GnuCOBOL Programmer's Reference

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This guide is part of the external documentation of the GnuCOBOL project. It is generated from its Texinfo sources, mirrored by OCamlPro in https://github.com/OCamlPro/gnucobol-docs. It is available:

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1 Copying

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Permission is granted to copy and distribute modified versions of this manual under the conditions for verbatim copying, provided that the entire resulting derived work is distributed under the terms of a permission notice identical to this one in order to support the use of the GnuCobol compiler.

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2 Introduction

This document describes the syntax, semantics and use of the COBOL programming language as implemented by GnuCOBOL.

The original principal developers of GnuCOBOL were Keisuke Nishida and Roger While. Since then, many members of the community have been involved in its development.

This document is intended to serve as a fully functional reference and light user's guide, suitable for both those readers learning COBOL for the first time as a light training tool, as well as those already familiar with another dialect of COBOL.

A separate manual — containing only the basic details of the GnuCOBOL implementation and designed for experienced COBOL programmers — has been taken from this guide. That document (*GnuCOBOL Quick Reference*) contains *no* training subject matter.

Another manual, that is based on this manual (Programmers Guide) is the Programmers Reference. This will have any training material removed so it will be a detailed Reference only. There are a few issues to overcome in that it uses currently the same text for the Guide and this will need changing in some areas in order to remove any training materials creating new text documents used as input to build this manual. This manual is intended for experienced Cobol programmers who require the details of the Cobol Language as pertaining to GnuCOBOL along with details of programming for GnuCOBOL specifically utilising the various platforms it can run on.

This manual fits in between the Programmer Guide and the (*GnuCOBOL Quick Reference*) which covers the skeletons of the Cobol Language as applied to GnuCOBOL.

Other documents that should be read is the `gnucobol.pdf` found in the `doc` directory of the compiler sources and the file `NEWS` supplied with the source code of the GnuCOBOL compiler, in the top-level directory. There you will find the latest COBOL language features that have been added, some of which may not be in this document due to time constraints. If you find any, please report it as a bug for the Programmer's Guide so that it can be fixed.

Yet another document which delves deeper in to the compiler that is a *must* read, is the FAQ available via the GnuCOBOL Manuals and Guides, although it could do with a wee clean up to ease reading and finding required information but does include an index.

2.1 Additional Reference Sources

For those wishing to learn COBOL for the first time, Gary can strongly recommend the following resources.

If you like to hold a book in your hands, I strongly recommend *Murach's Structured COBOL*, by Mike Murach, Anne Prince and Raul Menendez (2000) - ISBN 9781890774059. Mike Murach and his various writing partners have been writing outstanding COBOL textbooks for decades. It's an excellent book for those familiar with the concepts of programming in other languages, but unfamiliar with COBOL.

Another to consider is COBOL Unleashed by Jon Wessler, et al (with many other contributors) dated 1998 - ISBN 9780672312540 - 1,000 pages, which is perhaps more geared to the mainframe but with much related to other platform including for GnuCOBOL which Vincent finds very useful at times.

One more is Beginning COBOL for Programmers Paperback – 20 Mar. 2014 by Michael Coughlan - ISBN 978-1430262534 which may well be worth a read. There are many others.

Would you prefer a web-based tutorial? Try the University of Limerick (Ireland) - COBOL web site.

In addition there is the GnuCOBOL FAQ — which has now exceeded 1,400 pages — available as HTML or a downloadable `.pdf` file.

Along with every release of the compiler sources is the file `NEWS`. It contains up to the minute updates regarding the compiler and additional COBOL language elements which may well *not* be yet included in this manual.

2.2 Introducing COBOL

If you already know a programming language other than COBOL, chances are that language is Java, C or C++. You will find COBOL much different from those; sometimes the differences are a good thing and sometimes they aren't. The thing to remember about COBOL is this: *it was designed to solve business problems*.

COBOL, first introduced to the programming public in 1959, was the very first programming language to become standardized (in 1960). This meant that a standard-compliant COBOL program written on computer "A" made by company "B" would be able to be compiled and executed on computer "X" made by company "Y" with very few, if any, changes. This may not seem like such a big deal today, but it was a radical departure from all programming languages that came before it and even many that came after it.

The name COBOL actually says it all — COBOL is an acronym that stands for "(**CO**)mmon (**B**)usiness (**O**)riented (**L**)anguage". Note the fact that the word "common" comes before all others. The word "business" is a close second. Therein lies the key to COBOL's success.

2.2.1 Why YOU Should Learn COBOL

Despite statements from industry "insiders", the COBOL programming language is not dead, even though newer and so-called "modern" languages like Java, C#, .NET, Ruby on Rails

and so on appear to have become the languages of choice in the Information Technology world. These languages have become popular because they address the following desired requirements for "modern" programming:

1. They conform to the principles of Object-Oriented Programming (OOP). This is desired for one major reason — it facilitates "code re-usability", thus improving the productivity of programmers by allowing them to re-use previously written (and debugged) code in new applications. For one reason or another, COBOL is perceived as being weak in this regard. It isn't (especially today), as we'll see in the next section, but perception is important.
2. Those languages aren't limited to mainframe computers, as COBOL is *perceived* to be. Some, like .NET and Ruby, aren't even *available* on mainframes. The "modern" programming languages were designed and intended for use on the full variety of computer platforms, from shirt-pocket computers (i.e. smart phones) up to the most massive of supercomputers.
3. There are several excellent commercially available COBOL implementations available for non-mainframe systems (Micro Focus Visual COBOL, AccuCOBOL, NetCOBOL and Elastic COBOL, just to name a few), including Windows and UNIX/Linux systems. These aren't cheap, however.
4. Universities love the "Modern" languages. In the U.S., 73% of colleges lack even one COBOL course on their curricula. COBOL, it appears, is no longer "cool" enough for students to fill a classroom.

Just because COBOL doesn't traditionally support objects, classes, and the like doesn't mean that its "procedural" approach to computing isn't valuable — after all, it runs 70% of the *worlds* business transactions, and does so utilising over 200 billion lines of code (according to research):

- Using programs that, for the most part, are much more self-documenting than would be the case with any other programming language.
- Effortlessly providing arithmetic accuracy to 31 digits, with performance approaching that of well-written assembly-language programs. Don't think this isn't critically important to banks, investment houses and any business interested in tracking revenues, expenses and profits (duh - like ALL of them).
- Integrating well with non-COBOL infrastructures such as XML, SOA, MQ, almost any DBMS, Transaction Processing platforms, Queue-Management facilities and other programming languages.
- By running on almost as many different computing platforms as Java can. You can't run COBOL programs in your smart phone, but desktops, workstations, midframes/servers, mainframes and supercomputers are all fair game.

Today's IT managers and business leaders are faced with a challenging dilemma — how do you maintain the enormous COBOL code base that is still running their businesses when academia has all but abandoned the language they need their people to use to keep the wheels rolling? The problem is compounded by the fact that those programmers that are skilled in COBOL are retiring and taking their knowledge with them. In some markets, this appears to be having an inflationary effect on the cost of resources (COBOL programmers) whose supply is becoming smaller and smaller. The pressure to update applications to make use of more up-to-date graphical user interfaces is also perceived as a reason to abandon COBOL in favour of GUI-friendly languages such as Java.

Businesses are addressing the COBOL challenge in different ways:

1. By undertaking so-called "modernization projects", where existing applications are either rewritten in "modern" languages or replaced outright with purchased packages. Most of these businesses are using such activities as an excuse to abandon "expensive" mainframes in favour of (presumably) less-expensive "open systems" (mid frame/server) solutions.
2. Many times these businesses are finding the cost of the system/networking engineering, operational management and monitoring and risk management (i.e. disaster recovery) infrastructures necessary to support truly mission-critical applications to be so high that the "less-expensive" solution really isn't; in these cases the mainframe may remain the best option, thus leaving COBOL in play and businesses seeking another solution for at least part of their application base.
3. Training their own COBOL programmers. Since colleges, universities and technical schools have lost interest in doing so, many businesses have undertaken the task of "growing their own" new crop of COBOL programmers. Fear of being pigeon-holed into a niche technology is a factor inhibiting many of today's programmers from willingly volunteering for such training.
4. By moving the user-interface onto the desktop; such efforts involve running modern-language front-end clients on user desktops (or laptops or smart phones, etc.) with COBOL programs providing server functionality on mainframe or midframe platforms, providing all the database and file "heavy lifting" on the back-end. Solutions like this provide users with the user-interfaces they want/need while still leveraging COBOL's strengths on (possibly) downsized legacy mainframe or midframe systems.

It's probably a true that an IT professional can no longer afford to allow COBOL to be the *only* wrench in their toolbox, but with a massive code base still in production now and for the foreseeable future, adding COBOL to a multi-lingual curriculum vitae (CV) and/or resume (yes — they ARE different) is not a bad thing at all. Knowing COBOL as well as the language

du-jour will make you the smartest person in the room when the discussion of migrating the current "legacy" environment to a "modern" implementation comes around.

You'll find COBOL an easy language to learn and a FAR EASIER language to master than many of the "modern" languages.

The whole reason you're reading this is that you've discovered GnuCOBOL — another implementation of COBOL in addition to those mentioned earlier. The distinguishing characteristic of GnuCOBOL versus those others is that GnuCOBOL is FREE open-source and therefore FREE to obtain and use. It is community-enhanced and community-supported. Later in this document (see So What is GnuCOBOL?), you'll begin to learn more about this COBOL implementation's capabilities.

2.2.2 Programmer Productivity

Throughout the history of computer programming, the search for new ways to improve of the productivity of programmers has been a major consideration. Other than hobbyists, programming is an activity performed for money, and businesses abhor spending anything more than is absolutely necessary; even government agencies try to spend as little money on projects as is absolutely necessary.

The amount of programming necessary to accomplish a given task — including rework needed by any errors found during testing (testing is sometimes jokingly defined as: *that time during which an application is actually in production, allowing users to discover the problems*) is the measure of programmer productivity. Anything that reduces that effort will therefore reduce the time spent in such activities therefore reducing the expense of same. When the expense of programming is reduced, programmer productivity is increased.

Sometimes the quest for improved programmer productivity (and therefore reduced programming *expense*) has taken the form of introducing new features in programming languages, or even new languages altogether. Sometimes it has resulted in new ways of using the existing languages.

While many technological and procedural developments have made *evolutionary* improvements to programmer productivity, each of the following three events has been responsible for *revolutionary* improvements:

- The development of so-called "higher-level" programming languages that enable a programmer to specify in a single statement of the language an action that would have required many more separate statements in a prior programming language. The standardization of such languages, making them usable on a wide variety of computers and operating systems, was a key aspect of this development. COBOL was a pioneering development in this area, being a direct descendant of the very first higher-level language

(FLOW-MATIC, developed by US Naval Lieutenant Grace Hopper) and the first to become standardized.

- The establishment of programming techniques that make programs easier to read and therefore easier to understand. Not only do such techniques reduce the amount of rework necessary simply to make a program work as designed, but they also reduce the amount of time a programmer needs to study an existing program in order how to best adapt it to changing business requirements. The foremost development in this area was structured programming. Introduced in the late 1970's, this approach to programming spawned new programming languages (PASCAL, ALGOL, PL/1 and so forth) designed around it. With the ANSI 85 standard, COBOL embraced the principles espoused by structured programming mavens as well as any of the languages designed strictly around it.
- The establishment of programming techniques AND the introduction of programming language capabilities to facilitate the re-usability of program code. Anything that supports code re-usability can have a profound impact to the amount of time it takes to develop new applications or to make significant changes to existing ones. In recent years, object-oriented programming (OOP) has been the industry "poster child" for code re-usability. By enabling program logic and the data structures that logic manipulates to be encapsulated into easily stored and retrieved (and therefore "reusable") modules called classes, the object-oriented languages such as Java, C++ and C# have become the favourites of academia. Since students are being trained in these languages and only these, by and large, it's no surprise that — today — object-oriented programming languages are the darlings of the industry.

  The reality is, however, that good programmers have been practising code re-usability for more than a half-century. Up until recently, COBOL programmers have had some of the best code re-usability tools available — they've been doing it with copybooks and subprograms rather than classes, methods and attributes but the net results have been similar. With the COBOL2002 and the COBOL 2014 standards, the COBOL programming language has become just as "object-oriented" as the "modern" languages, while preserving the ability to support, modify, compile and execute "legacy" COBOL programs as well.

While GnuCOBOL supports few of the OOP programming constructs defined by the COBOL2002 and COBOL2014 standards, it supports every aspect of the ANSI 85 standard and therefore fully meets the needs of points #1 and #2, above. With its supported feature set (see So What is GnuCOBOL?), it provides significant programmer productivity capabilities.

2.3 So What is GnuCOBOL?

GnuCOBOL is a free and open sourced COBOL compiler and runtime environment, written using the C programming language which itself is free to use and can be used in all forms in-

cluding for commercial purposes - there is no restrictions. GnuCOBOL is typically distributed in source-code form, and must then be built for your computer's operating system using the system's C compiler and loader. While originally developed for the UNIX and Linux operating systems, GnuCOBOL has also been successfully built for computers running OSX (a OpenBSD implementation) and Windows utilizing the UNIX-emulation features of such tools as Cygwin and MinGW. Also see the GNU website for more information. Pre built Implemeations for Windows can also be found at https://www.arnoldtrembley.com/GnuCOBOL.htm.

The MinGW approach is a personal favourite with the author of this manual because it creates a GnuCOBOL compiler and runtime library that require only a single MinGW DLL to be available for the GnuCOBOL compiler, runtime library and user programs. That DLL is freely distributable under the terms of the GNU General Public License. A MinGW build of GnuCOBOL fits easily on and runs from a 128MB flash drive with no need to install any software onto the Windows computer that will be using it. Some functionality of the language, dealing with the sharing of files between concurrently executing GnuCOBOL programs and record locking on certain types of files, is sacrificed however as the underlying operating system routines needed to implement them aren't available to Windows and aren't provided by MinGW. The current version for MinGW is available at the download link along with various other platforms at the GnuCOBOL https://sourceforge.net/projects/gnucobol/files/gnu-cobol, download website.

GnuCOBOL has also been built as a truly native Windows application utilizing Microsoft's freely-downloadable Visual Studio Community package to provide the C compiler and linker/loader. This approach does not lend itself well to a "portable" distribution.

The GnuCOBOL compiler generates C code from your COBOL source programs; that C code is then automatically compiled and linked using your system's C compiler (typically, but not limited to, `gcc`).

GnuCOBOL fully supports much of the ANSI 85 standard for COBOL (the only major exclusion is the Communications Module) and also supports some of the components of the COBOL2002 and COBOL2014 standards, such as the `SCREEN SECTION` (see SCREEN SECTION), table-based `SORT` (see Table SORT) and user-defined functions. There are others with more being added almost weekly.

3 COBOL Fundamentals

This chapter describes the syntax, semantics and usage of the COBOL programming language as implemented by the current version of GnuCOBOL. For the rest of this document the Language is spelt as COBOL to ease reading however the compiler name retains the mixed case of GnuCOBOL.

This document is intended to serve as a full-function reference and user's guide suitable for both those readers learning COBOL for the first time as usage as a training tool, as well as those already familiar with some dialects of the COBOL language.

A separate manual exists that just contains the details of the Cobol grammar as implemented in GnuCOBOL, which is designed strictly for experienced COBOL programmers and this is taken from this guide. This does NOT contain any training subject matter what so ever.

These extra manuals are: GnuCOBOL Quick Reference containing just the COBOL semantics / grammar in a short document while the other, GnuCOBOL Sample Programs, shows detailed example Cobol programs with indication of syntax used in each program.

For each implementation of the GnuCOBOL compiler the supplied files NEWS should also be read for any last minute updates along with files README and INSTALL for building the compiler.

3.1 The COBOL Language - The Basics

3.1.1 Language Reserved Words

Cobol programs consist of a sequence of words and symbols. Words, which consist of sequences of letters (upper- and/or lower-case), digits, dashes ('-') and/or underscores ('_') may have a pre-defined, specific, meaning to the compiler or may be invented by the programmer for his/her purposes.

The GnuCOBOL language specification defines well over 1130 Reserved Words — words to which the compiler assigns a special meaning. This list and number applies to the default list which covers many implementations. It is possible to limit the list to either a specific implementation via -std=xyz[-strict] or to manually unreserve words if they are used in existing sources as user-defined words.

Programmers may use a reserved word as *part* of a word they are creating themselves, but may not create their own word as an exact duplicate (without regard to case) of a COBOL reserved word. Note that a reserved word includes all classes, such as intrinsic functions, mnemonics names, system routines. The list of reserved words can be changed by adding or removing specific words for a given compile or as a default by use of the steering command

-std= (dialect) and –conf= (users config file). See the specific config files that are by default, held in `/usr/local/share/gnucobol/config`. Also using the option '`FUNCTION ALL INTRINSIC`', will add another 100+ reserved words. These can be modified to match the requirements of a business or project team but be Warned, that these are updated when a new version of the compiler is built so might be more prudent to create your own configuation based on an existing one but with a different name.

In addition, you can add and/or remove reserved words by adding one of these options to cobc to add `-freserved=word` or, to remove, `-fnot-reserved=word`. As well as `-freserved=word:alias` to create an alias for a word as well as `-fnot-register=word` or `-fregister=word` to remove or add, a special register word.

See Appendix's B for a complete list of GnuCOBOL reserved words and Appendix C - F (for grouped word lists).

For any given version of GnuCOBOL you can also list the full current set of reserved words by running cobc with `--list-reserved`, `--list-intrinsic`, `--list-system` as well as `--list-mnemonics`. Again subject to variation depending on usage of the `--std` line command.

3.1.2 User-Defined Words

When you write GnuCOBOL programs, you'll need to create a variety of words to represent various aspects of the program, the program's data and the external environment in which the program will run. This will include internal names by which data files will be referenced, data item names and names of executable logic procedures as section and paragraph names.

User-defined words may be composed from the characters '`A`' through '`Z`' (upper- and/or lower-case), '`0`' through '`9`', dash ('`-`') and underscore ('_'). User-defined words may neither start nor end with hyphen or underscore characters. In addition because of the use of unique characters that may apply to specific character sets, auto support for such characters such as the Euro symbol and other of that ilk along with as required for a non-English language, can also be specified as and within user defined words but not as program or module names as these can clash with the specifics of the operating system in use and other programming languages, etc. In other words be careful of their use.

Other programming languages provide the programmer with a similar capability of creating their own words (names) for parts of a program; COBOL is somewhat unusual when compared to other languages in that user-defined words may *start* with a digit.

With the exception of logic procedure names, which may consist entirely of nothing but digits, user-defined words must contain at least one letter.

The maximum size of a user defined word in Cobol is 31 characters as per the COBOL 2014 Standard but to help support other compilers it can be extended by the usage of -std (COBOL85 and ibm-strict has 30) to increase the limit to 63 characters. It must be pointed out

that exceeding the standard limit will seriously restrict the ability of transferring any code written for GnuCOBOL to another brand of compiler without changing all such user defined words to 30 or 31. The whole art of writing using Cobol is to minimise the need to change any code over the years that your programs will be in use.

There are very many examples of programs written going back to the 1960′s that are still in operation around the world and the number of lines of Cobol code is estimated at 200 billion.

For example, this author (Vincent Coen) has code going back to the early 60′s with admittedly changes over the years, still in full operation, just take a look at the Contrib area and check out cobxref - Cobol Cross Reference listing tool (also on Sourceforge), dectrans - (Decision Translator), flightlog - Pilots Log Book (also on Sourceforge), and also in Sourceforge - ACAS (Applewood Computers Accounting System) - this one with the original code only, going back to 1967.

Of course many if not most of these applications have had many changes, upgrades etc, over the years, but it shows just how long programs written in Cobol have survived and gone on in full time use for some 60 years.

The point is that, when writing in Cobol, you should always consider is, will the code be transferrable to another system or compiler in the years to come, but without going over the top !

4 CDF - Compiler Directing Facility

The Compiler Directing Facility, or CDF, is a means of controlling the compilation of GnuCOBOL programs. CDF provides a mechanism for dynamically setting or resetting certain compiler switches, introducing new source code from one or more source code libraries, making dynamic source code modifications and conditionally processing or ignoring source statements altogether. This is accomplished via a series of special CDF statements and directives that will appear in the program source code. When the compiler is operating in Fixed Format Mode, all CDF statements must begin in column seven (7) or beyond.

There are two types of supported CDF statements in GnuCOBOL — Text Manipulation Statements and Compiler Directives.

The CDF text manipulation statements `COPY` and `REPLACE` are used to introduce new code into programs either with or without changes, or may be used to modify existing statements already in the program. Text manipulation statements are always terminated with a period.

CDF compiler directives, denoted by the presence of a `>>` character sequence as part of the statement name itself, influence the process of program compilation. CDF compiler directives are *never* terminated with a period.

The compiler command-line option `-D` offers additional control (see cobc - The GnuCOBOL Compiler).

```
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| TEXT MANIPULATION STATEMENTS                                                       |
+-----------------------
+-------------------------------------------------------------+
| COPY                 | Import copybooks (source code) into a program              |
| REPLACE              | Change all or part of program source code elements         |
+-----------------------
+-------------------------------------------------------------+
| COMPILER DIRECTIVES                                                                |
+-----------------------
+-------------------------------------------------------------+
| >>CALL-CONVENTION    | How to treat references to program names and other details  |
|                      | for interacting with a function or program                 |
| >>COBOL-WORDS        | Allows a new word to be recognised by the compiler         |
| >>D                  | Mark floating debug lines that will be compiled or not     |
| >>DEFINE             | Create CDF variable for other CDF statements or a constant |
```

```
| >>DISPLAY            | Display a text message during compilation                    |
| >>IF                 | Causes the compiler to process or ignore COBOL source        |
|                      | statements, CDF text manipulation statements or CDF          |
|                      | directives based on CDF variables                            |
| >>LEAP-SECONDS       | Syntactically recognized but is otherwise non-functional     |
| >>LISTING            | Allows the program listing to be de-activated                |
| >>PAGE               | Page ejection and documentation for the source listing       |
| >>REF-MOD-ZERO-LENGTH | Specifies whether resultant data items may have zero-length |
| >>SET                | Provides an alternate means of performing the actions of     |
|                      | >>DEFINE and >>SOURCE directives, as well as a means of      |
|                      | controlling the compiler's -free switch, -fixed switch and   |
|                      | -ffold-copy switch from within program source code           |
| >>SOURCE             | Puts the compiler into FIXED / FREE source-code format mode  |
| >>TURN               | The directive will activate or de-activate exception checks  |
+----------------------
+-------------------------------------------------------------+
```

4.1 COPY

CDF COPY Statement Syntax

==========

```
{ COPY     }   copybook-name
{ ~~~~     }
{ INCLUDE  }
{ ~~~~~~~  }

      [ IN|OF library-name ]
        ~~ ~~
      [ SUPPRESS PRINTING ]
        ~~~~~~~~
      [ REPLACING { Phrase-Clause | String-Clause }... ] .
        ~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

CDF COPY Phrase-Clause Syntax

==========

```
 { ==pseudo-text-1== } BY { ==pseudo-text-2== }
 { identifier-1      } ~~ { identifier-2      }
```

```
  { literal-1         }    { literal-2         }
  { word-1            }    { word-2            }
```

==========

CDF COPY String-Clause Syntax

==========

```
  [ LEADING|TRAILING ] ==partial-word-1== BY ==partial-word-2==
    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~                      ~~
```

==========

1. `COPY` statements are used to import copybooks (see Copybooks) into a program.
2. `COPY` statements may be used anywhere within a COBOL program where the code contained within the copybook would be syntactically valid.
3. The optional `SUPPRESS` clause (with or without the optional `PRINTING` reserved word) is valid syntactically but is non-functional. It is supported to facilitate compatibility with source code written for other versions of COBOL.
4. There is no difference between the use of the word `IN` and the word `OF` — use the one you prefer.
5. A period is absolutely mandatory at the end of every `COPY` statement, even if the statement occurs within the scope of another one where a period might appear disruptive, such as within the scope of an `IF` (see IF) statement. This mandatory period at the end of the statement does not, however, affect the statement scope in which the `COPY` occurs.
6. Both <pseudo-text-2> and <partial-word-2> may be null.
7. All `COPY` statements are located and the contents of the corresponding copybooks inserted into the program source code before the actual compilation process begins. If a copybook contains a `COPY` statement, the copybook insertion process will be repeated to resolve the embedded `COPY`. This will continue until no unresolved `COPY` statements remain. At that point, actual program compilation will begin.
8. See Locating Copybooks, for the specific rules on how copybooks are located by the compiler.
9. The optional `REPLACING` clause allows for one or more of either of the following kinds of text replacements to be made:

<Phrase-Clause>

Replacement of one or more complete reserved words, user-defined identifiers or literals; the following points apply to this option:

- This option cannot be used to replace part of a word, identifier or literal.
- Whatever precedes the `BY` will be referred to here as the search string.
- Single-item search strings can be specified by coding the `identifier-1`, `literal-1` or `word-1` being replaced.
- Multiple-item search strings can be specified using the `==pseudo-text-1==` option. For example, to replace all occurrences of `UPON PRINTER`, you would specify `==UPON PRINTER==`.
- The replacement string, which follows the `BY`, may be specified using any of the four options.
- If the replacement string is a multiple-item phrase or is to be deleted altogether, you must use the `==pseudo-text-2==` option. If `pseudo-text-2` is null (in other words, the replacement text is specified as `====`), all encountered occurrences of the search string will be deleted.

<String-Clause>

Using this, you may replace character sequences that occur at the beginning (see `LEADING`) or end (see `TRAILING`) of reserved or user-defined words. For example, to change all words of the form "0100-xxxxxx" to "020-xxxxxx", code `LEADING ==0100-== BY ==020-==`. To simply remove all "0100-" prefixes from words, code `LEADING ==0100-== BY ====`.

4.2 REPLACE

CDF REPLACE Statement (Format 1) Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
REPLACE [ ALSO ] { Phrase-Clause | String-Clause }... .
~~~~~~~   ~~~~
```

```
=============================================================================
```

CDF REPLACE Statement (Format 2) Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
REPLACE [ LAST ] OFF .
~~~~~~~   ~~~~   ~~~
```

```
================================================================================
CDF REPLACE Phrase-Clause Syntax
================================================================================

  { ==pseudo-text-1== } BY { ==pseudo-text-2== }
                         ~~

================================================================================
CDF REPLACE String-Clause Syntax
================================================================================

  [ LEADING|TRAILING ] ==partial-word-1== BY ==partial-word-2==
    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~                       ~~

================================================================================
```

1. The `REPLACE` statement provides a mechanism for changing all or part of one or more GnuCOBOL statements.
2. A period is absolutely mandatory at the end of every `REPLACE` statement (either format), even if the statement occurs within the scope of another one where a period might appear disruptive (such as within the scope of an `IF` (see IF) statement; the period will not, however, affect the statement scope in which the `REPLACE` occurs.
3. The following points apply to Format 1 of the `REPLACE` statement:
   A. Format 1 of the `REPLACE` statement can be used to make changes to program source code in much the same way as the `REPLACING` option of the `COPY` statement can, via these options:

      <Phrase-Clause>

      Replace one or more complete reserved words, user-defined identifiers or literals; the following points apply to this option:

      - This option cannot be used to replace part of a word, identifier or literal.
      - Whatever precedes the `BY` will be referred to here as the search string.
      - Search strings on `REPLACE` are always specified using the `==pseudo-text-1==` option. For example, to replace all occurrences of `UPON PRINTER`, you would specify `==UPON PRINTER==`.
      - The replacement string, which follows the `BY`, is specified using the `==pseudo-text-2==` option. If `pseudo-text-2` is null (in other words, the replacement text is specified as `====`), all encountered occurrences of the search string will be deleted.

<String-Clause>

Using this, you may replace character sequences that occur at the beginning (see `LEADING`) or end (see `TRAILING`) of reserved or user-defined words. For example, to change all words of the form "0100-xxxxxx" to "020-xxxxxx", code `LEADING ==0100-== BY ==020-==`. To simply remove all "0100-" prefixes from words, code `LEADING ==0100-== BY ====`.

B. Once a Format 1 `REPLACE` statement is encountered in the currently-compiling source file, Replace Mode becomes active, and the change(s) specified by that statement will be automatically made on all subsequent source statements the compiler reads from the file.

C. Replace Mode remains in-effect — continuing to make source code changes — until another Format 1 `REPLACE` is encountered, the end of currently compiling program source file is reached or a Format 2 `REPLACE` statement is encountered.

D. When a Format 1 `REPLACE` statement with the `ALSO` keyword is encountered without Replace Mode being currently active, the effect will be as if the `ALSO` had not been specified. If Replace Mode already was in effect, the effect will be to “push” the current change specification(s) onto the top of a stack and add the specification(s) of the new statement to those that were already in effect.

E. When a Format 1 `REPLACE` without the `ALSO` keyword is encountered, any stacked change specification(s), if any, will be discarded and the currently in-effect change specification(s), if any, will be replaced by those of the new statement.

F. When the end of the currently-compiling source file is reached, Replace Mode is deactivated and any stacked replace specifications will be discarded — compilation of the next source file (if any) will begin with Replace Mode inactive and no change specification(s) on the stack.

4. The following points apply to Format 2 of the `REPLACE` statement:

A. If Replace Mode is currently inactive, the Format 2 `REPLACE` statement will be ignored.

B. If Replace Mode is currently active, a `REPLACE OFF.` will deactivate Replace Mode and discard any replace specification(s) on the stack. The compiler will henceforth operate as if no `REPLACE` had ever been encountered, until such time as another Format 1 `REPLACE` is encountered.

C. If Replace Mode is currently active, a `REPLACE LAST OFF.` will replace the current replace specification(s) with those popped off the top of the stack. If there were no replace specification(s) on the stack, the effect will be as if a `REPLACE OFF.` had been coded.

4.3 >>CALL-CONVENTION

CDF >>CALL-CONVENTION Syntax

==========

```
>>CALL-CONVENTION    { COBOL   }
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~    { EXTERN  }
                     { STDCALL }
                     { STATIC  }
```

==========

This directive instructs the compiler how to treat references to program names and may be used to determine other details for interacting with a function or program. There are four options with COBOL being the default.

COBOL

The program name is treated as a COBOL word that maps to the externalised name program to be called, cancelled or referenced in the program-address-identifier, applying the same mapping rules as for a program name for which no `AS` phrase is specified. (The is the default.)

EXTERN

The program name is treated as an external reference.

STDCALL

Allows system standard calling conventions (as opposed to GnuCOBOL calling conventions) to be used when calling a subroutine. The definition of what constitutes "system standard" may vary from operating system to operating system. Use of this requires special knowledge about the linkage requirements of subroutines you are intending to `CALL`. Subroutines written in GnuCOBOL do not need this option.

STATIC

Causes the linkage to the subroutine to be performed in such a way as to require the subroutine to be statically-linked with the calling program. Note that this enables static-linking to be used on a subroutine-by-subroutine selective basis. Or in other words - The program name is called as a included element and not dynamically which is the normal default.

4.4 >>COBOL-WORDS

CDF >>COBOL-WORDS Directive Syntax

==========

```
>>COBOL-WORDS { EQUATE keyword WITH alias      }
~~~~~~~~~~~~~ { ~~~~~  ~~~~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~~      }
              { UNDEFINE keyword               }
              { ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~               }
              { SUBSTITUTE keyword BY new-word }
              { ~~~~~~~~~  ~~~~~~~ ~~ ~~~~~~~~ }
              { RESERVE new-word               }
                ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The directive allows a new word to be recognised by the Cobol compiler and can be used multiple times.

1. COBOL-WORDS EQUATE keyword WITH alias makes alias a synonym for keyword.
2. COBOL-WORDS UNDEFINE keyword keyword is removed from the COBOL grammar (can then be a user-defined word). Use of it in a program as normal keyword will provoke a syntax error from the compiler, which may be used to enforce not using its syntax.
3. COBOL-WORDS SUBSTITUTE keyword BY new-word keyword is deleted as a keyword from the grammar, replaced by new-word. keyword may thereafter be used as a user-defined word.
4. COBOL-WORDS RESERVE new-word Treat new-word as a COBOL keyword. It cannot be used by the program, either as a keyword or as a user-defined word.

4.5 >>D

CDF >>D Directive Syntax

==========

```
>>D  program-source-text-1
~~~
```

==========

The directive removes all floating debug lines if debug mode not active. Otherwise will ignore the directive part of the line. These debug lines will only be compiled if the compiler switch -fdebugging-line is used: ‘cobc yourprogram.cob -x -fdebugging-line’

Note that it will also be compiled if WITH DEBUGGING MODE is coded.

These debug lines will be compiled with at least one of the following ways:

if the compiler switch -fdebugging-line is used as following sample: 'cobc yourprogram.cob -x -fdebugging-line' by adding the WITH DEBUGGING MODE clause to the SOURCE-COMPUTER paragraph. if you set the run-time environment variable COB_SET_DEBUG.

A handy trick for those that like to write code that be compiled in both FIXED and FREE forms, is to place the directive in column 5, 6 and 7 meaning you write DEBUG line compiler directives with the >>D starting in column 5 (so the D ends up in column 7 useful for FIXED mode):

4.6 >>DEFINE

CDF >>DEFINE Directive Syntax

==========

```
Format 1

>>DEFINE cdf-variable-1 AS { { literal-1 } [ OVERRIDE ] }
~~~~~~~~                   { { PARAMETER }   ~~~~~~~~   }
                           {   ~~~~~~~~~                }
                           {   OFF                      }
                               ~~~

Format 2 (archaic)

>>DEFINE CONSTANT cdf-variable-1 AS literal-1
~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Use the `>>DEFINE` CDF directive to create CDF variables and (optionally) assign them either literal or environment variable values.

1. The reserved word `AS` is optional and may be included, or not, at the discretion of the programmer. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. CDF variables defined in this way become undefined once an `END PROGRAM` or `END FUNCTION` directive is encountered in the input source.
3. The `>>DEFINE` CDF directive is one way to create CDF variables that may be processed by other CDF statements such as `>>IF` (see >>IF). The `>>SET` CDF directive (see >>SET) provides another way to create them.
4. CDF variable names follow the rules for standard GnuCOBOL user-defined names, and may not duplicate any CDF reserved word.

5. The `PARAMETER` option is used to create a variable whose value is that of the environment variable of the same name. Note that this value assignment occurs at compilation time, not program execution time.
6. In the absence of the `OVERRIDE` option, <cdf-variable-1> must not yet have been defined. When the `OVERRIDE` option is specified, <cdf-variable-1> will be created with the specified value, if it had not yet been defined. If it had already been defined, it will be redefined with the new value.
7. The `OFF` option is used to create a variable without assigning it any value. Following a DEFINE directive in which the OFF phrase is specified, compilation-variable-name-1 shall not be used except in a defined condition [where it evaluates as not to be defined].
8. GnuCOBOL also accepts the following "archaic" definition:

   ```
   >>DEFINE CONSTANT cdf-variable-1 AS literal-1 .
   ```

   In that case the <cdf-variable-1> that is created may be used within your regular COBOL code as if it were a literal value. Without this option, the <cdf-variable-1> may only be referenced on other CDF statements. Note: Using this archaic feature to define a constant in a program is not recommended. Instead, it is highly advisable to use the ISO Standard feature (see 01-Level Constants) or the common extension (see 78-Level Data Items).
9. CDF variable names may duplicate COBOL reserved words, provided the `CONSTANT` option is not specified, but such names are not recommended.

4.7 >>DISPLAY

CDF >>DISPLAY Directive Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
>>DISPLAY source-text [ VCS = version-string ]
~~~~~~~~~               ~~~
```

```
=============================================================================
```

The directive is a v1.0 extension and will display messages during compilation.

4.8 >>IF

CDF >>IF Directive Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
>>IF CDF-Conditional-Expression-1
~~~~     [ Program-Source-Lines-1 ]
```

```
[ >>ELIF | >>ELSE-IF CDF-Conditional-Expression-2
  ~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~     [ Program-Source-Lines-2 ] ]...

[ >>ELSE
  ~~~~~~ [ Program-Source-Lines-3 ] ]

>>END-IF
~~~~~~~~
```

==========

CDF-Conditional-Expression Syntax

==========

```
{ cdf-variable-1 } IS [ NOT ] { DEFINED                    }
{ literal-1      }      ~~~   { ~~~~~~~                    }
                              { SET                        }
                              { ~~~                        }
                              { CDF-RelOp { cdf-variable-2 } }
                              {           { literal-2      } }
```

==========

CDF-RelOp Syntax

==========

```
>=    or    GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO
            ~~~~~~~      ~~ ~~~~~
>     or    GREATER THAN
            ~~~~~~~
<=    or    LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO
            ~~~~      ~~ ~~~~~
<     or    LESS THAN
            ~~~~
=     or    EQUAL TO
            ~~~~~
<>    or    EQUAL TO (with "NOT")
            ~~~~~
```

==========

The >>IF CDF directive causes the GnuCOBOL compiler to process or ignore COBOL source statements, CDF text-manipulation statements and CDF directives depending upon the value of one or more conditional expressions based upon CDF variables.

1. The reserved words IS, THAN and TO are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect on the program.
2. Each >>IF directive must be terminated by an >>END-IF directive.
3. There may be any number of >>ELIF clauses following an >>IF, including zero.
4. There may be no more than one >>ELSE clause following an >>IF. When >>ELSE is used, it must follow the >>IF and all >>ELIF clauses.
5. Only one of the <Program-Source-Lines-n> block of statements that lie within the scope of the >>IF ... >>END-IF may be processed by the compiler. Which one (if any) that gets processed will be decided as follows:
   A. Each <CDF-Conditional-Expression-n> will be evaluated, in turn, in the sequence in which they are coded in the >>IF statement and any >>ELIF clauses that may be present until one evaluates to TRUE. Once one of them evaluates to TRUE, the <Program-Source-Lines-n> block of code that corresponds to the TRUE <CDF-Conditional-Expression-n> will be the one that is processed. All others within the >>IF->>END-IF scope will be ignored.
   B. If no <CDF-Conditional-Expression> evaluates to TRUE, and there is an >>ELSE clause, the <Program-Source-Lines-3> block of statements following the >>ELSE clause will be processed by the compiler and all others within the >>IF->>END-IF scope will be ignored.
   C. If no <CDF-Conditional-Expression-n> evaluates to TRUE and there is no >>ELSE clause, then none of the <Program-Source-Lines-n> block of statements within the >>IF->>END-IF scope will be processed by the compiler.
   D. If the <Program-Source-Lines-n>> statement block selected for processing is empty, no error results — there will just be no code generated from the >>IF->>END-IF structure.
6. A <Program-Source-Lines-n> block may contain any valid COBOL or CDF code.
7. The following points pertain to any <CDF-Conditional-Expression-n>:
   A. The DEFINED option tests for whether <cdf-variable-1> has been defined, but not yet assigned a value (>>DEFINE ... OFF); use the NOT option to test for the variable not being defined.
   B. The SET option tests for whether <cdf-variable-1> has been given a value, either via a >>SET statement or via a >>DEFINE without the OFF option.

C. Two CDF variables, two literals or a single CDF variable and a single literal may be compared against each other using a relational operator. Unlike the standard GnuCOBOL `IF` statement (see IF), multiple comparisons cannot be `AND`ed or `OR`ed together; you may nest a second `>>IF` inside the first, however, to simulate an `AND` and an `OR` may be simulated via the `>>ELIF` option.

D. The `<>` symbol stands for `NOT EQUAL TO`.

4.8.1 Predefined Compilation Variables

```
GnuCOBOL defines compilation variables when certain conditions are true.
If the condition associated with a variable is false, the variable is not defined.

Name              Condition
----------------  ------------------------------------------------------------
GNUCOBOL          GnuCOBOL is compiling the source unit.
OPENCOBOL         GnuCOBOL is compiling the source unit.
DEBUG             The -d debug flag is specified.
EXECUTABLE        The module being compiled contains the main program.
HOSTSIGNS         A signed packed-decimal item's value may be considered
                  NUMERIC if the sign has value X"F".
NOHOSTSIGNS       A signed packed-decimal item's value may not be considered
                  NUMERIC if the sign has value X"F".
GCCOMP            The size of a COMP item is determined according to the
                  GnuCOBOL scheme, where for a PICTURE of length:
                  1-2,  the item has 1 byte
                  3-4,  the item has 2 bytes
                  5-9,  the item has 4 bytes
                  10-18,the item has 8 bytes.
OCCOMP            The size of a COMP item is determined according to the
                  GnuCOBOL scheme, where for a PICTURE of length:
                  1-2,  the item has 1 byte
                  3-4,  the item has 2 bytes
                  5-9,  the item has 4 bytes
                  10-18,the item has 8 bytes.
IBMCOMP           The size of a COMP item is determined according to the IBM
                  scheme, where for a PICTURE of length:
                  1-4,  the item has 2 bytes
                  5-9,  the item has 4 bytes
                  10-18,the item has 8 bytes.
NOIBMCOMP         The size of a COMP item is not determined according to the
                  IBM scheme.
MODULE            The module being compiled does not contain the main program.
```

```
P64               Pointers are greater than 32 bits long.
STICKY-LINKAGE    Sticky-linkage (linkage-section items remaining allocated
                  between invocations) is enabled.
NOSTICKY-LINKAGE  Sticky-linkage (linkage-section items remaining allocated
                  between invocations) is not enabled.
TRUNC             Numeric data items are truncated according to their PICTURE
                  clauses.
NOTRUNC           Numeric data items are truncated according to their internal
                  representation.


This can be used for handy things like bit size assumptions (with the
given cobc configuration, at time of the preprocessing phase of a COBOL
compile sequence;  that means these are compile time values).

>>IF P64 IS SET
    display "binary built assuming 8 byte pointers"
>>END-IF

>>IF GNUCOBOL IS SET
   display "free COBOL is pretty cool"
>>END-IF

There are also some testable values for native endian byte order, and
character set:

>>IF ENDIAN = "BIG" ...
>>IF ENDIAN = "LITTLE" ...

>>IF CHARSET = "ASCII" ...
>>IF CHARSET = "EBCDIC" ...
>>IF CHARSET = "UNKNOWN" ...
```

4.9 >>LEAP-SECONDS

CDF >>LEAP-SECONDS Directive Syntax

==========

```
 >>LEAP-SECONDS
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

The `>>LEAP-SECONDS` CDF directive is syntactically recognized but is otherwise non-functional.

==========

Allows for more than 60 seconds per minute.

4.10 >>LISTING

CDF >>LISTING Directive Syntax

==========

```
>>LISTING [ ON|OFF ]
~~~~~~~~~   ~~ ~~~
```

==========

The directive allows the program listing to be de-activated.

4.11 >>PAGE

CDF >>PAGE Directive Syntax

==========

```
>>PAGE [ comment-text ]
~~~~~~
```

==========

The PAGE directive specifies page ejection and provides documentation for the source listing.

1. Comment-Text may contain any character in the computers standard character coded set except for control characters.
2. Comment-Text is not checked for syntax and only serves as documentation.
3. if a source listing is being produced a PAGE directive shall cause page ejection followed by listing of the PAGE directive.
4. If a listing is not being produced the directive will have no effect.

4.12 >>REF-MOD-ZERO-LENGTH

CDF >>REF-MOD-ZERO-LENGTH Directive Syntax

==========

```
>>REF-MOD-ZERO-LENGTH [ ON|OFF ]
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~   ~~ ~~~
```

==========

The >>REF-MOD-ZERO-LENGTH CDF directive specifies whether resultant data items may have zero-length or not.

1. When this directive is omitted or is specified as off, then when reference-modification results in a zero-length data item, the exception condition EC-BOUND-REF-MOD is raised. The resultant data item may now have a length of zero, when the REF-MOD-ZERO-LENGTH compiler directive is in effect to allow it, otherwise the EC-BOUND-REF-MOD exception is raised.
2. Previously, the consequence of this result was undefined, though it had been the intention that a zero-length result would always raise the EC-BOUND-REF-MOD exception.

   In most cases programmers intend that reference-modification does not result in a zero-length item and expect an exception when this is not the case. In cases where this is not true the REF-MOD-ZERO-LENGTH compiler directive may be specified.

4.13 >>SET

CDF >>SET Directive Syntax

```
=============================================================================

>>SET { [ CONSTANT ] cdf-variable-1 literal-1 ]                              }
~~~~~ {   ~~~~~~~~                                                          }
      { SOURCEFORMAT AS FIXED|FREE|VARIABLE|XOPEN|XCARD|CRT|TERMINAL|COBOLX }
      { ~~~~~~~~~~~~    ~~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~ ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ }
      { NOFOLDCOPYNAME                                                      }
      { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~                                                      }
      { FOLDCOPYNAME AS UPPER|LOWER                                         }
        ~~~~~~~~~~~~    ~~~~~ ~~~~~

=============================================================================
```

The >>SET CDF directive provides an alternate means of performing the actions of the >>DEFINE and >>SOURCE directives, as well as a means of controlling the compiler's -free switch, -fixed switch and -ffold-copy switch from within program source code.

1. The reserved word AS is optional (only on the SOURCEFORMAT and FOLDCOPYNAME clauses) and may be included, or not, at the discretion of the programmer. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. CDF variables defined in this way become undefined once an END PROGRAM or END FUNCTION directive is encountered in the input source.
3. The FOLDCOPYNAME option provides the equivalent of specifying the compiler -ffold-copy=xxx switch, where xxx is either UPPER or LOWER.

4. The `NOFOLDCOPYNAME` option turns off the effect of either the `>>SET FOLDCOPYNAME` statement or the compiler `-ffold-copy=xxx` switch.
5. If the `CONSTANT` option is used, <literal-1> must also be used. This option provides another means of defining constants that may be used anywhere in the program that a literal could be specified.
6. The remaining options of the `>>SET` CDF directive provide equivalent functionality to the `>>DEFINE` [how ever as this form is no longer in the Cobol standards and is classsed as archaic and wil be so flagged, the use of >>DEFINE should be used for all new programs], and `>>SOURCE` directives, as follows:

   `>>SET cdf-variable-1`
   ```
   >>DEFINE cdf-variable-1 AS OFF
   ```

   `>>SET cdf-variable-1 AS literal-1`
   ```
   >>DEFINE cdf-variable-1 AS literal-1
   ```

   `>>SET CONSTANT cdf-variable-1 literal-1`
   ```
   >>DEFINE CONSTANT cdf-variable-1 literal-1
   ```

   `>>SET SOURCEFORMAT AS FIXED`
   ```
   >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
   ```

   `>>SET SOURCEFORMAT AS FREE`
   ```
   >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FREE
   ```

   `>>SET SOURCEFORMAT AS VARIABLE`
   ```
   >>SOURCE FORMAT IS VARIABLE
   ```

   `>>SET SOURCEFORMAT AS XOPEN`
   ```
   >>SOURCE FORMAT IS XOPEN
   ```

   `>>SET SOURCEFORMAT AS XCARD`
   ```
   >>SOURCE FORMAT IS XCARD
   ```

   `>>SET SOURCEFORMAT AS CRT`
   ```
   >>SOURCE FORMAT IS CRT
   ```

   `>>SET SOURCEFORMAT AS TERMINAL`
   ```
   >>SOURCE FORMAT IS TERMINAL
   ```

   `>>SET SOURCEFORMAT AS COBOLX`
   ```
   >>SOURCE FORMAT IS COBOLX
   ```

   Note that only FIXED and FREE are standard ISO Cobol options, all the others are GnuCOBOL vendor extensions. That means that moving to another compiler may well involve chages to your source code format wise.

   `>>SET XFD literal-1`

   [See chapter 13]

>>SET Micro-Focus-Directive

[to do]

4.14 >>SOURCE

CDF >>SOURCE Directive Syntax

==========

```
>>SOURCE FORMAT IS { FIXED|FREE|VARIABLE|XOPEN|XCARD|CRT|TERMINAL|COBOLX }
~~~~~~~~             ~~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~ ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~
```

==========

The `>>SOURCE` CDF directive puts the compiler into `FIXED` or `FREE` source-code format mode. This, in effect, provides yet another mechanism for controlling the compiler's `-free` switch and `-fixed` switch.

1. The reserved words `FORMAT` and `IS` are optional and may be included, or not, at the discretion of the programmer. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. FIXED : Source code is divided into: columns 1-6, the sequence number area; column 7, the indicator area; columns 8-72, the program-text area; and columns 73-80 as the reference area.
3. FREE : Source code text area starts in column 1 and continues till the end of line (to a maximum of 255 characters).
4. VARIABLE : Identical to FIXED format above except that it extends up to column 256 (in MF and some others, it is 252).
5. XOPEN : X/Open Free-form format. The program-text area may start in column 1 unless an indicator is present, and lines may contain up to 80 characters. Indicator for debugging lines is D instead of D or d.
6. XCARD : ICOBOL xCard format. Variable format with right margin set at column 255 instead of 250.
7. CRT : ICOBOL Free-form format (CRT). Similar to the X/Open format above, with lines containing up to 320 characters and single-character debugging line indicators (D or d).
8. TERMINAL : ACUCOBOL-GT Terminal format. Similar to the CRT format above, with indicator for debugging lines being \D instead of D or d. This format is mostly compatible with VAX COBOL terminal source format.

9. COBOLX : This format is similar to the CRT format above, except that the indicator area is always present in column 1; the program-text area starts in column 2 and extends up to the end of the record. Lines may contain up to 255 characters.
10. Note that with source formats XOPEN, CRT, TERMINAL, and COBOLX, missing spaces are not inserted within continued alphanumeric literals that are truncated before the right margin
11. You may switch between the various format modes as desired and it takes effect immediately.
12. You may also use the `>>SET` CDF directive to perform this function.
13. If the compiler is already in the specified mode, this statement will have no effect.

4.15 >>TURN

CDF >>TURN Directive Syntax

==========

```
>>TURN { exception-name-1 [ file-name-1 ]... }...
~~~~~~
        CHECKING  { ON [ WITH LOCATION ] }
        ~~~~~~~~  {            ~~~~~~~~   }
                  { OFF                   }
                    ~~~
```

==========

The directive will activate or de-activate exception checks.

