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- 1 4. If the OS software version has been upgraded
to recognize the new feature where the
function calls in the particular class will
contain additional control data and the SPP
5 hardware/microcode has been upgraded to the
new hardware and microcode where the feature
is defined, then after exchanging features,
the new feature is recognized by both the
SPP and OS and therefore used.

10 An example of an optional feature is as follows.
The SPP microcode is modified to provide a new function
call that returns statistics relative to performance.
This feature falls under the client/server model. The
OS determines that the statistical information provided
15 by the new function call is useful but not critical and
therefore dictates that the feature will be considered
optional. The OS is modified to recognize the new feature
and if present will periodically perform the function
call (if available) to gather and report the performance
20 statistics. Older versions of the SPP microcode would
not report this feature. The possible combinations of
OS software and SPP microcode and resulting actions are
as follows.

- 25 1. If the OS software version does not recognize
the new feature and the SPP hardware/microcode
has the old microcode in which the feature
is not defined, both the OS and SPP behave
as before.
- 30 2. If the OS software version does not recognize
the new feature but the SPP hardware/microcode
has been upgraded to the new microcode wherein
the feature is defined, then after exchanging
features, the new feature is not recognized
by the OS and therefore ignored. The SPP
35 sees that the OS does not use (i.e.,
recognize) the new feature. No error is
returned by the SPP since the SPP plays the