

OS/Protogate Programmer's Guide

DC 900-2008B

Protogate, Inc.
12225 World Trade Drive, Suite R
San Diego, CA 92128
May 2003

PROTOGATE

Protogate, Inc.
12225 World Trade Drive, Suite R
San Diego, CA 92128
(858) 451-0865

OS/Protogate Programmer's Guide
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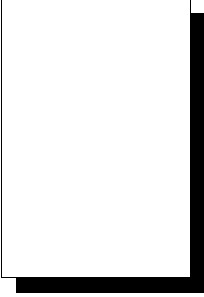
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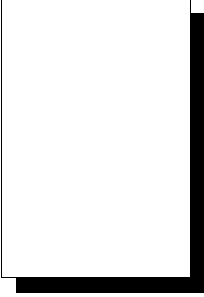


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Preface

Purpose of Document

This document provides a complete description of the programmer's interface to OS/Protogate, Protogate's real-time operating system kernel for the Motorola ColdFire® family of processors.

Intended Audience

This document should be read by programmers who are using Protogate's ICP Protocol Toolkit to develop code that will be downloaded to a Protogate ICP board and executed in the OS/Protogate environment. You should be familiar with general operating-system concepts and with the fundamentals of developing programs in a real-time environment. Some familiarity with the C programming language is helpful because this document presents the system-call interface and data-structure definitions in C format.

Required Equipment

You will need OS/Protogate in executable form and an ICP product based on Motorola's ColdFire® family of processors (such as the ICP2432B). The ICP may be installed in a Protogate Freeway server or embedded directly in a host machine. The software that you develop and intend to execute in the OS/Protogate environment must be assembled and linked into a file executable on the Motorola chip. You must also be able to download the software to the ICP board.

Organization of Document

[Chapter 1](#) provides an overview of Freeway and OS/Protogate.

[Chapter 2](#) introduces the components of OS/Protogate and provides a general description of its system services.

[Chapter 3](#) contains the OS/Protogate system calls. Each section describes a system call in detail and provides input and output parameters for C and assembly language interfaces.

[Chapter 4](#) describes the system data structures used internally by OS/Protogate and those used by the programmer to interface to OS/Protogate.

[Appendix A](#) provides information for debugging software that executes in the OS/Protogate environment, including system error codes and instructions for locating system data structures.

[Appendix B](#) explicitly defines the system data structures in terms of field sizes and byte offsets.

[Appendix C](#) provides one-page system-call summaries for C and assembly language interfaces.

[Appendix D](#) provides some examples of task scheduling.

The Glossary of Acronyms lists the acronyms used in this manual.

References

Freeway general support:

- *Freeway 3100 Hardware Installation Guide* DC 900-2002
- *Freeway 3200 Hardware Installation Guide* DC 900-2003
- *Freeway 3400 Hardware Installation Guide* DC 900-2004

- *Freeway 3600 Hardware Installation Guide* DC 900-2005
- *Freeway Programmable Communications Servers Technical Overview* 25-000-0374
- *Freeway User's Guide* DC 900-1333

Freeway programming support:

- *Freeway Client-Server Interface Control Document* DC 900-1303
- *Freeway Data Link Interface Reference Guide* DC 900-1334
- *Freeway Transport Subsystem Interface Reference Guide* DC 900-1335

ICP programming support:

- *OS/Protogate Programmer's Guide* [this document] DC 900-2008
- *ICP2432-to-PCI Host Protocol Specification* DC 900-1509
- *ICP2432B Hardware Description and Theory of Operation* DC 900-2006

Protocol support:

- *ADCCP NRM Programmer's Guide* DC 900-1317
- *Asynchronous Wire Service (AWS) Programmer's Guide* DC 900-1324
- *AUTODIN Programmer's Guide* DC-908-1558
- *Bit-Stream Protocol Programmer's Guide* DC-900-1574
- *BSC Programmer's Guide* DC 900-1340
- *DDCMP Programmer's Guide* DC-900-1343
- *FMP Programmer's Guide* DC 900-1339
- *Freeway HDLC Low-Level Interface* DC 900-1352
- *Freeway Protocol Software Toolkit Programmer's Guide* DC 900-2007
- *Freeway SWIFT and CHIPS Programmer's Guide* DC 900-1344
- *Freeway X.25 Low-Level Interface* DC 900-1307
- *Military/Government Protocols Programmer's Guide* DC-900-1602
- *N/SP-STD-1200B Programmer's Guide* DC-908-1359
- *SIO STD-1300 Programmer's Guide* DC-908-1559

Document Conventions

This document follows the most significant byte first (MSB) and most significant word first (MSW) conventions for bit-numbering and byte-ordering. In all packet transfers between the client applications and the ICPs, the ordering of the byte stream is preserved.

In this document, the term “Freeway®” refers to any of the PCI-based Freeway server models (for example, Freeway 3100/3200/3400/3600 servers). Some references to the term “Freeway®” also may apply to an embedded ICP product using DLITE (for example, an embedded ICP2432B using DLITE on a Windows NT system).

Physical “ports” on the ICPs are logically referred to as “links.” However, since port and link numbers are usually identical (that is, port 0 is the same as link 0), this document uses the term “link.”

Program code samples are written in the “C” programming language.

Revision History

The revision history of the *OS/Protogate Programmer's Guide*, Protogate document DC 900-2008B, is recorded below:

Revision	Release Date	Description
DC 900-2008A	June 2002	Original release.
DC 900-2008B	May 2003	Added section on System Timing (Section 2.7 on page 31). Added the gs_time field to the Global System Table (Section 4.15 on page 107). Added s_halt (Section 3.1.6 on page 43). Added s_stinit (Section 3.6.3 on page 81). Added s_stset (Section 3.6.4 on page 82).

Customer Support

If you are having trouble with any Protogate product, call us at (858) 451-0865 Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Pacific time.

You can also fax your questions to us at (877) 473-0190 any time. Please include a cover sheet addressed to “Customer Service.”

We are always interested in suggestions for improving our products. You can use the report form in the back of this manual to send us your recommendations.

1.1 Protogate Product Overview

Protogate provides a variety of wide-area network (WAN) connectivity solutions for real-time financial, defense, telecommunications, and process-control applications. Protogate's Freeway server offers flexibility and ease of programming using a variety of LAN-based server hardware platforms. Now a consistent and compatible embedded intelligent communications processor (ICP) product offers the same functionality as the Freeway server, allowing individual client computers to connect directly to the WAN.

Both Freeway and the embedded ICP use the same data link interface (DLI). Therefore, migration between the two environments simply requires linking your client application with the proper library. Various client operating systems are supported (for example, UNIX, VMS, and Windows NT).

Protogate protocols that run on the ICPs are independent of the client operating system and the hardware platform (Freeway or embedded ICP).

1.1.1 Freeway Server

Protogate's Freeway communications servers enable client applications on a local-area network (LAN) to access specialized WANs through the Freeway API. The Freeway Server can be any of several models (for example: Freeway 3100, Freeway 3200, or Freeway 3400). The Freeway Server is user programmable and communicates in real time.

It provides multiple data links and a variety of network services to LAN-based clients.

Figure 1–1 shows the Freeway Server product configuration.

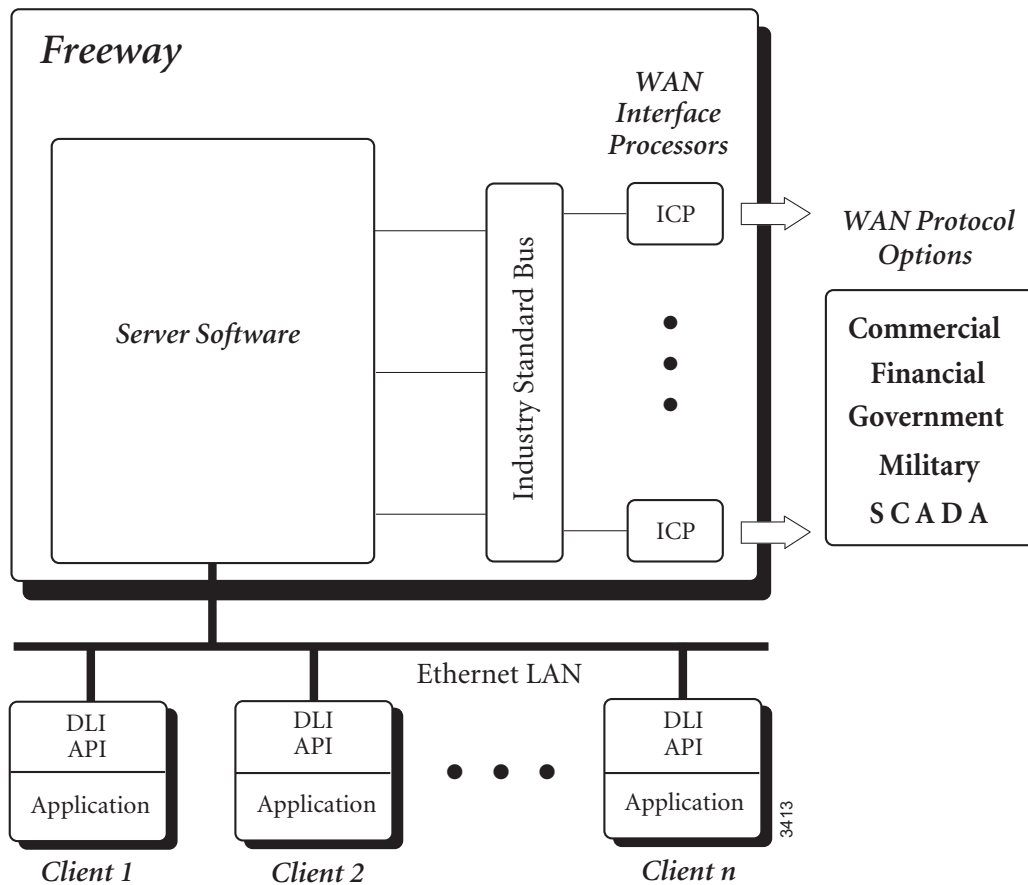


Figure 1–1: Freeway Configuration

To maintain high data throughput, the Freeway Server uses a multi-processor architecture to support the LAN and WAN services. The LAN interface is managed by a single-board computer, called the server processor. It uses the commercially available FreeBSD or VxWorks operating system to provide a full-featured base for the LAN interface and layered services needed by Freeway.

The Freeway Server can be configured with multiple WAN interface processor boards, each of which is a Protogate ICP. Each ICP runs the communication protocol software using Protogate's real-time operating system.

1.1.2 Embedded ICP

The embedded ICP connects your client computer directly to the WAN (for example, using Protogate's ICP2432B PCibus board). The embedded ICP provides client applications with the same WAN connectivity as the Freeway server, using the same data link interface (via the DLITE embedded interface). The ICP runs the communication protocol software using Protogate's real-time operating system. [Figure 1–2](#) shows the embedded ICP configuration.

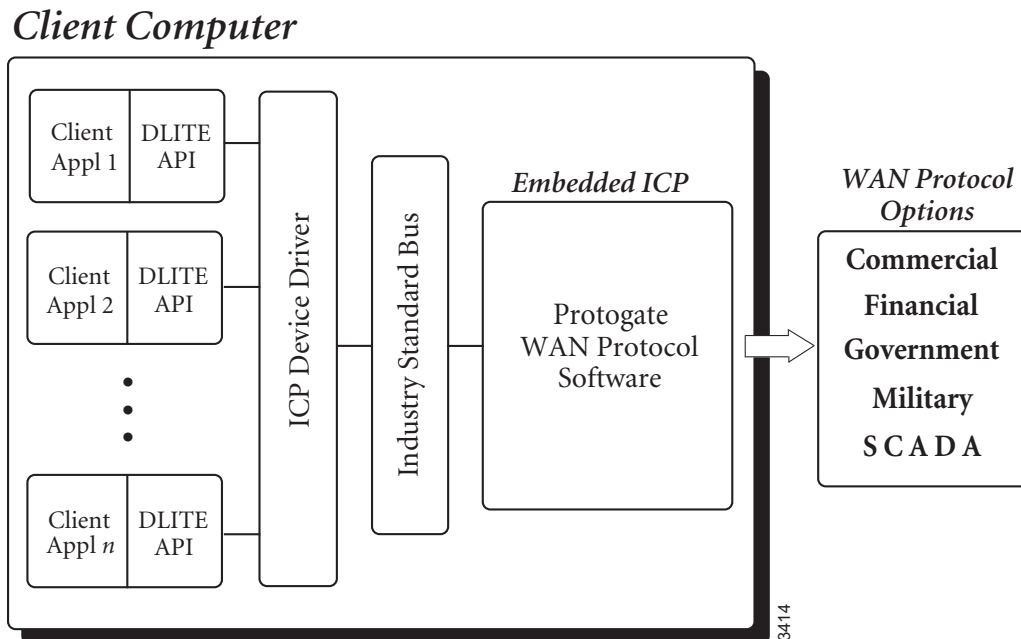


Figure 1–2: Embedded ICP Configuration

1.1.3 Summary of Product features

- Freeway Server standard support for Ethernet LANs running the transmission control protocol/internet protocol (TCP/IP)
- Support for multiple ICPs (two, four, or eight communication lines per ICP)
- Wide selection of electrical interfaces including EIA-232, EIA-449, EIA-530, EIA-562, V.35, and MIL-188
- Freeway Server management and performance monitoring with the simple network management protocol (SNMP), as well as interactive menus available through a local console, telnet, or rlogin
- Variety of off-the-shelf communication protocols available from Protogate which are independent of the client operating system and hardware platform
- Support for multiple WAN communication protocols simultaneously
- Elimination of difficult LAN and WAN programming and systems integration by providing a powerful and consistent Freeway API
- Creation of customized server-resident and ICP-resident software, using Protogate's software development toolkits

1.2 OS/Protogate Overview

The operating system that runs on the ICP is Protogate's OS/Protogate real-time executive, which is optimized for communications applications. Customers of Protogate's commercial off-the-shelf protocols do not need to know the details of OS/Protogate, but system integrators developing customized Freeway applications to run on the ICP need to understand how to use OS/Protogate, as explained in this manual.

OS/Protogate is a real-time operating system kernel designed for Motorola's ColdFire® family of processors. In the real-time environment, actions are generally interrupt-driven and many operations proceed logically in parallel. To support this environment, OS/Protogate provides a multi-tasking system with priorities and optional time slicing.

