Overview
ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8’s enhanced features put more choice—and more control—within your reach.

This new product not only supports all the new function and enhancements of ACF/NCP Version 7 Release 8 (Software Announcement 299-223, dated August 17, 1999), but also delivers additional enhancements for greater power and flexibility.

Features
- NDF provides New NCP Information with Extra Job Step
- SSP Loader now obtains work storage above 16 MB line
- NEWDEFN made to resemble original NCP generation definition
- ACF/TAP enhancement for formatting VTAM® Buffer Trace

Refer to the Description section of this announcement letter for further details on the new enhancements available in ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8.

Key Prerequisites
ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 is designed to run in a virtual storage environment. It is supported in conjunction with OS/390®, MVS/ESA™, VM/ESA® and VSE/ESA.

It is designed to provide services for at least one 3725, 3720 or 3745 communication controller.

Planned Availability Date
September 24, 1999

At a Glance
You’ll be especially interested in the enhanced features of IBM’s new ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 if you:

- Need generation and utility functions for ACP/NCP Version 7 Release 8 and Emulation Program Release 14
- Use ACF/NCP Versions 7, 6, 5, or 4
- Want advanced technology that gives you more choice and greater control

ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 offers powerful new features of its own (refer to the Description section), as well as supporting all the new functions and enhancements of ACF/NCP Version 7 Release 8.

The following SSP functions support all the new enhancements for ACF/NCP Version 7 Release 8:
- ACF/Trace Analysis Program (ACF/TAP)
- Configuration Report Program (CRP)
- SSP Loader
- SSP Dumper
- Dump Formatter
- SSP CLISTs

ACF/NCP Version 7 Release 8 provides enhancements to the following functions:
- SNA
- APPN®
- Token Ring
- Frame Relay
- 3746 Model 900 enhanced support

For ordering, contact:
Your IBM representative, an IBM Business Partner, or IBM Americas
Call Centers at 800-IBM-CALL
Reference: LE001
ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 provides support for the new function and enhancements provided in ACF/NCP Version 7 Release 8. Refer to Software Announcement 299-223, dated August 17, 1999, for details on ACF/NCP V7R8. ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 also includes these additional enhancements:

**NDF Offers New NCP Information with Extra Job Step:** By coding an extra job step as part of their NCP generation, users can obtain information about the number of NCP buffers that will be built, the size of the NCP Load Module, and the amount of controller storage that will be allocated for NCP control blocks during NCP initialization.

**SSP Loader Obtains Work Storage Above the 16M Line:** Designed to offer relief to those who do multiple concurrent NCP loads, the SSP loader now obtains its work storage from above the 16 MB line when it is available.

**NEWDEFN Looks More Like Original NCP Generation Definition:** Some minor cosmetic changes have been made to make the NEWDEFN data set more closely resembles the original NCP generation definition.

**ACF/TAP Enhancements for the Formatting of VTAM Buffer Trace:** ACF/TAP has been enhanced with regard to the formatting of VTAM buffer trace data:
- ACF/TAP can now format up to 4096 bytes of VTAM Buffer Trace (AMOUNT=FULL) data.
- ACF/TAP now formats PIU header information for confidential/encrypted records in a VTAM Buffer Trace.

ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 contains no new interfaces.

**Year 2000**

This product is Year 2000 ready. When used in accordance with its associated documentation, it is capable of correctly processing, providing, and/or receiving date data within and between the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, provided that all products (for example, hardware, software, and firmware) used with the product properly exchange accurate date data with it.

**Euro Currency**

This program is not impacted by euro currency.

**Product Positioning**

ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 is the required SSP for all customers who use ACF/NCP Version 7 Release 8.

In addition, ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 supports all ACF/NCP and associated product releases that are supported by ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 7 and are still in service.

**Hardware and Software Support Services**

**SmoothStart™/Installation Services**

IBM SmoothStart or Installation Services will not be provided for SSP.
Technical Information

Specified Operating Environment

Hardware Requirements: ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 is designed to run in a virtual storage environment in any IBM system configuration that supports the following IBM licensed programs:

- OS/390®
- MVS/ESA®
- VM/ESA®
- VSE/ESA

ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 operates with at least one IBM 3725, 3720, or 3745 Communication Controller that meets ACF/NCP or the Emulation Program’s (EP) storage requirements.

Software Requirements: ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 is supported in conjunction with the following licensed programs at the function level or the version and release as long as program services are available for the particular version and release.

