

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT
BULLETIN NO. 17
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TO: Distribution
SUBJECT: BLUE WHALE CHANGES FOR 6.0G

This documentation contains the description of the new operational commands for Blue Whale Development System release 6.0G. Please note that this release requires a hardware modification (as described at the end of this document) to the serial port of the whale.

The main features of this release are new page command, change of the Break key to tab to allow the Go command to work with nuwhale, interrupt stealing capability, and a hardware/software change to improve communication reliability.

The new commands for the whale are:

Reset page command

Format:

>k<cr>

Sets all banks 0-f to page 0.

Set page command

Format:

k<bank><page><crk>

eg: >elk ; set bank 'e' to page '1'

No Echo following command

Format:

>.<command string><cr>

A '.' preceding any command will cause the whale to NOT echo the characters entered up to the next prompt.

GO

Format:

>g

The GO command is available again.

Break

The format of the break command has changed from <esc> to the <tab> character. This allows execution of the GO command or other commands from the host without interruption by terminal control escape sequences.

Lowercase

The whale commands may now be entered in either uppercase or lowercase.

_in dspl

For those whose games must steal interrupts, storing your interrupt routine address (in bidecle format) at _in dspl (_in dspl equ 0X8609) will cause the whale to return to your interrupt routine instead of the system routine.

MODIFICATION TO SERIAL PORT BOARD

The serial port board, as it is currently configured, uses a clock signal generated in the whale. However, this signal is not adequate for a stable signal for the baud-rate generator in the communication chip. This problem is corrected by cutting the trace on U1 between pin 6 and pin 27. Then solder a 1.8432 MHz crystal to pins 6 and 7 of U1.

Note: This modification must be made for 6.0G whale code to work.