The following system components are defined:

Tasks	Entities that execute logically in parallel
Queues	Linked lists used for intertask communication and for ordering events
Alarms	Used to schedule timed activities
Partitions	Blocks of memory divided into buffers
Resources	Used to allocate or control access to objects

The system environment is completely configurable and dynamic: the maximum number of each component is configurable at system initialization, and instances of each can be dynamically created (up to the maximum) and deleted during system operation.

OS/Protogate includes 30 system service routines, which are accessed through the exception vector table using software interrupts (the TRAP instruction). The addresses of the system routines, therefore, need not be available to application tasks, as they would if the routines were accessed with ordinary subroutine calls. This allows the ker-

nel to be maintained as a stand-alone module, with no link to application programs required.

As an operating system kernel, OS/Protogate is only one part of what might be considered a complete operating system. For example, device drivers and host I/O services are not included in the kernel, but are provided with it as components of the software toolkit. Depending on the user's requirements, any additional application- or hardware-specific facilities can be added as operating system extensions (using additional software interrupt vectors) or at the task level.

1.2.1 Load Procedure

OS/Protogate is built as a file that is downloaded separately from all other protocol files. There is a different OS/Protogate file for each model of ICP board. The file name is **osp_xxxx.mem**, where *xxxx* represents the ICP model. [Table 1-1](#) lists the available ICP models along with the standard load address for OS/Protogate.

Table 1-1: ICP Models Using OS/Protogate

ICP model	Bus structure	OS/Protogate file	Load address (hex)
ICP2432B	PCI	osp_2432b.mem	40100000

1.2.2 Compatibility with Older ICP Boards

OS/Protogate is designed to work only with ICP boards using the Motorola ColdFire® family of processors. Customers who have ICP boards with Motorola 68xxx processors must continue to use OS/Impact (*xio_xxxx.mem*).

2.1 System Scheduling

In a multi-tasking operating system, processes execute logically in parallel. In actuality, only one task executes at a time, but tasks are “rescheduled” periodically; that is, execution of the current task is suspended and another task is dispatched. The rules for system scheduling are as follows:

1. The task that is executing is suspended (preempted) when:
 - it requests suspension;
 - a higher-priority task is scheduled for execution;
 - if time slicing is enabled, its time-slice period expires; or
 - it terminates.
2. When one of these events occurs, the executing task is rescheduled (unless it has terminated). At this time, the next task to be dispatched (executed) is chosen from the group of tasks that are scheduled (waiting) to execute.
3. A task is scheduled to execute when it is created, when it is preempted (except when it has requested suspension or has terminated), or as a result of a Resume or Post & Resume system call. A task can be both executing and scheduled for execution. This can occur as a result of a Resume or Post & Resume system call made by the task itself or by an interrupt service routine during the task’s execution.

4. Of the tasks that are scheduled to execute, the system always dispatches the task with the highest priority. If more than one task is at that priority, the one that was scheduled earliest is dispatched.

2.2 Tasks

The maximum number of tasks that can be created is configurable at system initialization. For each configured task, the system creates a task control block, which is defined in [Section 4.1 on page 85](#). Tasks are created and deleted dynamically through the Create Task and Delete Task system calls. Each task is identified by a task ID supplied as an input parameter to the Create Task system call.

2.3 Queues

As defined for this operating system, a queue is a linked list which can contain any number of queue elements. A particular queue can be singly linked (forward pointers only), or doubly linked (forward and backward pointers). Any data structure containing a standard system buffer header, as defined in [Section 4.12 on page 101](#), can be used as a queue element.

2.3.1 Singly Linked Queues

A singly linked queue consists of a head pointer, a tail pointer and the “next element” field in the system buffer header of each queue element. The head pointer contains the address of the first queue element. The tail pointer contains the address of the last queue element. The “next element” field of each buffer header contains the address of the next queue element, except for the last, which contains zero. If the queue is empty, the head pointer contains zero, and the value of the tail pointer is undefined.

2.3.2 Doubly Linked Queues

A doubly linked queue consists of a head pointer, a tail pointer, and the “next element” and “previous element” fields in the system buffer header of each queue element. The

head pointer contains the address of the first queue element. The tail pointer contains the address of the last queue element. The “next element” field of each buffer header contains the address of the next queue element, except for the last, which contains the address of the first queue element. The “previous element” field of each buffer header contains the address of the previous queue element, except for the first, which contains the address of the last queue element. If the queue is empty, the head pointer contains zero, and the value of the tail pointer is undefined.

2.3.3 Exchange Queues

The operating system uses both singly and doubly linked queues for various purposes internally and, in addition, you can define a configurable number of exchange queues for intertask communication. ([Chapter 4](#) includes descriptions of internal queues.)

The maximum number of exchange queues that can be created is configurable at system initialization. A queue control block (QCB) is maintained for each configured exchange queue. Exchange queues are used for intertask communication, and a task can also use them for internal message storage or for communication with an interrupt service routine.

A task can own any number of exchange queues, which are obtained and released by means of the Create Queue and Delete Queue system calls. At creation, the ID of the task that will own the queue is specified, and also whether queue elements are to be singly or doubly linked. Each exchange queue is identified by a queue ID supplied as an input parameter to the Create Queue system call.

Any task can post a message (add an element) to or accept a message (remove an element) from an exchange queue. When a message is posted to a queue, its owner (and only its owner) can optionally be scheduled to execute. The Post Message, Post & Resume, and Accept Message system calls perform these functions.

2.3.4 Queue Ordering

In general, exchange queues, whether singly or doubly linked, are intended to be managed as FIFOs; elements are added to the tail and removed from the head. However, the Post Message and Post & Resume system calls optionally allow a message to be added to the head of a queue.

Double links allow elements to be easily inserted or deleted at any position of a queue. This can be useful when, for example, the queue is ordered according to the value of a field within each queue element. The system uses internal doubly linked queues in this manner, but system calls are not provided to perform these application-specific operations on exchange queues.

2.4 Memory Allocation

The operating system requires a fixed amount of memory for code, data, and stack, and also a variable amount for data structures, based on the system configuration. However, the memory used by tasks in the system is not controlled or even monitored by the operating system. The user is expected to coordinate the allocation of memory for code, data, stack space, and memory partitions (for system buffers) to prevent conflict with the operating system or among the various tasks.

2.4.1 Stacks

The Motorola ColdFire® processor used by OS/Protogate platforms provides a single hardware stack pointer. A separate stack space must be allocated for each user task, and its initial stack pointer value must be supplied to the system when the task is created. OS/Protogate reserves stack space for its own use during system initialization, and later assigns this space for use as the system's Timer task stack.

When any task is dispatched, its saved stack pointer value is stored in the hardware stack pointer. This space is used for all stack operations until a new task is dispatched. Thus when an interrupt occurs or a task makes a system call (enters supervisor state through

a TRAP instruction), the current task stack remains in effect. Exception processing, therefore, adds to each task's stack size requirements. Protogate recommends that 0x1000 bytes of stack be allocated for each user task.

When a task is not running, the latest 68 bytes of its stack are occupied by the saved values of its data registers, address registers, program counter, and status register (see [Section 4.14 on page 106](#)).

2.4.2 Partitions

A partition is a block of memory that is subdivided into buffers of a particular size. The maximum number of partitions that can be created is configurable at system initialization. Partitions are created and deleted dynamically through the Create Partition and Delete Partition system calls. Each partition is identified by a partition ID is supplied as an input parameter to the Create Partition system call.

The system maintains a partition control block (PCB) for each configured partition. The format of the PCB is described in [Section 4.4 on page 89](#) and includes a linked list (a singly linked queue) of available buffers for that partition. A task requests a system buffer of a particular size by specifying (as an input parameter to the Request Buffer system call) the ID of a partition that contains buffers of that size.

2.5 Timer Services

Timer services are based on the accumulation of system ticks. Ticks are intervals of time, expressed in milliseconds, as defined in the System Configuration Table. Three basic timer services are supplied by the system:

1. A task can suspend itself (but not another task), with a timer set for some number of ticks after which it is scheduled for execution.
2. A task can set an alarm for some number of ticks; the system Timer Task processes the alarm expiration, setting a specified flag and/or calling a specified task routine.

3. If time slicing is enabled for a task, that task's execution is suspended when the time slice period expires, and the task is rescheduled immediately.

2.5.1 Timer Interrupt Service Routine (ISR)

Timer services are supplied by a combination of interrupt- and task-level code. The Timer ISR is entered on interrupt from the system clock once per millisecond. The ISR decrements a count set by the Timer task and, when the count expires, it schedules the Timer task for execution. If time slicing is enabled for the currently executing task, the time slice tick count is decremented. If it has expired, the task is suspended, rescheduled, and another (or the same) task is dispatched.

2.5.2 Timer Task

The Timer task is an element of the operating system (although it does not run in supervisor mode). It is scheduled for execution as a result of the Set Timer and Suspend system calls, and by the Timer ISR ([Section 2.5.1](#) above). It is responsible for decrementing the tick counts of running alarms and processing alarm expirations. The system tick count decremented by the Timer ISR is set by the Timer task to the minimum number of ticks remaining for a running alarm.

The highest task priority, which is zero, is reserved exclusively for the Timer Task. Thus when it is scheduled, it preempts any user task that may be running (although if task switching is currently disabled, preemption is delayed until it is re-enabled).

2.5.3 Alarms

An alarm is the means of scheduling an event for a particular time. The maximum number of alarms that can be created is configurable at system initialization. A task can own any number of alarms, which it obtains and releases by means of the Create Alarm and Delete Alarm system calls. The system maintains an alarm control block (ACB) for each configured alarm, described in [Section 4.4 on page 89](#). Each alarm is identified by an alarm ID supplied as an input parameter to the Create Alarm system call.

When an alarm is created, the caller specifies either a *standard* or a *special* alarm type. The methods used by the Timer task to process the two types of alarms are different. Depending on the intended use of a particular alarm and the number of alarms in the system, either a standard or a special alarm might be more efficient.

Less processing is required for a special alarm than for a standard alarm when it is started or canceled or when its tick count is adjusted; however, less processing is required to decrement the tick counts of running standard alarms than running special alarms. This is because a relative tick count is maintained for each standard alarm, and only the count for the alarm with the fewest remaining ticks is actually decremented. An absolute tick count is maintained for each running special alarm, so that the count must be decremented for each alarm, and the processing required is proportional to the number of alarms running.

In general, therefore, the majority of alarms in the system should be standard; however, for a limited number of alarms that are started, canceled, or adjusted frequently (especially where these operations are performed from an interrupt service routine), the special alarm type might be more efficient.

A third alarm type, the *task* alarm, is used internally by the system. A task alarm is associated with each task in the system. When a task is suspended with a timer set, its alarm is set exactly as a standard alarm would be. When the alarm expires, the task is scheduled for execution. If the task is scheduled for some other reason, its alarm is canceled. Task and standard alarms are treated identically by the Timer task.

2.6 Resource Management

Tasks and interrupt service routines may require temporary exclusive access to or possession of certain resources. The operating system provides services to manage the allocation of these resources.

The simplest resource is a single entity that can be obtained (locked) or released (unlocked). A more complex resource consists of a group of equivalent components; a request for the resource results in the allocation of one of its components, with the assumption that possession of any one of the components is acceptable to the requester. The resource management services do not distinguish between the two types of resources; a resource simply consists of one or more components.

Each component of a resource is represented by a resource token. Each resource token is a queue element and must contain a standard system buffer header. Aside from the header, the queue element contents, if any, are transparent to the system.

The maximum number of resources that can be created is configurable at system initialization. (Any number of components can be associated with each resource.) Resources are created and deleted dynamically through the Create Resource and Delete Resource system calls. Each resource is identified by a resource ID supplied as an input parameter to the Create Resource system call. The system maintains a resource control block (RCB) for each configured resource. The format of the RCB is described in [Section 4.3 on page 88](#) and includes a linked list (a queue) of resource tokens.

After creating a resource, a task generally “stocks” the resource, by building and “releasing” (with a Release Resource system call) the appropriate number of resource tokens, which are then linked by the system to the RCB queue.

A task requests a resource by specifying (as an input parameter to the Request Resource system call) the resource identification. The system unlinks a resource token from the RCB queue and returns its address to the requester. If no tokens are available, an error is returned instead.

In anticipation of the resource being unavailable, the requester can supply the address of a “resource carrier” message on input to the Request Resource call. A resource carrier is a queue element that has a standard system buffer header followed by a number of

fields, including a return queue identification. The format of the carrier message is defined in [Section 4.13 on page 104](#).

If a resource carrier is supplied, and if no tokens are available, the carrier is linked to the RCB queue. (Note that the queue can hold tokens or carriers, but not both.) Depending on a parameter specified when the resource was created, carriers are linked to the queue in order of priority (based on a field in the carrier message), or linked to the tail.

When a resource token becomes available (on a Release Resource system call), the resource carrier at the head of the RCB queue is unlinked and the address of the resource token is stored in a field of the carrier message, which is then added to the appropriate queue (as specified in the message) with a Post and Resume system call.

If no carrier messages are queued when a resource is released, the resource token is linked to the RCB queue and becomes available to the next requester.

2.7 System Timing

OS/Protogate maintains a 32-bit system time in the `gs_time` field of the Global System Table ([Section 4.15 on page 107](#)), making it available to the tasks. Common uses of the system time are for the time-stamping of messages and events. The system time is kept in units of milliseconds.

There are two modes of maintaining the system time: Internal and Host. Two system calls are provided for user control of the timing mode and the system time value: Initialize System Timing ([Section 3.6.3 on page 81](#)) and Set System Time ([Section 3.6.4 on page 82](#)). In both modes, the Timer Interrupt Service Routine ([Section 2.5.1 on page 28](#)) updates the system time once per millisecond. The difference between them is the source of the time value being incremented.

2.7.1 Internal System Timing

The default mode upon system initialization is Internal timing (starting at system time 0). The implicit base time, with respect to which the Internal timing system time is an offset, is whatever the controlling client system has in mind when it causes the system time to be set via a command to the ICP application which results in a Set System Time service call to OS/Protogate.

With Internal timing, the OS continues to update the system time at one-millisecond intervals, without otherwise evaluating or changing it. But the tasks may reset the system time to a new value via the Set System Time system call. Normally, this call would be issued because of a client system command sent to the ICP protocol application. The purpose of this client command would be first to initialize the ICP system time to a value defined by the client, and thereafter to periodically adjust the ICP system time to prevent any long-term drift away from what the client regards as true time.

