

Subject: Effect of some I/O specifiers should be conditional on “present” instead of “appear”
From: Van Snyder
Reference: 03-258r1, section 2.4.3.4

1 **Number**

2 TBD

3 **Title**

4 Effect of some I/O specifiers should be conditional on “present” instead of “appear.”

5 **Submitted By**

6 J3

7 **Status**

8 For consideration.

9 **Basic Functionality**

10 The effect of some I/O specifiers should be conditional on “present” instead of “appear.”

11 **Rationale**

12 Suppose you have an optional dummy argument that you wish to use to control some I/O feature that
13 depends on whether an I/O control list specifier appears. Simple: Just put in an IF ... ELSE ... ENDIF
14 construct, with an I/O statement in each branch, one with the specifier and one without.

15 Now try it with n optional dummy arguments. One needs an IF ... ELSE IF ... ENDIF construct with
16 2^n branches, in each branch of which the desired subset of specifiers appears.

17 **Estimated Impact**

18 Minor — mostly a change of terminology in Section 9.

19 **Detailed Specification**

20 When an absent optional argument is used with a keyword specifier in an input/output control list or a
21 specifier in an allocate or deallocate statement, the specifier should be considered not to have appeared.
22 The terminology for them ought, in parallel, to be changed to use “present” instead of “appear”.

23 It wouldn't be appropriate to do this for all specifiers — at least not for the FMT= and IOLENGTH=
24 specifiers.

25 **History**