Global Emergency Service Packs (ESP's)

1. Introduction

This document describes a new technique for releasing enhancements and bug fixes to GSM. Before reading this document you should be familiar with the following Technical Notes:

IN284 Updating 32-bit applications ($GSP & $INSLOG)
IN294 GSM Service Packs

2. Why Introduce Another Service Pack Mechanism?

Although both GSM Service Packs and Global Product Service Packs are termed "service packs" the method of generation and installation are very different. Furthermore *the raison d'être* and release cycles for the two types of service packs are also very different. The following table summarises the main differences:

	GSM Service Pack	**Global Product Service Pack**
Method of creation	Created using $BBS exports from an installed, QC'ed SYSRES after an internal repackage of GSM.	Created using the $GSPMAKE utility from a carefully defined sub-set of application modules (e.g. a single frame, or small number of related frames).
Method of installation	Installed using GSMSP*n* utility by importing .GSM files directly to SYSRES.	Installed using the $GSP utility in a carefully controlled manner, including full logging of updates in the $$INSLOG file.
Reason for release	Released as part of on-going GSM maintenance and to release new enhancements. Each GSM Service Pack typically contains 100 bug fixes and enhancements.	Released in an ad hoc, highly reactive manner to fix a specific problem, or small set of related problems.
Release cycle	Released every 1 to 3 months immediately after an internal GSM repackage.	No regular release cycle. Released on an "as required" basis.
Size	Typically 2Mb - 3Mb (in zipped format).	Typically 50Kb - 500Kb (in zipped format).

Although the GSM Service Pack release mechanism is ideal for the regular enhancements to GSM, GSM Service Packs are not suitable for ad hoc emergency fixes or for "early bird"

evaluations of new enhancements. Notwithstanding, the highly-successful GSM Service Packs have eradicated the use of the slow (and painful) $CUSUPD utility, or the requirement to re-install GSM from the BACRES volume, and **will continue to be released on a 2-3 monthly cycle.**

This document describes a new release strategy, **Global Emergency Service Packs** (Global ESP's) to allow bug-fixes, and enhancements, to GSM to be rapidly released without the need to "turn the handle" of the **relatively** sluggish GSM Service Pack procedure.

3. Global Emergency Service Pack (Global ESP) Overview

Each Global ESP will be released, as a Windows file, in the form of a Global Product Service Pack. The naming convention for Global ESP's is very similar to that for Global Product Service Packs:

SY81_*nnnnnn*_000.GSP

where *nnnnnn* is an incrementing number that uniquely identifies the Global ESP. Sagacious readers, familiar with the Global Product Service Pack (GPSP) mechanism, will recognise that a Global ESP is simply a GPSP with a module name of "SY" and a version of "81".

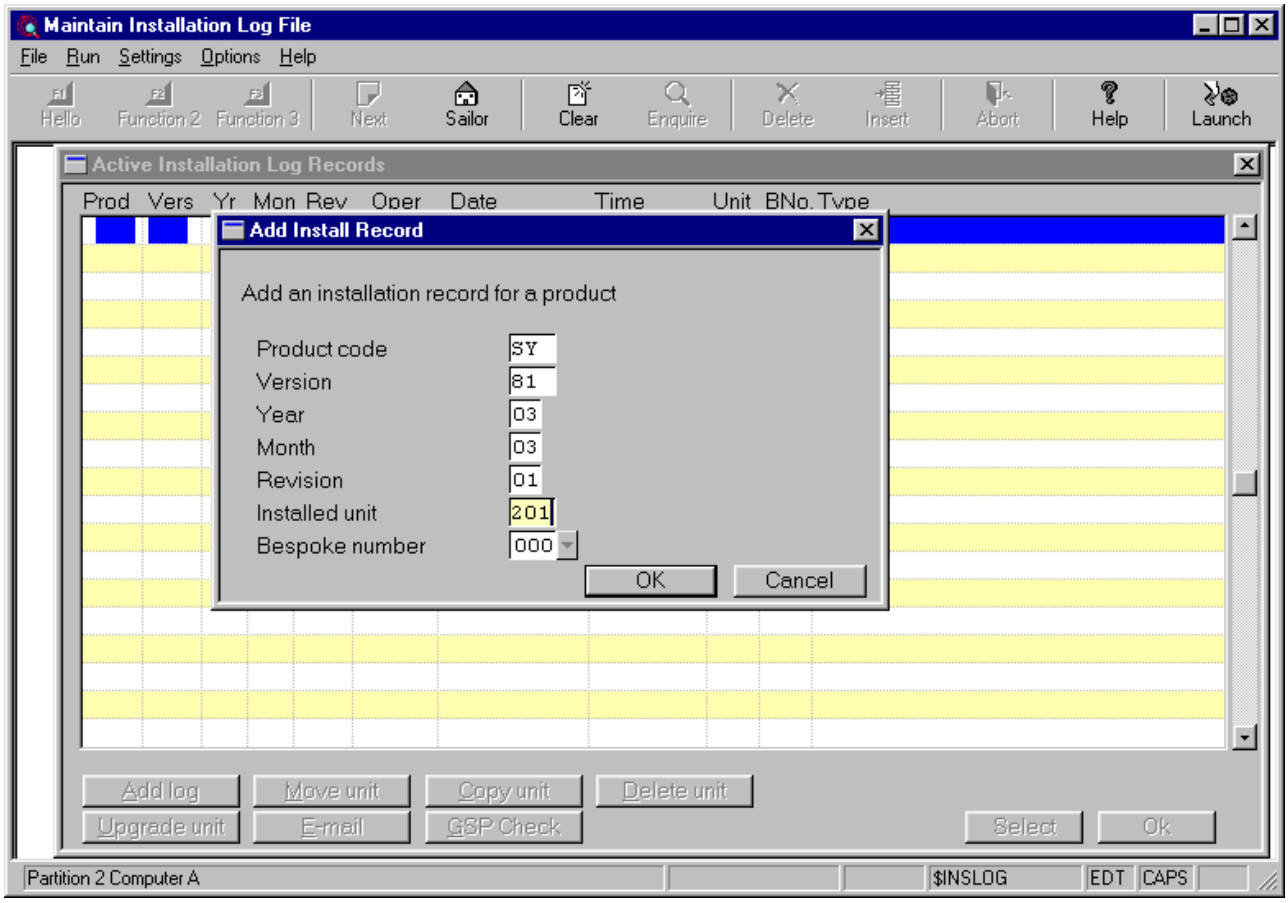
Each GPSP, and thus each Global ESP, includes an internal Global Cabinet File version. This GCF version is the Year, Month, Revision number (*yymmrr*) of the most recent version of the GPS CD at the time the GPSP is created, and is vital to ensure that a GPSP only applies the revision of the product that it is intended for.