OS/390
- OS/390 V1R1, R2, R3 (5645-001)
- OS/390 V2R7, V2R8 (5647-A01) or later

MVS/ESA
- MVS/ESA SP™ Version 5 (5655-068 and 5655-069)

VM/ESA
- VM/ESA Version 2 (5654-030)

VSE/ESA
- VSE/ESA Version 2 (5690-VSE)
- VSE/ESA Version 1 (5750-ACD)

Beginning with ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 7, the Network Definition Facility (NDF) offers exclusive support for the High Level Assembler (HLAS) program product is available on OS/390, MVS/ESA, VM/ESA, and VSE/ESA operating systems. If the HLAS does not come installed on your operating system, you will need to order and install it. Refer to the following table to determine if the HLAS is integrated into your operating system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating System</th>
<th>HLAS V1R2</th>
<th>HLAS V1R3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MVS/ESA V5R1 or later (5655-068, 5655-069)</td>
<td>Order Separately</td>
<td>Order Separately</td>
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<tr>
<td>OS/390 V1R1, R2, R3 (5645-001)</td>
<td>Integrated</td>
<td>Order Separately</td>
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<tr>
<td>OS/390 V2R4, V2R5, V2R6 (5647-A01)</td>
<td>Integrated</td>
<td>Order Separately</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the HLAS requirements, the following APARs are required:

- DFSMS/MVS® OW26738 is required for binder
- DFSMS/MVS OW27802 is required for linkage editor
- VM/ESA VM61534 is required for linkage editor

ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 requires the following VSE/ESA APARs:

- VSE/ESA Version 2 DY45166
- VSE/ESA Version 1 Release 4 DY45163

ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 is required when running ACF/NCP V7R8 with any of the following licensed programs:

- Emulation Program (EP) Release 14 (5735-XXB)
- Network Terminal Option (NTO) Release 11 (5735-XX7)
- Network Routing Facility (NRF) Release 9 (5668-963)
- X.25 NCP Packet Switching Interface (NPSI) Version 3 Release 9 (5668-035)

ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 operates with currently supported releases of ACF/NCP and the Emulation Program. As of this announcement, the currently supported releases are as follows:

- ACF/NCP Version 7 (5648-063) Releases 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3*, 2**, 1***
- ACF/NCP Version 6 (5688-231) Releases 3**, 2****
- ACF/NCP Version 5 (5668-738) Release 4
- ACF/NCP Version 4 (5668-854) Release 3.1
- Emulation Program (5735-XXB) Releases 14, 12, 11*, 9, 8, 6.1, 4*

* OS/390 (MVS/ESA) and VM/ESA only
** OS/390 (MVS/ESA) only
*** VSE/ESA and VM/ESA only
**** VM/ESA only
Prerequisites: In addition to ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 specified operating system requirements, the following is required for the SSP CLISTs for NCP dumps:

- Interactive System Productivity Facility (ISPF) V4R2 (5655-042) or later for OS/390 and MVS/ESA
- Time Sharing Options Extensions (TSO/E) V2R5 (5685-025) or later for OS/390 or MVS/ESA
- NetView V2R4 (5685-111), NetView V3R1 (5655-007), TME10 NetView for OS/390 Release 1 (5697-B82) or later with REXX support for OS/390 or MVS/ESA
- NetView V2R3 (5756-051) for VM/ESA

Refer to the program directory for additional details relative to requirements for ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 for OS/390, MVS/ESA, VM/ESA, VSE/ESA.

Compatibility: Generation definitions, other than JCL, for the 3725, 3720, or 3745 used with ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 for previous ACF/NCP releases may be used with no modifications.

ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 uses only existing attachment interfaces.

Limitations: ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 operates with at least one IBM Communication Controller running ACF/NCP or the Emulation Program.

Performance Considerations: There is no significant difference in ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 performance over that of SSP Version 4 Release 7.

Planning Information

Customer Responsibilities: The following will continue to be shipped from IBM Software Delivery and Fulfillment (SDF):

- ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 7 for MVS (until September 24, 1999)
- ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 7 for VM (until September 24, 1999)
- ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 7 for VSE (until September 24, 1999)

Direct Customer Support: Direct customer support is provided by the S/390® Support Family. For more information on services available, contact the IBM Support Family Inside Sales at 800-IBM-4YOU (426-4968).

Packaging: ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 will be shipped on either one magnetic tape reel (9/6250 bpi), on a 3480 tape cartridge, or a 4-mm DAT tape.

Security, Auditability, and Control

ACF/SSP security and auditability features are dependent upon the features or functions of the operating system on which ACF/SSP is running. The customer is responsible for evaluation, selection, and implementation of security features, administrative procedures, and appropriate controls in application systems and communication facilities.

Customer Financing

IBM Global Financing offers attractive financing to credit-qualified commercial and government customers and Business Partners in more than 40 countries around the world. IBM Global Financing is provided by the IBM Credit Corporation in the United States. Offerings, rates, terms and availability may vary by country. Contact your local IBM Global Financing organization. Country organizations are listed on the Web at:

http://www.financing.ibm.com

Ordering Information

Current Licensees

Current licensees of ACF/SSP Version 4 will be sent a program reorder form which may be returned directly to SDF. The mailing of these reorder forms is scheduled to be completed by October 8, 1999. Reorder forms returned to SDF will be processed within 10 working days of receipt.

New Licensees

Orders for new licenses are now being accepted.


Shipment will begin on the planned availability date.

Orders that ship prior to the planned availability date will receive ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 7.

Orders that ship after the planned availability date will receive ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8.

