

Subject: MCR10139, Modernize Content in Search-Path-related Info Segs
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Ticket: <https://multics-trac.swenson.org/ticket/315>

The `add_search_paths.info` and `set_search_paths.info` segments are missing certain details about the `-initiated_segments` and `-referencing_dir` keywords, and have unclear specifications for syntax and semantics of the command. These problems should be corrected. And the related `delete_search_paths.info`, `print_search_paths.info` and `where_search_paths.info` segment contents should be modernized to match changes in `asp.info` and `ssp.info`.

Proposed Changes

Description --

- 1) Add/clarify missing/unclear info in `add_search_paths.info` and `set_search_paths.info`.
- 2) Revise all five `search_path`-related command/AFs according to modern info seg formatting rules.

Changes --

Info:	<code>add_search_paths.info</code>	IN: <code>sss.info</code> REPLACE;
	<code>add_name: asp.info;</code>	
Info:	<code>delete_search_paths.info</code>	IN: <code>sss.info</code> REPLACE;
	<code>add_name: dsp.info;</code>	
Info:	<code>print_search_paths.info</code>	IN: <code>sss.info</code> REPLACE;
	<code>add_name: psp.info;</code>	
Info:	<code>set_search_paths.info</code>	IN: <code>sss.info</code> REPLACE;
	<code>add_name: ssp.info;</code>	
Info:	<code>where_search_paths.info</code>	IN: <code>sss.info</code> REPLACE;
	<code>add_name: wsp.info;</code>	

Testing

No code is changing, so only info segment format validation was required. `verify_info` was run against all changed info segments. All met modern info segment requirements.

Documentation

Proposed content for all five info segments is shown here.

```
>udd>m>gd>w>spi>add_search_paths.info    (108 lines in info)
```

```
2023-09-09  add_search_paths, asp
```

Syntax as a command:

```
asp SEARCH_LIST SEARCH_PATH1 {-position_control_arg} ...
    SEARCH_PATHn {-position_control_arg} {-control_args}
```

Function: adds one or more search paths to the specified search list.

Arguments:

SEARCH_LIST

is the name of the search list to which the new search paths are added.

SEARCH_PATH

specifies a new search path, where SEARCH_PATH is a relative or absolute pathname of a directory to be search, or a keyword designating such directory. See "List of keywords" and "Notes on search paths" below for more details.

Control arguments (positioning a search path):

One of the following may be given after each new SEARCH_PATH argument to specify a position within the existing search list for the new SEARCH_PATH. The STR operand is a pathname or keyword as given in the existing search list.

-first, -ft

positions the new search path first in the search list.

-last, -lt

positions the new search path last in the search list. (Default)

-after STR, -af STR

positions the new search path after the search path denoted by STR.

-before STR, -be STR

positions the new search path before the search path denoted by STR.

Control arguments:

-force, -fc

causes duplicate pathnames to be replaced in the search list at the specified position.

-no_force, -nfc

causes duplicate pathnames to be ignored. (Default)

-inhibit_error, -ihe

suppresses warning messages printed when a pathname is nonexistent or is already in the search list.

-no_inhibit_error, -nihe

causes warning messages to be printed. (Default)

List of keywords:

The following keywords are accepted as search paths in place of absolute or relative pathnames.

-home_dir, -hd

The user's home directory.

`-process_dir, -pd`
The user's process directory.

`-working_dir, -wd`
The users' current working directory.

`-initiated_segments, -is`
Represents the list of segments already known to the process by their reference name(s). This keyword may only be used for the linker search list.

`-referencing_dir, -rd`
Represents a directory designated by the program using the `SEARCH_LIST` to locate segments. See "Notes on `-referencing_dir`" below.

List of related commands:
 `delete_search_paths, dsp`
 `print_search_path, psp`
 `set_search_paths, ssp`
 `where_search_paths, wsp`

Notes on search paths:

A `SEARCH_PATH` can be specified as a quoted string which includes the `[user project]` and/or `[user name]` active function. Use of such quoted string delays expansion of the active string until searching actually begins. This feature allows creation of search paths that select segments in or below the project directory or home directory of the current user. If the quoted string identifies a directory that does not exist, the missing directory is skipped; searching for a matching segment continues with the next rule in the `SEARCH_LIST`.