Each Global ESP only applies to a particular GSM Service Pack (e.g. a Global ESP created for GSM SP-11 will **not** apply to GSM SP-10 or GSM SP-12). Thus each GSM Service Pack number has an associated Global Cabinet File equivalent. For example, the GCF equivalent for GSM SP-11 will be 030301 (i.e. as though GSM SP-11 was installed from the notional SY81_030301.GCF). This is explained in more detail in section 4, below.

Furthermore, each GPSP, and thus each Global ESP, includes a minimum GSM Service Pack number (i.e. the minimum GSM Service Pack that **MUST** be installed before the GPSP can be applied). Each Global ESP will be "stamped" with the GSM Service Pack number that it applies to.

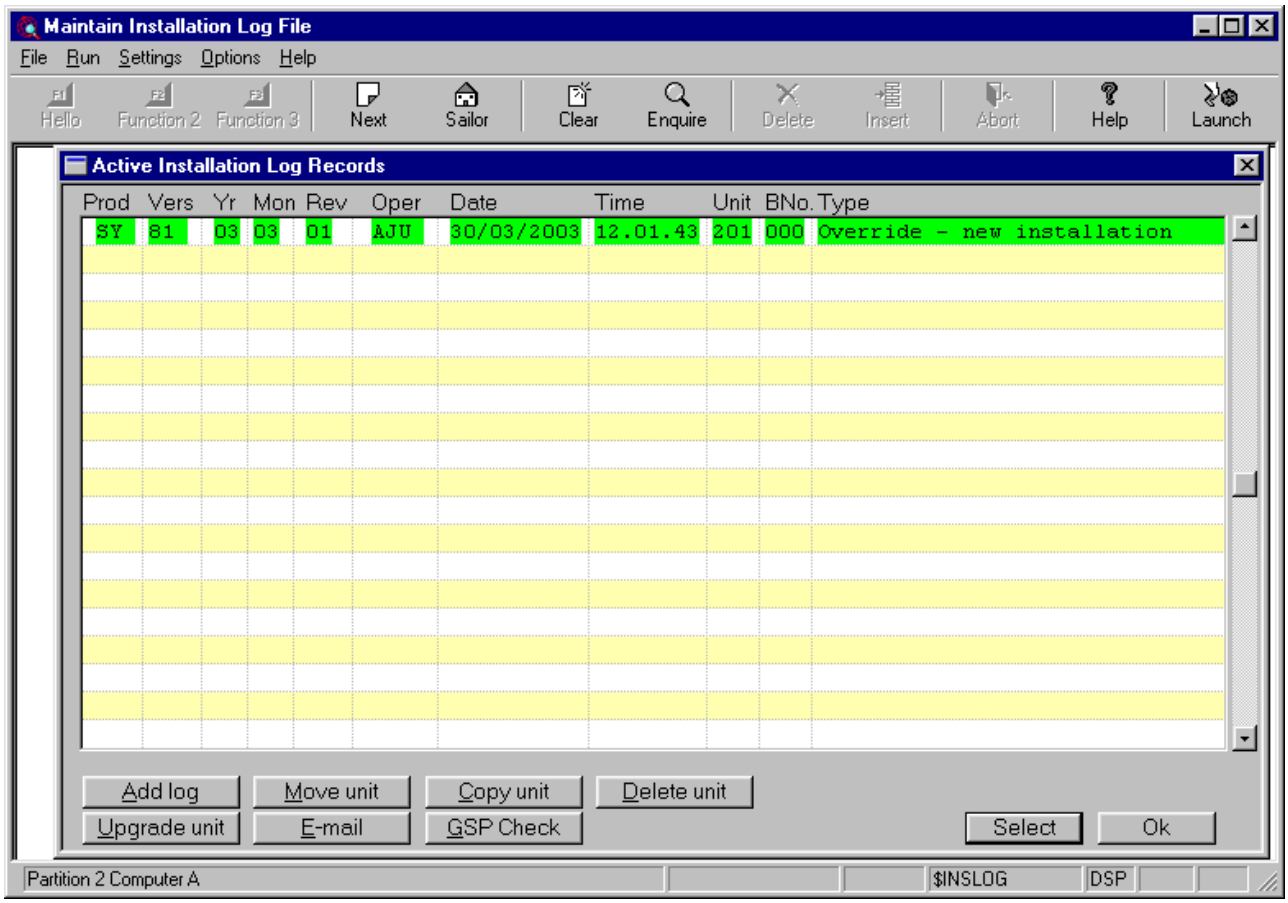
4. Pre-Requisite for Installing a Global ESP