Internal timing may be re-established by the Initialize System Timing system call, if return to Internal timing from Host timing is desired.

2.7.2 Host System Timing

The alternate mode of system timing is Host timing. The implicit base time, with respect to which the Host system time always is an offset, is start-of-day.

With Host timing, the ICP system time is monitored from across the host bus by the ICP driver in the hosting system, and is adjusted by the driver often enough to keep the ICP system time within a millisecond of what the host regards as true time. The time-source in the hosting system may be the host's native OS time, Network Time Protocol, or any other means established in the hosting system. In this mode, the ICP system time is not subject to control by the client system application that is in communication with the ICP; the Set System Time call is not valid then and returns with an error status.

Host timing is established by the Initialize System Timing system call.

Most requests for system services go through a single vector in the exception vector table, using the TRAP #0 machine instruction. A particular system call is specified by a function code passed in a register, which the system call trap handler converts to the address of the appropriate routine. The two exceptions to this rule are the Set Interrupt Level and the Return from ISR system calls which, for speed, are accessed directly through separate vectors. Input and output parameters are passed in registers. Programs written in a high-level language can access the system calls through a subroutine interface library, such as the one supplied with the ICP Software Toolkit.

Before returning control to the task when a system call (including those accessed through separate vectors) finishes, the calling task is preempted and another task is dispatched if all of the following are true:

- The call returns to user state (to the task level)
- Task rescheduling is not disabled
- Another task at a higher priority than the currently executing task is scheduled; or if time slicing is enabled, another task at the same priority is scheduled

Each of the following sections describes the function of a system call, the C and assembly language interfaces with their input and output parameters, and the access restrictions (in other words, whether the call can be made from a task, an interrupt service routine, or both). [Chapter 4](#) and [Appendix B](#) describe the data structures used by the system calls. [Appendix C](#) contains quick-reference tables.

3.1 Task-Related Calls

This section describes the system calls that are related to the management of tasks:

- Create a Task (s_creat)
- Delete Calling Task (s_tdelet)
- Disable Task Rescheduling (s_lock)
- Enable Task Rescheduling (s_unlock)
- Suspend Calling Task (s_susp)
- Halt (s_halt)
- Resume a Task (s_resum)

Tasks can be created as part of system initialization, reinitialization (see [Section 3.6.1 on page 79](#)), or by another task with the Create Task system call. When a task is created, a task control block (TCB) is allocated according to its task ID, and the task is scheduled for execution.

After a task is executing, it can normally be preempted by a higher-priority task or by an interrupt service routine. A task can use the Disable Task Rescheduling and Enable Task Rescheduling system calls around critical sections of code to prevent processing being preempted by another task. If interrupts must also be blocked, a task can use the Set Interrupt Level system call instead (see [Section 3.6.6 on page 84](#)).

Tasks or interrupt service routines can use the Resume system call to schedule any task for execution.

Unless a task is executing at the lowest priority in the system, it must periodically suspend its execution so that the system can be rescheduled, giving lower-priority tasks an

opportunity to execute. The Suspend system call is used for this purpose and always suspends the calling task; one task cannot suspend execution of another.

In some cases, a task may no longer be required after it has performed the specific function for which it was created. An example of this might be a “boot” task, which creates the tasks, partitions, queues, and so on that will be used during normal operations. In a case such as this, when the task has completed its processing, it can issue a Delete Task system call, which deallocates its task ID and associated TCB. This routine always deletes the calling task; one task cannot delete another.

3.1.1 Create a Task (s_tcreat)

Given the address of a task initialization structure, the Create Task system call dynamically creates a task and schedules it for execution. The task initialization structure provides the task ID, priority, starting address, stack pointer and a time slice enable/disable flag. Its format is described in [Section 4.10 on page 98](#).

The TCB corresponding to the requested ID is allocated and initialized, and the task is added to the dispatch queue for its priority (in other words, is scheduled for execution). An error is returned if a task with the requested ID already exists (in other words, the TCB is allocated) or if the ID or the priority is out of range. Valid task IDs and priorities are dependent on the system configuration, as described in [Section 4.9 on page 95](#).

C Interface:

```
int s_tcreat ( tis )
```

```
struct TIS_TYPE *tis
```

tis: pointer to task initialization structure

```
return:      0x00 = good
             0x01 = task ID is out of range
             0x02 = task already exists
             0x03 = priority is out of range
```

Assembly Interface:

TRAP	#0
input:	D0.L = 0x00 A0.L = address of task initialization structure
output:	D0.L = completion status 0x00 = good 0x01 = task ID is out of range 0x02 = task already exists 0x03 = priority is out of range

Access: task only

3.1.2 Delete Calling Task (s_tdelet)

The Delete Task system call deactivates the calling task and frees the associated TCB. If task rescheduling is disabled, it is automatically re-enabled. If the task is currently scheduled for execution, it is removed from the dispatch queue. Control is passed to the dispatcher, and the routine does not return to the caller.

C Interface:

```
void s_tdelet ()
```

return: none; does not return

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x01

output: none; does not return

Access: task only

3.1.3 Disable Task Rescheduling (s_lock)

The Lock Task system call disables task rescheduling, including time slicing. Until task rescheduling is re-enabled, the executing task will not be preempted by any other task, regardless of its priority. The Delete Task and Suspend calls automatically re-enable task rescheduling.

C Interface:

```
void s_lock ()
```

```
return:      none
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP        #0
```

```
input:      D0.L = 0x02
```

```
output:      none
```

Access: task only

3.1.4 Enable Task Rescheduling (s_unlock)

The Unlock Task system call enables task rescheduling. If a task makes a Suspend or Delete Task system call with task rescheduling disabled, rescheduling is automatically re-enabled and this call is not necessary.

C Interface:

```
void s_unlock ()
```

return: none

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x03

output: none

Access: task only

3.1.5 Suspend Calling Task (`s_susp`)

The Suspend system call suspends execution of the calling task until an event occurs that causes the task to be rescheduled. By creating an event control block (ECB) and supplying its address as an input parameter to the routine, the calling task can selectively enable rescheduling on any or all of the following events: task timer expiration, Resume system call, or a Post & Resume call specifying a queue owned by the task and listed in the ECB. In addition, the calling task can request to be removed from the dispatch queue if it is already scheduled at the time of suspension. The ECB format is defined in [Section 4.11 on page 99](#).

If the task does not supply an ECB address (in other words, the input parameter is zero), all events are enabled, except that no alarm is set. The task will be scheduled to execute on a Resume call or when a Post & Resume call is made with any of its queues specified. If the task is already scheduled at the time of suspension, it remains scheduled.

If task rescheduling is disabled, it is automatically re-enabled when a task suspends.

If an ECB is supplied, and it contains the ID of an exchange queue that the task does not own, an error is returned and the task is not suspended.

If an ECB is supplied, and it contains a nonzero alarm tick count, the alarm associated with the task's TCB is started. The signal routine address field of all task ACBs contains the address of a special system subroutine. When the alarm expires, the Timer task calls this subroutine, which schedules the associated (suspended) task for execution. If the task is scheduled for some other reason before this occurs, the alarm is canceled.

On return from suspension, the event code signifies the event that caused the task to be rescheduled. The high-order word of the event code signifies the event type: previous scheduling, timer expiration, Resume, or Post & Resume. If the event type signifies Post & Resume, the low-order word of the event code contains the queue ID; otherwise, the low-order word is zero. Note that the event code signifies only the event that caused the task to be rescheduled; additional enabled events might have occurred since that time.

C Interface:

```
void s_susp ( ecb, event_code )
struct ECB_TYPE *ecb;
int *event_code;
```

ecb: pointer to ECB or zero to enable all events

event_code: if nonzero, event code is stored at this address on good return
0x010000 = previous scheduling
0x020000 = timer expiration
0x030000 = resume
0x04nnnn = post & resume (nnnn = queue ID)

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x04
A0.L = ECB address, or zero to enable all events

output: D0.L = completion status
0x00 = good
0x01 = invalid ID in ECB

D1.L = event code (if good completion)
0x010000 = previous scheduling
0x020000 = timer expiration
0x030000 = resume
0x04nnnn = post & resume (nnnn = queue ID)

Access: task only

3.1.6 Halt (`s_halt`)

The Halt system call halts execution of the ICP processor.

This system call is normally made as a panic stop for an unrecoverable system error. It is called with a code that identifies the particular error that was encountered. A machine register/status dump is displayed on the ICP console when the console is connected to a terminal or printer device; the halt code is shown as the value in register D1.

This call may also be used as an interactive debugging aid when the ICP console interface supports user input.

C Interface:

```
void s_halt ( code )  
    unsigned int code;  
  
code:          halt code  
  
return:        void
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP          #0  
  
input:        D0.L = 0x05  
              D1.L = halt code  
  
output:       none
```

Access: task or ISR

3.1.7 Resume a Task (s_resum)

The Resume system call schedules the specified task for execution if it is currently executing or suspended with Resume enabled (see [Section 3.1.5 on page 41](#)).

An error is returned if the specified task ID is invalid; otherwise, the completion status is good, whether or not the call actually caused the task to be scheduled for execution.

C Interface:

```
int s_resum ( task_id )
unsigned short task_id;

task_id:      task ID

return:       0x00 = good
              0x01 = invalid task ID
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP          #0

input:        D0.L = 0x06
              D1.W = task ID

output:       D0.L = completion status
              0x00 = good
              0x01 = invalid task ID
```

Access: task or ISR

3.2 Queue-Related Calls

The system calls that are related to the management of exchange queues are as follows:

- Create a Queue (`s_qcreat`)
- Delete a Queue (`s_qdelet`)
- Post a Message to a Queue (`s_post`)
- Post a Message and Resume Queue Owner (`s_postr`)
- Accept a Message from a Queue (`s_accpt`)

An exchange queue can be created by a task with the Create Queue system call, which allocates a QCB according to the queue identification. When the queue is created, it must be designated as either singly or doubly linked. In addition, a task ID must be specified as the “owner” of the queue.

After a queue has been created, tasks and interrupt service routines can add messages to it with Post Message system calls and remove messages with Accept Message calls. Messages can be added either to the head or the tail of the queue but are always removed from the head. If messages are always added to the tail, then the queue acts as a FIFO (first in, first out). If messages are always added to the head, then the queue acts as a LIFO (last in, first out).

Because it is often convenient to notify the owner of a queue when a message has been added, the Post & Resume system call is provided, which is identical to the Post Message system call except that it also causes the task that owns the queue to be scheduled for execution.

If a queue is no longer required, the Delete Queue system call deallocates the queue ID and associated QCB.

3.2.1 Create a Queue (s_qcreat)

The Create Queue system call causes the QCB associated with the specified queue ID to be allocated. As an input parameter, the caller must specify whether elements on the queue are to be singly or doubly linked (see [Section 2.3 on page 24](#)).

The caller must also specify the ID of a task that will become the “owner” of the queue. This task will be scheduled for execution when a Post & Resume call adds a message to the queue, unless it is suspended with that event disabled (see [Section 3.1.5 on page 41](#)).

An error is returned if the queue is already allocated or if the task or queue ID is out of range. Valid task and queue IDs are dependent on the system configuration, as described in [Section 4.9 on page 95](#). On a good completion, the QCB address is returned. Under controlled circumstances this address can be used to implement more sophisticated queue manipulation operations than those provided by the operating system kernel.

C Interface:

```
int s_qcreat ( queue_id, q_type, task_id, qcb )
unsigned short queue_id, q_type, task_id;
struct QCB_TYPE **qcb;
```

queue_id: queue ID

q_type: 0x00 = single links
 0x01 = double links

task_id: task ID of queue owner

qcb: if nonzero, pointer to QCB is stored at this address on good completion

return: 0x00 = good
 0x01 = queue ID out of range
 0x02 = queue not available
 0x03 = task ID out of range

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x07
 D1.W = queue ID
 D2.W = single/double link flag
 0x00 = single links
 0x01 = double links
 D3.W = task ID of queue owner

output: D0.L = completion status
 0x00 = good
 0x01 = queue ID out of range
 0x02 = queue not available
 0x03 = task ID out of range
 A0.L = QCB address if good completion, else unchanged

Access: task only

3.2.2 Delete a Queue (s_qdelet)

The Delete Queue system call frees the QCB associated with the specified queue ID.

An error is returned and the QCB is not deallocated if the caller does not own the queue, if the queue is not empty, or if the queue ID is invalid.

C Interface:

```
int s_qdelet ( queue_id )
unsigned short queue_id;

queue_id:      queue ID

return:        0x00 = good
               0x01 = invalid queue ID
               0x02 = queue is not empty
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP          #0

input:        D0.L = 0x08
              D1.W = queue ID

output:       D0.L = completion status
              0x00 = good
              0x01 = invalid queue ID
              0x02 = queue is not empty
```

Access: task only

3.2.3 Post a Message to a Queue (`s_post`)

The Post Message system call adds a message (a queue element) to the head or tail of the specified queue. The queue element must contain a standard system buffer header, as defined in [Section 4.12 on page 101](#).

An error is returned if the specified queue is not currently allocated to any task or if the “this element” field of the system buffer header does not contain the queue element address.

C Interface:

```
int s_post ( queue_id, head_tail, message )
```

```
unsigned short queue_id, head_tail;
```

```
struct SBH_TYPE *message;
```

queue_id: queue ID

head_tail: 0x00 = tail
 0x01 = head

message: pointer to message

return: 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid queue ID
 0x02 = “this element” invalid

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x09
 D1.W = queue ID
 D2.W = head/tail flag
 0x00 = tail
 0x01 = head
 A0.L = queue element address

output: D0.L = completion status
 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid queue ID
 0x02 = "this element" invalid

Access: task or ISR

3.2.4 Post a Message and Resume Queue Owner (s_postr)

The Post & Resume system call is identical to the Post Message call ([Section 3.2.3 on page 49](#)) except that the task that owns the queue will be scheduled for execution unless it is suspended with the event disabled (see [Section 3.1.5 on page 41](#)).

The completion status returned does not indicate whether the call actually caused the task to be scheduled.

C Interface:

```
int s_postr ( queue_id, head_tail, message )
```

```
unsigned short queue_id, head_tail;
```

```
struct SBH_TYPE *message;
```

queue_id: queue ID

head_tail: 0x00 = tail
 0x01 = head

message: pointer to message

return: 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid queue ID
 0x02 = “this element” invalid

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x09
 D1.W = queue ID
 D2.W = head/tail flag
 0x00 = tail
 0x01 = head
 A0.L = queue element address

output: D0.L = completion status
 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid queue ID
 0x02 = "this element" invalid

Access: task or ISR

3.2.5 Accept a Message from a Queue (s_accept)

The Accept Message system call removes a message from the head of the specified queue and returns its address.