1. The default TURN directive is '>>TURN EC-ALL CHECKING OFF'.
2. If the ON phrase is specified or implied, checking for the exception condition associated with exception-name-1 is enabled for the procedure division statements and procedure division headers that follow in the compilation group; if file-name-1 is specified, checking is enabled only for exception conditions associated with that file-name. Checking remains enabled for every qualifying procedure division statement and procedure division header that follows in the compilation group until it is disabled by a TURN directive with the OFF phrase.
3. If the LOCATION phrase is specified, all information necessary to identify a source statement for the EXCEPTION-LOCATION, EXCEPTION-LOCATION-N, and EXCEPTION-STATEMENT functions is made available to the run unit. If the LOCATION phrase is not specified, the implementor shall specify whether this information is made available or not.

4. If the OFF phrase is specified, checking for the exception condition associated with exception-name-1 is disabled for all procedure division statements and procedure division headers that follow in the compilation group and remains disabled until another TURN directive for exception-name-1 with the ON phrase is encountered; if file-name-1 is specified, checking is disabled only for exception conditions associated with that file-name.

See also: the CBL_ERROR_PROC built-in system routine and EXCEPTION-STATUS, EXCEPTION-STATEMENT, EXCEPTION-LOCATION, EXCEPTION-FILE intrinsic functions. Note: the USE AFTER EC|EXCEPTION CONDITION of DECLARATIVES and the RAISE statement are not yet implemented.

```
        >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TEST.  *> sample for EC-BOUND overflow
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 TABLE01.
   05 ELEM OCCURS 4 TIMES PIC X(5).
01 IDX     pic 99 value 6.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
DECLARATIVES.
DECLARATIVE-1 SECTION.
   USE AFTER EXCEPTION CONDITION EC-BOUND.
       DISPLAY "DECLARATIVE FOR EC-BOUND".
   EXIT PROGRAM.
END DECLARATIVES.

MAIN-SECTION SECTION.
DISPLAY "TURN EC-BOUND CHECKING ON".
>>TURN EC-BOUND CHECKING O
MOVE "ABCDE" TO ELEM(IDX).
STOP RUN.
```

4.16 Other Compiler Directives

There are other COBOL compiler directives (or options) that vary among vendors to accommodate the different architectures (Mainframe, Unix, Windows) and supported dialects. To insert directives directly into the source code, each vendor uses a specific "control statement" that must usually appear before the IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.

Here is a summary of the main "control statements" for main vendors. In addition to the CDF directives from the COBOL ISO standards, GnuCOBOL supports some of them for compatibility reasons.

```
+-------------------------------------------------------------------+
| COMMAND         VENDOR     EXAMPLE                                |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------+
| CBL or  PROCESS IBM        CBL OPT(2),SSRANGE,NODYNAM,XREF        |
|*CBL or *CONTROL IBM                                               |
|                                                                   |
| $               MICROFOCUS $SET SOURCEFORMAT"FIXED"               |
|                                                                   |
| @OPTIONS        ACUCOBOL                                          |
| @DIRECTIVES     ACUCOBOL                                          |
|                                                                   |
| @OPTIONS        FUJITSU    @OPTIONS FIXED,ALPHAL(WORD),CHECK(ALL) |
| @DIRECTIVES     FUJITSU                                           |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------+
```

4.16.1 *CBL Directive

CDF *CBL Directive Syntax

==========

```
 { *CBL     }  { | SOURCE   | } [ . ]
 { ~~~~     }  { | ~~~~~~   | }
 { *CONTROL }  { | NOSOURCE | }
   ~~~~~~~~    { | ~~~~~~~~ | }
               { | LIST     | }
               { | ~~~~     | }
               { | NOLIST   | }
               { | ~~~~~~   | }
               { | MAP      | }
               { | ~~~      | }
               { | NOMAP    | }
                   ~~~~~
```

==========

The *CBL (or *CONTROL) statement is used to specify compiler options directly within the source code to control compiler listings. The compiler detects and checks the syntax but, this option is currently not implemented, at least with GnuCOBOL v3.2.

It is usually placed before the IDENTIFICATION DIVISION statement. It allows you to enable/disable SOURCE, LIST and MAP options, even at specific points in the program. It can begin in any column starting with column 8. The line must contain *CBL (or *CONTROL) followed by options separated by spaces or commas. It must be the only statement on the line, and continuation onto subsequent lines is not permitted. The statement can end with a period.

1. `SOURCE` - Source Code Listing

   Control the listing of the input source text lines. If a *CBL NOSOURCE statement is encountered and SOURCE has been requested as a compilation option, printing of the source listing is suppressed from this point on.

2. `LIST` - Object Code Listing

   LIST compiler option produce a listing of the assembler-language expansion of your source code. Default is: NOLIST. Any *CBL (or *CONTROL) LIST or NOLIST statements that you code in the PROCEDURE DIVISION have no effect. They are treated as comments. The compiler always produces an object code listing. The LIST and NOLIST options of the *CONTROL (or *CBL) statement are syntax checked but have no effect on the object code listing.

3. `MAP` - Storage Map Listing

   Control the listing of storage map entries occurring in the DATA DIVISION. If a *CBL NOMAP statement is encountered, and MAP has been requested as a compilation option, listing of storage map entries is suppressed from this point on. For example, either of the following sets of statements produces a storage map listing in which FIELD-A and FIELD-B will not appear:

   ```
   *CBL NOMAP
       01  FIELD-A
       02  FIELD-B
   *CBL MAP
   ```

4.16.2 $ and OPTIONS Directive

CDF $ Directive Syntax

==========

```
$ (Dollar) Directives - Active.

These directives are active and have the same function as ones starting with >>:

$DEFINE
```

```
 $DISPLAY ON|OFF

 $IF
 $ELSE
 $ELIF
 $ELSE-IF

 $END
 $SET

 It is recommended to use the standard directives only instead of the MF
 directives (when possible) as these have a higher chance for being portable.

 $ (Dollar) Directives - Not Active.
 These are NOT active and will produce a warning message:

 $DISPLAY VCS ...

 Recognised but otherwise ignored.

 @OPTIONS options-text

 Additional Micro-Focus directives accepted :

+-------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| Explicit Reserved Word Control                                          |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| ADDRSV|ADD-RSV literal-1                              | Add reserved word |
| ADDSYN|ADD-SYN literal-1 = literal-2                 | Add synonym       |
| MAKESYN|MAKE-SYN                                     | Make synonymous   |
| OVERRIDE  literal-1 = literal-2                      | Change meaning    |
| REMOVE  literal-1                                    | Make unreserved   |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| Choosing Run-time Behavior                                              |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| ASSIGN  "EXTERNAL"|"DYNAMIC"                       |                   |
| FOLDCOPYNAME|FOLD-COPY-NAME  AS "UPPER"|"LOWER"    | Fold COPY-file names |
| NOFOLDCOPYNAME|NOFOLD-COPY-NAME|NO-FOLD-COPY-NAME  |                   |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| Behavior Affecting Speed                                                |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------+
```

```
| BOUND                                        | Bound checking of subscripts |
| NOBOUND|NO-BOUND                              |                              |
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| File handling
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| CALLFH  literal-1                            | External file handler        |
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| Others
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| COMP1|COMP-1 "BINARY"|"FLOAT"                       | Computational subset |
| SOURCEFORMAT|SOURCE-FORMAT "FIXED"|"FREE"|"VARIABLE"                       |
| SSRANGE "2"                                  |                              |
| NOSSRANGE|NO-SSRANGE                         |                              |
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------+
```

==========

Offers support for MF Compiler Directives.

5 IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION Syntax

==========

```
[ IDENTIFICATION DIVISION. ]
  ~~             ~~~~~~~~
{ PROGRAM-ID. } { program-name|literal-1 } [ AS literal-2 ] [ Type-clause ].
{ ~~~~~~~~~~  }
{ FUNCTION-ID.} { function-name|literal-3 } [ AS literal-4 ].
  ~~~~~~~~~~~
[ OPTIONS.
  ~~~~~~~
    [ ARITHMETIC IS NATIVE ]
      ~~~~~~~~~~    ~~~~~
    [ DEFAULT ROUNDED MODE IS { AWAY-FROM-ZERO         } ]
    [ ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~         { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~         } ]
    [                         { NEAREST-AWAY-FROM-ZERO } ]
    [                         { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ } ]
    [                         { NEAREST-EVEN           } ]
    [                         { ~~~~~~~~~~~~           } ]
    [                         { NEAREST-TOWARD-ZERO    } ]
    [                         { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~     } ]
    [                         { PROHIBITED             } ]
    [                         { ~~~~~~~~~~             } ]
    [                         { TOWARD-GREATER         } ]
    [                         { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~         } ]
    [                         { TOWARD-LESSER          } ]
    [                         { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~          } ]
    [                         { TRUNCATION             } ]
                        ~~~~~~~~~~
    [ ENTRY-CONVENTION IS { COBOL|EXTERN|STDCALL } ]         ].
      ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~      ~~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
[ AUTHOR.         [ comment-entry-1. ]... ]
  ~~~~~~
[ DATE-COMPILED. [ comment-entry-2. ]... ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ DATE-MODIFIED. [ comment-entry-3. ]... ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

```
[ DATE-WRITTEN.  [ comment-entry-4. ]... ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ INSTALLATION.  [ comment-entry-5. ]... ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ REMARKS.       [ comment-entry-6. ]... ]
  ~~~~~~~
[ SECURITY.      [ comment-entry-7. ]...
  ~~~~~~~~
```

The `AUTHOR`, `DATE-COMPILED`, `DATE-MODIFIED`, `DATE-WRITTEN`, `INSTALLATION`, `REMARKS` and `SECURITY` paragraphs are supported by GnuCOBOL only to provide compatibility with programs written for the ANS1974 (or earlier) standards. As of the ANS1985 standard, these clauses have become obsolete and should not be used in new programs.

==========

PROGRAM-ID Type Clause Syntax

==========

```
IS { | COMMON        | } PROGRAM
   { | ~~~~~~        | }
   { | { INITIAL   } | }
   { | { ~~~~~~~   } | }
   { | { RECURSIVE } | }
         ~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The identification division provides basic identification of the program by giving it a name and optionally defining some high-level characteristics via the eight pre-defined paragraphs that may be specified.

1. The paragraphs shown above may be coded in any sequence.
2. The reserved words `AS`, `IS` and `PROGRAM` are optional and may be included, or not, at the discretion of the programmer. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
3. A **Type Clause** may be coded only when `PROGRAM-ID` is specified. If one is coded, either `COMMON`, `COMMON INITIAL` or `COMMON RECURSIVE` must be specified.
4. While the actual `IDENTIFICATION DIVISION` or `ID DIVISION` header is optional, the `PROGRAM-ID` / `FUNCTION-ID` paragraphs are not; only one or the other, however, may be coded.

5. In the definition of the name of PROGRAM-ID (or FUNCTION-ID) you must not use names identical to those of functions of the 'libc' library. The functions of the 'libc' library have names in lowercase or mixed case. Using uppercase names always, for PROGRAM-ID and FUNCTION-ID avoids any possibility of overlapping or other misusage. Likewise, use of names starting with 'CBL' or 'COB' may well clash with predefined function routines and again you could end up with the wrong routine being called and lastly do not precede name with underscore (_) as these are used with internal routine usage. Note that this is also true for any C library in program space, so it includes curses, gmp, possibly libm, libxml2, JSON, BDB, ...
6. The compiler's `-Wobsolete` switch will cause the GnuCOBOL compiler to issue warnings messages if these (or any other obsolete syntax) is used in a program.
7. If specified, <literal-1> must be an actual alphanumeric literal and may not be a figurative constant.
8. The `PROGRAM-ID` and `FUNCTION-ID` paragraphs serve to identify the program to the external (i.e. operating system) environment. If there is no `AS` clause present, the <program-id> will serve as that external identification. If there is an `AS` clause specified, that specified literal will serve as the external identification. For the remainder of this document, that "external identification" will be referred to as the primary entry-point name.
9. The `INITIAL`, `COMMON` and `RECURSIVE` words are used only within subprograms serving as subroutines. Their purposes are as follows:
   A. `COMMON` should be used only within subprograms that are nested subprograms. A nested subprogram declared as `COMMON` may be called from any nested program in the source file being compiled, not just those "above" it in the nesting structure.
   B. The `RECURSIVE` clause, if any, will cause the compiler to generate different object code for the subprogram that will enable it to invoke itself and to properly return back to the program that invoked it.

      User-defined functions (i.e. `FUNCTION-ID`) are always recursive.
   C. The `INITIAL` clause, if specified, guarantees the subprogram will be in its initial (i.e. compiled) state each and every time it is executed, not just the first time.

6 ENVIRONMENT DIVISION

ENVIRONMENT DIVISION Syntax

```
==============================================================================
```

```
     ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
     ~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~

  [ CONFIGURATION SECTION.
    ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
    [ SOURCE-COMPUTER. Compilation-Computer-Specification. ]
      ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
    [ OBJECT-COMPUTER. Execution-Computer-Specification. ]
      ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
    [ SPECIAL-NAMES. Program-Configuration-Specification. ]
      ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
    [ REPOSITORY. Prototype-Specification... . ] ]
      ~~~~~~~~~~

  [ INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
     ~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
    [ FILE-CONTROL. General-File-Description... . ]
      ~~~~~~~~~~~~
    [ I-O-CONTROL. File-Buffering Specification... . ] ]
      ~~~~~~~~~~~
```

```
==============================================================================
```

This division defines the external computer environment in which the program will be operating. This includes defining any files that the program may be .

- If both optional sections of this division are coded, they must be coded in the sequence shown.
- The paragraphs within the sections may be coded in any order.
- These sections consist of a series of specific, pre-defined, paragraphs (`SOURCE-COMPUTER` and `OBJECT-COMPUTER`, for example), each of which serves a specific purpose. If no code is required for the purpose one of the paragraphs serves, the entire paragraph may be omitted.

- If any of the paragraphs within one of the sections are coded, the section header itself must be coded.
- If none of the paragraphs within one of the sections are coded, the section header itself may be omitted.
- If none of the sections within the environment division are coded, the `ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.` header itself may be omitted.

6.1 CONFIGURATION SECTION

CONFIGURATION SECTION Syntax

==========

```
  CONFIGURATION SECTION.
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
[ SOURCE-COMPUTER. Compilation-Computer-Specification . ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ OBJECT-COMPUTER. Execution-Computer-Specification . ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ SPECIAL-NAMES.   Program-Configuration-Specification . ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ REPOSITORY.      Prototype-Specification... . ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This section defines the computer system upon which the program is being compiled and executed and also specifies any special environmental configuration or compatibility characteristics.

1. The four paragraphs in this section may be specified in any order but if not in this order, a warning will be issued.
2. The configuration section is not allowed in a nested subprogram. A nested program inherits the configuration section settings of its parent program.
3. If none of the features provided by the configuration section are required by a program, the entire `CONFIGURATION SECTION.` header may be omitted from the program.

6.1.1 SOURCE-COMPUTER

SOURCE-COMPUTER Syntax

==========

```
SOURCE-COMPUTER. computer-name [ WITH DEBUGGING MODE ] .
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~                        ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~
```

==========

This paragraph defines the computer upon which the program is being compiled and provides one way in which debugging code embedded within the program may be activated.

1. The reserved word `WITH` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. This paragraph is not allowed in a nested subprogram. A nested program inherits the `SOURCE-COMPUTER` settings of its parent program.
3. The value specified for <computer-name> is irrelevant, provided it is a valid COBOL word that does not match any GnuCOBOL reserved word. The <computer-name> value may include spaces. This need not match the <computer-name> used with the `OBJECT-COMPUTER` paragraph, if any.
4. The `DEBUGGING MODE` clause, if present, will inform the compiler that debugging lines (those with a '`D`' in column 7 if Fixed Source Mode is in effect, or those prefixed with a `>>D` if Free Source Mode is in effect) — normally treated as comments — are to be compiled.
5. Even without the `DEBUGGING MODE` clause, it is still possible to compile debugging lines. Debugging lines may also be compiled by specifying the `-fdebugging-line` switch to the GnuCOBOL compiler.

6.1.2 OBJECT-COMPUTER

OBJECT-COMPUTER Syntax

==========

```
OBJECT-COMPUTER.  [ computer-name ]
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ MEMORY SIZE IS integer-1 WORDS|CHARACTERS ]
  ~~~~~~ ~~~~              ~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~
[ PROGRAM COLLATING SEQUENCE IS alphabet-name-1 ]
          ~~~~~~~~~
[ SEGMENT-LIMIT IS integer-2 ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ CHARACTER CLASSIFICATION IS { locale-name-1  } ]
            ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~    { LOCALE         }
                              { ~~~~~~         }
                              { USER-DEFAULT   }
                              { ~~~~~~~~~~~~   }
```

```
                                  { SYSTEM-DEFAULT }
                                    ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
  .
```

The `MEMORY SIZE` and `SEGMENT-LIMIT` clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

This paragraph describes the computer upon which the program will execute.

1. The <computer-name>, if specified, must immediately follow the `OBJECT-COMPUTER` paragraph name. The remaining clauses may be coded in any sequence.
2. The reserved words `CHARACTER`, `IS`, `PROGRAM` and `SEQUENCE` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect on the program.
3. The value specified for <computer-name>, if any, is irrelevant provided it is a valid COBOL word that does not match any GnuCOBOL reserved word. The <computer-name> may include spaces. This need not match the <computer-name> used with the `SOURCE-COMPUTER` paragraph, if any.
4. The `OBJECT-COMPUTER` paragraph is not allowed in a nested subprogram. A nested program inherits the `OBJECT-COMPUTER` settings of its parent program.
5. The `COLLATING SEQUENCE` clause allows you to specify a customized character collating sequence to be used when alphanumeric values are compared to one another. Data will still be stored in the character set native to the computer, but the logical sequence in which characters are ordered for comparison purposes can be altered from that defined by the computer's native character set. The <alphabet-name-1> you specify needs to be defined in the `SPECIAL-NAMES` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) paragraph.
6. If no `COLLATING SEQUENCE` clause is specified, the collating sequence implied by the character set native to the computer (usually ASCII) will be used.
7. The optional `CLASSIFICATION` clause may be used to specify a locale for the environment in which the program will execute, for the purpose of influencing the upper-case and lower-case mappings of characters for the `UPPER-CASE` (see UPPER-CASE) and `LOWER-CASE` (see LOWER-CASE) intrinsic functions and the classification of characters for the `ALPHABETIC`, `ALPHABETIC-LOWER` and `ALPHABETIC-UPPER` class tests. The definitions of these classes is taken from the cultural convention specification (`LC_CTYPE`) from the specified locale.

   The meanings of the four locale specifications are as follows:

   A. <locale-name-1> references a `LOCALE` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) definition.

B. The keyword `LOCALE` refers to the current locale (in effect at the time the program is executed)

C. The keyword `USER-DEFAULT` references the default locale specified for the user currently executing this program.

D. The keyword `SYSTEM-DEFAULT` denotes the default locale specified for the computer upon which the program is executing.

8. Absence of a `CLASSIFICATION` clause will cause character classification to occur according to the rules for the computer's native character set (ASCII, EBCDIC, etc.).

6.1.3 SPECIAL-NAMES

SPECIAL-NAMES Syntax

==========

```
SPECIAL-NAMES.
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
  [ CALL-CONVENTION integer-1 IS mnemonic-name-1 .]
    ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
  [ CONSOLE IS CRT .]
    ~~~~~~~~    ~~~
  [ CRT STATUS IS identifier-1 .]
    ~~~ ~~~~~~~
  [ CURRENCY SIGN IS literal-1 [ WITH PICTURE SYMBOL literal-2 ] .]
    ~~~~~~~~                            ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  [ CURSOR IS identifier-2 .]
    ~~~~~~~
  [ DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA .]
    ~~~~~~~~~~~~~    ~~~~~
  [ EVENT STATUS IS identifier-3 .]
    ~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  [ LOCALE locale-name-1 IS literal-3 .]...
    ~~~~~~~
  [ NUMERIC SIGN IS TRAILING SEPARATE .]
    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~    ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
  [ SCREEN CONTROL IS identifier-4 .]
    ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
  [ SYMBOLIC CONSTANT { identifier-5 IS literal-4 }... .]...
    ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~
  [ device-name-1 IS mnemonic-name-2 .]...

  [ feature-name-1 IS mnemonic-name-3 .]...
```

```
  [ Alphabet-Clause .]...

  [ Class-Definition-Clause .]...

  [ Switch-Definition-Clause .]...

  [ Symbolic-Characters-Clause .]...   .
```

==========

<Alphabet-Name-Clause>, <Class-Definition-Clause>,

<Switch-Definition-Clause> and <Symbolic-Characters-Clause>

are discussed in detail in the next four sections.

The `SPECIAL-NAMES` paragraph provides a means for specifying various program and operating environment configuration options.

1. The various clauses that may be specified within the `SPECIAL-NAMES` paragraph may be coded in any order.
2. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
3. The `SPECIAL-NAMES` paragraph is not allowed in a nested subprogram. A nested program inherits the `SPECIAL-NAMES` settings of its parent program.
4. Only the final clause specified within this paragraph should be terminated with a period.
5. The `CALL-CONVENTION` clause allows a decimal integer, representing a series of ON/OFF switch settings, to be associated with a mnemonic name which may then be coded on a `CALL` statement (see CALL). The switch settings defined by this mnemonic will then control how the linkage to a subroutine invoked by the `CALL` statement that references <mnemonic-name-1> will be handled.
6. The `CONSOLE IS CRT` clause, if specified, will cause a `DISPLAY` statement lacking an explicit `UPON` clause to be treated as a `DISPLAY data-item` statement (see DISPLAY data-item), and any `ACCEPT` statement lacking a `FROM` clause to be treated as a `ACCEPT data-item` statement (see ACCEPT data-item).
7. If the `CRT STATUS` clause is not specified, an implicit `COB-CRT-STATUS` identifier (with a `PICTURE 9(4)`) will be allocated for the purpose of receiving screen `ACCEPT` statuses. If `CRT STATUS` is specified, then <identifier-1> must be defined in the program as a `PICTURE 9(4)` field.

8. The `CURRENCY SIGN` clause may be used to redefine the character to be used as a currency sign in a `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) clause. The default currency sign is a dollar-sign ('`$`'). You may specify any character *except* `0`-`9`, `A`-`Z`, `a`-`z`, `+`, `-`, `,`, `.`, `*`, `/`, `;`, `(`, `)`, `=`, `\\`, quote ('`"`') or space.
9. The `CURSOR IS` clause allows you to specify a 4- or 6-character data item into which the cursor screen location at the time a screen `ACCEPT` is satisfied. The value will be returned as *rrcc* or *rrrccc*, depending upon the length of the specified <identifier-2>, where *rr* and *rrr* represent the row number (starting at zero) and *cc* and *ccc* represent the column number (also starting at zero). There is no default data item allocated for this data if the `CURSOR IS` clause is not specified, and it is the programmer's responsibility to define <identifier-2> if the clause is specified. If identifier-2 refers to a data item that contains a valid screen position at the beginning of a ACCEPT statement, and that position corresponds to an input field, that position is used as the initial position for the cursor. This position may be at the beginning of an input field or at some offset within the input field.
10. The `DECIMAL POINT IS COMMA` clause reverses the definition of the '`,`' and '`.`' characters when they are used as `PICTURE` editing symbols and within numeric literals. This can have unwanted side-effects - see Punctuation.
11. The `LOCALE` clause may be used to associate external OS-defined locale names (<literal-3>) with an internal name (<locale-name-1>) that may then be referenced within the program. Locale names are defined by the Operating System and/or C compiler GnuCOBOL will be utilizing on your computer.
12. The following is the list of possible locale codes, for example, that would be available on a Windows computer running a GnuCOBOL version that was built utilizing the MinGW Unix-emulator and the GNU C compiler (gcc):

    A

    af_ZA, am_ET, ar_AE, ar_BH, ar_DZ, ar_EG, ar_IQ, ar_JO, ar_KW, ar_LB, ar_LY, ar_MA, ar_OM, ar_QA, ar_SA, ar_SY, ar_TN, ar_YE, arn_CL, as_IN, az_Cyrl_AZ, az_Latn_AZ

    B

    ba_R, be_BY, bg_BG, bn_IN bo_BT, bo_CN, br_FR, bs_Cyrl_BA, bs_Latn_BA

    C

    ca_ES, cs_CZ, cy_GB

    D

    da_DK, de_AT, de_CH, de_DE, de_LI, de_LU, dsb_DE, dv_MV

E

el_GR, en_029, en_AU, en_BZ, en_CA, en_GB, en_IE, en_IN, en_JM, en_MY en_NZ, en_PH, en_SG, en_TT, en_US, en_ZA, en_ZW, es_AR, es_BO, es_CL, es_CO, es_CR, es_DO, es_EC, es_ES, es_GT, es_HN, es_MX, es_NI, es_PA, es_PE, es_PR, es_PY, es_SV, es_US, es_UY es_VE, et_EE, eu_ES

F

fa_IR, fi_FI, fil_PH, fo_FO, fr_BE, fr_CA, fr_CH, fr_FR, fr_LU, fr_MC, fy_NL

G

ga_IE, gbz_AF, gl_ES, gsw_FR, gu_IN

H

ha_Latn_NG, he_IL, hi_IN, hr_BA, hr_HR, hu_HU, hy_AM

I

id_ID, ig_NG, ii_CN, is_IS, it_CH, it_IT, iu_Cans_CA, iu_Latn_CA

J

ja_JP

K

ka_GE, kh_KH, kk_KZ, kl_GL, kn_IN, ko_KR, kok_IN, ky_KG

L

lb_LU, lo_LA, lt_LT, lv_LV

M

mi_NZ, mk_MK, ml_IN, mn_Cyrl_MN, mn_Mong_CN moh_CA, mr_IN, ms_BN, ms_MY, mt_MT

N

nb_NO, ne_NP, nl_BE, nl_NL, nn_NO, ns_ZA

O

oc_FR, or_IN

P

pa_IN, pl_PL, ps_AF, pt_BR, pt_PT

Q

qut_GT, quz_BO, quz_EC, quz_PE

R

rm_CH, ro_RO, ru_RU, rw_RW

S

sa_IN, sah_RU, se_FI, se_NO se_SE, si_LK, sk_SK, sl_SI, sma_NO, sma_SE, smj_NO, smj_SE, smn_FI, sms_FI, sq_AL, sr_Cyrl_BA, sr_Cyrl_CS, sr_Latn_BA, sr_Latn_CS, sv_FI, sv_SE, sw_KE syr_SY

T

ta_IN, te_IN, tg_Cyrl_TJ, th_TH tk_TM, tmz_Latn_DZ, tn_ZA, tr_IN, tr_TR, tt_RU

U

ug_CN, uk_UA, ur_PK, uz_Cyrl_UZ, uz_Latn_UZ

V

vi_VN

W

wen_DE, wo_SN

X

xh_ZA

Y

yo_NG

Z

zh_CN, zh_HK, zh_MO, zh_SG, zh_TW, zu_ZA

Sample of use:

```
 ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
 CONFIGURATION SECTION.
      SOURCE-COMPUTER. ibmpc.
      OBJECT-COMPUTER. ibmpc CLASSIFICATION brazil.
      SPECIAL-NAMES.
          LOCALE brazil "pt_BR.UTF-8".
```

13. The `NUMERIC SIGN TRAILING SEPARATE` specification causes all signed numeric `USAGE DISPLAY` data items to be created as if the `SIGN IS TRAILING SEPARATE CHARACTER` clause was included in their definitions.

14. The `device-name-1 IS mnemonic-name-2` clause allows you to specify an alternate name (<device-name-1>) for one of the built-in GnuCOBOL device name <mnemonic-name-2>. The list of device names built-into GnuCOBOL, and the physical device associated with that name, are as follows:

    `CONSOLE`

    This is the (screen-mode) display of the PC or Unix system.

STDIN; **SYSIN**; **SYSIPT**

These devices (they are all synonymous) represent standard system input (pipe 0). On a PC or UNIX system, this is typically the keyboard. The contents of a file may be delivered to a GnuCOBOL program for access via one of these device names by adding the sequence '`0< filename`' to the end of the programs execution command.

PRINTER; **STDOUT**; **SYSLIST**; **SYSLST**; **SYSOUT**

These devices (they are all synonymous) represent standard system output (pipe 1). On a PC or UNIX system, this is typically the display. Output sent to one of these devices by a GnuCOBOL program can be sent to a file by adding the sequence '`1> filename`' to the end of the programs execution command.

STDERR; **SYSERR**

These devices (they are synonymous) represent standard system error output (pipe 2). On a PC or UNIX system, this is typically the display. Output sent to one of these devices by a GnuCOBOL program can be sent to a file by adding the sequence '`2> filename`' to the end of the programs execution command.

15. The `feature-name-1 IS mnemonic-name-3` clause allow for mnemonic names to be assigned to up to the 13 printer channel (i.e. vertical page positioning) position feature names `Cnn` (`nn=01-12`) and `CSP`. Once a channel position has been assigned a mnemonic name, statements of the form `WRITE record-name AFTER ADVANCING mnemonic-name-3` may be coded to write the specified print record at the channel position assigned to <mnemonic-name-3>.

    Printers supporting channel positioning are generally mainframe-type line printers. When writing to printers that do not support channel positioning, a formfeed will be issued to the printer.

    The `CSP` positioning option stands for "No Spacing". Testing on a MinGW build of GnuCOBOL shows that this too results in a formfeed being issued.

16. The `SCREEN CONTROL` IS identifier-4 must refer to a Working-Storage field defined as follows:

```
01 identifier-4.
    03 ACCEPT-CONTROL PIC 9.
    03 CONTROL-VALUE  PIC 999.
    03 CONTROL-HANDLE USAGE HANDLE.
    03 CONTROL-ID     PIC X(2) COMP-X.
```

    The `SCREEN CONTROL` clause is supported only as a definition but its use is currently incomplete. It will be fully usable when the "embedded-procedures" at the SCREEN SECTION entry level will be implemented.

17. The `EVENT-STATUS` is used to identify which data item is to receive information about screen events, identifier-3 must refer to a Working-Storage field defined as follows:

```
01 identifier-3.
   03 EVENT-TYPE           PIC X(4) COMP-X.
   03 EVENT-WINDOW-HANDLE  USAGE HANDLE OF WINDOW.
   03 EVENT-CONTROL-HANDLE USAGE HANDLE.
   03 EVENT-CONTROL-ID     PIC X(2) COMP-X.
   03 EVENT-DATA-1         USAGE SIGNED-SHORT.
   03 EVENT-DATA-2         USAGE SIGNED-LONG.
   03 EVENT-ACTION         PIC X COMP-X.
```

    The `EVENT STATUS` clause is supported only as a definition but its use is currently incomplete. It will be fully usable when the "embedded-procedures" at the SCREEN SECTION entry level will be implemented.

18. The `SYMBOLIC CONSTANT` clause associates a name with a numeric or an alphanumeric literal (alphanumeric is a GnuCOBOL extension).

```
        >>SOURCE FREE
ID DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PROG.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
SPECIAL-NAMES.
    SYMBOLIC CONSTANT CONST-1 IS '<CONST-1>'.
    SYMBOLIC CONSTANT CONST-2     -1234.567890
                      CONST-3 IS '-CONST-3'.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wAAA   PIC -Z(11)9.9(6).
01 wXXX   PIC  X(20)VALUE CONST-1.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
DISPLAY CONST-1  ' ' CONST-2 ' ' wXXX ' ' CONST-3
compute wAAA = 100 * CONST-2
display wAAA
accept omitted
STOP RUN.
```

6.1.3.1 Alphabet-Name-Clause

SPECIAL-NAMES Alphabet-Clause Syntax

==========

```
ALPHABET alphabet-name-1
~~~~~~~~
  { [ FOR ALPHANUMERIC ] IS { ASCII              }  }
  {       ~~~~~~~~~~~~      { ~~~~~              }  }
  {                         { STANDARD-1         }  }
  {                         { ~~~~~~~~~~         }  }
  {                         { STANDARD-2         }  }
  {                         { ~~~~~~~~~~         }  }
  {                         { EBCDIC             }  }
  {                         { ~~~~~~             }  }
  {                         { NATIVE             }  }
  {                         { ~~~~~~             }  }
  {                         { {Literal-Clause}...}  }
  { [ FOR NATIONAL ] IS     { NATIVE             }  }
  {       ~~~~~~~~          { ~~~~~~             }  }
  {                         { {Literal-Clause}...}  }
```

==

SPECIAL-NAMES ALPHABET Literal-Clause Syntax

==

```
literal-1 [ { THRU|THROUGH literal-2 } ]
            { ~~~~ ~~~~~~~           }
            { {ALSO literal-3}...    }
               ~~~~
```

==

The `ALPHABET` clause relates <alphabet-name-1> to a specified character code set or collating sequence, including one you define yourself using the <literal-1> option.

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
3. GnuCOBOL considers `ASCII`, `STANDARD-1` and `STANDARD-2` to be interchangeable.
4. `NATIVE` specifies the system default character set.
5. The following points apply to using the <literal-n> specifications to compose a custom character set:
   A. The <literal-n> values are either integers or alphanumeric quoted characters. These represent a single character in the `NATIVE` character set, either by its actual text value

(alphanumeric quoted character) or by ordinal position in the `NATIVE` character set (integer),

B. The sequence in which characters are defined in this clause specifies the relative order those characters should have when comparisons are made using this alphabet.

C. Character positions in this list do not affect the actual binary storage values used for the characters. Binary values will still be those of the `NATIVE` character set.

D. You may specify any of the figurative constants `SPACE`, `SPACES`, `ZERO`, `ZEROS`, `ZEROES`, `QUOTE`, `QUOTES`, `HIGH-VALUE`, `HIGH-VALUES`, `LOW-VALUE` or `LOW-VALUES` for any of the <literal-1>, <literal-2> or <literal-3> specifications.

6. Once you have defined an alphabet name, that alphabet name may be used on specifications in `CODE-SET`, `COLLATING SEQUENCE`, or `SYMBOLIC CHARACTERS` clauses elsewhere in the program. Here an example to show this in operation:

```
      >>SOURCE FREE
 identification division.
 program-id. TESTALPHABET.
 environment division.
 configuration section.
*> ASCII collating sequence is:   numeric  < upper-case < lower-case
*> but new ALPHABET is        : lower-case < upper-case < numeric
 special-names.
     alphabet NEWSEQ for alphanumeric is "a" THRU "z"
                                         "A" THRU "Z"
                                         "0" THRU "9".
 input-output section.
 file-control.
     select SORTFILE assign to SORTWORKFILE.
 data division.
 file section.
 SD  SORTFILE.
 01  SORTRECORD.
     02  SORTDATA PIC X(20).
 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
     sort     SORTFILE on ascending key SORTDATA
              collating sequence is NEWSEQ
              input    procedure is InputProc
              output   procedure is OutputProc.
     display "** END OF SORTED DATA **"
     stop run.
```

```
 InputProc.
     perform  until SORTDATA = space
     display  "Type your data (max 20 CHARS, SPACE to SORT): "
               WITH NO ADVANCING
     accept   SORTDATA
     release  SORTRECORD
  end-perform.
OutputProc.
     display  SPACE
     display  "** SORTED DATA **".
     perform  with test after until exit
              return SORTFILE
                     at end exit perform
              end-return
     display SORTDATA
     end-perform.
```

6.1.3.2 Class-Definition-Clause

SPECIAL-NAMES Class-Definition-Clause Syntax

==========

```
CLASS class-name-1 IS { literal-1 [ THRU|THROUGH literal-2 ] }...
~~~~~                              ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
```

==========

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
3. Both <literal-1> and <literal-2> must be alphanumeric literals of length 1.
4. The literal(s) specified on this clause define the possible characters that may be found in a data item's value in order to be considered part of the class.
5. For example, the following defines a class called `Hexadecimal`, the definition of which specifies the only characters that may be present in an alphanumeric data item if that data item is to be part of the `Hexadecimal` class:

```
CLASS Hexadecimal IS '0' THRU '9'
                     'A' THRU 'F'
                     'a' THRU 'f'
```

6. Once class `Hexadecimal` has been defined, program code could then use a statement such as `IF input-item IS Hexadecimal` to determine if the value of characters in a data item are valid according to that class.

6.1.3.3 Switch-Definition-Clause

SPECIAL-NAMES Switch-Definition-Clause Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
switch-name-1 { IS mnemonic-name-1 {| ON  STATUS IS condition-name-1 |}
              {                    {| ~~                           |}
              {                    {| OFF STATUS IS condition-name-2 |}
              {                       ~~~                            }
              { {| ON  STATUS IS condition-name-1 |}                  }
              { {| ~~                           |}                  }
              { {| OFF STATUS IS condition-name-2 |}                  }
                   ~~~
```

```
=============================================================================
```

The switch-definition clause associates a condition-name with a run-time execution switch so that the status of that switch may be tested from within a program.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `STATUS` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The valid <switch-name-1> names are `SWITCH-n` (`n` = 0-36).
3. If the program is compiled with the `-fsyntax-extension` switch, the switch names `SWn` (`n` = 0-15) are also valid; they correspond to `SWITCH-0` through `SWITCH-15`, respectively as well as `SWITCH-16` through `SWITCH-36`, `SWITCH 0` through `SWITCH 26` and `SWITCH A` through `SWITCH Z`.
4. At execution time, each switch will be associated with a `COB_SWITCH_n` run-time environment variable, where `n` will have the value '`0`' through '`15`'. Any of these sixteen environment variables that have the value `ON` (regardless of upper- or lower-case value) will be considered to be set "on". Any of these sixteen environment variables having no value at all or a value other than `ON` will be considered `OFF`.
5. Each specified switch must have at least one of a `IS mnemonic-name-1`, `ON STATUS` or an `OFF STATUS` option defined for it, otherwise there will be no way to reference the switch from within a GnuCOBOL program.
6. The `IS mnemonic-name-1` syntax provides a means for setting the switch to either an `ON` or `OFF` value via the `SET` statement (see SET).

7. The `ON STATUS` and `OFF STATUS` syntax provides a way of associating a condition-name with either the on or off status of the switch, so that status may be tested at execution time via the `IF` statement (see IF).

6.1.3.4 Symbolic-Characters-Clause

SPECIAL-NAMES-Symbolic-Characters-Clause Syntax

```
================================================================================
```

```
SYMBOLIC CHARACTERS
~~~~~~~~
  { symbolic-character-1... IS|ARE integer-1... }...

  [ IN alphabet-name-1 ]
    ~~
```

```
================================================================================
```

This clause may be used to define your own figurative constants.

1. The reserved words `ARE`, `CHARACTERS` and `IS` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. There must be exactly as many <integer-1> values specified as there are <symbolic-character-1> names.
3. Each symbolic character name will be associated with the corresponding <integer-1>th character in the alphabet named in the `IN` clause. The integer values are selecting characters from the alphabet by their ordinal position and not by their numeric value; thus, an integer of 15 will select the 15th character in the specified alphabet, regardless of the actual numeric value of the bit pattern that constitutes that character.
4. If no <alphabet-name-1> is specified, the systems native character set will be assumed.
5. The following two code examples define the same set of figurative constant names for five ASCII control characters (assuming that ASCII is the system's native character set). The two examples are identical in their effects, even though the way the figurative constants are defined is different.

   Individually

   ```
   SYMBOLIC CHARACTERS NUL IS 1
                       SOH IS 2
                       BEL IS 8
                       DC1 IS 18
                       DC2 IS 19
   ```

Respectively

```
SYMBOLIC CHARACTERS NUL SOH BEL DC1 DC2
                ARE   1   2   8  18  19
```

6.1.4 REPOSITORY

REPOSITORY Syntax

```
==========================================================================
```

```
REPOSITORY.
~~~~~~~~~~

[ { FUNCTION { { intrinsic-function-name-1 }...} INTRINSIC  }  ]
[ { ~~~~~~~~ {   ALL                           } ~~~~~~~~~  }  ]
[ {             ~~~                                         }  ]
[ {                                                         }  ]
[ { FUNCTION function-prototype-name-1 [ AS literal-1 ] }...} .]
[ { ~~~~~~~~                             ~~                 }  ]
[ {                                                         }  ]
[ { PROGRAM  program-prototype-name-1  [ AS literal-2 ] }...}  ]
[ { ~~~~~~~                              ~~                 }  ]
```

```
==========================================================================
```

The REPOSITORY paragraph allows specification of program and function prototype names. It also allows declaration of intrinsic-function-names that may be used without specifying the word FUNCTION.

1. The `REPOSITORY` paragraph is not allowed in a nested subprogram. A nested program inherits the `REPOSITORY` settings of its parent program.
2. The `REPOSITORY` name can be stand alone, i.e., with no sub clauses associated with it.
3. All sub clauses must end with a period for the last occurance, see examples.
4. The `INTRINSIC` clause allows you to flag one or more (or `ALL`) built-in intrinsic functions as being usable without the need to code the keyword `FUNCTION` in front of the function names.
5. As an alternative to using the `ALL INTRINSIC` clause, you may instead compile your GnuCOBOL programs using the `-fintrinsics=ALL` switch.
6. The <function-prototype-name-1> option is required to specify the name of a user-defined function your program will be using. Optionally, you may specify an alias name by which you will reference that user-defined function using `AS`.

7. The `AS` clause in both cases above is to define the external name to be used for the internally (in COBOL) used function (e.g., a C function name, otherwise GnuCOBOL's own name translation will apply and only user-functions created by GnuCOBOL modules FUNCTION-ID. will be usable).
8. The following example
   - enables all intrinsic functions to be specified without the use of the `FUNCTION` keyword,
   - names two user-defined functions named `MY-FUNCTION-1` and `MY-FUNCTION-2` that will be used by the program and

```
REPOSITORY.
    FUNCTION ALL INTRINSIC
    FUNCTION MY-FUNCTION-1
    FUNCTION MY-FUNCTION-2 AS "MF2"

Another more full example taken from the FAQs:

       >>SOURCE FREE
 IDENTIFICATION  DIVISION.
 PROGRAM-ID.     prog.
 ENVIRONMENT     DIVISION.
 CONFIGURATION   SECTION.
 REPOSITORY.
     PROGRAM recursion-test
     PROGRAM cancel-test.
 DATA            DIVISION.
 WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
 01  num         PIC 9 VALUE 0.
 PROCEDURE       DIVISION.
     CALL     recursion-test USING num
     DISPLAY  "<"
     CALL     cancel-test
     CALL     cancel-test
     CANCEL   cancel-test
     CALL     cancel-test
     DISPLAY  "<" .
END PROGRAM   prog.

 IDENTIFICATION  DIVISION.
 PROGRAM-ID.     recursion-test RECURSIVE.
 DATA            DIVISION.
```

```
 LINKAGE         SECTION.
 01  x           PIC 9.
 PROCEDURE       DIVISION USING x.
     ADD      1 TO x
     DISPLAY  x NO ADVANCING
     IF       x = 1
              CALL 'recursion-test' USING x
     END-IF.
END PROGRAM   recursion-test.


 IDENTIFICATION  DIVISION.
 PROGRAM-ID.     cancel-test.
 DATA            DIVISION.
 WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
 01  x           PIC 9 VALUE 1.
 PROCEDURE       DIVISION.
     DISPLAY  x NO ADVANCING
     ADD      1 TO x.
END PROGRAM   cancel-test.
```

A special note about user-defined functions — because you must name a user-defined function that your program will be using in the `REPOSITORY` paragraph, you may always reference that function from your program's procedure division without needing to use the `FUNCTION` keyword.

6.2 INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION

INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION Syntax

==========

```
[ INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION. ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
[ FILE-CONTROL. ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~
    [ SELECT-Statement... ]

[ I-O-CONTROL. ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~
    [ MULTIPLE-FILE-Statement ]
```

```
     [ SAME-RECORD-Statement ]
```

==========

The `INPUT-OUTPUT` section provides for the definition of any files the program will be accessing as well as control of the I/O buffering process against those files through the `FILE-CONTROL` and `I-O-CONTROL` paragraphs, respectively.

1. As the diagram shows, there are three types of statements that may occur in the two paragraphs of this section. If none of the statements are coded in a particular paragraph, the paragraph itself may be omitted, otherwise it is required.
2. If neither paragraph is coded, the `INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.` header itself may be omitted, otherwise it is normally required.
3. If the compiler *configuration file* (see Compiler Configuration Files) you are using has `relaxed-syntax-check` set to '`yes`', the `FILE-CONTROL` and `I-O-CONTROL` paragraphs may be specified without the `INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION` header having been coded.
4. If both statement types are coded in the `I-O-CONTROL` paragraph, the order in which those statements are coded is irrelevant.

6.2.1 SELECT

SELECT Statement Syntax

==========

```
SELECT [ [ NOT ] OPTIONAL ] file-name-1
~~~~~~     ~~~   ~~~~~~~~
   ASSIGN TO { [ device-1 ] { literal-1 | identifier-1 }  }
   ~~~~~~    {   ~~~~~~~~                                 }
             { [ EXTERNAL ] { device-1 } { identifier-1 } }
             { [ ~~~~~~~~ ] { ~~~~~~~~ } { word-1       } }
             { [ DYNAMIC  ]                               }
             {   ~~~~~~~                                  }
             { [ device-1 ] { USING   } { identifier-1  } }
             { [ ~~~~~~~~ ] { ~~~~~   } { word-1        } }
             {              { VARYING }                   }
             {                ~~~~~~~                     }
             { DISK FROM identifier-1                     }
               ~~~~ ~~~~

  [ ORGANIZATION | ORGANISATION Clause ]
```

```
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~~~

[ [ FILE | SORT ] STATUS IS identifier-2 [ identifier-3 ] ]
    ~~~~   ~~~~   ~~~~~~
[ LOCK MODE IS { MANUAL    } [ WITH { LOCK ON [ MULTIPLE ] RECORDS } ] ]
  ~~~~         { ~~~~~~    }   ~~~~ {      ~~   ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~  }
               { AUTOMATIC }        { ROLLBACK                    }
               { ~~~~~~~~~ }          ~~~~~~~~
               { EXCLUSIVE } [ WITH MASS-UPDATE ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~

[ RECORD DELIMITER IS { STANDARD-1        } ]
  ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~    { ~~~~~~~~~~        }
                      { LINE-SEQUENTIAL   }
                      { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~   }
                      { BINARY-SEQUENTIAL }
                      { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ }
                      { identifier-4      }

[ RESERVE { NO | integer-1 } [ AREA | AREAS ] ]
  ~~~~~~~   ~~                 ~~~~   ~~~~~
[ SHARING WITH { ALL OTHER } ]
  ~~~~~~~      { ~~~       }
               { NO OTHER  }
               { ~~        }
               { READ ONLY }
                 ~~~~ ~~~~
[ COLLATING SEQUENCE { IS alphabet-name-1 [national-collating-sequence ]     } ]
           ~~~~~~~~ { {FOR ALPHANUMERIC IS alphanumeric-collating-sequence} }
                    { {    ~~~~~~~~~~~~                                    } }
                    { {FOR NATIONAL IS national-collating-sequence        } }
                          ~~~~~~~~
[ PADDING CHARACTER IS { identifier-6 | literal-6 } ]
  ~~~~~~~
[ NOMINAL KEY IS identifier-7 ]
  ~~~~~~~
[ FILE-LIMITS { IS  } { { identifier-8 } { THROUGH } { identifier-9 } }... ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~  { ~~~ } { { literal-8    } { ~~~~~~~ } { literal-9    } }
              { ARE } {                  { THRU    }                 }
                ~~~                        ~~~~
[ TRACK-AREA IS { identifier-10 | literal-10 } CHARACTERS ]
```

```
    ~~~~~~~~~~
  [ TRACK-LIMIT IS { integer-1 } TRACKS ]
    ~~~~~~~~~~~~                 ~~~~~


 Where device-1 is:

                { CARD-PUNCH | CARD-READER    }
                { ~~~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~~    }
                { DISC | DISK                 }
                { ~~~~   ~~~~                 }
                { INPUT | INPUT-OUTPUT        }
                { ~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~~~        }
                { DISPLAY                     }
                { ~~~~~~~                     }
                { MAGNETIC-TAPE | CASSETTE    }
                { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~    }
                { KEYBOARD                    }
                { ~~~~~~~~                    }
                { OUTPUT                      }
                { ~~~~~~                      }
                { PRINT | PRINTER | PRINTER-1 }
                { ~~~~~   ~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~ }
                { RANDOM                      }
                { ~~~~~~                      }
                { LINE ADVANCING FILE         }
                { ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~              }
                { TAPE                        }
                  ~~~~
```

The `COLLATING SEQUENCE`, `RECORD DELIMITER`, `RESERVE` and `ALL OTHER` clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

The `SELECT` statement creates a definition of a file and links that COBOL definition to the external operating system environment.

