

TSS-8

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TSS-8 was a little time-sharing operating system co-written by Don Witcraft and John Everett at Digital Equipment Corporation in 1967. The operating system ran on the 12-bit PDP-8 computer and was released in 1968.

Don Witcraft wrote the TSS-8 scheduler, command decoder and UOO (Unimplemented User Operations) handler. John Everett wrote the disk handler, file system, TTY (teletypewriter) handler and 680-I service routine for TSS-8.

Roger Pyle and John Everett wrote the PDP-8 Disk Monitor System, and John Everett adapted PAL-III to make PAL-D for DMS. Bob Bowering, author of MACRO for the PDP-6 and PDP-10, wrote an expanded version, PAL-X, for TSS-8.^[2]

This timesharing system:

was based on a protection architecture proposed by Adrian Van Der Goor, a grad student of Gordon Bell's at Carnegie-Mellon. It requires a minimum of 12K words of memory and a swapping device; on a 24K word machine, it could give good support for 17 users.

Each user gets a virtual 4K PDP-8; many of the utilities users ran on these virtual machines were only slightly modified versions of utilities from the Disk Monitor System or paper-tape environments. Internally, TSS-8 consists of RMON, the resident monitor, DMON, the disk monitor (file system), and KMON, the keyboard monitor (command shell). BASIC was well supported, while restricted (4K) versions of FORTRAN D and Algol were available.^[3]

The RSTS-11 operating system is a descendant of TSS-8.

References

- ↑ OS history (<http://www.oshistory.net/metadot/index.pl?id=2248>)
- ↑ FAQs (<http://www.faqs.org/faqs/dec-faq/pdp8/section-15.html>)
- ↑ FAQs (<http://www.faqs.org/faqs/dec-faq/pdp8/section-10.html>)

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TSS-8

Company / developer	Digital Equipment Corporation
OS family	DEC OS family
Working state	Discontinued
Source model	Closed Source
Latest stable release	8.24 / February 1975 ^[1]
Available programming languages(s)	ALGOL, BASIC, FOCAL, Fortran D, PAL-D
Supported platforms	PDP-8
Kernel type	Time-sharing operating systems
Default user interface	Command line interface
License	Proprietary

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