An error is returned if the queue ID is invalid or if the queue is empty.

C Interface:

```
int s_accept ( queue_id, message )
```

```
unsigned short queue_id;
```

```
struct SBH_TYPE **message;
```

queue_id: queue ID

message: pointer to message is stored at this address on good return

return: 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid queue ID
 0xFF = queue is empty

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x0B
 D1.W = queue ID

output: D0.L = completion status
 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid queue ID
 0xFF = queue is empty
 A0.L = queue element address if good completion,
 else unchanged

Access: task or ISR

3.3 Resource-Related Calls

The following system calls related to the management of resources are described in this section:

- Create a resource (s_rcreat)
- Delete a resource (s_rdelet)
- Request a resource (s_rreq)
- Cancel a resource request (s_rcan)
- Release a resource (s_rrel)

A resource can be created by a task with the Create Resource system call, which allocates an RCB according to the resource identification. The caller must specify either a priority or a FIFO resource, to determine the order in which resource tokens will be allocated. After creating a resource, the task will generally “stock” it with one or more resource tokens, each representing an available component of the resource.

Tasks and interrupt service routines can then obtain resource tokens with Request Resource system calls and release tokens with Release Resource calls. When requesting a resource, the caller can optionally provide the address of a resource carrier message. If no resource token is available, the carrier message is added to the RCB queue (in FIFO or priority order, depending on the type of resource). When a token becomes available, it is attached to the carrier, and the carrier is posted to a queue specified by the requester. A Cancel Resource Request system call can be cancel a resource request that is waiting to be processed. If this happens, the carrier message is returned with no token attached.

If a resource is no longer required, the Delete Resource system call deallocates the resource ID and associated RCB and posts all available tokens or queued carrier messages to the appropriate queues.

3.3.1 Create a Resource (s_rcreat)

The Create a Resource system call causes allocation of the RCB associated with the specified resource identification. The “priority/FIFO flag” input parameter signifies the order in which carrier messages are to be queued when no resources are available. For a priority resource, the carrier messages are queued according to the priority field in the message (see [Section 4.12 on page 101](#)). For a FIFO resource, carrier messages are queued in the order that they are received.

An error is returned if the resource is already allocated or if the resource ID is out of range. Valid resource IDs are dependent on the system configuration, as described in [Section 4.9 on page 95](#).

To initialize the resource, this call should be followed with one or more calls to Release Resource (see [Section 3.3.5 on page 62](#)).

C Interface:

```
int s_rcreat ( res_id, res_type )
unsigned short res_id, res_type;

res_id:      resource ID

res_type:     0x00 = FIFO
              0x01 = priority

return:       0x00 = good
              0x01 = resource ID out of range
              0x02 = resource not available
```

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x0C
 D1.W = resource ID
 D2.W = priority/FIFO flag
 0x00 = FIFO
 0x01 = priority

output: D0.L = completion status
 0x00 = good
 0x01 = resource ID out of range
 0x02 = resource not available

Access: task only

3.3.2 Delete a Resource (s_rdelet)

The Delete Resource system call frees the RCB associated with the specified resource identification. A queue ID must be specified as an input parameter, to which any resource tokens currently queued will be posted. If, instead, one or more resource carrier messages are queued, each message is posted to the appropriate queue, as specified in the message, with a completion code signifying that the requested resource has been deleted.

C Interface:

```
int s_rdelet ( res_id, queue_id )
unsigned short res_id, queue_id;

res_id:      resource ID

queue_id:    queue ID

return:      0x00 = good
             0x01 = invalid resource ID
             0x02 = invalid queue ID
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP        #0

input:      D0.L = 0x0D
            D1.W = resource ID
            D2.W = queue ID

output:     D0.L = completion status
            0x00 = good
            0x01 = invalid resource ID
            0x02 = invalid queue ID
```

Access: task only

3.3.3 Request a Resource (s_rreq)

The Request Resource system call unlinks a resource token from the appropriate RCB (as specified by the resource ID) and returns its address. If no resource tokens are available, an error is returned to the caller.

The caller can optionally supply the address of a resource carrier message. The format of this message (a queue element) is defined in [Section 4.13 on page 104](#). If a resource token is available, this parameter is not used; otherwise, if a carrier message address is supplied, the message is added to the RCB queue. For a priority resource, it is inserted into the queue according to the priority specified in the message (which does not necessarily correspond to task priority). For a FIFO resource, it is linked to the tail of the queue.

When a resource becomes available (in other words, is released with a Release Resource system call) and no higher-priority or longer-waiting message is queued (depending on the type of resource), the address of the resource token is stored in a field of the carrier message, the completion code in the message is set to signify that the resource has been allocated, and the message is posted to the specified queue.

C Interface:

```
int s_rreq ( res_id, carrier, token )
unsigned short res_id;
struct RC_TYPE *carrier;
struct SBH_TYPE **token;
```

res_id: resource ID

carrier: pointer to resource carrier message, or zero

token: pointer to resource token is stored at this address on good
return (token can be a pointer to a user-defined structure type)

return: 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid resource ID
 0x02 = invalid queue ID in carrier message
 0x03 = “this element” field of carrier message invalid
 0xFF = no resource tokens available

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x0E
 D1.W = resource ID
 A0.L = resource carrier message address, or zero

output: D0.L = completion status
 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid resource ID
 0x02 = invalid queue ID
 0x03 = “this element” field of carrier message invalid
 0xFF = no resource tokens available
 A0.L = resource token address (if good completion)

Access: task or ISR

3.3.4 Cancel a Resource Request (`s_rcan`)

The Cancel Resource Request system call searches the queue of the appropriate RCB (as signified by the resource ID) for the specified carrier message address. If the message is found, it is unlinked from the RCB queue, the completion code field is set to signify a canceled request, and the message is posted to the appropriate queue (as specified in the message). If the message is not found on the RCB queue, no action is taken.

Note that the completion code in the returned carrier message should be checked to verify that the request was actually canceled, because the resource might already have been allocated when the request was received. If the completion code signifies that the request was canceled, no further action is required, but if the resource was allocated, the token must be released with a Release Resource system call (see [Section 3.3.5 on page 62](#)).

C Interface:

```
int s_rcan ( res_id, carrier )
unsigned short res_id;
struct RC_TYPE *carrier;

res_id:      resource ID

carrier:     pointer to resource carrier message

return      0x00 = good
            0x01 = invalid resource ID
```

Assembly Interface:

TRAP	#0
input:	D0.L = 0x0F D1.W = resource ID A0.L = resource carrier message address
output:	D0.L = completion status 0x00 = good 0x01 = invalid resource ID

Access: task or ISR

3.3.5 Release a Resource (s_rrel)

The Release Resource system call returns a resource token to the RCB associated with the specified resource identification. If one or more carrier messages are attached to the RCB queue, the following events occur:

- The message at the head of the queue is unlinked.
- The address of the resource token is stored in a field of the message.
- The completion code is set to signify that the resource has been allocated.
- The carrier message is posted to the appropriate queue, as specified in the message.

If the RCB queue is empty or already contains one or more resource tokens, the released token is linked to the tail of the queue.

This call is used not only to release a previously allocated resource, but also by the creator of a resource to initially “stock” the RCB queue with one or more resource tokens.

C Interface:

```
int s_rrel ( res_id, token )
signed short res_id;
struct SBH_TYPE *token;
```

res_id: resource ID

token: pointer to resource token message

return: 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid resource ID
 0x02 = “this element” field of token message invalid

Assembly Interface:

TRAP	#0
input:	D0.L = 0x10 D1.W = resource ID A0.L = resource token address
output:	D0.L = completion status 0x00 = good 0x01 = invalid resource ID 0x02 = “this element” field of token message invalid

Access: task or ISR

3.4 Partition-Related Calls

The following system calls are related to the management of partitions:

- Create a Partition (s_pcreat)
- Delete a Partition (s_pdelet)
- Request a Buffer (s_breq)
- Release a Buffer (s_brel)

By providing its address range and buffer size, a task can create a partition with the Create Partition system call. A PCB is allocated according to the partition ID, and a linked list of buffers is created.

After a partition has been created, tasks and interrupt service routines can obtain and release buffers with the Request Buffer and Release Buffer system calls. If the partition is empty when a buffer is requested, an error is returned. If a task must wait for a buffer (by suspending) rather than repeating the request until it is successful, then it might be more convenient to maintain free buffers on an exchange queue or as resource tokens.

If a partition is no longer required, the Delete Partition system call deallocates the partition ID and associated PCB. The memory included in the partition becomes available for use again.

3.4.1 Create a Partition (`s_pcreat`)

The Create Partition system call allocates and initializes the PCB associated with the specified partition identification. The specified block of memory is divided into buffers of the requested size, and all buffers are linked to the partition's free list (see [Section 4.4 on page 89](#)).

An error is returned if the partition ID is already assigned, is out of range, or the size of the partition does not allow at least one buffer to be created. Valid partition IDs are dependent on the system configuration, as described in [Section 4.9 on page 95](#).

The buffer size specified must include the size of the system buffer header (see [Section 4.12 on page 101](#)). For example, a buffer size of 100 would include the 24-byte header and 76 bytes of user data space.

If the partition size is not an even multiple of the buffer size, a number of bytes (smaller than the buffer size) will be unused at the end of the partition. The system does not check the availability of the memory included in the partition. The user is responsible for assuring that the partition will not conflict with code, data, or the memory range of other partitions.

C Interface:

```
int s_pcreat ( part_id, buffer_size, start_addr, end_addr, pcb )
unsigned short part_id;
int buffer_size, start_addr, end_addr;
struct PCB_TYPE **pcb;
```

<code>part_id:</code>	partition ID
<code>buffer_size:</code>	size of each buffer
<code>start_addr:</code>	address of start of partition
<code>end_addr:</code>	address of end of partition + 1

pcb: if nonzero, pointer to PCB is stored at this address on good completion

return: 0x00 = good
 0x01 = partition ID out of range
 0x02 = partition not available
 0x03 = invalid partition size
 0x04 = invalid buffer size

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x11
 D1.W = partition ID
 D2.L = buffer size
 A0.L = starting address
 A1.L = ending address + 1

output: D0.L = completion status
 0x00 = good
 0x01 = partition ID out of range
 0x02 = partition not available
 0x03 = invalid partition size
 0x04 = invalid buffer size
 A0.L = PCB address if good completion, else unchanged

Access: task only

3.4.2 Delete a Partition (s_pdelet)

The Delete Partition system call frees the PCB associated with the specified partition identification.

An error is returned and the partition is not deleted if any buffers are currently allocated (not linked to the free list).

C Interface:

```
int s_pdelet ( part_id )
```

```
unsigned short part_id;
```

part_id: partition ID

return: 0x00 = good

 0x01 = invalid partition ID

 0x02 = one or more buffers currently allocated

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x12

 D1.W = partition ID

output: D0.L = completion status

 0x00 = good

 0x01 = invalid partition ID

 0x02 = one or more buffers currently allocated

Access: task only

3.4.3 Request a Buffer (s_breq)

The Request Buffer system call unlinks a system buffer from the free list of the specified partition and returns the address of the buffer. Other than the “partition ID” and “this element” fields of the system buffer header, the contents of the buffer are unspecified.

An error is returned if the partition is not allocated or if its free list is empty.

C Interface:

```
int s_breq ( part_id, buffer )
unsigned short part_id;
struct SBH_TYPE **buffer;
```

part_id: partition ID

buffer: pointer to buffer is stored at this address on good return

return: 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid partition ID
 0xFF = no buffers available

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x13
 D1.W = partition ID

output: D0.L = completion status
 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid partition ID
 0xFF = no buffers available
 A0.L = buffer address if good completion, else unchanged

Access: task or ISR

3.4.4 Release a Buffer (s_brel)

The Release Buffer system call returns a system buffer to the free list of its partition.

An error is returned if the address of the buffer is out of range for the partition, if the partition ID in the system buffer header is invalid, or if the “this element” field of the system buffer header is not equal to the address of the buffer. The assumption is that the buffer has been allocated and is not already linked to the free list.

C Interface:

```
int s_brel ( buffer )
struct SBH_TYPE *buffer;

buffer:      pointer to buffer

return:      0x00 = good
             0x01 = invalid partition ID
             0x02 = “this element” field invalid
             0x03 = buffer address out of range for partition
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP        #0

input:      D0.L = 0x14
            A0.L = buffer address

output:     D0.L = completion status
            0x00 = good
            0x01 = invalid partition ID
            0x02 = “this element” field invalid
            0x03 = buffer address out of range for partition
```

Access: task or ISR

3.5 Alarm-Related Calls

This section describes the system calls related to the management of standard and special alarms:

- Create an Alarm (s_acreat)
- Delete an Alarm (s_adelet)
- Set an Alarm (s_aset)
- Cancel an Alarm (s_acan)

A task can create an alarm using the Create Alarm system call, which allocates an ACB according to the alarm identification. The caller must specify the type (standard or special) and, as an option, might provide a flag or signal-routine address and a mask value for the flag.

After an alarm has been created, tasks and interrupt service routines can start the alarm, using the Set Alarm system call, for a specified number of ticks. After the alarm is started, it can be canceled with the Cancel Alarm system call.

When an alarm expires, the flag (if any) is set as specified by the mask, and the signal routine (if any) is called.

If an alarm is no longer required, the Delete Alarm system call deallocates the alarm ID and associated ACB.

3.5.1 Create an Alarm (`s_acreat`)

The Create Alarm system call allocates and initializes the ACB associated with the specified alarm identification. On input, the calling task must specify either a standard or special alarm type (described in [Section 2.5.3 on page 28](#)).

The address of a signal routine is an optional input parameter. This routine is called by the Timer task after the alarm has been set and its ticks have expired. The Timer task passes the alarm ID as an input parameter to the signal routine in the low-order word of register D0. In addition, the address of a 32-bit flag and a bit mask can be specified. When the alarm expires, the Timer task sets the specified bits in the flag. If neither a signal routine address nor a flag address is specified, no action is taken on alarm expiration.