In addition to ensuring the appropriate GSM Service Pack is installed an entry for Module Code "SY" and Version Number "81", **with the correct GCF equivalent**, must be present in the $$INSLOG file before $GSP can be used to install a Global ESP. This entry in $$INSLOG is created using the "Add Log" function of the $INSLOG utility. Note that this option is only available when $INSLOG is running on a GX screen. For example:



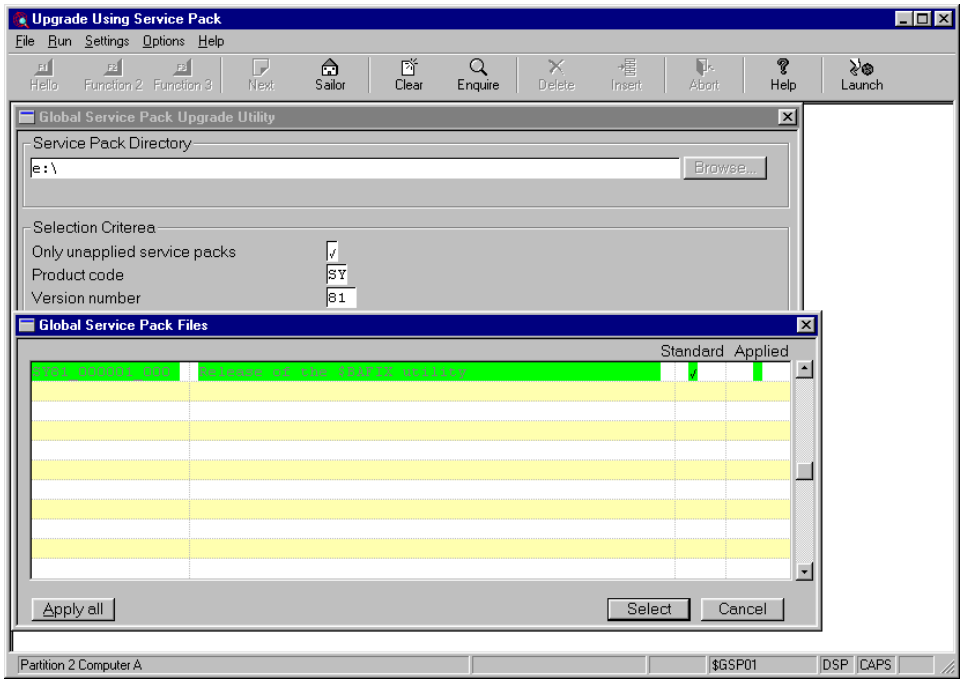
Product code	**MUST** be "SY"
Version	**MUST** be "81"
Year	Year Number of GCF equivalent (03 for GSM SP-11)
Month	Month Number of GCF equivalent (03 for GSM SP-11)
Revision 11)	Revision Number of GCF equivalent (01 for GSM SP-
Installed unit	SYSRES (i.e. $DP) unit
Bespoke number	This option is reserved for future use and should be left at 000

After the Log record has been added the following entry should be present in the $$INSLOG File:

