate for the printer was 9600 baud. The Inteltec TTY port was set to this rate, however, by a special program. It was decided, instead, to use the port's default rate for the Intel hex format file transfer. The name of the TTY port suggested that its default rate might be 110 baud. This rate was tried and it failed. Since only the rate differed from the default initialization parameters, only its new selection was entered and the other options were left unaltered.

Interface parameters options:

data: B - 8 bits Parity: D - None Stop Bits: H - 1 Rate: P - 9600

Enter new options: J <cr>

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

Reading the associated manual, it was learned that for the TEKHEX format file transfer the interface parameters were: 8-bit data size, no parity, one stop bit, and 9600 baud rate. Since these are the default initialization values, no options were entered.

Interface parameters options:

data: B - 8 bits Parity: D - None Stop Bits: H - 1 Rate: P - 9600

Enter new options: <cr>

When, for the text file transfer, different interface parameters options were selected. From previous experience with CP/M it was known that the utility used to transfer the text file would simulate 7-bit data with a space parity bit. The default initialization parameters (8-bit data with no parity) could have been used without affecting the data, but the actual parameters were chosen instead, to provide a better check on the transfer.

Interface parameters options:

data: B - 8 bits Parity: D - None Stop Bits: H - 1 Rate: P - 9600

Enter new options: A G <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

The interface parameters options for the UNIX system were determined from the settings of the terminal being used. They were found to be: 8 bit data size, no parity, one stop bit, and a 1200 baud rate. Only the rate differed from the default initializations so only that parameter was altered.

Interface parameters options:

Size: B - 8 bits Parity: D - None Stop Bits: H - 1 Rate: P - 9600

Enter new options: M <CR>

Display E - End-of-record Sequence Option

The ASCII character data transferred by HCOMM is organized into variable length records that are terminated by an end-of-record sequence. The ASCII text files stored on the 9520's diskettes have variable length records terminated by a carriage-return/line-feed sequence. The purpose of display E, therefore, is to provide the translation between the sequence used on the 9520's file system and that being generated or expected by the other device. In some cases it may be necessary to have an empty end-of-record sequence: with fixed length records, for example, or with variable length records that contain a count rather than a terminator. Such files may not be acceptable to many of the 9520's standard utilities but HCOMM may be able to transfer them for special purposes.

There may be up to 16 characters in the end-of-record sequence. They are each entered, in order and blank or comma separated, as two-digit hexadecimal numbers representing their ASCII codes. An empty sequence is selected by entering "N" or "n" alone on the line.

The HCOMM record buffer may contain up to 255 characters. If the record read from disk fills the buffer before a carriage-return/line-feed is encountered the record is sent to the other device without an end-of-record sequence. Likewise, if the buffer fills with characters from the other device before an end-of-record sequence is detected the record is written to the 9520 file without a carriage-return/line-feed. This will happen, particularly, when the end-of-record sequence is empty unless the entire file is less than 255 characters.

If the last record received by HCOMM is not properly terminated with an end-of-record sequence it is discarded. This is done so that, when the 9520 is connected as a terminal, the prompt that is normally sent to a terminal after a transfer, by the other device, is not written to the 9520 file. This also means that when the end-of-record sequence is empty a last partial record containing valid data may be discarded. In this case, loss of data may be avoided by having the other device send 254 pad characters to insure that all valid data is written to the file. A text editor on the 9520 may then be used to remove any pad characters that may be in the file.

POST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

End-of-record Sequence Option

The end-of-record sequence is the sequence of characters that terminates the transferred records of ASCII characters. When stored on the disk of the 9520, this sequence is CR-LF (0D-0A hex). If the other device uses some other sequence for this purpose, it must be made known to the File Transfer Utility so that the sequence can be correctly translated.

End-of-record sequence: 0D 0A

Enter new end-of-record sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): <cr>

Example #1 Intellec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

On previous use of the line printer it was known that the Intellec sent a carriage-return/line-feed sequence at the end of each line. Since this is the default initialization end-of-record sequence, no new sequence was entered.

End-of-record sequence: 0D 0A

Enter new end-of-record sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): <cr>

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

Reading the associated manual, it was learned that the 8002 expected a carriage-return at the end of each record when transferring a TEKHEX format. That character was entered as the new end-of-record sequence.

End-of-record sequence: 0D 0A

Enter new end-of-record sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): 0D <cr>

When selecting options for the text file transfer from the 8002, it was determined by experimentation that the end-of-record sequence needed to be set to carriage-return/line-feed. The experiment was carried out by placing HCOMM in terminal mode and then transferring the text file from the 8002. This caused the text file to appear on the 9520's console. From this it could be seen that both a carriage-return and a line-feed were being sent by the 8002 after each line. Such a visual inspection could not rule out the possibility of other, unseen control characters, but a simple carriage-return/line-feed sequence was tried first and it worked.

End-of-record sequence: OD

Enter new end-of-record sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): DA <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

It was known from previous use that the utility that accepted characters from a UNIX system terminal and stored them in a text file expected a carriage-return after each line. For the text file transfer from the 9520 to the UNIX system, therefore, that character was selected as the end-of-record sequence.

End-of-record sequence: OD OA

Enter new end-of-record sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): D <cr>

It was also known from previous use that the utility for writing text files to a UNIX system terminal sent a carriage-return/line-feed after each line. Later, for the text file transfer from the UNIX system to the 9520, therefore, those two characters were selected as the end-of-record sequence.

End-of-record sequence: OD

Enter new end-of-record sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): DA <cr>

Display F - End-of-file Sequence Option

Normally, the end of the transfer is signalled by an end-of-file sequence. The 9520's text files stored on the 9520's diskettes use SUB (1A hex) for this purpose when the last block of a file is a partial block. The purpose of Display F, therefore, is to provide the translation between the character used in the 9520's file system and whatever sequence is being generated or expected

BT COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

the other device. In some cases it may be best, or even necessary, to have an empty end-of-file sequence.

The end-of-file sequence may contain up to 16 characters. It is entered in the same manner as the end-of-record sequence.

End-of-file Sequence Option

The end-of-file sequence is the sequence of characters that signals normal terminations of the transferred files. When stored on the disk of the 9520, this sequence is the character CTL-Z (1A hex). If the other device uses some other sequence for this purpose, it must be made known to the File Transfer Utility so that the sequence can be correctly translated.