The environment of the signal routine is as follows:

- A signal routine is a subroutine (and is not an interrupt service routine). It is accessed by means of a subroutine call made directly from the Timer task; therefore, it executes in the context of the highest priority task in the system and will not be preempted by another task. The processor executes in user state and the interrupt mask level is zero (all interrupts enabled).
- The signal routine is called with the ID of the expired alarm in the low-order word of register D0. Registers D0 through D7 and A0 through A6 can be modified and need not be restored.
- With the obvious exceptions of Suspend Task and Delete Task, a signal routine may make any system call valid for task-level access, including Set Alarm to restart the expired alarm. However, keep in mind that the signal routine is executed as part of the Timer task. Certain calls may be inappropriate (such as Create Queue, which would cause the new queue to be owned by the Timer task, not the user task). And certain calls would be pointless (such as Lock Task, because the Timer task cannot be preempted anyway).

Create Alarm returns an error if the ACB is already assigned or the alarm ID is out of range. Valid alarm IDs are dependent on the system configuration, as described in [Section 4.9 on page 95](#). On good completion, the ACB address is returned, which can be used to modify the signal routine address, flag address, or bit mask before setting the alarm.

C Interface:

```
int s_acreat ( alarm_id, alarm_type, mask, signal, flag, acb )
unsigned short alarm_id, alarm_type;
int mask;
int *signal();
int *flag;
struct ACB_TYPE **acb;
```

alarm_id:	alarm ID
alarm_type:	0x00 = standard 0x01 = special
mask:	bit mask for flag, or zero
signal:	pointer to signal routine, or zero
flag:	pointer to 32-bit flag, or zero
acb:	if nonzero, pointer to ACB is stored at this address on good completion
return:	0x00 = good 0x01 = alarm ID out of range 0x02 = alarm not available

Assembly Interface:

TRAP	#0
input:	D0.L = 0x15
	D1.W = alarm ID
	D2.W = alarm type
	0x00 = standard
	0x01 = special
	D3.L = bit mask for flag, or zero
	A0.L = address of signal routine, or zero
	A1.L = address of flag, or zero
output:	D0.L = completion status
	0x00 = good
	0x01 = alarm ID out of range
	0x02 = alarm not available
	A0.L = ACB address if good completion, else unchanged

Access: task only

3.5.2 Delete an Alarm (s_adelet)

The Delete Alarm system call frees the ACB associated with the specified alarm identification. If the alarm is running, it is canceled.

C Interface:

```
int s_adelet ( alarm_id )
unsigned short alarm_id;

alarm_id:      alarm ID

return:        0x00 = good
               0x01 = invalid alarm ID
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP          #0

input:        D0.L = 0x16
              D1.W = alarm ID

output:       D0.L = completion status
              0x00 = good
              0x01 = invalid alarm ID
```

Access: task only

3.5.3 Set an Alarm (`s_aset`)

The Set Alarm system call starts an alarm or adjusts the tick count in an alarm that is already running. The ACB associated with the specified alarm ID is linked to the tail of the special alarm queue (if it is not already linked to the queue), the absolute requested tick count is stored in the ACB, and the Timer task is scheduled for execution. If a tick count greater than 32767 is specified, 32767 is used instead (no error is returned). The actual duration of the alarm varies between the number of ticks specified and that number plus one.

For a standard alarm, the Timer task, when it executes, moves the ACB to the appropriate position in the standard alarm queue based on the requested tick count, which is converted to a relative value at that time (see [Section 4.6 on page 92](#)).

When the alarm ticks have expired, the Timer task unlinks the ACB from the standard or special alarm queue. If a nonzero flag address and bit mask are stored in the ACB, the Timer task sets the specified bits in the flag. If a nonzero signal routine address is stored in the ACB, the Timer task makes a subroutine call to that address.

C Interface:

```
int s_aset ( alarm_id, ticks )
```

```
unsigned short alarm_id;
```

```
short ticks
```

```
alarm_id:      alarm ID
```

```
ticks:         number of ticks (1–0x7FFF)
```

```
return:        0x00 = good
```

```
               0x01 = invalid alarm ID
```

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x17
 D1.W = alarm ID
 D2.W = number of ticks (1–0x7FFF)

output: D0.L = completion status
 0x00 = good
 0x01 = invalid alarm ID

Access: task or ISR

3.5.4 Cancel an Alarm (s_acan)

If the alarm associated with the specified alarm ID is running, the Cancel Alarm system call causes the ACB to be unlinked from the standard alarm queue or marked canceled on the special alarm queue. Canceled ACBs are removed from the special alarm queue by the Timer task.

If Cancel Alarm is called when the alarm is not running, no action is taken.

C Interface:

```
int s_acan ( alarm_id )
unsigned short alarm_id;

alarm_id:      alarm ID

return:        0x00 = good
               0x01 = invalid alarm ID
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP          #0

input:         D0.L = 0x18
               D1.W = alarm ID

output:        D0.L = completion status
               0x00 = good
               0x01 = invalid alarm ID
```

Access: task or ISR

3.6 Miscellaneous Calls

This section describes the remaining system calls:

- Initialize OS (s_osinit)
- Get System Address Table (s_getsat)
- Initialize System Timing (s_stinit)
- Set System Time (s_stset)
- Return from ISR (s_iret)
- Set Interrupt Level (s_iset)

A task or interrupt service routine can reinitialize the operating system using the Initialize OS system call.

The Get System Address Table system call can be used by a task or interrupt service routine to obtain the addresses of the current configuration table, the exception vector table, and the global system table.

The Initialize System Timing system call is used to control the form of OS/Protogate system timing.

The Set System Time system call is used to set and update the system timing, when its mode is Internal.

Interrupt service routines may complete their processing with a Return from ISR system call rather than executing an RTE instruction.

Because tasks execute in user state, they cannot directly modify the processor's interrupt mask level. The Set Interrupt Level system call is provided for this purpose.

3.6.1 Initialize OS (s_osinit)

Given the address of a table containing the configurable system parameters (see [Section 4.9 on page 95](#)), the Initialize OS system call causes reinitialization of the operating system. If the input parameter is equal to zero, the current configuration table is used.

This call does not return.

C Interface:

```
int s_osinit ( config )  
struct CFP_TYPE *config;
```

config: address of configuration table, or zero if current table is to be used

return: none; does not return

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x19
 A0.L = address of configuration table, or zero if current table is to be used

output: none; does not return

Access: task or ISR

3.6.2 Get System Address Table (s_getsat)

The Get System Address Table system call returns the address of the system address table. This table contains three addresses in the following format:

```
struct SAT_TYPE
{
    struct CFG_TYPE *sat_cfgp; /* address of configuration table */
    int *sat_evtp;             /* address of exception vector table */
    struct GST_TYPE *sat_gstp; /* address of global system table */
};
```

See [Section 4.9 on page 95](#) for the definition of the configuration table and [Section 4.15 on page 107](#) for the definition of the global system table. The exception vector table is as defined by the Motorola ColdFire® family of processors (an array of 256 addresses corresponding to the 256 possible exception vectors). User tasks require access to it for purposes of connecting serial port DMA and non-DMA interrupts to their user-supplied service routines.

C Interface:

```
struct SAT_TYPE *s_getsat ()

return:          address of system address table
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP            #0

input:          D0.L = 0x1A

output:         D0.L = address of system address table
```

Access: task or ISR

3.6.3 Initialize System Timing (s_stinit)

The Initialize System Timing system call sets the mode of system timing (Host timing or Internal timing, as defined in [Section 2.7 on page 31](#)).

An error is returned if the specified timing type is not valid.

C Interface:

```
int s_stinit ( type )
```

```
int type;
```

```
type:          -1 = Host timing  
               non-negative = Internal timing
```

```
return:        0x00 = good  
               0x01 = invalid timing type
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP          #0
```

```
input:        D0.L = 0x1B
```

```
output:       D0.L = completion status  
               0x00 = good  
               0x01 = invalid timing type
```

Access: task only

3.6.4 Set System Time (s_stset)

The Set System Time system call resets the 32-bit system time with the specified value.

An error is returned if this call is made when the system timing type is not Internal.

C Interface:

```
int s_stinit ( time )
```

```
unsigned int time;
```

time: 32-bit system time (millisecond units)

return: 0x00 = good

 0x01 = system timing not Internal

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #0

input: D0.L = 0x1C

output: D0.L = completion status

 0x00 = good

 0x01 = system timing not Internal

Access: task only

3.6.5 Return from ISR (s_iret)

An interrupt service routine may issue an ISR Return system call at the completion of its processing rather than executing a return from exception (RTE) instruction. If the interrupted code was user state (task level), and if a task switch is waiting to be processed, control is transferred to the dispatcher for task rescheduling; otherwise, an RTE is executed and control is returned to the interrupted code. In the interest of efficiency, this call is made by a TRAP through a separate vector.

The ISR for the highest-priority interrupt in the system can execute an RTE directly if it has not made a system call that can have caused a task to be scheduled (Create Task, Resume, Post & Resume, or Set Alarm). Any other ISR should probably issue an ISR Return system call, because it may be interrupted by a higher-priority interrupt. The ISR for that overriding interrupt can cause a task to be scheduled, but the task switch will not be performed at its completion, since it returns to the lower ranking ISR rather than to user state.

NOTE: Serial port ISRs operate at level 5 (7 being highest). The optional user extension to the Timer ISR operates at level 4. Normally there are no other user-coded ISRs.

C Interface:

```
void s_iret ()
```

return: none; does not return

Assembly Interface:

TRAP #1

input: none

output: none; does not return

Access: ISR only

3.6.6 Set Interrupt Level (s_iset)

The Set Interrupt Level system call sets the interrupt priority mask value in the Motorola ColdFire® processor's status register, and returns the mask value that it had before the change. This call is supplied because all tasks operate in user state and cannot directly modify the contents of the status register. In the interest of efficiency, it is made directly by a TRAP through a separate vector. The return value can be used by a task to restore the interrupt priority mask to its previous value with a second call to this routine.

C Interface:

```
unsigned short s_iset ( mask )
unsigned short mask;

mask:          interrupt mask value to set

return:        mask value before change
```

Assembly Interface:

```
TRAP          #2

input:         D0.W = interrupt priority mask value

output:        D0.W = priority mask value before change
```

Access: task only

System Data Structures

This chapter describes the data structures used to control system operation. Except where noted, these structures are internal to the operating system and cannot be directly accessed by application tasks. Definitions of the internal data structures are provided here to aid in debugging and understanding the system's operation.

The data structures are defined in C language format. The data type short is 16 bits. Pointers and the data type int are 32 bits. Structure definitions are padded, where necessary, to the next longword boundary, to ensure uniformity across "C" compilers in the packing of arrays of these structures, and compatibility of the results with user assembly code that addresses such arrays. For additional clarity, [Appendix B](#) defines each structure by field sizes and offsets in a manner useful for assembler coding.

4.1 Task Control Block (TCB)

The system maintains a 28-byte TCB for each configured task, which contains information related to the task's execution state. TCBs are arranged as an array of structures, with the task ID used as an index into the array. Each TCB contains the following information:

```
struct TCB_TYPE
{
    struct TCB_TYPE  *t_next;      /* link to next TCB on disp.q      */
    unsigned short   t_id;         /* task ID                        */
    unsigned short   t_pri;        /* task priority                   */
    unsigned short   t_slice;      /* 0 = time slicing disabled; 1 = enabled */
    unsigned short   t_state;      /* task state (see below)         */
    char             *t_stack;     /* user stack pointer             */
    struct ECB_TYPE  *t_ecb;       /* ECB address                    */
    struct ACB_TYPE  *t_acb;       /* ACB address                    */
    unsigned int     t_event;      /* event that resumed the task    */
};
```

The `t_state` field can contain the following values:

0x0000	terminated (TCB is not allocated)
0x0001	task is currently executing
0x0002	task is suspended
0xC00	task is currently executing and queued to execute again
0x8002	task is queued to execute after a suspend
0x8004	task is queued to execute after preemption
0xC004	task is queued to execute after preemption, with a resume pending (will move to 0xC001 rather than 0x0001 when executed)

A TCB is linked to the appropriate singly linked dispatch queue ([Section 4.8 on page 94](#)) when the associated task is scheduled for execution and is removed from the queue when it is dispatched (begins execution).

When a task is preempted, its registers, including its status register and its program counter, are saved on its user stack, and the current user stack pointer is saved in the TCB.

User code must not modify any of the TCB fields.

4.2 Queue Control Block (QCB)

The system maintains a 20-byte QCB for each configured exchange queue. QCBs are arranged as an array of structures, with the queue ID used as an index into the array.

```
struct QCB_TYPE
{
    struct SBH_TYPE  *q_head;      /* head pointer          */
    struct SBH_TYPE  *q_tail;     /* tail pointer          */
    struct TCB_TYPE  *q_owner;    /* TCB address of owner  */
    short            q_count;     /* count of queue elements */
    unsigned short   q_type;      /* 0 = single, 1 = double */
    unsigned short   q_id;       /* queue ID              */
    short            q_filler;    /* fill to a longword boundary */
};
```

The queue head and tail pointers are used to implement either a singly or doubly linked queue. The count of queue elements is provided as a debugging aid.

The address of the QCB is provided to the caller on return from the Create Queue system call. Under controlled circumstances, the information contained in the QCB can be used by a task or interrupt service routine to examine or manipulate the queue. User code can modify only the `q_head`, `q_tail`, and `q_count` fields.

4.3 Resource Control Block (RCB)

The system maintains a 16-byte RCB for each configured resource. RCBs are arranged as an array of structures, with the resource ID used as an index into the array. Each RCB contains the following information:

```
struct RCB_TYPE
{
    struct SBH_TYPE  *r_head;      /* token/carrier head pointer    */
    struct SBH_TYPE  *r_tail;     /* token/carrier tail pointer    */
    short            r_type;       /* 0 = FIFO, 1 = priority        */
    short            r_count;      /* count of queue elements       */
    short            r_state;      /* resource state                 */
    short            r_id;         /* resource ID                    */
};
```

The token/carrier head and tail pointers implement a singly linked queue. When the count is greater than or equal to zero, it indicates the number of resource tokens available (linked to the queue). When the count is less than zero, it indicates the number of outstanding resource requests (the number of carrier messages linked to the queue).

User code must not modify any of the fields of the RCB.