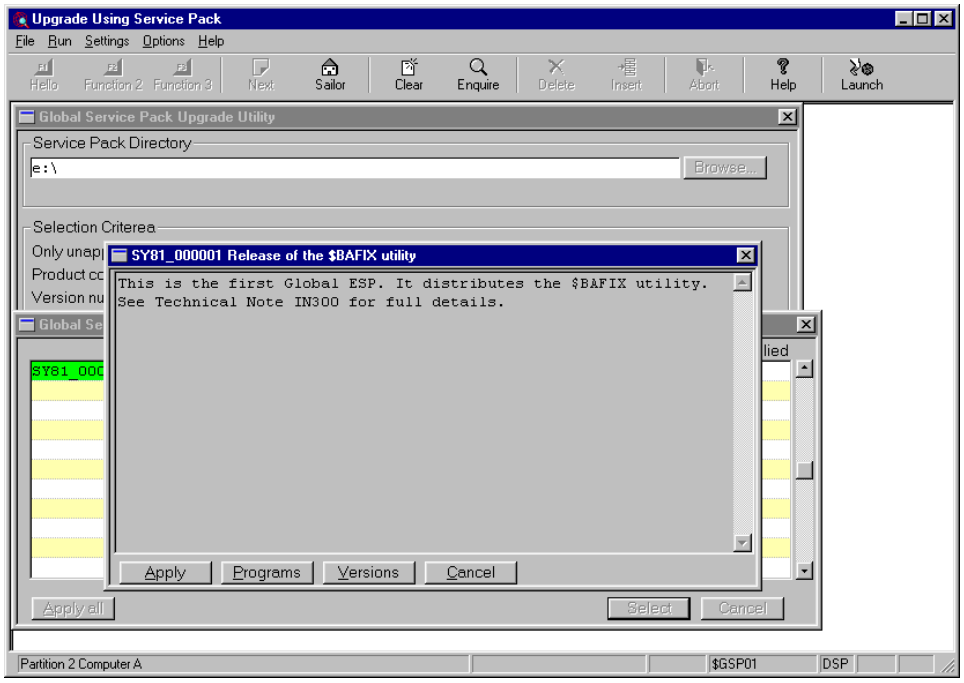


5. Applying a Global ESP

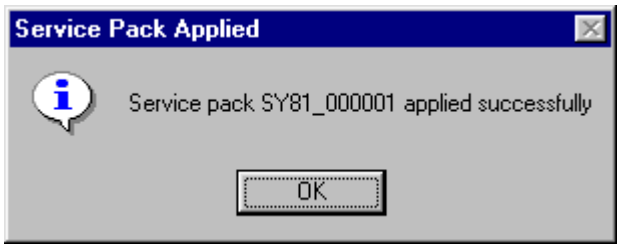
Global ESP's are applied using the standard $GSP utility as documented in Technical Note IN284 (when available). For example:



Select the required Global ESP:



.. and click on the "Apply" button. If the Global ESP applies successfully the following message will appear:



Some Global ESP's may require a reload of GSM. This requirement will be described in descriptive text.

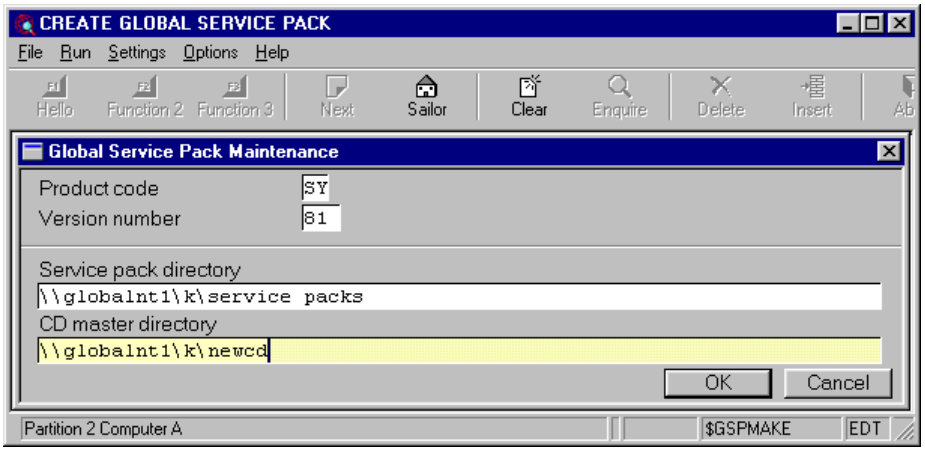
6. Implications for GSM Service Pack Installations