End-of-file sequence: 1A

Enter new end-of-file sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): <cr>

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

From previous use of the line printer it was known that the Inteltec sent no characters to signal the end of a file that had been copied to its TTY port. It was also known that the default initialization end-of-file sequence (1A hex) was likely to occur in the file to be transferred. If the default end-of-file sequence had occurred in the file it could have caused HCOMM to close the file prematurely, thereby losing data. In order to prevent this an empty end-of-file sequence was selected.

End-of-file sequence: 1A

Enter new end-of-file sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): N <cr>

HOST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDD6, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

By reading the associated manual, it was learned that the 8002 expected no end-of-file sequence after a TEKHEX format file transfer. Since the 8002 was interpreting the data, it recognized the end block defined in the format. Therefore, an empty end-of-file sequence was selected.

End-of-file sequence: 1A

Enter new end-of-file sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): N <cr>

Later, for the text file transfer from the 8002 to the 9520, the end-of-file sequence was selected to be SUB (1A hex). This was done because the CP/M utility used on the 8002 had the capability of sending this character, after the text file, as a signal that the transfer was complete.

End-of-file sequence: NONE

Enter new end-of-file sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): 1A <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

For the text file transfer from the 9520 to the UNIX system, the UNIX system utility that was used expected to receive an EOT (04 hex) to signal the end of input from a terminal. Therefore, that character was selected as the end-of-file sequence.

End-of-file sequence: 1A

Enter new end-of-file sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): 4 <cr>

For the text file transfer from the UNIX system to the 9520, the UNIX system utility that was used was incapable of sending a sequence to signal the end of the transfer. Therefore, when the options were being selected for this transfer, an empty end-of-file sequence was selected.

End-of-file sequence: 04

Enter new end-of-file sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): N <cr>

T COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Play G - Abort Sequence Option

An abort sequence may be received from the other device, or sent to it if the operator forces an abort from the 9520's console (see displays L and M). When an abort occurs HCOMM immediately halts the transfer and discards any characters subsequently received from the other device. If the transfer is from the other device, the portion of the transfer received prior to the abort is written to the file.

The abort sequence may contain up to 16 characters. It is entered in the same manner as the end-of-record sequence.

Abort Sequence Option

The abort sequence is the sequence of characters that signals abnormal terminations of the transferred files. It halts the file transfer and causes any subsequently transferred characters to be discarded. The sequence used by the other device, if any, must be made known to the File Transfer Utility so that it can be transferred and detected correctly.

Abort sequence: 1B

Enter new abort sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): <cr>

Example #1 Intelloc Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

Although not verified, it was surmised that the Intelloc would not respond to an abort sequence received by its TTY port, nor would it send such a sequence to signal a problem in sending the file. Therefore, an empty abort sequence was selected.

Abort sequence: 1B

Enter new abort sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): N <cr>

HOST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDDG, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

By reading the associated manual, it was learned that the 8002 would send no abort sequence when it was receiving a TEKHEX format file; however, it would respond to a record that began with two slashes by causing succeeding characters in the record to be displayed on the 8002's console. Therefore, the abort sequence had to begin with a carriage-return so that succeeding characters would be interpreted by the 8002 as the beginning of a record. Then a number of null characters had to be sent, since it was known from previous experience that the 8002 was slow to respond to a carriage-return. Next the two slash characters ("/") had to be sent to signal an abort. Finally, a pound symbol ("#") was sent so that the fact that the transfer had been aborted would be visible on the 8002's console.

Abort sequence: 1B

Enter new abort sequence

(hex bytes or N if none): D 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2F 2F 23 <cr>

likewise, when sending a text file to the 9520, the 8002 would not send an abort sequence but would respond to an ETX (03 hex). Therefore, when the options for the text file transfer were being selected, that character was selected as the abort sequence.

Abort sequence: 0D 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 2F 2F 23

Enter new abort sequence

(hex bytes or N if none): 3 <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

It was learned by experimentation that the UNIX system would respond to an ETX (03 hex) at any time by aborting the currently executing program, but would send no abort sequence. Therefore, an ETX was selected as the abort sequence for the text file transfers in both directions.

Abort sequence: 1B

Enter new abort sequence

(hex bytes or N if none): 3 <cr>

AT COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

ACK/NAK Options

The ACK/NAK software protocol requires the receiver to respond, when a record is sent to it, with either a positive (ACK) or negative (NAK) acknowledgement. The sequences used for acknowledgements are operator selectable. If this protocol option is selected HCOMM expects the appropriate sequences when sending and generates them when receiving. When sending, HCOMM sends a record and then waits until receiving an acknowledgement. If it is positive then HCOMM sends the next record. If it is negative then HCOMM sends the same record again. When receiving, HCOMM sends an acknowledgement when it receives a record. If there were no errors in the record (parity, overrun, etc.) then a positive acknowledgement is sent. If any errors were detected then a negative acknowledgement is sent.

A record is normally terminated by an end-of-record sequence. However, for the purposes of the ACK/NAK protocol, a full record buffer (255 characters) is also considered a record. Therefore, ACK/NAK should only be used with a non-empty end-of-record sequence, and none of the transferred records should contain more than 254 characters, excluding the end-of-record sequence.

ACK/NAK Options

The file transfer protocol may prescribe a response from the receiver after each record is transferred. That response is either an acknowledgement (ACK) or a request for retransfer (NAK). There are no timeouts in the protocol, so it is also possible for the receiver to control transfer speed by withholding the response until ready for the next record.

Despite the use of ASCII standard names, ACK and NAK are actually operator selectable sequence of characters. The use of ACK/NAK does not conflict with other protocol options unless the selected ACK/NAK characters are the same as the other significant protocol characters (XON, XOFF, end-of-record sequence, end-of-file sequence, or abort sequence).

ACK/NAK option: DISABLED

ACK sequence: 06

NAK sequence: 15

Enable or disable ACK/NAK option (E or D): <cr>

Enter new ACK sequence

(hex bytes): <cr>

Enter new NAK sequence

(hex bytes): <cr>

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

Since the Inteltec was capable of responding to a control line protocol, no bare protocol was needed. Hence, the ACK/NAK protocol was left in its default (disabled) initialization state.

CK/NAK option: DISABLED
CK sequence: 06
NAK sequence: 15

enable or disable ACK/NAK option (E or D): <cr>
enter new ACK sequence
(hex bytes): <cr>
enter new NAK sequence
(hex bytes): <cr>

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

By reading the associated manual, it was learned that the 8002 required an ACK/NAK protocol for the TEKHEX format file transfer. The positive acknowledge sequence was learned to be the character "0" followed by a carriage-return. The negative acknowledge sequence was learned to be the character "7" followed by a carriage-return. Therefore, the ACK/NAK option was enabled and the sequences were selected appropriately.