4.4 Partition Control Block (PCB)

The system maintains a 28-byte PCB for each configured partition. PCBs are arranged as an array of structures, with the partition ID used as an index into the array. Each PCB contains the following information:

```
struct PCB_TYPE
{
    struct SBH_TYPE  *p_head;      /* free list head pointer      */
    struct SBH_TYPE  *p_tail;     /* free list tail pointer     */
    char             *p_start;     /* partition starting address  */
    char             *p_end;       /* partition ending address + 1 */
    unsigned int     p_bsize;      /* buffer size                 */
    unsigned short    p_total;     /* total number of buffers     */
    unsigned short    p_count;     /* count of buffers on free list */
    unsigned short    p_id;        /* partition ID                */
    unsigned short    p_filler;    /* fill to a longword boundary */
};
```

The free list head and tail pointers implement a singly linked queue. The `sb_nxte` field of each buffer header (see [Section 4.12 on page 101](#)) is used as a link field while it is attached to the free list.

When a partition is created during system initialization, all buffers are linked to the free list. When a buffer is allocated, it is removed from the head of the list. When it is returned, it is appended to the tail.

User code must not modify any of the fields of the PCB.

4.5 Alarm Control Block (ACB)

The system maintains a 28-byte ACB for each configured alarm. ACBs are arranged as an array of structures, with the alarm ID used as an index into the array. Each ACB contains the following information:

```
struct ACB_TYPE
{
    struct ACB_TYPE  *a_flink;      /* link to next ACB          */
    struct ACB_TYPE  *a_blink;      /* link to previous ACB     */
    void             (*a_sigad)();  /* address of signal routine */
    int              *a_flgad;      /* address of flag          */
    int              a_mask;        /* mask value for flag      */
    unsigned short   a_type;        /* alarm type (see below)   */
    short            a_tick;        /* tick count               */
    unsigned short   a_state;       /* alarm state (see below)  */
    unsigned short   a_id;         /* alarm ID                 */
};
```

The `a_type` field can contain the following values:

0x00	standard
0x01	special
0x80	task

The `a_state` field can contain the following values:

0x0000	not allocated
0x8000 or 0x8100	idle
0x80C1 or 0x81C1	just started
0x8081 or 0x8181	running
0x8001 or 0x8101	still queued after a cancel

An ACB is linked to the special alarm queue ([Section 4.7](#)) when it is started with a Set Alarm system call (standard or special alarm) or when its associated task is suspended with a timer set (task alarm). The tick count in an ACB attached to the special alarm queue is always absolute and is zero if the alarm has been canceled. A special alarm is removed from the special alarm queue only by the Timer task, either when it finds that the alarm has been canceled (any type) or when it expires (special alarms only).

Standard and task ACBs are moved to the standard alarm queue (see [Section 4.6](#)) from the special alarm queue by the Timer task. The tick count in an ACB attached to the standard alarm queue is always relative to the expiration of the timer whose ACB it immediately follows. An ACB is removed from the standard alarm queue by the Timer task when it expires or by the system when it is canceled.

If the signal routine address is zero, the Timer task will not make a subroutine call when the alarm expires. If the flag address or bit mask is zero, the Timer task will not set a flag when the alarm expires.

While a standard or special alarm is in the idle state (not running), user code can modify the `a_sigad`, `a_flagad`, and `a_mask` fields of the ACB. While a special alarm is running, `a_tick` can be modified, but the accuracy of the alarm's duration is unpredictable unless the Timer task is scheduled (with a Resume system call) after modifying the tick count. User code must not modify the `a_tick` field of a standard ACB at any time. User code must not modify any of the fields of a task ACB.

4.6 Standard Alarm Queue

The system implements a doubly linked standard alarm queue with a head and tail pointer, which might contain a linked list of standard and task ACBs. The standard alarm queue is maintained in an order corresponding to ascending tick counts. The tick count in each ACB is converted to a relative value when it is inserted into the queue. That is, the number of ticks remaining for a particular alarm is equal to the sum of the tick count in its ACB and the tick counts in all preceding ACBs on the queue.

Because tick counts are relative, the Timer task decrements only the tick count in the ACB at the head of the queue and removes ACBs from the head of the queue as they expire. When an alarm is canceled, the corresponding ACB can occupy any position in the queue; therefore, when it is unlinked, the relative tick count in the following ACB must be adjusted accordingly.

User code must not modify the standard alarm queue head and tail pointers.

4.7 Special Alarm Queue

The system implements a singly linked special alarm queue with a head and tail pointer, which can contain a linked list of ACBs. An ACB is linked to the tail of the special alarm queue when its associated alarm is started (set) or when its associated task is suspended with a timer set. When the Timer task executes, it scans the entire special alarm queue. ACBs with tick counts of zero (canceled) are removed from the queue. Standard and task ACBs are moved to the standard alarm queue. The tick counts in the ACBs of running special alarms are decremented, and the ACBs are removed when they have expired.

User code must not modify the special alarm queue head and tail pointers.

4.8 Dispatch Queues

The system maintains a singly linked dispatch queue for each task priority. (The number of priorities in the system is a configurable parameter.) Each queue consists of a head and a tail pointer and can contain a linked list of TCBs. When a task is scheduled to execute, its TCB is linked to the tail of the dispatch queue corresponding to its priority.

The system selects the next task to be dispatched by checking each dispatch queue in order of priority. (The queue corresponding to the highest priority in the system is always checked first.) The TCB at the head of the first non-empty queue is unlinked, and the associated task is dispatched.

User code must not modify the dispatch queue head and tail pointers.

4.9 Configuration Table

When the operating system is initialized at startup, and when it is re-initialized with the Initialize OS system call, it is configured according to the contents of a system configuration table, the address of which is an input parameter to the Initialize OS system call. The system does not modify the configuration table and accesses it only during system initialization.

The system configuration table consists of a list of parameters, described by the 20-byte CFG_TYPE structure. Also included is a variable-length array of task initialization structures, each containing the information necessary to create a task (see [Section 4.10](#)).

```
struct CFG_TYPE
{
    unsigned short    cf_ntsk;        /* number of tasks          */
    unsigned short    cf_npri;        /* number of priorities      */
    unsigned short    cf_nque;        /* number of queues         */
    unsigned short    cf_nlrn;        /* number of alarms         */
    unsigned short    cf_npar;        /* number of partitions     */
    unsigned short    cf_nrsc;        /* number of resources      */
    unsigned short    cf_ltik;        /* number of msec per tick  */
    unsigned short    cf_ltsl;        /* number of ticks per time slice */
    void              (*cf_cisr)();    /* user clock interrupt      */
    /* subroutine address*/
};
```

```
struct CONF_TYPE
{
    struct CFG_TYPE  cfp;           /* configurable parameters      */
    struct TIS_TYPE  cft[NUMTIS+1]; /* task initialization structures */
};
```

The final element in the array `cft` must specify a task ID (`ti_id`) of zero to terminate the list. `NUMTIS` refers to the number of task initialization structures. The configurable parameters are used by the system as follows:

`cf_ntsk` = number of tasks (1–65535)

The system will create `cf_ntsk` TCBs and `cf_ntsk` corresponding task-type ACBs. Valid task IDs (specified on input to the Create Task system call) are 2 through `cf_ntsk`. (Task ID 1 is reserved for the Timer task.)

`cf_npri` = number of priorities (0 – 65535)

The system creates `cf_npri` + 1 dispatch queues, corresponding to priorities 0 (highest) through `cf_npri` (lowest). The Timer task is created by the system at priority 0. Valid priorities (specified on input to the Create Task system call) are 1 through `cf_npri`. Any number of tasks can be created at a particular priority.

`cf_nque` = number of queues (0 – 65535)

The system creates `cf_nque` QCBs. Valid queue IDs (specified on input to the Create Queue system call) are 1 through `cf_nque`.

`cf_nlrn` = number of alarms (0 – 65535)

The system creates `cf_nlrn` ACBs for standard and special alarms. Valid alarm IDs (specified on input to the Create Alarm system call) are 1 through `cf_nlrn`.

`cf_npar` = number of partitions (0 – 65535)

The system creates `cf_npar` PCBs. Valid partition IDs (specified on input to the Create Partition system call) are 1 through `cf_npar`.

`cf_nsrc` = number of resources (0 – 65535)

The system creates `cf_nsrc` RCBs. Valid resource IDs (specified on input to the Create Resource system call) are 1 through `cf_nsrc`.

`cf_ltik` = length of tick (1 – 65535)

A *tick* is the unit of time used by the system for alarms and the time slice. The tick resolution is set to `cf_ltik` milliseconds.

`cf_ltsl` = length of time slice (0 – 65535)

The system sets the length of the time slice to `cf_ltsl` ticks. This parameter can be set to zero if time slicing will not be enabled for any of the tasks in the system.

`cf_cisr` = address of user clock interrupt subroutine

If `cf_cisr` is nonzero, a subroutine call is made to the address `cf_cisr` on each interrupt by the system clock (at completion of the system clock interrupt service routine described in [Section 2.5.1 on page 28](#)). This subroutine can perform hardware-specific functions (such as clearing the interrupt) or any special functions required by the user.

The format of the task initialization structure is defined in [Section 4.10](#). The last task initialization structure in the configuration table must contain a task ID of zero (invalid) to terminate the list.

4.10 Task Initialization Structure (TIS)

The 16-byte TIS provides the system with the information necessary to create a task. The address of such a structure must be provided on input to the Create Task system call, and a list of the structures must immediately follow the configuration table, as described in [Section 4.9](#). The system does not modify the contents of the structure.

Each task initialization structure contains the following fields:

```
struct TIS_TYPE
{
    unsigned short    ti_id;           /* task ID                */
    unsigned short    ti_pri;          /* task priority           */
    void              (*ti_strt)();    /* entry point address     */
    char              *ti_ustp;        /* initial user stack pointer */
    unsigned short    ti_tsen;         /* 0 = disable time slicing; 1= enable */
    unsigned short    ti_fill;         /* fill to a longword boundary */
};
```

4.11 Event Control Block (ECB)

An ECB can be created by a task and passed as input to the Suspend system call to specify the conditions under which it should be rescheduled. The system stores the address of the ECB in the task's TCB while the task is suspended but does not modify the ECB in any way.

The ECB is a structure containing four fixed-length fields totaling eight bytes, and a variable-length array, as follows:

```
struct ECP_TYPE
{
    short          e_tick;    /* ticks for alarm                */
    unsigned short e_resm;    /* 0 = disable resume; 1 = enable */
    unsigned short e_cps;    /* cancel previous scheduling: 0 = yes, 1 = no */
    short          e_filler;  /* fill to a longword boundary    */
};

struct ECB_TYPE
{
    struct ECP_TYPE ecp;      /* ECB parameters                */
    unsigned short  e_ques[NUMQID+1]; /* list of queue IDs            */
};
```

If `e_tick` is set to zero, no alarm is set. The `e_resm` flag identifies whether the suspended task will be scheduled for execution when a Resume system call is made by another task in the system. The `e_cps` flag identifies whether the task's TCB should be removed from the dispatch queue if the task is already scheduled to execute at the time it is suspended. The field `e_fill` is included to align the list of queue IDs on a longword boundary.

A task can own any number of exchange queues, each of which is identified with a queue identification. If a particular queue ID is included in the ECB list, a Post & Resume call specifying that queue causes the suspended task to be scheduled for execution. A Post & Resume call specifying a queue owned by the task but not included in the

list will succeed but will not cause the task to be scheduled for execution. A queue cannot be included in the ECB list unless it is owned by the suspending task. NUMQID refers to the number of queue IDs in the list. The last queue ID is followed by a zero to terminate the list.

4.12 System Buffer Header (SBH)

Buffers allocated from partitions, and also elements posted to exchange queues, begin with a standard 24-byte system buffer header. In general, a queue element can be said to consist of one or more linked buffers, but this does not imply that the buffers were obtained from a system partition; any data structure beginning with the required header can be posted to a queue. Likewise, a buffer allocated from a partition can be used for any purpose (it is not limited to use as a queue element).

```
struct SBH_TYPE
{
    struct SBH_TYPE  *sb_nxte;  /* address of next queue element or buffer*/
    struct SBH_TYPE  *sb_pree;  /* address of previous queue element      */
    struct SBH_TYPE  *sb_thse;  /* address of this queue element or buffer */
    struct SBH_TYPE  *sb_nxtb;  /* address of next buffer in queue element */
    unsigned short   sb_pid;    /* partition ID                          */
    unsigned short   sb_dlen;   /* data length                            */
    unsigned short   sb_disp;   /* disposition flag                       */
    unsigned short   sb_dmod;   /* disposition modifier                   */
};
```

Only certain fields of the buffer header are required or created by the system, and only during certain operations. Only the buffer header in the first buffer of a queue element is accessed by the system. The requirements for each of the fields of the system buffer header are described as follows:

sb_nxte The system uses this field under two circumstances: (1) while a buffer is attached to a partition free list, where it contains the address of the next buffer in the list, or (2) while a queue element is attached to a singly or doubly linked queue, where it contains the address of the next queue element.

sb_pree The system uses this field when a queue element is attached to a doubly linked queue. It contains the address of the previous queue element.

sb_thse The system uses this field for consistency checks when a buffer or queue element is added to or removed from the free list of a partition, or to or from a queue (singly or doubly linked). It must contain the starting address of the buffer or queue element. The system sets this field in every buffer of a partition when the partition is created.

sb_nxtb The system does not access this field. It can be used by applications to link additional buffers to a queue element.

sb_pid The system sets this field in every buffer of a partition when the partition is created. When a buffer is released, this field must contain the ID of its partition.

sb_dlen The system does not access this field. Tasks can use it to specify the length of valid data in the buffer or the length of the buffer itself.

sb_disp The system does not access this field. In the buffers of queue elements that are used for intertask communication, it can be used by the sending task to specify the action that should be taken by the recipient on completion of processing (for example, release to partition or post to a queue).

sb_dmod The system does not access this field. Tasks can use it to specify further the action to be taken after processing a buffer (for example, a queue ID).

Tasks are required to maintain (or create) only certain fields of the system buffer header in a buffer or queue element and only in certain circumstances, as follows:

1. When a buffer is released to a partition, the **sb_thse** and **sb_pid** fields must be valid.
2. When a queue element is posted to a singly linked queue, the **sb_thse** field must be valid, and the **sb_nxte** field must be available for use by the system. (These requirements are for the first buffer of a queue element only.)

3. When a queue element is posted to a doubly linked queue, the `sb_thse` field must be valid, and the `sb_nxte` and `sb_pree` fields must be available for use by the system. (These requirements are for the first buffer of a queue element only.)