1. The reserved words `AREAS`, `IS`, `MODE`, `OTHER`, `SEQUENCE`, `TO`, `USING` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. After <file-name-1>, the various clauses may be coded in any sequence.

3. A period must follow the last coded clause.
4. The `OPTIONAL` clause, to be used only for files that will be used to provide input data to the program, indicates the file may or may not actually be available at run-time. Attempts to `OPEN` an `OPTIONAL` file when the file does not exist will receive a special non-fatal file status value (see status 05 in the list of file status values below) indicating the file is not available; a subsequent attempt to `READ` that file will return an `AT END` (end-of-file) condition. Optionally, files may be designated as `NOT OPTIONAL`, if desired. This is useful when specifying the compiler's `-foptional-file` switch, which automatically makes all files `OPTIONAL` except for those explicitly declared as `NOT OPTIONAL`.
5. The <file-name-1> value that you specify will be the name by which you will reference the file within your program. This name should be formed according to the rules for user-defined names (see User-Defined Words).
6. The optional `ASSIGN` clause specifies how — at runtime, when <file-name-1> is opened — either a logical device (`STDIN`, `STDOUT`) or a file anywhere in one of the currently-mounted file systems will be associated with <file-name-1>, as follows:
   A. There are three components to the `ASSIGN` clause:

      `Type`
      `EXTERNAL`, `DYNAMIC` or neither

      `Device`
      the list of device choices

      `Locator`
      shown as a choice between <identifier-1>, <word-1> and <literal-1>.

   B. `ASSIGN TO DISC file-name-1` will be assumed if there is no `ASSIGN` clause on a `SELECT`.
   C. If an `ASSIGN` clause is coded without a <Device>, the device `DISC` will be assumed.
   D. If a <Locator> clause is coded, the COBOL file <file-name-1> will be attached to a data file within any file system that is mounted and available to the executing program at the time <file-name-1> is opened. How that file is identified varies, depending upon the specified <Locator>, as follows:
      a. If <literal-1> is coded, the value of the literal will serve as the File Location String that will identify the data file.
      b. If <identifier-1> is coded, the value of the identifier will serve as the File Location String that will identify the data file.
      c. If <word-1> (a syntactically valid word not duplicating a reserved or user-defined word) is coded, and a <Type> is `EXTERNAL`, then <word-1> itself will serve as the File Location String that will identify the data file. If, however, a <Type> of `EXTERNAL` was

not specified, the compiler will create a `PIC X(1024)` data item named <word-1> within the program; the contents of that data item at the time the program opens <file-name-1> will then serve as the File Location String that will identify the data file.

d. File Location Strings will be discussed shortly.

E. If no <Locator> is coded, <file-name-1> will be attached to a logical device or a file based upon the specified (or implied) <Device>, as follows:

a. `DISC` or `DISK` will assume an attachment to a file named <file-name-1> in whatever directory is current at the time the file is opened.

b. `DISPLAY` will assume an attachment to the `STDOUT` logical device; these files should only be used for output.

c. `KEYBOARD` will assume an attachment to the `STDIN` logical device; these files should only be used for input.

d. `PRINTER` will assume an attachment to the `LPT1` logical device/port; these files should only be used for output.

e. `RANDOM` or `TAPE` will behave exactly as `DISC` does. These two additional <Device>s are provided to facilitate the compilation of COBOL source from other COBOL implementations.

F. The `LINE ADVANCING` device *requires* that a <Locator> be specified; these files should only be used for output. A COBOL Line Advancing file will allow carriage-control characters such as line-feeds and form-feeds to be written to the attached operating system file, via the `ADVANCING` clause of the `WRITE` statement (see WRITE).

G. File Location Strings are used (at runtime) to identify the path and filename to the data file that must be attached to <file-name-1> when that file is opened.

H. If the compiler *configuration file* (see Compiler Configuration Files) you used to compile the program with, had a `filename-mapping` value of `yes`, the GnuCOBOL runtime system will first attempt to identify a currently-defined environment variable whose value will serve as the data file's path and filename, as follows:

a. If the compiler *configuration file* (see Compiler Configuration Files) you used to compile the program specified `mf` as the `assign-clause` value, then the File Locator String will be interpreted according to Microfocus COBOL rules — namely, everything before the last '`-`' in the File Locator String will be ignored; the characters after the last '`-`' will be treated as the base of an environment variable name. If there is no '`-`' character in the File Locator String then the entire File Locator

String will serve as the base of an environment variable name. This is the default behaviour for every config file except `ibm`.

b. If, on the other hand, the compiler *configuration file* (see Compiler Configuration Files) you used to compile the program specified `ibm` as the `assign-clause` value, then the File Locator String will be interpreted according to according to IBM COBOL rules — namely, the File Locator String is expected to be of the form `S-xxx` or `AS-xxx`, in which case the <xxx> will be treated as the base of an environment variable name. If there is no '`-`' character in the File Locator String then the entire File Locator String will serve as the base of an environment variable name.

c. Once an environment variable name base (let's refer to it as `bbbb`) has been determined, the runtime system will look for the first one of the following environment variables that exists, in this sequence:

```
DD_bbbb
dd_bbbb
bbbb
```

Windows systems are case-insensitive with regard to environment variables, so there is no difference between the first two when using a GnuCOBOL implementation built for either Windows/MinGW or native Windows.

If an environment variable was found, its value will serve as the path and filename to the data file.

I. If no environment variable was found, or the *configuration file* (see Compiler Configuration Files) used to compile the program had a `filename-mapping` value of `NO`, then the File Locator String value will serve as the path and filename to the data file.

J. Paths and file names may be specified on an absolute (`C:\\Data\\datafile.dat`, `/Data/datafile.dat`, ...) or relative to the current directory (`Data\\datafile.dat`, `Data/datafile.dat`, ...) basis. If no directory name is included (`datafile.dat`), the file must be in the current directory.

7. The `FILE STATUS` or `SORT STATUS` clause (they are both equivalent and only one or the other, if any, should be specified) is used to specify the name of a two character alphanumeric data item into which an I/O status code will be saved after every I/O verb that is executed against the file. This does not actually allocate the data item — you must define the item yourself somewhere in the data division. Note that the following list is complete as of v3.2: but more can be added and any tests should include one for non zeros as a catch all. See two examples lower down.

   Possible status codes that can be returned to a `FILE STATUS` data item are as follows.

   `FILE STATUS` codes are grouped into categories.

First position of the code indicates the classification category.

Category: `0x SUCCESS`

Operation completed successfully.

Action: Continue processing.

Category: `1x AT END` condition with unsuccessful completion

Sequential READ reached end of file or top of file or optional file not present. A sequential READ statement was unsuccessfully executed as a result of an AT END.

Action: Exit READ loop; handle EOF. Use the AT END phrase in the READ statement to enable the program to detect whether an at end condition has occurred.

Category: `2x INVALID KEY` condition with unsuccessful completion

The statement was unsuccessfully executed as a result of an invalid key. Keyed operation failed: duplicate key, key not found, or sequence error. Use the INVALID KEY phrase in the input-output statement to enable the program to detect whether an invalid key condition has occurred.

Action: Check key and logic; handle duplicate or missing record.

Category: `3x PERMANENT ERROR` condition with unsuccessful completion

The statement was unsuccessfully executed as the result of an error that precluded further processing of the file. Any specified exception procedures are executed. The permanent error condition remains in effect for all subsequent input-output operations on the file unless an implementor-defined technique is invoked to correct the permanent error condition. Serious I/O or system error (e.g. disk failure, file not found at OPEN).

Action: Do not retry same op; log and recover or abend.

Category: `4x LOGICAL ERROR` condition with unsuccessful completion

The statement was unsuccessfully executed as a result of an improper sequence of input-output operations that were performed on the file or as a result of violating a limit defined by the user. Programmer or logic error (e.g. wrong OPEN mode, invalid request).

Action: Fix program logic.

Category: `5x RECORD OPERATION CONFLICT` with unsuccessful completion

The input-output statement was unsuccessfully executed as a result of the record being locked by another file connector.

Action: Fix program logic.

Category: `6x FILE SHARING CONFLICT` with unsuccessful completion

The statement was unsuccessfully executed as a result of the file being locked by another file connector.

Action: Fix program logic.

Category: `7x RECORD CONTENT ERROR` with unsuccessful completion

The statement was unsuccessfully executed as a result of the record content not conforming to specified requirements.

Category: `9x IMPLEMENTOR DEFINED` condition with unsuccessful completion

The statement was unsuccessfully executed as a result of a condition that is specified by the implementor. COBOL runtime or implementer-defined error.

Action: Check documentation; possible bug or environment issue.

GnuCOBOL implements the `FILE STATUS` codes defined in the ISO standard:

```
+-------------------------------------------------------------------+
|                     GnuCOBOL FILE STATUS MAP                      |
+---------------+---------------------------------------------------+
| 1st Byte:     |   0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9  |
+---------------+---------------------------------------------------+
| 2nd Byte:   0 |   00   10        30                                |
|             1 |             21   31   41   51   61   71       91  |
|             2 |   02        22        42   52                     |
|             3 |             23        43                          |
|             4 |   04   14   24   34   44                          |
|             5 |   05             35                               |
|             6 |   06                  46                          |
|             7 |   07             37   47   57                     |
|             8 |                  38   48                          |
|             9 |   09             39   49                          |
+---------------+---------------------------------------------------+
```

Complete list of all `FILE STATUS` codes, followed by a detailed explanation of each code.

```
+-------------------------------------------------+
|            GnuCOBOL FILE STATUS LIST            |
+------+------------------------------------------+
|      | 0x SUCCESS                               |
|  00  | SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION. NO ERROR.         |
|  02  | SUCCESS. DUPLICATE KEY.                  |
|  04  | SUCCESS. RECORD LENGTH MISMATCH.         |
|  05  | SUCCESS. OPTIONAL FILE IS NOT PRESENT.   |
```

```
|  06  | SUCCESS. EOF NOT DETECTED FOR A LS FILE.   |
|  07  | FILE NOT ON TAPE.                          |
|  09  | BAD CHARACTER ON A LS FILE.                |
|      | 1x AT END                                  |
|  10  | END OF FILE.                               |
|  14  | RELATIVE KEY OUT OF RANGE.                 |
|      | 2x INVALID KEY                             |
|  21  | INDEX SEQUENCE ERROR. INVALID KEY.         |
|  22  | KEY ALREADY EXIST. DUPLICATE KEY.          |
|  23  | KEY NOT FOUND.                             |
|  24  | BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on FILE).              |
|      | 3x PERMANENT ERROR                         |
|  30  | PERMANENT I/O ERROR.                       |
|  31  | INCONSISTENT FILENAME.                     |
|  34  | BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on DISK).              |
|  35  | FILE NOT FOUND.                            |
|  37  | PERMISSION DENIED.                         |
|  38  | OPEN ON A LOCKED FILE.                     |
|  39  | CONFLICTING FILE ATTRIBUTES.               |
|      | 4x LOGICAL ERROR                           |
|  41  | FILE IS ALREADY OPEN.                      |
|  42  | FILE IS NOT OPEN.                          |
|  43  | READ NOT DONE.                             |
|  44  | BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on RECORD)             |
|  46  | PRECEDING READ OR START FAILED.            |
|  47  | FILE NOT OPEN IN INPUT OR I-O MODE.        |
|  48  | FILE NOT OPEN IN OUTPUT OR I-O MODE.       |
|  49  | FILE NOT OPEN IN  I-O MODE.                |
|      | 5x RECORD OPERATION CONFLICT               |
|  51  | RECORD LOCKED.                             |
|  52  | END OF PAGE.                               |
|  57  | LINAGE BAD SPECIFICATION.                  |
|      | 6x FILE SHARING CONFLICT                   |
|  61  | FILE SHARING FAILURE.                      |
|      | 7x RECORD CONTENT ERROR                    |
|  71  | BAD CHARACTER ON A LINE SEQ.FILE.          |
|      | 9x IMPLEMENTOR DEFINED                     |
|  91  | FEATURE NOT AVAILABLE.                     |
+------+--------------------------------------------+
```

Code: `00 SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION. NO ERROR.`

Statements: `ALL`

Meaning: the statement was successfully executed and no further information is available concerning the input-output operation.

Code: `02 SUCCESS. DUPLICATE KEY.`

Statements: `READ, WRITE, REWRITE`

Meaning: This file status value applies only to INDEXED files with alternate keys that allow duplicates.

The statement was successfully executed but a duplicate key is detected:

a. For a READ statement with the NEXT phrase specified or implied, the key value for the current key of reference is equal to the value of the same key in the next record in the file.

b. For a READ statement with the PREVIOUS phrase specified, the key value for the current key of reference is equal to the value of the same key in the prior record in the file.

c. For a WRITE or a REWRITE statement, the record just written created a duplicate key value for at least one alternate record key for which duplicates are allowed.

Code: `04 SUCCESS. RECORD LENGTH MISMATCH.`

Statements: `READ`

Meaning: A READ statement is successfully executed but the record from the file is shorter than the minimum length or longer than the maximum length of records allowed for that file. The size of the record just read does not agree with the size specified in the program FD File Description. The record is truncated or padded with spaces/zeros.

Code: `05 SUCCESS. OPTIONAL FILE IS NOT PRESENT.`

Statements: `OPEN, DELETE FILE`

Meaning: this condition exists because:

a. One of the following status occurred where the OPTIONAL clause in the SELECT statement is specified.

- The OPEN INPUT, OPEN I-O, or OPEN EXTEND was executed for a file, but the file has yet to be created.

- The OPEN INPUT was executed for a nonexistent file. In this case, the file is not created and AT END condition occurs `FILE STATUS 10` during execution of the first READ statement.

- The OPEN I-O or OPEN EXTEND was executed for a nonexistent file. In this case, the file is created.

b. For a DELETE FILE statement, the referenced file is not present, the execution of the statement is successful and the FILE STATUS is set to ‘05’.

Code: `06 SUCCESS. EOF NOT DETECTED FOR A LINE SEQ.FILE.`

Statements: `READ`

Meaning: also named: Multiple record on Line Sequential file. A READ statement for a line sequential file has successfully executed but a line/record delimiter or the end-of-file has not been detected.

Code: `07 FILE NOT ON TAPE.`

Statements: `OPEN, CLOSE`

Meaning: you are using one of "tape" clauses: OPEN WITH NO REWIND o REVERSED, CLOSE WITH NO REWIND, CLOSE REEL/UNIT, CLOSE FOR REMOVAL but the file is not on tape. Note GnuCOBOL accepts tape clauses but does not support them.

Code: `09 BAD CHARACTER ON A LINE SEQ.FILE.`

Statements: `READ`

Meaning: a READ statement for a LS LINE SEQUENTIAL file has successfully executed but the record contains one or more characters that are not in the implementor-defined character set for a LINE SEQUENTIAL file. You can disable this check for READ (and WRITE) at runtime by setting the variable: `COB_LS_VALIDATE=FALSE` or `COB_LS_NULLS=TRUE`. See also `FILE STATUS 71`.

Code: `10 END OF FILE.`

Statements `READ`

Meaning: a sequential READ statement is attempted and no next or prior record exists in the file because:

a. NEXT was specified or implied and the end of the file has been reached

b. PREVIOUS was specified and the beginning of the file has been reached

c. The first READ statement was executed for a non-existent optional input file. That is, a file with the OPTIONAL clause specified was opened in INPUT mode but the file was not created.

Code: `14 RELATIVE KEY OUT OF RANGE.`

Statements: `READ`

Meaning: a sequential READ statement is attempted for a relative file and the number of digits in the relative record number (the key) is larger than the size of the relative key data item described for the file.

Code: `21 INDEX SEQUENCE ERROR. INVALID KEY.`

Statements: `DELETE, WRITE, REWRITE`

Meaning: this condition exists because:

a. A sequence error exists for a sequentially accessed indexed file or relative file.

b. The record key value has been changed between the successful execution of a READ statement and the execution of the next REWRITE statement for that file.

c. The ascending sequence requirements for successive record key values are violated.

Code: `22 KEY ALREADY EXIST. DUPLICATE KEY.`

Statements: `WRITE, REWRITE`

Meaning: this condition exists because an attempt is made either:

a. To WRITE a record that would create a duplicate key in a RELATIVE file.

b. To WRITE a record that would create a duplicate prime record key in an INDEXED file,

c. To WRITE or REWRITE a record that would create a duplicate alternate record key when the WITH DUPLICATES phrase is not specified for that alternate record key in an INDEXED file.

Code: `23 KEY NOT FOUND.`

Statements: `READ, DELETE, WRITE, REWRITE, START`

Meaning: this condition exists because an attempt is made :

a. To randomly access a key that does not exist in the file;

b. To execute a START or random READ statement on a file described as optional and the file is not present;

Code: `24 BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on FILE).`

Statements: `WRITE, REWRITE, SORT GIVING, MERGE GIVING`

Meaning: this condition is for RELATIVE and INDEXED files only and exists because:

a. An attempt is made to WRITE outside the boundaries of a relative or INDEXED file. The implementor specifies the manner in which these boundaries are defined.

b. A sequential WRITE statement is attempted for a RELATIVE file and the number of significant digits in the relative record number is larger than the size of the relative key data item described for the file.

c. The disk is full (for Relative and Indexed files).

Code: `30 PERMANENT I/O ERROR.`

Statements: `ALL`

Meaning: a permanent error exists and no further information is available concerning the input-output operation. Generic file system error or severely corrupted file.

Action: check the operating system logs or folder permissions.

Code: `31 INCONSISTENT FILENAME.`

Statements: `OPEN`

Meaning: this error indicates a discrepancy between the logical file definition in your GnuCOBOL code and the actual file on the disk. This error typically occurs for the following reasons:

a. Mismatched File Organization: The file already exists but was created with a different organization (for example, it is a SEQUENTIAL file, but your current program declares it as ORGANIZATION IS INDEXED).

b. Incompatible Record Format or Lengths: The record length or the key structure defined in your program's FD (File Description) does not match the actual structure of the file stored on the system.

c. Incorrect Environment Variable Assignment: The file name mapped via the ASSIGN clause (or through environment variables like `DD_` or `COB_FILE_PATH`) points to an invalid object or the wrong file type.

Code: `34 BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on DISK).`

Statements: `WRITE, REWRITE, SORT GIVING, MERGE GIVING, CLOSE`

Meaning: this condition is only for SEQUENTIAL and LINE SEQUENTIAL. This error typically occurs for an area shortage occurred during statement execution and the following reasons:

a. File Size Limit Exceeded: The file has reached the maximum size allowed by the operating system or the specific file system (for example, file size limits on FAT32).

b. User Quota Limits: The user account executing the program has exceeded its assigned disk space quota on the system.

c. The disk is full (for SEQUENTIAL and LINE SEQUENTIAL files). The hard drive, partition, or network drive where the program is trying to write has run out of free space.

Code: `35 FILE NOT FOUND.`

Statements: `OPEN, SORT`

Meaning: an OPEN statement with the INPUT, I-O, or EXTEND phrase is attempted on a file that is not described as optional and the file is not present. The path specified for the OPEN does not exist, or the filename is incorrect.

Action: check the associated variable or the literal name in the ASSIGN clause. If the file might not exist initially, use OPEN OPTIONAL.

Code `37 PERMISSION DENIED.`

Statements: `OPEN, SORT, DELETE FILE`

Meaning: an OPEN statement has been attempted on a file which does not support the open mode specified in the OPEN statement. A permanent error exists because of one of the following reasons:

a. for an OPEN statement:

- the EXTEND or OUTPUT phrase is specified but the file will not support WRITE operations.

- the I-O phrase is specified but the file will not support the input and output operations that are permitted for the organization of that file when opened in the I-O

- the INPUT phrase is specified but the file will not support READ operations.

b. an OPEN statement or DELETE FILE statement is attempted on a file and insufficient authority exists to access the file. The ability to detect this is processor dependent. Open or DELETE FILE permissions denied. Attempted on a protected or read-only file (as determined by the operating system) for writing.

Code: `38 OPEN ON A LOCKED FILE.`

Statements: `OPEN`

Meaning: an OPEN statement has been tried for a file for which CLOSE WITH LOCK was executed before.

Code: `39 CONFLICTING FILE ATTRIBUTES.`

Statements: `OPEN, DELETE FILE`

Meaning: the OPEN or DELETE FILE statement is unsuccessful because a conflict has been detected between the file attributes and the attributes specified for that file in the source unit.

Discrepancy between the definition in the code (Organization SEQUENTIAL, RELATIVE, or INDEXED), the prime record key, the alternate record keys, the code set, the maximum record size, the record type (fixed or variable), and the blocking factor. and the actual file structure on disk. Regenerate the file with the correct structure, or update the ORGANIZATION IS and RECORD CONTAINS clauses in the COBOL source.

Code: `41 FILE IS ALREADY OPENED.`

Statements: `OPEN, DELETE FILE`

Meaning: an OPEN statement or a DELETE FILE statement has been tried for a file which is already open.

Code: `42 FILE IS NOT OPEN.`

Statements: `CLOSE, UNLOCK`

Meaning: A CLOSE or UNLOCK statement hase been tried for a file which is already closed or never opened.

Code: `43 READ NOT DONE.`

Statements: `DELETE, REWRITE`

Meaning: for a sequential accessed file only, the last input-output statement executed for the file through prior to the execution of a DELETE RECORD or REWRITE statement through the same file connector was not a successfully executed READ statement.

Action: issue a successful READ before invoking a REWRITE or DELETE on the same record.

Code: `44 BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on RECORD) / RECORD SIZE MISMATCH.`

Statements: `WRITE, REWRITE`

Meaning: an attempt was made to REWRITE a record to a file and the record was not the same size as the record being replaced. Or an attempt was made to WRITE or REWRITE a record that was larger than the largest or smaller than the smallest record allowed by the RECORD IS VARYING clause of the associated file.

Code: `46 PRECEDING READ OR START FAILED.`

Statements: `READ`

Meaning: a sequential READ is attempted on a file open in the INPUT or I-O mode and no valid next record had been established because:

- The preceding READ or START statement was unsuccessful but did not cause an AT END condition.

- The preceding READ statement caused an AT END condition.

Code: `47 FILE NOT OPENED IN INPUT OR I-O MODE.`

Statements: `READ, START`

Meaning: the execution of a READ or START statement was attempted on a file not OPEN in INPUT or I-O mode.

Code: `48 FILE NOT OPENED IN OUTPUT OR I-O MODE.`

Statements: `WRITE`

Meaning: The execution of a WRITE statement was attempted on a file not open in the I-O, OUTPUT, or EXTEND mode.

Code: `49 FILE NOT OPENED IN I-O MODE.`

Statements: `DELETE, REWRITE`

Meaning: the execution of a DELETE or REWRITE statement was attempted on a file not open in the I-O mode.

Code: `51 RECORD LOCKED.`

Statements: `READ`

Meaning: the statement is unsuccessful due to an attempt to access a record that is currently locked by another process.

Code: `52 END OF PAGE.`

Statements: `WRITE`

Meaning: a WRITE operation on a "print file" failed after End-Of-Page.

Code: `57 LINAGE BAD SPECIFICATION.`

Statements: `OPEN`

Meaning: an OPEN operation failed because the LINAGE description was incorrect.

Code: `61 FILE SHARING FAILURE.`

Statements: `OPEN`

Meaning: a file sharing conflict condition exists because an OPEN statement is attempted on a file and that file is already open by another process in a manner that conflicts with this request. The possible violations are as follows.

An attempt is made to OPEN a file:

a. that is currently open by another process in the `SHARING WITH NO OTHER` mode.

b. in the `SHARING WITH NO OTHER` mode and the file is currently open by another process.

c. for I-O or EXTEND and the file is currently open by another process in the `SHARING WITH READ ONLY` mode.

d. in the `SHARING WITH READ ONLY` mode and the file is currently open by another process in the I-O or EXTEND mode.

e. in the OUTPUT mode and the file is currently open by another process.

f. that has currently been locked by another process.

Code: `71 BAD CHARACTER ON A LINE SEQ.FILE.`

Statements: `WRITE, REWRITE`

Meaning: an attempt was made to WRITE or REWRITE a record to a LS LINE SEQUENTIAL file and the record area contains one or more characters not in the implementor-defined character set for the file. The WRITE or REWRITE operation was unsuccessful and the record area remains unchanged. You can disable this check for WRITE or REWRITE (and READ) at runtime by setting the variable: `COB_LS_VALIDATE=FALSE` or `COB_LS_NULLS=TRUE`. See also `FILE STATUS 09`.

Code: `91 FEATURE NOT AVAILABLE.`

Statements: `OPEN, CLOSE, REWRITE, DELETE`

Meaning: for OPEN and CLOSE: means that the File I-O backend is not available (before 4.x his mostly means a GnuCOBOL compile-time configuration without-db, afterwards it could also mean that the shared object for the backend configured at runtime for the specific file cannot be loaded).

For REWRITE and for DELETE: means that File I-O statement isn't supported for the file's organization. This can happen if you run a statement that isn't supported by the runtime but not caught by the compiler (previously REWRITE to LINE SEQUENTIAL, for example, which was only supported later; or DELETE on any SEQUENTIAL file (soon to be caught in 3.x also for RECORD SEQUENTIAL) or "more common" if an EXTFH call does this.

Note:

1. The value of the `FILE STATUS` code is made available also through other ways.

More info at the intrinsic function `EXCEPTION-STATUS` (see EXCEPTION-STATUS) and its equivalent `ACCEPT FROM EXCEPTION STATUS` (see ACCEPT FROM Runtime-Info).

Other more info at the intrinsic function `EXCEPTION-FILE` (see EXCEPTION-FILE) and at the intrinsic function `EXCEPTION-FILE-N` (see EXCEPTION-FILE-N).

2. `FILE STATUS` categories are connected to some Exception names and Exception Conditions (Appendix F Exceptions)

```
                            level
EC-I-O                        2   Input-output exception
EC-I-O-WARNING          NF    3   File status "0x" where x is nonzero
EC-I-O-AT-END           NF    3   File status "1x"
EC-I-O-INVALID-KEY      NF    3   File status "2x"
EC-I-O-PERMANENT-ERROR  Fatal 3   File status "3x"
EC-I-O-LOGIC-ERROR      Fatal 3   File status "4x"
EC-I-O-RECORD-OPERATION NF    3   File status "5x"
EC-I-O-FILE-SHARING     NF    3   File status "6x"
EC-I-O-RECORD-CONTENT   Fatal 3   File status "7x"
EC-I-O-IMP              Imp   3   File status "9x"
```

3. The `FILE STATUS` code also determines whether the `USE AFTER STANDARD EXCEPTION` procedure, into `DECLARATIVES` section (see DECLARATIVES), associated with that file is executed.

   If the `USE AFTER STANDARD EXCEPTION` procedure associated with the file exists and the `FILE STATUS` is other than "succeed", the procedure is executed.

8. Suggest that you copy this content to say `FILESTAT-MSGS.cpy` and save in your copy book folder.

```
*> ************************************************************
*> ** This copybook defines an EVALUATE statement capable of     **
*> ** translating two-characters FILE-STATUS codes to a message. **
*> ************************************************************
 EVALUATE F-STATUS
    WHEN 00    MOVE 'SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION. NO ERROR.        ' TO MSG
    WHEN 02    MOVE 'SUCCESS. DUPLICATE KEY.                 ' TO MSG
    WHEN 04    MOVE 'SUCCESS. RECORD LENGTH MISMATCH.        ' TO MSG
    WHEN 05    MOVE 'SUCCESS. OPTIONAL FILE IS NOT PRESENT.  ' TO MSG
    WHEN 06    MOVE 'SUCCESS. EOF NOT DETECTED FOR A LS FILE.' TO MSG
    WHEN 07    MOVE 'FILE NOT ON TAPE.                       ' TO MSG
    WHEN 09    MOVE 'BAD CHARACTER ON A LS FILE.             ' TO MSG
    WHEN 10    MOVE 'END OF FILE.                            ' TO MSG
    WHEN 14    MOVE 'RELATIVE KEY OUT OF RANGE.              ' TO MSG
    WHEN 21    MOVE 'INDEX SEQUENCE ERROR. INVALID KEY.      ' TO MSG
    WHEN 22    MOVE 'KEY ALREADY EXIST. DUPLICATE KEY.       ' TO MSG
    WHEN 23    MOVE 'KEY NOT FOUND.                          ' TO MSG
    WHEN 24    MOVE 'BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on FILE).           ' TO MSG
    WHEN 30    MOVE 'PERMANENT I/O ERROR.                    ' TO MSG
    WHEN 31    MOVE 'INCONSISTENT FILENAME.                  ' TO MSG
    WHEN 34    MOVE 'BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on DISK).           ' TO MSG
    WHEN 35    MOVE 'FILE NOT FOUND.                         ' TO MSG
    WHEN 37    MOVE 'PERMISSION DENIED.                      ' TO MSG
    WHEN 38    MOVE 'OPEN ON A LOCKED FILE.                  ' TO MSG
    WHEN 39    MOVE 'CONFLICTING FILE ATTRIBUTES.            ' TO MSG
    WHEN 41    MOVE 'FILE IS ALREADY OPEN.                   ' TO MSG
    WHEN 42    MOVE 'FILE IS NOT OPEN.                       ' TO MSG
    WHEN 43    MOVE 'READ NOT DONE.                          ' TO MSG
    WHEN 44    MOVE 'BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on RECORD)          ' TO MSG
    WHEN 46    MOVE 'PRECEDING READ OR START FAILED.         ' TO MSG
    WHEN 47    MOVE 'FILE NOT OPEN IN INPUT OR I-O MODE.     ' TO MSG
    WHEN 48    MOVE 'FILE NOT OPEN IN OUTPUT OR I-O MODE.    ' TO MSG
    WHEN 49    MOVE 'FILE NOT OPEN IN  I-O MODE.             ' TO MSG
```

```
    WHEN 51    MOVE 'RECORD LOCKED.                          ' TO MSG
    WHEN 52    MOVE 'END OF PAGE.                            ' TO MSG
    WHEN 57    MOVE 'LINAGE BAD SPECIFICATION.               ' TO MSG
    WHEN 61    MOVE 'FILE SHARING FAILURE.                   ' TO MSG
    WHEN 71    MOVE 'BAD CHARACTER ON A LINE SEQ.FILE.       ' TO MSG
    WHEN 91    MOVE 'FEATURE NOT AVAILABLE.                  ' TO MSG
    WHEN OTHER MOVE 'UNKNOWN FILE STATUS CODE.               ' TO MSG
 END-EVALUATE.
```

9. One sample code defining and using this copy book in a free format program source.

```
In Working-Storage section :

 01  WS-Work-Areas.
     03  WS-Eval-Msg     pic x(25) value spaces.
     03  Fs-Reply        pic xx.
     03  WS-No-Care      pic x.
 .....
 01  Error-Messages.
*> System Wide
     03  SL002          pic x(31)   value "SL002 Note error and hit return".

In Procedure Division :

 rewrite  CUSTOMER-Record invalid key
          display "Rewrite Customer Rec " at line ws-23-lines col  1
          display CUSTOMER-FILE-STATUS    at line WS-23-Lines col 22
          move    CUSTOMER-FILE-STATUS to FS-Reply
          perform evaluate-message
          display ws-Eval-Msg at line ws-23-lines col 25 beep
          display SL002       at line ws-lines    col  1
          accept  WS-No-Care  at line ws-lines    col 33
          display space       at line ws-23-lines col 1 with erase eos
 end-rewrite

 Evaluate-Message Section.
 copy "FILESTAT-MSGS.cpy" replacing MSG by ws-Eval-Msg F-STATUS by fs-reply.

 Eval-Msg-Exit.  exit section.
```

And another from the pen of Vincent Coen:

```
In Working-Storage Section:

*> Display Screen Positioning
     03  WS-Env-Columns      pic 999         value zero.
     03  ws-Env-Lines        pic 999         value zero.
     03  ws-Lines            pic 9(4)  comp  value zero.
     03  ws-21-Lines         pic 9(4)  comp  value zero.
     03  ws-22-Lines         pic 9(4)  comp  value zero.
     03  ws-23-Lines         pic 9(4)  comp  value zero.

At start of program Procedure Division :

 AA010-Get-Screen-Attr.
*> Set up for screen size
     accept   WS-Env-Columns from Columns.
     accept   WS-Env-Lines   from lines.
     move     WS-Env-Lines   to WS-Lines.
     subtract 1 from ws-lines giving ws-23-lines.
     subtract 2 from ws-lines giving ws-22-lines.
     subtract 3 from ws-lines giving ws-21-lines.

Near the bottom of code :

 ZZA-File-Status    section.
 *> File Status Checking Routines using standard Cobol file status values only.
     move     "Unknown" to WS-Sys-Message.
     evaluate s1
              when "0" go to ZZA999-exit
              when "1" go to zza999-exit
              when "2" perform zza020-Check-Inv-Key-Status
              when "3" perform zza030-Check-Perm-Err-Status
              when "4" perform zza040-Look-Up-Error
              when "5" perform zza050-Look-Up-Error
              when "6" perform zza060-Look-Up-Error
              when "7" perform zza070-Look-Up-Error
              when "9" perform zza090-Look-Up-Error
     end-evaluate.
     move     "Unknown error status"               to WS-Sys-Message.
     go       to zza998-Display-Message.   *> Do not stop/accept as in batch mode
                                       Use zz997 instead to stop after a error msg.
 zza020-Check-Inv-Key-Status.
```

```
    evaluate s2
       when "1" move "INDEX SEQUENCE ERROR. INVALID KEY.  " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "2" move "KEY ALREADY EXIST. DUPLICATE KEY.   " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "3" move "KEY NOT FOUND.                      " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "4" move "BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on FILE).       " to WS-Sys-Message
    end-evaluate.
zza030-Check-Perm-Err-Status.
    evaluate s2INCONSISTENT FILENAME.
       when "0" move "PERMANENT I/O ERROR.                " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "1" move "INCONSISTENT FILENAME.              " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "4" move "BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on DISK).       " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "5" move "FILE NOT FOUND.                     " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "7" move "PERMISSION DENIED.                  " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "8" move "OPEN ON A LOCKED FILE.              " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "9" move "CONFLICTING FILE ATTRIBUTES.        " to WS-Sys-Message
    end-evaluate.
zza040-Look-Up-Error.
    evaluate s2
       when "1" move "FILE IS ALREADY OPEN.               " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "2" move "FILE IS NOT OPEN.                   " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "3" move "READ NOT DONE.                      " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "4" move "BOUNDARY VIOLATION (on RECORD)      " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "6" move "PRECEDING READ OR START FAILED.     " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "7" move "FILE NOT OPEN IN INPUT OR I-O MODE. " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "8" move "FILE NOT OPEN IN OUTPUT OR I-O MODE." to WS-Sys-Message
       when "9" move "FILE NOT OPEN IN  I-O MODE.         " to WS-Sys-Message
    end-evaluate.
zza050-Look-Up-Error.
    evaluate s2
       when "1" move "RECORD LOCKED.                      " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "2" move "END OF PAGE.                        " to WS-Sys-Message
       when "7" move "LINAGE BAD SPECIFICATION.           " to WS-Sys-Message
    end-evaluate.
zza060-Look-Up-Error.
    evaluate s2
       when "1" move "FILE SHARING FAILURE.               " to WS-Sys-Message
    end-evaluate.
zza070-Look-Up-Error.
    evaluate s2
       when "1" move "BAD CHARACTER ON A LINE SEQ.FILE.   " to WS-Sys-Message
    end-evaluate.
```

```
 zza090-Look-Up-Error.
     evaluate s2
        when "1" move "FEATURE NOT AVAILABLE.              " to WS-Sys-Message
     end-evaluate.
 zza997-Display-Message.
     if       WS-Sys-Message not = spaces
             display  WS-Sys-Message  at line ws-23-Lines col 41 with foreground-
color COB-COLOR-RED
            display  "EL006 Press return to continue"   at line ws-Lines    col 01
             accept   Accept-Reply                     at line ws-Lines    col 32
              display  space                             at line ws-23-Lines col
01 with erase eos.
     go       to zza999-Exit.
 zza998-Display-Message.
     if       WS-Sys-Message not = spaces
             display  WS-Sys-Message at line ws-23-Lines col 41 with foreground-
color COB-COLOR-RED.
 zza999-exit. exit section.
```

10. The `SHARING` clause defines the conditions under which the program will be willing (or not) to allow other programs executing at the same time to access the file. See File Sharing, for the details.
11. The `LOCK` clause defines how concurrent access to the file will be managed on a record-by-record basis. See Record Locking, for the details.
12. For syntax details for the `ORGANIZATION` clause, see next group of paragraphs.
13. A `SELECT` statement without an `ORGANIZATION` explicitly coded will be handled as if the following ORGANIZATION clause had been specified:

```
ORGANIZATION IS SEQUENTIAL
ACCESS MODE  IS SEQUENTIAL
```

6.2.1.1 ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL

ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL Clause Syntax

==========

```
 [ ORGANIZATION|ORGANISATION IS ] RECORD BINARY SEQUENTIAL
   ~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~                   ~~~~~~~~~~
    [ ACCESS MODE IS SEQUENTIAL ]
      ~~~~~~         ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Files declared as `ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL` will consist of records with no explicit end-of-record delimiter character sequences; records in such files are "delineated" by a calculated byte-offset (based on the maximum record length) into the file.

1. The reserved words `BINARY`, `IS`, `MODE` and `RECORD` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `ORGANIZATION` and `ORGANISATION` are interchangeable.
3. The phrase `ORGANIZATION IS` (and its internationalized alternative, `ORGANISATION IS`) is optional to provide compatibility with those (few) COBOL implementations that consider `ORGANIZATION` to be optional. Most COBOL implementations do require the word `ORGANIZATION`, so it should be used in new programs.
4. These files cannot be prepared with any standard text-editing or word processing software as all such programs will embed delimiter characters at the end of records (use `ORGANIZATION IS LINE SEQUENTIAL` instead).
5. These files may contain either `USAGE DISPLAY` or `USAGE COMPUTATIONAL` (of any variety) data since no binary data sequence can be accidentally interpreted as an end-of-record delimiter.
6. While records in a `ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL` file may be defined as having variable-length records, the file will be structured in such a manner as to reserve space for each record equal to the size of the largest possible record, based on the file's description in the `FILE SECTION`.
7. The `ACCESS MODE SEQUENTIAL` clause is optional because, if absent, it will be assumed anyway for this type of file. The internal structure of these files is such that they can only be processed in a sequential manner; in order to read the 100th record in such a file, for example, you first must read records 1 through 99.
8. Sequential files are processed using the following statements:
   - `CLOSE` (see CLOSE)
   - `COMMIT` (see COMMIT)
   - `DELETE` (see DELETE)
   - `MERGE` (see MERGE)
   - `OPEN` (see OPEN)
   - `READ` (see READ)
   - `REWRITE` (see REWRITE)

- SORT (see SORT)
- UNLOCK (see UNLOCK)
- WRITE (see WRITE)

6.2.1.2 ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL

ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL Clause Syntax

==========

```
[ ORGANIZATION|ORGANISATION IS ] LINE SEQUENTIAL
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~      ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~
   [ ACCESS MODE IS SEQUENTIAL ]
     ~~~~~~         ~~~~~~~~~~
   [ PADDING CHARACTER IS literal-1 | identifier-1 ]
     ~~~~~~~
```

The PADDING CHARACTER clause is syntactically recognized but is otherwise non-functional.

==========

Files declared as ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL will consist of records terminated by an end-of-record delimiter character or character sequence.

1. The reserved words CHARACTER, IS and MODE are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words ORGANIZATION and ORGANISATION are interchangeable.
3. The phrase ORGANIZATION IS (and its internationalized alternative, ORGANISATION IS) is optional to provide compatibility with those (few) COBOL implementations that consider that word to be optional. Most COBOL implementations do require the word ORGANIZATION, so it should be used in new programs.
4. This is the only ORGANIZATION valid for files that are assigned to the PRINTER device.
5. These files may be created with any standard text-editing or word processing software capable of writing text files. Such files MUST NOT contain any USAGE COMPUTATIONAL or BINARY (of any variety) data since such fields could accidentally contain byte sequences that could be interpreted as an end-of-record delimiter.
6. Both fixed- and variable-length record formats are supported.
7. The end-of-record delimiter sequence will be X'0A' (an ASCII line-feed character) or a X'0D0A' (an ASCII carriage-return + line-feed sequence). The former is used on Unix implementations of GnuCOBOL (including Windows/MinGW, Windows/Cygwin and OSX implementations) while the latter would be used with native Windows implementations.

8. When reading a `LINE SEQUENTIAL` file, records in excess of the size implied by the file's description in the `FILE SECTION` will be truncated while records shorter than that size will be padded to the right with `SPACES`.
9. The `ACCESS MODE SEQUENTIAL` clause is optional because, if absent, it will be assumed anyway for this type of file. The internal structure of these files is such that the data can only be processed in a sequential manner; in order to read the 100th record in such a file, for example, you first must read records 1 through 99.
10. Files assigned to `PRINTER` or `CONSOLE` should be specified as `ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL`.
11. Line Sequential files are processed using the following statements:
    - `CLOSE` (see CLOSE)
    - `COMMIT` (see COMMIT)
    - `DELETE` (see DELETE)
    - `MERGE` (see MERGE)
    - `OPEN` (see OPEN)
    - `READ` (see READ)
    - `REWRITE` (see REWRITE)
    - `SORT` (see SORT)
    - `UNLOCK` (see UNLOCK)
    - `WRITE` (see WRITE)

6.2.1.3 ORGANIZATION RELATIVE

ORGANIZATION RELATIVE Clause Syntax

```
================================================================================
```

```
[ ORGANIZATION|ORGANISATION IS ] RELATIVE
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~      ~~~~~~~~
   [ ACCESS MODE IS { SEQUENTIAL } ]
     ~~~~~~         { ~~~~~~~~~~ }
                    { DYNAMIC    }
                    { ~~~~~~~    }
                    { RANDOM     }
                      ~~~~~~
   [ RELATIVE KEY IS identifier-1 ]
     ~~~~~~~~
```

```
================================================================================
```

These files are files with an internal organization such that records may be processed in a sequential manner based upon their physical location in the file or in a random manner by allowing records to be read, written or updated by specifying the relative record number in the file.

1. The reserved words `IS`, `KEY` and `MODE` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `ORGANIZATION` and `ORGANISATION` are interchangeable.
3. The phrase `ORGANIZATION IS` (and its internationalized alternative, `ORGANISATION IS`) is optional to provide compatibility with those (few) COBOL implementations that consider that word to be optional. Most COBOL implementations do require the word `ORGANIZATION`, so it should be used in new programs.
4. `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE` files cannot be assigned to the `CONSOLE`, `DISPLAY`, `LINE ADVANCING` or `PRINTER` devices.
5. The `RELATIVE KEY` clause is optional only if `ACCESS MODE SEQUENTIAL` is specified.
6. While an `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE` file may be defined as having variable-length records, the file will be structured in such a manner as to reserve space for each record equal to the size of the largest possible record as defined by the file's description in the `FILE SECTION`.
7. `ACCESS MODE SEQUENTIAL`, the default `ACCESS MODE` if none is specified, indicates that the records of the file will be processed in a sequential manner, according to their physical sequence in the file.
8. `ACCESS MODE RANDOM` means that records will be processed in random sequence by specifying their record number in the file every time the file is read or written.
9. `ACCESS MODE DYNAMIC` indicates the program may switch back and forth between `SEQUENTIAL` and `RANDOM` mode during execution. The file starts out initially in `SEQUENTIAL` mode when first opened but the program may use the `START` statement (see START) to switch between sequential and random access.
10. The `RELATIVE KEY` data item is a numeric data item that cannot be defined as a field within records of this file. Its purpose is to return the current relative record number of a relative file that is being processed in `SEQUENTIAL` access mode and to serve as a key that specifies the relative record number to be read or written when processing a relative file in `RANDOM` access mode.
11. Relative files are processed using the following statements:
    - `CLOSE` (see CLOSE)
    - `COMMIT` (see COMMIT)

- `DELETE` (see DELETE)
- `MERGE` (see MERGE), `ACCESS MODE RANDOM` not allowed
- `OPEN` (see OPEN)
- `READ` (see READ)
- `REWRITE` (see REWRITE)
- `SORT` (see SORT), `ACCESS MODE RANDOM` not allowed
- `START` (see START)
- `UNLOCK` (see UNLOCK)
- `WRITE` (see WRITE)

6.2.1.4 ORGANIZATION INDEXED

ORGANIZATION INDEXED Clause Syntax

```
[ ORGANIZATION | ORGANISATION IS ] INDEXED
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~~~      ~~~~~~~
    [ ACCESS MODE IS { SEQUENTIAL } ]
      ~~~~~~         { ~~~~~~~~~  }
                     { DYNAMIC    }
                     { ~~~~~~~    }
                     { RANDOM     }
                       ~~~~~~

      RECORD KEY IS { data-name-1                                    }
      ~~~~~~        { record-key-name-1 { =       } {data-name-2}... }
                                        {SOURCE IS}
                                         ~~~~~~
                    [ WITH [ NO ] DUPLICATES ]
                             ~~   ~~~~~~~~~~

    [ ALTERNATE RECORD KEY IS { data-name-3                                  } ]...
      ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~        { record-key-name-2 { =       } {data-name-4}...}
                                                  {SOURCE IS}
                                                   ~~~~~~
                              [ WITH [ NO ] DUPLICATES        ]
                                       ~~   ~~~~~~~~~~
                              [ SUPPRESS WHEN ALL literal-1   ]
                                ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~
```

```
                                [ SUPPRESS WHEN SPACES | ZEROES ]
                                  ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~~~   ~~~~~~
```

==========

Indexed files, like relative files, may have their records processed in either a sequential or random manner. Unlike relative files, however, the actual location of a record in an indexed file is calculated automatically based upon the value(s) of one or more alphanumeric fields within records of the file. For example, an indexed file containing product data might use the product identification code as a record key. This means you may read, write or update the `A6G4328`th record or the `Z8X7723`th record directly, based upon the product id value of those records!

1. The reserved words `IS`, `KEY` and `MODE` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `ORGANIZATION` and `ORGANISATION` are interchangeable.
3. The phrase `ORGANIZATION IS` (and its internationalized alternative, `ORGANISATION IS`) is optional to provide compatibility with those (few) COBOL implementations that consider that word to be optional. Most COBOL implementations do require the word `ORGANIZATION`, so it should be used in new programs.
4. `ORGANIZATION INDEXED` files cannot be assigned to `CONSOLE`, `DISPLAY`, `KEYBOARD`, `LINE ADVANCING` or `PRINTER`.
5. `ACCESS MODE SEQUENTIAL`, the default `ACCESS MODE` if none is specified, indicates that the records of the file will be processed in a sequential manner with respect to the values of the `RECORD KEY` or the `ALTERNATE RECORD KEY` most-recently referenced on a `START` statement (see START).
6. `ACCESS MODE RANDOM` means that records will be processed in random sequence by accessing the record with specific record key or alternate record key values.
7. `ACCESS MODE DYNAMIC` allows the file will be processed either in `RANDOM` or `SEQUENTIAL` mode; the program may switch between the two modes as needed. The `START` statement is used to make the switch between modes.
8. The `RECORD KEY` clause defines the field within the record used to provide the primary access to records within the file. No two records in the file will be allowed to have the same `PRIMARY KEY` field value. The `SOURCE IS` clause is for use with `Split Keys`.
9. The `ALTERNATE RECORD KEY` clause, if used, defines an additional field within the record that provides an alternate means of directly accessing records or an additional field by

which the file's contents may be processed sequentially. You have the choice of allowing records to have duplicate alternate key values, if necessary.

10. There may be multiple `ALTERNATE RECORD KEY` clauses, each defining an additional alternate key for the file.
11. Usage of the `SUPPRESS WHEN` clause is used when `Sparse Keys` are required which may take the form for a literal or spaces or zeroes.
12. Indexed files are processed using the following statements:
    - `CLOSE` (see CLOSE)
    - `COMMIT` (see COMMIT)
    - `DELETE` (see DELETE)
    - `MERGE` (see MERGE), `ACCESS MODE RANDOM` not allowed
    - `OPEN` (see OPEN)
    - `READ` (see READ)
    - `REWRITE` (see REWRITE)
    - `SORT` (see SORT), `ACCESS MODE RANDOM` not allowed
    - `START` (see START)
    - `UNLOCK` (see UNLOCK)
    - `WRITE` (see WRITE)

6.2.2 SAME RECORD AREA

I-O-CONTROL SAME AREA Syntax

==========

```
SAME { SORT-MERGE } AREA FOR file-name-1... .
~~~~ { ~~~~~~~~~~ }
     { SORT       }
     { ~~~~       }
     { RECORD     }
       ~~~~~~
```

The `SAME SORT-MERGE` and `SAME SORT` clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

The `SAME RECORD AREA` clause allows you to specify that multiple files should share the same input and output memory buffers.

