

ADVISORY - Behavioral Changes Specific to FOCUS Release 7.0

This document was created to serve as a list of behavioral changes specific to FOCUS Release 7.0. We are attempting to list the major 'gotchas' that would be experienced when upgrading from an earlier FOCUS release. This list which is broken down by platform and functional area is not an exhaustive list. Instead it should be used as part of the testing and review process when accepting a new release of FOCUS.

This list doesn't serve as a replacement for our READMEF documentation that ships with our tapes. We also make this documentation available in CD-ROM format. This can be ordered from us via Document Number 1001050.0698.

| CMS | MVS | FUNCTIONAL AREA | |
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| | X | ACF2 R6.1 | EXEC PGM=IKJSCAN may yield an OC4 Abend with R6.1 of ACF2 and FOCUS R7.0. CA has corrected this problem via PTF TA3475C. At this time there is no fix available for ACF2 R6.0 or R6.2. |
| | X | Allocation | We no longer perform automatic allocations of the FOCUS file in R7.0. In prior releases a reference to the MFD w/o an allocation was enough to allocate the file if it was present in the catalog. A search for 'prefix.mfd.focus' was done via the catalog. If present then allocate the file. All SUFFIX=FOC files must now be pre-allocated. R7.0.8 introduces a SET FOCALLOC=ON/OFF command. This enables the automatic allocation of FOCUS files. |
| X | | CMS ESA and DASD | CMS ESA 1.2.2 may exhibit overall performance degradation when reading and CMS writing large FOCUS databases. This problem is caused by an IBM change to the DASD caching algorithms. They have gone from record level caching to track level caching. IBM has issued APAR VM60148 which solves this problem. |

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| X | | CMS Extended Plists | <p>VM FOCUS now issues commands to CMS using CMS's 'Extended Plist'. This will enable FOCUS users to issue CMS commands such as STORMAP and PIPE that require the extended plist. It will also enable FOCUS users to specify FILEDEF, ACCESS and other CMS commands with parameters that are longer than eight characters.</p> <p>The standard plist or tokenized plist uppercases each token, left-justifies it, and truncates it to a length of 8 bytes. Extended plist has no limit on the length of the plist passed.</p> <p>For further information, please see New Feature Bulletin 631.</p> |
| X | | CMS SFS | <p>The default temporary disk set by FOCUS at initialization will not be a Shared File System (SFS) directory. This is done in order to prevent additional I/O associated with SFS.</p> |
| X | X | Compile | <p>MODIFIES compiled for use with Static SQL in prior releases of FOCUS must be recompiled with the Interface STATIC setting ON or NOBIND, in order to execute them in release 7.0. If NOBIND is specified a new DB2 BIND must also be performed.</p> <p>Precompiled MODIFIES that update FOCUS databases, FOCCOMP's, need not be recompiled for release 7.0.</p> <p>Precompiled MODIFIES prior to release 7.0.6 when run with SET DEFCENT, YRTHRESH or file and field level settings of DFC, YRT yield a (FOC1886) ERROR: focexec FOCCOMP NEEDS CENTURY INFO. PLEASE RECOMPILE message.</p> <p>Compiling the focexec in release 7.0.6 yields a (FOC1885) WARNING: MODIFY USES CENTURY INFO. WILL NOT RUN BELOW 7.0.6 message.</p> <p>Running a FOCCOMP in releases prior to 7.0.6 that has been compiled with SET DEFCENT or YRTHRESH, yields a (FOC548) INVALID VERSION. RUN CANNOT BE EXECUTED. RECOMPILE error.</p> |

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| | | | FOCCOMPs that include file and field level settings yield a (FOC306) DESCRIPTION ERROR. MASTER FILE ATTRIBUTE NOT RECOGNIZED: FDFC when run in releases prior to 7.0.6. |
| X | X | FOCUS Database | The SET SHADOW=OLD command denotes the use of the old (pre-7.0) shadow technology. This means fewer pages are shadowed as compared to SHADOW=ON for large databases in Release 7.0. If your FOCUS file was created with SHADOW=OLD, the maximum number of pages is 63,551. If the 63,551 limit is exceeded, the following error message will be issued: (FOC198) FATAL ERROR IN DATABASE I/O. FOCUS TERMINATING CODE=ABCABCAB This means that a severe error was encountered in reading from or writing to a FOCUS database. FOCUS was unable to recover from this error, and will return to the host environment. Complete details are available in NF434. |
| X | X | HOLD | The HOLD MASTER or HOLDMAST file generated from the ON TABLE HOLD command no longer creates FIELD=RECTYPE,E01,Ann,Ann,\$ from queries which contain RECTYPE as a verb object. With R7.0.8 a dummy notation for this field is created, FIELD=' RECTYPE',E01,Ann,Ann,\$ This is done as the ALIAS=E01 value will never match the data in the HOLD file. |
| X | X | Interfaces | FOCSAM=OLD is no longer supported. If this command is entered a (FOC324) UNRECOGNIZED SET COMMAND error results. |