4.13 Resource Carrier Message

A task can create a resource carrier message and include its address as an optional input parameter to the Request Resource system call. If the requested resource is not available at the time the request is made, the system saves the address of the resource carrier message, and when the resource becomes available, stores the address of the resource token in the message and posts it to the specified queue.

The 36-byte resource carrier message is a queue element, and therefore begins with a standard system buffer header (defined in [Section 4.12](#)). The format of the message is defined as follows:

```
struct RC_TYPE
{
    struct SBH_TYPE rc_sbh;      /* system buffer header (24 bytes)    */
    unsigned short rc_qid;      /* return queue ID                    */
    unsigned short rc_res;      /* 0 = resume, 1 = post & resume      */
    unsigned short rc_pri;      /* priority                            */
    unsigned short rc_cmp;      /* completion code (see below)        */
    struct SBH_TYPE *rc_tkn;     /* address of resource token          */
};
```

When a carrier message is created, the return queue ID must be specified, and the resume flag must be set to signify whether the system should return the message with a Post Message or Post & Resume system call. If the requested resource is allocated on a priority basis (specified when the resource is created), a priority must also be provided. This priority does not necessarily correspond to the requester's task priority and is not limited to the range of task priorities.

Before posting the carrier message to the specified queue, the system sets the completion code. If the resource has been successfully allocated, the system also supplies the address of the associated resource token.

The rc_cmp field can contain the following values:

0x00	request succeeded (resource has been allocated)
0x01	request canceled
0x02	request failed (resource has been deleted)

4.14 Stack Format

When a task is suspended or is preempted, the 68 bytes at the top of the current user task stack are used to save the values of its data and address registers. The stack pointer is updated to reflect this register storage, and is saved in the `t_stack` field of the TCB. Already on the stack is the exception stack frame (ESF) that was created by the exception condition that led to the preemption or suspension of the task. The ESF contains the status register and program counter values that will be restored upon dispatching the task to run again.

(sp) + 0	saved D0
(sp) + 4	saved D1
...	...
(sp) + 28	saved D7
(sp) + 32	saved A0
(sp) + 36	saved A1
...	...
(sp) + 56	saved A6
(sp) + 60	format/vector word in ESF (<i>do not touch!</i>)
(sp) + 62	status register in ESF
(sp) + 64	program counter in ESF
(sp) + 68	Top of task stack upon resuming the task

4.15 Global System Table (GST)

The 64-longword (256-byte) GST contains various information that might be useful to application tasks and also during debugging. The address of the GST is included in the system address table (see [Section 3.6.2 on page 80](#)).

```
struct GST_TYPE
{
    int          (*gs_init) ();    /* OS initialization entry address */
    unsigned int gs_ticks;        /* clock tick count */
    unsigned int gs_idle;        /* idle state count */
    unsigned int gs_ramend;      /* first byte of RAM available to tasks */
    char         gs_version[4];  /* version number (ASCII) */
    unsigned int gs_debug;       /* debug code */
    unsigned int gs_time;        /* system time */
    int          gs_xerr;        /* XIO error code */
    unsigned int gs_ports;       /* number of serial ports on the ICP */
    unsigned int gs_memsiz;      /* number of megabytes of DRAM */
    unsigned int gs_memend;      /* least upper bound address after DRAM */
    unsigned int gs_unused[53];  /* unused entries (available to users) */
};
```

The `gs_init` field is used by the start code invoked by the client load file `INIT` command, to enter and initialize OS/Protogate.

The `gs_ticks` field is incremented by the Timer Interrupt Service Routine on each tick (see [Section 2.5.1 on page 28](#)).

The `gs_idle` field is incremented each time OS/Protogate's idle state is entered (i.e., whenever the current task is suspended and no other task is scheduled for execution).

The `gs_ramend` field indicates the location in OS/Protogate's 0x10000-byte range beyond which OS/Protogate does not use its allocated memory (e.g., 0x40109000 when OS/Protogate begins at 0x40100000).

The `gs_version` field is four bytes: a 'V' followed by the three ASCII digits of the version of OS/Protogate (e.g., "V100" for version 1.0-0).

The `gs_debug` field values are defined in [Section A.1 on page 109](#).

The `gs_time` field is the system time as defined in [Section 2.7 on page 31](#).

The `gs_xerr` field is used post-mortem purposes when OS/Protogate's Executive I/O encounters a fatal error.

The `gs_ports` field indicates the number of serial ports on the ICP.

The `gs_memsiz` field indicates the number of megabytes of DRAM on the ICP (e.g., the value 32 for 32 megabytes).

The `gs_memend` field indicates the first memory address after the on-board DRAM (e.g., 0x42000000 for a 32-megabyte DRAM).

The `gs_unused` field is an array of 32-bit words filling out the GST to a total of 1024 bytes (i.e., 256 32-bit items). This space in the GST may be useful for intertask global data shared between multiple executable image files that are downloaded together to the ICP. However, since the start of this array in the GST is dependent on the version of OS/Protogate, care should be taken.

Debugging Aids

This appendix describes the facilities that have been incorporated into the operating system to assist programmers in debugging application programs.

A.1 Global System Table

The GST is defined in [Section 4.15 on page 107](#). Several of the fields in the table might be of interest while debugging an application. If the clock tick count is not incremented, or increases more slowly than expected (depending on the tick length configured), interrupts might be erroneously disabled, or a higher-priority interrupt might be “hogging” processor time. The idle count can be monitored to give a rough estimate of system load. (However, if one or more tasks in the system execute continuously without suspending, the idle count will never be incremented.)

During normal system operation the debug code in the `gs_debug` field signifies the level of input parameter and consistency checking that will be performed by the system, as follows:

0x00000000	input parameter and consistency checking enabled
0x01000000	input parameter checking enabled; consistency checking disabled
0x02000000	input parameter and consistency checks disabled

When a consistency check fails, the system stores a code identifying the error in the `gs_debug` field and “panics” with an illegal instruction trap. These error codes are defined in [Section A.1.1](#).

When an input parameter check fails in a system call, an error is returned, as defined for each system call in [Chapter 3](#); however, when input parameter checking is disabled, the system routines return no errors except those listed in [Table A–1](#).

Table A–1: System Errors

System Call	Error Code	Description
<code>s_qdelet</code>	0x02	queue is not empty
<code>s_accpt</code>	0xFF	queue is empty
<code>s_rreq</code>	0xFF	no resource tokens available
<code>s_pdelet</code>	0x02	one or more buffers currently allocated
<code>s_breq</code>	0xFF	no buffers available

Input parameter and consistency checks are conditionally assembled in order to improve system performance; therefore, the level of checking enabled is determined when the operating system is assembled and cannot be changed dynamically or through system reconfiguration.

A.1.1 Panic Codes

When consistency checking is enabled and an error is detected, the system routine detecting the error stores an identifying code in the `gs_debug` field of the GST and branches to a “panic” location, which contains an illegal instruction. Execution of this instruction generates an illegal instruction trap. Each of the error codes is listed as follows. Also included are the system calls during which it can occur, any register values that might be of assistance in evaluating the cause of the error, and the offset on the supervisor stack at which the caller’s return address is located.

As part of consistency checking, when a partition is created, the `sb_pree` field of each buffer is set to the value `0xF5F5F5F5`. When a buffer is allocated, the field is set to zero. When a buffer is released, the field is again set to `0xF5F5F5F5`. The `sb_pree` field of all buffers on the free list of a partition, therefore, is expected to contain this value, and the same field of allocated buffers is assumed to contain any other value. Error codes `0x09` and `0x10` are related to these consistency checks.

<code>gs_debug</code>	<code>0x01</code>
system calls:	<code>s_tdelet</code> , <code>s_susp</code>
description:	The TCB state (<code>t_state</code>) indicates that the TCB is scheduled for execution, but it was not found on the dispatch queue for its priority. This error suggests a corruption of the system.
registers:	<code>A0.L</code> = TCB address
return address:	<code>sp + 34</code>

<code>gs_debug</code>	<code>0x02</code>
system calls:	<code>s_tdelet</code>
description:	The ACB state (<code>a_state</code>) indicates that the task's ACB is queued (after being canceled), but it was not found on the special alarm queue. This error suggests a corruption of the ACB or the system in general.
registers:	<code>A0.L</code> = task's ACB address (the alarm ID in the ACB is equivalent to the task ID) <code>A2.L</code> = address of special alarm queue head
return address	<code>sp + 14</code>

gs_debug: 0x03
system calls: s_osinit
description: An error was returned from s_tcreat when attempting to create the Timer task or a task listed in the configuration table. This error indicates a badly formatted task initialization structure or a duplicated or out-of-range task ID.
registers: D0.L = error code returned from s_tcreat
A0.L = task initialization structure address
return address: not available (stack has been reinitialized)

gs_debug: 0x04
system calls: s_accept
description: The sb_thse field of the element obtained from the queue is invalid. This error indicates that data within the queue element, or links between queue elements, might have been corrupted.
registers: A0.L = queue element address
A1.L = QCB address
return address: sp + 22

gs_debug: 0x05
system calls: s_breq
description: The sb_thse field of the element obtained from the partition is invalid. This error suggests that data within the buffer has been corrupted while the buffer was attached to the free list. For example, data might have been written past the end of the preceding (adjacent) buffer, or the links of the free list might have been corrupted.
registers: A0.L = buffer address
A1.L = PCB address
return address: sp + 22

gs_debug: 0x06
system calls: s_breq
description: The partition ID in the buffer does not match the ID of the partition from which it was obtained. This error suggests that data within the buffer has been corrupted while the buffer was attached to the free list (see error code 0x05).
registers: A0.L = buffer address
A1.L = PCB address
return address: sp + 22

gs_debug: 0x07
system calls: s_tcreat, s_resum, s_postr
description: The system is attempting to schedule a task that is in the terminated state. This error indicates corruption of the TCB or the system in general. It might also occur during a task switch or during processing of the expiration of a suspended task's alarm.
registers: A3.L = TCB address
return address: sp + 26 or sp + 30 (not applicable if the error is not related to a system call)

gs_debug: 0x08
system calls: s_brel
description: The number of buffers on the free list of the partition is already equal to the total number of buffers in the partition. This error suggests that the free list of the partition or the PCB itself has been corrupted.
registers: A0.L = buffer address
A1.L = PCB address
D0.W = current count of buffers on free list
return address: sp + 26

gs_debug: 0x09
system calls: s_breq
description: The value of the sb_pree field of the buffer obtained from the partition is not equal to the value 0xF5F5F5F5. This error might suggest (1) that data within the buffer has been corrupted while the buffer was attached to the free list (see error code 0x05 above), (2) that the buffer remained in use by an application after being released to the partition's free list, or (3) that the links of the free list have been corrupted.
registers: A0.L = buffer address
A1.L = PCB address
return address: sp + 22

gs_debug: 0x0A
system calls: s_brel
description: The value of the sb_pree field of the buffer to be released to the partition is equal to the value 0xF5F5F5F5, signifying that it is already linked to the free list. This error indicates that the application might be attempting to release a buffer that has already been released.
registers: A0.L = buffer address
return address: sp + 26

gs_debug: 0x0B
system calls: s_acpt
description: The queue head pointer is equal to zero, indicating that the queue is empty, but the count of queue elements is nonzero. This error suggests corruption of the QCB.
registers: A1.L = QCB address
return address: sp + 22

gs_debug: 0x0C
system calls: s_acpt
description: The queue head pointer is nonzero, signifying that the queue is not empty, but the count of queue elements was zero (and has now been decremented to -1). This error suggests corruption of the QCB.
registers: A1.L = QCB address
return address: sp + 22

gs_debug: 0x0D
system calls: s_adelet
description: The ACB state (a_state) signifies that the ACB is queued (running or canceled), but it was not found on the special alarm queue. This error suggests a corruption of the ACB or the system in general.
registers: A0.L = ACB address
A2.L = address of special alarm queue head
return address: sp + 26

gs_debug: 0x0E
system calls: s_rdelet
description: The sb_thse field of a token message obtained from the RCB queue is invalid. This error suggests corruption of the RCB queue.
registers: A0.L = token message address
A1.L = RCB address
return address: sp + 26

gs_debug: 0x0F
system calls: s_rdelet
description: A call to s_post failed (attempting to post a token message to the specified queue). This error suggests that an invalid queue ID was supplied.
registers: D0.L = completion status returned from s_post
D1.L = queue
A0.L = token message address
A1.L = RCB address
return address: sp + 26

gs_debug: 0x10
system calls: s_rdelet
description: The sb_thse field of a carrier message obtained from the RCB queue is invalid. This error suggests corruption of the RCB queue.
registers: A0.L = carrier message address
A1.L = RCB address
return address: sp + 26

gs_debug: 0x11
system calls: s_rdelet, s_rcan, s_rrel
description: A call to s_post or s_postr failed (attempting to post carrier message to the specified queue). This error suggests that the queue ID in the carrier message is no longer valid.
registers: D0.L = completion status returned by s_post or s_postr
D1.L = queue ID
A0.L = carrier message address
A1.L = RCB address
return address: sp + 34 or sp + 38

gs_debug: 0x12
system calls: s_rreq
description: The sb_thse field of the token message obtained from the RCB queue is invalid. This error suggests corruption of the RCB queue.
registers: A0.L = token message address
A1.L = RCB address
return address: sp + 26

gs_debug: 0x13
system calls: s_rcan
description: The sb_thse field of the canceled carrier message (obtained from the RCB queue) is invalid. This error suggests corruption of the RCB queue.
registers: A0.L = carrier message address
A1.L = RCB address
return address: sp + 22

gs_debug: 0x14
system calls: s_rrel
description: The sb_thse field of the carrier message obtained from the RCB queue is invalid. This error suggests corruption of the RCB queue.
registers: A0.L = carrier message address
A1.L = RCB address (Token message address is at top of stack)
return address: sp + 30

gs_debug: 0x15
system calls: —
description: The function code in register D0, which should identify the system call, is invalid.
registers: D0.L = function code
return address: sp + 6 or sp + 10

gs_debug: 0x16
system calls: s_tcreat, s_resum, s_postr
description: The system is attempting to add a TCB to a dispatch queue when the TCB is already linked to the queue. This error indicates corruption of the system. It might also occur during a task switch or during processing of the expiration of a suspended task's alarm.
registers: A1.L = address of dispatch queue tail
A3.L = TCB address
return address: sp + 26 or sp + 30 (not applicable if the error is not related to a system call)

gs_debug: 0x17
system calls: s_tdelet, s_susp
description: The call has been made from supervisor state (for example, an interrupt service routine). These calls are valid from the task level only.
return address: sp + 14 (s_tdelet) or sp + 10 (s_susp)

A.2 System Variables

System variables that might help you determine the state of a task, queue, alarm, partition, or resource immediately follow the GST. The GST contains 64 longwords, or 100 hexadecimal bytes. The system variables described in [Table A–2](#) through [Table A–4](#) begin at an address identified by the GST plus 100₁₆. They are defined in terms of offsets from that location.