1. The reserved words `AREA` and `FOR` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. This statement must be terminated with a period.
3. While coding only a single file name (the repeated <file-name-1> item) is syntactically valid, this statement will have no effect upon the program unless at least two files are specified.
4. The effect of this statement will be to cause the specified files to share the same I/O buffer in memory. These buffers can sometimes get quite large, and by having multiple files share the same buffer memory you may significantly cut down the amount of memory the program is using (thus making "room" for more procedural code or data). If you do use this feature, take care to ensure that no more than one of the specified files are ever OPEN simultaneously.

6.2.3 MULTIPLE FILE

I-O-CONTROL MULTIPLE FILE Syntax

==========

```
MULTIPLE FILE TAPE CONTAINS
~~~~~~~~
   { file-name-1 [ POSITION integer-1 ] }...
                 ~~~~~~~~
   .
```

The `MULTIPLE FILE TAPE` clause is obsolete and is therefore recognized but not functional.

==========

7 DATA DIVISION

DATA DIVISION Syntax

==========

```
  DATA DIVISION.
  ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
[ FILE SECTION.
  ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  { File/Sort-Description [ { FILE-SECTION-Data-Item } ]... }... ]
  {                         { 01-Level-Constant      }      }
  {                         { 78-Level-Constant      }      }
  { 01-Level-Constant                                       }
  { 78-Level-Constant                                       }
[ WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  [ { WORKING-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item } ]... ]
    { 01-Level-Constant                 }
    { 78-Level-Constant                 }
[ LOCAL-STORAGE SECTION.
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  [ { LOCAL-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item } ]... ]
    { 01-Level-Constant               }
    { 78-Level-Constant               }
[ LINKAGE SECTION.
  ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  [ { LINKAGE-SECTION-Data-Item } ]... ]
    { 01-Level-Constant         }
    { 78-Level-Constant         }
[ REPORT SECTION.
  ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  { Report-Description [ { Report-Group-Definition } ]... }... ]
  {                      { 01-Level-Constant       }      }
  {                      { 78-Level-Constant       }      }
  { 01-Level-Constant                                       }
  { 78-Level-Constant                                       }
[ SCREEN SECTION.
  ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  [ { SCREEN-SECTION-Data-Item } ]... ]
```

```
     { 01-Level-Constant        }
     { 78-Level-Constant        }
```

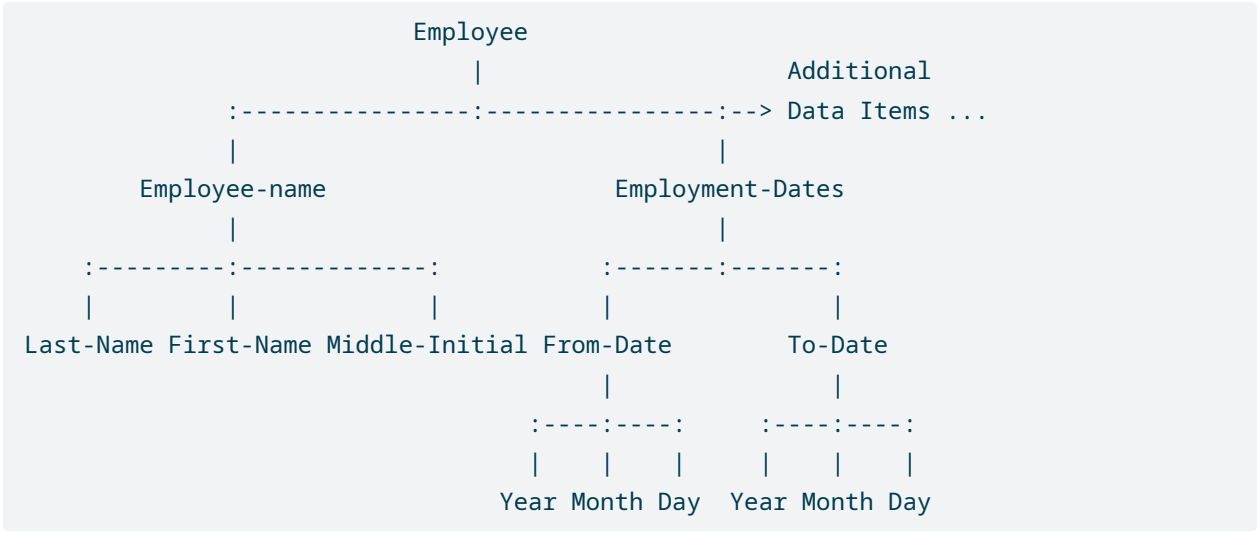
==========

All data used by any COBOL program must be defined in one of the six sections of the data division, depending upon the purpose of the data.

1. If no data will be described in one of the data division sections, that section header may be omitted.
2. If no data division sections are needed, the `DATA DIVISION.` header itself may be omitted.
3. If more than one section is needed in the data division (a common situation), the sections must be coded in the sequence they are presented above.

7.1 Data Definition Principles

GnuCOBOL data items, like those of other COBOL implementations, are described in a hierarchical manner. This accommodates the fact that data items frequently need to be able to be broken up into subordinate items. Take for example, the following logical layout of a portion of a data item named `Employee`:



The `Employee` data item consists of two subordinate data items — an `Employee-Name` and an `Employment-Dates` data item (presumably there would be a lot of others too, but we don't care about them right now). As the diagram shows, each of those data items are, in turn, broken down into subordinate data items. This hierarchy of data items can get rather `deep`, and GnuCOBOL, like other COBOL implementations, can handle up to 49 levels of such hierarchical structures.

As was presented earlier (see Structured Data), a data item that is broken down into other data items is referred to as a group item, while one that isn't broken down is called an elementary item.

COBOL uses the concept of a *level* number to indicate the level at which a data item occurs in a data structure such as the example shown above. When these data items are defined, they are all defined together with a number in the range 1-49 specified in front of their names. Over the years, a convention has come to exist among COBOL programmers that level numbers are always coded as two-digit numbers — they don't *need* to be specified as two-digit numbers, but every example you see in this document will take that approach!

The data item at the top, also referred to as a *record*, always has a level number of 01. After that, you may assign level numbers as you wish (01–02–03–04..., 01–05–10–15..., etc.), as long as you follow these simple rules:

1. Every data item at the same *level* of a hierarchy diagram such as the one you see here (if you were to make one, which you rarely will, if ever, once you get used to this concept) must have the same level number.
2. Every new level uses a level number that is strictly greater than the one used in the parent (next higher) level.
3. When describing data hierarchies, you may never use a level number greater than 49 (except for 66, 77, 78 and 88 which have very special meanings (see Special Data Items).

So, the definition of these data items in a GnuCOBOL program would go something like this:

```
    01  Employee
        05 Employee-Name
           10 Last-Name
           10 First-Name
           10 Middle-Initial
        05 Employment-Dates
           10 From-Date
              15 Year
              15 Month
              15 Day
           10 To-Date
              15 Year
              15 Month
              15 Day
```

The indentation is purely at the discretion of the programmer to make things easier for humans to read (the compiler couldn't care less). Historically, COBOL implementations that

required Fixed Format Mode source programs required that the `01` level number begin in Area A and that everything else begins in Area B. GnuCOBOL only requires that all data definition syntax occur in columns 8-72. In Free Format Mode, of course, there aren't even those limitations.

Did you notice that there are two each of `Year`, `Month` and `Day` data names defined? That's perfectly legal, provided that each can be uniquely `qualified` so as to be distinct from the other. Take for example the `Year` items. One is defined as part of the `From-Date` data item while the other is defined as part of the `To-Date` data item. In COBOL, we would actually code references to these two data items as either `Year OF From-Date` and `Year OF To-Date` or `Year IN From-Date` and `Year IN To-Date` (COBOL allows either `IN` or `OF` to be used). Since these references would clarify any confusion to us as to which `Year` might be referenced, the GnuCOBOL compiler won't be confused either.

The coding example shown above is incomplete; it only describes the data item names and their hierarchical relationships to one other. In addition, any valid data item definitions will also need to describe what type of data is to be contained in a data item (Numeric? Alphanumeric? Alphabetic?), how much data can be held in the data item and a multitude of other characteristics.

When group items are being defined, subordinate items may be assigned the "name" `FILLER`. There may be any number of `FILLER` items defined within a group item. A data item named `FILLER` cannot be referenced directly; these items are generally used to specify an unused portion of the total storage allocated to a group item. Note that it is possible that the name of the group item itself might be specified as `FILLER` if there is no need to ever refer directly to the group structure itself.

7.2 FILE SECTION

FILE SECTION Syntax

==========

```
[ FILE SECTION.
  ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  { File/Sort-Description [ { FILE-SECTION-Data-Item } ]... }... ]
  {                         { 01-Level-Constant      }      }
  {                         { 78-Level-Constant      }      }
  { 01-Level-Constant                                       }
  { 78-Level-Constant                                       }
```

==========

Every file that has been referenced by a `SELECT` statement (see SELECT) must also be described in the file section of the data division.

Files destined for use as sort/merge work files must be described with a Sort/Merge File Description (`SD`) while every other file is described with a File Description (`FD`). Each of these descriptions will almost always be followed with at least one record description.

7.2.1 File/Sort-Description

File/Sort-Description Syntax

==========

```
FD|SD file-name-1 [ IS EXTERNAL|GLOBAL ]
~~ ~~                  ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~
[ BLOCK CONTAINS [ integer-1 TO ] integer-2 CHARACTERS|RECORDS ]
  ~~~~~                      ~~             ~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
[ CODE-SET IS alphabet-name-1 ]
  ~~~~~~~~
[ DATA { RECORD IS   } identifier-1... ]
  ~~~~ { ~~~~~~      }
       { RECORDS ARE }
         ~~~~~~~
[ LABEL { RECORD IS   } OMITTED|STANDARD ]
  ~~~~~ { ~~~~~~      } ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
        { RECORDS ARE }
          ~~~~~~~
[ LINAGE IS integer-3 | identifier-2 LINES
  ~~~~~~
    [ LINES AT BOTTOM integer-4 | identifier-3 ]
              ~~~~~~
    [ LINES AT TOP integer-5 | identifier-4 ]
              ~~~
    [ WITH FOOTING AT integer-6 | identifier-5 ] ]
           ~~~~~~~
[ RECORD { CONTAINS [ integer-7 TO ] integer-8 CHARACTERS   } ]
  ~~~~~~                         ~~
         { IS VARYING IN SIZE                               }
             ~~~~~~~
         {     [ FROM [ integer-7 TO ] integer-8 CHARACTERS }
                                ~~
         {         DEPENDING ON identifier-6 ]              }
                   ~~~~~~~~~
[ RECORDING MODE IS recording-mode ]
```

```
   ~~~~~~~~~
 [ { REPORT IS   } report-name-1... ]
   { ~~~~~~     }
   { REPORTS ARE }
     ~~~~~~~
 [ VALUE OF implementor-name-1 IS literal-1 | identifier-7 ] .
   ~~~~~ ~~
```

The `BLOCK CONTAINS`, `DATA RECORD`, `LABEL RECORD`, `RECORDING MODE` and `VALUE OF` clauses are syntactically recognized but are obsolete and non-functional. These clauses should not be coded in new programs.

==========

1. The reserved words `ARE`, `AT`, `CHARACTERS` (`RECORD` clause only), `CONTAINS`, `FROM`, `IN`, `IS`, `ON` and `WITH` are optional and may be included, or not, at the discretion of the programmer. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The terms `RECORD IS` and `RECORDS ARE` are interchangeable.
3. The terms `REPORT IS` and `REPORTS ARE` are interchangeable.
4. Only files intended for use as work files for either the `SORT` (see SORT) or `MERGE` (see MERGE) statements should be coded with an SD — all others should be defined with a FD.
5. The sequence in which files are defined via `FD` or `SD`, as compared to the sequence in which their `SELECT` statements were coded, is irrelevant.
6. The name specified as <file-name-1> must exactly match the name specified on the file's `SELECT` statement.
7. The `CODE-SET` clause allows a custom alphabet, defined in the `SPECIAL-NAMES` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) paragraph, to be associated with a file. This clause is valid only when used with sequential or line sequential files and usage can depend of the compiler version in use, platform used and other factors, see the NEWS file supplied with your version of the compiler for more details.
8. The `LINAGE` clause may only be specified in the `FD` of a sequential or line sequential file. If used with a sequential file, the organization of that file will be implicitly changed to line sequential. The various components of the `LINAGE` clause define the layout of printed pages as follows:

   LINES AT TOP

   Number of unused (*i.e.* left blank) lines at the top of every page. The default if this if not specified is zero.

LINES AT BOTTOM
Number of unused (*i.e.* left blank) lines at the bottom of every page. The default if this if not specified is zero.

LINAGE IS n LINES
Total number of used/usable lines on the page.

The sum of the previous three specifications should be the total number of possible lines available on one printed page.

FOOTING AT
Line number beyond which nothing may be printed except for any footing that is to appear on every page. The default for this if not specified is zero, meaning there will be no footings. This value cannot be larger than the `LINAGE IS n LINES` value.

9. This page structure — once defined — can be automatically enforced by the `WRITE` statement (see WRITE).
10. Specifying a `LINAGE` clause in an `FD` will cause the `LINAGE-COUNTER` special register to be created for the file. This automatically-created data item will always contain the current relative line number on the page being prepared which will serve as the starting point for a `WRITE` statement.
11. The `RECORD CONTAINS` and `RECORD IS VARYING` clauses are ignored (with a warning message issued) when used with line sequential files. With other file organizations, these mutually-exclusive clauses define the length of data records within the file. The data item specified as <identifier-6> must be defined within one of the record descriptions of <file-name-1>.
12. The `REPORT IS` clause announces to the compiler that the file will be dedicated to the Report Writer Control System (RWCS); the clause names one or more reports, each to be described in the report section. The following special rules apply when the `REPORT` clause is used:
    A. The clause may only be specified in the `FD` of a sequential or line sequential file. If used with a sequential file, the organization of that file will be implicitly changed to line sequential.
    B. The `FD` cannot be followed by record descriptions. Detailed descriptions of data to be printed to the file will be defined in the `REPORT SECTION` (see REPORT SECTION).
    C. If a `LINAGE` clause is also specified, Values specified for `LINAGE IS` and `FOOTING AT` will be ignored. The values of `LINES AT BOTTOM` and `LINES AT TOP`, if any, will be honoured.
13. The following special rules apply only to sort/merge work files:

A. Sort/merge work files should be assigned to `DISK` (or `DISC`) on their `SELECT` statements.

B. Sorts and merges will be performed in memory, if the amount of data being sorted allows.

C. Should actual disk work files be necessary due to the amount of data being sorted or merged, they will be automatically allocated to disk in a folder defined by:

   - The `TMPDIR` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables)
   - The `TMP` run-time environment variable
   - The `TEMP` run-time environment variable

   (in that order).

D. These disk files will be automatically purged upon `SORT` or `MERGE` termination. They will also be purged if the program terminates abnormally before the `SORT` or `MERGE` finishes. Should you ever need to know, temporary sort/merge work files will be named `cob*.tmp`.

E. If you specify a specific filename in the sort/merge work file's `SELECT`, it will be ignored.

14. See Data Description Clauses, for information on the `EXTERNAL` and `GLOBAL` options.

15. implementor-name-1 can take the value: FILE-ID and is used to specify the external name of the file as literal-1 (only if this external name has not been specified in the corresponding SELECT clause). Example:

```
SELECT file1 ASSIGN TO DISK (without an external name ...
                                                     ...
FD  File1
    VALUE OF FILE-ID "file1.txt".
```

7.2.2 FILE-SECTION-Data-Item

FILE-SECTION-Data-Item Syntax

==========

```
level-number [ identifier-1 | FILLER ] [ IS GLOBAL ]
                              ~~~~~~        ~~~~~~
[ BLANK WHEN ZERO|ZEROES|ZEROS ]
  ~~~~~      ~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~
[ JUSTIFIED RIGHT ]
  ~~~~
[ OCCURS integer-1 [ TO  integer-2 ] TIMES [ DEPENDING ON identifier-2 ] ]
[ ~~~~~~             ~~                     ~~~~~~~~~                   ]
```

```
[        [ { ASCENDING|DESCENDING KEY IS { identifier-3 }...}...]    ]
[            ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~                                      ]
[        [ INDEXED BY { identifier-4 }...]                             ]
           ~~~~~~~
[ PICTURE IS picture-string ]
  ~~~
[ REDEFINES identifier-5 ]
  ~~~~~~~~~
[ SIGN IS LEADING|TRAILING [ SEPARATE [CHARACTER] ] ]
  ~~~~    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~
[ SYNCHRONIZED|SYNCHRONISED [ LEFT|RIGHT ] ]
  ~~~~        ~~~~           ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ USAGE IS data-item-usage ]
  ~~~~~
[ IS TYPEDEF ]
     ~~~~~~~
[ TYPE TO type-name-1 ]
  ~~~~
[ SAME AS identifier-6 ]
  ~~~~
[ IS SPECIAL-NAMES { special-names-item }...]
     ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ VALUE IS [ ALL ] literal-1 ] . [ FILE-SECTION-Data-Item ]...
  ~~~~~      ~~~
```

The `LEFT` and `RIGHT` (SYNCHRONIZED) clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

Every sort file description (`SD` or `FD`) must be followed by at least one 01-level data item, except for file descriptions containing the `REPORT IS` clause. These 01-level data items, in turn, may be broken down into subordinate group and elementary items. An 01-level data item defined here in the file section is also known as a Record, even if it is an elementary item, provided that elementary item lacks the `CONSTANT` attribute.

1. The reserved words `BY`, `IS`, `KEY`, `ON` and `WHEN` are optional and may be included, or not, at the discretion of the programmer. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `SYNCHRONIZED` and `SYNCHRONISED` are interchangeable. Both may be abbreviated to `SYNC`.
3. The reserved word `PICTURE` may be abbreviated to `PIC`.

4. As the syntax diagram shows, the definition of a <FILE-SECTION-Data-Item> is a recursive one in that there may be any number of such specifications coded following a FD or SD. The first such specification must have a level number of 01, and will describe a specific format of data record within the file. Specifications that follow that one may have level numbers greater than 01, in which case they are defining a hierarchical breakdown of the record. The definition of a record is terminated when one of the following occurs:

   Another 01-level item is found
   signifies the start of another record layout for the file.

   Another `FD` or `SD` is found
   marks the completion of the detailed description of the file and begins another.

   A division or section header is found
   also marks the completion of the detailed description of the file and signifies the end of the file section as well.

5. Every FILE-SECTION-Data-Item description must be terminated with a period.
6. If there are multiple record descriptions present for a given `FD` or `SD`, the one with the longest length will define the size of the record buffer into which a `READ` statement (see READ) or a `RETURN` statement (see RETURN) will deliver data read from the file and from which a `WRITE` statement (see WRITE) or `RELEASE` statement (see RELEASE) statement will obtain the data to be written to the file.
7. The various 01-level record descriptions for a file description implicitly share that one common record buffer (thus, they provide different ways to view the structure of data that can exist within the file). Record buffers can be shared between files by using the `SAME RECORD AREA` (see SAME RECORD AREA) clause.
8. The only valid level numbers are 01-49, 66, 77, 78 and 88. Level numbers 66, 77, 78 and 88 all have special uses — See Special Data Items, for details.
9. Not specifying an <identifier-1> or `FILLER` immediately after the level number has the same effect as if `FILLER` were specified. A data item named `FILLER` cannot be referenced directly; these items are generally used to specify an unused portion of the total storage allocated to a group item or to describe a group item whose contents which will only be referenced using the names of those items that belong to it.
10. `EXTERNAL` cannot be combined with `GLOBAL` or `REDEFINES`.
11. File section data buffers (and therefore all 01-level record layouts defined in the file section) are initialized to all binary zeros when the program is loaded into storage.
12. See Data Description Clauses, for information on the usage of the various data description clauses.

7.3 WORKING-STORAGE SECTION

WORKING-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item Syntax

==========

```
level-number [ identifier-1|FILLER ] [ IS GLOBAL|EXTERNAL [AS literal-2] ]
                            ~~~~~~        ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~  ~~
[ BASED ]
  ~~~~~
[ BLANK WHEN ZERO|ZEROES|ZEROS ]
  ~~~~~      ~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~
[ JUSTIFIED RIGHT ]
  ~~~~
[ OCCURS integer-1 [ TO  integer-2 ] TIMES [ DEPENDING ON identifier-2 ] ]
[ ~~~~~~             ~~                     ~~~~~~~~~                   ]
[        [ { ASCENDING|DESCENDING KEY IS { identifier-3 }...}...]        ]
[            ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~                                        ]
[        [ INDEXED BY { identifier-4 }...]                               ]
           ~~~~~~~
[ PICTURE IS picture-string ]
  ~~~
[ REDEFINES identifier-5 ]
  ~~~~~~~~~
[ SIGN IS LEADING|TRAILING [ SEPARATE CHARACTER ] ]
  ~~~~    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~
[ SYNCHRONIZED|SYNCHRONISED [ LEFT|RIGHT ] ]
  ~~~~         ~~~~           ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ USAGE IS data-item-usage ]
  ~~~~~
[ IS TYPEDEF ]
     ~~~~~~~
[ TYPE TO type-name-1 ]
  ~~~~
[ SAME AS identifier-6 ]
  ~~~~
[ IS SPECIAL-NAMES { special-names-item }...]
     ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ VALUE IS [ ALL ] literal-1 ] . [ WORKING-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item ]...
  ~~~~~      ~~~
```

The `LEFT` and `RIGHT` (SYNCHRONIZED) clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

The working-storage section is used to describe data items that are not part of files, screens or reports and whose data values persist throughout the execution of the program.

1. The reserved words `BY`, `CHARACTER`, `IS`, `KEY`, `ON`, `RIGHT` (JUSTIFIED), `TIMES` and `WHEN` are optional and may be included, or not, at the discretion of the programmer. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `SYNCHRONIZED` and `SYNCHRONISED` are interchangeable. Both may be abbreviated as `SYNC`.
3. The reserved word `PICTURE` may be abbreviated to `PIC`.
4. The reserved word `JUSTIFIED` may be abbreviated to `JUST`.
5. As the syntax diagram shows, the definition of a `WORKING-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item` is a recursive one in that there may be any number of such specifications coded following one another. The first such specification must have a level number of 01. Specifications that follow that one may have level numbers greater than 01, in which case they are defining a hierarchical breakdown of a record. The definition of a record is terminated when one of the following occurs:
   - Another 01-level item is found — this signifies the end of the definition of one record and the start of a another.
   - A 77-level item is found — this signifies the end of the definition of the record and begins the definition of a special data item; See 77-Level Data Items, for more information.
   - A division or section header is found — this also marks the completion of a record and signifies the end of the working-storage section as well.
6. Every `WORKING-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item` description must be terminated with a period.
7. The only valid level numbers are 01-49, 66, 77, 78 and 88. Level numbers 01 through 49 are used to define data items that may be part of a hierarchical structure. Level number 01 can also be used to define a constant — an item with an unchangeable value specified at compilation time.
8. Level numbers 66, 77, 78 and 88 all have special uses — See Special Data Items, for details.
9. Not specifying an <identifier-1> or `FILLER` immediately after the level number has the same effect as if `FILLER` were specified. A data item named `FILLER` cannot be referenced directly; these items are generally used to specify an unused portion of the total storage allocated to a group item or to describe a group item whose contents which will only be referenced using the names of those items that belong to it.

10. Data items defined within the working-storage section are automatically initialized once — as the program in which the data is defined is loaded into memory. Subprograms may be loaded into memory more than once (see the `CANCEL` statement (see CANCEL)), in which case initialization will happen each time they are loaded. See Data Initialization, for a discussion of the initialization rules.
11. See Data Description Clauses, for information on the usage of the various data description clauses.

7.4 LOCAL-STORAGE SECTION

LOCAL-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item Syntax

==========

```
level-number [ identifier-1 | FILLER ] [ IS GLOBAL|EXTERNAL [AS literal-2] ]
                               ~~~~~~        ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~  ~~
[ BASED ]
  ~~~~~
[ BLANK WHEN ZERO|ZEROES|ZEROS ]
  ~~~~~      ~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~
[ JUSTIFIED RIGHT ]
  ~~~~
[ OCCURS integer-1 [ TO  integer-2 ] TIMES [ DEPENDING ON identifier-2 ] ]
[ ~~~~~~             ~~                     ~~~~~~~~~                   ]
[        [ { ASCENDING|DESCENDING KEY IS { identifier-3 }...}...]        ]
[            ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~                                        ]
[        [ INDEXED BY { identifier-4 }...]                               ]
           ~~~~~~~
[ PICTURE IS picture-string ]
  ~~~
[ REDEFINES identifier-5 ]
  ~~~~~~~~~
[ SIGN IS LEADING|TRAILING [ SEPARATE CHARACTER ] ]
  ~~~~    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~
[ SYNCHRONIZED|SYNCHRONISED [ LEFT|RIGHT ] ]
  ~~~~         ~~~~           ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ USAGE IS data-item-usage ]
  ~~~~~
[ IS TYPEDEF ]
     ~~~~~~~
[ TYPE TO type-name-1 ]
  ~~~~
```

```
[ SAME AS identifier-6 ]
  ~~~~
[ IS SPECIAL-NAMES { special-names-item }...]
     ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ VALUE IS [ ALL ] literal-1 ] .  [ LOCAL-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item ]...
  ~~~~~      ~~~
```

The `LEFT` and `RIGHT` (SYNCHRONIZED) clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

The local-storage section is similar to working-storage, but describes data within a subprogram that will be dynamically allocated and initialized (automatically) each time the subprogram is executed. See Data Initialization, for the rules of data initialization.

1. The reserved words `BY`, `CHARACTER IS`, `KEY`, `ON`, `RIGHT` (JUSTIFIED), `TIMES` and `WHEN` are optional and may be included, or not, at the discretion of the programmer. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `SYNCHRONIZED` and `SYNCHRONISED` are interchangeable. Both may be abbreviated as `SYNC`.
3. The reserved word `PICTURE` may be abbreviated to `PIC`.
4. The reserved word `JUSTIFIED` may be abbreviated to `JUST`.
5. As the syntax diagram shows, the definition of a `LOCAL-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item` is a recursive one in that there may be any number of such specifications coded following one another. The first such specification must have a level number of 01. Specifications that follow that one may have level numbers greater than 01, in which case they are defining a hierarchical breakdown of a record. The definition of a record is terminated when one of the following occurs:
   - Another 01-level item is found — this signifies the end of the definition of one record and the start of a another.
   - A division or section header is found — this also marks the completion of a record and signifies the end of the local-storage section as well.
6. Every `LOCAL-STORAGE-SECTION-Data-Item` description must be terminated with a period.
7. The only valid level numbers are 01-49, 66, 77, 78 and 88. Level numbers 01 through 49 are used to define data items that may be part of a hierarchical structure. Level number 01 can also be used to define a constant — an item with an unchangeable value specified at compilation time.

8. Level numbers 66, 77, 78 and 88 all have special uses — See Special Data Items, for details.
9. Not specifying an <identifier-1> or `FILLER` immediately after the level number has the same effect as if `FILLER` were specified. A data item named `FILLER` cannot be referenced directly; these items are generally used to specify an unused portion of the total storage allocated to a group item or to describe a group item whose contents which will only be referenced using the names of those items that belong to it.
10. Local-storage cannot be used in nested subprograms.
11. See Data Description Clauses, for information on the usage of the various data description clauses.

7.5 LINKAGE SECTION

LINKAGE-SECTION-Data-Item Syntax

==========

```
level-number [ identifier-1|FILLER ] [ IS GLOBAL|EXTERNAL [AS literal-2] ]
                            ~~~~~~        ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~  ~~
{ BASED       }
{ ~~~~~       }
{ ANY LENGTH  }
{ ~~~ ~~~~~~  }
{ ANY NUMERIC }
  ~~~ ~~~~~~~
[ BLANK WHEN ZERO|ZEROES|ZEROS ]
  ~~~~~      ~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~
[ JUSTIFIED RIGHT ]
  ~~~~
[ OCCURS integer-1 [ TO { integer-2 } ] TIMES [ DEPENDING ON identifier-2 ] ]
[ ~~~~~~             ~~ { UNBOUNDED }           ~~~~~~~~~                   ]
[                         ~~~~~~~~~                                        ]
[        [ { ASCENDING|DESCENDING KEY IS { identifier-3 }...}...]          ]
[            ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~                                         ]
[        [ INDEXED BY { identifier-4 }...]                                ]
           ~~~~~~~
[ PICTURE IS picture-string ]
  ~~~
[ REDEFINES identifier-5 ]
  ~~~~~~~~~
[ SIGN IS LEADING|TRAILING [ SEPARATE CHARACTER ] ]
```

```
  ~~~~    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~
[ SYNCHRONIZED|SYNCHRONISED [ LEFT|RIGHT ] ]
  ~~~~         ~~~~           ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ USAGE IS data-item-usage ]
  ~~~~~
[ IS TYPEDEF ]
     ~~~~~~~
[ TYPE TO type-name-1 ]
  ~~~~
[ SAME AS identifier-6 ]
  ~~~~
[ IS SPECIAL-NAMES { special-names-item }...]
     ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ VALUE IS [ ALL ] literal-1 ] . [ LINKAGE-SECTION-Data-Item ]...
  ~~~~~      ~~~
```

The `LEFT` and `RIGHT` (SYNCHRONIZED) clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

The linkage section describes data within a subprogram that serves as either input arguments to or output results from the subprogram.

1. The reserved words `BY`, `CHARACTER`, `IS`, `KEY`, `ON` and `WHEN` are optional and may be included, or not, at the discretion of the programmer. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `SYNCHRONIZED` and `SYNCHRONISED` are interchangeable. Both may be abbreviated as `SYNC`.
3. The reserved word `PICTURE` may be abbreviated to `PIC`.
4. The reserved word `JUSTIFIED` may be abbreviated to `JUST`.
5. As the syntax diagram shows, the definition of a `LINKAGE-SECTION-Data-Item` is a recursive one in that there may be any number of such specifications coded following one another. The first such specification must have a level number of 01. Specifications that follow that one may have level numbers greater than 01, in which case they are defining a hierarchical breakdown of a record. The definition of a record is terminated when one of the following occurs:
   - Another 01-level item is found — this signifies the end of the definition of one record and the start of a another.

- A division or section header is found — this also marks the completion of a record and signifies the end of the linkage section as well.

6. Every `LINKAGE-SECTION-Data-Item` description must be terminated with a period.
7. The only valid level numbers are 01-49, 66, 77, 78 and 88. Level numbers 01 through 49 are used to define data items that may be part of a hierarchical structure. Level number 01 can also be used to define a constant — an item with an unchangeable value specified at compilation time.
8. Level numbers 66, 77, 78 and 88 all have special uses — See Special Data Items, for details.
9. It is expected that:
   A. A linkage section should occur only within a subprogram. The compiler will not prevent its use in a main program, however.
   B. All 01-level data items described within a subprogram's linkage section should appear in a `PROCEDURE DIVISION USING` (see PROCEDURE DIVISION USING) or as arguments on an `ENTRY` statement.
   C. Each 01-level data item described within a subprogram's linkage section should correspond to an argument passed on a `CALL` statement (see CALL) or an argument on a function call to the subprogram.
10. Not specifying an <identifier-1> or `FILLER` immediately after the level number has the same effect as if `FILLER` were specified. A data item named `FILLER` cannot be referenced directly; these items are generally used to specify an unused portion of the total storage allocated to a group item or to describe a group item whose contents which will only be referenced using the names of those items that belong to it. In the linkage section, 01-level data items cannot be named `FILLER`.
11. No storage is allocated for data defined in the linkage section; the data descriptions there are merely defining storage areas that will be passed to the subprogram by a calling program. Therefore, any discussion of the default initialization of such data is irrelevant. It *is* possible, however, to manually allocate linkage section data items that aren't subprogram arguments via the `ALLOCATE` statement (see ALLOCATE) statement. In such cases, initialization will take place as per the documentation of that statement.
12. The reserved word `UNBOUNDED` can be used to specify an unbounded table (a table with an unbounded maximum number of occurrences), and can be referenced anywhere that a table can be referenced.
13. An unbounded group is a group that contains at least one unbounded table. It can be specified ONLY in the Linkage Section, and must be of type alphanumeric or national.

14. You can reference unbounded groups in COBOL syntax anywhere that an alphanumeric or national group can be referenced, with the following exceptions:

    You cannot specify unbounded groups as a BY CONTENT argument in a CALL statement. You cannot specify unbounded groups as data-name-2 on the Procedure Division RETURNING phrase. You cannot specify unbounded groups as arguments to intrinsic functions, except as an argument to the LENGTH intrinsic function.

15. See Data Description Clauses, for information on the usage of the various data description clauses.

7.6 REPORT SECTION

REPORT SECTION Syntax

==========

```
[ REPORT SECTION.
  ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  { Report-Description [ { Report-Group-Definition } ]... }... ]
  {                      { 01-Level-Constant       }      }
  {                      { 78-Level-Constant       }      }
  { 01-Level-Constant                                     }
  { 78-Level-Constant                                     }
```

==========

Report-Description (RD) Syntax

==========

```
RD report-name [ IS GLOBAL ]
~~                  ~~~~~~
[ CODE IS literal-1 | identifier-1 ]
  ~~~~
[ { CONTROL IS   } { FINAL        }... ]
    ~~~~~~~          ~~~~~
  { CONTROLS ARE } { identifier-2 }
    ~~~~~~~~
[ PAGE [ { LIMIT IS   } ] [ { literal-2    } LINES ]
  ~~~~   { ~~~~~      }     { identifier-3 } ~~~~
         { LIMITS ARE }
           ~~~~~~
      [ literal-3 | identifier-4 COLUMNS|COLS ]
                                 ~~~~~~~ ~~~~
```

```
        [ HEADING IS literal-4 | identifier-5 ]
          ~~~~~~~
        [ FIRST DE|DETAIL IS literal-5 | identifier-6 ]
          ~~~~~ ~~ ~~~~~~
        [ LAST CH|{CONTROL HEADING} IS literal-6 | identifier-7 ]
          ~~~~ ~~  ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
        [ LAST DE|DETAIL IS literal-7 | identifier-8 ]
          ~~~~ ~~ ~~~~~~
        [ FOOTING IS literal-8 | identifier-9 ] ] .
          ~~~~~~~
```

==========

This section describes the layout of printed reports as well as many of the functional aspects of the generation of reports that will be produced via the Report Writer Control System. It is important to maintain the order of these clauses and ensure that all fields defined or referenced with this section are actually defined in the `WORKING-STORAGE SECTION` and not elsewhere.

1. The reserved words `ARE` and `IS` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The phrases `CONTROL IS` and `CONTROLS ARE` are interchangeable, as are the `PAGE LIMIT` and `PAGE LIMITS` phrases.
3. The reserved word `LINES` may be abbreviated as `LINE`.
4. The reserved word `COLUMNS` may be abbreviated as `COLS`.
5. Each report referenced on a `REPORT IS` clause (see File/Sort-Description) must be described with a report description (`RD`).
6. See GLOBAL, for information on the `GLOBAL` option.
7. Please see Report Writer Features, if you have not read it already. It will familiarize you with the Report Writer terminology that follows.
8. The following rules pertain to the `PAGE LIMITS` clause:
   A. If no `PAGE LIMITS` clause is specified, the entire report will be generated as if it consists of a single arbitrarily long page.
   B. All literals (<literal-2> through <literal-8>) must be numeric with non-zero positive integer values.
   C. All identifiers (<identifier-2> through <identifier-8>) must be numeric, unedited with non-zero positive integer values.

D. Any value specified for <literal-2> or <identifier-2> will define the total number of available lines on any report page, not counting any unused margins at the top and/or bottom of the page (defined by the `LINES AT TOP` and `LINES AT BOTTOM` values specified on the `LINAGE` clause of the `FD` this `RD` is linked to — see File/Sort-Description).

E. Any value specified for <literal-3> or <identifier-3> will be ignored.

F. The `HEADING` clause defines the first line number at which a report heading or page heading may be presented.

G. The `FIRST DETAIL` clause defines the first line at which a detail group may be presented.

H. The `LAST CONTROL HEADING` clause defines the last line at which any line of a control heading may be presented.

I. The `LAST DETAIL` clause defines the last line at which any line of a detail group may be presented.

J. The `FOOTING` clause defines the last line at which any line of a control footing group may be presented.

K. The following rules establish default values for the various `PAGE LIMIT` clauses, assuming there is one:

`HEADING`
: default is one (1)

`FIRST DETAIL HEADING`
: value is used

`LAST CONTROL HEADING`
: value from `LAST DETAIL` or, if that is absent, the value from `FOOTING` or, if that too is absent, the value from `PAGE LIMIT`

`LAST DETAIL`
: value from `FOOTING` or, if that is absent, the value from `PAGE LIMIT`

`FOOTING`
: value from `LAST DETAIL` or, if that is absent, the value from `PAGE LIMIT`

L. For the values specified on a `PAGE LIMIT` clause to be valid, all of the following must be true:

- `FIRST DETAIL` ≤ `HEADING`
- `LAST CONTROL HEADING` ≤ `FIRST DETAIL`
- `LAST DETAIL` ≤ `LAST CONTROL HEADING`
- `FOOTING` ≤ `LAST DETAIL`

9. The following rules pertain to the CONTROL clause:
   A. If there is no CONTROL clause, the report will contain no control breaks; this implies that there can be no CONTROL HEADING or CONTROL FOOTING report groups defined for this RD.
   B. Include the reserved word FINAL if you want to include a special control heading before the first detail line is generated (CONTROL HEADING FINAL) or after the last detail line is generated (CONTROL FOOTING FINAL).
   C. If you specify FINAL, it must be the first control break named in the RD.
   D. Any <identifier-9> specifications included on the CONTROL clause are referencing data names defined in any data division section except for the report section.
   E. There must be a CONTROL HEADING and/or CONTROL FOOTING report group defined in the report section for each <identifier-9>.
   F. At execution time:
      - Each time a GENERATE statement (see GENERATE) is executed against a detail report group defined for this RD, the RWCS will check the contents of each <identifier-2> data item; whenever an <identifier-9>'s value has changed since the previous GENERATE, a control break condition will be in effect for that <identifier-2>.
      - Once the list of control breaks has been determined, the CONTROL FOOTING for each <identifier-2> having a control break (if any such report group is defined) will be presented.
      - Next, the CONTROL HEADING for each <identifier-2> having a control break (if any such report group is defined) will be presented.
      - The CONTROL FOOTING and CONTROL HEADING report groups will be presented in the sequence in which they are listed on the CONTROL clause.
      - Only after this processing has occurred will the detail report group specified on the GENERATE be presented.
10. Each RD will have the following allocated for it:
   A. The PAGE-COUNTER special register (see Special Registers), which will contain the current report page number.
      - This register will be set to a value of 1 when an INITIATE statement (see INITIATE) is executed for the report and will be incremented by 1 each time the RWCS starts a new page of the report.
      - References to PAGE-COUNTER within the report section will be implicitly qualified with the name of the report to which the report group referencing the register belongs.

- References to `PAGE-COUNTER` in the procedure division must be qualified with the appropriate report name if there are multiple `RD`s defined.

B. The `LINE-COUNTER` special register, which will contain the current line number on the current page.

11. The `RD` must be followed by at least one 01-level report group definition.

7.6.1 Report Group Definitions

Report-Group-Definition Syntax

```
========================================================================
```

```
01 [ identifier-1 ]

[ LINE NUMBER IS { integer-1 [ [ ON NEXT PAGE ] } ]
  ~~~~                               ~~~~ ~~~~
                 { +|PLUS integer-1             }
                     ~~~~
                 { ON NEXT PAGE                 }
                      ~~~~ ~~~~
[ NEXT GROUP IS { [ +|PLUS ] integer-2  } ]
  ~~~~ ~~~~~           ~~~~
                { NEXT|{NEXT PAGE}|PAGE }
                  ~~~~  ~~~~ ~~~~  ~~~~
[ TYPE IS { RH|{REPORT HEADING}                     } ]
  ~~~~      ~~  ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
          { PH|{PAGE HEADING}                       }
            ~~  ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
          { CH|{CONTROL HEADING} FINAL|identifier-2  }
            ~~  ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~  ~~~~~
          { DE|DETAIL                               }
            ~~ ~~~~~~
          { CF|{CONTROL FOOTING} FINAL|identifier-2  }
            ~~  ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~  ~~~~~
          { PF|{PAGE FOOTING}                       }
             ~~ ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
          { RF|{REPORT FOOTING}                     }
            ~~  ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
. [ REPORT-SECTION-Data-Item ]...
```

```
========================================================================
```

The syntax shown here documents how a report group is defined to a report. This syntax is valid only in the report section, and only then after an `RD`.

1. The reserved words `IS`, `NUMBER` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The `RH` and `REPORT HEADING` terms are interchangeable, as are `PH` and `PAGE HEADING`, `CH` and `CONTROL HEADING`, `DE` and `DETAIL`, `CF` and `CONTROL FOOTING`, `PF` and `PAGE FOOTING` as well as `RF` and `REPORT FOOTING`.
3. The report group being defined will be a part of the most-recently coded `RD`.
4. The `TYPE` (see TYPE) clause specifies the type of report group being defined.
5. The level number used for a report group definition must be 01.
6. The optional <identifier-1> specification assigns a name to this report group so that the group may be referenced either by a `GENERATE` statement or on a `USE BEFORE REPORTING`.
7. No two report groups in the same report (`RD`) may named with the same <identifier-1>. There may, however, be multiple <identifier-1> definitions in different reports. In such instances, references to <identifier-1> must be qualified by the report name.
8. There may only be one report heading, report footing, final control heading, final control footing, page heading and page footing defined per report.
9. Report group declarations must be followed by at least one `REPORT-SECTION-Data-Item` with a level number in the range 02-49.
10. See Data Description Clauses, for information on the usage of the various data description clauses.

7.6.2 REPORT SECTION Data Items

REPORT-SECTION-Data-Item Syntax

```
=========================================================================
```

```
level-number [ identifier-1 ]

[ LINE NUMBER IS { integer-2 [ [ ON NEXT PAGE ] } ]
  ~~~~           { +|PLUS integer-2 ~~~~ ~~~~   }
                 {   ~~~~                       }
                 { ON NEXT PAGE                 }
                      ~~~~ ~~~~
[ { COLUMN  } [ NUMBER  ] [ LEFT   ] [ IS  ] { [ +|PLUS ] integer-1 } ]
  { ~~~~~~  } [ NUMBERS ] [ ~~~~   ] [ ARE ] {     ~~~~             }
  { COL     }             [ RIGTH  ]         { {integer-2 }...      }
  { ~~~     }             [ ~~~~~  ]
  { COLUMNS }             [ CENTER ]
  { ~~~~~~~ }               ~~~~~~
```

```
   { COLS    }
     ~~~~
 [ GROUP INDICATE ]
   ~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
 [ JUSTIFIED RIGHT ]
   ~~~~
 [ OCCURS [ integer-3 TO ] integer-4 TIMES
   ~~~~~~             ~~
     [ DEPENDING ON identifier-2 ]
       ~~~~~~~~~
     [ STEP integer-5 ]
       ~~~~
     *** [ VARYING identifier-3 FROM { identifier-4 } BY { identifier-5 } ]
           ~~~~~~~              ~~~~ { integer-6    } ~~ { integer-7    } ***
 [ PICTURE IS picture-string ]
   ~~~
 [ PRESENT WHEN condition-name ]
   ~~~~~~~ ~~~~
 [ SIGN IS LEADING|TRAILING [ SEPARATE CHARACTER ] ]
   ~~~~    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~
 [ BLANK WHEN ZERO ]
   ~~~~~      ~~~~
 [ { SOURCE IS literal-1|identifier-6 [ ROUNDED ]                  } ]
   { ~~~~~~                           ~~~~~~~                     }
   { SUM OF { identifier-7 }... [ { RESET ON FINAL|identifier-8 } ] }
   { ~~~    { literal-2    }       { ~~~~~    ~~~~~             }   }
   { VALUE IS [ ALL ] literal-3    { UPON identifier-9          }   }
     ~~~~~      ~~~                  ~~~~
 .
*** Options NOT IMPLEMENTED.

 [ REPORT-SECTION-Data-Item ]...
```

==========

Data item descriptions describing the report lines and fields that make up the substance of a report group immediately follow the definition of that group.

1. The reserved words `IS`, `NUMBER`, `OF`, `ON`, `RIGHT`, `TIMES` and `WHEN` (BLANK) are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved word `COLUMN` may be abbreviated as `COL`.
3. The reserved word `JUSTIFIED` may be abbreviated as `JUST`.

4. The reserved word `PICTURE` may be abbreviated as `PIC`.
5. The `SOURCE` (see SOURCE), `SUM` (see SUM) and `VALUE` (see VALUE) clauses, valid only on an elementary item, are mutually-exclusive of each other.
6. Group items (those without `PICTURE` clauses) are frequently used to describe entire lines of a report, while elementary items (those with a picture clause) are frequently used to describe specific fields of information on the report. When this coding convention is being used, group items will have `LINE` (see LINE) clauses and no `COLUMN` (see COLUMN) clauses while elementary items will be specified the other way around.
7. The reserved word `VARYING` is NOT implemented at least in version 3.2 and more possibly in later versions of the GnuCobol compiler at this time. There is no date when it might be. Any usage of such, will produce an error message when compiling.
8. See Data Description Clauses, for information on the usage of the various data description clauses.

7.7 SCREEN SECTION

SCREEN-SECTION-Data-Item Syntax

==========

```
level-number [ identifier-1|FILLER ]
                           ~~~~~~

   [ BLANK { LINE|SCREEN } ]
     ~~~~~   ~~~~ ~~~~~~
   [ ERASE { EOL|EOS                    } ]
   [ ~~~~~ { ~~~ ~~~                    } ]
   [       { [TO END OF ] {LINE|SCREEN } } ]
                ~~~       ~~~~   ~~~~~~
   [ LINE NUMBER IS [ { +|PLUS  } ] integer-3|identifier-4 ]
   [ ~~~~           [ {   ~~~~  } ]                        ]
   [                [ { -|MINUS } ]                        ]
                         ~~~~~
   [ COLUMN|POSITION NUMBER IS [ { +|PLUS  } ] integer-4|identifier-5 ]
   [ ~~~    ~~~                [ {   ~~~~  } ]                        ]
   [                           [ { -|MINUS } ]                        ]
                                     ~~~~~
   [ BACKGROUND-COLOR|BACKGROUND-COLOUR IS integer-1|identifier-2 ]
     ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
   [ FOREGROUND-COLOR|FOREGROUND-COLOUR IS integer-2|identifier-3 ]
     ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

```
  [ AUTO|AUTO-SKIP|AUTOTERMINATE|TAB ]
    ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~
  [ BELL|BEEP ]
    ~~~~ ~~~~
  [ BLANK WHEN ZERO|ZEROS|ZEROES ]
    ~~~~~      ~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~~
  [ JUSTIFIED RIGHT ]
    ~~~~
  [ BLINK ]
    ~~~~~
  [ HIGHLIGHT|LOWLIGHT ]
    ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
  [ REVERSE-VIDEO|REVERSED|REVERSE ]
    ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
  [ LEFTLINE ] [ OVERLINE ] [ UNDERLINE ]
    ~~~~~~~~     ~~~~~~~~     ~~~~~~~~~
  [ PROMPT [ CHARACTER IS literal-1|identifier-10 ]
    ~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~
  [ FROM literal-2|identifier-6 ]
    ~~~~
  [ TO identifier-7 ]
    ~~
  [ USING identifier-8 ]
    ~~~~~
  [ [ VALUE IS ] literal-3 ]
      ~~~~~
  [ INITIAL [ literal-4 ] ]
    ~~~~~~~
  [ REQUIRED|EMPTY-CHECK ]
    ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~
  [ FULL|LENGTH-CHECK ]
    ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~
  [ SECURE|NO-ECHO|NO ECHO|OFF | ]
    ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~ ~~~~ ~~~~
  [ CURSOR { identifier-9 } ]
    ~~~~~~
  [ PICTURE IS picture-string ]
    ~~~
  [ SIGN IS LEADING|TRAILING [ SEPARATE CHARACTER ] ]
    ~~~~    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~
```

```
    [ OCCURS integer-5 TIMES ] .
      ~~~~~~
```

==========

The screen section describes the screens to be displayed during terminal/console I-O.

1. The reserved words `CHARACTER` (`SEPARATE` clause), `IS`, `NUMBER`, `RIGHT`, `TIMES` and `WHEN` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved word `COLUMN` may be abbreviated as `COL`.
3. The reserved word `PICTURE` may be abbreviated as `PIC`.
4. The following sets of reserved words are interchangeable:
   - `AUTO`, `AUTO-SKIP` and `AUTOTERMINATE`
   - `BACKGROUND-COLOR` and `BACKGROUND-COLOUR`
   - `BELL` and `BEEP`
   - `FOREGROUND-COLOR` and `FOREGROUND-COLOUR`
   - `FULL` and `LENGTH-CHECK`
   - `REQUIRED` and `EMPTY-CHECK`
   - `SECURE` and `NO-ECHO`
5. Data items defined in the screen section describe input, output or combination screen layouts to be used with `ACCEPT data-item` statement (see ACCEPT data-item) or `DISPLAY data-item` statement (see DISPLAY data-item) statements. These screen layouts may define the entire available screen area or any subset of it.
6. The term *available screen area* is a nebulous one in those environments where command-line shell sessions are invoked within a graphical user-interface environment, as will be the case on Windows, OSX and most Unix/Linux systems — these environments allow command-line session windows to exist with a variable number of available screen rows and columns. When you are designing GnuCOBOL screens, you need to do so with an awareness of the logical screen row/column geometry the program will be executing within.
7. Data items with level numbers 01 (Constants), 66, 78 and 88 may be used in the screen section; they have the same syntax, rules and usage as they do in the other data division sections.
8. Without `LINE` (see LINE) or `COLUMN` (see COLUMN) clauses, screen section fields will display on the console window beginning at whatever line/column coordinate is stated or

implied by the `ACCEPT data-item` or `DISPLAY data-item` statement that presents the screen item. After a field is presented to the console window, the next field will be presented immediately following that field.

9. A `LINE` clause explicitly stated in the definition of a screen section data item will override any `LINE` clause included on the `ACCEPT data-item` or `DISPLAY data-item` statement that presents that data item to the screen. The same is true of `COLUMN` clauses.
10. The Tab and Back-Tab (Shift-Tab on most keyboards) keys will position the cursor from field to field in the line/column sequence in which the fields occur on the screen at execution time, regardless of the sequence in which they were defined in the screen section.
11. See Data Description Clauses, for information on the usage of the various data description clauses.
12. See details of ACCEPT data-item for more information regarding usage of CURSOR.
13. Use of the TAB phrase forces the user to finish the ACCEPT verb with a termination key. This is the standard mode for GnuCOBOL and other compilers but not for RM COBOL. TAB cannot be used together with the AUTO / AUTO-SKIP and AUTOTERMINATE clauses.
14. OCCURS. Have that as pending: the compiler supports that, but the runtime does not handle it yet.
15. The `INITIAL` clause indicates that at the time of ACCEPT of the SCREEN, the cursor will be positioned on this field.

