

PRODUCT SHEET
CA Gener/OL

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.

Business value

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.

Features

Mainframe 2.0

CA Gener/OL has adopted key Mainframe 2.0 features that are designed to simplify your use of CA Gener/OL and enable your staff to install, deploy and maintain it more effectively and quickly.

- **CA Mainframe Software Manager™:** CA Mainframe Software Manager (CA MSM) automates CA Gener/OL deployment and maintenance and removes SMP/E complexities.
 - The **Software Acquisition Service** enables you to easily move product installation packages and maintenance from CA Support Online directly to your mainframe environment and prepare them for installation.
 - The **Software Installation Service** standardizes CA Gener/OL installation, which includes a new, streamlined Electronic Software Delivery (ESD) method that allows CA Gener/OL to be installed using standard utilities. This service also provides standardized SMP/E product installation and maintenance via APARs and PTFs, and simplifies SMP/E processing through an intuitive graphical user interface and an intelligent installation wizard.
 - The **Software Deployment Service** enables you to easily deploy CA Gener/OL in your mainframe environment.
 - **CA MSM Consolidated Software Inventory (CSI)** updates and infrastructure improvements add flexibility to CA MSM processing of CSIs and enable CA MSM to more effectively utilize CPU and system memory.
- **Installation Verification Program (IVP) and Execution Verification Program (EVP):** As part of qualification for inclusion in the set of mainframe products from CA Technologies released every May, CA Gener/OL has passed stringent tests performed through the IVP and EVP to find and resolve interoperability problems prior to release. These programs are an extension of CA Technologies ongoing interoperability certification initiative launched in May 2009.
- **Best Practices guide:** This guide provides information on CA Gener/OL installation, initial configuration and deployment to shorten the learning curve for staff who are responsible for the installation and management of this product.
- **Health Checker:** The Mainframe 2.0 Health Checker provides CA Gener/OL Health Checks that execute under the IBM Health Checker for z/OS.

- **Electronic Software Delivery (ESD):** The Mainframe 2.0 ESD enables you to install CA Gener/OL using standard utilities—without requiring you to reconstitute a tape cartridge. This new procedure helps speed installation and facilitates a consistent install process across mainframe products from CA Technologies, shortening the learning curve for mainframe staff.

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 the 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.

Key features

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.

Other key features

- **Free-Format Editor:** The Free-Format Editor is used to write and edit programs, record/segment layouts and working storage definitions. When you edit a member with the Free-Format Editor, each new or modified statement is checked for syntax. 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
- **Editor/Compilers (EDCs):** The EDCs 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
- **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-Format 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.

Delivery approach

CA Services provides a portfolio of mainframe services delivered through CA Technologies internal staff and a network of established partners chosen to help you achieve a successful deployment and get the desired business results as quickly as possible. Our standard service offerings are designed to speed deployment and accelerate the learning curve for your staff. CA Technologies field-proven mainframe best practices and training help you lower risk, improve use/adoption and ultimately align the product configuration to your business requirements.

Benefits

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.

The CA Technologies advantage

CA Technologies has 30 years of recognized expertise in robust, reliable, scalable, and secure enterprise-class IT management software. CA Gener/OL is a key component of the Mainframe 2.0 initiative from CA Technologies to change the way the mainframe is managed forever by helping you maximize the value of our mainframe products and by providing a simplified experience and innovative solutions that deliver value quickly and flexibly.