A.2.1 Pointers to Control Structures

Each variable in [Table A–2](#) contains the address of the first control structure of its kind, beginning at offset 00₁₆ past the GST. To locate the control structure corresponding to a particular ID, subtract one from the ID, multiply it by the length of the structure, and add the result to the address of the first structure.

Table A–2: Control Structures

Offset (hex)	Variable	Size	Description
0	tcbs	L	Contains the address of the first TCB (TCB length = 28 bytes)
4	qcbs	L	Contains the address of the first QCB (QCB length = 20 bytes)
8	acbs	L	Contains the address of the first regular (standard or special) ACB (ACB length = 28 bytes)
C	tacbs	L	Contains the address of the first task ACB (ACB length = 28 bytes)
10	pcbs	L	Contains the address of the first PCB (PCB length = 28 bytes)
14	rcbs	L	Contains the address of the first RCB (RCB length = 16 bytes)
18	---	L	(unused)
1C	---	L	(unused)

A.2.2 Alarm Queues

[Table A–3](#) shows the alarm queues, beginning at offset 20₁₆ past the GST.

Table A–3: Alarm Queues

Offset (hex)	Variable	Size	Description
20	tq_head	L	Contains the address of the first ACB on the standard alarm queue, or zero if the queue is empty
24	tq_tail	L	Contains the address of the last ACB on the standard alarm queue, and is undefined if the queue is empty
28	aq_head	L	Contains the address of the first ACB on the special alarm queue, or zero if the queue is empty
2C	aq_tail	L	Contains the address of the last ACB on the special alarm queue, and is undefined if the queue is empty

A.2.3 Task Execution Variables

[Table A–4](#) shows the task execution data, starting at offset 30₁₆ past the GST. To determine the dispatch queue head and tail pointers for a particular priority, multiply the priority by four and add the result to the addresses of the first head and tail pointers.

Table A–4: Task Execution Variables

Offset (hex)	Variable	Size	Description
30	dq_heads	L	Contains address of the first dispatch queue head pointer
34	dq_tails	L	Contains address of the first dispatch queue tail pointer
38	curtsk	L	Contains the TCB address of the currently executing task
3C	curpri	L	Contains the priority of the currently executing task
40	tlock	L	Equal to zero if task rescheduling is enabled, equal to one if task rescheduling is disabled
44	tswitch	L	Bit 15 is set if a task switch is pending; bit 0 (lowest) is set if no state save is required at the next task switch

Data Structure Field Offsets

The following tables show more precise definitions of the data structures defined with C structures in [Chapter 4](#). Here, each field is described by its offset from the start of the structure and its size in bytes. When C or any other high-level language is used to define these structures, the user should verify that the resulting field offsets correspond to those provided in this appendix.

The number of dispatch queues ([Table B–8 on page 124](#)) is dependent on the number of configured task priorities. This data structure is defined with an example showing the dispatch queues for a system with four priorities. The `end_marker` field contains a unique value that identifies the end of the list of dispatch queue heads. (Each queue head contains either a TCB address or zero if the queue is empty.)

The configuration table, defined in [Table B–9 on page 124](#), includes a variable number of TISs ([Table B–10 on page 125](#)). The structure is defined with an example showing a configuration table with two task initialization structures (TIS 1 and TIS 2), followed by a zero to terminate the list. (A configuration table with no task initialization structures would contain a zero immediately following the `cf_cisr` field.)

The event control block, defined in [Table B–11 on page 125](#), includes a variable-length list of queue IDs. As an example, the table shows an ECB with two queue IDs (QID 1 and QID 2), followed by a zero to terminate the list. (An ECB with no queue IDs would contain a zero immediately following the `e_fill` field.)

All other data structures are of fixed length.

Table B–1: Task Control Block (TCB)

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	t_next	4
4	t_id	2
6	t_pri	2
8	t_slice	2
A	t_state	2
C	t_stack	4
10	t_ecb	4
14	t_acb	4
18	t_event	4

Table B–2: Queue Control Block (QCB)

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	q_head	4
4	q_tail	4
8	q_owner	4
C	q_count	2
E	q_type	2
10	q_id	2
12	q_filler	2

Table B–3: Resource Control Block (RCB)

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	r_head	4
4	r_tail	4
8	r_type	2
A	r_count	2
C	r_state	2
E	r_id	2

Table B–4: Partition Control Block (PCB)

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	p_head	4
4	p_tail	4
8	p_start	4
C	p_end	4
10	p_bsize	4
14	p_total	2
16	p_count	2
18	p_id	2
1A	p_filler	2

Table B–5: Alarm Control Block (ACB)

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	a_flink	4
4	a_blink	4
8	a_sigad	4
C	a_flagad	4
0	a_mask	4
14	a_type	2
16	a_tick	2
18	a_state	2
1A	a_id	2

Table B–6: Standard Alarm Queue

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	tq_head	4
4	tq_tail	4

Table B–7: Special Alarm Queue

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	aq_head	4
4	aq_tail	4

Table B–8: Dispatch Queues

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	dq_head 0	4
4	dq_head 1	4
8	dq_head 2	4
C	dq_head 3	4
10	(end_marker)	4
14	dq_tail 0	4
18	dq_tail 1	4
1C	dq_tail 2	4
20	dq_tail 3	4

Table B–9: Configuration Table

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	cf_ntsk	2
2	cf_npri	2
4	cf_nque	2
6	cf_nlrn	2
8	cf_npar	2
A	cf_nrsc	2
C	cf_ltik	2
E	cf_ltsl	2
10	cf_cisr	4
14	TIS 1	10
24	TIS 2	10
34	(zero)	2

Table B–10: Task Initialization Structure (TIS)

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	ti_id	2
2	ti_pri	2
4	ti_strt	4
8	ti_usp	4
C	ti_tsen	2
E	ti_filler	2

Table B–11: Event Control Block (ECB)

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	e_tick	2
2	e_resm	2
4	e_cps	2
6	e_filler	2
8	QID 1	2
A	QID 2	2
C	(zero)	2

Table B–12: System Buffer Header (SBH)

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	sb_nxte	4
4	sb_pree	4
8	sb_thse	4
C	sb_nxtb	4
10	sb_pid	2
12	sb_dlen	2
14	sb_disp	2
16	sb_dmod	2

Table B–13: Resource Carrier Message

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	rc_sbh	18
18	rc_qid	2
1A	rc_res	2
1C	rc_pri	2
1E	rc_cmp	2
20	rc_tkn	4

Table B–14: Global System Table (GST)

Offset (hex)	Field Name	Size (hex bytes)
0	gs_init	4
4	gs_ticks	4
8	gs_idle	4
C	gs_ramend	4
10	gs_version	4
14	gs_debug	4
18	gs_time	4
1C	gs_xerr	4
20	gs_ports	4
24	gs_memsiz	4
28	gs_memend	4
2C	gs_unused	D4

System Call Summaries

This appendix provides quick-reference tables showing summaries of the system call parameters for C and assembly language interfaces. [Table C-1](#) shows the C interface. [Table C-2](#) shows the assembly language interface.

Table C–1: C Interface System Call Summary

Operation	C System Call	
Create a task	s_tcreat	(tis)
Delete calling task	s_tdelet	()
Disable task rescheduling	s_lock	()
Enable task rescheduling	s_unlock	()
Suspend calling task	s_susp	(ecb, event_code)
Halt	s_halt	(code)
Resume a task	s_resum	(task_id)
Create a queue	s_qcreat	(queue_id, q_type, task_id, qcb)
Delete a queue	s_qdelet	(queue_id)
Post a message to a queue	s_post	(queue_id, head_tail, message)
Post a message and resume queue owner	s_postr	(queue_id, head_tail, message)
Accept a message from a queue	s_accpt	(queue_id, message)
Create a resource	s_rcreat	(res_id, res_type)
Delete a resource	s_rdelet	(res_id, queue_id)
Request a resource	s_rreq	(res_id, carrier, token)
Cancel a resource request	s_rcan	(res_id, carrier)
Release a resource	s_rrel	(res_id, token)
Create a partition	s_pcreat	(part_id, buffer_size, start_addr, end_addr, pcb)
Delete a partition	s_pdelet	(part_id)
Request a buffer	s_breq	(part_id, buffer)
Release a buffer	s_brel	(buffer)
Create an alarm	s_acreat	(alarm_id, alarm_type, mask, signal, flag, acb)
Delete an alarm	s_adele	(alarm_id)
Set an alarm	s_aset	(alarm_id, ticks)
Cancel an alarm	s_acan	(alarm_id)
Initialize OS	s_osinit	(config)
Get system address table	s_getsat	()
Initialize System Timing	s_stinit	(type)
Set System Time	s_stset	(time)
Return from ISR	s_iret	()
Set interrupt level	s_iset	(mask)

Note: A completion code is returned from most routines, not shown in this table. See [Chapter 3](#).

Table C–2: Assembly Interface System Call Summary

Operation	Assembly System Call						
	I/O	Register					
		D0	D1	D2	D3	A0	A1
Create a task	input	0x00				tis	
Delete calling task	input	0x01					
Disable task rescheduling	input	0x02					
Enable task rescheduling	input	0x03					
Suspend calling task	input	0x04				ecb	
	output		event				
Halt	input	0x05	code				
Resume a task	input	0x06	task_id				
Create a queue	input	0x07	que_id	type	tsk_id		
	output					qcb	
Delete a queue	input	0x08	que_id				
Post message to queue	input	0x09	que_id	hd_tail		msg	
Post message and resume queue owner	input	0x0A	que_id	hd_tail		msg	
Accept message from queue	input	0x0B	que_id				
	output					msg	
Create a resource	input	0x0C	res_id	type			
Delete a resource	input	0x0D	res_id	que_id			
Request a resource	input	0x0E	res_id			carrier	
	output					token	
Cancel resource request	input	0x0F	res_id			carrier	
Release a resource	input	0x10	res_id			token	
Create a partition	input	0x11	par_id	size		start	end
Delete a partition	input	0x12	par_id				
Request a buffer	input	0x13	par_id				
	output					buffer	
Release a buffer	input	0x14				buffer	
Create an alarm	input	0x15	alr_id	type	mask	signal	flag
	output					acb	
Delete an alarm	input	0x16	alr_id				
Set an alarm	input	0x17	alr_id	ticks			

Table C-2: Assembly Interface System Call Summary

Operation	Assembly System Call						
	I/O	Register					
		D0	D1	D2	D3	A0	A1
Cancel an alarm	input	0x18	alr_id				
Initialize OS	input	0x19				config	
Get system address table	input	0x1A					
	output	table					
Initialize System Timing	input	0x1B	type				
Set System Time	input	0x1C	time				
Return from ISR				-- TRAP #1 --			
Set interrupt level	input	new_mask		-- TRAP #2 --			
	output	old_mask					

Notes: All routines are accessed with TRAP #0 unless otherwise noted.

Most routines return completion status in register d0, not shown in this table.

See [Chapter 3](#) for details.

Task Scheduling Examples

This appendix provides some examples of task scheduling. For these examples, assume that the system consists of the following tasks:

TableD-1:

Task	Priority	Time Slicing
A	1	disabled
B	2	disabled
C	2	disabled

Example 1

1. Task B is currently executing and no tasks are scheduled for execution.
2. Task B makes a Resume system call to schedule task C. Task C is added to the dispatch queue, but is not dispatched because it is at the same priority as task B. (If time slicing were enabled for task B, task C would be dispatched at this point.)
3. Task B suspends and task C is dispatched.

Example 2

1. Task A is suspended, task B is currently executing and task C is scheduled for execution.
2. Task B makes a Post & Resume system call to a queue owned by task A, causing task A to be scheduled. Since task A is higher priority, task B is preempted at com-

pletion of the system call and task A is dispatched. The preempted task is added to the tail of the dispatch queue for its priority. (Task C is at the head of that queue.)

3. Task A suspends and task C is dispatched.
4. Task C suspends and task B is dispatched, continuing execution at the return from the Post & Resume call to task A's queue.

Example 3

1. Tasks A and C are suspended and task B is currently executing. Task B owns a queue. It has checked this queue, and finding it empty, is preparing to suspend until awakened by a Post & Resume call to the queue.
2. An interrupt occurs before task B suspends. The interrupt service routine (ISR) makes a Resume system call to schedule task A. At completion of the ISR, task B is preempted, added to the dispatch queue for its priority, and task A is dispatched.
3. During task A's execution, it makes a Post & Resume call to task B's queue. Task B is already scheduled for execution, but a special "resume pending" bit is set in its state. (See [Section 4.1 on page 85](#).)
4. When task A suspends, task B is dispatched, continuing execution at the point of interrupt ([Step 2](#)). At the time of dispatch, task B is again added to the tail of the dispatch queue for its priority because of the "resume pending" flag.
5. Not realizing that the interrupt and subsequent preemption occurred, task B proceeds to suspend, waiting for a post to its queue. Task B does not specify "cancel previous scheduling" in its event control block (see the note below).
6. Task B, having been rescheduled during dispatch ([Step 4](#)) is dispatched again and finds the queue element that was posted during task A's execution ([Step 3](#)).

Note

In most cases when a task suspends, it expects to be scheduled by an asynchronous event — by another task or from an interrupt service routine. In these cases, “cancel previous scheduling” should never be specified in the event control block (ECB). Use of this flag is recommended only in the case of a task that suspends for some number of ticks, with expiration of that alarm being the only event that is to cause the task to be scheduled. In this special case, “disable resume” should also be specified in the ECB.

Glossary of Acronyms

ACB	alarm control block
API	application program interface
ECB	event control block
FIFO	first in, first out
ICP	intelligent communications processor
ISR	interrupt service routine
GST	global system table
LAN	local-area network
LIFO	last in, first out
PCB	partition control block
QCB	queue control block
RCB	resource control block
RTE	return from exception
SBH	system buffer header
SNMP	simple network management protocol

TCB	task control block
TCP/IP	transmission control protocol/internet protocol
TIS	task initialization structure
WAN	wide-area network

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