CK/NAK option: DISABLED
CK sequence: 06
NAK sequence: 15

enable or disable ACK/NAK option (E or D): E <cr>
enter new ACK sequence
(hex bytes): 30 D <cr>
enter new NAK sequence
(hex bytes): 37 D <cr>

For the text file transfer from the 8002 to the 9520 no software protocol was required; therefore, the ACK/NAK option was disabled. The sequences were left unaltered since they have no effect when the protocol is not used.

CK/NAK option: ENABLED
CK sequence: 30 0D
NAK sequence: 37 0D

enable or disable ACK/NAK option (E or D): D <cr>
enter new ACK sequence
(hex bytes): <cr>
enter new NAK sequence
(hex bytes): <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

The ACK/NAK protocol was left in its default (disabled) initialization state for the text file transfers in both directions.

ST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

ACK/NAK option: DISABLED

ACK sequence: 06

NAK sequence: 15

enable or disable ACK/NAK option (E or D): <cr>

enter new ACK sequence

(hex bytes): <cr>

enter new NAK sequence

(hex bytes): <cr>

Display I - XON/XOFF Option

The XON/XOFF software protocol allows the receiver to suspend and resume the transfer. When HCOMM's receive buffer becomes nearly full, it sends an XOFF character (13 hex) to the other device as a signal that the other device should stop sending. While the transfer is thus suspended HCOMM continues processing the characters it has already received. Then, when the receive buffer becomes nearly empty, it sends an XON character (11 hex) to inform the other device that it may resume sending. HCOMM also responds to incoming XOFF and XON characters when this protocol option is selected. When it receives an XOFF it sends at most two more characters before stopping, and sends no more until after it receives an XON.

XOFF Option

The file transfer protocol may allow the receiver to temporarily suspend transfer by sending an XOFF (13 hex) to the transmitter. To resume the transfer the receiver sends XON (11 hex).

The transmitter is presumed to be able to respond quickly (i.e. within two character times) after receiving an XOFF. Similarly, the receiver is presumed to be able to accept up to two additional characters after sending XOFF.

XOFF option: DISABLED

enable or disable option (E or D): <cr>

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

Since the Inteltec was capable of responding to a control line protocol, no software protocol was needed. Hence, the XON/XOFF protocol was left in its default (disabled) initialization state.

XON/XOFF option: DISABLED

Enable or disable option (E or D): <cr>

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

On reading the associated manual, it was learned that the 8002 did not manage an XON/XOFF protocol through its remote I/O port. Therefore, the XON/XOFF option was left in its default (disabled) initialization state for the transfers in both directions.

XON/XOFF option: DISABLED

Enable or disable option (E or D): <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

On reading the associated manuals, it was learned that the UNIX system used an XON/XOFF protocol for communicating with its terminals. Since the 9520 was connected as a terminal, the XON/XOFF protocol was enabled for the text file transfers in both directions.

XON/XOFF option: DISABLED

Enable or disable option (E or D): E <cr>

Display J - Terminal Mode Options

The terminal mode options are selected to control HCOMM's actions when the 9520 is connected to the other device as a terminal. These options are only in effect when HCOMM is in the terminal mode. They have no effect during transfer mode.

When the automatic terminal mode option is enabled HCOMM immediately enters terminal mode after a transfer file name is entered (see Display L or M). Then when terminal mode is exited HCOMM is ready to begin the transfer immediately.

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

Since the 9520 was not connected to the Inteltec as a terminal none of the terminal mode options were altered from their default initialization states.

Automatic terminal mode option: DISABLED
 Terminal mode operation: FULL-DUPLEX
 "Receive/echo filter" list: NONE
 Terminal mode exit character: 1C
 Transmitted exit sequence: NONE

Enable or disable automatic terminal mode option (E or D): <cr>
 Enter new terminal mode operation (F or H): <cr>
 Enter new "receive/echo filter" list
 (hex bytes or N if none): <cr>
 Enter new exit character (hex byte): <cr>
 Enter new transmitted exit sequence
 (hex bytes or N if none): <cr>

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

Since the 9520 was not connected as a terminal and terminal mode was only used for experimentation, none of the terminal mode options were altered from their default initialization states for the transfers in either direction.

Automatic terminal mode option: DISABLED
 Terminal mode operation: FULL-DUPLEX
 "Receive/echo filter" list: NONE
 Terminal mode exit character: 1C
 Transmitted exit sequence: NONE

Enable or disable automatic terminal mode option (E or D): <cr>
 Enter new terminal mode operation (F or H): <cr>
 Enter new "receive/echo filter" list
 (hex bytes or N if none): <cr>
 Enter new exit character (hex byte): <cr>
 Enter new transmitted exit sequence
 (hex bytes or N if none): <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

For a text file transfer from the 9520 to the UNIX system, HCOMM would not respond quickly so the automatic terminal option was left in its default (disabled) initialization state. The UNIX system operated with full-duplex signals so the operation option was also left with its default initialization. It was surmised, and subsequently verified, that the UNIX system would send no

DS1 COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

This option is useful when HCOMM must be prepared to respond very quickly after leaving terminal mode (e.g. as in Example #3, transferring a text file to the 9520). The terminal mode operation option determines whether or not HCOMM echoes input characters locally while in terminal mode. It will echo locally when HALF-DUPLEX is selected. When FULL-DUPLEX is selected, HCOMM assumes that the other device will echo all characters sent to it. The "receive/echo filter" is a list of up to 32 characters that will not be sent to the 9520's console during terminal mode. This is important because many characters, notably control characters (01-1F hex), can adversely alter the state of the 9520's console. If any of the characters in the list are received they will be filtered out. The "filter" also affects echoed characters, both locally echoed and those echoed by the other device. Thus, it is possible to send control characters to the other device during terminal mode without affecting the 9520's console. The character used to exit terminal mode is operator selectable. It should be chosen so as not to conflict with characters that must be sent to the other device during terminal mode. When this character is typed HCOMM returns to the mode it was in (either entry or transfer mode) when terminal mode was entered. The exit character is not sent to the other device. If it is necessary to send characters to the other device when terminal mode is exited, they should be specified in the transmitted exit sequence, which may contain up to 16 characters. When the selected exit character is typed the transmitted exit sequence is sent to the other device just before terminal mode is actually exited.