New users of ACF/SSP Version 4 should specify:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating System</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Model</th>
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<tr>
<td>OS/390 (MVS/ESA)</td>
<td>5655</td>
<td>041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VM/ESA</td>
<td>5654</td>
<td>009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VSE/ESA</td>
<td>5686</td>
<td>064</td>
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Basic Machine-Readable Material: The following basic machine-readable material is available:

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<tr>
<th>Program Number</th>
<th>Feature Number</th>
<th>Distribution Media</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5655-041 (OS/390, MVS/ESA)</td>
<td>5801</td>
<td>9/6250 Tape</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5802</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5700</td>
<td>4-mm DAT Tape</td>
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</table>
Unlicensed Documentation: For all users of ACF/SSP, a memo, program directory, and one copy of the following publications are supplied automatically with the basic machine-readable material:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Order Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCP, SSP and EP Messages and Codes (OS/390 and MVS/ESA only)</td>
<td>SC31-6222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSP Licensed Program Specifications (OS/390 and MVS/ESA only)</td>
<td>GC31-6229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSP Licensed Program Specifications (VM/ESA only)</td>
<td>GC31-6227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSP Licensed Program Specifications (VSE/ESA only)</td>
<td>GC31-6230</td>
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</table>

The following additional publications are available with ACF/NCP Version 7 Release 8 (5648-063):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCP, SSP and EP Resource Definition Reference</td>
<td>SC31-6224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCP, SSP and EP Resource Definition Guide</td>
<td>SC31-6223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCP V7R8 Migration Guide</td>
<td>SC30-4024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCP, SSP, EP Library Directory</td>
<td>SC30-4025</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional copies of unlicensed publications will be available for a fee at product availability. These copies can be ordered from your IBM representative, through the Publication Notification System (PNS) or by direct order.

Displayable Softcopy Publications: ACF/SSP Version 4 Release 8 manuals are offered in displayable softcopy form. All unlicensed and licensed manuals are included. The displayable manuals are shipped on CD-ROM (LK2T-0414), IBM Online Library: ACF/NCP, ACF/SSP, EP, NPSI, NTuneMON Softcopy Collection Kit. For your convenience, the CD-ROM also contains displayable manuals for several other related products.

One copy of the CD-ROM is orderable with the product, at no additional charge, by specifying feature number 7110 for ACF/NCP Version 7 Release 8 (5648-063). Additional copies can be ordered for a fee by specifying feature number 8110 for ACF/NCP Version 7 Release 8 (5648-063).

Note: CD-ROM feature numbers 7110 and 8110 are not orderable for 5655-041, 5654-009, or 5686-064. They are orderable only for 5648-063.

The displayable manuals can be used with the BookManager® READ licensed programs in any of the READ-supported environments. They can also be used with the IBM Library Reader™ in DOS, OS/2® and Windows™ environments. IBM Library Reader has the same functions as the BookManager READ/DOS and READ/2 licensed programs except that it only reads IBM-produced manuals shipped after April 1992. As IBM replaces softcopy manuals shipped before April 1992, the replacement softcopy will be readable by IBM Library Reader.

The IBM Library Readers for DOS, OS/2 and Windows are supplied at no additional charge.

Licensed Documentation: The following licensed materials for OS/390, MVS/ESA, VM/ESA, VSE/ESA will be available from IBM by September 24, 1999. To order, contact your IBM representative. The first copy is available, at no charge, to licensees of basic material by specifying the appropriate feature number. Use the appropriate feature number to order additional copies for a fee.

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<tr>
<td>5655-041 (OS/390 and MVS/ESA)</td>
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<td>5686-064 (VSE/ESA)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* The first copy of the *NCP, SSP and EP Diagnosis Guide* (LY43-0033) and the *NCP, SSP and EP Trace Analysis Handbook* (LY43-0037) is supplied automatically with the basic machine-readable material. Additional copies of these publications can be ordered for a fee by specifying the appropriate feature numbers.

Subsequent updates (technical newsletters or revisions between releases) to the publications shipped with the product will be distributed to the user of record for as long as a license for this software remains in effect. A separate publication order or subscription is not needed.

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http://www.financing.ibm.com

**Terms and Conditions**

The terms for ACF/SSP Version 4, as previously announced in Software Announcement 293-623, dated October 28, 1993, licensed under the IBM Customer Agreement are unaffected by this announcement.

**Program Currency:** Program services for the following releases will be available until twelve months written notice.
- ACF/SSP V4R3 and later for OS/390 (5655-141)
- ACF/SSP V4R3 and later for VM/ESA (5654-009)
- ACF/SSP V4R4 and later for VSE/ESA (5686-064)

Withdrawal of Program Services announced for the following releases have been extended until January 31, 2001.
- ACF/SSP V4R1 for VSE/ESA (5686-064)
- ACF/SSP V4R2 for OS/390 (5655-141)
- ACF/SSP V4R3 for VM/ESA (5654-009)

**Support Line:** Yes

**Other Support:** System/390®

**Charges**

Current charges are unaffected by this announcement.

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Mail: IBM Americas Call Centers
Dept. LE001
P.O. Box 2690
Atlanta, GA 30301-2690
Reference Code: LE001

You can also contact your local IBM Business Partner or IBM representative. To identify them, call 800-IBM-4YOU.

**Note:** Shipments will begin after the planned availability date.

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**Year 2000 Readiness Disclosure**