For example, a project administrator could specify use of a `project_start_up.ec` by users logged in on her project; for details, type: `help process_overseer.gi`

This `project_start_up.ec` could setup various search lists that include segments tailored for use by that project. These search lists include a quoted `SEARCH_PATH` with `">udd>[user project]>..."` to specify a directory containing project-related tools, info segments, or `exec_coms`. The `[user project]` active string would be evaluated only when a search was actually made for a tool, info segment, or `exec_com`.

Notes on `-referencing_dir`:

Each subroutine that wants to locate segments using a search list may tell `search_paths_$get` what directory pathname to use if the search list includes a `-referencing_dir` search path. If this directory pathname is an empty string, the `-referencing_dir` rule is skipped.

For example, when the linker is called to dynamically link a program to another subroutine, it uses pathname of the program containing the unsnapped link as its `-referencing_dir`. This allows a modified program to call a new (not yet installed) subroutine if the programmer places that new subroutine (or a symbolic link to that subroutine) in the directory containing the modified program.

To use the `-referencing_dir` rule in the linker search list:
 `asp linker -referencing_dir -after -initiated_segments`

To use the `-referencing_dir` rule in the `info_segments` search list:
`asp info_segments -referencing_dir -after -working_dir`

`>udd>m>gd>w>spi>delete_search_paths.info` (45 lines in info)

2023-09-09 `delete_search_paths, dsp`

Syntax as a command: `dsp SEARCH_LIST SEARCH_PATHs {-control_arg}`

Function: allows you to delete one or more search paths from the specified search list.

Arguments:

SEARCH_LIST

is the name of the search list from which the specified search paths are deleted.

SEARCH_PATH

specifies a search path to be deleted. The search path must be an absolute or relative pathname or a keyword (see "List of keywords" below). Quote the pathname if it contains spaces, active strings, or other command language characters.

Control arguments:

-all, -a

specifies that the search list itself is to be deleted. Any search paths specified are ignored. Use `-all` to delete all the search paths in a search list.

List of keywords:

The following keywords are accepted as search paths in place of absolute or relative pathnames.

-home_dir, -hd

The user's home directory.

-process_dir, -pd

The user's process directory.

-working_dir, -wd

The users current working directory.

-initiated_segments, -is

Represents the list of segments already known to the process by their reference name(s). This keyword may only be used for the linker search list.

-referencing_dir, -rd

Represents a directory designated by the program using the `SEARCH_LIST` to locate segments. See "Notes on `-referencing_dir`" below.

Notes:

For a complete list of the search facility commands, type:
`help add_search_paths -scn command`

```
>udd>m>gd>w>spi>print_search_paths.info    (22 lines in info)
```

```
2023-09-09  print_search_paths, psp
```

Syntax as a command: `psp {SEARCH_LISTs} {-control_args}`

Syntax as an active function: `[psp SEARCH_LIST {-control_args}]`

Function: prints the search paths in specified search lists. As an active function, returns the ordered list of pathnames and/or keywords in the given search list.

Arguments:

SEARCH_LIST

name of a search list to print. If none are specified, all search lists referenced in the process are printed.

Control arguments:

`-expanded, -exp`

print all keywords except `-referencing_dir` and all unexpanded search paths as absolute pathnames.

Notes: All synonyms of a search list name are printed if no search lists are specified.

```
>udd>m>gd>w>spi>set_search_paths.info    (93 lines in info)
```

```
2023-09-09  set_search_paths, ssp
```

Syntax: `ssp SEARCH_LIST {SEARCH_PATHs} {-control_args}`

Function: allows a user to replace the search paths contained in a specified search list. If no `SEARCH_PATHs` are specified, then the specified `SEARCH_LIST` is set to its system-defined default list of search paths. It is an error to create an empty `SEARCH_LIST` for which no defaults are defined by the system.

Arguments:

SEARCH_LIST

is the name of a search list. If this search list does not exist, it is created. A warning message is printed if a search list is created and it is not system-defined.

