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**Title:**

RC8000 MONITOR, PART 3  
DEFINITION OF EXTERNAL PROCESSES

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**Keywords:**

RC8000, External Process

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**Abstract:**

This paper describes the input/output messages to an external process. A list of available descriptions is included.

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## Introduction.

This manual which actually consists of several independent manuals defines the functions of external processes and the conventions for calling them.

Below you will find an alphabetic list of the external processes with references to the RCSL description of function and call conventions.

## Input/Output Messages.

Input/output is initiated when an internal process sends a message to an external process. A typical message has the following format:

message address: operation < 12 + mode  
                  + 2 first storage address  
                  + 4 last storage address

It defines an input/output operation and the first and last address of a data block that must be within the storage area of the internal process. After completing the operation the external process returns an answer, which typically has the following format:

answer address: status word  
                  + 2 number of halfwords transferred  
                  + 4 number of characters transferred

It contains a status word sensed from the device after the operation, the actual number of halfwords input or output, and the corresponding number of characters (a word can contain 1, 2, or 3 characters depending on the kind of device and the operation mode).

Note that devices on a RC3600 device controller may lose data, if the internal process becomes stopped during the execution of an input operation at the device.

Dummy answers to input/output messages are delivered in the following situations:

result = 2, message rejected: the external process is reserved by another process, or demands a reservation that has not been made by the sending process;

result = 3, message unintelligible: the operation or mode parameters have an illegal value, or the storage area for input/output is outside the sending process;

result = 4, receiver malfunction: the peripheral process is disconnected during the input/output operation;

result = 5, receiver does not exist.

#### Alphabetic List of External Processes.

	RCSL NO
Backing Storage Area Process .....	31-D539
Cassette Tape Process .....	31-D542
Disc Process .....	31-D528
Disc Process (RC36xx) .....	31-D546
Flexible Disc Process .....	31-D543
FPA Main Process .....	31-D523
Interval Clock Process .....	31-D530
Line Printer Process .....	31-D536
Magnetic Tape Process (7 track) .....	31-D540

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Magnetic Tape Process (9 track) .....	31-D533
Paper Tape Punch Process .....	31-D534
Paper Tape Reader Process .....	31-D535
Punched Card Reader Process .....	31-D537
Terminal Process .....	31-D538
Conversion Tables .....	31-D544