

CA Gener/OL™ r7.1

CA GENER/OL™ IS AN EASY-TO-USE CICS PROGRAM AND APPLICATION GENERATION SYSTEM THAT ENHANCES PROGRAMMER PRODUCTIVITY BY AUTOMATICALLY HANDLING THE COMPLEXITIES OF CICS COMMAND LEVEL PROGRAMMING AND BY PROVIDING INTERACTIVE SCREEN AND REPORT DESIGN.

Overview

CA Gener/OL allows command level programmers to be more effective and productive. The system includes features that are available in traditional programming languages such as BASIC and COBOL. CA Gener/OL instructions are similar to those present in COBOL and command level CICS.

Benefits

CA Gener/OL efficiently incorporates programming with interactive screen creation, graphics logic, and report design. Although the completely online system is designed for the CICS environment, you do not need extensive knowledge of CICS online programming concepts to use it.

CA Advantage

With CA Gener/OL, a programmer does not need to know or understand the complexities of CICS command level programming. The product automatically takes care of the intricacies for the programmer. Thus, sites can use their existing programming staff to develop CICS programs and application systems.

CA Gener/OL Enhances Cost Effectiveness

Command level programmers are expensive and becoming scarce. Although mainframe legacy applications remain very important and command level programming is still necessary, many command level programmers have moved to other areas in the industry or have retired.

With CA Gener/OL, legacy command level systems can be rewritten and changed easily. Command level programmers are much more effective and productive, and junior and entry-level programmers can also create these programs. Even end users can design and prototype the maps (panels or screens) they want to create.

Key Capabilities

CA Gener/OL includes five editors: a Free-Format Editor and four fill-in-the-blank type Editor/Compilers (EDCs). These editors, which interact with the CA Gener/OL language and system support utilities, provide programmers and less technical personnel with the facilities to create almost any online transaction or query under CICS.

FREE-FORMAT EDITOR The Free-Format Editor is used to write and edit programs, record/segment layouts and working storage definitions.

You can use the Editor to:

- Edit lines or blocks of lines within a member
- Copy or move data to and from members
- Control data as it is displayed on your terminal

When you edit a member with the Free-Format Editor, each new or modified statement is checked for syntax.

EDITOR/COMPILERS (EDCs) The Editor/Compilers shorten the learning curve for the CA Gener/OL user. Using a fill-in-the-blank approach, they show what type of information should be entered and where it should be entered, and they notify the user if any errors are made in the process. Because the EDCs are similar, users need to learn only one set of rules.

EDCs are used to:

- Create and assemble programs using free-format editors (new in r7.1)
- Define display maps that present and retrieve information from a terminal
- Write the documentation for the application
- Define file attributes

CA Gener/OL offers many common concepts on which to build application programs. These features help the less technical user understand the system more quickly.

IMMEDIATE DIAGNOSTICS One CA Gener/OL programming aid is the ability of the Editor to flag syntax and field resolution errors. CA Gener/OL prompts the user with a description of the error.

Since the Free-Form Editor and EDCs compile each statement or definition as it is entered, the error can be corrected immediately.

Another advantage is that if a single statement is changed, only that statement is recompiled before the program is ready to run again.

SIMPLE COMMANDS The language's high-level structure provides simple commands with powerful functions, such as the map and getmap commands, which automatically take care of the pseudo-conversational protocol. The CA Gener/OL language can be tailored to your specific design with a command builder utility, or you can use already written commands.

What's New in CA Gener/OL r7.1

- A new online tutorial introduces CICS concepts, CA Gener/OL, and the process of creating programs using CA Gener/OL.
- The z/OS and OS/390 installation procedures have been enhanced to include SMP/E format.
- The Debugger has been enhanced so that the debug ending messages, "CE03 program ended with DBUG in RWABEND," and "DB20 at Program Termination, DB30 RWABEND RWRTCODE=0," are now optional.
- A new option allows you to place all record and working storage layouts above the line.
- European currency symbol edit mask is supported.
- The Inventory Utility has been enhanced to include a selection of all defined edit masks from any active edit mask pool. An edit mask selection also shows a selection of members where the edit mask resides.

CA Advantage

One of the key components of the Enterprise IT Management (EITM) strategy is the effective use of resources for CA customers. CA Gener/OL has been delivering on that concept for over 20 years with its unique method of enhancing programmer productivity. Additionally, CA Gener/OL can interface with any system or application that can interact with CICS. The CA Gener/OL components, working together with your CICS environment, ensure applications are developed quickly, satisfy user requirements and meet corporate objectives.

Next Steps

CA Gener/OL improves the productivity of command level CICS programmers by enabling them to quickly and efficiently transform legacy systems into viable and current CICS application systems. Additionally, it allows entry-level programmers to become productive CICS command level programmers without knowing command level and pseudo-conversational techniques.

To learn more, and see how CA software solutions enable organizations to unify and simplify IT management for better business results, visit ca.com/products.