

2. DOS6800 SYSTEM START

2.1 Introduction

System start is the initialization process which prepares a PTS6000 Terminal Computer for application program development. It comprises the following steps:

- Load the DOS6800 Monitor into memory.
- Key-in the date and time on the console typewriter.
- Select page size for line printer.
- Select conversational mode.
- Key-in the userid.

2.2 The System Disk

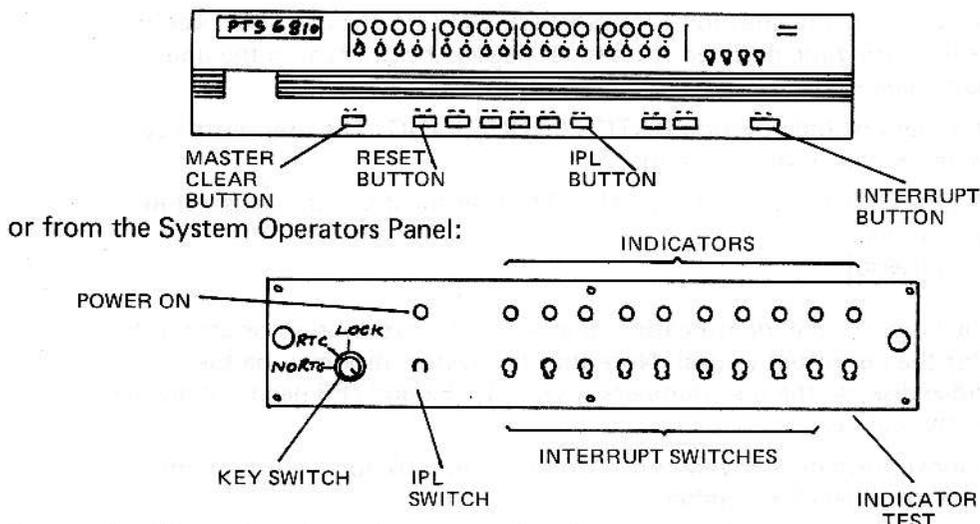
A system disk contains a copy of all DOS6800 System Software, held in the correct format for starting and running the System.

There must be at least one system disk on disk drive 1. This is the disk from which the Monitor will be loaded. In fact, all of the disks in use may be system disks. However, only the system disk from which the Monitor is loaded is recognized as **the** system disk while the System is running.

A system disk may also contain user files.

2.3 Loading the Monitor

The Monitor is loaded from the Computer Full Panel, or the System Operators Panel (SOP) if the particular computer has no Full Panel.



Note: the illustration above is an example of one type of Full Panel; exact layout may differ slightly between models.

The procedure for loading the Monitor is as follows:

- Ensure that the power is switched on at the Terminal Computer and at each peripheral device.
- Insert a cartridge in the disk drive, press the START button and wait for the READY indicator to light.

- If the Terminal Computer has a Full Panel **and** a System Operators Panel (SOP), press the Reset (RST) button, then the Master Clear (MC) button, then the Initial Program Load (IPL) button on the Full Panel.
- If the Terminal Computer has only a SOP, press the IPL switch on the SOP.
- If the system disk is the cartridge press SOP switch 2 (the leftmost switch is counted as zero). If the system disk is the fixed disk press SOP switch 3.
- The Monitor will then be read into Memory.

2.4 Initializing the Monitor

As soon as the Monitor is loaded it will type out the prompt DATE: The user may reply with either

DD MM YY

YY MM DD

or simply

Where DD, MM and YY are 2 digits giving day, month and year, separated by a delimiter, which may be any character on the keyboard.

The Monitor then types out the prompt TIME: The user must key-in the time as follows:

HH MM

or simply

Where HH, MM are decimal digits specifying hour and minute. The SOP key must be in the RTC position.

The Monitor then types out the question LINES/PAGE ON LP: The user must key-in a decimal number indicating the number of lines per page to be printed on the line printer. The default value is 40.

The Monitor then types out the question BATCH PROCESSING: The user must key-in N or which imply conversational mode.

The Monitor then types out the prompt USERID: The user must key-in his userid in one of the following ways:

{ /disk-number, userid }
{ userid }

/disk-number is the hexadecimal identification number of the system disk or user disk (see appendix A for the permitted values). Note that the system disk may be the fixed or the cartridge disk, so the disk numbers /F0, /F1, /F2 and /F3 need not always refer to the same physical disk.

If the first of the above formats is keyed-in the Monitor will look for the userid only on the disk with the specified disk number.

If the second format is keyed-in the Monitor will look at both disks starting with disk /F0.

If the userid SYSTEM is keyed-in (with no disk number) a "system session" is started. During a system session the user may key-in certain administrative commands in addition to the commands permitted in a "user session". These commands are:

| | |
|-----|----------------------------|
| DCU | Declare a new userid |
| DLU | Delete a userid |
| LIC | List catalogue of userids |
| PRC | Print catalogue of userids |
| RSU | Replace Supervisor |

It is recommended that the DCU command be used with discretion. A confusingly large number of userids in a System should be avoided. The existence of unused userids may lead to human errors and possibly to wasted disk space. Two particular uses of the userid should be avoided. These are:

- declaring the same userid on two or more disks;
- declaring the same userid as that used by the Monitor.

The declaration of the same userid on two or more disks may be made by specifying the disk number in each DCU for this userid. The reply to the USERID: prompts must then include the relevant disk numbers from this userid.

The userid used by the System is SAG. However, when the user wishes to reference files in the system library, he must specify SYSTEM as the userid. That is, SYSTEM is the **external** system userid, which must be specified in certain control commands; SAG is the **internal** system userid, which is not normally referred to by the user. It is recommended that neither SAG nor SYSTEM be declared by the user on any disk.

An example of the initialization dialogue is shown below:

```
DOS6800 REL. 3.3
DATE : 01 01 77
TIME : 09 30
LINES/PAGE ON LP: 66
BATCH PROCESSING ? N
USERID: BVD
S:
```

2.5 Error Reports

In cases of errors, the following messages may be output:

- INPUT COMMAND I/O ERROR

An I/O error has been detected during the reading of the user identification. The user must type in a new userid on the typewriter.

- I/O ERROR

An I/O error has been detected during the loading of the disk allocation table from the disk into memory. The user must type his userid again on the typewriter.

- USERID UNKNOWN

The userid specified has not been found on any of the disks. The user must type in a new userid on the typewriter.