```
Example:
       >>source free
 IDENTIFICATION  DIVISION.
 PROGRAM-ID. TESTINITIAL.
 DATA DIVISION.
 WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
 01  dummy-1     PIC X(10).
 01  dummy-2     PIC X(10).
 01  dummy-3     PIC X(10).
 SCREEN SECTION.
 01  scr.
     03  LINE + 1, PIC X(80) VALUE 'field.'.
     03  LINE + 2, PIC X(10) TO dummy-1.
     03  COL  + 2, PIC X(10) TO dummy-2.
     03  COL  + 2, PIC X(10) TO dummy-3 INITIAL.
 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
     DISPLAY scr
```

```
      ACCEPT  scr *> cursor is on field with INITIAL clause
      STOP RUN.
```

7.8 Special Data Items

7.8.1 01-Level Constants

01-Level-Constant Syntax

==========

```
01 constant-name-1 CONSTANT
                    ~~~~~~~~
   [ IS GLOBAL ]  { AS { literal-1                            } }
        ~~~~~~    {    { arithmetic-expression-1              } }
                  {    {                                      } }
                  {    { { BYTE-LENGTH } OF { identifier-1 } } }
                  {    { { ~~~~~~~~~~~ }    { usage-name   } } }
                  {    { { LENGTH      }                     } }
                  {        ~~~~~~                              }
                  { FROM CDF-variable-name-1                   }
                    ~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `SCREEN`.

The 01-level constant is one of five types of compilation-time constants that can be declared within a program. The other four types are `>>DEFINE` CDF directive (see >>DEFINE) constants, `>>SET` CDF directive (see >>SET) constants, 78-level constants (see 78-Level Data Items and arithmetic-expression-1).

1. The reserved words `AS`, `IS` and `OF` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. See GLOBAL, for information on the `GLOBAL` option.
3. This particular type of constant declaration provides the ability to determine the length of a data item or the storage size associated with a particular numeric `USAGE` (see USAGE) type — something not possible with the other types of constants.
4. Constants defined in this way become undefined once an `END PROGRAM` or `END FUNCTION` is encountered in the input source.

5. Data descriptions of this form do not actually allocate any storage — they merely define a name (<constant-name-1>) that may be used anywhere a numeric literal (see BYTE-LENGTH or LENGTH options) or a literal of the same type as <literal-1> may be used.
6. The <constant-name-1> name may not be referenced on a CDF directive.
7. Care must be taken that <constant-name-1> does not duplicate any other data item name that has been defined in the program as references to that data item name will refer to the constant and not the data item. The GnuCOBOL compiler will not issue a warning about this condition.
8. The value specified for <usage-name> may be any USAGE that does not use a PICTURE (see PICTURE) clause. These would be any of BINARY-C-LONG, BINARY-CHAR, BINARY-DOUBLE, BINARY-LONG, BINARY-SHORT, COMP-1 (or COMPUTATIONAL-1), COMP-2 (or COMPUTATIONAL-2), FLOAT-DECIMAL-16, FLOAT-DECIMAL-34, FLOAT-LONG, FLOAT-SHORT, POINTER, or PROGRAM-POINTER.
9. The BYTE-LENGTH clause will produce a numeric value for <constant-name-1> identical to that which would be returned by the BYTE-LENGTH intrinsic function executed against <identifier-1> or a data item declared with a USAGE of <usage-name>.
10. The LENGTH clause will produce a numeric value for <constant-name-1> identical to that which would be returned by the LENGTH intrinsic function executed against <identifier-1> or a data item declared with a USAGE of <usage-name>.

Here is usage examples of the option arithmetic-expression

```
 78 wCONST VALUE 2 *  (23 + 3) + (10 / 2).
 01 wCONST2 constant (23 + 3)**2.
 01 wCONST3 constant (12 + wCONST2)**2 - wCONST.
 78 wCONST4 value    (12 + wCONST3)**2 - wCONST2.
```

Here is another example of using the option arithmetic-expression.

```
        >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTCONST.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 A   CONSTANT 2.
01 B   CONSTANT ( (3 + 4 / 2) * A). *> value = 10
01 CON CONSTANT (A ** B).           *> value = 1024
01 MYDATA PIC X(CON).
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
```

```
DISPLAY A ' ' B ' ' CON
move all "1234567890" to MYDATA
move ">" to MYDATA(1:1)
move "<" to MYDATA(CON:1)
DISPLAY MYDATA
ACCEPT omitted
GOBACK.
```

Here is the listing of a GnuCOBOL program that uses 01-level constants to display the length (in bytes) of the various picture-less usage types.

```
       IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
       PROGRAM-ID. Usage-Lengths.
       DATA DIVISION.
       WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
       01  Len-BINARY-C-LONG    CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF BINARY-C-LONG.
       01  Len-BINARY-CHAR      CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF BINARY-CHAR.
       01  Len-BINARY-DOUBLE    CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF BINARY-DOUBLE.
       01  Len-BINARY-LONG      CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF BINARY-LONG.
       01  Len-BINARY-SHORT     CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF BINARY-SHORT.
       01  Len-COMP-1           CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF COMP-1.
       01  Len-COMP-2           CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF COMP-2.
       01  Len-FLOAT-DECIMAL-16 CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF FLOAT-DECIMAL-16.
       01  Len-FLOAT-DECIMAL-34 CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF FLOAT-DECIMAL-34.
       01  Len-FLOAT-LONG       CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF FLOAT-LONG.
       01  Len-FLOAT-SHORT      CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF FLOAT-SHORT.
       01  Len-POINTER          CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF POINTER.
       01  Len-PROGRAM-POINTER  CONSTANT AS LENGTH OF PROGRAM-POINTER.
       PROCEDURE DIVISION.
       000-Main.
           DISPLAY "On this system, with this build of GnuCOBOL, the"
           DISPLAY "PICTURE-less USAGE's have these lengths (in bytes):"
           DISPLAY " "
           DISPLAY "BINARY-C-LONG:    " Len-BINARY-C-LONG
           DISPLAY "BINARY-CHAR:      " Len-BINARY-CHAR
           DISPLAY "BINARY-DOUBLE:    " Len-BINARY-DOUBLE
           DISPLAY "BINARY-LONG:      " Len-BINARY-LONG
           DISPLAY "BINARY-SHORT:     " Len-BINARY-SHORT
           DISPLAY "COMP-1:           " Len-COMP-1
           DISPLAY "COMP-2:           " Len-COMP-2
           DISPLAY "FLOAT-DECIMAL-16: " Len-FLOAT-DECIMAL-16
```

```
           DISPLAY "FLOAT-DECIMAL-34: " Len-FLOAT-DECIMAL-34
           DISPLAY "FLOAT-LONG:       " Len-FLOAT-LONG
           DISPLAY "FLOAT-SHORT:      " Len-FLOAT-SHORT
           DISPLAY "POINTER:          " Len-POINTER
           DISPLAY "PROGRAM-POINTER:  " Len-PROGRAM-POINTER
           STOP RUN.
```

The output of this program, on a Windows 7 system with a 32-bit MinGW build of GnuCOBOL is:

```
    On this system, with this build of GnuCOBOL, the
    PICTURE-less USAGE's have these lengths (in bytes):

    BINARY-C-LONG:    4
    BINARY-CHAR:      1
    BINARY-DOUBLE:    8
    BINARY-LONG:      4
    BINARY-SHORT:     2
    COMP-1:           4
    COMP-2:           8
    FLOAT-DECIMAL-16: 8
    FLOAT-DECIMAL-34: 16
    FLOAT-LONG:       8
    FLOAT-SHORT:      4
    POINTER:          4
    PROGRAM-POINTER:  4

The output of this program, on a Linux X64 system running cobc (GnuCOBOL)
3.1.2.0 is:

On this system, with this build of GnuCOBOL, the
PICTURE-less USAGE's have these lengths (in bytes):

BINARY-C-LONG:    8
BINARY-CHAR:      1
BINARY-DOUBLE:    8
BINARY-LONG:      4
BINARY-SHORT:     2
COMP-1:           4
COMP-2:           8
FLOAT-DECIMAL-16: 8
```

```
FLOAT-DECIMAL-34: 16
FLOAT-LONG:       8
FLOAT-SHORT:      4
POINTER:          8
PROGRAM-POINTER:  8

Spot the differences between 32 and 64 bit.
```

7.8.2 66-Level Data Items

66-Level-Data-Item Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
 66 identifier-1 RENAMES identifier-2 [ THRU|THROUGH identifier-3 ] .
                 ~~~~~~~               ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
```

```
=============================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`

A 66-level data item regroups previously defined items by specifying alternative, possibly overlapping, groupings of elementary data items.

1. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
2. A level-66 data item cannot rename a level-66, level-01, level-77, or level-88 data item.
3. There may be multiple level-66 data items that rename data items contained within the same 01-level record description.
4. All `RENAMES` entries associated with one logical record must immediately follow that record's last data description entry.

7.8.3 77-Level Data Items

77-Level-Data-Item Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
 77 identifier-1|FILLER [ IS GLOBAL|EXTERNAL ]
                 ~~~~~~      ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
[ BASED ]
  ~~~~~
[ BLANK WHEN ZERO|ZEROES|ZEROS ]
  ~~~~~      ~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~
[ JUSTIFIED RIGHT ]
  ~~~~
```

```
[ OCCURS integer-1 [ TO  integer-2 ] TIMES [ DEPENDING ON identifier-2 ] ]
[ ~~~~~~             ~~                      ~~~~~~~~~                   ]
[        [ { ASCENDING|DESCENDING KEY IS { identifier-3 }...}...]    ]
[            ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~                                      ]
[        [ INDEXED BY { identifier-4 }...]                           ]
           ~~~~~~~
[ PICTURE IS picture-string ]
  ~~~
[ REDEFINES identifier-5 ]
  ~~~~~~~~~
[ SIGN IS LEADING|TRAILING [ SEPARATE CHARACTER ] ]
  ~~~~    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~
[ SYNCHRONIZED|SYNCHRONISED [ LEFT|RIGHT ] ]
  ~~~~        ~~~~           ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ USAGE IS data-item-usage ]
  ~~~~~
[ IS TYPEDEF ]
     ~~~~~~~
[ TYPE TO type-name-1 ]
  ~~~~
[ SAME AS identifier-6 ]
  ~~~~
[ IS SPECIAL-NAMES { special-names-item }...]
     ~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ VALUE IS [ ALL ] literal-1 ] .
  ~~~~~      ~~~
```

The `LEFT` and `RIGHT` (SYNCHRONIZED) clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`

The intent of a 77-level item is to be able to create a stand-alone elementary data item.

1. The reserved words `CHARACTER`, `IS`, `RIGHT` (JUSTIFIED) and `WHEN` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved word `JUSTIFIED` may be abbreviated as `JUST`, the reserved word `PICTURE` may be abbreviated as `PIC` and the reserved words `SYNCHRONIZED` and `SYNCHRONISED` may be abbreviated as `SYNC`.
3. New programs requiring a stand-alone elementary item should be coded to use a level number of 01 rather than 77.

4. See Data Description Clauses, for information on the usage of the various data description clauses.

7.8.4 78-Level Data Items

78-Level-Constant Syntax

```
=========================================================================

 78 constant-name-1 [ IS GLOBAL ] VALUE IS
                         ~~~~~~   ~~~~~
  { literal-1                  [ { +|-|*|/|** } { literal-3                 } ] }
  { identifier-1               [ { AND         } { identifier-3              } ] }
  { arithmetic-expression-1    [ { ~~~         } { arithmetic-expression-2   } ] }
  { LENGTH OF { literal-2    } [ { OR          } { LENGTH OF { literal-4   } } ] }
  { ~~~~~~    { identifier-2 } [   ~~            { ~~~~~~    { identifier-4 } } ] }
  {                                                                            }
  { START OF identifier-5                                                      }
  { ~~~~~                                                                      }
  { NEXT                                                                       }
    ~~~~

=========================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `SCREEN`

The 78-level constant is one of four types of compilation-time constants that can be declared within a program. The other three types are `>>DEFINE` CDF directive (see >>DEFINE) constants, `>>SET` CDF directive (see >>SET) constants and 01-level constants (see 01-Level Constants).

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. Constants defined in this way become undefined once an `END PROGRAM` or `END FUNCTION` is encountered in the input source.
3. Data descriptions of this form do not actually allocate any storage — they merely define a name (<constant-name-1>) that may be used anywhere a literal of the same type as <literal-1> may be used.
4. The <constant-name-1> name may not be referenced on a CDF directive.
5. Care must be taken that <constant-name-1> does not duplicate any other data item name that has been defined in the program as references to that data item name will refer to the constant and not the data item. The GnuCOBOL compiler will not issue a warning about this condition.

6. See in 6.8.1 for examples of using the option arithmetic-expression.
7. NEXT gives the integer value representing the offset at which the next byte of storage that follows the previous data declaration.

```
Following a couple of sample programs:

ID DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TEST78.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
78 AAA VALUE (100 -1) + 100.
01 K          PIC X(19).
01 A EXTERNAL PIC X(05) VALUE SPACE.
01 R EXTERNAL PIC X(08) VALUE SPACE.
78 BBB VALUE LENGTH OF A.
78 CCC VALUE LENGTH OF '1234'.
78 DDD VALUE LENGTH OF '1234567890' / LENGTH OF A.
78 EEE VALUE LENGTH OF '123'  * 3.
78 FFF VALUE START OF R.
01 B EXTERNAL.
   05 C   PIC X(26) VALUE 'A'.
   05 D   PIC X(21) VALUE 'A'.
   78 GGG           VALUE NEXT.
   78 HHH           VALUE START OF A.
   05 M   PIC X(23) VALUE 'B'.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    DISPLAY 'AAA= ' AAA
    DISPLAY 'BBB= ' BBB
    DISPLAY 'CCC= ' CCC
    DISPLAY 'DDD= ' DDD
    DISPLAY 'EEE= ' EEE
    DISPLAY 'FFF= ' FFF
    DISPLAY 'GGG= ' GGG
    DISPLAY 'HHH= ' HHH
    STOP RUN.

        >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTCONST1.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
```

```
78 wCONST VALUE 2 *  (23 + 3) + (10 / 2)  .
01 wCONST2 constant (23 + 3**32) .
01 wCONST3 constant (12 + wCONST2)**22 - wCONST.
78 wCONST4 value    (wCONST + 1 AND wCONST3) OR  123  321  AND wCONST**2.
01 wCONST5 constant (wCONST4    OR  wCONST2) AND 123 -321.23 AND wCONST4.
01 wCONST6 constant B'0001'     AND B'1000'.
01 wVAR02  PIC 9(30)V99 value zero.
01 wVAR03  PIC 9(30)V99 value zero.
01 wVAR04  PIC 9(30)V99 value zero.
01 wVAR09  PIC 999      value wCONST4.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
MAIN-PROCEDURE.
    DISPLAY "wCONST .........: " wCONST
    COMPUTE wVAR02 = (23 + 3**32)
    DISPLAY "wVAR02 .........: " wVAR02
    DISPLAY "wCONST2 ........: " wCONST2
    COMPUTE wVAR03 = (12 + wCONST2)**22 - wCONST
    DISPLAY "wVAR03 .........: " wVAR03
    DISPLAY "wCONST3 ........: " wCONST3
    DISPLAY "wCONST4 ........: " wCONST4
    DISPLAY "wCONST5 ........: " wCONST5
    DISPLAY "wVAR09 .........: " wVAR09
    DISPLAY "wCONST6 ........: " wCONST6
    accept omitted
    STOP RUN.
```

7.8.5 88-Level Data Items

88-Level-Data-Item Syntax

==========

```
 88 condition-name-1 { VALUE IS   } {literal-1 [ THRU|THROUGH literal-2 ]}...
                     { ~~~~~      }              ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
                     { VALUES ARE }
                       ~~~~~~

   [ WHEN SET TO FALSE IS literal-3 ] .
                 ~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `REPORT`, `SCREEN`

Condition names are Boolean (*i.e.* `TRUE` / `FALSE`) data items that receive their `TRUE` and `FALSE` values based upon the values of the non 88-level data item whose definition they immediately follow.

1. The reserved words `ARE`, `IS`, `SET` and `TO` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
3. Condition names are always defined subordinate to another (non 88-level) data item. That data item must be an elementary item. Whenever the parent data item assumes one of the values specified on the 88-level item's `VALUE` (see VALUE) clause, <condition-name-1> will take on the value of `TRUE`.
4. Condition names do not occupy any storage.
5. The optional `THROUGH` clause allows a range of possible `TRUE` values to be specified.
6. Whenever the parent data item assumes any value *except* one of the values specified on <condition-name-1>'s `VALUE` clause, <condition-name-1> will take on the value of FALSE.
7. Executing the statement `SET condition-name-1 TO TRUE` will cause <condition-name-1>'s parent data item to take on the first value specified on <condition-name-1>'s `VALUE` clause.
8. Executing the statement `SET condition-name-1 TO FALSE` will cause <condition-name-1>'s parent data item to take on the value specified on <condition-name-1>'s `FALSE` clause. If <condition-name-1> does not have a `FALSE` clause, the `SET` (see SET) statement will generate an error message at compilation time.
9. See Condition Names, for more information.

7.9 Data Description Clauses

Following table lists all the CLAUSES permitted in which SECTIONS of DATA DIVISION.

```
+---------------------------------
+-------------------------------------------------+
| DATA                          | FILE    WORKING LOCAL   LINKAGE REPORT  SCREEN  |
| DESCRIPTION                   | SECTION STORAGE STORAGE SECTION SECTION SECTION |
| CLAUSES                       |         SECTION SECTION                         |
+---------------------------------
+-------------------------------------------------+
| 01. ANY LENGTH|NUMERIC         |                           X                 |
| 02. AUTO|AUTO-SKIP|AUTOTERMINATE |                                       X    |
| 03. BACKGROUND-COLOR           |                                       X    |
| 04. BASED                      |           X       X       X                 |
| 05. BELL|BEEP                  |                                       X    |
```

06. BLANK						X	
07. BLANK WHEN ZERO	X	X	X	X	X	X	
08. BLINK						X	
09. COLUMN|POSITION					X	X	
10. CONSTANT	X	X	X	X		X	
11. ERASE						X	
12. EXTERNAL	X	X	X				
13. FALSE	X	X	X	X	X	X	
14. FOREGROUND-COLOR						X	
15. FROM						X	
16. FULL|LENGTH-CHECK						X	
17. GLOBAL	X	X	X		X		
18. GROUP INDICATE					X		
19. HIGHLIGHT						X	
20. INITIAL						X	
21. JUSTIFIED	X	X	X	X	X	X	
22. LEFTLINE						X	
23. LINE					X	X	
24. LOWLIGHT						X	
25. NEXT GROUP					X		
26. OCCURS	X	X	X	X	X	X	
27. OVERLINE						X	
28. PICTURE	X	X	X	X	X	X	
29. PRESENT WHEN					X		
30. PROMPT						X	
31. REDEFINES	X	X	X	X			
32. RENAMES	X	X	X	X			
33. REQUIRED|EMPTY-CHECK						X	
34. REVERSE-VIDEO						X	
35. SAME AS		X					
36. SECURE|NO-ECHO|NO ECHO|OFF						X	
37. SIGN	X	X	X	X	X	X	
38. SOURCE					X		
39. SPECIAL-NAMES		X	X				
40. SUM					X		
41. SYNCHRONIZED	X	X	X	X			
42. TO						X	
43. TYPE	X	X	X	X	X	X	
44. TYPEDEF	X	X	X	X			
45. UNDERLINE						X	
45. USAGE	X	X	X	X	X		

```
| 46. USING                       |                                                 X    |
| 47. VALUE                       |    X       X       X       X       X       X    |
+---------------------------------
+-------------------------------------------------+
```

7.9.1 ANY LENGTH

ANY LENGTH Attribute Syntax

==========

```
 ANY LENGTH|NUMERIC
 ~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `LINKAGE`

Data items declared with the `ANY LENGTH` or `ANY NUMERIC` attribute have no fixed compile-time length. Such items may only be defined in the linkage section of a subprogram as they may only serve as subroutine argument descriptions.

`ANY LENGTH` items must have a `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) clause that specifies exactly one A, X, U or 1 symbol.

`ANY NUMERIC` items must have a `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) clause that specifies exactly one 9 symbol. `ANY NUMERIC` handles integers or fixed-point but no floating-point.

1. The `ANY LENGTH` clause is COBOL ISO Standard, the `ANY NUMERIC` clause is a GnuCOBOL extension.
2. The `ANY LENGTH` or `ANY NUMERIC` and `BASED` (see BASED) clauses cannot be used together in the same data item description. The `ANY LENGTH` or `ANY NUMERIC` clause specifies that the length of the data item will be determined at runtime, the type is determined (and someday checked with EC-PROGRAM-ARGS) by the picture symbol.
3. They are determined by checking the caller's definition, which therefore MUST be either a GnuCOBOL module or a C program that uses api functions to create COBOL fields.

```
identification division.
program-id. prog1.
data division. working-storage section.
01  myitems.
    03 myitem1 pic x(10).
    03 myitem2 pic 9.
procedure division.
```

```
a-main1 section.
        move 'hello' to myitem1   move 8 to myitem2
        display 'a-main1 prog1'
        display 'a-main1 myitem1 ' myitem1 display 'a-main1 myitem2 ' myitem2
        call 'prog2' using "testlit"
        display 'bye'              accept myitem1.
        goback. end program prog1.
identification division.
program-id. prog2.
data division. working-storage section.
01  myitems.
    03 myitem1 pic x(10).
    03 myitem2 pic 9.
linkage section.
01   testvar pic x ANY LENGTH.
procedure division using testvar.
a-main1 section.
        move 'goodbye' to myitem1  move 4 to myitem2
        display 'a-main1 prog2'
        display 'a-main1 myitem1 ' myitem1 display 'a-main1 myitem2 ' myitem2
        display '>' testvar '<'            display 'goback to prog1'
        goback. end program prog2.
```

7.9.2 AUTO

AUTO Attribute Syntax

==========

```
 AUTO|AUTO-SKIP|AUTOTERMINATE
 ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

A field whose description includes this attribute will cause the cursor to automatically advance to the next input-enabled field of a screen if the field is completely filled with input data.

1. The `AUTO`, `AUTO-SKIP` and `AUTOTERMINATE` clauses are interchangeable, and may not be used together in the same data item description.
2. The `AUTO` clause is COBOL ISO Standard, the `AUTO-SKIP` and `AUTOTERMINATE` clauses are extensions.

7.9.3 BACKGROUND-COLOR

BACKGROUND-COLOR Attribute Syntax

```
=========================================================================

  BACKGROUND-COLOR|BACKGROUND-COLOUR IS integer-1 | identifier-1
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

=========================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

This clause is used to specify the screen background color of the screen data item or the default screen background color of subordinate items if used on a group item.

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `BACKGROUND-COLOR` and `BACKGROUND-COLOUR` are interchangeable.
3. You specify colors by number (0-7 and 8-15), or by using the constant names provided in the `screenio.cpy` copybook (provided with all GnuCOBOL source distributions).
4. Colors may also be specified using a numeric non-edited identifier whose value is in the range 0-7 and 8-15.

For composite `DISPLAY`'s, the attributes are always only applied to the previous source-item but the following also allows a change by variable or literal *i.e.*

```
DISPLAY "Name: "   BACKGROUND-COLOR COB-YELLOW
         NAME-VAR  BACKGROUND-COLOR COB-BLACK   END-DISPLAY
```

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.4 BASED

BASED Attribute Syntax

```
=========================================================================

  BASED
  ~~~~~

=========================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`

Data items declared with BASED are allocated no storage at compilation time. At run-time, the ALLOCATE (see ALLOCATE) or SET ADDRESS (see SET ADDRESS) statements are used to allocate space for and (optionally) initialize such items.

1. The BASED and ANY LENGTH (see ANY LENGTH) clauses cannot be used together in the same data item description.
2. The BASED clause may only be used on level 01 and level 77 data items.

7.9.5 BELL

BELL Attribute Syntax

==========

```
BELL|BEEP
~~~~ ~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: SCREEN

1. Use this clause to cause an audible tone to occur when the screen item is DISPLAYed.
2. The BELL and BEEP clauses are interchangeable, and may not be used together in the same data item description.
3. The BELL clause is COBOL ISO Standard, the BEEP clause is an extension.
4. See also following built-in system subroutines CBL_ALARM_SOUND, CBL_BELL_SOUND and X"E5".

7.9.6 BLANK

BLANK Attribute Syntax

==========

```
BLANK LINE|SCREEN
~~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: SCREEN

This clause will blank out either the entire screen (BLANK SCREEN) or just the line upon which data is about to be displayed (BLANK LINE).

1. Blanked-out areas will have their foreground and background colors set to the attributes of the field containing the BLANK clause.
2. This clause is useful when one screen section item is being displayed over the top of a previously-displayed one.

7.9.7 BLANK WHEN ZERO

BLANK-WHEN-ZERO Attribute Syntax

==========

```
BLANK WHEN { ZERO | ZEROS | ZEROES }
~~~~~      ~~~~  ~~~~~~   ~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `REPORT`, `SCREEN`

This clause will cause that item's value to be automatically transformed into spaces if a value of 0 is ever `MOVE`d to the item.

1. The reserved word `WHEN` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. This clause may only be used on a `PIC 9` data item with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `DISPLAY`.

7.9.8 BLINK

BLINK Attribute Syntax

==========

```
BLINK
~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

The `BLINK` clause modifies the visual appearance of the displayed field by making the field contents blink.

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.9 COLUMN

COLUMN (REPORT SECTION) Clause Syntax

==========

```
{ COLUMN  } [ NUMBER  ] [ LEFT   ] [ IS  ] { [ + | PLUS ] integer-1 }
{ ~~~~~~  } [ NUMBERS ] [ ~~~~   ] [ ARE ] {       ~~~~              }
{ COL     }             [ RIGTH  ]         { {integer-2 }...        }
{ ~~~     }             [ ~~~~~  ]
```

```
{ COLUMNS }             [ CENTER ]
{ ~~~~~~~ }               ~~~~~~
{ COLS    }
  ~~~~
```

==========

COLUMN (SCREEN SECTION) Clause Syntax

==========

```
COLUMN | POSITION NUMBER IS [ { + | PLUS  } ] integer-2 | identifier-3
~~~      ~~~~~~~~           [ {     ~~~~  } ]
                            [ { - | MINUS } ]
                                    ~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `REPORT`, `SCREEN`

The `COLUMN` clause provides the means of stating in which column a field should be presented on the console window (screen section) or a report (report section).

1. The reserved words `ARE`, `IS`, `NUMBER` and `NUMBERS` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved word `COLUMN` may be abbreviated as `COL`.
3. The line location of a report section or screen section field will be determined by the `LINE` (see LINE) clause.
4. The value of <integer-1> must be 1 or greater.
5. If <identifier-1> is used to specify either an absolute or relative column position, <identifier-1> must be defined as a numeric item of any `USAGE` (see USAGE) other than `COMPUTATIONAL-1` or `COMPUTATIONAL-2`, without editing symbols. The value of <identifier-1> at the time the screen data item is presented must be 1 or greater. Note that a `COMPUTATIONAL-1` or `COMPUTATIONAL-2` identifier will be accepted by the compiler, but will produce unpredictable results at run-time.
6. The column coordinate of a field may be stated on an absolute basis (*i.e.* `COLUMN 5`) or on a relative basis based upon the end of the previously-presented field (*i.e.* `COLUMN PLUS 1`).
7. The symbol '`+`' may be used in lieu of the word `PLUS`, if desired; if symbol '`+`' is used, however, there must be at least one space separating it from <integer-1>. Failure to include this space will cause the symbol '`+`' sign to be simply treated as part of <integer-1> and will treat the `COLUMN` clause as an absolute column specification rather than a relative one.

8. Using relative column positioning (`COLUMN PLUS`) has slightly different behaviour depending upon the section in which the clause is used, as follows:

   A. When used on a report section data item, `COLUMN PLUS` will position the start of the new field's value such that there are <integer-1> blank columns between the end of the previous field and the beginning of this field.

      If a report data item's description includes the `SOURCE` (see SOURCE), `SUM` (see SUM) or `VALUE` (see VALUE) clause but has no `COLUMN` clause, `COLUMN PLUS 1` will be assumed.

   B. When used on a screen section data item, `COLUMN PLUS` will position the new field so that it begins exactly <integer-1> or <identifier-1> characters past the *last* character of the previous field. Thus, `COLUMN PLUS 1` will leave no blank positions between the end of the previous field and the start of this one.

      If a screen data item's description includes the `FROM` (see FROM), `TO` (see TO), `USING` (see USING) or `VALUE` (see VALUE) clause but has no `COLUMN` clause, the new screen field will begin at the column coordinate of the last character of the previous field.

7.9.10 CONSTANT

CONSTANT Attribute Syntax

==========

```
CONSTANT
~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `SCREEN`

This option signifies that the 01-level data item in whose declaration `CONSTANT` is specified will be treated as a symbolic name for a literal value, usable wherever a literal of the appropriate type could be used.

1. The value of a data item defined as a constant cannot be changed at run-time. In fact, it is not syntactically acceptable to use such a data item as the destination field of any procedure division statement that stores a value.
2. See 01-Level Constants, for additional information.

7.9.11 ERASE

ERASE Clause Syntax

==========

```
ERASE { EOL|EOS                       }
~~~~~ { ~~~ ~~~                       }
      { [TO END OF ] {LINE | SCREEN } }
            ~~~       ~~~~   ~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: SCREEN

ERASE will blank-out screen contents from the location where the screen data item whose description contains this clause will be displayed, forward until the end of the screen (ERASE EOS)

1. Erased areas will have their foreground and background colors set to the attributes of the field containing the ERASE clause.
2. This clause is useful when one screen section item is being displayed over the top of a previously-displayed one.

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.12 EXTERNAL

EXTERNAL Attribute Syntax

==========

```
IS EXTERNAL
   ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: FILE, WORKING-STORAGE, LOCAL-STORAGE

This clause marks a data item description, FD or SD see File/Sort-Description as being shareable with other programs executed from the same execution thread.

1. By specifying the EXTERNAL clause on either an FD or an SD, the file description is capable of being shared between all programs executed from the same execution thread, provided an EXTERNAL clause is coded with the file's description in *each* program requiring it. This sharing allows the file to be opened, read and/or written and closed in different programs. This sharing applies to the record descriptions subordinate to the file description too.
2. By specifying the EXTERNAL clause on the description of a data item, the data item is capable of being shared between all programs executed from the same execution thread, provided the data item is coded (with an EXTERNAL clause) in each program requiring it.

3. The following points apply to the specification of `EXTERNAL` in a data item's definition:
   A. The `EXTERNAL` clause may only be specified at the 77 or 01 level.
   B. An `EXTERNAL` item must have a data name and that name cannot be `FILLER`.
   C. `EXTERNAL` cannot be combined with `BASED` (see BASED), `GLOBAL` (see GLOBAL) or `REDEFINES` (see REDEFINES).

7.9.13 FALSE

FALSE Clause Syntax

==========

```
WHEN SET TO FALSE IS literal-1
            ~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `REPORT`, `SCREEN`

This clause, which may only appear on the definition of a level-88 condition name, is used to specify the value of the data item that serves as the parent of the level-88 condition name that will force the condition name to assume a value of `FALSE`.

1. The reserved words `IS`, `SET`, `TO` and `WHEN` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. See 88-Level Data Items, or See Condition Names, for more information.

7.9.14 FOREGROUND-COLOR

FOREGROUND-COLOR Attribute Syntax

==========

```
FOREGROUND-COLOR|FOREGROUND-COLOUR IS integer-1 | identifier-1
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

This clause is used to specify the color of text within a screen data item or the default text color of subordinate items if used on a group item.

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `FOREGROUND-COLOR` and `FOREGROUND-COLOUR` are interchangeable.

3. You specify colors by number (0-7 and 8-15), or by using the constant names provided in the `screenio.cpy` copybook (which is provided with all GnuCOBOL source distributions).
4. Colors may also be specified using a numeric non-edited identifier whose value is in the range 0-7 and 8-15.

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.15 FROM

FROM Clause Syntax

==========

```
FROM literal-1|identifier-1
~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

This clause is used to specify either the data item a screen section field is to obtain its value from when the screen is displayed, or a literal that will specify the value of that same field.

1. The `FROM`, `TO` (see TO), `USING` (see USING) and `VALUE` (see VALUE) clauses aren't mutually-exclusive in any screen section data item's definition.

7.9.16 FULL

FULL Attribute Syntax

==========

```
FULL|LENGTH-CHECK
~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

The `FULL` clause forces the user to enter data into the field it is specified on (or into all subordinate input-capable fields if specified on a group item) sufficient to fill every character position of the field.

1. The `FULL` and `LENGTH-CHECK` clauses are interchangeable, and may not be used together in the same data item description.
2. The `FULL` clause is COBOL ISO Standard, the `LENGTH-CHECK` clause is an extension.

3. In order for this clause to take effect at execution time, the user must move the cursor into the field having this clause in its definition.
4. The `ACCEPT data-item` statement (see ACCEPT data-item) will ignore the Enter key and any other cursor-moving keystrokes that would cause the cursor to move to another screen item unless the proper amount of data has been entered into the field. Function keys will still be allowed to terminate the `ACCEPT`, however.
5. In order to be functional, this attribute must be supported by the underlying "curses" package your GnuCOBOL implementation was built with. As of this time, the "PDCurses" package (used for native Windows or MinGW builds) does not support `FULL` and `LENGTH-CHECK`.

7.9.17 GLOBAL

GLOBAL Attribute Syntax

==========

```
IS GLOBAL
   ~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `REPORT`

This clause marks a data item, 01-level constant, `FD` (see File/Sort-Description), `SD` (see File/Sort-Description) or an `RD` (see REPORT SECTION) as being shareable with any nested subprograms.

1. By specifying the `GLOBAL` clause on the description of a file or a report, that description is capable of being shared between a program and any nested subprograms within it, provided the `FD`, `SD` or `RD` is coded (with a `GLOBAL` clause) in each nested subprogram requiring it. This sharing allows the file to be opened, read and/or written and closed or the report to be initiated or terminated in those programs. Separately compiled programs may not share a `GLOBAL` file description, but they may share an `EXTERNAL` (see EXTERNAL) file description. This sharing applies to the record descriptions subordinate to the file description and the report groups subordinate to the `RD` also.
2. By specifying the `GLOBAL` clause on the description of a data item, the data item is capable of being shared between a program and any nested subprograms within it, provided the data item is coded (with a `GLOBAL` clause) in each program requiring it.
3. The following points apply to the specification of `GLOBAL` in a data item's definition:
   A. The `GLOBAL` clause may only be specified at the 77 or 01 level.
   B. A `GLOBAL` item must have a data name and that name cannot be `FILLER`.

C. `GLOBAL` cannot be combined with `EXTERNAL` (see EXTERNAL), `REDEFINES` (see REDEFINES) or `BASED` (see BASED).

7.9.18 GROUP INDICATE

GROUP-INDICATE Attribute Syntax

==========

```
GROUP INDICATE
~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `REPORT`

The `GROUP INDICATE` clause specifies that the data item in whose definition the clause appears will be presented only in very limited circumstances.

1. This clause may only appear within a `DETAIL` report group (see TYPE).
2. When this clause is present, the data item in question will be presented only under the following circumstances:
   A. On the first presentation of the detail group following the `INITIATE` (see INITIATE) of the report.
   B. On the first presentation of the detail group after every new page is started.
   C. On the first presentation of the detail group after any control break occurs.

7.9.19 HIGHLIGHT

HIGHLIGHT Attribute Syntax

==========

```
HIGHLIGHT
~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

This clause controls the intensity of text (`FOREGROUND-COLOR` (see FOREGROUND-COLOR)) by setting that intensity to its highest of three possible settings.

1. This clause, along with `LOWLIGHT` (see LOWLIGHT), are intended to provide a three-level intensity scheme (`LOWLIGHT` ... nothing (Normal) ... `HIGHLIGHT`).

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.20 INITIAL

INITIAL Attribute Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
 INITIAL [ literal-1 ]
 ~~~~~~~
```

```
=============================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

This clause can only be used on screen fields that accept user input (those that have the USING clause or the TO clause). It forces the runtime to re-initialize that specific screen field to its defined `VALUE` (or empty if no value is set) every time the `DISPLAY` statement is executed. This ensures that the screen field does not retain data from a previous `ACCEPT` operation, which is critical when reusing forms or displaying the same screen section multiple times within a program.

1. The `INITIAL` clause guarantees that a field displays its initial value, not the last accepted value, whenever `DISPLAY` is executed.
2. When `DISPLAY` acts on an item with the `INITIAL` clause, GnuCOBOL ignores any data currently in the associated WORKING-STORAGE SECTION data item and uses the `VALUE` clause defined within the SCREEN SECTION definition. The `INITIAL` clause is typically used in conjunction with the `VALUE` clause in the SCREEN SECTION (which defines the default, literal value)
3. When a screen item with the `INITIAL` phrase is displayed, GnuCOBOL ignores any data currently in the associated data item and uses the `VALUE` clause from the SCREEN SECTION definition.
4. This clause is essential for applications that toggle between different input forms, ensuring that a user sees a "clean" form every time a specific `DISPLAY` statement is executed.

```
        >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTSCREENINITIAL.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 CUSTOMER-NAME1 PIC X(10) value 'CUSTO1'.
01 CUSTOMER-NAME2 PIC X(10) value 'CUST02'.
01 CUSTOMER-NAME3 PIC X(10) value 'CUST03'.
01 CUSTOMER-NAME4 PIC X(10) value 'CUST04'.
SCREEN SECTION.
```

```
01 CUSTOMER-SCREEN AUTO.
   03 wLABEL      PIC X(30)  LINE  2 COL 1        "first ACCEPT".
   03                        LINE  4 COL 1  VALUE "Name1.....: ".
   03 ENTRY-NAME1 PIC X(10), LINE  4 COL 20 USING CUSTOMER-NAME1  INITIAL.
   03                        LINE  6 COL 1  VALUE "Name2.....: ".
   03 ENTRY-NAME2 PIC X(10), LINE  6 COL 20 USING CUSTOMER-NAME2  INITIAL 'ENTRY02'.
   03                        LINE  8 COL 1  VALUE "Name3.....: ".
    03 ENTRY-NAME3 PIC X(10), LINE   8 COL 20 USING CUSTOMER-NAME3   INITIAL VALUE
'ENTRY03'.
   03                        LINE 10 COL 1  VALUE "Name3.....: ".
   03 ENTRY-NAME4 PIC X(10), LINE 10 COL 20 USING CUSTOMER-NAME4  INITIAL.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
ACCEPT CUSTOMER-SCREEN
STOP RUN.
```

7.9.21 JUSTIFIED

JUSTIFIED Attribute Syntax

==========

```
 JUSTIFIED RIGHT
 ~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `REPORT`, `SCREEN`

The presence of a `JUSTIFIED RIGHT` clause in a data item's definition alters the manner in which data is stored into the field from the default 'left-justified, space filled' behaviour to 'right justified, space filled'. Unless you are using any of the IBM dialects, it has NO effect on the initial content of a variable, eg:

```
01  A PIC X(12) JUST RIGHT VALUE 'ABC'.

Will show content as 'ABC' with NO justification taken place.
```

1. The reserved word `RIGHT` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved word `JUSTIFIED` may be abbreviated as `JUST`.
3. This clause is valid only on alphabetic (`PIC A`) or alphanumeric (`PIC X`) data items.

4. The presence or absence of this clause influences the behaviour of the `MOVE` (see MOVE) statement as well as the `FROM` (see FROM), `SOURCE` (see SOURCE) and `USING` (see USING) data item description clauses.
5. If the value being stored into the field is the same length as the receiving field, the presence or absence of the `JUSTIFIED RIGHT` clause on that field's description is irrelevant.
6. The following examples illustrate the behaviour of the presence and absence of the `JUSTIFIED RIGHT` clause when the field size is different than that of the value being stored. In these examples, the symbol *b* represents a space.

   When the value is *shorter* than the field size:

Without `JUSTIFIED`	With `JUSTIFIED`
`01  A PIC X(6).` `MOVE 'ABC' TO A`	`01  A PIC X(6) JUSTIFIED RIGHT.` `MOVE 'ABC' TO A`

Result	Result
`ABCbbb`	`bbbABC`

   When the value is *longer* than the field size:

Without `JUSTIFIED`	With `JUSTIFIED`
`01  A PIC X(6).` `MOVE 'ABCDEFGHI' TO A`	`01  A PIC X(6) JUSTIFIED RIGHT.` `MOVE 'ABCDEFGHI' TO A`

Result	Result
`ABCDEF`	`DEFGHI`

7.9.22 LEFTLINE

LEFTLINE Attribute Syntax

==========

```
LEFTLINE
~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

The `LEFTLINE` clause will introduce a vertical line at the left edge of a screen field.

1. The LEFTLINE, OVERLINE (see OVERLINE) and UNDERLINE (see UNDERLINE) clauses may be used in any combination in a single field's description.
2. This clause is essentially non-functional when used within Windows command shell (cmd.exe) environments and running programs compiled using a GnuCOBOL implementation built using "PDCurses" (such as Windows/MinGW builds).
3. Whether or not this clause operates on Cygwin or UNIX/Linux/OSX systems will depend upon the video attribute capabilities of the terminal output drivers and "curses" software being used.

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.23 LINE

LINE (REPORT SECTION) Clause Syntax

```
==============================================================================
```

```
{ LINE    [ NUMBER  ] [ IS  ] }  { integer-1 [ [ ON NEXT PAGE ] }
{ ~~~~    [ NUMBERS ] [ ARE ] }  {                  ~~~~ ~~~~   }
{ LINES ARE                   }  { +|PLUS integer-2             }...
  ~~~~~                          {   ~~~~                       }
                                 { ON NEXT PAGE                 }
                                      ~~~~ ~~~~
```

```
==============================================================================
```

LINE (SCREEN SECTION) Clause Syntax

```
==============================================================================
```

```
  LINE NUMBER IS [ { +|PLUS  } ] integer-1 | identifier-1
  ~~~~           [ {   ~~~~  } ]
                 [ { -|MINUS } ]
                       ~~~~~
```

```
==============================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: REPORT, SCREEN

This clause provides a means of explicitly stating on which line a field should be presented on the console window (screen section) or on a report (report section).

1. The reserved words IS, NUMBER and ON are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The following points document the use of format 1 of the LINE clause:

A. The column location of a report item will be determined by the `COLUMN` (see COLUMN) clause.

B. The value of <integer-1> must be 1 or greater.

C. The report line number upon which the data item containing this clause along with any subordinate data items will be presented may be stated on an absolute basis (*i.e.* `LINE 5`) or on a relative basis based upon the previously-displayed line (*i.e.* `LINE PLUS 1`).

D. The symbol '`+`' may be used in lieu of the word `PLUS`, if desired; if '`+`' is used, however, there must be at least one space separating it from <integer-1>. Failure to include this space will cause the '`+`' to be simply treated as part of <integer-1> and will treat the LINE clause as an absolute line specification rather than a relative one.

E. The optional `NEXT PAGE` clause specifies that — regardless of whether or not the report group containing this clause *could* fit on the report page being currently generated, the report group will be *forced* to appear on a new page.

3. The following points document the use for format 2 of the `LINE` clause:

A. The column location of a screen section field is determined by the `COLUMN` (see COLUMN) clause.

B. The value of <integer-1> must be 1 or greater.

C. If <identifier-1> is used to specify either an absolute or relative column position, <identifier-1> must be defined as a numeric item of any `USAGE` (see USAGE) other than `COMPUTATIONAL-1` or `COMPUTATIONAL-2`, without editing symbols. The value of <identifier-1> at the time the screen data item is presented must be 1 or greater. Note that a `COMPUTATIONAL-1` or `COMPUTATIONAL-2` identifier will be accepted by the compiler, but will produce unpredictable results at run-time.

D. The screen line number upon which the data item containing this clause along with any subordinate data items will be displayed may be stated on an absolute basis (*i.e.* `LINE 5`) or on a relative basis based upon the previously-displayed line (*i.e.* `LINE PLUS 1`).

E. The symbol '`+`' may be used in lieu of the word `PLUS`, if desired; if '`+`' is used, however, there must be at least one space separating it from <integer-1>. Failure to include this space will cause the '`+`' to be simply treated as part of <integer-1> and will treat the `LINE` clause as an absolute line specification rather than a relative one.

F. If a screen data item's description includes the `FROM` (see FROM), `TO` (see TO), `USING` (see USING) or `VALUE` (see VALUE) clause but has no LINE clause, the "current screen line" will be assumed.

7.9.24 LOWLIGHT

LOWLIGHT Attribute Syntax

```
================================================================================

  LOWLIGHT
  ~~~~~~~~

================================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

The `LOWLIGHT` clause controls the intensity of text (`FOREGROUND-COLOR`) by setting that intensity to its lowest of three possible settings.

1. This clause, along with `HIGHLIGHT` (see HIGHLIGHT), are intended to provide a three-level intensity scheme (`LOWLIGHT` ... nothing (Normal) ... `HIGHLIGHT`). In environments such as a Windows console where only two levels of intensity are supported, `LOWLIGHT` is the same as leaving this clause off altogether.

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.25 NEXT GROUP

NEXT-GROUP Clause Syntax

```
================================================================================

  NEXT GROUP IS { [ + | PLUS ] integer-1  }
  ~~~~ ~~~~~    {       ~~~~              }
                { NEXT | NEXT PAGE | PAGE }
                  ~~~~   ~~~~ ~~~~   ~~~~

================================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `REPORT`

This clause defines any rules for where the next group to be presented on a report will begin, line-wise, with respect to the *last* line of the group in which this clause appears.

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. The terms `NEXT`, `NEXT PAGE` and `PAGE` are interchangeable.
3. A report group must contain at least one `LINE NUMBER` clause in order to also contain a `NEXT GROUP` clause.
4. If the `RD` (see REPORT SECTION) in which the report group containing a `NEXT GROUP` clause does not contain a `PAGE LIMITS` clause, only the `PLUS integer-1` option may be specified.
5. The `NEXT PAGE` option cannot be used in a `PAGE FOOTING`.

6. The `NEXT GROUP` option cannot be specified in either a `REPORT HEADING` or a `PAGE HEADING`.
7. The effects of `NEXT GROUP` will be in addition to any line spacing defined by the next-presented group's `LINE NUMBER` clause.

7.9.26 OCCURS

OCCURS Clause Syntax

==========

```
GENERAL FORMAT.

 Format 1 (fixed-table):

 OCCURS integer-2 [ TIMES ]
 ~~~~~~

 Format 2 (occurs-depending-table):

 OCCURS [ integer-1 TO ] { integer-2 [ TIMES ] } DEPENDING ON identifier-1
 ~~~~~~             ~~   { UNBOUNDED           } ~~~~~~~~~

   [ ASCENDING|DESCENDING KEY IS identifier-5 ... ] ...
     ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~
   [ INDEXED BY index-name-1 ... ]
     ~~~~~~~

 REPORT SECTION.

