

# WESTBRIDGE INSTITUTE OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR

Internal Memorandum — Restricted

**Date:** October 17, 1978

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**Project Codename:** NOX

The NOX program was initiated as a behavioral selection experiment designed to identify individuals with exceptional persistence, adaptability, and tolerance to ambiguity. Conventional intelligence metrics were deliberately excluded.

The system does not reward success. It records continuation. Subjects who attempt to understand the purpose prematurely tend to abandon the process.

NOX was written in COBOL and executed on IBM System/370 architecture using magnetic tape storage. User feedback was intentionally delayed or denied.

Termination of the project occurred in March 1981 following internal concerns regarding potential misuse. All materials were ordered destroyed.

Recovered note fragment:

*If you are reading this, the system already noticed you.*

— E. Mortensen