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MacX Mapping DECwindows Keys To Macintosh Keyboard (11/93)

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TOPIC -----

I'm using MacX 1.2 to connect to a VAX/VMS. When in VT100 editing mode on the VAX' X-client application, some keys don't work using the Macintosh extended keyboard. The top four keys "clear", "=", "/", and "*" on the numeric keypad are the ones I'm have trouble with. Here is an example or the key's functionality:

- * deletes a line
- Clear 4 goes to end of file
- Clear/ is used to find something.

I also have VersaTerm-Pro, and with VersaTerm-Pro these keys work fine. Remote command is:

```
set display/create/transport=tcpip/node=s10222
Second line: /create/term/detatch
```

I hope this information is sufficient to diagnose the problem and tell me what is wrong.

DISCUSSION -----

This is not a MacX problem. DECwindows applications may have features that require keys not available on Macintosh keyboards. The keys you are talking about are the top row of the numeric keypad. In an editor such as EDT, these keys send the PFn keysyms and require special mapping. VersaTerm-Pro works fine because it is a terminal emulator that correctly sends the keysyms for these numeric keypad keys.

Page 17 of the PATHWORKS MacX User's Guide discussed this keyboard mapping using a VAX/VMS application called MSAX\$MODMAP. MSAX\$MODMAP modifies and displays mapping tables used by the X11 server to translate keystrokes to key symbols. A mapping table tells the X Window System -- in this case,

MacX -- how to translate the keystrokes. The term key symbol (or key sym) refers to the individual location of a key as defined by the software. MacX captures the signals generated by the keys specified in the mapping table and translates them to key symbols that can be recognized by X11 client applications.

The remote command you used is fine. Once you are at the DECterm window and before you start EDT, you should run the following command to map the keyboard:

```
$ MCR MSAX$MODMAP MSA$EXAMPLES:MSAX$POSITIONAL_EXTENDED_KEYBOARD.DAT
```

You can choose to put this command in a command procedure to save typing.

I strongly suggest that you read about MacX keyboard mapping from the manual to understand the other options available.

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