If, however, one or more newly added system features require OS software and SPP microcode functionality, problems arise in the coordination of release and installation of the separate software systems. The coordination effort is further complicated when the release and installation procedures differ.

With respect to release problems, it is more often than not, that OS software development and SPP microcode development are performed by different engineering groups. These groups develop release procedures, release identification methods, release media, project schedules and the like, that best satisfy their requirements. Because of the inherent differences between the development of high-level OS software compared to SPP specific microcode, the release mechanisms are seldom the same.

Whenever a new system feature is introduced requiring new releases from both the OS software and the SPP microcode, the following constraints must be considered.

1. The release dates for both the OS software and SPP microcode must be the same. Since software and microcode are independently developed, no advantage is achieved by the early completion of either the OS software or the SPP microcode.
2. The release of additional new features that are unique to either the OS software or SPP microcode must be delayed until both releases are ready.
3. The release of problem fixes that are unique to either the OS software or SPP microcode are delayed until both releases are ready.
4. Regression testing is delayed until both releases are ready.
5. Individual release documentation is complicated by the addition of release