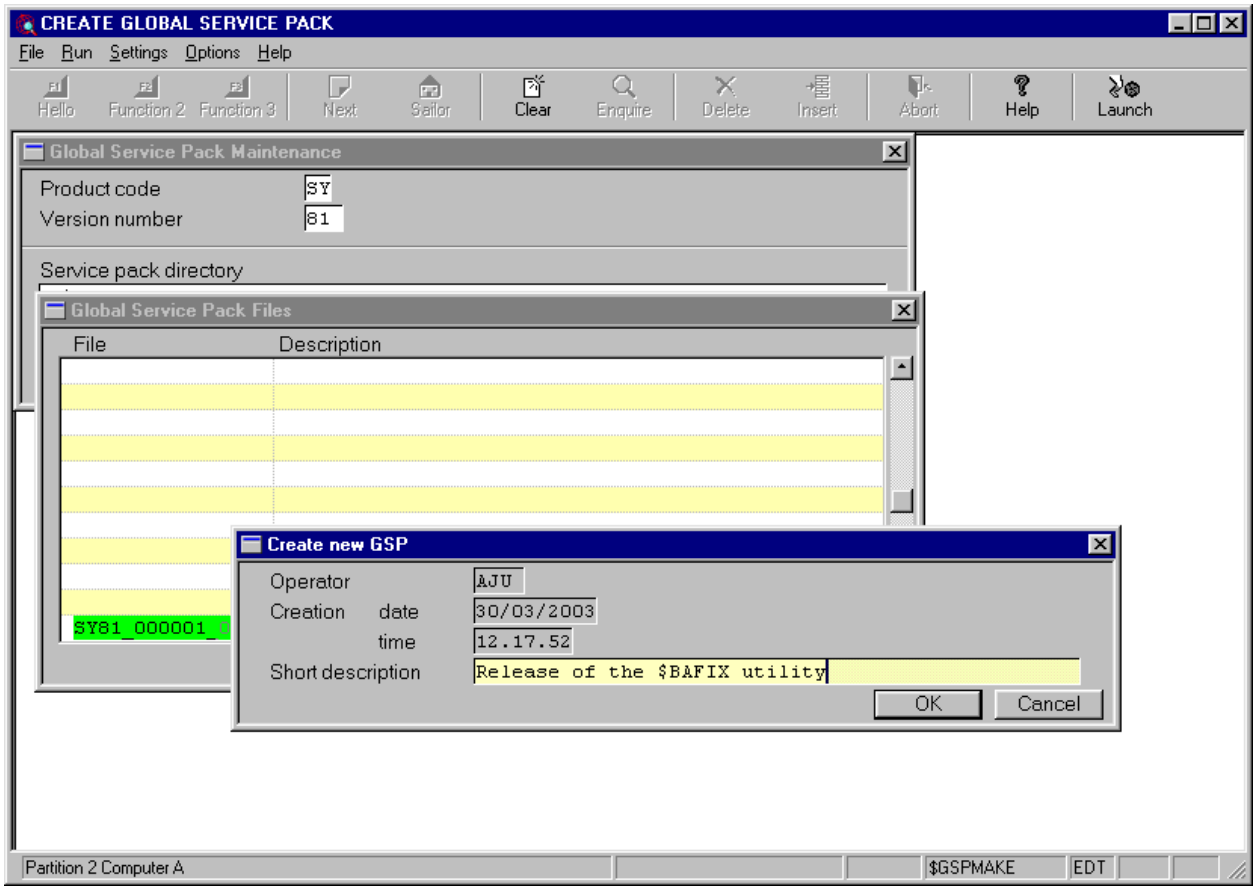
After the installation of a new GSM Service Pack the version of the notional SY V8.1 product in the $$INSLOG file must be updated to the GCF equivalent of the newly installed GSM Service Pack. At the time of writing the GCF equivalent of GSM SP-12 cannot be predicted.

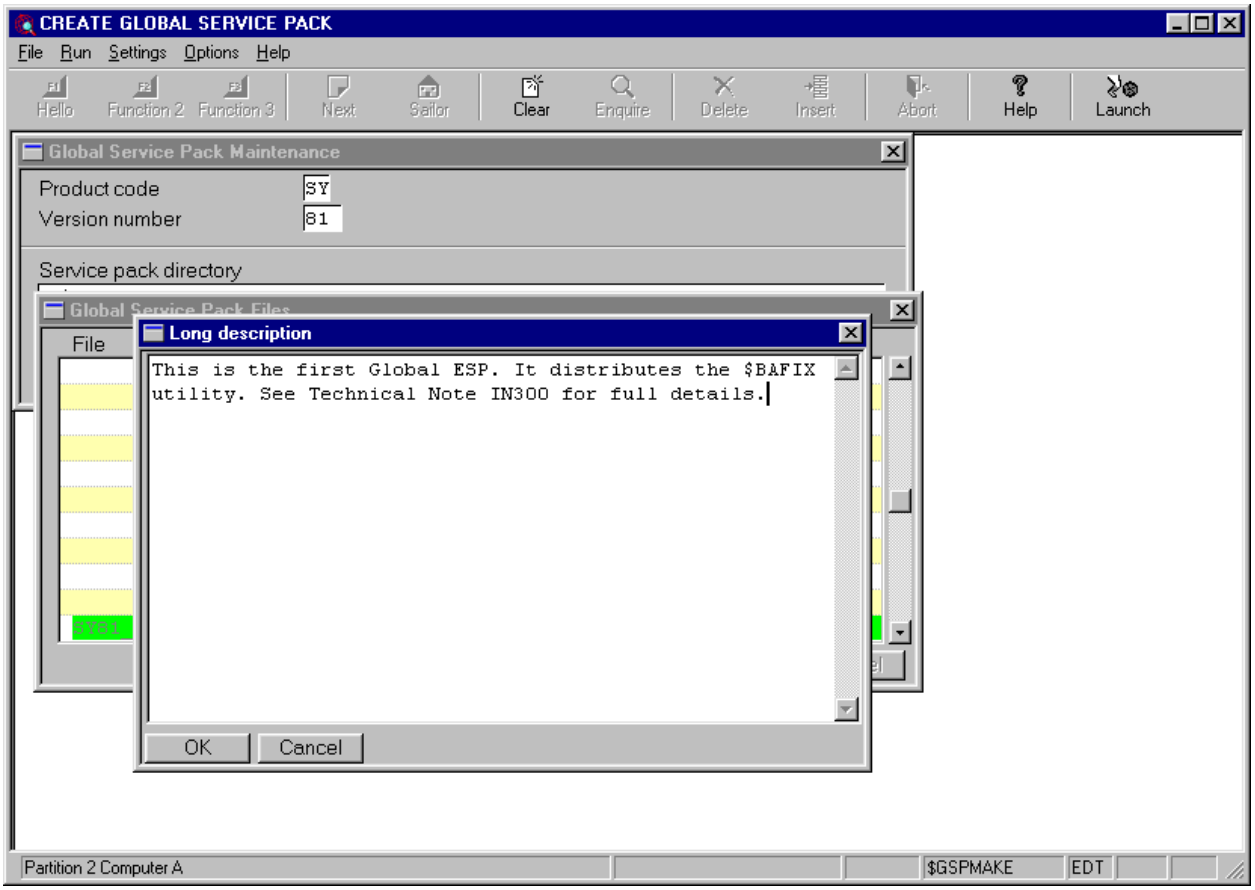
If possible, the GSMSP*n* install utility should automatically upgrade the GCF equivalent for the SY V8.1 product in the $$INSLOG file. At a bare minimum, the GCF equivalent of each new GSM Service Pack must be published (and displayed by the GSMSP*n* utility).