Terminal Mode Options

Terminal mode may be entered: automatically, if the option is enabled, after the filename is entered in response to a transfer query; by responding to any query with a CTL-T; or by striking CTL-T while in transfer mode. Loss of data may result if the last method is used while a transfer is actually occurring.

When in terminal mode, characters struck at the 9520's console are transmitted without interpretation, and those received are written to the 9520's console. The operation may be either full or half duplex. Also, it may be appropriate to prevent certain received (and echoed) characters from being written. Such characters, if any, must be specified in a "receive/echo filter" list.

When the selected exit character is struck the selected exit sequence, if any, is transmitted and normal mode resumes. The exit character should be selected so as not to conflict with any character needed to control the other device.

Automatic terminal mode option: DISABLED
Terminal mode operation: FULL-DUPLEX
"receive/echo filter" list: NONE
Terminal mode exit character: 1C
Transmitted exit sequence: NONE

Enable or disable automatic terminal mode option (E or D): <cr>
Enter new terminal mode operation (F or H): <cr>
Enter new "receive/echo filter" list
(k bytes or N if none): <cr>
Enter new exit character (hex byte): <cr>
Enter new transmitted exit sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): <cr>

BT COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

acters that would adversely affect the 9520's console while HCOMM was being ed in terminal mode. Therefore, the "receive/echo filter" list was left ety. An EOT (04 hex) was selected as the terminal mode exit character since is was more like the UNIX system usage than the default initialization exit aracter. Finally, the transmitted exit sequence was left empty since none was eeded for this transfer.

```
Automatic terminal mode option: DISABLED
Terminal mode operation: FULL-DUPLEX
"Receive/echo filter" list: NONE
Terminal mode exit character: 1C
Transmitted exit sequence: NONE
```

```
Enable or disable automatic terminal mode option (E or D): <cr>
Enter new terminal mode operation (F or H): <cr>
Enter new "receive/echo filter" list
(hex bytes or N if none): <cr>
Enter new exit character (hex byte): 4 <cr>
Enter new transmitted exit sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): <cr>
```

It was known that HCOMM would have to respond quickly when the UNIX system utility was invoked to transfer the text file to the 9520. Therefore, the automatic terminal mode option was enabled. The other options were left as they had been previously selected, except for the transmitted exit sequence. A carriage-return was selected for this option so that when the UNIX system utility invocation line had been typed, the exit character (EOT) could be typed to cause, nearly simultaneously, the execution of the utility and the exit from terminal mode. In this manner, HCOMM would be quickly ready to receive the first characters sent from the UNIX system.

```
Automatic terminal mode option: DISABLED
Terminal mode operation: FULL-DUPLEX
"Receive/echo filter" list: NONE
Terminal mode exit character: 04
Transmitted exit sequence: NONE
```

```
Enable or disable automatic terminal mode option (E or D): E <cr>
Enter new terminal mode operation (F or H): <cr>
Enter new "receive/echo filter" list
(hex bytes or N if none): <cr>
Enter new exit character (hex byte): <cr>
Enter new transmitted exit sequence
(hex bytes or N if none): 0D <cr>
```

Display K - Saving and Loading Options Files

When the options have been correctly selected for a certain type of transfer they may be saved in a file on the 9520's diskettes. Subsequently, when using HCOMM for another transfer of the same type (i.e. to or from a particular device), the file may be loaded, thus easing option selection. The option file may be loaded with display K or by specifying it in the HCOMM invocation line.

Save or Load Selected Options To or From a File

Any of the options selected for: interface parameters, end-of-record sequence, end-of-file sequence, abort sequence, ACK/NAK, XOFF/XON, and terminal mode may be saved in a file that can later be loaded into the File Transfer Utility.

An options file can be saved, after all desired options from other displays have been selected, by responding to the queries below. It can then be loaded by specifying its name on the subsequent invocation line as:

```
FTU options-file-name
```

or in response to the queries below.

Save or load selected options to or from a file

```
(S or L or blank line to return to menu): L <cr>
Enter name of options file to be LOADED (blank line will return to menu
without performing action): <cr>
```

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

After the options were selected, as shown previously in this example, they were saved in an options file.

Save or load selected options to or from a file

```
(S or L or blank line to return to menu): S <cr>
Enter name of options file to be SAVED (blank line will return to menu
without performing action): FROMINT.OPT <cr>
```

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V3.1, and CP/M, V2.2

After the options were selected for the TEKHEX format file transfer to the 8002's memory, as shown previously in this example, these options were saved in an options file for subsequent use.

COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Save or load selected options to or from a file
(S or L or blank line to return to menu): S <cr>
Enter name of options file to be SAVED (blank line will return to menu
without performing action): HEXTOTEK.OPT <cr>

Next, different options were selected, as shown previously in this example, for
the text file transfer from the 8002 to the 9520. These were saved in another
options file.

Save or load selected options to or from a file
(S or L or blank line to return to menu): S <cr>
Enter name of options file to be SAVED (blank line will return to menu
without performing action): FROMTEK.OPT <cr>

Then, the first options file was loaded to prepare HCOMM for the TEKHEX format
file transfer.

Save or load selected options to or from a file
(S or L or blank line to return to menu): L <cr>
Enter name of options file to be LOADED (blank line will return to menu
without performing action): HEXTOTEK.OPT <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

The options for the text file transfer from the 9520 to the UNIX system were
selected, as shown previously in this example, then saved in an options file.

Save or load selected options to or from a file
(S or L or blank line to return to menu): S <cr>
Enter name of options file to be SAVED (blank line will return to menu
without performing action): TOUNIX.OPT <cr>

When the previous options had been saved, the options for the text file trans-
fer from the UNIX system to the 9520 were selected, as shown previously in this
example, then saved in another options file.

Save or load selected options to or from a file
(S or L or blank line to return to menu): S <cr>
Enter name of options file to be SAVED (blank line will return to menu
without performing action): FROMUNIX.OPT <cr>

Transferring Data Files

HCOMM is in transfer mode when it is transferring files either to or from the other device. As each logical record is detected by HCOMM (either end-of-record or full buffer) a period is written to the 9520's console. After a multiple of 4 periods have been written the total number is also displayed in decimal.

