

FORMAT CONTROL USING KEYWORD EXPANSION

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Keyword expansion may be utilized by the operator of a compatible support machine to modify format control and data content keyed text when played out on the system being supported. Keyword expansion is a technique wherein a predefined short form of a message will be replaced by the longer version under system control each time the short form is encountered in entered text. This feature is active during both normal data entry and the input of text from a storage media. The longer version or expanded form of the data may include format control codes as well as text characters.

Since the keyword expansion function may be used to record data on a support machine, the operator of the support machine may enter keywords that invoke format change expansions, thus enabling the support machine operator to control formats on the main system.