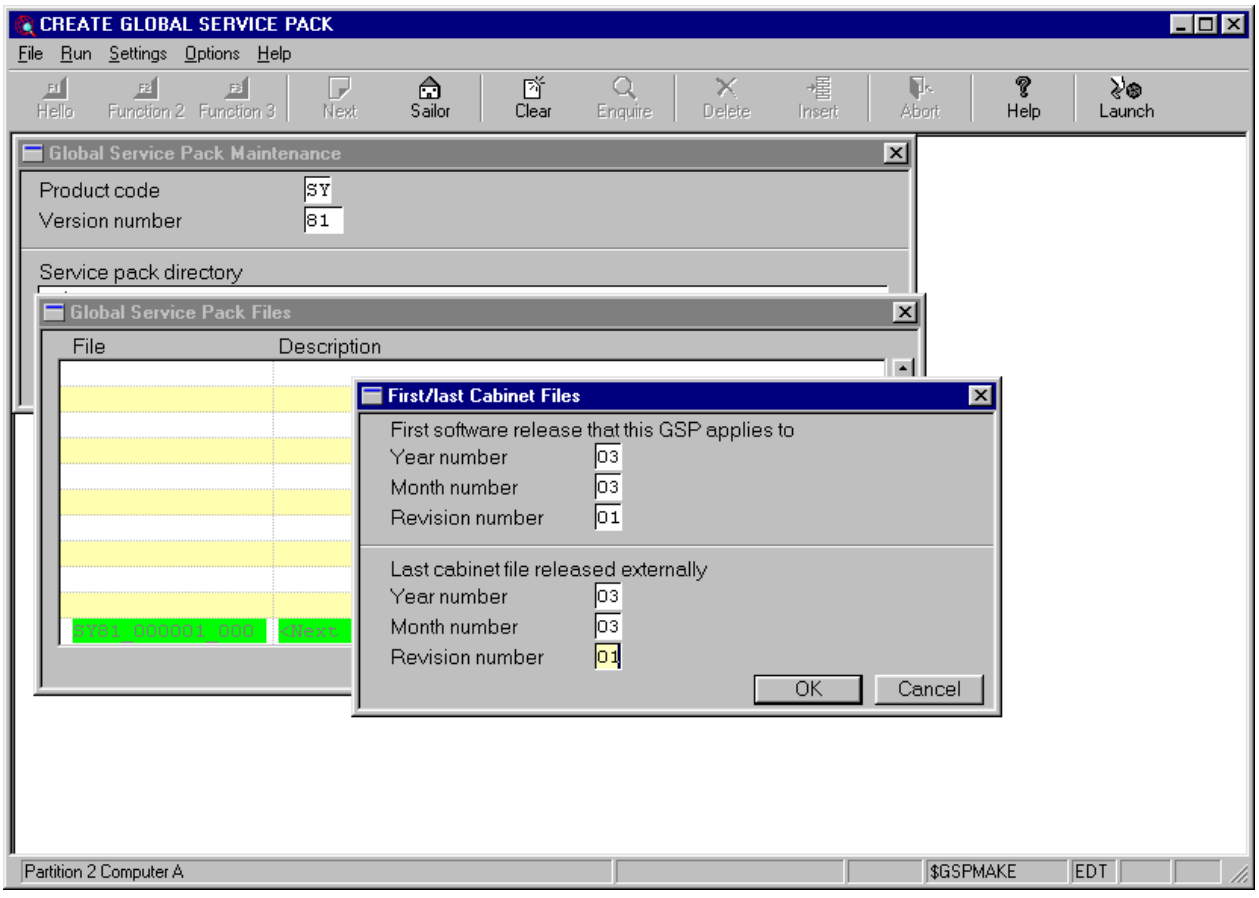
Appendix A - Notes to the GSM Team When Creating a Global ESP

