Memo 4C-3/174

To: Distribution 15 September 1976

From: H.D. Lemmel Lemmel

Subject: Comments on updated Exfor Manual pages dated March 1976, April 1976, August 1976

Don't take this memo as important as its volume may suggest. But it does also include a few important points. Attached are copies of all those Manual pages recently transmitted, where we found (mostly trivial, sometimes non-trivial) errors. Excuse my bad handwriting !

We should like to give the following general comments:

1. Please, do not retransmit Manual pages because of too trivial changes ! The worst example is the Lexfor page "Dependent Data", where apparently nothing else has been changed than to shift the last line to the left-hand margin. There are several more examples, where the change made is in no relation to the trouble for each compiler to exchange the relevant pages in his Manual and to check what has been changed.
2. On the other hand, if a Manual page is retransmitted, then also trivial changes should be made where necessary. Thus, many of the little errors indicated on the pages attached do not require immediate retransmission; but whenever a page is retransmitted for a more important reason, then the little mistakes should not be overlooked.
3. A too large number of Manual pages suffers from insufficient proof-reading, in particular when part of the text was retyped. A disturbingly large fraction of retransmitted Manual pages is only due to little errors overlooked previously. Typical example is the Lexfor page "Particles": 3 little mistakes were communicated in 4C-3/139 and 4C-3/153 page 46. 2 of them were now corrected, the third not, and 2 new typing errors were introduced. Similarly, the page "Monoisotopic Elements" was retransmitted in Jan 1974, June 1975 and March 1976, and each time errors were overlooked or introduced. There are many similar examples.

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NDS: P.M. Attree, H.D. Lemmel, R. Lessler, A. Lorenz, K. Okamoto, J.J. Schmidt, O. Schwerer, P.M. Smith, R. Yaghubian } without attachments

3 spare copies with attachments

4. In too many cases we wonder why only some of the corrections requested in 4C-3/153 have been made, and the selection looks often incidental. We should expect a letter or memo for all those cases where NNCSC does not agree to the suggested correction, or does not see why. Admittedly, this is rather tedious. But it is not our fault that so many little things have accumulated. Example, among others, are pages IV.2, "Isomeric States", "STATUS", etc.

   Note that the comments given in this memo refer only to those pages which were updated in March, April and August 1976. Other requested corrections, which may still be pending, were not considered.

5. We request <u>again</u> that Lexfor keywords should not be changed for too trivial reasons. It may be a matter of taste, whether the term "Information Identifier Keyword-Sequence" or the term "Keyword-Sequence" is preferable. But a change from the one to the other is not worth the trouble of updating the index and all the cross-references within the Manual. See for example the Index page "R-S", which has not been updated accordingly. On this page one can also see that the Manual has not yet recovered from the earlier change from "Metastable States" to "Isomeric States" (a change which was good in principle but bad compared to the effort involved). Compare 4C-3/139 of 1975/9/25 item 12.

6. There was some default in the reproduction process. On several pages the text was so much shifted that the alter marks in the left hand margin were lost. It was therefore often tedious to detect the changes made.

7. The August 1976 update should have included the amendments to pages III.9, VIII.8 and VIII.21b as proposed in our memo 4C-3/166 of 1976/5/13. This has been accepted, since no objection was received in due time.

Most errors marked in the attached pages are not urgent to be corrected. However, for the pages commented in the following, we request retransmission soon.

<u>page III.10</u>: The Manual gives rules about Dictionaries which can be included on Exfor tapes, though not on normal Exfor transmission. On the Manual page transmitted, N2 in the ENDTRANS record (= number of Dictionaries transmitted) was cancelled. Such a change, which may require programming, should certainly not be done without prior 4C approval. Also, this change is inconsistent with other parts of the Manual. A footnote like on pages III.14 and III.15 would be appropriate. The related matter on the bottom of page III.4 seems to require clarification.

We request retransmission of pages III.10 and III.4 in their previous version, with perhaps the footnote as on pages III.14 + 15 added. A proposal in a 4C-Memo to clarify this matter, may be appropriate.

<u>page VIII.7-9</u>: We agree that it was desirable to improve the text on these pages, about References. However, the changes made are not good either. Without wishing to resume an old discussion: Cinda and Exfor codes for journals, reports, books and conferences are not "compatible" but <u>identical</u>, with only a very small number of exceptions.

page VIII.11: Item 5) on page VIII.11 does not agree with the existing practice.
new proposal We suggest to change it, in analogy to CINDA, to the following:

"5) When referencing a report which has more than one report-code, it should be indexed by its primary code, that is the code of the originating lab which is usually given first. In case of doubt, CINDA rules could be followed.

note: may Additional report-codes may be given within a set of parentheses connected by an = sign: ((...)=(...)=(...)). For continuation cards the same rules as under ISØ-QUANT (see page VIII.14) apply."

This proposal should be added to the Manual if no objection arises in due time.

page VIII.12: The inserted second sentence on the top of this page makes little sense without specifying "the following keywords".

page VIII.15: We understand that in item 4. on this page a note should be added saying:

"Note: After the Multiple ISØ-QUANT formalism has been introduced, the comma separator should no longer be used in new entries but may exist in older entries."
(I did not check, where this was agreed. In case of doubt it may be treated as a new proposal, which should be added to the Manual if no objection arises in due time.)

page VIII.21: On the bottom of this page a sentence is missing.

page VIII.24: A lot more information on "Half-life" should have been inserted on page VIII.24 as requested in memos 4C-3/97 page 4, 4C-3/128, 4C-3/140, 4C-3/153 page 27.
Consequently, the rest of the page with "Flag" and "Misc-Col" needs to be moved to a new page VIII.25, as requested in 4C-3/153 page 28.

page IX.2: We hope that the footnote on page IX.2 can now be cancelled. We
new proposal propose to cancel this footnote and to retransmit this page, unless an objection arises in due time.

Lexfor:

Differential Data

The last example on the first page of this Lexfor keyword had not been approved and should not have been added here, since it is too long for inclusion in Dict. 14. The quantity code as given in 4C-3/153 page 56 has actually been transmitted and should be entered here. It's the best we can do for the time being.

Isomeric States

Why was the information on coding the residual nucleus in the case of isomeric states (or at least a cross-reference) not included on this page when it was retransmitted? We had requested it repeatedly.

Single-Level Resonance-Parameters, page SINGLE-2

The formulae for reduced neutron-widths, which were previously correct, are now wrong.

STATUS The page was messed up and a change requested in 4C-3/151 page 53 was overlooked.