Also during a transfer, error messages may be displayed. Before any error message is written the decimal number of logical records is written. Therefore, the number of the record in which the error occurred is one greater than the decimal number preceding the message. There are three types of errors. Character errors can occur on each character transferred. These are, for example, errors in parity detection, framing errors, overrun errors, and interrupt buffer overflow. The number of the character, within the record, on which the error occurred is also displayed with the error message. Another type, record errors, occur in conjunction with a complete logical record. For example, the reception of an abort sequence, a NAK sequence, or the necessity of sending a NAK sequence, are record errors. Finally, console overrides, while not strictly errors, are displayed in the same manner as errors.

A console override is a character struck at the 9520's console while HCOMM is in transfer mode. All but three characters are ignored. A control-T will place HCOMM in terminal mode. This can be a dangerous procedure. If the other device is in the process of transferring necessary data to the 9520, those data will be sent to the 9520 console rather than written to the file. In other words, data can be lost. When terminal mode is exited HCOMM resumes the transfer. An escape struck while in transfer mode aborts the transfer. If a non-empty abort sequence has been selected it is immediately sent to the other device. No subsequent data are sent by HCOMM and all subsequently received data are discarded. The 9520 file is closed. If the transfer was from the other device, the data transferred prior to the abort will be in the file. A control-Z from the console forces HCOMM to act as if it had detected the end of the file. If the transfer is to the other device the end-of-file sequence is sent, provided it is non-empty, and no more data are sent. If the transfer is from the other device any further data are discarded. The 9520 file is closed. If the transfer was from the other device, the data transferred prior to the forced end-of-file will be in the file.

When the transfer is terminated a message is written to the 9520 console. This message contains the name of the 9520 file, the type of termination (either completed or aborted), and the number of characters and disk records in the 9520 file. Another transfer may then be performed.

Display L - Transfer Files from Disk to Interface

In this display the operator is queried for the name of a file. This is the file on the 9520 disk system that is read and sent to the other device. A blank line in response to this query causes HCOMM to return to the menu. Only one file may be sent at a time but after each transfer the operator is queried for another.

T COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Transfer Files from Disk to Interface

When a file name is entered in response to the query below, transfer mode is entered, the file is opened, and (if the file exists) records are read from it and transferred to the interface. A period is written to the console after each record is successfully transferred. Periodically, the number of records that have been transferred is displayed in decimal.

An abnormal termination occurs when the abort sequence is detected from the interface or when the operator strikes ESC (1B hex) at the 9520's console. This halts the file transfer and in the latter case, the abort sequence is transferred to the interface, as well. Operator intervention at the other device might be required if it is unable to respond to the abort sequence.

The transfer is normally terminated when the end of the file is encountered. The end-of-file sequence is then transferred to the interface and the file is closed. The operator may force this condition by striking CTL-Z (1A hex) at the 9520's console; any part of the file remaining will not be transferred.

After the transfer is terminated (normally or abnormally) the file name query is repeated. The operator may then name another file to be transferred.

Enter name of file to be transferred to interface (blank line will return to you without performing action): <cr>

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISISII, V3.4

Since the transfer was only from the Inteltec to the 9520, display L was not used in this example.

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab

After the options for the TEKHEX format file transfer had been loaded the transfer was performed. First, the following commands were entered at the 8002's console:

```
> COMM E=L  
COMM V3.0  
<^@><cr>
```

COMM program is the TEKDOS utility for performing TEKHEX format transfers between the 8002's memory and other devices. Invoking it with the "E=L" argument meant that the other device (in this case the 9520) would not echo characters and that they should be echoed locally by the 8002. The "<^@><cr>" command is the method used to ready the 8002 to receive a TEKHEX format file to be stored in its memory. Then, at the 9520's console, display L was selected and the name of the TEKHEX format file was entered in response to the transfer query.

Enter name of file to be transferred to interface (blank line will return to
 menu without performing action): TEK.HEX <cr>

TU STATUS: Transfer Mode

.....64

65

TEK.HEX transfer complete - 2891 bytes transferred - 23 disk records

TU STATUS: Entry Mode

Enter name of file to be transferred to interface (blank line will return to
 menu without performing action): <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

The text file transfer from the UNIX system was performed before this transfer.
 After editing that file to remove the spurious blank line, HCOMM was invoked
 with the command:

0A>HCOMM TOUNIX.OPT

This invocation initialized the options as they had been previously selected for
 the text file transfer from the 9520 to the UNIX system. Display L was selected
 and control-T followed by a carriage-return was entered in response to the
 transfer query. This placed HCOMM in terminal mode. Next, a carriage-return
 was struck to get the UNIX system prompt. Assured by the prompt that HCOMM was
 communicating properly with the UNIX system, the command line for the UNIX
 system utility to accept input from the terminal (in this case the 9520) and
 store it in a file was typed and entered with a carriage-return. After waiting
 a few seconds to be sure that the utility was ready to accept characters,
 terminal mode was exited by striking the selected exit character (control-D).
 The transfer was then performed with the same file that had been previously
 transferred from the UNIX system so that it could be compared with the original.

Enter name of file to be transferred to interface (blank line will return to
 menu without performing action): <^T><cr>

TU STATUS: Terminal Mode

/dev/tty textfile

TU STATUS: Entry Mode

Enter name of file to be transferred to interface (blank line will return to
 menu without performing action): TEXTFILE <cr>

TU STATUS: Transfer Mode

.....64

.....78

TEXTFILE transfer complete - 3040 bytes transferred - 24 disk records

TU STATUS: Entry Mode

Enter name of file to be transferred to interface (blank line will return to
 menu without performing action): <cr>

RT COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Display M - Transfer Files from Interface to Disk

On this display the operator is queried for the name of a file. This is the file that is created on the 9520 disk system and to which the data received from the other device are written. A blank line in response to this query causes HODMM to return to the menu. Only one file may be received at a time but after each transfer the operator is queried for another.

Transfer Files from Interface to Disk

When a file name is entered in response to the query below, transfer mode is entered, the file is created, and records are transferred from the interface (whenever it sends them) and written to the file. A period is written to the console after each record is successfully transferred. Periodically, the number of records that have been transferred is displayed in decimal.

An abnormal termination occurs when the abort sequence is detected from the interface or when the operator strikes ESC (1B hex) at the 9520's console. Subsequent transfers are discarded; and in the latter case, the abort sequence is transferred to the interface. Operator intervention at the other device might be required if it is unable to respond to the abort sequence.

A transfer is normally terminated when the end-of-file sequence is detected from the interface. The file is then closed. The operator may force this condition by striking CTL-Z (1A hex) at the 9520's console; any subsequent transfers from the interface will be discarded.