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| X | X | Master File Parser | <p>Data conversions at the GROUP= field level no longer occur. Referring directly to a GROUP= field as a verb object or in an IF/WHERE may result in unreadable characters or in failed IF/WHERE tests. A reference must be made to the individual field which comprises the GROUP= field. Consider this example;</p> <p>GROUP=MYGROUP,ALIAS=MYGRP,FORMAT=A6,ACTUAL=A6,\$ FIELD=FIRST,ALIAS=FST,FORMAT=I4,ACTUAL=A4,\$ FIELD=SECOND,ALIAS=SEC,FORMAT=A2,ACTUAL=A2,\$</p> <p>The first 4 bytes will print incorrectly when referring to the MYGROUP field. Instead refer to FIRST as data conversion occurs at the field level.</p> |
| X | X | MODIFY | <p>MODIFY doesn't support qualified fieldnames on the left hand side of a COMPUTE statement. For example; COMPUTE EMPLOYEE.NEWFLD/A10=FIRST_NAME; If this is coded a (FOC960) WARNING. QUALIFIED FIELDNAME IS NOT PERMITTED: error is generated.</p> |
| | X | MVS OS/390 | <p>Any COBOLII generated programs prior to OS/390 releases which use the IGZEOPT MACRO must be recompiled under the new LE MVS environment</p> |
| | X | MVS SU | <p>The IBI Subsystem and FOCUS SVC are mutually exclusive. If communications are attempted between them a (FOC542) SU.COMMUNICATION IS NOT AVAILABLE TO CENTRAL DATABASE MACHINE: error occurs</p> |
| | X | PA1-Interrupt | <p>When interrupting FOCUS retrievals with a PA1 (SYS-ATTN) command,choosing FX (Terminate FOCUS) results in an IKJ56641I USER ABEND CODE 0000 REASON CODE 00000000. This command was ignored in all releases prior to FOCUS release 7.0.1.</p> |
| | X | SET Command | <p>The TRACKIO feature may no longer be activated via a SET command. It must be coded in the FOC Parm ERRORS file.</p> |

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| X | X | SET Command | Prior to release 7.0.5 TABLE SET parm = value syntax was ignored. With release 7.0.5 a new error message, (FOC36218) AN EQUAL SIGN (=) IS INVALID IN ON TABLE SET appears. Also, partial syntax for this command (eg: ON TABLE SET PAUSE) yields a (FOC36217) INCOMPLETE ON TABLE SET SYNTAX error. The FOCEXEC that generated these error messages will not be executed. A (FOC009) INCOMPLETE REQUEST STATEMENT error will display |
| X | X | Subroutine | The CHGDAT subroutine must have the last parameters format be A17 or code 'A17'. If this is anything other than 17 bytes FOCUS may abend. |
| X | X | Table | Reports from SUFFIX=FIX files may truncate data in R7.0. A change was made in how FOCUS calculates the physical LRECL vs. the logical LRECL. Consider a MFD which has a sum of all fields = 40. But the physical LRECL of the file is 60. In release 6.8 the report would display 20 blanks at the start of the second record. In R7.0 we display a record 40 bytes long. The MFD describes the total length of the record to be retrieved. This behavior also presents itself when using MODIFY FIXFORM. |
| X | X | Table | In SUFFIX=FIX MFD's the SEGTYPE declarations are respected. A new feature called FIXRETRIEVAL will stop reading the FIX file when the IF or WHERE condition on a field mentioned via the SEGTYPE= declaration is retrieved. This is a significant performance improvement when reading FIX files. Problems will occur if the data in these files are not sorted according to the SEGTYPE= fields. In releases prior to R7.0.5 the SEGTYPE= declarations were ignored in SUFFIX=FIX MFD's. The HOLDMAST or HOLD MASTER that gets created will now reflect the BY or BY HIGHEST fields coded in the TABLE request. A TABLE request with BY X will create a SEGTYPE=S1 in the HOLD MASTER. Coding BY HIGHEST X would result in SEGTYPE=SH1. |

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| X | X | Table | <p>AUTOTABLEF converted reports which display in HOTSCREEN only show 2 PFKEY's available after hitting PF04. 'Select: 1-Print this page 2-Cancel'. To see all 4 PFKEY's you must type 'BOT' to complete the retrieval.</p> <p>Also, viewing AUTOTABLEF converted reports via HOTSCREEN then canceling (PF03) the report prior to retrieval completing yields a ..PARTIAL REPORT HAS BEEN SAVED message followed by REPORT KILLED message</p> |
| X | X | Table | <p>Format conversion errors when reading a SUFFIX=FIX file now yield an error msg, (FOC1346) : FORMAT ERROR: Record n, Column n FOCUS now generates 1 format error per field which has a conversion error. Prior releases would issue 1 format error for the entire record. This may terminate FOCUS after 10 such errors. This default may be changed at install time. Packed and Zoned data must be signed. The packed data must follow the preferred sign bit notation. This means positive values have a sign bit of X'C'. And negative values have a sign bit of X'D'.</p> |
| | X | Utilities | <p>SyncSort Release 3.5 may cause an 0C4 Abend with FOCUS R7.0.5 and higher. SyncSort APAR PW45680 corrects this problem</p> |
| X | X | VSAM | <p>VSAM KSDS files which are described to FOCUS that don't have the KEY correctly described as per the IDCAMS CLUSTER definition yield a (FOC1016) INVALID KEY DESCRIPTION IN MASTER FILE error.</p> |
| X | X | ? STAT | <p>The variable &READS now represents the number of I/Os to satisfy a query against a file. Previously this value was equated to the number of records returned.</p> |