 Format 3

 OCCURS [ integer-1 TO ] { integer-2 [ TIMES ] } [ DEPENDING ON identifier-1 ]
 ~~~~~~             ~~                             ~~~~~~~~~

   [ STEP integer-3 ]
     ~~~~
   [ VARYING identifier-2 FROM { identifier-3 } BY { identifier-4 } ]
     ~~~~~~~              ~~~~ { integer-4    } ~~ { integer-5    }


 SCREEN SECTION.

 Format 4
```

```
OCCURS integer-2 TIMES
~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `REPORT`, `SCREEN` but UNBOUNDED is ONLY for `LINKAGE`.

The `OCCURS` clause is used to create a data structure called a table, where entries in that structure repeat multiple times.

1. The reserved words `BY` (INDEXED), `IS`, `KEY`, `ON` and `TIMES` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved word `UNBOUNDED` can be used to specify an unbounded table (a table with an unbounded maximum number of occurrences), and can be referenced anywhere that a table can be referenced.
3. An unbounded group is a group that contains at least one unbounded table. It can be specified ONLY in the Linkage Section, and must be of type alphanumeric or national.
4. You can reference unbounded groups in COBOL syntax anywhere that an alphanumeric or national group can be referenced, with the following exceptions:

   You cannot specify unbounded groups as a BY CONTENT argument in a CALL statement. You cannot specify unbounded groups as data-name-2 on the Procedure Division RETURNING phrase. You cannot specify unbounded groups as arguments to intrinsic functions, except as an argument to the LENGTH intrinsic function.
5. The value of <integer-2> specifies how many entries will be allocated in the table.
6. The following is an example of how a table might be defined:

   ```
   05 QUARTERLY-REVENUE OCCURS 4 TIMES PIC 9(7)V99.
   ```

   This will allocate the following:

   ```
   QUARTERLY-REVENUE(1)
   QUARTERLY-REVENUE(2)
   QUARTERLY-REVENUE(3)
   QUARTERLY-REVENUE(4)
   ```

   Each occurrence is referenced using the subscript syntax (a numeric literal, arithmetic expression or numeric identifier enclosed within parenthesis) shown above.

7. The `OCCURS` clause may be used at the group level too, in which case the entire group structure repeats, as follows:

```
05 GRP OCCURS 3 TIMES.
    10 A     PIC X(1).
    10 B     PIC X(1).
    10 C     PIC X(1).
```

   This would allow references to any of the following:

```
GRP(1)   includes A(1), B(1) and C(1)
GRP(2)   includes A(2), B(2) and C(2)
GRP(3)   includes A(3), B(3) and C(3)
```

   or each A,B,C item could be referenced as follows:

```
A(1)   character #1 of GRP(1)
B(1)   character #2 of GRP(1)
C(1)   character #3 of GRP(1)
A(2)   character #1 of GRP(2)
B(2)   character #2 of GRP(2)
C(2)   character #3 of GRP(2)
A(3)   character #1 of GRP(3)
B(3)   character #2 of GRP(3)
C(3)   character #3 of GRP(3)
```

8. The optional `DEPENDING ON` clause can be added to an `OCCURS` to create a variable-length table. In such cases, the value of <integer-1> specifies what the minimum number of entries in the table will be while <integer-2> specifies the maximum. Such tables will be allocated out to the maximum size specified as <integer-2>. At execution time the value of <identifier-1> will determine how many of the table elements are accessible.
9. See the documentation of the `SEARCH` (see SEARCH) (Serial and Binary) and `SORT` (see SORT) statements for explanations of the `KEY` and `INDEXED BY` clauses.
10. The COBOL standard says that the `OCCURS` clause cannot be specified in a data description entry that has a level number of 01, 66, 77, or 88, although it is valid in data items described subordinate to an 01 level data item. GnuCOBOL supports, as a extension available in several compilers, the `OCCURS` clause at levels 01 and 77. Depending on -std, this may be downgraded to a warning or be without a diagnostic. Example, -std=ibm-strict and -std=cobol2002.
11. Format 4 OCCURS (SCREEN SECTION).

Have that as pending: the compiler supports that, but the runtime does not handle it yet.

12. The following points apply to an `OCCURS` used in the report section:

    A. The optional `STEP` clause defines an incrementation value that will be added to any absolute `LINE` (see LINE) or `COLUMN` (see COLUMN) number specifications that may be part of or subordinate to this data item's definition.

    B. The optional `VARYING` clause defines an identifier that may be used as a subscript for the multiple occurrences of this or any subordinate data item should the `SOURCE` (see SOURCE) or `SUM` (see SUM) clause(s) on this or subordinate data items reference entries within the table. The <identifier-2> data item is dynamically created as needed and cannot be referenced outside the scope of the report data item definition.

    C. The following two examples illustrate two different ways a report could include four quarters worth of sales figures in its detail lines — one doing things 'the hard way' and one using the advanced `OCCURS` capabilities of `STEP` and `VARYING`. Both assume the definition of the following table exists in working-storage:

    ```
    05 SALES OCCURS 4 TIMES PIC 9(7)V99.
    ```

    First, the "Hard Way":

    ```
    10 COL 7  PIC $(7)9.99 SOURCE SALES(1).
    10 COL 17 PIC $(7)9.99 SOURCE SALES(2).
    10 COL 27 PIC $(7)9.99 SOURCE SALES(3).
    10 COL 37 PIC $(7)9.99 SOURCE SALES(4).
    ```

    And then using `STEP` and `VARYING`:

    ```
    10 COL 7  OCCURS 4 TIMES STEP 10 VARYING QTR FROM 1 BY 1
              PIC $(7)9.99 SOURCE SALES(QTR).
    ```

7.9.27 OVERLINE

OVERLINE Attribute Syntax

==========

```
OVERLINE
~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

The `OVERLINE` clause will introduce a horizontal line at the top edge of a screen field.

1. The LEFTLINE (see LEFTLINE), OVERLINE and UNDERLINE (see UNDERLINE) clauses may be used in any combination in a single field's description.
2. This clause is essentially non-functional when used within Windows command shell (cmd.exe) environments and running programs compiled using a GnuCOBOL implementation built using "PDCurses" (such as Windows/MinGW builds).
3. Whether or not this clause operates on Cygwin or UNIX/Linux/OSX systems will depend upon the video attribute capabilities of the terminal output drivers and "curses" software being used.

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.28 PICTURE

PICTURE Clause Syntax

```
========================================================================
PICTURE IS picture-string [ LOCALE [ IS locale-name-1 ] SIZE IS integer-1 ]
~~~                         ~~~~~~                       ~~~~

========================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: FILE, WORKING-STORAGE, LOCAL-STORAGE, LINKAGE, REPORT, SCREEN

The picture clause defines the class (numeric, alphabetic or alphanumeric), size and format of the data that may be contained by the data item being defined. Sometimes this role is assisted by the USAGE (see USAGE) clause, and in a few instances will be assumed entirely by that clause.

1. The reserved word IS is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. A picture clause may only be specified on an elementary item.
3. A <picture-string> is a sequence of the special symbols '$', '*', '+', ',', '-', '.', '/', '0' (zero), '1', '9', 'A', 'B', CR, DB, 'N', 'U', 'S', 'V', 'P', 'X' and 'Z'.
4. In general, each picture symbol represents either a single character in storage or a single decimal digit. There are a few exceptions, and they will be discussed as needed.
5. When a <picture-string> contains a repeated sequence of symbols — PIC 9999/99/99 — for example, the repetition can be specified using a parenthetic repeat count, as in PIC 9(4)/9(2)/9(2). Other examples are: PIC Z(8)9 same as PIC ZZZZZZZZ9, PIC +(8)9 same as PIC +++++++++9. Using repeat counts is optional and their use (or not) is entirely at the

discretion of the programmer. Many programmers use repetition for small sequences as `PIC XXX` and repeat counts for larger ones as `PIC 9(6)`.

6. This first set of picture symbols defines the basic data type of a data item. Each symbol represents a single character's worth of storage.

   'A'
   Defines storage reserved for a single alphabetic character ('A'-'Z', 'a'-'z').

   'X'
   Defines storage reserved for a single alphanumeric character (any character).

   '9'
   Defines storage reserved for a single numeric digit character ('0'-'9').

   'N'
   Defines storage reserved for a single character in the computer's National Character set. It is similar to alphanumeric, but using an extended character set, e.g. UTF-8. Support for national character sets in GnuCOBOL is currently only partially implemented, and the compile- and run-time effect of using the 'N' picture symbol is the same as if `X(2)` had been coded, with the additional effect that such a field will qualify as a `NATIONAL` or `NATIONAL-EDITED` field on an `INITIALIZE` (see INITIALIZE) statement.

   'U'
   `PIC U` from the upcoming ISO COBOL 2027 standard is used for UTF-8 support, a single U may have more than one byte (for example Umlauts, Emoji, Kanji, ...). The two ways to define items: `PIC U(n)` = up to N UTF-8 characters (GnuCOBOL always reserves n*4 bytes) or `PIC U BYTE-LENGTH m` = exactly m bytes, up to m UTF-8 characters, but may contain less. While already usable for different things in GnuCOBOL, the support in the current version is limited/unfinished - the size is handled correctly and the data is handled on the byte-position only. There's no explicit conversion between PIC U / X / N available (U and N are identical for most of ASCII 7 bit values, N is "compatible" in most of that range as well (with an additional low-value before/after the byte).

```
         >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTPICTUREU.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wU01   PIC U(06) VALUE ALl '*'.
01 wU02   PIC U(06) VALUE '12ABC'.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
move '12' to wU01(1:2)
```

```
move '34' to wU01(5:2)
display '....+....1....+....2....+....3....+....4....+....5....+....6....+....7'
display wU01
display function HEX-OF(wU01)
display wU02
display function HEX-OF(wU02)
accept omitted STOP RUN.

OUTPUT:
....+....1....+....2....+....3....+....4....+....5....+....6....+....7
12**34******************
31322A2A33342A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A2A
12ABC
313241424320202020202020202020202020202020202020
```

Only one kind of each of those symbols is used in the same picture clause, but that isn't a requirement. Data items that, of the three symbols above, use nothing but '`A`' picture symbols are known as Alphabetic Data Items while those that use '`9`' picture symbols without any '`A`' or '`X`' symbols (or those that have a `USAGE` without a `PICTURE`) are known as Numeric Data Items. All other data items are referred to as Alphanumeric Data Items.

If you need to allocate space for a data item whose format is two letters followed by five digits followed by three letters, you could use the <picture-string> `AA99999AAA`, `A(2)9(5)A(3)` `XXXXXXXXXX` or `X(10)`. There is absolutely no functional difference whatsoever between the four — none of them provide any functionality the others do not. The first two probably make for better *documentation* of the expected field contents, but they don't provide any run-time enforcement capabilities.

As far as enforcement goes, however, both alphabetic and numeric picture strings do provide for both compile-time and run-time enforcement capabilities. In the case of compilation enforcement, the compiler can issue warning messages if you attempt to specify a non-numeric value for a numeric data item or if you attempt to `MOVE` (see MOVE) a non-numeric data item to one that is numeric. Similar capabilities exist for alphabetic data items. At run-time, you may use a special class test (see Class Conditions) to determine if the contents of a data item are entirely numeric or entirely alphabetic.

7. '`1`' Defines storage for a single bit representing a boolean condition with a states of zero or 1, condition of off or on. Warning the level of implementation of this feature is compiler version specific starting with v3.1-RC-1. See also USAGE BIT in this document.

```
Example of usage :
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
```

```
01 wBIT PIC 1(4) value b'1111111111111'.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    display wBIT ' ' function HEX-OF(wBIT) ' ' function BIT-OF(wBIT)
    move b'1001' to wBIT
    display wBIT ' ' function HEX-OF(wBIT) ' ' function BIT-OF(wBIT)

the result will be:
8191 38313931 0011100000110001001110010011 0001
0009 30303039 0011000000110000001100000011 1001
```

8. The following picture symbols may be used with numeric data items.

'P'

Defines an implied digit position that will be considered to be a zero when the data item is referenced at run-time. This symbol is used to allow data items that will contain very large values to be allocated using less storage by assuming a certain number of trailing zeros (one per 'P') to exist at the end of values.

The 'P' symbol is not allowed in conjunction with 'N'.

The 'P' symbol may only be used at the beginning or end of a picture clause.

'P' is a repeatable symbol.

All computations and `MOVE` (see MOVE) operations involving such a data item will behave as if the zeros were actually there.

Let's say you need to allocate a data item that contains however many millions of dollars of revenue your company has in gross revenues this year:

```
01 Gross-Revenue PIC 9(9).
```

In which case 9 characters of storage will be reserved. The values 000000000 through 999999999 will represent the gross-revenues. But, if only the millions are tracked (meaning the last six digits are always going to be 0), you could define the field as:

```
01 Gross-Revenue PIC 9(3)P(6).
```

Whenever Gross-Revenue is referenced in calculations, or whenever its value is moved to another data item, the value of Gross-Revenue will be treated as if it is `nnn000000`, where `nnn` is the actual value in storage.

If you wanted to store the value 128 million into that field, you would do so as if the 'P's were'9's:

```
MOVE 128000000 TO Gross-Revenue
```

A `DISPLAY` (see DISPLAY) of a data item containing 'P' symbols is a little strange. The value displayed will be what is actually in storage, but the total size of the displayed value will be as if the 'P' symbols had been '9's. Thus, after the above statement established a value for Gross-Revenue, a `DISPLAY Gross-Revenue` would produce output of'`128000000`'. This is the actual three characters stored with six zeros appended.

'S'

This symbol, if used, must be the very first symbol in the `PICTURE` value. A 'S' indicates that the data item is `Signed`, meaning that negative values are possible for this data item. Without an 'S', any negative values stored into this data item via a `MOVE` or arithmetic statement will have the negative sign stripped from it (in effect becoming the absolute value).

The 'S' symbol is not allowed in conjunction with 'N'.

The 'S' symbol may only occur once in a picture string. See SIGN, for further discussion of how negative values may be stored in a numeric data item.

'V'

This symbol is used to define where an implied decimal-point (if any) is located in a numeric item. Just as there may only be a single decimal point in a number so may there be no more than one 'V' in a `PICTURE`. Implied decimal points occupy no space in storage — they just specify how values are used. For example, if the value `1234` is in storage in a field defined as `PIC 999V9`, that value would be treated as 123.4 in any statements that referenced it.

The 'V' symbol is not allowed in conjunction with 'N'.

The 'V' symbol may only occur once in a picture string.

9. Any editing symbols introduced past this point will, if coded in the picture clause of an otherwise numeric data item, transform that data item from a numeric to a Numeric Edited data item. Numeric edited data items are treated as alphanumeric and may not serve either as table subscripts or as source arguments on an arithmetic statement.
10. The following are the fixed insertion editing symbols that may be specified in a picture string. Each of these editing symbols will insert a special character into the field value at the position it is specified in the picture string. These editing symbols will each introduce one extra character into the total field size for each occurrence of the symbol in the picture string.

'B'

The 'B' editing symbol introduces a blank into the field value for each occurrence. Multiple 'B' symbols may be coded.

The following example will format a ten digit number (presumably a telephone number) into a '### ### ####' layout:

```
    ...
        05 Phone-Number       PIC 9(3)B9(3)B9(4).
    ...
        MOVE 5185551212 TO Phone-Number
        DISPLAY Phone-Number
```

This code will display '518 555 1212'.

'0'

The '0' (zero) editing symbol introduces one "0" character into the field value for each occurrence in the picture string. Multiple '0' symbols may be coded.

Here's an example:

```
    ...
        05  Output-Item     PIC 909090909.
    ...
        MOVE 12345 TO Output-Item
        DISPLAY Output-Item
```

The above will display '102030405'.

'/'

The '/' editing symbol inserts one "/" character into the field value for each occurrence in the picture string. Multiple '/' symbols may be coded.

This editing symbol is most-frequently used to format dates, as follows:

```
    ...
        05  Year-Month-Day   PIC 9(4)/9(2)/9(2).
    ...
        MOVE 20140207 TO Year-Month-Day
        DISPLAY Year-Month-Day
```

This example displays '2014/02/07'.

11. The following are the numeric formatting symbols that may be specified in a picture string. Each of these editing symbols will insert special characters into the field value to

present numbers in a “friendly” format. These editing symbols will each introduce one extra character into the total field size for each occurrence of the symbol in the picture string. Numeric fields whose picture clause contains these characters may neither be used as source fields in any calculation nor may they serve as source fields for the transfer of data values to any data item other than an alphanumeric field.

‘.’

The ‘.’ symbol inserts a decimal point into a numeric field value. When the contents of a numeric data item sending field are moved into a receiving data item whose picture clause contains the ‘.’ editing symbol, implied (‘V’) or actual decimal point in the sending data item or literal, respectively, will be aligned with the ‘.’ symbol in the receiving field. Digits are then transferred from the sending to the receiving field outward from the sending field’s ‘V’ or ‘.’, truncating sending digits if there aren’t enough positions in the receiving field. Any digit positions in the receiving field that don’t receive digits from the sending field, if any, will be set to 0. The ‘.’ symbol is not allowed in conjunction with ‘N’. An example will probably help:

```
...
05  Source-Field   PIC 9(2)V9 VALUE 7.2.
05  Dest-Field     PIC 9(5).9(2).
...
MOVE 1234567.89 TO Dest-Field
DISPLAY Dest-Field
MOVE 19 TO Dest-Field
DISPLAY Dest-Field
MOVE Source-Field TO Dest-Field
DISPLAY Dest-Field
```

The example will display three results — ‘34567.89’, ‘00019.00’ and ‘00007.20’.

Both data item definitions *appear* to have *two* decimal points in their picture clauses. They actually don’t, because the last character of every data item definition is always a period — the period that ends the definition.

‘,’

The ‘,’ symbol serves as a thousands separator. Many times, you’ll see large numbers formatted with these symbols — for example, 123,456,789. This can be accomplished easily by adding thousands separator symbols to a picture string. Thousands separator symbols that aren’t needed will be ignored, i.e., not used.

The ‘,’ symbol is not allowed in conjunction with ‘N’.

Here’s an example:

```
...
05  My-Lottery-Winnings   PIC 9(3),9(3),9(3).
...
MOVE 12345 TO My-Lottery-Winnings
DISPLAY My-Lottery-Winnings

This produces 012,345
```

The value ‘12,345’ (a very disappointing one for my retirement plans, but a good thousands separator demo) will be displayed. Notice how, since the first comma wasn’t needed due to the meagre amount I won, it is ignored.

If desired, you may reverse the roles of the ‘.’ and ‘,’ editing symbols by specifying `DECIMAL POINT IS COMMA` in the `SPECIAL-NAMES` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) paragraph.

```
...
    05  My-Lottery-Winnings   PIC zzz,zzz,zz9.
...
MOVE 12345 TO My-Lottery-Winnings
DISPLAY My-Lottery-Winnings

This produces 12,345

Notice that there is no leading zeros when using the picture Z.
```

12. The following are insertion symbols. They are used to insert an extra character (two in the case of `CR` and `DB`) to signify the sign (positive or negative) of the numeric value that is moved into the field whose picture string contains one of these symbols, or the fact that the data item represents a currency (money) amount. Only one of the ‘+’, ‘-’, `CR` or `DB` symbols may be used in a picture clause. In this context, when any of these symbols are used in a <picture-string>, they must be at the end. The ‘+’, ‘-’ and/or currency symbols may also be used as floating editing symbols at the *beginning* of the <picture-string> — a subject that will be covered in the next numbered paragraph.

'+'

If the value of the numeric value moved into the field is positive (0 or greater), a '+' character will be inserted. If the value is negative (less than 0), a '-' character is inserted. The '+' symbol is not allowed in conjunction with 'N'.

'-'

If the value of the numeric value moved into the field is positive (0 or greater), a space will be inserted. If the value is negative (less than 0), a '-' character is inserted. The '-' symbol is not allowed in conjunction with 'N'.

CR

This symbol is coded as the two characters 'C' and 'R'. If the value of the numeric value moved into the field is positive (0 or greater), two spaces will be inserted. If the value is negative (less than 0), the characters CR (credit) are inserted. The CR symbol is not allowed in conjunction with 'N'.

DB

This symbol is coded as the two characters 'D' and 'B'. If the value of the numeric value moved into the field is positive (0 or greater), two spaces will be inserted. If the value is negative (less than 0), the characters DB (debit) are inserted. The DB symbol is not allowed in conjunction with 'N'.

'$'

Regardless of the value moved into the field, this symbol will insert the currency symbol into the data item's value in the position where it occurs in the <picture-string> (see SPECIAL-NAMES).

The '$' symbol is not allowed in conjunction with 'N'.

13. These editing symbols are known as floating replacement symbols. These symbols may occur in sequences *before* any '9' editing symbols in the <picture-string> of a numeric data item. Using these symbols transforms that numeric data item into a numeric *edited* data item, which can no longer be used in calculations or subscripts.

14. Each of the following symbols behave like a '9', until such point as all digits in the numeric value are exhausted and leading zeros are about to be inserted. In effect, these editing symbols define what should happen to those leading zero.

‘$’

Of those currency symbols that correspond to character positions in which leading zeros reside, the right-most will have its ‘0’ value replaced by the currency symbol in-effect for the program (see SPECIAL-NAMES). Any remaining leading zero values occupying positions described by this symbol will be replaced by spaces.

The ‘$’ symbol is not allowed in conjunction with ‘N’.

Any currency symbol coded to the right of a ‘.’ will be treated exactly like a ‘9’.

‘*’

This symbol is referred to as a check protection symbol. All check-protection symbols that correspond to character positions in which leading zeros reside will have their ‘0’ values replaced by ‘*’.

The ‘*’ symbol is not allowed in conjunction with ‘N’.

Any check-suppression symbol coded to the right of a ‘.’ will be treated exactly like a ‘9’.

‘+’

Of those ‘+’ symbols that correspond to character positions in which leading zeros reside, the right-most will have its ‘0’ value replaced by a ‘+’ if the value in the data item is zero or greater or a ‘-’ otherwise. Any remaining leading zero values occupying positions described by this symbol will be replaced by spaces. You cannot use both ‘+’ and ‘-’ in the same <picture-string>.

The ‘+’ symbol is not allowed in conjunction with ‘N’.

Any ‘+’ symbol coded to the right of a ‘.’ will be treated exactly like a ‘9’.

‘-’

Of those ‘-’ symbols that correspond to character positions in which leading zeros reside, the right-most will have its ‘0’ value replaced by a space if the value in the data item is zero or greater or a ‘-’ otherwise. Any remaining leading zero values occupying positions described by this symbol will be replaced by spaces. You cannot use both ‘+’ and ‘-’ in the same <picture-string>.

The ‘-’ symbol is not allowed in conjunction with ‘N’.

Any ‘-’ symbol coded to the right of a ‘.’ will be treated exactly like a ‘9’.

‘Z’

All ‘Z’ symbols that correspond to character positions in which leading zeros reside will have their ‘0’ values replaced by spaces.

Any zero-suppression symbol coded to the right of a ‘.’ will be treated exactly like a ‘9’.

'Z' and '*' should not be coded in the same <picture-string>

'+' and '-' should not be coded in the same <picture-string>

When multiple floating symbols are coded, even if there is only one of them used, only the last coded one will be considered floating. The leading floating symbols will be treated as fixed and will appear in the output in the position coded. For example, if a data item has a PIC +$ZZZZ9.99 picture-string, and a value of 1 is moved to that field at run-time, the resulting value will be (the b symbol represents a space) +$bbbb1.00. This is consistent with many other COBOL implementations, where the result would also have been +$bbbb1.00.

15. LOCALE and SIZE clause are checked but not implemented for GnuCOBOL 3.2

7.9.29 PRESENT WHEN

PRESENT-WHEN Clause Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
PRESENT WHEN condition-name
~~~~~~~ ~~~~
```

```
=============================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `REPORT`

This clause names an existing `Condition Name` (see Condition Names) that will serve as a switch controlling the presentation or suppression of a report group.

1. If the specified condition-name has a value of FALSE when a `GENERATE` statement (see GENERATE) causes a report group to be presented, the presentation of that group will be suppressed.
2. If the condition-name has a value of `TRUE`, the group will be presented.
3. See Condition Names, for more information.

7.9.30 PROMPT

PROMPT Clause Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
PROMPT [ CHARACTER IS literal-1 | identifier-1 ]
~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~
```

```
=============================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

This clause defines the character that will be used as the fill-character for any input fields on the screen.

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. The default prompt character, should no `CHARACTER` specification be coded, or should the `PROMPT` clause be absent altogether, is an underscore ('_').
3. Prompt characters will be automatically transformed into spaces upon input.

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.31 REDEFINES

REDEFINES Clause Syntax

==========

```
REDEFINES identifier-1
~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`

The `REDEFINES` clause causes the data item in who's definition the `REDEFINES` clause is specified (hereafter referred to as the redefines object) to occupy the same physical storage space as <identifier-1> (hereafter referred to as the redefines subject).

1. The following rules must all be followed in order to use `REDEFINES`:
   A. The level number of both the subject and object data items must be the same.
   B. The level numbers of both the subject and object data items cannot be 66, 78 or 88.
   C. If *N* represents the level number of the object, then no other data items with level number *N* may be defined between the subject and object data items unless they too are `REDEFINES` of the subject.
   D. If *N* represents the level number of the object, then no other data items with a level number numerically less than *N* may be defined between the subject and object data items.
   E. The total allocated size of the subject data item must be the same as the total allocated size of the object data item.

F. No `OCCURS` (see OCCURS) clause may be part of the definition of either the subject or object data items. Either or both, however, may be group items that *contain* data items with `OCCURS` clauses.

G. No `VALUE` (see VALUE) clause may be defined on the object data item, and no data items subordinate to the object data item may have `VALUE` clauses, with the exception of level-88 condition names.

7.9.32 RENAMES

RENAMES Clause Syntax

==========

```
RENAMES identifier-1 [ THRU|THROUGH identifier-2 ]
~~~~~~~                ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`

The `RENAMES` clause regroups previously defined items by specifying alternative, possibly overlapping, groupings of elementary data items.

1. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
2. You must use the level number 66 for data description entries that contain the `RENAMES` clause.
3. The <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> data items, along with all data items defined between those two data items in the program source, must all be contained within the same 01-level record description.
4. See 66-Level Data Items, for additional information on the `RENAMES` clause.

7.9.33 REQUIRED

REQUIRED Attribute Syntax

==========

```
REQUIRED|EMPTY-CHECK
~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

This clause forces the user to enter data into the field it is specified on (or into all subordinate input-capable fields if `REQUIRED` or `EMPTY-CHECK` is specified on a group item).

1. The `REQUIRED` and `EMPTY-CHECK` clauses are interchangeable, and may not be used together in the same data item description.
2. The `REQUIRED` clause is COBOL ISO Standard, the `EMPTY-CHECK` clause is an extension.
3. In order to take effect, the user must first move the cursor into the field having this clause in its definition.
4. The `ACCEPT data-item` statement (see ACCEPT data-item) will ignore the Enter key and any other cursor-moving keystrokes that would cause the cursor to move to another screen item *unless* data has been entered into the field. Function keys will still be allowed to terminate the `ACCEPT`.
5. In order to be functional, this attribute must be supported by the underlying "curses" package your GnuCOBOL implementation was built with. As of this time, the "PDCurses" package (used for native Windows or MinGW builds) does not support `REQUIRED` and `EMPTY-CHECK`.

7.9.34 REVERSE-VIDEO

REVERSE-VIDEO Attribute Syntax

==========

```
REVERSE-VIDEO|REVERSE|REVERSED
~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

The `REVERSE-VIDEO` attribute swaps the specified or implied `FOREGROUND-COLOR` (see FOREGROUND-COLOR) and `BACKGROUND-COLOR` (see BACKGROUND-COLOR) attributes for the field whose definition contains this clause (or all subordinate fields if used on a group item).

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.35 SAME AS

SAME-AS Clause Syntax

==========

```
SAME AS data-name-1
~~~~ ~~
```

==========

The syntax is valid in the following sections: `WORKING-STORAGE`

The `SAME AS` causes a data item to inherit the same definition of another data item.

1. Data-name-1 is a data Item defined elsewhere in the same program.
2. Data-name-1 shall not be subscripted.
3. A data description entry that specifies the SAME AS clause shall not be immediately followed by a subordinate data description entry or level 88 entry.
4. Neither the description of data-name-1 nor the description of any data items subordinate to the subject of the entry shall directly or indirectly contain a SAME AS clause that references the subject of the entry or any group item to which this entry is subordinate.
5. The description of data-name-1, including its subordinate data items, shall not contain a TYPE clause that references the record to which this entry is subordinate.
6. The description of data-name-1 shall not contain an OCCURS clause. However, items subordinate to data-name-1 may contain OCCURS clauses.
7. Data-name-1 shall reference an elementary item or a level 1 group item described in the file, working-storage, local-storage, or linkage section.
8. If the subject of the entry is a level 77 item, data-name-1 shall reference an elementary item.
9. A group item to which the subject of the entry is subordinate shall not contain a GROUP-USAGE, SIGN, or USAGE clause.
10. The effect of the SAME AS clause is as though the data description identified by data-name-1 had been coded in place of the SAME AS clause, excluding the level number, name, and the EXTERNAL, GLOBAL, REDEFINES clauses specified for data-name-1; level numbers of subordinate items may be adjusted as described in general rule 2.
11. If data-name-1 describes a group item:
12. the subject of the entry is a group whose subordinate elements have the same names, descriptions, and hierarchy as the subordinate elements of data-name-1, the level numbers of items subordinate to that group are adjusted, if necessary, to preserve the hierarchy of data-name-1, level numbers in the resulting hierarchy may exceed 49.

```
       IDENTIFICATION   DIVISION.
       PROGRAM-ID.      prog.
       DATA             DIVISION.
       WORKING-STORAGE  SECTION.
       01 MESSAGE-TEXT-2 EXTERNAL.
          02 MAIN-FILE-NAME     PIC X(50).
          02 FILLER REDEFINES MAIN-FILE-NAME.
```

```
           05 FILLER PIC 9999.
        02 MAIN-FILE-NAME-2.
           05 FILLER PIC 9999.
           05 DETAIL-NO PIC 9999.
        02 FILLER       SAME AS MAIN-FILE-NAME.
     77 OUTPUT-NAME     SAME AS DETAIL-NO GLOBAL.
     01 Z-MESSAGE-T2    SAME AS MAIN-FILE-NAME-2.
     01 Z-MESSAGE-T3.
         49 MT3                    SAME AS MESSAGE-TEXT-2.
         49 MT3-REN  REDEFINES MT3 SAME AS MESSAGE-TEXT-2.
     PROCEDURE DIVISION.
         DISPLAY MAIN-FILE-NAME OF MESSAGE-TEXT-2
         DISPLAY DETAIL-NO      OF Z-MESSAGE-T2
         DISPLAY MAIN-FILE-NAME OF MT3
         DISPLAY OUTPUT-NAME
         GOBACK.
```

7.9.36 SECURE

SECURE Attribute Syntax

==========

```
SECURE|NO-ECHO|NO ECHO|OFF
~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

The `SECURE` clause will cause all data entered into the field to appear on the screen as asterisks.

The `NO-ECHO` clause will cause all data entered into the field to appear on the screen as spaces.

The `OFF` clause is the same as the `NO-ECHO` clause and same of `NO ECHO`.

1. The `NO-ECHO` and `SECURE` clauses are interchangeable if If the dialect configuration `-fno-echo-means-secure` is active.
2. The `SECURE` clause is COBOL ISO Standard, the `NO-ECHO` and `NO ECHO` and `OFF` clauses are extensions.
3. The `NO-ECHO` and `SECURE` clauses may not be used together in the same data item description.

   If `NO-ECHO` or `SECURE` is present then the `PROMPT` clause is ignored.

4. This clause may only be used on a field allowing data entry (a field containing either the `USING` (see USING) or `TO` (see TO) clause).

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.37 SIGN

SIGN-IS Clause Syntax

```
========================================================================

SIGN IS LEADING|TRAILING [ SEPARATE CHARACTER ]
~~~~    ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~

========================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `REPORT`, `SCREEN`

This clause, allowable only for `USAGE DISPLAY` numeric data items, specifies how an 'S' symbol will be interpreted in a data item's picture clause.

1. The reserved words `CHARACTER` and `IS` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. *Without* the `SEPARATE CHARACTER` option, the sign of the data item's value will be encoded by transforming the last (see `TRAILING`) or first (see `LEADING`) digit as follows:

First/Last Digit	Value For Positive	Value for Negative
0	0	p
1	1	q
2	2	r
3	3	s
4	4	t
5	5	u
6	6	v
7	7	w
8	8	x
9	9	y

3. If the `SEPARATE CHARACTER` clause *is* used, then an actual '`+`' or '`-`' character will be inserted into the field's value as the first (`LEADING`) or last (`TRAILING`) character. Note that having this

character embedded within the data item's storage does not prevent the data item from being used as a source field in arithmetic operations.

4. When `SEPARATE CHARACTER` is specified, the 'S' symbol in the data item's `PICTURE` must be counted when determining the data item's size.
5. Neither the presence of an encoded digit (see above) nor an actual '+' or '-' character embedded within the data item's storage prevents the data item from being used as a source field in arithmetic operations.

7.9.38 SOURCE

SOURCE Clause Syntax

```
========================================================================

SOURCE IS { literal-1    } [ ROUNDED ]
~~~~~~    { identifier-1 }   ~~~~~~~

========================================================================
```

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `REPORT`

This clause logically attaches a report section data item to another data item defined elsewhere in the data division.

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. When the report group containing this clause is presented, the value of the specified numeric literal or identifier will be automatically moved to the report data item prior to presentation.
3. The specified identifier may be defined anywhere in the data division, but if it is defined in the report section it may only be `PAGE-COUNTER`, `LINE-COUNTER` or a `SUM` (see SUM) counter.
4. The `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) of the report data item must be such that it would be legal to `MOVE` (see MOVE) the specified literal or identifier to a data item with that `PICTURE`.
5. The `ROUNDED` option comes into play should the number of digits to the right of an actual or assumed decimal point be different between the specified literal or identifier value (the "source value") and the `PICTURE` specified for the field in whose definition the `SOURCE` clause appears (the "target field"). *Without* `ROUNDED`, excess digits in the source value will simply be truncated to fit the target field. *With* `ROUNDED`, the source value will be arithmetically rounded to fit the target field. See ROUNDED, for information on the `NEAREST-AWAY-FROM-ZERO` rounding rule, which is the one that will apply.

7.9.39 SPECIAL-NAMES.

SPECIAL-NAMES Clause Syntax

==========

```
IS SPECIAL-NAMES { CURSOR         }
   ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ { ~~~~~~         }
                 { CRT STATUS     }
                 { ~~~~~~~~~~     }
                 { SCREEN CONTROL }
                 { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ }
                 { EVENT STATUS   }
                   ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `DATA DIVISION`

The SPECIAL-NAMES clause allows you to identify commonly used Special-Names items directly in the Data Division. Sample of use:

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program. Next an example of usage.

```
01  wCURPOS IS SPECIAL-NAMES CURSOR.
    03 wCURSOR-ROW PIC 999.
    03 wCURSOR-COL PIC 999.
01  wCRTSTAT IS SPECIAL-NAMES CRT STATUS PIC 9(5).
```

7.9.40 SUM

SUM-OF Clause Syntax

==========

```
SUM OF { identifier-7 }... [ { RESET ON FINAL|identifier-8 } ]
~~~    { literal-2    }       { ~~~~~    ~~~~~              }
                              { UPON identifier-9           }
                                ~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `REPORT`

The `SUM` clause establishes a summation counter whose value will be arithmetically calculated whenever the field is presented.

1. The reserved words `OF` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The `SUM` clause may only appear in a `CONTROL FOOTING` report group.
3. If the data item in which the `SUM` clause appears has been assigned its own identifier name, and that name is not `FILLER`, then that data item is referred to as a sum counter.
4. All <identifier-7> data items must be non-edited numeric in nature.
5. If any <identifier-7> data item is defined in the report section, it must be a sum counter.
6. Any <identifier-7> data items that are sum counters must either be defined in the same report group as the data item in which this `SUM` clause appears or they must be defined in a report data item that exists at a lower level in this report's control hierarchy. See Control Hierarchy, for additional information.
7. The `PICTURE` of the report data item in who's description this `SUM` clause appears in must be such that it would be legal to `MOVE` (see MOVE) the specified <identifier-7> or <literal-2> value to a data item with that `PICTURE`.
8. The following points apply to the `UPON` option:
   A. The data item <identifier-9> must be the name of a detail group specified in the same report as the control footing group in which this `SUM` clause appears.
   B. The presence of an `UPON` clause limits the `SUM` clause to adding the specified numeric literal or identifier value into the sum counter only when a `GENERATE identifier-9` statement is executed.
   C. If there is no `UPON` clause specified, the value of <identifier-7> or <literal-2> will be added into the sum counter whenever a `GENERATE` (see GENERATE) of any detail report group in the report is executed.
   D. If there is only a single detail group in the report's definition, the `UPON` clause is meaningless.
9. The following points apply to the `RESET` option:
   A. If the `RESET` option is coded, `FINAL` or <identifier-8> (whichever is coded on the `RESET`) must be one of the report's control breaks specified on the `CONTROLS` clause.
   B. If there is no `RESET` option coded, the sum counter will be reset back to zero after each time the control footing containing the `SUM` clause is presented. This is the typical behaviour that would be expected.
   C. If, however, you want to reset the `SUM` counter only when the control footing for a control break higher in the control hierarchy is presented, specify that higher control break on the `RESET` option.

7.9.41 SYNCHRONIZED

SYNCHRONIZED Syntax

==========

```
SYNCHRONIZED|SYNCHRONISED [ LEFT|RIGHT ]
~~~~         ~~~~           ~~~~ ~~~~~
```

The `LEFT` and `RIGHT` (SYNCHRONIZED) clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`

This optional clause optimizes the storage of binary numeric items to store them in such a manner as to make it as fast as possible for the CPU to fetch them.

1. The reserved words `SYNCHRONIZED` and `SYNCHRONISED` are interchangeable, and may be abbreviated as `SYNC`.
2. If the `SYNCHRONIZED` clause is coded on anything but a numeric data item with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) that specifies storage of data in a binary form, the `SYNCHRONIZED` clause will be ignored.
3. Synchronization is performed (by the compiler) as follows:
   A. If the binary item occupies one byte of storage, no synchronization is performed.
   B. If the binary item occupies two bytes of storage, the binary item is allocated at the next half-word boundary.
   C. If the binary item occupies four bytes of storage, the binary item is allocated at the next word boundary.
   D. If the binary item occupies eight bytes of storage, the binary item is allocated at the next word boundary.

7.9.42 TO

TO Clause Syntax

==========

```
TO identifier-1
~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

This clause logically attaches a screen section data item to another data item defined elsewhere in the data division.

1. The `TO` clause is used to define a data-entry field with no initial value; when a value is entered, it will be saved to the specified identifier.
2. The `FROM` (see FROM), `TO`, `USING` (see USING) and `VALUE` (see VALUE) clauses aren't mutually-exclusive in any screen section data item's definition.

7.9.43 TYPE

TYPE Clause Syntax

==========

```
Format 1: All Sections other than REPORT SECTION

TYPE TO type-name-1
~~~~


Format 2:  REPORT SECTION only

TYPE IS { CH|{CONTROL HEADING} [ ON|FOR ] { FINAL|identifier-1 } [ OR PAGE ]     }
~~~~    { ~~  ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~               ~~~~~                               }
        { RH|{REPORT HEADING}                                                    }
        { ~~  ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~                                                     }
        { PH|{PAGE HEADING}                                                      }
        { ~~  ~~~~ ~~~~~~~                                                       }
        { DE|DETAIL                                                              }
        { ~~ ~~~~~~                                                              }
        { CF|{CONTROL FOOTING} [ ON|FOR ] [ { FINAL|identifier-2 } [ OR PAGE ] ] }
        { ~~  ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~             [   ~~~~~                           ] }
        {                                 [   ALL                             ] }
        {                                     ~~~                              }
        { RF|{REPORT FOOTING}                                                    }
        { ~~  ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~                                                     }
        { PF|{PAGE FOOTING}                                                      }
          ~~  ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
```

==========

The syntax is valid in all other sections than: `REPORT`

As format 1

1. The TYPE clause indicates that the data description of the subject of the entry is specified by a user-defined data type.
2. The user defined data type is defined using the TYPEDEF clause, which is described in TYPEDEF clause TYPEDEF (see TYPEDEF).
3. The following general rules apply: If type-name-1 (defined using the TYPEDEF clause) describes a group item, then the subject of the TYPE clause is a group item whose subordinate elements have the same names, descriptions, and hierarchies as the subordinate elements of type-name-1.
4. Since the subject of the TYPE clause may have a level number as high as 49 and type-name-1 may be a group item with 49 levels, the number of levels of this hierarchy may exceed 49. In fact, since descriptions of type names may reference other type names, there is no limit to the number of levels in this hierarchy.
5. If a VALUE clause is specified in the data description of the subject of the TYPE clause, any VALUE clause specified in the description of type-name-1 is ignored for this entry.
6. The scoping rules for type names are similar to the scoping rules for data names.
7. Reference modification is not allowed for an elementary item that is the subject of a TYPE clause.
8. The description of type-name-1, including its subordinate data items, cannot contain a TYPE clause that references the record to which the subject of the TYPE clause (that references type-name-1), is subordinate.
9. For example, A is a group item defined using the TYPEDEF clause. B is also a group item defined using the TYPEDEF clause, but which also includes a subordinate item of TYPE A. This being the case, the type definition for A cannot include items of TYPE B.
10. The subject of a TYPE clause cannot be renamed in whole, or in part and cannot be redefined explicitly or implicitly.
11. If the subject of a TYPE clause is subordinate to a group item, the data description of the group item cannot contain the USAGE clause.
12. The TYPE clause cannot occur in a data description entry with the BLANK WHEN ZERO, FORMAT, JUSTIFIED, PICTURE, REDEFINES, RENAMES, SIGN, SYNCHRONIZED, or USAGE clause.
13. The TYPE clause can be specified in a data description entry with the EXTERNAL, GLOBAL, OCCURS, TYPEDEF, and VALUE clauses.
14. The essential characteristics of a type, which is identified by its type-name, are the relative positions and lengths of the elementary items defined in the type declaration, and

the BLANK WHEN ZERO, JUSTIFIED, PICTURE, SIGN, SYNCHRONIZED, and USAGE clauses specified for each of these elementary items.

15. The TYPE clause shall not be specified in the same data description entry with any clauses except BASED, CLASS, CONSTANT RECORD, DEFAULT, DESTINATION, entry-name, EXTERNAL, GLOBAL, INVALID, level-number, OCCURS, PRESENT WHEN, PROPERTY, TYPEDEF, VALIDATE-STATUS, VALUE, and VARYING.
16. Figure 1. Example Showing How TYPEDEF and TYPE Clauses Can Be Used

```
IDENTIFICATION   DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID.      prog.
DATA             DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE  SECTION.
01 MAIN-FILE-NAME-T    PIC X(50) IS TYPEDEF.
01 DETAIL-NO-T         PIC 9999  IS TYPEDEF.
01 MAIN-FILE-NAME-2T             IS TYPEDEF.
   05 FILLER           PIC 9999.
   05 DETAIL-NO        TYPE TO DETAIL-NO-T.

01 MESSAGE-TEXT-2T     IS TYPEDEF.
   05 MAIN-FILE-NAME   TYPE MAIN-FILE-NAME-T.
   05 FILLER REDEFINES MAIN-FILE-NAME.
      10 FILLER PIC 9999.
   05 MAIN-FILE-NAME-2 TYPE MAIN-FILE-NAME-2T.
   05 FILLER           TYPE MAIN-FILE-NAME-T.

01  MESSAGE-TEXT-2 EXTERNAL TYPE MESSAGE-TEXT-2T.
77 OUTPUT-NAME              TYPE TO DETAIL-NO-T GLOBAL.
01 Z-MESSAGE-T2             TYPE    MAIN-FILE-NAME-2T.
01 Z-MESSAGE-T3.
   49 MT3                  TYPE MESSAGE-TEXT-2T.
   49 MT3-REN REDEFINES MT3 TYPE MESSAGE-TEXT-2T.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
   DISPLAY MAIN-FILE-NAME OF MESSAGE-TEXT-2
   DISPLAY DETAIL-NO      OF Z-MESSAGE-T2
   DISPLAY MAIN-FILE-NAME OF MT3
   DISPLAY OUTPUT-NAME
   GOBACK.
```

17. Figure 2. Example Showing How TYPEDEF and TYPE Clauses Can Be Used

```
DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
FD PRT-FILE.
01 PRT-REC.
   05 PRT-RECORD               PIC X(132).
01 INVE-TYP-T IS TYPEDEF       PIC S9(3) VALUE 0.
   88 INVE-TYP-BOOK            VALUE 4, 5.
   88 INVE-TYP-BOOK-001        VALUE 4.
   88 INVE-TYP-BOOK-002        VALUE 5.
   88 INVE-TYP-CLOTHES         VALUE 1, 2, 3.
   88 INVE-TYP-CLOTHES-SWEATERS VALUE 1.
   88 INVE-TYP-CLOTHES-SOCKS   VALUE 2.
   88 INVE-TYP-CLOTHES-PANTS   VALUE 3.
FD DATA-IN.
01 DATA-IN-REC.
   05 INVE-TYP          TYPE INVE-TYP-T.
   05 FILLER            PIC X(80).

WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 ARTI-PRICE-T   TYPEDEF PIC S9(4)V9(2) value 0.
01 ARTI-COLOR-T   TYPEDEF PIC S9(2) VALUE 1.
   88 ARTI-COLOR-BLUE     VALUE 1.
   88 ARTI-COLOR-RED      VALUE 2.
   88 ARTI-COLOR-GREEN    VALUE 3.
01 ARTI-SIZE-T    TYPEDEF PIC S9(2) VALUE 10.
01 ARTI-COUNTER-T TYPEDEF PIC S9(6) VALUE 0.
01 ARTI-B-T       TYPEDEF.
   05 ARTI-B-VALUE        PIC s9(2).
      88 ARTI-B-BLUE      VALUE 1.
      88 ARTI-B-RED       VALUE 2.
      88 ARTI-B-GREEN     VALUE 3.

01 TEST-ARTI        TYPE ARTI-B-T.
01 WORK-INVE-TYP    TYPE INVE-TYP-T.
01 CLOTHING-ARTI    IS TYPEDEF.
   05 CLOTHING-TYP  TYPE INVE-TYP-T.
   05 PRICE         TYPE ARTI-PRICE-T.
   05 COLOR         TYPE ARTI-COLOR-T.
   05 CLOTHING-SIZE TYPE ARTI-SIZE-T.
   05 FILLER PIC X(70).
```

```
    01 SWEATERS TYPE CLOTHING-ARTI.
    01 SOCKS    TYPE CLOTHING-ARTI.
    01 PANTS    TYPE CLOTHING-ARTI.

    01 BOOK-ARTI IS TYPEDEF.
       05 BOOK-TYP     TYPE INVE-TYP-T.
       05 PRICE        TYPE ARTI-PRICE-T.
       05 FILLER       PIC X(20).
       05 BOOK-TITLE   PIC X(40).
       05 FILLER       PIC X(14).
    01 BOOK-001        TYPE BOOK-ARTI.
    01 BOOK-002        TYPE BOOK-ARTI.
    01 SWEATERS-COUNT  TYPE ARTI-COUNTER-T.
    01 SOCKS-COUNT     TYPE ARTI-COUNTER-T.
    01 PANTS-COUNT     TYPE ARTI-COUNTER-T.
    01 BOOK-001-COUNT  TYPE ARTI-COUNTER-T.
    01 BOOK-002-COUNT  TYPE ARTI-COUNTER-T.
    01 CLOTHES-COUNT   TYPE ARTI-COUNTER-T.
    01 BOOK-COUNT      TYPE ARTI-COUNTER-T.
```

As Format 2. This syntax is valid in the following sections: `REPORT`

1. This clause defines the type of report group that is being defined for a report.
2. This clause is required on any 01-level data item definitions (other than 01-level constants) in the report section. This clause is invalid on any other report section data item definitions.
3. There may be a maximum of one (1) report group per `RD` defined with a `TYPE` of `REPORT HEADING`, `PAGE HEADING`, `PAGE FOOTING` and `REPORT FOOTING`.
4. There must be either a `CONTROL HEADING` or a `CONTROL FOOTING` or both specified for each entry specified on the `CONTROLS ARE` clause of the `RD`.
5. The various report groups that constitute a report may be defined in any order.
6. See RWCS Lexicon, for a description of the seven different types of report groups.