After the transfer is terminated (normally or abnormally) the file name query is repeated. The operator may then name another file to be transferred.

Enter name of file to be transferred from interface (blank line will return to menu without performing action): <cr>

Example #1 Inteltec Series II, Model 230, running ISIS-II, V3.4

Normally, the transfer of the Intel hex format file from the Inteltec to the 9520 is performed. First, display M was selected and the name of the file to be created on the 9520 entered in response to the transfer query. Then the following command was entered at the Inteltec's console:

```
-COPY :F1:INTEL.HEX TO :TO:
```

The command caused the named file to be copied to the Inteltec's TTY port (and hence, to the 9520). When the copy completion message had been written at the Inteltec's console it was known that the transfer was complete. At that time a CTL-Z was typed at the 9520's console to inform HODMM that no more data

HOST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

not be sent (i.e. forced an end-of-file condition since no end-of-file sequence was sent by the Intellec).

Enter name of file to be transferred from interface (blank line will return to menu without performing action): INTEL.HEX <cr>

FTU STATUS: Transfer Mode

```

.....64
.....128
.....192
.....256
.....320
.....384
.....448
.....512
.....576
.....640
.....704
.....768
.....832
.....892

```

CONSOLE OVERRIDE: End-of-file forced

INTEL.HEX transfer complete - 39356 bytes transferred - 308 disk records

FTU STATUS: Entry Mode

Enter name of file to be transferred from interface (blank line will return to menu without performing action): <cr>

Example #2 8002 Microprocessor Lab running TEKDOS, V2.1, and CP/M, V2.2

When the 8002 had been readied for the text file transfer to the 9520 (CP/M used instead of TEKDOS), HCOMM was invoked with the following command at the 9520's console:

QADHCOMM FROMTEK.OPT

This invocation initialized the options with the options file that had been previously saved. Display M was then selected and the name of the file that was to be created on the 9520 was entered in response to the transfer query. Then, at the 8002's console, the following CP/M command was entered:

A>PIP UP1:=TEXT.SRC,EOF:

This command caused the file "TEXT.SRC" to be copied to the device named "UP1:", which was the 8002's remote I/O port. The "EOF:" following the filename meant that a SUB (1A hex) would be appended to the file when it was copied. This character was used to signal the end of the transfer to HCOMM.

T COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Enter name of file to be transferred from interface (blank line will return menu without performing action): TEXT.SRC <cr>

STATUS: Transfer Mode

.....64
.....128
.....192
.....256
.....320
.....384
.....394

TEXT.SRC transfer complete - 13924 bytes transferred - 109 disk records
STATUS: Entry Mode

Enter name of file to be transferred from interface (blank line will return menu without performing action): <cr>

Example #3 UNIX Time-Sharing System

Options were correct for the transfer of a text file from the UNIX system to a 9520 and this transfer was performed first. Display M was selected and the name of the file that was to be created on the 9520 system was entered in response to the transfer query. HCOMM replied by automatically entering terminal mode. Next, a carriage-return was struck to set the UNIX system prompt. Indicated by the prompt that HCOMM was communicating properly with the UNIX system, the command line for the UNIX system utility that wrote text files to a terminal was typed. Instead of terminating the command line with a carriage-return, however, the exit character (control-D) was struck. This caused the omitted exit sequence (carriage-return) to be sent to the UNIX system, thereby causing the command line to be executed. At the same time (nearly) terminal mode was exited and HCOMM was immediately ready to accept characters from the UNIX system. When it was judged that the transfer was finished (HCOMM speed writings data), a control-Z was struck at the 9520's console. It was necessary to force an end-of-file condition because the UNIX system utility that was used sent no character or sequence of characters to signal the end of the transfer.

HOST COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Enter name of file to be transferred from interface (blank line will return
to menu without performing action): TEXTFILE <cr>

TU STATUS: Terminal Mode

cp textfile /dev/tty

TU STATUS: Transfer Mode

.....64
.....79

CONSOLE OVERRIDE: End-of-file forced

EXTFILE. transfer complete - 3042 bytes transferred - 24 disk records

TU STATUS: Entry Mode

Enter name of file to be transferred from interface (blank line will return
to menu without performing action): <cr>

Because the transmitted exit sequence (carriage-return) had been echoed by the
UNIX system (as carriage-return/line-feed) after HCOMM had exited terminal mode,
the file on the 9520 contained a first, blank line that the file on the UNIX
system did not contain. HCOMM was exited and a text editor was used to remove
the blank line from the 9520 file to make it identical to the UNIX system file.

Use of the Quiet Option

The transfer of the text file from the UNIX system to the 9520 was repeated as
an example of the use of the quiet option. After the necessary connections to
the modem were made, HCOMM was invoked with the following command:

OADHCOMM FROMUNIX.OPT

This initialized the options from the contents of the previously saved options
file for this transfer. The rest of the session is shown in its entirety below.

COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY

Transfer Utility - Asynchronous Communications Interface - Version 1.0

- A General information regarding protocol
- B RS-232 link information
- C DTR/DSR information
- D Interface parameters options
- E End-of-record sequence option
- F End-of-file sequence option
- G Abort sequence option
- H ACK/NAK options
- I XON/XOFF option
- J Terminal mode options
- K Save or load selected options to or from a file
- L Transfer files from interface to disk
- M Transfer files from interface to disk
- N Display this menu
- Q Exit file transfer utility

In response to any query, the new options (blank or comma separated) must be entered with a carriage-return. A blank line leaves the options unaltered. Striking CTL-C as the first character returns control to the operating system.

Enter desired menu item letter (Q <letter> - skips informative text): Q M <cr>

Enter name of file to be transferred from interface (blank line will return menu without performing action): TEXTFILE <cr>

STATUS: Terminal Mode

textfile /dev/tty

STATUS: Transfer Mode

.....64

.....79

SOLE OVERRIDE: End-of-file forced

TEXTFILE. transfer complete - 3042 bytes transferred - 24 disk records

STATUS: Entry Mode

Enter name of file to be transferred from interface (blank line will return menu without performing action): <cr>

Item N displays the full menu

Enter desired menu item letter (Q <letter> - skips informative text): Q <cr>

Applications Note UK1.

Interfacing a Data I/O Prom Programmer to the 9520

May 1982

Introduction.

