

progressing along a dead-end branch and respond by generating an alarm or triggering control action to move the system away from the dead-end condition.

This work was done by Charles Hand of Caltech for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Further information is contained in a TSP (see page 1).

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● Readout of DSN Monitor Data

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DSN Monitor Data Reader is a computer program that, as its name suggests, reads file of monitor data from the Deep Space Network (DSN). The monitor data constitute information on the status and performance of tracking, telemetry, command, and pointing equipment at the DSN antennas. The DSN has recently introduced a new, more advanced monitor data format, denoted 0158-Mon, that is based on the standard formatted data unit (SFDU) and compressed header

data objects (CHDO) of the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS). The 0158-Mon data format is a very flexible generic format that provides for specific variable-length formats and for self-identifying parameters that obviate the proprietary NASA Communications (NASCOM) bit-packed formats of the past. The monitor data SFDUs are also encapsulated in Standard DSN Blocks and routed to DSN customers for processing at their local mission control

centers. This program helps a DSN customer to read and parse the monitor data to assess the statuses of the DSN stations in support of spacecraft flight operations.

This program was written by Katherine Levister and May Tran of Caltech for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Further information is contained in a TSP (see page 1).

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