7.9.44 TYPEDEF

TYPEDEF Clause Syntax

==========

```
01  data-name-1 IS TYPEDEF
                ~~ ~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections FILE, WORKING-STORAGE, LOCAL-STORAGE and LINKAGE

1. The TYPEDEF clause identifies a type declaration which creates a user defined data type and is used to apply this user defined data type to the description of a data item.
2. The TYPEDEF clause specifies that the data description entry is a type declaration.
3. The TYPEDEF clause can only be specified for level 01 entries, which can also be group items, and for which the data-name format of the entry name clause is specified. If the TYPEDEF clause is specified for a data description, then that same data description must include a data-name, that is, it must not be specified with either an implicit or explicit FILLER clause.
4. If a group item is specified, all subordinate items of the group become part of the type declaration.
5. No storage is allocated for a type declaration.
6. These type definitions act like templates that can then be used to define new data items using the TYPE clause or that can subsequently be referenced in a USAGE clause.
7. The new data item acquires all the characteristics of the user-defined data type. If the user defined data type is a group item, then the new data item has subordinate elements of the same name, description, and hierarchy as those belonging to the user defined data type.
8. All of the other data description clauses, if they are specified, are assumed by any data item that is defined using the user defined data type (within the TYPE or USAGE clause).
9. The following clauses cannot be specified along with TYPEDEF: EXTERNAL, GLOBAL, LIKE, OCCURS, REDEFINES.
10. If the TYPEDEF clause is specified for a group item, then subordinate items can be specified with OCCURS or REDEFINES clauses. TYPEDEF cannot be used with complex OCCURS DEPENDING ON. This means that you cannot specify an OCCURS DEPENDING ON clause within a table that is part of a TYPEDEF.
11. The VALUE clause cannot be specified either in the data descriptions specifying the TYPEDEF clause or in any subordinate item except for condition-names (88 level entries) within the TYPEDEF structure.
12. The TYPE clause can be specified in the same data description entry as the TYPEDEF clause but the description of the subject of the entry, including its subordinate items, shall not contain a TYPE clause that directly or indirectly references this type definition.

13. In FILE SECTION, a data description entry declared at level number 1 that includes a TYPEDEF clause is not a record description entry.

7.9.45 UNDERLINE

UNDERLINE Attribute Syntax

==========

```
UNDERLINE
~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

The `UNDERLINE` clause will introduce a horizontal line at the bottom edge of a screen field.

1. The `LEFTLINE` (see LEFTLINE), `OVERLINE` (see OVERLINE) and `UNDERLINE` clauses may be used in any combination in a single field's description.
2. This clause is essentially non-functional when used within Windows command shell (cmd.exe) environments and running programs compiled using a GnuCOBOL implementation built using "PDCurses" (such as Windows/MinGW builds).
3. Whether or not this clause operates on Cygwin or UNIX/Linux/OSX systems will depend upon the video attribute capabilities of the terminal output drivers and "curses" software being used.

See Color Palette and Video Attributes, for more information on screen colors and video attributes.

7.9.46 USAGE

USAGE Clause Syntax

==========

```
USAGE IS data-item-usage
~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `REPORT`

The `USAGE` clause defines the format that will be used to store the value of a data item.

1. The reserved word `IS` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.

2. The following tables summarize the USAGE specifications available in GnuCOBOL.

```
TABLE 1
+----------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
| USAGE                |  RANGE                         | STORAGE  |NEGATIVE |
PIC   |
|                      |  OF VALUES                     | FORMAT   |ALLOWED? |
USED? |
+----------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|[ DISPLAY ]           | Max Picture is 9(38)           |Characters|if PIC   |
Yes   |
|  ~~~~~~~           | or Picture X(2147483646)      |        |cont. 'S'|      |
+----------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
| DISPLAY-1            | While syntactically recognized |Characters|         |
Yes   |
| ~~~~~~~~~            | not yet supported by GnuCOBOL  |(DBCS)    |         |
PIC N |
+----------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|COMP                  | Defined by the quantity of     |Compatible|if PIC 9 |
Yes   |
|COMPUTATIONAL          | '9's  and the presence/absence |Binary    |contains
|       |
|BINARY              | of an 'S' in the PICTURE      |Integer   |'S'     |      |
|~~~~~~              | pic 9(01) to 9(04) size=2 bytes|         |        |      |
|                    | pic 9(05) to 9(09) size=4 bytes|         |        |      |
|                    | pic 9(10) to 9(18) size=8 bytes|         |        |      |
|                    | Negative number are represented|         |        |      |
|                    | as the two's complement of the |         |        |      |
|                    | positive number with the same  |         |        |      |
|                    | absolute value. Max pic 9(18)  |         |        |      |
+----------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|COMP-1                | Approximately                  | Native   | Yes     |
No    |
|COMPUTATIONAL-1      |   -3.4028235 * 10**38         | IEEE 754 |        |      |
|FLOAT-SHORT          | to 3.4028235 * 10**38         | Binary32 |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~~          | size = 4 bytes = 32bits:      | Floating |        |      |
|FLOAT               | 1 sign; 8 exponent; 23 fraction| -point   |        |      |
```

```
|~~~~~                |                                |         |        |      |
|COMP-9(GCOS)         | 32-bit IEEE Single Precision   |         |        |      |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+---------+--------
+-------+
|COMP-2                 | Approximately                    | Native   | Yes     |
No    |
|COMPUTATIONAL-2      |  -1.797693134862316 * 10**308 | IEEE 754 |        |      |
|FLOAT-LONG           | to 1.797693134862316 * 10**308 | Binary64 |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~           | size = 8 bytes = 64 bits:     | Floating |        |      |
|DOUBLE               | 1 sign; 1 exponent; 62 fraction| -point   |        |      |
|~~~~~~               |                                |         |        |      |
|COMP-10,COMP-15(GCOS) | 64-bit IEEE Double Precision   |        |        |      |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+---------+--------
+-------+
|FLOAT-EXTENDED         | While syntactically recognized | Native   | Yes     |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~       | not yet supported by GnuCOBOL  | IEEE 754 |        |      |
|                     |                                | Binary128|        |      |
|                   | 128-bit IEEE Quad Precision    | Fl.point |        |      |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+---------+--------
+-------+

TABLE 1 - Continued
+---------------------+--------------------------------+---------+--------
+-------+
| USAGE                 |  RANGE                          | STORAGE  |NEGATIVE |
PIC   |
|                       |  OF VALUES                      | FORMAT   |ALLOWED? |
USED? |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+---------+--------
+-------+
|COMP-3                 | Defined by the quantity of '9's| Signed   |if PIC 9 |
Yes   |
|COMPUTATIONAL-3        | and the presence or absence of | Packed   |contains
|       |
|PACKED-DECIMAL       | an 'S' in the PICTURE         | Decimal  |'S'     |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~       | Max picture is 9(38)          |         |        |      |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+---------+--------
+-------+
|COMP-4               | same as COMP                  |machine   |        |      |
|COMPUTATIONAL-4      | (is always Big Endian)        |independnt|        |      |
```

```
+---------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|COMP-5                | [S]9(1)  to [S]9(4)  2bytes    | Native   |if PIC 9 |
Yes   |
|COMPUTATIONAL-5        | 0 to 65535 or -32768 to +32676 | Binary    |contains
|       |
|                    | [S]9(5)  to [S]9(9)  4bytes    | Integer  |'S'     |      |
|                    | 0 to 4,294,967,295 or          |          |        |      |
|                    |-2,147,483,648 to +2,147,483,647|machine   |        |      |
|                    | [S]9(10) to [S]9(18) 8bytes    |dependent |        |      |
|                    | 0 to 18,446,744,073,709,551,615|          |        |      |
|                    |or -9,223,372,036,854,775,808 to|          |        |      |
|                    |   +9,223,372,036,854,775,807   |          |      dependent
|       |
+---------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|COMP-6                | same as COMP-3 but unsigned    | Unsigned | No      |
Yes   |
|COMPUTATIONAL-6      | 2 decimal digit x byte         | Packed   |        |      |
|                    | Max picture is 9(38)           | Decimal  |        |      |
+---------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|COMP-X                | If used with PIC X, allocates  | Native   |if PIC 9 |
Yes   |
|COMPUTATIONAL-X        | one byte of storage per 'X';    | unsigned |contains
|       |
|                    | range of values is 0 to max    | PIC (X)  |'S'     |      |
|                    | storable in that many bytes.   | or signed|        |      |
|                    | If used with PIC 9, range of   | PIC (9)  |        |      |
|                    | values depends on number of    | Binary   |        |      |
|                    | '9's in PICTURE                |          |        |      |
|                    | Max picture is PIC 9(38)       |          |        |      |
|                    | or PIC X(9999999999)           |          |        |      |
+---------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|COMP-N                | PICTURE can only be all 9's or |          |if PIC 9 |
Yes   |
|COMPUTATIONAL-N       | all X's                        |          |contains
|       |
|                    | A COMP-N data item is identical|         |'S'     |      |
|                    | to a COMP-X data item, except  |         |        |      |
```

```
|                    | that the data is stored in the |         |        |      |
|                    | host machine's native format,  |         |        |      |
|                    | instead of machine-independent |         |        |      |
|                     | format.                       |         |        |      |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|COMP-0                | Not implemented                |          |if PIC 9 |
Yes   |
|COMPUTATIONAL-0       |                                 |          |contains
|       |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
```

The picture for a COMP-5 data item can specify integer and decimal positions as a
scaling factor:
a item with PICTURE S9999 COMP-5 (storage as 2bytes) has values from -32768 to +32768
a item with PICTURE S99V99 COMP-5 (storage as 2bytes) has values from -327.68 to +327.67.

TABLE 2

```
+-------------------------+-----------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
| NUMERIC USAGE           |  RANGE                      | STORAGE  |NEGATIVE |
PIC   |
| WITHOUT PICTURE         |  OF VALUES                  | FORMAT   |ALLOWED? |
USED? |
+-------------------------+-----------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|BINARY-CHAR [SIGNED]     | -128 (-2**7) to 127 (2**7)-1| Native   | Yes     |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~            |                           | Binary   |        |      |
|                       | same as S9(2) COMP-5       | Integer  |        |      |
+-------------------------+-----------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED     |    0 to 255                 | Native   | No      |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~     |                           | Binary   |        |      |
|                        |(8 bit= from 0 to ((2**8)-1) | Integer  |        |      |
+-------------------------+-----------------------------+----------+---------
```

```
+-------+
|BINARY-SHORT [SIGNED]    |   -32,768 (-2**15)          | Native   | Yes     |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~           | to 32,767  (2**15 -1)      | Binary   |        |      |
|SIGNED-SHORT           | 16 bit integer             | Integer  |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~           | same as S9(4) COMP-5       |          |        |      |
+-------------------------+----------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|BINARY-SHORT UNSIGNED    | 0 to 65,535                | Native   | No      |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~    |                          | Binary   |        |      |
|UNSIGNED-SHORT          |                          | Integer  |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~          | 16 bit=from 0 to ((2**16)-1)|         |        |      |
+-------------------------+----------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|BINARY-LONG [SIGNED]     |   -2,147,483,648 (-2**31)   | Native   | Yes     |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~            | to 2,147,483,647  (2**31 -1)| Binary   |        |      |
|BINARY-INT [SIGNED]     |                          | Integer  |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~             | 32 bit integer             |          |        |      |
|SIGNED-INT             | same as S9(9) COMP-5       |          |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~             |                          |          |        |      |
+-------------------------+----------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|BINARY-LONG UNSIGNED     | 0 to  4,294,967,295         | Native   | No      |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~    |                          | Binary   |        |      |
|BINARY-INT UNSIGNED     |                          | Integer  |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~     |                          |          |        |      |
|UNSIGNED-INT           |32 bit= from 0 to ((2**32)-1)|         |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~~            |                          |          |        |      |
+-------------------------+----------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|BINARY-LONG-LONG [SIGNED]|   -9,223,372,036,854,775,808| Native   | Yes     |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~        |   (-2**63)               | Binary   |        |      |
|BINARY-DOUBLE [SIGNED]  | to 9,223,372,036,854,775,807| Integer  |       |     |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~          |   (2**63 -1)             |          |        |      |
|SIGNED-LONG            | 64 bit integer             |          |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~             | same as S9(18) COMP-5      |          |        |      |
+-------------------------+----------------------------+----------+---------
```

```
+-------+
|BINARY-LONG-LONG UNSIGNED| 0 to                      | Native   |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~|  18,446,744,073,709,551,615 | Binary   |       |     |
|BINARY-DOUBLE UNSIGNED   |  (2**64)                     | Integer  | No      |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~   |                           |         |        |      |
|UNSIGNED-LONG           |                           |         |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~            |                           |         |        |      |
+------------------------+---------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+

TABLE 2 - Continued
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
| USAGE                |  RANGE                        | STORAGE  |NEGATIVE |
PIC   |
|                      |  OF VALUES                    | FORMAT   |ALLOWED? |
USED? |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|BINARY-C-LONG [SIGNED]| Depending on the system HW the |          | YES     |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~        | range is either               |         |        |      |
|                     | 0 to 2**31 or 0 to 2**63      |         |        |      |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|BINARY-C-LONG UNSIGNED| Depending on the system HW the |          | No      |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~| range is either               |         |        |      |
|                     | 0 to 2**32 or 0 to 2**64      |         |        |      |
|                     | This USAGE should only be used |         |        |      |
|                     | for direct CALLs into C and    |         |        |      |
|                     | otherwise should not be used   |         |        |      |
|                     | (it won't compile with any     |         |        |      |
|                     | strict -std as it is a         |         |        |      |
|                     | GnuCOBOL-only extension)       |         |        |      |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|FLOAT-DECIMAL-16      |   -9.999999999999999 * 10**384 | Native   | Yes     |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~     | to 9.999999999999999 * 10**384 | IEEE 754 |       |     |
```

```
|                     |                                | Decimal64|         |       |
|                     |                                | Floating |         |       |
|                     |                                | -point   |         |       |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|FLOAT-DECIMAL-34      |   -9.99999... * 10**6144       |Native    | Yes     |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~     | to 9.99999... * 10**6144      |IEEE 754  |         |       |
|                     |                                |Decimal128|         |       |
|                    | (n.33 9s after decimal point)  | Floating |         |       |
|                     |  size=16 bytes                 | -point   |         |       |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+

TABLE 3
+---------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
| OTHER USAGE          |  RANGE                          | STORAGE  |NEGATIVE |
PIC   |
|                      |  OF VALUES                      | FORMAT   |ALLOWED? |
USED? |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|HANDLE OF [VARIANT]   |                                | Native   | Yes     |
No    |
|~~~~~~    [WINDOW]    | Size is 4 bytes              | Binary   |         |       |
|         [SUBWINDOW] |                                | Integer  |         |       |
|         [THREAD]    |                                |          |         |       |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|INDEX                  | 0 to maximum address possible  | Native   | No      |
No    |
|~~~~~               | (32 or 64 bits)              | Binary   |         |       |
|                     |                                | Integer  |         |       |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|POINTER                | 0 to maximum address possible  | Native   | No      |
No    |
|~~~~~~~             | (32 or 64 bits: 4 or 8 bytes)  | Binary   |         |       |
|                     |                                | Integer  |         |       |
+---------------------+--------------------------------+----------+---------
```

```
+-------+
|PROGRAM-POINTER        | 0 to maximum address possible  | Native    | No       |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~      | (32 or 64 bits: 4 or 8 bytes)  | Binary    |        |      |
|PROCEDURE-POINTER     |                              | Integer  |        |      |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~     |                               |          |        |      |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|FUNCTION-POINTER       | While syntactically recognized |     --     | No       |
No    |
|~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~      | it is not supported by GnuCOBOL|         |        |      |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|NATIONAL                | While syntactically recognized |     --     |   --     |
Yes   |
|~~~~~~~~                | it is not supported by GnuCOBOL|           |          |
PIC N |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|BIT                     | While syntactically recognized |     --     |   --     |
Yes   |
|~~~                     | it is not supported by GnuCOBOL|           |          |
PIC 1 |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
|type-name-1             | User defined DATA TYPE          |     --     |   --     |
--    |
|                     | see also the TYPEDEF clause    |         |        |      |
+----------------------+-------------------------------+----------+---------
+-------+
```

3. Computational items.

   A. The `USAGE DISPLAY` of numeric values store each digit represented by the corresponding character. A `PIC 999` field that contains the value 456 is stored in 3 bytes, each one containing one digit. Machines can perform the computations significantly faster on base-2 (binary) numbers that base-10 numbers. If a number is stored in binary format, it can be used in computations directly. You can use `USAGE COMPUTATIONAL` or `USAGE COMP` or `BINARY` to change the storage format from character/text to binary format.

B. `COMPUTATIONAL` is one of the most powerful and performance-critical data types in COBOL, representing numeric values in the computer's native binary format rather than the traditional decimal representations that COBOL is known for. This data type provides significant advantages in terms of storage efficiency, computational speed, and memory utilization, making it indispensable for high-performance applications, system programming, and scenarios where processing millions of records requires optimal resource usage.

   `COMPUTATIONAL` or `COMP` is the only generic binary `USAGE` defined by the ISO COBOL standard. But the standard does not mandate how the data should be stored; it leaves it up to the compiler implementer. This created the need to also define some other `USAGE`, example: `COMP-1`, `COMP-2`, `COMP-3`, `COMP-4`, `COMP-5`, `COMP-6`.

   By COBOL standard, this `USAGE COMP` is an implementation depedent form. Usually one of the fastest native forms, but not that safe when transferring data between machines, even those compiled with the same version of GnuCOBOL, as it depends on hardware platform.

C. Endianness or Byte Order.

   There are two possible Byte Orders in which bytes can be stored in memory.

   Either you store byte containing the most significant byte (MSB) as the leftmost byte (named Big Endian) or at the rightmost byte (named Little Endian).

   IBM mainframe processors use Big Endian and Intel machines use Little Endian format to store numbers in memory. Big Endian machine store MSB in lower address in memory and Little Endian machine stores MSB in higher address in memory.

   Example: To store the 4-byte hexadecimal number 0x12345678:

```
memory address: 01 02 03 04
Big-Endian:     12 34 56 78 (Stored as written)
Little-Endian:  78 56 34 12 (Reversed)
```

   Big-Endian (BE)

   In Big-Endian systems, the most significant byte (MSB) is stored at the lowest memory address. This format is often considered more human-readable because it matches how we write numbers.

```
Memory Address Stored Byte
Address +0     0x12 (MSB)
Address +1     0x34
```

```
Address +2     0x56
Address +3     0x78 (LSB)
```

It is used in Networking protocols (TCP/IP), mainframes and legacy systems, File formats like JPEG and PNG, etc.

Little-Endian (LE)

In Little-Endian systems, the least significant byte (LSB) is stored at the lowest memory address. This layout aligns well with how CPUs perform arithmetic internally.

```
Memory Address Stored Byte
Address +0     0x78 (LSB)
Address +1     0x56
Address +2     0x34
Address +3     0x12 (MSB)
```

It is used by Intel (x86), AMD, and most modern desktops, laptops and embedded MicroController Unit.

BE vs LE becomes critical for example, in the following cases: A) Networking TCP/IP: the internet uses Big Endian. Without proper byte conversion, data sent from a Little Endian system will be misinterpreted; B) Binary File Sharing: Opening a binary file created on a Big Endian system on a Little Endian machine can corrupt values unless handled correctly; C) Low-Level Programming: In C, assembly, or embedded systems, incorrect assumptions about byte order lead to subtle and dangerous bugs.

Without defined endianness, a computer trying to read data created by another might interpret the bytes in reverse order, leading to completely wrong numerical values or corrupted files. This is particularly critical in network communication between different types of machines, where one may be Little Endian (e.g., PC) and the other Big Endian (e.g., network server).

D. `USAGE COMP`.

In the original ANSI COBOL standards, `COMP` (short for `COMPUTATIONAL`) was defined very loosely. It simply meant "a format efficient for calculation". Hardware vendors implemented `USAGE COMP` differently to suit their own CPUs. IBM is Big Endian. By default, GnuCOBOL stores `COMP` and `BINARY` data in Big Endian order.

E. `USAGE COMP-4`.

Was specifically introduced by several vendors (and later adopted by IBM) to explicitly mean Binary Big Endian storage. Other compiler makers (like Micro Focus or Fujitsu) wanted their COBOL to be compatible with IBM's. IBM decided that `COMP`, `COMP-4`,

and the keyword `BINARY` would all point to the same internal binary representation. Because millions of lines of code were already written using `COMP` and others using `COMP-4`, compiler vendors kept both keywords to ensure that old programs would still compile without errors.

`COMP-4` is machine-independent, binary number with the storage size (2, 4 or 8 bytes) dictated by the number of 9s in the `PICTURE` clause . `COMP` and `COMP-4` and `BINARY` are simply synonyms. there is zero performance or functional difference between them.

F. `USAGE COMP-5`.

It is a "Native Binary Item" (can be Big Endian or Little Endian). To overcome the limitations of `COMP`, IBM introduced `COMP-5`, which allows binary fields to behave like native binary integers. This means the value range is determined by the binary field size, not the number of '9s' in the picture clause. `COMP` or `COMP-4` truncates based on the decimal value defined in the picture clause, while `COMP-5` truncates based on the binary field size.

`COMP-5` can contain values up to the capacity of the native binary representation (2, 4, or 8 bytes) rather than being limited to the value implied by the number of 9s in the `PICTURE` clause. Useful for interfacing with C or other languages. When you move or store numeric data into a `COMP-5` item, truncation occurs at the binary field size rather than at the COBOL `PICTURE` size limit. `COMP-5` is thus particularly useful for binary data items that originate in non-COBOL programs where the data might not conform to a COBOL `PICTURE` clause.

`COMP` or `COMP-4` or `COMP-5` specifies the storage of half word, full word, or double word (2, 4, and 8 bytes, respectively). Even though `PIC S9(4) COMP-4` has a signed half-word storage, it limits the values to the range of −9999 through +9999 due to the four decimal places in the `PICTURE` clause. You can use `COMP-5` to eliminate the limitation. For example, `PIC S9(4) COMP-5` has a half-word storage and allows the range of values of −32768 through +32767.

G. If you need to write code that will compile on different machines, using `COMP-5` (Native Binary) is often preferable to take advantage of the specific processor architecture (as Little Endian on Intel or Big endian on Mainframe).

`COMP-5` is primarily used to communicate with external programs that expect native data storage. A `VALUE` clause for a `COMP-5` data item is stored in a machine-independent format and is adjusted when it is loaded into the data item.

The format of a `COMP-5` data item is identical to a `COMP-4` data item, except that the data is stored in a machine-dependent native format. For example, a `PIC S9(4) COMP-5` data item is equivalent to a 16-bit binary word on the host machine, and a `PIC S9(4)`

`COMP-5` item is equivalent to a 32-bit word. Data stored in a `COMP-5` field may not be transportable to other machines because different machines have different natural byte-orderings. On many machines (Mainframe, 68000, most RISC), `COMP-5` is identical to `COMP-4`. On others (80x86, VAX), it is the same with the bytes in the reverse order.

Level 01 and level 77 data items that are `COMP-5` are automatically synchronized to an appropriate machine boundary, regardless of any compile-time settings. This allows you to pass these items safely to C subroutines without having to concern yourself with alignment.

`COMP`, `COMP-4`, `COMP-5`: the leftmost bit indicates an operational sign 0: positive 1: negative A negative value is represented by twos complement

in HEX notation:

```
+15 in PIC S9(9)V999 COMP/COMP-4 looks 000000000000000F
-15 in PIC S9(9)V999 COMP/COMP-4 looks FFFFFFFFFFFFFFF1 (2s complement + 1)
```

H. GnuCOBOL related COMPILER OPTIONS.

`COMP-5` always represents Native binary, so BE or LE will be depending upon the platform you use. Compiler flag determines whether plain `COMP` was `COMP-4` or `COMP-5` (native). The TRUNC(BIN) compiler option causes all binary data items (`USAGE BINARY`, `COMP`, `COMP-4`) to be handled as if they were declared `USAGE COMP-5`. This kind of compiler option will be available across all ANSI compliant platforms which support COBOL.

-fbinary-byteorder=<value> binary byte order, may be one of: native, big-endian applies only to BINARY, COMP, and COMP-4 items.

-fbinary-size=<value> binary byte size - defines the allocated bytes according to PIC, may be one of: 2-4-8, 1-2-4-8, 1–8

-fno-trunc = Do not truncate binary fields according to PICTURE and allow numeric field overflow; non-ANSI behaviour

-fbinary-truncate = numeric truncation according to ANSI

Compiler dialect configuration options:

-fbinary-byteorder=<value> binary byte order, may be one of: native, big-endian ex: -fbinary-byteorder=big-endian The -fbinary-byteorder=big-endian compile option works for `BINARY`, `COMP`, and `COMP-4` items, but not for `COMP-5` items.

`COMP-5` data items are always stored in native format (Big or Little Endian).

`COMP-5` is subject to external high order truncation when displayed by PICTURE and during PICTURE based MOVE instructions. The compiler option -fno-trunc can modify this behaviour and may display fields wider than the PICTURE.

Compiler Configuration from config/default.conf.

```
# Numeric truncation according to ANSI
binary-truncate:  yes
```

Compiler Configuration File

```
binary-size: 1-2-4-8
```

A compile time test, using the Compiler Directive Facility is available with a predefined ENDIAN symbol. It will hold BIG or LITTLE at compile time.

```
>>IF ENDIAN = "BIG"
   big endian code
>>END-IF
...
>>IF ENDIAN = "LITTLE"
   little endian code
>>END-IF
```

I. Sample Program

```
        >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTCOMP. *> demo of COMP, COMP-4, COMP-5
environment division. configuration section.
repository. function all intrinsic.
DATA  DIVISION. WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  wCOMP    PIC  9(8) COMP  .
01  wCOMP4   PIC  9(8) COMP-4.
01  wCOMP5   PIC  9(8) COMP-5.
01  sCOMP    PIC s9(8) COMP  .
01  sCOMP4   PIC s9(8) COMP-4.
01  sCOMP5   PIC s9(8) COMP-5.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
move     h'1234' to  wCOMP wCOMP4 wCOMP5
display 'wCOMP    ' wCOMP  ' HEX ' hex-of(wCOMP)  ' BIT ' bit-of(wCOMP)  ' L
' length(wCOMP)
display 'wCOMP4   ' wCOMP4 ' HEX ' hex-of(wCOMP4) ' BIT ' bit-of(wCOMP4) ' L
' length(wCOMP4)
display 'wCOMP5 '   wCOMP5 ' HEX ' hex-of(wCOMP5) ' BIT ' bit-of(wCOMP5) ' L
' length(wCOMP5)
```

```
display space
move     +789258 to  sCOMP sCOMP4 sCOMP5
display 'sCOMP    ' sCOMP  ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP)  ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP)  ' L
' length(sCOMP)
display 'sCOMP4   ' sCOMP4 ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP4) ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP4) ' L
' length(sCOMP4)
display 'sCOMP5 '   sCOMP5 ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP5) ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP5) ' L
' length(sCOMP5)
display space
move     -789258 to  sCOMP sCOMP4 sCOMP5
display 'sCOMP    ' sCOMP  ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP)  ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP)  ' L
' length(sCOMP)
display 'sCOMP4   ' sCOMP4 ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP4) ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP4) ' L
' length(sCOMP4)
display 'sCOMP5 '   sCOMP5 ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP5) ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP5) ' L
' length(sCOMP5)
display space
move     +15 to  sCOMP sCOMP4 sCOMP5
display 'sCOMP    ' sCOMP  ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP)  ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP)  ' L
' length(sCOMP)
display 'sCOMP4   ' sCOMP4 ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP4) ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP4) ' L
' length(sCOMP4)
display 'sCOMP5 '   sCOMP5 ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP5) ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP5) ' L
' length(sCOMP5)
display space
move     -15 to  sCOMP sCOMP4 sCOMP5
display 'sCOMP    ' sCOMP  ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP)  ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP)  ' L
' length(sCOMP)
display 'sCOMP4   ' sCOMP4 ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP4) ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP4) ' L
' length(sCOMP4)
display 'sCOMP5 '   sCOMP5 ' HEX ' hex-of(sCOMP5) ' BIT ' bit-of(sCOMP5) ' L
' length(sCOMP5)
accept omitted STOP RUN.

Output:

wCOMP    00004660 HEX 00001234 BIT 00000000000000000001001000110100 L 4
wCOMP4   00004660 HEX 00001234 BIT 00000000000000000001001000110100 L 4
wCOMP5 0000004660 HEX 34120000 BIT 00110100000010010000000000000000 L 4

sCOMP    +00789258 HEX 000C0B0A BIT 00000000000011000000101100001010 L 4
```

```
sCOMP4   +00789258 HEX 000C0B0A BIT 00000000000011000000101100001010 L 4
sCOMP5 +0000789258 HEX 0A0B0C00 BIT 00001010000010110000110000000000 L 4

sCOMP    -00789258 HEX FFF3F4F6 BIT 11111111111100111111010011110110 L 4
sCOMP4   -00789258 HEX FFF3F4F6 BIT 11111111111100111111010011110110 L 4
sCOMP5 -0000789258 HEX F6F4F3FF BIT 11110110111101001111001111111111 L 4

sCOMP    +00000015 HEX 0000000F BIT 00000000000000000000000000001111 L 4
sCOMP4   +00000015 HEX 0000000F BIT 00000000000000000000000000001111 L 4
sCOMP5 +0000000015 HEX 0F000000 BIT 00001111000000000000000000000000 L 4

sCOMP    -00000015 HEX FFFFFFF1 BIT 11111111111111111111111111110001 L 4
sCOMP4   -00000015 HEX FFFFFFF1 BIT 11111111111111111111111111110001 L 4
sCOMP5 -0000000015 HEX F1FFFFFF BIT 11110001111111111111111111111111 L 4
```

4. Data items that have the `UNSIGNED` attribute explicitly coded, or `DISPLAY`, `PACKED-DECIMAL`, `COMP-5`, `COMP-X` items that do not have an '`S`' symbol in their picture clause cannot preserve negative values that may be stored into them. Storing a negative value into such a field will actually result in the sign being stripped, essentially saving the absolute value in the data item.

5. Packed-decimal (*i.e.* `USAGE PACKED-DECIMAL`, `USAGE COMP-3` or `USAGE COMP-6`) data is stored as a series of bytes such that each byte contains two 4-bit fields, referred to as nibbles (since they comprise half a "byte", they're just "nibbles" — don't groan, I don't just make this stuff up!). Each nibble represents a '`9`' in the `PICTURE` and each holds a single decimal digit encoded as its binary value (0 = 0000, 1 = 0001, … , 9 = 1001).

   The *last* byte of a `PACKED-DECIMAL` or `COMP-3` data item will always have its left nibble corresponding to the last '`9`' in the `PICTURE` and its right nibble reserved as a sign indicator. This sign indicator is always present regardless of whether or not the `PICTURE` included an '`S`' symbol.

   The *first* byte of the data item will contain an unused left nibble if the `PICTURE` had an even number of '`9`' symbols in it.

   The sign indicator will have a value of a hexadecimal A through F. Traditional packed decimal encoding rules call for hexadecimal values of F, A, C or E ("FACE") in the sign nibble to indicate a positive value and B or D to represent a negative value (hexadecimal digits 0-9 are undefined). Testing with a Windows MinGW/GnuCOBOL implementation shows that — in fact — hex digit D represents a negative number and any other hexadecimal digit denotes a positive number. Therefore, a `PIC S9(3) COMP-3` packed-decimal field with a value of −15 would be stored internally as a hexadecimal 015D in GnuCOBOL.

If you attempt to store a negative number into a packed decimal field that has no 'S' in its PICTURE, the absolute value of the negative number will actually be stored.

USAGE COMP-6 does not allow for negative values, therefore no sign nibble will be allocated. A USAGE COMP-6 data item containing an odd number of '9' symbols in its PICTURE will leave its leftmost nibble unused.

6. The USAGE specifications FLOAT-DECIMAL-16 and FLOAT-DECIMAL-34 will encode data using IEEE 754 *Decimal64* and *Decimal128* format, respectively. The former allows for up to 16 digits of exact precision while the latter offers 34. The phrase "exact precision" is used because the traditional binary renderings of decimal real numbers in a floating-point format (FLOAT-LONG and FLOAT-SHORT, for example) only yield an approximation of the actual value because many decimal fractions cannot be precisely rendered in binary. The Decimal64 and Decimal128 renderings, however, render decimal real numbers in encoded decimal form in much the same way that PACKED-DECIMAL renders a decimal integer in digit-by-digit decimal form. The exact manner in which this rendering is performed is complex (Wikipedia has an excellent article on the subject — just search for *Decimal64*).
7. GnuCOBOL stores FLOAT-DECIMAL-16 and FLOAT-DECIMAL-34 data items using either Big-Endian or Little-Endian form, whichever is native to the system.
8. The USAGE specifications FLOAT-LONG and FLOAT-SHORT use the IEEE 754 *Binary64* and *Binary32* formats, respectively. These are binary encodings of real decimal numbers, and as such cannot represent every possible value between the minimum and maximum values in the range for those usages. Wikipedia has an excellent article on the Binary64 and Binary32 encoding schemes — just search on *Binary32* or *Binary64*.

   GnuCOBOL stores FLOAT-LONG and FLOAT-SHORT data items using either Big-Endian or Little-Endian form, whichever is native to the system.
9. A USAGE clause specified at the group item level will apply that USAGE to all subordinate data items, except those that themselves have a USAGE clause.
10. The only USAGE that is allowed in the report section is USAGE DISPLAY.
11. USAGE BIT (not yet implemented [-Wpending]) is used to define Boolean data items. While standard COBOL typically handles data at the byte level, this specific clause allows you to manage individual bits, which is highly efficient for flags, switches, and logical states. You must use PIC 1 (or PIC 11...11 or PIC 1(n)) where each "1" represents a single bit.

    Boolean values are assigned using Boolean literals: B"1" or b"1" for true/on and B"0" or b"0" for false/off.

```
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  SWITCH-FLAGS.
    05  IS-ACTIVE    PIC 1 USAGE BIT.
    05  IS-VALID     PIC 1 USAGE BIT.
    05  IS-COMPLETE  PIC 1 USAGE BIT.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    MOVE B"1" TO IS-ACTIVE.
    IF IS-ACTIVE = B"1"
       DISPLAY "System is active."
    END-IF.


USAGE and PIC 1:
USAGE BIT     PIC 1(8) value 11100101 HEX E5               one bit  of 0 or 1
USAGE DISPLAY PIC 1(8) value 11100101 HEX 3131313030313031 one char.of 0 or 1
```

GnuCOBOL provides built-in functions for complex bit operations: `B-AND`, `B-OR`, `B-XOR`, `B-NOT`: perform bitwise logical operations.

`BOOLEAN-OF-INTEGER`: Converts a numeric value into its binary bit representation.

`INTEGER-OF-BOOLEAN`: Converts a sequence of bits back into a standard integer.

Why use `USAGE BIT` ? It is primarily used for interoperability with other languages (like C or Java) that use bit-fields, or for memory optimization in large arrays of status flags.

12. `HANDLE OF` are stored as 4 byte binary integers and behave like numbers when used. These data items are used to store the handle of a dynamically created object such as a floating window or a graphical control. They come in two forms: generic (when you omit the OF phrase), typed when you include the OF phrase. You may use HANDLE data items only when explicitly allowed, or as part of a MOVE statement, a CALL statement (as a parameter), or in a Boolean expression. The implementation of USAGE HANDLE in GnuCOBOL is currently not of practical use but is needed for a future implementation of the use of graphical "objects" such as floating windows or graphic controls.

    It’s main purpose is currently supporting migrations from ACUCOBOL-GT, as it is used in lots of "parsed and internally handled but not yet supported in the runtime" parts.

    A example of usage follows using gnucobol v3.2 :

```
ID DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTHANDLE.
```

```
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 H0 usage HANDLE              value 999999999.
01 H1 usage HANDLE OF VARIANT   value    1.
01 H2 usage HANDLE OF SUBWINDOW value    2.
01 H3 usage HANDLE OF WINDOW    value -123.
01 H4 usage HANDLE OF THREAD    value -123.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    DISPLAY H0 ' ' H1 ' ' H2 ' '  H3 ' ' H4
    DISPLAY 'H1 ' FUNCTION HEX-OF(H1)
    STOP RUN.

Output:
+999999999 +000000001 +000000002 -000000123 -000000123
H1 01000000
```

13. `USAGE IS type-name-1` ~~~~~

    This USAGE clause indicates that the data description of the subject of the entry is specified by a user-defined data type. The user-defined data type is defined using the TYPEDEF clause, which is described in `TYPEDEF` clause.

```
Example 1:

01 struct-1     TYPEDEF.
    05  part-1  pic x(20).
    05  part-2  pic x(10).
01 USHORT       pic 9(04) comp-5 typedef.
01  a.
    05  b       USAGE struct-1.
    05  x       USAGE USHORT.

Which would be interpreted as if it had been coded as:

 01  a.
     05  b.
         10  part-1 pic x(20).
         10  part-2 pic x(10).
     05  x          pic 9(04) comp-5.


Example 2:
```

```
   IDENTIFICATION   DIVISION.
   PROGRAM-ID.      prog.
   DATA             DIVISION.
   WORKING-STORAGE  SECTION.
   01 MAIN-FILE-NAME-T     PIC X(50) IS TYPEDEF.
   01 DETAIL-NO-T          PIC 9999  IS TYPEDEF.
   01 MAIN-FILE-NAME-2T             IS TYPEDEF.
      05 FILLER            PIC 9999.
      05 DETAIL-NO         USAGE DETAIL-NO-T.

   01  MESSAGE-TEXT-2T     IS TYPEDEF.
     02 MAIN-FILE-NAME     USAGE MAIN-FILE-NAME-T.
     02 FILLER REDEFINES MAIN-FILE-NAME.
         05 FILLER         PIC 9999.
     02 MAIN-FILE-NAME-2   USAGE MAIN-FILE-NAME-2T.
     02 FILLER             USAGE MAIN-FILE-NAME-T.

   01  MESSAGE-TEXT-2 EXTERNAL USAGE MESSAGE-TEXT-2T.
   77 OUTPUT-NAME              USAGE DETAIL-NO-T GLOBAL.
   01 Z-MESSAGE-T2             USAGE MAIN-FILE-NAME-2T.
   01 Z-MESSAGE-T3.
      49 MT3                  USAGE MESSAGE-TEXT-2T.
      49 MT3-REN REDEFINES MT3 USAGE MESSAGE-TEXT-2T.

   PROCEDURE DIVISION.
       DISPLAY MAIN-FILE-NAME OF MESSAGE-TEXT-2
       DISPLAY DETAIL-NO      OF Z-MESSAGE-T2
       DISPLAY MAIN-FILE-NAME OF MT3
       DISPLAY OUTPUT-NAME
       GOBACK.
```

Example 3:

```
   77  INT                    PIC S9(09) COMP-5 IS TYPEDEF.
   01  Z-RETURNCODE           USAGE INT VALUE 0.
   01  MESSAGE-TEXT-2         IS TYPEDEF.
       02 MAIN-FILE-NAME      PIC X(50).
       02 FILLER              PIC X(79).
   01 Z-MESSAGE-T2 USAGE MESSAGE-TEXT-2.
   77 VIRMSG-TEXT             PIC  X(129) IS TYPEDEF.
```

```
01  MESSAGE-TEXT-2                      IS TYPEDEF.
    02 MAIN-FILE-NAME       PIC X(50).
    02 FILLER               PIC X(79).
01 Z-MESSAGE-TEXT           USAGE VIRMSG-TEXT.
01 Z-MESSAGE-T2 REDEFINES Z-MESSAGE-TEXT USAGE MESSAGE-TEXT-2.
01  W102-TYPE IS TYPEDEF.
    COPY SERVERFIELDS.
01 T-A                      USAGE W102-TYPE.
01 T-N                      USAGE W102-TYPE.
```

7.9.47 USING

USING Clause Syntax

==========

```
USING identifier-1
~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `SCREEN`

This clause logically attaches a screen section data item to another data item defined elsewhere in the data division. It identifies data to be used both as the destination in an ACCEPT screen statement and the source for a DISPLAY screen statement.

1. When the screen item whose definition this clause is part of is displayed, the value currently in <identifier-1> will be automatically moved into the screen item first.
2. When the screen item whose definition this clause is part of (or its parent) is accepted, the current contents of the screen item will be saved back to <identifier-1> at the conclusion of the `ACCEPT`.
3. Specifying the USING clause is equivalent to specifying both the TO and FROM clauses, each specifying the same identifier. The `FROM` (see FROM), `TO` (see TO), `USING` and `VALUE` (see VALUE) clauses aren't mutually-exclusive in any screen section data item's definition.

7.9.48 VALUE

VALUE (Condition Names) Clause Syntax

==========

```
{ VALUE IS   } { literal-1 [ THRU|THROUGH literal-2 ] }...
{ ~~~~~      }               ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
{ VALUES ARE }
```

```
  ~~~~~~
              [ WHEN SET TO FALSE IS literal-3 ]
                           ~~~~~
```

==========

VALUE (Other Data Items) Syntax

==========

```
 VALUE IS [ ALL ] literal-1
 ~~~~~      ~~~
```

==========

VALUE (For Tables) Syntax

==========

```
{ VALUE IS   } {{literal-1}... FROM ({subscrpt-1}...) [ TO ({subscrpt-2}...)]}...
{ ~~~~~      }                  ~~~~                       ~~
{ VALUES ARE }
  ~~~~~~
```

==========

This syntax is valid in the following sections: `FILE`, `WORKING-STORAGE`, `LOCAL-STORAGE`, `LINKAGE`, `REPORT`, `SCREEN`

The `VALUE` clause is used to define condition names or to assign values (at compilation time) to data items.

1. The reserved words `ARE` and `IS` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. This clause cannot be specified on the same data item as a `FROM` (see FROM), `TO` (see TO) or `USING` (see USING) clause.
3. The following points apply to using the `VALUE` clause in the definition of a condition name:
   A. The clauses `VALUE IS` and `VALUES ARE` are interchangeable.
   B. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
   C. See 88-Level Data Items, for a discussion of how this format of `VALUE` is used to create condition names.
   D. See Condition Names, for a discussion of how condition names are used.

4. The following points apply to using the `VALUE` clause in the definition of any other data item:

   A. In this context, `VALUE` specifies an initial compilation-time value that will be assigned to the storage occupied by the data item in the program object code generated by the compiler.

   B. The `VALUE` clause is ignored on `EXTERNAL` (see EXTERNAL) data items or on any data items defines as subordinate to an `EXTERNAL` data item.

   C. This format of the `VALUE` clause may not be used anywhere in the description of an 01 item (or any of its subordinate items) serving as an `FD` or `SD` record description.

   D. If the optional `ALL` clause is used, it may only be used with an alphanumeric literal value; the value will be repeated as needed to completely fill the data item. Here are some examples with and without `ALL` (the symbol *b* denotes a space):

```
PIC X(5) VALUE ‘A’      *> Abbbb
PIC X(5) VALUE ALL ‘A’  *> AAAAA
PIC 9(3) VALUE 1        *> 001
PIC 9(3) VALUE ALL ‘1’  *> 111
```

   E. When used in the definition of a screen data item:

      a. A figurative constant may not be supplied as <literal-1>.

      b. Any `FROM` (see FROM), `TO` (see TO) or `USING` (see USING) clause in the same data item’s definition will be ignored.

      c. If there is no picture clause specified, the size of the screen data item will be the length of the <literal-1> value.

      d. If there is no picture clause and the `ALL` option is specified, the `ALL` option will be ignored.

   F. Giving a table an initial, compile-time value is one of the trickier aspects of COBOL data definition. There are basically three standard techniques and a fourth that people familiar with other COBOL implementations but new to GnuCOBOL may find interesting. So, here are the three *standard* approaches:

      a. Don’t bother worrying about it at compile-time. Use the `INITIALIZE` (see INITIALIZE) to initialize all data item occurrences in a table (at run-time) to their data-type-specific default values (numerics: 0, alphabetic and alphanumerics: spaces).

      b. Initialize small tables at compile time by including a `VALUE` clause on the group item that serves as a parent to the table, as follows:

```
05  SHIRT-SIZES          VALUE "S 14M 15L 16XL17".
    10 SHIRT-SIZE-TBL    OCCURS 4 TIMES.
       15 SST-SIZE       PIC X(2).
       15 SST-NECK       PIC 9(2).
```

c. Initialize tables of almost any size at compilation time by utilizing the `REDEFINES` (see REDEFINES) clause:

```
05  SHIRT-SIZE-VALUES.
    10 PIC X(4)          VALUE "S 14".
    10 PIC X(4)          VALUE "M 15".
    10 PIC X(4)          VALUE "L 16".
    10 PIC X(4)          VALUE "XL17".
05  SHIRT-SIZES          REDEFINES SHIRT-SIZE-VALUES.
    10 SHIRT-SIZE-TBL    OCCURS 4 TIMES.
       15 SST-SIZE       PIC X(2).
       15 SST-NECK       PIC 9(2).
```

Admittedly, this table is much more verbose than the one shown with a group `VALUE`. What is good about this initialization technique, however, is that you can have as many `FILLER` and `VALUE` items as you need for a larger table, and those values can be as long as necessary!

G. Many COBOL compilers do not allow the use of `VALUE` and `OCCURS` (see OCCURS) on the same data item; additionally, they don't allow a `VALUE` clause on a data item subordinate to an `OCCURS`. GnuCOBOL, however, has neither of these restrictions!

Observe the following example, which illustrates a fourth manner in which tables may be initialized in GnuCOBOL:

```
05  X           OCCURS 6 TIMES.
    10 A        PIC X(1) VALUE '?'.
    10 B        PIC X(1) VALUE '%'.
    10 N        PIC 9(2) VALUE 10.
```

In this example, all six '`A`' items will be initialized to '`?`', all six '`B`' items will be initialized to '`%`' and all six '`N`' items will be initialized to 10. It's not clear exactly how many times this sort of initialization will be useful, but it's there if you need it.

5. The `FROM` (see FROM), `TO` (see TO), `USING` (see USING) and `VALUE` clauses are mutually-exclusive in any screen section data item's definition.

6. Format-3 (Table): The value clause for tables specifies the initial value of working-storage section and local-storage section data items.

```
Example 1: Table value clause

 03 Level-1     occurs 10 times.
    05 Level-2  occurs 3 times PIC X.
                value "A" "B" "C" FROM (2 2) to (3 1)
                      "X" "Y" "Z" FROM (1 1) to (! 3)
                      space       FROM (3 2).

Example 2: Table value clause with Initialize

  01 Group-Items.
     03                  value "Implicit Filler".
     03  filler    pic 1 value B"1".
     03  Var-Table occurs 10 times pic 9
                   value 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, (1) to (10).
  . . .
   initialize Group-Items with filler All to value.
```

8 PROCEDURE DIVISION

PROCEDURE DIVISION Syntax

==========

```
PROCEDURE DIVISION
~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
    [ { USING Subprogram-Argument... | CHAINING Main-Program-Argument... ]
        ~~~~~                           ~~~~~~~~
    [ RETURNING identifier-1 ] .
      ~~~~~~~~~

   [ DECLARATIVES.
     ~~~~~~~~~~~~
     [ Event-Handler-Routine... . ]

     END DECLARATIVES. ]
     ~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~

   [ [ Section-name1 SECTION. ]
                     ~~~~~~~
     [ [ paragraph-name-1.  ]
       [ procedural-sentence-1 ]... .
                                   ]...
                                       ]...

 [ Nested-Subprogram... ]

[ END PROGRAM | FUNCTION name-1. ]
  ~~~ ~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `PROCEDURE DIVISION` of any GnuCOBOL program marks the point where all executable code is written.

8.1 PROCEDURE DIVISION USING

PROCEDURE DIVISION Subprogram-Argument Syntax

==========

```
 [ BY { REFERENCE [ OPTIONAL ]                       } ] identifier-1
      { ~~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~                         }
      { VALUE [ [ UNSIGNED ] SIZE IS { AUTO      } ] }
        ~~~~~     ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~    { ~~~~      }
                                     { DEFAULT   }
                                     { ~~~~~~~   }
                                     { integer-1 }
```

==========

The `USING` clause defines the arguments that will be passed to a GnuCOBOL program which is serving as a subprogram.

1. The reserved words `BY` and `IS` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words have no effect upon the program.
2. The `USING` clause should only be used on the procedure division header of subprograms (subroutines or user-defined functions).
3. The calling program will pass zero or more data items, known as arguments, to this subprogram — there must be exactly as many <identifier-1> data items specified on the `USING` clause as the maximum number of arguments the subprogram will ever be passed.
4. If a subprogram does not expect any arguments, it should not have a `USING` clause specified on its procedure division header.
5. The order in which arguments are defined on the `USING` clause must correspond to the order in which those arguments will be passed to the subprogram by the calling program.
6. The identifiers specified on the `USING` clause must be defined in the linkage section of the subprogram. No storage is actually allocated for those identifiers in the subprogram as the actual storage for them will exist in the calling program.
7. A GnuCOBOL subprogram expects that all arguments to it will be one of two things:
   - The memory address of the actual data item (allocated in the calling program) that is being passed to the subprogram.
   - A numeric, full-word, binary value (i.e. `USAGE BINARY-LONG` (see USAGE)) which is the actual argument being passed to the subprogram.

   In the case of the former, the `USING` clause on the procedure division header should describe the argument via the `BY REFERENCE` clause — in the latter case, a `BY VALUE` specification should be coded. This allows the code generated by the compiler to properly reference the subprogram arguments at run-time.

8. `BY REFERENCE` is the assumed default for the first `USING` argument should no `BY` clause be specified for it. Subsequent arguments will assume the `BY` specification of the argument prior to them should they lack a `BY` clause of their own.
9. Changes made by a subprogram to the value of an argument specified on the `USING` clause will "be visible" to the calling program only if `BY REFERENCE` was explicitly specified or implicitly assumed for the argument on the subprogram's procedure division header *and* the argument was passed to the subprogram `BY REFERENCE` by the calling program. See Subprogram Arguments, for additional information on the mechanics of how arguments are passed to subprograms.
10. The optional `SIZE` clause allows you to specify the number of bytes a `BY VALUE` argument will occupy, with `SIZE DEFAULT` specifying 4 bytes (this is the default if no `SIZE` clause is used), `SIZE AUTO` specifying the size of the argument in the calling program and `SIZE integer-1` specifying a specific byte count.
11. The optional `UNSIGNED` keyword, legal only if `SIZE AUTO` or `SIZE integer-1` are coded, will add the `unsigned` attribute to the argument's specification in the C-language function header code generated for the subprogram. While not of any benefit when the calling program is a GnuCOBOL program, this can improve compatibility with a C-language calling program.
12. The `OPTIONAL` keyword, legal only on `BY REFERENCE` arguments, allows calling programs to code `OMITTED` for that corresponding argument when they call this subprogram. See CALL. for additional information on this feature.

8.2 PROCEDURE DIVISION CHAINING

PROCEDURE DIVISION Main-Program-Argument Syntax

==========

```
  [ BY REFERENCE ] [ OPTIONAL ] identifier-1
       ~~~~~~~~~     ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `CHAINING` term provides one mechanism a programmer may use to retrieve command-line arguments passed to a program at execution time.