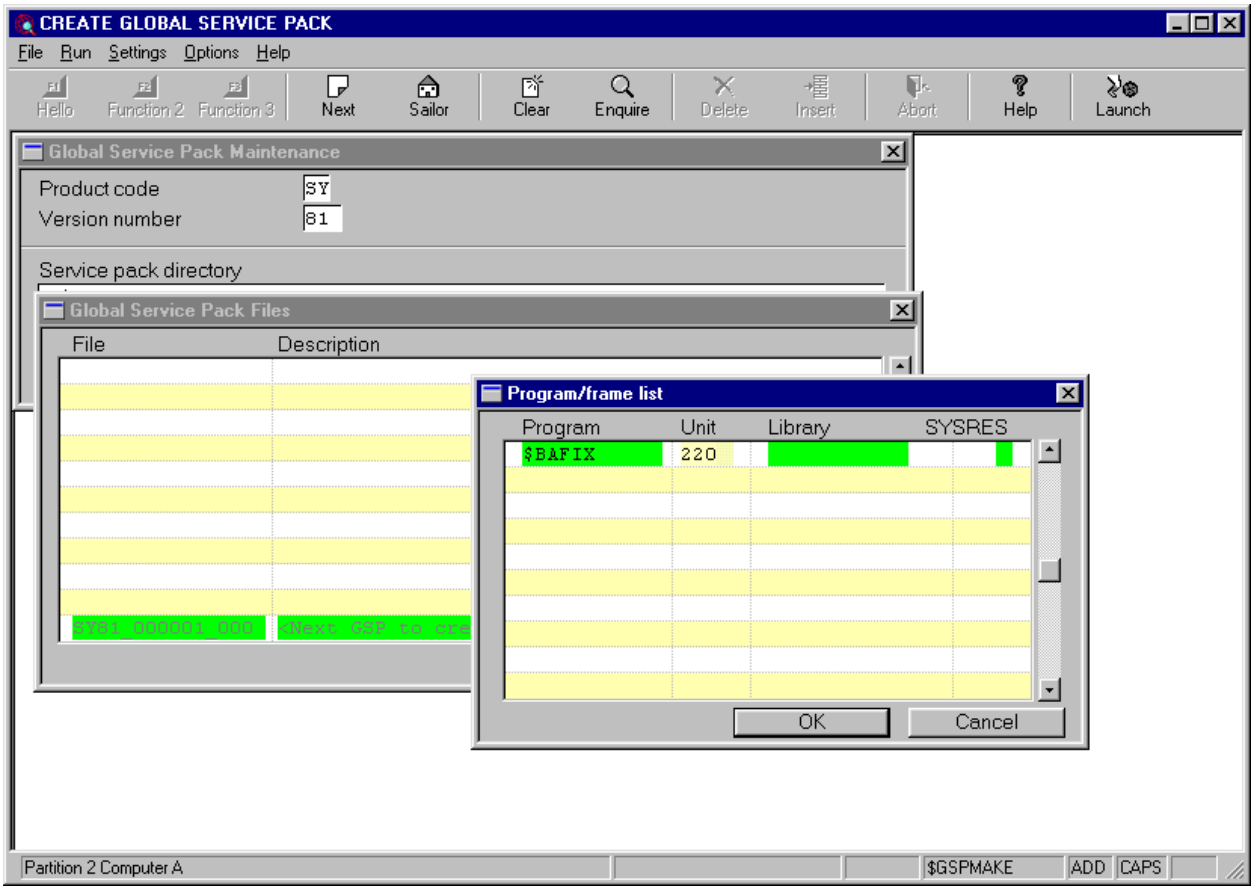
Each Global ESP is created using the standard $GSPMAKE utility. For example:

