

Digital Computer Laboratory
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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SUBJECT: FIRST MEETING OF MIT-IBM CENTRAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
To: Members of MIT-IBM Standards Committee
From: C. W. Watt
Date: June 22, 1953

Abstract: The committee met June 19, at MIT. Components Application Memos #1, #2, #3A, #3C, and #8, of the Electronics Components Committee were approved in substance but are to be rewritten by IBM into an easily usable form.

The first meeting of the IBM-MIT Central Standards Committee was held Friday, June 19, at MIT. IBM was represented by R. N. Sweetland, the IBM co-chairman; H. D. Ross and N. P. Edwards. MIT was represented by C. W. Watt, the MIT co-chairman; A. P. Kromer and R. L. Best.

The agenda for discussion was as follows:

- Item 1: Review Components Application Memos numbers 1, 2, 3A, 3C, and 8.
- Item 2: Discuss Mode of Operation of the Central Standards Committee and the Authority That It Should Have.
- Item 3: Discuss Selection of Color and Type of Finish for the Computer.
- Item 4: Discuss Service Conditions for the Computer.
- Item 5: Discuss General Schedule and Priority Sequence for Standards Work.
- Item 6: Discuss Program for Work of Mechanical Design and Mechanical Components Sub-committee.

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS MADE

1.0 Review Components Application Memos

- 1.1 A general discussion was held covering the form that these memos should take to insure the memo's effective use by the engineers. CAM #1, Issue 2 was used as a sample. It was decided to provide each CAM with a summary sheet in the general form that was used in Issue #1. This summary sheet will present the authorized limit on the use of each component in a series of brief statements. The engineers will be required to stay within the limits of the Application Components. This summary sheet will then be followed by an information section which will describe some of the reasons for the selection of these limits and give, in brief form, some figures and graphs describing the behavior of components under various conditions. Thus, the engineers will have a summary of the rules separate from the reasons for the rules. With these considerations in mind, the various CAM's were discussed, and the general rule was made that presentation of all CAM's will be made in this fashion.

1.2 Consideration of Individual CAM's

CAM #1

The substance of Issue 2 was accepted but the memo itself will be rewritten and reissued as Issue #3 with the information arranged as described above under 1.1. Detail changes were made as follows: The effects of voltage and temperature on resistors will be lumped together and a single usable tolerance will be prescribed on the summary sheet just as was done in Issue #1. A breakdown of voltage and temperature effects as presented in paragraph 1.2 and 1.3 of Issue #2 will be put into the information section. The Design Derating, item 2.0 in Issue #2 will be put into the summary section. Use Notes, section 4.0, Issue #2 and Recommended Value, section 6.0, Issue #2, will be put into the summary section. The Physical Sizes, section 3.0, Issue #2 will be retained as is, except that the wire sizes of the pigtail will be added and a mention made of the fact that these are the wires of Allen-Bradley resistors. The Recommended Supplier and Reference sections will be retained as is. Prints of the Military Standards Drawing MS-91374 will be included with the CAM to indicate acceptable values of the components and color code.

CAM #2

The substance of this memo was accepted but rearrangement of information into summary and information sheets will be done just as in CAM #1. Under section 4.0, Issue #2, the word "stablohms" will be replaced by "chase". Under section 5.0, Issue #2, "physical characteristics" - maximum and minimum sizes for the resistors will be shown but breakdown into various manufacturers will be eliminated. Attention will be called to the fact that labeling of the "chase resistors" is misleading and should be ignored. The dimensions and manufactures numbers for "chase" resistors were corrected.

CAM #3A

This will be rewritten in the same form as the others. The substance of the material in Issue #2 was accepted.

CAM #3C

This will be rewritten in the same form as the others. The substance of the memo was accepted.

CAM #8

Since this is a different type of component from those previously described, the exact form cannot follow that outline above. Issue #2 as written was accepted with the following changes: 1. Reference to insulation will be eliminated and will be put on the Purchase Specification only. The absolute maximum current tabulation column will be expanded to include columns for DC or ACRMS current and a column for Peak Pulse current.

2.0 Discuss Mode of Operation of the Central Standards Committee and the Authority That It Should Have

1.1 This point was discussed but no final decision was reached. It was generally agreed that a policing action is necessary to insure that the

decisions of the Central Standards Committee are complied with in the design. It was felt that this could be done best by the members of the Central Standards Committee and the Sub-committee who are active in the design groups. The need for co-operation rather than coercion was stressed.

3.0 Discuss Selection of Color and Type of Finish for the Computer

- 1.1 It was agreed that MIT would accept any reasonable proposal on this subject from IBM and that such a proposal should be made as soon as possible. It was agreed that this decision could be made by the Central Standards Committee with the Mechanical Design Sub-committee preparing the proposals.

4.0 Discuss Service Conditions for the Computer

- 1.1 Discussion on this point was postponed until everyone had a chance to study the conditions called for in the draft of Engineering Exhibit AFCRC #1. These will be discussed in the next meeting.
This point was not discussed.

5.0 Discuss General Schedule and Priority Sequence for Standards Work

- 1.1 This was discussed only briefly. Detailed discussions will be held between Watt and Sweetland during the next two weeks.

6.0 Discuss Program for Work of Mechanical Design and Mechanical Components Sub-committee

- 1.1 Watt and Sweetland will discuss this matter in the near future.

It was felt that the rotating participation of members in the meetings of the Central Standards Committee will be a satisfactory procedure. This first meeting went off quite smoothly and its accomplishments were quite satisfactory. The next meeting of the Central Standards Committee will be held in Poughkeepsie during the week ending July 3. Watt, Best, and Jacobs will represent MIT and Sweetland, Crawford, and Ross will represent IBM.

Signed _____

C. W. Watt

CWW/jg

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