One of the major requirements in any microprocessor development laboratory is the ability of the user to program EPROMs and the like with prototype software. In the past, the preferred way of interfacing a prom programmer to Millennium equipment was via the Comm Link port of the 9508, using the various terminal mode options. At the time of writing, the communications protocols and options supported by the 9508 are fairly limited but adequate for most prom programmer requirements (e.g. Data I/O, Pro-log). Now that Millennium have entered the 16-bit emulation market, some other means of communicating with programmers is required, the 9516 having totally different characteristics to those of the 9508. This applications note is intended to demonstrate the ease with which a 9520 may be connected to a Data I/O prom programmer so that user programs may be easily 'blown'. It should also give a better understanding on the use of the file transfer utility (called COMM.COM or FTU.COM) when interfacing the 9520 to foreign hardware.

The Programmer

This example uses a Data I/O model 20B, although the communications setup is the same for any of their devices. It contains an amount of RAM which is used for intermediate storage of user code, which may be loaded from a device in the prom socket or from the communications link. The programmer provides a set of simple commands which can be used for the remote editing of the contents of the RAM, and for setting up various options relating to the type of device in the prom socket. The communications information given in the 20B manual is as follows:-

Connector pin assignments

Pin.No.	Signal	Description.
1	GROUND	In the RS232C environment this line is common for the -12V source and provides a safety ground connection to the RS232 compatible terminal.
2	Send Data	Transmits data.
3	Receive Data	Accepts data.
4	Request to send	This line is normally held high by the programmer. It is dropped to inhibit data transmission from the peripheral.
5	Clear to send.	A high level on this line allows the programmer to send data. A low level inhibits data transmission.
6		Not used.
7	Signal Ground	Provides a common signal connection.
8-25		Not used.

Serial I/O option switches give the choice of baud rates of 9600, 4800, 2400, 1200, 600, 300 and 110, one or two stop bits and either odd, even or no parity.

Commands to the programmer are always terminated by a carriage return, and following completion of the command the programmer will reply with one of

four prompts. These are as follows:-

Response	Issued in case of
>	1.Entering remote control mode. 2.After successful command execution. 3.After a command has been aborted with the ESC character.
F	After failure to execute a valid command
?	After receiving an invalid command.
E	When a PROM is not installed correctly or the incorrect Prom code was selected.

For a full explanation of the commands the reader should consult the appropriate manual.

The 9520 Communications package.

The File Transfer Utility is a Millennium supplied program for the transfer of ASCII information between the 9520 and other intelligent devices. It supports a number of different communications protocols (ACK/NAK, XON/XOFF etc.) and gives the user sufficient flexibility and control over the Printer interface of the 9520 to make interfacing relatively simple. The program is entirely menu driven and explains each of the available options as it is invoked from the main menu. The following discussion of the various options available in the File Transfer Utility explains how to interface to a Data I/O PROM programmer and should provide sufficient understanding to enable the user to 'hook-up' to any foreign hardware.

The Interface.

In the following the prompts and comments typed by the FTU package will be printed in bold type for the sake of clarity.

The file transfer utility main menu contains 15 options, each indexed by a single letter as follows:-

- A General information regarding protocol
- B RS-232 link information
- C DTR/DSR information
- D Interface parameters options
- E End-of-record sequence option
- F End-of-file sequence option
- G Abort sequence option
- H ACK/NAK options
- I XON/XOFF option
- J Terminal mode options
- K Save or load selected options to or from a file
- L Transfer files from disk to interface
- R Transfer files from interface to disk
- N Display this menu
- O Exit file transfer utility

It is recommended that the user first inspects each description displayed when an option letter is typed on the console followed by a carriage return. Once the user is clear what task each menu option performs, interfacing to foreign hardware is relatively simple. The steps to be considered are as follows:-

Option 'B'.

RS-232 Link Information

The interface to the 9520 involves an RS-232 type link. The pins connected,

the lines assigned to them, the directions of the signals, and their uses are indicated below:

- 1 - Protective Ground (common)
 - 2 - TXD / Transmitted Data (to 9520) - data transmitted from other device
 - 3 - RXD / Received Data (from 9520) - data received by other device
 - 4 - RTS / Request to Send (to 9520) - ignored
 - 5 - CTS / Clear to Send (from 9520) - same as DSR
 - 6 - DSR / Data Set Ready (from 9520) - controls other device transmission
 - 7 - Signal Ground (common)
 - 8 - RLSD/ Rec. Line Sig. Det. (from 9520) - held marking (ON)
 - 20 - DTR / Data Terminal Ready (to 9520) - controls 9520 transmission
- For more information on the "control" lines, see DTR/DSR Information.

The following is an extract from the explanation of how the 9520 handles the hardware protocols, which is displayed when option 'C' (DTR/DSR Information) is chosen.

The 9520 will not transmit unless the other device indicates that it is ready to receive by holding the DTR line in an active state. Similarly, the 9520 will hold the DSR line in an active state only when it is ready to receive. Thus, these lines provide synchronization and speed controls if the other device is capable of managing and responding to them. If the other device cannot manage and respond to these lines, synchronization and speed controls, if needed, must be accomplished with either an ACK/NAK or XON/XOFF protocol, or both. Furthermore, the DTR line must be held in an active state. This is done automatically in the 9520 hardware if the other device is not connected to the DTR line. If the other device is connected, however, it must be responsible for holding the DTR line in an active state.

The above information gives the necessary explanation of signal line usage by the FTU for interfacing to another device. In the case of the Data I/O from programmer it is fairly easy to determine that a cable should be made up connecting the devices as follows:-

9520		Model 20A
1	-	1
2	-	2
3	-	3
5	-	5
7	-	7
20	-	4

Note. The 9520 ignores Pin 4, so the cable can be constructed with a 4/20, 20/4 'crossover' connection so that either end may be connected to either device.

Having established the correct cabling connections between the 9520 and the other device, it will then be necessary to initialise the DART in the 9520 so that data sent by the 9520 may be 'understood' by the receiving device and vice versa. Option 'D' allows the user to select the speed and format of the data bytes.

Option D.

Interface Parameters Options

The interface may have one of the appropriate options, listed below, selected for each of its four parameters.

- Data: A - 7 bits B - 8 bits
- Parity: C - None D - Odd E - Mark (7-bit data size only)

E - Even 6 - Space (7-bit data size only)

Stop Bits:	H - 1	I - 2
Baud Rate:	J - 110	N - 2400
	K - 300	O - 4800
	L - 600	P - 9600
	M - 1200	Q - 19200

Interface Parameters Options:

A list of the current options is now displayed. To change the baud rate or some other parameter, simply type the letter corresponding to the option required after the prompt. For the Data I/O from programmer these options must be selected to correspond with the switch settings on the RS232 board of the programmer itself.