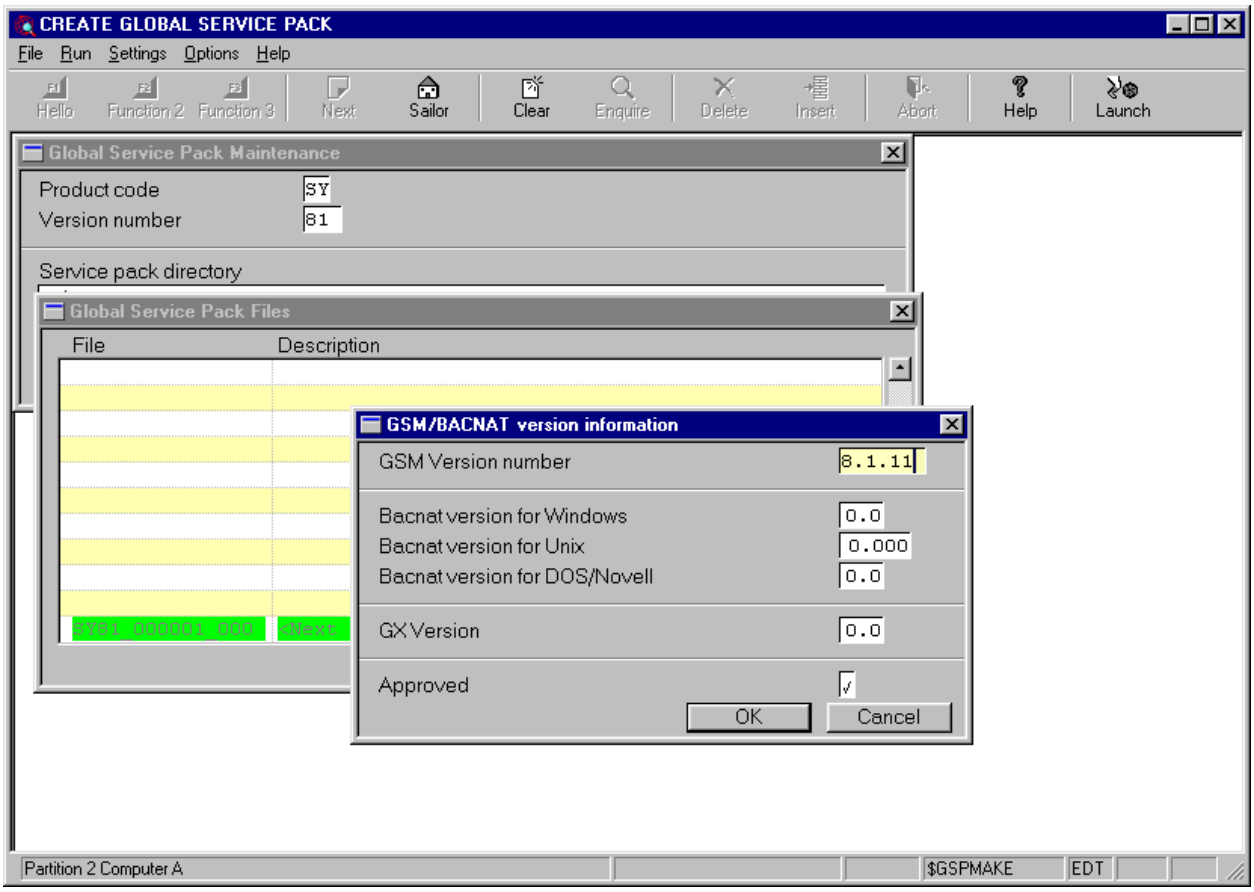





CREATE GLOBAL SERVICE PACK
File Run Settings Options Help
Hello Function 2 Function 3 Next Sailor Clear Enquire Delete Insert Abort Help Launch
Global Service Pack Maintenance
Product code SY
Version number 81
Service pack directory
Global Service Pack Files
File
Long description
This is the first Global ESP. It distributes the $BAFIX utility. See Technical Note IN300 for full details.
OK Cancel
Partition 2 Computer A
$GSPMAKE
EDT


CREATE GLOBAL SERVICE PACK
File Run Settings Options Help
Hello Function 2 Function 3 Next Sailor Clear Enquire Delete Insert Abort Help Launch
Global Service Pack Maintenance
Product code SY
Version number 81
Service pack directory
Global Service Pack Files
File
Description
First/last Cabinet Files
First software release that this GSP applies to
Year number 03
Month number 03
Revision number 01
Last cabinet file released externally
Year number 03
Month number 03
Revision number 01
OK Cancel
Partition 2 Computer A
$GSPMAKE
EDT


CREATE GLOBAL SERVICE PACK
File Run Settings Options Help
Hello Function 2 Function 3 Next Sailor Clear Enquire Delete Insert Abort Help Launch
Global Service Pack Maintenance
Product code SY
Version number 81
Service pack directory
Global Service Pack Files
File Description
Program/frame list
Program Unit Library SYSRES
$BAFIX 220
OK Cancel
Partition 2 Computer A
$GSPMAKE ADD CAPS


CREATE GLOBAL SERVICE PACK
File Run Settings Options Help
Hello Function 2 Function 3 Next Sailor Clear Enquire Delete Insert Abort Help Launch
Global Service Pack Maintenance
Product code SY
Version number 81
Service pack directory
Global Service Pack Files
File Description
GSM/BACNAT version information
GSM Version number 8.1.11
Bacnat version for Windows 0.0
Bacnat version for Unix 0.000
Bacnat version for DOS/Novell 0.0
GX Version 0.0
Approved
OK Cancel
Partition 2 Computer A
$GSPMAKE EDT

When creating the Global ESP:

Prompt	**Response**
Product Code	Always "SY"
Version number	Always "81"
Service Pack directory	\\globalnt1\k\service packs
CD Master directory	\\globalnt1\k\newcd
GSP version number	Normally the next available number
Short description	Short description
Long description	This must be as verbose and meaningful as possible. The GSM bugs reference number must **always** be included in the long description.
1st software release year	GCF equivalent year of the current GSM Service Pack
1st software release month	GCF equivalent month of the current GSM Service Pack
1st software release revision	GCF equivalent revision of the current GSM Service Pack
Last cabinet file year	GCF equivalent year of the current GSM Service Pack
Last cabinet file month	GCF equivalent month of the current GSM Service Pack
Last cabinet file revision	GCF equivalent revision of the current GSM Service Pack
Use Global 3000 System Rebuilder	No
Program	Depends on the Global ESP
Unit	The "pending unit" that contain the program(s)
Library	P.$CMLB0, P.$CMLB1 etc.
Install on SYSRES	No (*sic*)
Pre-requisite list	As required
Group list	As required
GSM version number	Must always be the current GSM Service Pack. For example: 8.1.11 for GSM SP-11.
BACNAT dependencies	As required
GX version	As required
Approved	Yes

The relevant GSMBUGS record(s) for a particular Global ESP should contain the text:

RELEASED AS SY81_*nnnnnn*_000.GSP.