SEARCH_PATHs

are one or more search paths to be placed in the specified `SEARCH_LIST`. Each `SEARCH_PATH` appears in the order specified in this command. `SEARCH_PATH` may be an absolute or relative pathname of a directory to be searched, or a keyword designating such directory. See "List of keywords" and "Notes on search paths" below for more details.

Control arguments:

`-brief, -bf`

suppresses a warning message for the creation of a search list not defined by the system.

`-default, -df`
 replaces the `SEARCH_LIST` with its system-defined default search paths. No `SEARCH_PATH` arguments may be specified with this control argument.

List of keywords:

The following keywords are accepted as search paths in place of absolute or relative pathnames.

`-home_dir, -hd`
 The user's home directory.
`-process_dir, -pd`
 The user's process directory.
`-working_dir, -wd`
 The user's working directory when searching begin.

`-initiated_segments, -is`
 Represents the list of segments already known to the process by their reference name(s). This keyword may only be used for the linker search list.
`-referencing_dir, -rd`
 Represents a directory designated by the program using the `SEARCH_LIST` to locate segments. See "Notes on `-referencing_dir`" below.

Notes on search paths:

A `SEARCH_PATH` can be specified as a quoted string which includes the [user project] and/or [user name] active function. Use of such quoted string delays expansion of the active string until searching actually begins. This feature allows creation of search paths that select segments in or below the project directory or home directory of the current user. If the quoted string identifies a directory that does not exist, the missing directory is skipped; searching for a matching segment continues with the next rule in the `SEARCH_LIST`.

For example, a project administrator could specify use of a `project_start_up.ec` by users logged in on his project; for details, type: `help process_overseer.gi`

This `project_start_up.ec` could setup various search lists that include segments tailored for use by that project. These search lists include a quoted `SEARCH_PATH` with "`>udd>[user project]>...`" to specify a directory containing project-related tools, info segments, or `exec_coms`. The [user project] active string would be evaluated only when a search was actually made for a tool, info segment, or `exec_com`.

Notes on `-referencing_dir`:

Each subroutine that wants to locate segments using a search list may tell `search_paths_$get` what directory pathname to use if the search list includes a `-referencing_dir` search path. If this directory pathname is an empty string, the `-referencing_dir` rule is skipped.

For example, when the linker is called to dynamically link a program to another subroutine, it uses pathname of the program containing the unsnapped link as its `-referencing_dir`. This allows a modified program to call a new (not yet installed) subroutine if the programmer places that new subroutine (or a symbolic link to that subroutine) in the directory containing the modified program.

To use the `-referencing_dir` rule in the linker search list:
`asp linker -referencing_dir -after -initiated_segments`

To use the `-referencing_dir` rule in the `info_segments` search list:
`asp info_segments -referencing_dir -after -working_dir`

Notes: For a complete list of the search facility commands, type:
`help add_search_paths -scn command`

```
>udd>m>gd>w>spi>where_search_paths.info    (33 lines in info)
```

```
2023-09-09  where_search_paths, wsp
```

Syntax as a command: `wsp SEARCH_LIST ENTRYNAME {-control_arg}`

Syntax as an active function:
`[wsp SEARCH_LIST ENTRYNAME {-control_args}]`

Function: prints or returns the absolute pathname of `ENTRYNAME` found using the current search rules in the given `SEARCH_LIST`.

Arguments:

`SEARCH_LIST`

is the name of the search list searched.

`ENTRYNAME`

is the entryname sought. Each name must include the segment suffix appropriate for items in the search list.

Control arguments:

`-all, -a`

prints or returns all occurrences of this `ENTRYNAME` found by probing every directory in the `SEARCH_LIST`.

`-inhibit_error, -ihe`

do not print an error if no occurrences of the entryname are found.

`-no_inhibit_error, -ihe`

print an error if no occurrences of the entryname are found.

(Default)

Access required: You must have `s` access on the directory being searched, or nonnull access to the segment matching `ENTRYNAME`.

Notes:

For a complete list of the search facility commands, type:
`help add_search_paths -scn command`

Version History

Date	Revision	Author	Comment
2023-09-09	1.0	Gary Dixon	Initial draft of this MCR.
2023-09-10	1.1	Gary Dixon	Include set_search_paths.info missing from v1.0 of this MCR.