Options E and F.

These two options are used for determining the format of the data. Option E informs the utility what character sequence normally terminates a line of ASCII text on the foreign hardware so that this can be converted into CR-LF for storage in 9520 disc files. Most systems use a CR-LF sequence to terminate records so this option will rarely be used.

The F option on the other hand informs the utility of the character sequence used to terminate a file. A Data I/O programmer does not use any characters to indicate specifically the completion of a transfer, it merely responds with its normal prompt '>' when the transfer is complete. The FTU should therefore be set up to acknowledge '>' as meaning end-of-file.

There is a small problem with Data I/O Model 20 programmers (and possibly others in the range) with using '>' to denote the end-of-file condition. When sending Tektronix type records, the programmer sends the end-of-file record without an end-of-record sequence (CR-LF) and follows it immediately with the '>' prompt i.e./00000000>. The FTU will disregard the end-of-file record in this case and it will have to be replaced by some means after exiting the utility. A version of FTU which avoids this problem is available from Millennium in England.

The following three options are not used when interfacing to the Data I/O devices, but for the sake of completeness the descriptions given by the FTU are included here.

Option G.**Abort Sequence Option.**

The abort sequence is the sequence of characters that signals abnormal terminations of the transferred files. It halts the file transfer and causes any subsequently transferred characters to be discarded. The sequence used by the other device, if any, must be made known to the File Transfer Utility so that it can be transferred and detected correctly.

Option H.**ACK/NAK Options**

The file transfer protocol may prescribe a response from the receiver after each record is transferred. That response is either an acknowledgement (ACK) or a request for retransfer (NAK). There are no timeouts in the protocol, so it is also possible for the receiver to control transfer speed by withholding the response until ready for the next record.

Despite the use of ASCII standard names, ACK and NAK are actually operator selectable sequences of characters. The use of ACK/NAK does not conflict with other protocol options unless the selected ACK/NAK characters are the same as some other significant protocol characters (XON, XOFF, end-of-record

sequence, end-of-file sequence, or abort sequence).

Option I

XON/XOFF Option

The file transfer protocol may allow the receiver to temporarily suspend the transfer by sending an XOFF (13 hex) to the transmitter. To resume the transfer the receiver sends an XON (11 hex).

The transmitter is presumed to be able to respond quickly (i.e. within two character times) after receiving an XOFF. Similarly, the receiver is presumed to be able to accept up to two additional characters after sending an XOFF.

Option J.

Terminal Mode Options

Terminal mode may be entered: automatically, if the option is enabled, after the filename is entered in response to a transfer query; by responding to any query with a CTL-T; or by striking CTL-T while in transfer mode. Loss of data may result if the last method is used while a transfer is actually occurring. When in terminal mode, characters struck at the 9520s console are transmitted without interpretation, and those received are written to the 9520s console. The operation may be either full or half duplex. Also, it may be appropriate to prevent certain received (and echoed) characters from being written. Such characters, if any, must be specified in a "receive/echo filter" list.

When the selected exit character is struck the selected exit sequence, if any, is transmitted and normal mode resumes. The exit character should be selected so as not to conflict with any character needed to control the other device.

For transfers to and from a device like the Data I/O programmers, The automatic terminal mode option should be enabled. Communication should be at half duplex, and the recommended exit character is ctrl-\ (1C hex) unless the user is communicating with the 9520 via a 9508, in which case some other control character must be used. The user should also set the transmitted exit sequence to OD-0A. The receive echo filter list is not important in this application.

Option K.

Save or Load Selected Options To or From a File

This option is really self explanatory, all the user configurable options provided by the file transfer utility may be saved or loaded from a 9520 disk file.

Options L and M. File Transfers.

Transfer Files from Disk to Interface

When a file name is entered in response to the query below, transfer mode is entered, the file is opened, and (if the file exists) records are read from it and transferred to the interface. A period is written to the console after each record is successfully transferred. Periodically, the number of records that have been transferred is displayed in decimal.

An abnormal termination occurs when the abort sequence is detected from the interface or when the operator strikes ESC (1B hex) at the 9520s console. This halts the file transfer; and in the latter case, the abort sequence is transferred to the interface, as well. Operator intervention at the other device might be required if it is unable to respond to the abort sequence.

The transfer is normally terminated when the end of the file is encountered. The end-of-file sequence is then transferred to the interface and the file is closed. The operator may force this condition by striking CTL-Z (1A

hex) at the 9520s console; any part of the file remaining will not be transferred. After the transfer is terminated (normally or abnormally) the file name query is repeated. The operator may then name another file to be transferred.

Transfer Files from Interface to Disk

When a file name is entered in response to the query below, transfer mode is entered, the file is created, and records are transferred from the interface (whenever it sends them) and written to the file. A period is written to the console after each record is successfully transferred. Periodically, the number of records that have been transferred is displayed in decimal.

An abnormal termination occurs when the abort sequence is detected from the interface or when the operator strikes ESC (1B hex) at the 9520s console.

Subsequent transfers are discarded; and in the latter case, the abort sequence is transferred to the interface. Operator intervention at the other device might be required if it is unable to respond to the abort sequence.

The transfer is normally terminated when the end-of-file sequence is detected from the interface. The file is then closed. The operator may force this condition by striking CTL-Z (1A hex) at the 9520s console; any subsequent transfers from the interface will be discarded. After the transfer is terminated (normally or abnormally) the file name query is repeated. The operator may then name another file to be transferred.

Once the above options have been correctly set, the user need only set the programmer in remote control mode, and enter either the L or M options. After typing a file name in response to the query, the FTU will go into terminal mode, giving the user direct access to the programmer. Using the relevant commands the user can then set up the internal RAM of the programmer for uploading or downloading PROM contents. Terminating the programmer's 'O' command (if uploading to the 9520) or the 'I' command (in the case of downloading prior to programming a PROM) with a ctrl-\ will place the FTU into transfer mode and initiate the appropriate data transfer.

As you can see from the above example, interfacing to other devices via RS232 has been made considerably easier on the 9520 using the FTU package, making the 9520 extremely flexible in laboratory environments. This package should not be under-rated.

In the unlikely event that you have any problems with FTU please contact Steve Dearden at the Millennium UK office.