

MEMO 4-C 2/92

TO : See Distribution

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SUBJECT : Control of CINDA 'Main' Entries

REFERENCE : 2nd NRDC Meeting, action 35 and CINDA Conclusion 1.1.a

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The present CINDA update program will probably still be used up to the end of 1978. The following specifications will be useful when carrying out CINDA improvement operations involving precise knowledge on how the present system deals with 'Main' entries.

A. Some Definitions

1. Please distinguish :
 - (a) 'Main' record for CINDA file, characterised by binary zeros in the ISAM key sub-field reserved for the series No. (the actual series No. is then stored in bytes 17-19 of the CINDA record). The use of 'Main' in this sense is confusing to the coder. Let us therefore call these records 'block heads' (BH). A CINDA block contains one and only one BH.
 - (b) 'Main' record for the CINDA publication, being the first (or only) line of a block as published in the CINDA book. We will reserve the qualification 'Main' for this case.
2. In a CINDA CCDN retrieve listing, the block is sorted by increasing ISAM series No. (i.e., the BH is always the first).
3. In a CINDA publication, the block is sorted by increasing hierarchy No., then by decreasing reference date.

B. How the present system works with 'Main' and BH

1. See CINDA Manual, Section II.7 for the assignment of internal hierarchy numbers.

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2. When a new entry is added to an existing block (op. code B) :
 - (a) If the BH is 'hierarchy 1' and the new entry is entered with hierarchy code 'M', this entry will be given hierarchy '2'.
 - (b) The new entry becomes a BH only if its hierarchy No. is smaller than that of the existing BH, or, it being equal, if its reference date is bigger than that of the existing BH. The old BH is then transformed into a 'secondary' entry (i.e., 'non-BH', i.e., the contents of the ISAM sub-field and cols. 17-19 are switched).
3. When a record is deleted (op. code 'D'). If this record is a BH, two things happen :
 - (a) the BH is transformed into a 'secondary' as in B.2.b., and flagged as logically deleted.
 - (b) If there are other entries in the same block, a new BH is created by selecting the 'best' (or only) secondary (lowest hierarchy, biggest ref. date).
4. When a record is modified (op. code 'M'). It is always possible to assign hierarchy '1' to any record which is not hierarchy '6' (data index line). In the CINDA publication, this record will simply compete with other hierarchy '1' records within the same block on the basis of the reference date (see A.3).

C. Use of the present system for assigning 'Main' entries

The present system is designed to discourage repeated re-assignments of 'final' publications. However, this re-assignment can be carried out as indicated in paragraph B.4.

In the rare cases when one wishes to assign the 'Main' status to a reference with a publication date prior to the one of a hierarchy '1' reference, one can still resort to a 2-step delete-then-insert operation, and a modification to the existing program does not seem worth the trouble.

We will update relevant pages of the CINDA Manual with the above information, as it is not clearly stated therein that hierarchy '1' can be assigned through operation 'M' as described in paragraph B4.