1. `PROCEDURE DIVISION CHAINING` may only be coded in a main program (that is, the first program executed when a compiled GnuCOBOL compilation unit is executed). It cannot be used in any form of subprogram.
2. The `CHAINING` clause defines arguments that will be passed to a main program from the operating system. The argument identifiers specified on the `CHAINING` clause will be

populated by character strings comprised of the parameters specified to the program on the command line that executed it, as follows:

A. When a GnuCOBOL program is executed from a command-line, the complete command line text will be broken into a series of *tokens*, where each token is identified as being a word separated from the others in the command text by at least one space. For example, if the command line was `/usr/local/myprog THIS IS A TEST`, there will be five tokens identified by the operating system — '`/usr/local/myprog`', '`THIS`', '`IS`', '`A`' and '`TEST`'.

B. Multiple space-delimited tokens may be treated as a single token by enclosing them in quotes. For example, there are only three tokens generated from the command line `C:\Pgms\myprog.exe 'THIS IS A' TEST` — '`C:\Pgms\myprog.exe`', '`THIS IS A`' and '`TEST`'. When quote characters are used to create multi-word tokens, the quote characters themselves are stripped from the token's value.

C. Once tokens have been identified, the first one (the command) will be discarded; the rest will be stored into the `CHAINING` arguments when the program begins execution, with the 2nd token going to the 1st argument, the 3rd token going to the 2nd argument and so forth.

D. If there are more tokens than there are arguments, the excess tokens will be discarded.

E. If there are fewer tokens than there are arguments, the excess arguments will be initialized as if the `INITIALIZE identifier-1` (see INITIALIZE) statement were executed.

F. All identifiers specified on the `CHAINING` clause should be defined as `PIC X, PIC A`, group items (which are treated implicitly as `PIC X`) or as `PIC 9 USAGE DISPLAY`. The use of `USAGE BINARY` (or the like) data items as `CHAINING` arguments is not recommended as all command-line tokens will be retained in their original character form as they are moved into the argument data items.

G. If an argument identifier is smaller in storage size than the token value to be stored in it, the right-most excess characters of the token value will be truncated as the value is moved in. Any `JUSTIFIED RIGHT` clause on such an argument identifier will be ignored.

H. If an argument is larger in storage size than the token value to be stored in it, the token value will be moved into the argument identifier in a left-justified manner. unmodified-modified byte positions in the identifier will be space filled, unless the argument identifier is defined as `PIC 9 USAGE DISPLAY`, in which case unmodified bytes will be filled with '`0`' characters from the systems native character set.

   This behaviour when the argument is defined as `PIC 9` may be unacceptable, as an argument defined as `PIC 9(3)` but passed in a value of '`1`' from the command line will receive a value of '`100`', not '`001`'. Consider defining "numeric" command line arguments

as `PIC X` and then using the `NUMVAL` intrinsic function (see NUMVAL) function to determine the proper numeric value.

8.3 PROCEDURE DIVISION RETURNING

PROCEDURE DIVISION RETURNING Syntax

==========

```
RETURNING { identifier-1 }
~~~~~~~~~ { OMITTED      }
            ~~~~~~~
```

==========

The RETURNING clause on the PROCEDURE DIVISION header documents that the subprogram in which the clause appears will be returning a numeric value back to the program that called it. This is only available for functions as it does not work for programs and has issues depending on the platform (operating system) in use - You must test for this for the specific platform.

1. The `RETURNING` clause is optional within a subroutine, as not all subroutines return a value to their caller.
2. The `RETURNING` clause is mandatory within a user-defined function, as all such must return a numeric result.
3. The <identifier-1> data item should be defined as a `USAGE BINARY-LONG` data item.
4. Main programs that wish to "pass back" a return code value to the operating system when they exit do not use `RETURNING` - they do so simply by MOVEing a value to the `RETURN-CODE` special register.
5. This is not the only mechanism that a subprogram may use to pass a value back to its caller. Other possibilities are:
   A. The subprogram may modify any argument that is specified as `BY REFERENCE` on its `PROCEDURE DIVISION` header. Whether the calling program can actually "see" any modifications depends upon how the calling program passed the argument to the subprogram. See CALL, for more information.
   B. A data item with the `GLOBAL` (see GLOBAL) attribute specified in its description in the calling program is automatically visible to and updatable by a subprogram nested with the calling program. See Independent vs Contained vs Nested Subprograms, for more information on subprogram nesting.

C. A data item defined with the `EXTERNAL` (see EXTERNAL) attribute in a subprogram and the calling program (same name in both programs) is automatically visible to and updatable by both programs, even if those programs are compiled separately from one another.

8.4 PROCEDURE DIVISION Sections and Paragraphs

The procedure division is the only one of the COBOL divisions that allows you to create your own sections and paragraphs. These are collectively referred to as Procedures, and the names you create for those sections and paragraphs are called Procedure Names.

Procedure names are optional in the procedure division and — when used — are named entirely according to the needs and whims of the programmer.

Procedure names may be up to thirty one (31) characters long and may consist of letters, numbers, dashes and underscores. A procedure name may neither begin nor end with a dash ('-') or underscore ('_') character. This means that `Main`, `0100-Read-Transaction` and `17` are all perfectly valid procedure names.

There are three circumstances under which the use of certain GnuCOBOL statements or options will require the specification of procedures. These situations are:

1. When `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES) are specified.
2. When the `ENTRY` statement (see ENTRY) is being used.
3. When any procedure division statement that references procedures is used. These statements are:
   - `ALTER procedure-name`
   - `GO TO procedure-name`
   - `MERGE … OUTPUT PROCEDURE procedure-name`
   - `PERFORM procedure-name`
   - `SORT … INPUT PROCEDURE procedure-name` and/or `SORT … OUTPUT PROCEDURE procedure-name`

8.5 DECLARATIVES

DECLARATIVES Syntax

==========

```
[ DECLARATIVES.
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~

  { section-name-1 SECTION.
```

```
                  ~~~~~~~
    USE statement.
    ~~~
    [ sentence-1 ]...
    [ paragraph-name-1. [ sentence-2 ]... ]... }...

 END DECLARATIVES.                                  ]
 ~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~

Where the USE statement can be one of 4 following formats:
 1.FILE EXCEPTIONS procedures,
 2.DEBUGGING procedures,
 3.REPORTING procedures to be executed before the printing of the designated
   Report Group,
 4.EXCEPTION CONDITIONS procedures to be executed after detection of exception
   conditions.

USE { [ GLOBAL ] AFTER STANDARD { EXCEPTION } PROCEDURE ON { INPUT            } }
~~~ {   ~~~~~~                  { ~~~~~~~~~ }              { ~~~~~            } }
    {                           { ERROR     }              { OUTPUT           } }
    {                             ~~~~~                    { ~~~~~~           } }
    {                                                      { I-O              } }
    {                                                      { ~~~              } }
    {                                                      { EXTEND           } }
    {                                                      { ~~~~~~           } }
    {                                                      { {file-name-1 }...} }
    {                                                                           }
    {                                                                           }
    { FOR DEBUGGING ON { procedure-name-1           }                           }
    {     ~~~~~~~~~    { ALL PROCEDURES            }                           }
    {                  { ~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~            }                           }
    {                  { REFERENCES OF identifier-1 }                           }
    {                                                                           }
    { [ GLOBAL ] BEFORE REPORTING identifier-2                                  }
    {  ~~~~~~    ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~                                               }
    {                                                                           }
    { AFTER {EC|EXCEPTION CONDITION} {exception-name-1                        } }
    {        ~~ ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~  {exception-name-2 {FILE file-name-2}...} } }
                                                        ~~~~
```

The `AFTER EXCEPTION CONDITION` and `AFTER EC` clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

The DECLARATIVES area of the procedure division allows the programmer to define a series of "trap" procedures (referred to as declarative procedures) capable of intercepting certain events that may occur at program execution time. The syntax diagram above shows the format of a single such procedure.

1. The reserved words AFTER, FOR, ON, PROCEDURE and STANDARD are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. EC and EXCEPTION CONDITION are interchangeable.
3. The declaratives area may contain any number of declarative procedures, but no two declarative procedures should be coded to trap the same event.
4. The following points apply to the USE BEFORE REPORTING clause:
   A. <identifier-2> must be a report group.
   B. At run-time, the declaratives procedure will be executed prior to the processing of the specified report group's presentation; within the procedure you may take either of the following actions:
      - You may adjust the value(s) of any items referenced in SUM (see SUM) or SOURCE (see SOURCE) clauses in the report group.
      - You may execute the SUPPRESS (see SUPPRESS) statement to squelch the presentation of the specified report group altogether. Note that you will be suppressing this one specific instance of that group's presentation and not all of them.
5. The following points apply to the USE FOR DEBUGGING clause:
   A. This clause allows you to define a declarative procedure that will be invoked whenever...
      - ...<identifier-1> is referenced on any statement.
      - ...<procedure-name-1> is executed.
      - ...any procedure is executed (ALL PROCEDURES).
   B. A USE FOR DEBUGGING declarative procedure will be ignored at *compilation* time unless WITH DEBUGGING MODE is specified in the SOURCE-COMPUTER (see SOURCE-COMPUTER) paragraph. Neither the compiler's -fdebugging-line switch nor -debug switch will activate this feature.
   C. Any USE FOR DEBUGGING declarative procedures will be ignored at *execution* time unless the COB_SET_DEBUG run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables) has been set to a value of 'Y', 'y' or '1'.

D. The typical use of a `USE FOR DEBUGGING` declarative procedure is to display the `DEBUG-ITEM` special register, which will be implicitly and automatically created in your program for you if `WITH DEBUGGING MODE` is active.

   The structure of `DEBUG-ITEM` will be as follows:

```
01  DEBUG-ITEM.
    05 DEBUG-LINE      PIC X(6).
    05 FILLER          PIC X(1) VALUE SPACE.
    05 DEBUG-NAME      PIC X(31).
    05 FILLER          PIC X(1) VALUE SPACE.
    05 DEBUG-SUB-1     PIC S9(4) SIGN LEADING SEPARATE.
    05 FILLER          PIC X(1) VALUE SPACE.
    05 DEBUG-SUB-2     PIC S9(4) SIGN LEADING SEPARATE.
    05 FILLER          PIC X(1) VALUE SPACE.
    05 DEBUG-SUB-3     PIC S9(4) SIGN LEADING SEPARATE.
    05 FILLER          PIC X(1) VALUE SPACE.
    05 DEBUG-CONTENTS  PIC X(31).
```

   where...

   DEBUG-LINE
   : ... is the program line number of the statement that triggered the declaratives procedure.

   DEBUG-NAME
   : ... is the procedure name or identifier name that triggered the declaratives procedure.

   DEBUG-SUB-1
   : ... is the first subscript value (if any) for the reference of the identifier that triggered the declaratives procedure.

   DEBUG-SUB-2
   : ... is the second subscript value (if any) for the reference of the identifier that triggered the declaratives procedure.

   DEBUG-SUB-3
   : ... is the third subscript value (if any) for the reference of the identifier that triggered the declaratives procedure.

DEBUG-CONTENTS

... is a (brief) statement of the manner in which the procedure that triggered the declaratives procedure was executed or the first 31 characters of the value of the identifier whose reference triggered the declaratives procedure (the value after the statement was executed).

6. The `USE AFTER STANDARD ERROR PROCEDURE` clause defines a declarative procedure invoked any time a failure is encountered with the specified I/O type (or against the specified file(s)).
7. The `GLOBAL` (see GLOBAL) option, if used, allows a declarative procedure to be used across the program containing the `USE` statement and any subprograms nested within that program.
8. Declarative procedures may not reference any other procedures defined outside the scope of DECLARATIVES.

8.6 Common Clauses on Executable Statements

8.6.1 AT END + NOT AT END

AT END Syntax

==========

```
[ AT END imperative-statement-1 ]
     ~~~
[ NOT AT END imperative-statement-2 ]
  ~~~    ~~~
```

==========

`AT END` clauses may be specified on `READ` (see READ), `RETURN` (see RETURN), `SEARCH` (see SEARCH) statements (Serial Search and Binary Search).

1. The following points pertain to the use of these clauses on `READ` (see READ) and `RETURN` (see RETURN) statements:
   A. The `AT END` clause will — if present — cause <imperative-statement-1> (see Imperative Statement) to be executed if the statement fails due to a file status of 10 (end-of-file). See File Status Codes, for a list of possible File Status codes.

      An `AT END` clause *will not detect other non-zero file-status values*.

      Use a `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES) routine or an explicitly-declared file status field tested after the `READ` or `RETURN` to detect error conditions other than end-of-file.

B. A `NOT AT END` clause will cause <imperative-statement-2> to be executed if the `READ` or `RETURN` attempt is successful.

2. The following points pertain to the use of these clauses on `SEARCH` (see SEARCH) statements (Serial Search and Binary Search):

   A. An `AT END` clause detects and handles the case where either form of table search has failed to locate an entry that satisfies the search conditions being used.

   B. The `NOT AT END` clause is not allowed on either form of table search.

8.6.2 CORRESPONDING

Three GnuCOBOL statements — `ADD` (see ADD CORRESPONDING), `MOVE` (see MOVE CORRESPONDING) and `SUBTRACT` (see SUBTRACT CORRESPONDING) support the use of a `CORRESPONDING` option:

```
ADD CORRESPONDING group-item-1 TO group-item-2
MOVE CORRESPONDING group-item-1 TO group-item-2
SUBTRACT CORRESPONDING group-item-1 FROM group-item-2
```

This option allows one or more data items within one group item (<group-item-1> — the first named on the statement) to be paired with correspondingly-named (hence the name) in a second group item (<group-item-2> — the second named on the statement). The contents of <group-item-1> will remain unaffected by the statement while one or more data items within <group-item-2> will be changed.

In order for <data-item-1>, defined subordinate to group item <group-item-1> to be a *corresponding* match to <data-item-2> which is subordinate to <group-item-2>, each of the following must be true:

1. Both <data-item-1> and <data-item-2> must have the same name, and that name may not explicitly or implicitly be `FILLER`.

2. Both <data-item-1> and <data-item-2>...

   A. ...must exist at the same relative structural "depth" of definition within <group-item-1> and <group-item-2>, respectively

   B. ...and all "parent" data items defined within each group item must have identical (but non-`FILLER`) names.

3. When used with a `MOVE` verb...

   A. ...one of <data-item-1> or <data-item-2> (but not both) is allowed to be a group item

   B. ...and it must be valid to move <data-item-1> TO <data-item-2>.

4. When used with `ADD` or `SUBTRACT` verbs, both <data-item-1> and <data-item-2> must be numeric, elementary, unedited items.
5. Neither <data-item-1> nor <data-item-2> may be a `REDEFINES` (see REDEFINES) or `RENAMES` (see RENAMES) of another data item.
6. Neither <data-item-1> nor <data-item-2> may have an `OCCURS` (see OCCURS) clause, although either may contain subordinate data items that *do* have an `OCCURS` clause (assuming rule 3a applies)

Observe the definitions of data items '`Q`' and '`Y`'...

```
01  Q.                          01  Y.
    03 X.                            02 A         PIC X(1).
       05 A         PIC 9(1).        02 G1.
       05 G1.                           03 G2.
          10 G2.                           04 B   PIC X(1).
             15 B   PIC X(1).         02 C         PIC X(1).
       05 C.                          02 G3.
          10 FILLER PIC X(1).              03 G5.
       05 G3.                                 04 D   PIC X(1).
          10 G4.                           03 G6     PIC X(1).
             15 D   PIC X(1).          02 E         PIC 9(1).
       05 E         PIC X(1).          02 F         PIC X(1).
       05 F         REDEFINES V1       02 G         PIC X(4).
                   PIC X(1).          02 H         OCCURS 4 TIMES
       05 G.                                      PIC X(1).
          10 G6     OCCURS 4 TIMES     66 I         RENAMES E.
                   PIC X(1).          02 J.
       05 H         PIC X(4).             03 K.
       05 I         PIC 9(1).                04 L.
       05 J.                                    05 M.
          10 K.
             15 M   PIC X(1).
```

The following are the valid `CORRESPONDING` matches, assuming the statement `MOVE CORRESPONDING X TO Y` is being executed (there are no valid corresponding matches for `ADD CORRESPONDING` or `SUBTRACT CORRESPONDING` because every potential match up violates rule #4):

A, B, C, G

The following are the `CORRESPONDING` match ups that passed rule #1 (but failed on another rule), and the reasons why they failed.

Data Item	Failure Reason
D	Fails due to rule #2b
E	Fails due to rule #3b
F	Fails due to rule #5
G1	Fails due to rule #3a
G2	Fails due to rule #3a
G3	Fails due to rule #3a
G4	Fails due to rule #1
G5	Fails due to rule #1
G6	Fails due to rule #6
H	Fails due to rule #6
I	Fails due to rule #5
J	Fails due to rule #3a
K	Fails due to rule #3a
L	Fails due to rule #1
M	Fails due to rule #2a

8.6.3 INVALID KEY + NOT INVALID KEY

INVALID KEY Syntax

```
================================================================================
```

```
  [ INVALID KEY imperative-statement-1 ]
    ~~~~~~~
  [ NOT INVALID KEY imperative-statement-2 ]
    ~~~ ~~~~~~~
```

```
================================================================================
```

`INVALID KEY` clauses may be specified on `DELETE` (see DELETE), `READ` (see Random READ), `REWRITE` (see REWRITE), `START` (see START) and `WRITE` (see WRITE) statements.

Specification of an `INVALID KEY` clause will allow your program to trap an I/O failure condition (with an I/O error code in the file's `FILE-STATUS` (see SELECT) field) that has occurred due to a record-not-found condition and handle it gracefully by executing <imperative-statement-1> (see Imperative Statement).

An optional NOT INVALID KEY clause will cause <imperative-statement-2> to be executed if the statement's execution was successful.

8.6.4 ON EXCEPTION + NOT ON EXCEPTION

ON EXCEPTION Syntax

==========

```
[ ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1 ]
     ~~~~~~~~~
[ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
  ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

EXCEPTION clauses may be specified on ACCEPT (see ACCEPT), CALL (see CALL) and DISPLAY (see DISPLAY) statements.

Specification of an exception clause will allow your program to trap a failure condition that has occurred and handle it gracefully by executing <imperative-statement-1> (see Imperative Statement). If such a condition occurs at runtime without having one of these clauses specified, an error message will be generated (by the GnuCOBOL runtime library) to the SYSERR device (pipe 2). The program may also be terminated, depending upon the type and severity of the error.

An optional NOT ON EXCEPTION clause will cause <imperative-statement-2> to be executed if the statement's execution was successful.

8.6.5 ON OVERFLOW + NOT ON OVERFLOW

ON OVERFLOW Syntax

==========

```
[ ON OVERFLOW imperative-statement-1 ]
     ~~~~~~~~
[ NOT ON OVERFLOW imperative-statement-2 ]
  ~~~    ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

OVERFLOW clauses may be specified on CALL (see CALL), STRING (see STRING) and UNSTRING (see UNSTRING) statements.

An ON OVERFLOW clause will allow your program to trap a failure condition that has occurred and handle it gracefully by executing <imperative-statement-1> (see Imperative Statement). If such a condition occurs at runtime without having one of these clauses specified, an error

message will be generated (by the GnuCOBOL runtime library) to the SYSERR device (pipe 2). The program may also be terminated, depending upon the type and severity of the error.

An optional NOT ON OVERFLOW clause will cause <imperative-statement-2> to be executed if the statement's execution was successful.

8.6.6 ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR

ON SIZE ERROR Syntax

```
======================================================================
```

```
[ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
     ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
  ~~~     ~~~~ ~~~~~
```

```
======================================================================
```

SIZE ERROR clauses may be included on ADD (see ADD), COMPUTE (see COMPUTE), DIVIDE (see DIVIDE), MULTIPLY (see MULTIPLY) and SUBTRACT (see SUBTRACT) statements.

Including an ON SIZE ERROR clause on an arithmetic statement will allow your program to trap a failure of an arithmetic statement (either generating a result too large for the receiving field, or attempting to divide by zero) and handle it gracefully by executing <imperative-statement-1> (see Imperative Statement). Field size overflow conditions occur silently, usually without any runtime messages being generated, even though such events rarely lend themselves to generating correct results. Division by zero errors, when no ON SIZE ERROR clause exists, will produce an error message (by the GnuCOBOL runtime library) to the SYSERR device (pipe 2) and will also abort the program.

An optional NOT ON SIZE ERROR clause will cause <imperative-statement-2> to be executed if the arithmetic statement's execution was successful.

8.6.7 ROUNDED

ROUNDED Syntax

```
======================================================================
```

```
ROUNDED [ MODE IS { AWAY-FROM-ZERO         } ]
~~~~~~~    ~~~~    { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~         }
                   { NEAREST-AWAY-FROM-ZERO }
                   { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ }
                   { NEAREST-EVEN           }
                   { ~~~~~~~~~~~~           }
                   { NEAREST-TOWARD-ZERO    }
```

```
                    { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~    }
                    { PROHIBITED            }
                    { ~~~~~~~~~~            }
                    { TOWARD-GREATER        }
                    { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~        }
                    { TOWARD-LESSER         }
                    { ~~~~~~~~~~~~          }
                    { TRUNCATION            }
                      ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

GnuCOBOL provides for control over the final rounding process applied to the receiving fields on all arithmetic verbs. Each of the arithmetic statements (`ADD` (see ADD), `COMPUTE` (see COMPUTE), `DIVIDE` (see DIVIDE), `MULTIPLY` (see MULTIPLY) and `SUBTRACT` (see SUBTRACT)) statements allow an optional `ROUNDED` clause to be applied to each receiving data item.

The following rules apply to the rounding behaviour induced by this clause.

1. Rounding only applies when the result being saved to a receiving field with a `ROUNDED` clause is a non-integer value.
2. Absence of a `ROUNDED` clause is the same as specifying `ROUNDED MODE IS TRUNCATION`.
3. Use of a `ROUNDED` clause without a `MODE` specification is the same as specifying `ROUNDED MODE IS NEAREST-AWAY-FROM-ZERO`.

The behaviour of the eight different rounding modes is defined in the following table. Note that a '…' indicates the last digit repeats. The examples assume an integer receiving field.

`AWAY-FROM-ZERO`

Rounding is to the nearest value of larger magnitude.

−3.510 ⇒ −4	+3.510 ⇒ +4
−3.500 ⇒ −4	+3.500 ⇒ +4
−3.499… ⇒ −4	+3.499… ⇒ +4
−2.500 ⇒ −3	+2.500 ⇒ +3
−2.499… ⇒ −3	+2.499… ⇒ +3

NEAREST-AWAY-FROM-ZERO

Rounding is to the nearest value (larger or smaller). If two values are equally near, the value with the larger absolute value is selected.

−3.510 ⇒ −4	+3.510 ⇒ +4
−3.500 ⇒ −4	+3.500 ⇒ +4
−3.499… ⇒ −3	+3.499… ⇒ +3
−2.500 ⇒ −3	+2.500 ⇒ +3
−2.499… ⇒ −2	+2.499… ⇒ +2

NEAREST-EVEN

Rounding is to the nearest value (larger or smaller). If two values are equally near, the value whose rightmost digit is *even* is selected. This mode is sometimes called “Banker’s rounding”.

−3.510 ⇒ −4	+3.510 ⇒ +4
−3.500 ⇒ −4	+3.500 ⇒ +4
−3.499… ⇒ −3	+3.499… ⇒ +3
−2.500 ⇒ −2	+2.500 ⇒ +2
−2.499… ⇒ −2	+2.499… ⇒ +2

NEAREST-TOWARD-ZERO

Rounding is to the nearest value (larger or smaller). If two values are equally near, the value with the smaller absolute value is selected.

−3.510 ⇒ −4	+3.510 ⇒ +4
−3.500 ⇒ −3	+3.500 ⇒ +3
−3.499… ⇒ −3	+3.499… ⇒ +3
−2.500 ⇒ −2	+2.500 ⇒ +2
−2.499… ⇒ −2	+2.499… ⇒ +2

PROHIBITED

No rounding is performed. If the value cannot be represented exactly in the desired format, the `EC-SIZE-TRUNCATION` condition (exception code 1005) is set (and may be retrieved via the `ACCEPT` (see ACCEPT FROM Runtime-Info) statement) and the results of the operation are undefined.

−3.510 ⇒ Undefined	+3.510 ⇒ Undefined
−3.500 ⇒ Undefined	+3.500 ⇒ Undefined
−3.499... ⇒ Undefined	+3.499... ⇒ Undefined
−2.500 ⇒ Undefined	+2.500 ⇒ Undefined
−2.499... ⇒ Undefined	+2.499... ⇒ Undefined

TOWARD-GREATER

Rounding is toward the nearest value whose algebraic value is larger.

−3.510 ⇒ −3	+3.510 ⇒ +4
−3.500 ⇒ −3	+3.500 ⇒ +4
−3.499... ⇒ −3	+3.499... ⇒ +4
−2.500 ⇒ −2	+2.500 ⇒ +3
−2.499... ⇒ −2	+2.499... ⇒ +3

TOWARD-LESSER

Rounding is toward the nearest value whose algebraic value is smaller.

−3.510 ⇒ −4	+3.510 ⇒ +3
−3.500 ⇒ −4	+3.500 ⇒ +3
−3.499... ⇒ −4	+3.499... ⇒ +3
−2.500 ⇒ −3	+2.500 ⇒ +2
−2.499... ⇒ −3	+2.499... ⇒ +2

TRUNCATION

Rounding is to the nearest value whose magnitude is smaller.

−3.510 ⇒ −3	+3.510 ⇒ +3
−3.500 ⇒ −3	+3.500 ⇒ +3
−3.499... ⇒ −3	+3.499... ⇒ +3
−2.500 ⇒ −2	+2.500 ⇒ +2
−2.499... ⇒ −2	+2.499... ⇒ +2

8.7 Special Registers

GnuCOBOL, like other COBOL dialects, includes a number of data items that are automatically available to a programmer without the need to actually define them in the data division. COBOL refers to such items as registers or special registers. The special registers available to a GnuCOBOL program are as follows:

COB-CRT-STATUS

PIC 9(4) — This is the default data item allocated for use by the `ACCEPT data-item` statement (see ACCEPT data-item), if no `CRT STATUS` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) clause was specified..

DEBUG-ITEM

Group Item — A group item in which debugging information generated by a `USE FOR DEBUGGING` section in the declaratives area of the procedure division will place information documenting why the `USE FOR DEBUGGING` procedure was invoked. Consult the `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES) documentation for information on the structure of this register.

LINAGE-COUNTER

`BINARY-LONG SIGNED` — An occurrence of this register exists for each selected file having a `LINAGE` (see File/Sort-Description) clause. If there are multiple files whose file descriptions have `LINAGE` clauses, any explicit references to this register will require qualification (using `OF file-name`). The value of this register will be the current logical line number within the page body. The value of this register cannot be modified.

LINE-COUNTER

`BINARY-LONG SIGNED` — An occurrence of this register exists for each report defined in the program (via an `RD` (see REPORT SECTION)). If there are multiple reports, any explicit references to this register not made in the report section will require qualification (`OF report-name`). The value of this register will be the current logical line number on the current page. The value of this register cannot be modified.

NUMBER-OF-CALL-PARAMETERS

`BINARY-LONG SIGNED` — This register contains the number of arguments passed to a subroutine — the same value that would be returned by the `C$NARG` built-in system subroutine (see C$NARG). Its value will be zero when referenced in a main program. This register, when referenced from within a user-defined function, returns a value of one (‘`1`’) if the function has any number of arguments and a zero if it has no arguments.

PAGE-COUNTER

`BINARY-LONG SIGNED` — An occurrence of this register exists for each report having an `RD` (see REPORT SECTION). If there are multiple such reports, any explicit references to this register not made in the report section will require qualification (`OF report-name`). The value of this register will be the current report page number. The value of this register cannot be modified.

RETURN-CODE

`BINARY-LONG SIGNED` — This register provides a numeric data item into which a subroutine may `MOVE` (see MOVE) a value (which will then be available to the calling program) prior to transferring control back to the program that called it, or into which a main program may `MOVE` a value before returning control to the operating system. Many built-in subroutines will return a value using this register. These values are — by convention — used to signify success (usually with a value of 0) or failure (usually with a non-zero value) of the process the program was attempting to perform. This register may also be modified by a subprogram as a result of that subprogram’s use of the `RETURNING` (see PROCEDURE DIVISION RETURNING) clause.

SORT-RETURN

`BINARY-LONG SIGNED` — This register is used to report the success/fail status of a `RELEASE` (see RELEASE) or `RETURN` (see RETURN) statement. A value of 0 is reported on success. A value of 16 denotes failure. An `AT END` (see AT END + NOT AT END) condition on a `RETURN` is not considered a failure.

WHEN-COMPILED

`PIC X(16)` — This register contains the date and time the program was compiled in the format ‘`mm/dd/yyhh.mm.ss`’. Note that only a two-digit year is provided.

LENGTH OF Syntax

==========

```
LENGTH OF numeric-literal-1 | identifier-1
~~~~~~
```

==========

Alphanumeric literals and identifiers may optionally be prefixed with the `LENGTH OF` clause. The compile-time value generated by this clause will be the number of bytes in the alphanumeric literal or the defined size (in bytes) of the identifier.

1. The reserved word `OF` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program. Here is an example. The following two GnuCOBOL statements both display the same result (27):

```
01  Demo-Identifier          PIC X(27).
...
    DISPLAY LENGTH OF "This is a LENGTH OF Example"
    DISPLAY LENGTH OF Demo-Identifier
```

2. The `LENGTH OF` clause on a literal or identifier reference may generally be used anywhere a numeric literal might be specified, with the following exceptions:
   - As part of the `FROM` clause of a `WRITE` (see WRITE) or `RELEASE` statement (see RELEASE).
   - As part of the `TIMES` clause of a `PERFORM` statement (see PERFORM).

8.8 GnuCOBOL Statements

8.8.1 ACCEPT

8.8.1.1 ACCEPT FROM CONSOLE

ACCEPT FROM CONSOLE Syntax

==========

```
 ACCEPT identifier-1  [ FROM mnemonic-name-1 ]  [ END-ACCEPT ]
 ~~~~~~               ~~~~                      ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `ACCEPT` statement is used to read a value from the console window or the standard input device and store it into a data item (<identifier-1>).

1. If no `FROM` clause is specified, `FROM CONSOLE` is assumed.
2. The specified <mnemonic-name-1> must either be one of the built-in device names `CONSOLE`, `STDIN`, `SYSIN` or `SYSIPT`, or a user-defined (see SPECIAL-NAMES) mnemonic name *attached* to one of those four device names.
3. Input will be read either from the console window (`CONSOLE`) or from the system-standard input (pipe 0 = `STDIN`, `SYSIN` or `SYSIPT`) and will be saved in <identifier-1>.

4. If <identifier-1> is a numeric data item, the character value read from the console or standard-input device will be parsed according to the rules for input to the `NUMVAL` intrinsic function (see NUMVAL), except that none of the trailing sign formats are honoured.

8.8.1.2 ACCEPT FROM COMMAND-LINE

ACCEPT FROM COMMAND-LINE Syntax

```
========================================================================
```

```
ACCEPT identifier-1
~~~~~~
       FROM { COMMAND-LINE                                              }
       ~~~~ { ~~~~~~~~~~~~                                              }
            { ARGUMENT-NUMBER                                           }
            { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~                                           }
            { ARGUMENT-VALUE [ ON EXCEPTION|ESCAPE imperative-statement-1 ]     }
            { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~      ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~                      }
            {                [ NOT ON EXCEPTION|ESCAPE imperative-statement-2 ] }
                               ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~
[ END-ACCEPT ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~
```

```
========================================================================
```

This format of the `ACCEPT` statement is used to retrieve information from the program's command line.

1. The reserved word `ON` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. When you accept from the `COMMAND-LINE` option, you will retrieve the entire set of arguments entered on the command line that executed the program, exactly as they were specified. Parsing that returned data into its meaningful information will be your responsibility.
3. Using `COMMAND-LINE` or `ARGUMENT-VALUE` in a *nix based platform and that includes Linux, OSX, BSD and under windows running msys or MinGW etc, the shell process will expand any arguments that have a '`*`' in the list — such as '`a*`', '`abc*.*`', etc. — and create a list of all files that match the pattern. To avoid this if not wanted, put all such argument within quotes, *e.g.*, `progundertest "a*" b c d "ef*" "*hg"` and the text within quotes will be passed verbatim to the program (as in the example `progundertest`).
4. By accepting from `ARGUMENT-NUMBER`, you will be asking the GnuCOBOL run-time system to parse the arguments from the command line and return the number of arguments found. Parsing will be conducted according to the following rules:

A. Arguments will be separated by treating spaces and/or tab characters as the delimiters between arguments. The number of such delimiters separating two non-blank argument values is irrelevant.

B. Strings enclosed in double-quote characters (‘"’) will be treated as a single argument, regardless of how many spaces or tab characters (if any) might be embedded within the quotation characters.

C. On Windows systems, single-quote, or apostrophe, characters (‘'’) will be treated just like any other data character and will *not* delineate argument strings.

5. By accepting from `ARGUMENT-VALUE`, you will be asking the GnuCOBOL run-time system to parse the arguments from the command line and return the “current” argument. You specify which argument number is “current” via the `ARGUMENT-NUMBER` option on the `DISPLAY` statement (see DISPLAY UPON COMMAND-LINE). Parsing of arguments will be conducted according to the rules set forth above.

6. The optional `ON EXCEPTION` and `NOT ON EXCEPTION` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to retrieve an `ARGUMENT-VALUE`. See ON EXCEPTION + NOT ON EXCEPTION, for additional information.

```
Program Example:

      >>SOURCE FREE
 identification division.
 program-id. TESTACCEPTARG.
 data division.
 working-storage section.
 01 wACC-CMD  PIC X(30) value ALL 'x'.
 01 wACCNR    PIC 9(03) value zero.
 01 wACC01    PIC X(10) value ALL 'x'.
 01 wACC02    PIC X(10) value ALL 'x'.
 01 wACC03    PIC X(10) value ALL 'x'.
 01 wACC04    PIC X(10) value ALL 'x'.
 01 wACC05    PIC X(10) value ALL 'x'.
 01 wACCxx    PIC X(10) value ALL 'x'.
 procedure division.
 accept  wACC-CMD from command-line.
 display 'Command line: >' wACC-CMD '<'.
 accept  wACCNR from argument-number.
 if  wACCNR = 4
     accept   wACC01 from argument-value
     accept   wACC02 from argument-value
```

```
     accept   wACC03 from argument-value
     accept   wACC04 from argument-value
     accept   wACC05 from argument-value
               on escape display 'Accept Argument 5 does not exist'
           not on escape display 'Accept Argument 5 no exception'
     end-accept
     display  wACCNR '-' wACC01'-' wACC02 '-' wACC03 '-' wACC04
                     '-' wACC05
     display  2 upon argument-number
               on exception display 'Display Argument 2 does not exist'
           not on exception display 'Display Argument 2 no exception'
     end-display
     accept   wACCxx from argument-value
     display  'Arg 2= ' waccxx
     display  5 upon argument-number
               on exception display 'Display Argument 5 does not exist'
           not on exception display 'Display Argument 5 no exception'
     end-display
     move     zero to wACCNR
     accept   wACCNR from argument-number
     display  'Arguments: ' wACCNR  end-display
     accept   wACCxx from argument-value *> read the next argument
               on escape display 'Argument does not exist'
           not on escape display 'Argument no exception'
     end-accept
     display  'Next arg= ' wACCxx
 else
     display  '4 arguments are required. Arguments are: ' wACCNR
 end-if
 STOP RUN.

Execute as follows: testacceptarg 1 2 3 4

The result will be:

Command line: >1 2 3 4                      <
Accept Argument 5 does not exist
004-1         -2         -3         -4         -xxxxxxxxxx
Display Argument 2 no exception
Arg 2= 2
Display Argument 5 does not exist
```

```
Arguments: 004
Argument no exception
Next arg= 3
```

7. Argument-number assigned to 0 gives the actual OS command used to start the process from argument-value. Function module-id instead gives the internal program-id. In the following case TESTACCEPTARG2.COB is the source filename. program-id is actually "SAMPLE3" in the code.

```
               >>SOURCE FREE
       identification division.
       program-id. SAMPLE3.
       data division.
       working-storage section.
       01 wProgname pic x(32).
       procedure division.
       display 0        upon argument-number
       accept wProgname from argument-value
       display "argument-value zero >" wProgname "<"
       display "function module-id  >" function module-id "<"
       accept omitted
       goback.
       end program SAMPLE3.

The result will be:

argument-value zero >C:\yourfolder\TESTACCEPTARG2.exe  <
function module-id  >SAMPLE3<
```

8.8.1.3 ACCEPT FROM ENVIRONMENT

ACCEPT FROM ENVIRONMENT Syntax

==========

```
ACCEPT identifier-1 FROM { ENVIRONMENT { literal-1    } }
~~~~~~              ~~~~ { ~~~~~~~~~~~ { identifier-1 } }
                         {                            }
                         { ENVIRONMENT-VALUE          }
                           ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

    [ ON EXCEPTION|ESCAPE imperative-statement-1 ]
         ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~
```

```
     [ NOT ON EXCEPTION|ESCAPE imperative-statement-2 ]
       ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~
  [ END-ACCEPT ]
    ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `ACCEPT` statement is used to retrieve environment variable values.

1. The reserved word `ON` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. By accepting from `ENVIRONMENT-VALUE`, you will be asking the GnuCOBOL run-time system to retrieve the value of the environment variable whose name is currently in the `ENVIRONMENT-NAME` register. A value may be placed into the `ENVIRONMENT-NAME` register using the `ENVIRONMENT-NAME` option of the `DISPLAY` statement (see DISPLAY UPON ENVIRONMENT).
3. A simpler approach to retrieving an environment variables value is to use the `ENVIRONMENT` option, where you specify the environment variable whose value is to be retrieved right on the `ACCEPT` statement itself.
4. With the option ACCEPT "var" FROM ENVIRONMENT runtime-config-option you can receive the value set in one of the runtime-configuration-options listed in chapter 10.2.3 Run Time Environment Variables. As an example: ACCEPT identifier-1 FROM ENVIRONMENT 'COB_INSERT_MODE' returns whether insert mode is active (= 'true' or 1) or inactive (= 'false' or 0).
5. The optional `ON EXCEPTION` and `NOT ON EXCEPTION` clauses may be used to detect and react to an attempt to retrieve the value of a non-existent environment variable or the successful retrieval of an environment variable's value, respectively. See ON EXCEPTION + NOT ON EXCEPTION, for additional information.

8.8.1.4 ACCEPT data-item

ACCEPT data-item Syntax

==========

```
ACCEPT { identifier-1 }  [ FROM CRT ] [ MODE IS BLOCK ]
~~~~~~ { OMITTED      }    ~~~~ ~~~     ~~~~    ~~~~~
         ~~~~~~~

       [ { | AT LINE            NUMBER { integer-1              } | } ]
       [ { |    ~~~~                   { identifier-2           } | } ]
       [ { |                          { arithmetic-expression-1 } | } ]
```

```
[ { |                                                    | } ]
[ { | AT COLUMN|POSITION NUMBER { integer-2              } | } ]
[ { |    ~~~    ~~~            { identifier-3           } | } ]
[ { |                          { arithmetic-expression-2 } | } ]
[ {                                                        } ]
[ { AT { integer-3    }                                    } ]
[ { ~~ { identifier-4 }                                    } ]

[ WITH AUTO|AUTO-SKIP|AUTOTERMINATE|TAB ]
       ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~
[ WITH [ NO ] BELL|BEEP ]
         ~~   ~~~~ ~~~~
[ WITH PROMPT [ CHARACTER IS literal-2|identifier-5 ] ]
       ~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~
[ WITH BACKGROUND-COLOR|BACKGROUND-COLOUR IS integer-4|identifier-6 ]
       ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ WITH FOREGROUND-COLOR|FOREGROUND-COLOUR IS integer-5|identifier-7 ]
       ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ WITH HIGHLIGHT|LOWLIGHT ]
       ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
[ WITH BLINK ]
       ~~~~~
[ WITH REVERSE-VIDEO|REVERSE|REVERSED ]
       ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
[ WITH LEFTLINE ]
       ~~~~~~~~
[ WITH OVERLINE ]
       ~~~~~~~~
[ WITH UNDERLINE ]
       ~~~~~~~~~
[ WITH REQUIRED|EMPTY-CHECK ]
       ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~
[ WITH FULL|LENGTH-CHECK ]
       ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~
[ WITH NO ECHO|NO-ECHO|OFF|SECURE ]
       ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~ ~~~~~~
[ WITH LOWER|UPPER ]
       ~~~~~ ~~~~~
[ WITH SCROLL [ UP   ] [ { integer-6    } LINE|LINES ] ]
[      ~~~~~~ [ ~~   ] [ { identifier-8 } ~~~~ ~~~~~ ] ]
[             [ DOWN ]                                  ]
```

```
                     ~~~~
       [ { WITH TIMEOUT|TIME-OUT AFTER } { integer-7    } ]
       [ {      ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~       } { identifier-9 } ]
       [ { BEFORE TIME                 }                  ]
                  ~~~~
       [ WITH [ NO ] UPDATE|DEFAULT ]
                ~~   ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~
       [ WITH CONVERSION ]
              ~~~~~~~~~~
       [ WITH CURSOR identifier-10 ]
              ~~~~~~
       [ WITH PROTECTED SIZE IS { integer-8     } ]
       [                ~~~~    { identifier-11 } ]

       [ WITH CONTROL { literal-8     } ]
       [      ~~~~~~~ { identifier-12 } ]

       [ WITH COLOUR|COLOR IS { integer-9     } ]
       [      ~~~~~~ ~~~~~    { identifier-13 } ]

    [ ON EXCEPTION|ESCAPE     imperative-statement-1 ]
         ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~
    [ NOT ON EXCEPTION|ESCAPE imperative-statement-2 ]
      ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~
[ END-ACCEPT ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~
```

The `FROM CRT`, `MODE IS BLOCK` and `CONVERSION` clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

This format of the `ACCEPT` statement is used to retrieve data from a working storage item or a formatted console window screen.

1. The reserved words `AFTER`, `IS`, `NUMBER` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `COLUMN`, `COL` and `POSITION` are interchangeable.
3. The reserved words `TIMEOUT` and `TIME-OUT` are interchangeable.
4. If <identifier-1> is defined in the `SCREEN SECTION` (see SCREEN SECTION), any `AT`, <Attribute-Specification>, `LOWER`, `UPPER` or `SCROLL` clauses will be ignored. In these cases, an implied `DISPLAY` (see DISPLAY data-item) of <identifier-1> will occur before input

is accepted. Coding an explicit `DISPLAY identifier-1` before an `ACCEPT identifier-1` is redundant and will incur the performance penalty of painting the screen contents twice.

5. The various `AT` clauses provide a means of positioning the cursor to a specific spot on the screen before the screen is read. One or the other (but not both) may be used, as follows:

   A. The `LINE` and `COLUMN` clauses provide one mechanism for specifying the line and column position to which the cursor will be positioned before allowing the user to enter data. In the absence of one or the other, a value of 1 will be assumed for the one that is missing. The suggested preference, however, is to explicitly code both.

   B. The <integer-3> or <identifier-4> value, if specified, must be a four- or six-digit value with the 1st half of the number indicating the line where the cursor should be positioned and the second half indicating the column. You may code only one of each clause on any `ACCEPT`.

   C. If you don't want to explicitly specify the `LINE` for the subsequent `ACCEPT`, you can use `LINE 0` extension, which gives something like the usual `ACCEPT` behaviour. Namely, `LINE 0` positions the `ACCEPT` at the line following the last `ACCEPT`. The same behavior occurs when the <integer-3> or <identifier-4> value is specified (a four- or six-digit value) as 00nn or 000nnn.

   D. If you don't want to explicitly specify the `COLUMN` for the subsequent `ACCEPT`, you can use `COLUMN 0` extension, which gives something like the usual `ACCEPT` behaviour. Namely, `COLUMN 0` positions the `ACCEPT` at the column following the last `ACCEPT`. The same behavior occurs when the <integer-3> or <identifier-4> value is specified (a four- or six-digit value) as nn00 or nnn000.

   E. You can also use both `LINE 0` and `COLUMN 0` extension, which gives something like the usual `ACCEPT` behaviour. Namely, `COLUMN 0` positions the `ACCEPT` at the same line but column following the last `ACCEPT`. The same behavior occurs when the <integer-3> or <identifier-4> value is specified (a four- or six-digit value as 0000 or 000000.

6. `WITH` options (including the various individual <Attribute-Specifications>) should be coded only once.

7. The following <Attribute-Specification> clauses are allowed on the `ACCEPT` statement; many of those are also allowed for `SCREEN SECTION` data items but not all of them. A particular <Attribute-Specification> may be used only once in any `ACCEPT`:

   - `AUTO` (see AUTO)
   - `BACKGROUND-COLOR` (see BACKGROUND-COLOR)
   - `BELL` (see BELL)

- `BLINK` (see BLINK)
- `FOREGROUND-COLOR` (see FOREGROUND-COLOR)
- `FULL` (see FULL)
- `HIGHLIGHT` (see HIGHLIGHT)
- `LEFTLINE` (see LEFTLINE)
- `LOWLIGHT` (see LOWLIGHT)
- `OVERLINE` (see OVERLINE)
- `PROMPT` (see PROMPT)
- `REQUIRED` (see REQUIRED)
- `REVERSE-VIDEO` (see REVERSE-VIDEO)
- `SECURE` (see SECURE)
- `UNDERLINE` (see UNDERLINE)

8. The `BEFORE TIME` option is functionally the same as the `TIMEOUT` clause. The value of identifier-1 or literal-1 specifies the length of time before automatically terminating the ACCEPT statement when no data is entered by the user.
9. The `CURSOR` offset into the field at ACCEPT termination is returned to the program in identifier-10. Identifier-10, can also be used to indicate, as an offset, where you want the cursor to be positioned when the ACCEPT is executed.
10. The `SCROLL` option will cause the entire contents of the screen to be scrolled `UP` or `DOWN` by the specified number of lines before any value is displayed on the screen. It is syntactically allowable to specify a `SCROLL UP` clause as well as a `SCROLL DOWN` clause. In such an instance, it is the last one specified that will be honoured. If no `LINES` specification is made, `1 LINE` will be assumed. These two options cannot be used in Screen Section.
11. The `SIZE` specifies size of Variable to accept from the screen. <identifier-11> or <integer-8> must be numeric.

    `SIZE` <greater than zero>

    If <identifier-11> or <integer-8> is less than the length of <identifier-1> then only the `SIZE` number of characters accept into the field. <identifier-1> pads with spaces after `SIZE` to the end of the field.

    If <identifier-11> or <integer-8> is greater than <identifier-1>, then the screen pads with spaces after <identifier-1> to the `SIZE` length.

    `SIZE ZERO` or `SIZE` <option not specified>

The <identifier-1> accepts to its field length.

12. The `TIMEOUT` option will cause the `ACCEPT` to wait no more than the specified number of seconds for input. The wait count may be specified as a positive integer or a numeric data item with a positive value.

13. The `UPDATE` option will display the existing data before allowing user to update it. This allows the user to update the field without having to type it all again. The `DEFAULT` clause is synonymous with the `UPDATE` clause. Without this clause, the ACCEPT field is always blank (NO UPDATE or NO DEFAULT is assumed).

    This clause will enable the supplied data field to be updated having been displayed on screen prior to data being entered by overwriting, if needed. When this option is *not* used the input field is cleared prior to input and this is the default but can be changed by the use of compiler steering command -faccept-with-update that can be input when starting the compiler or included in the configuration file e.g., default.conf used when selected by default `-std=default`. For more information see cobc - The GnuCOBOL Compiler option switches) and Compiler Configuration Files.

14. The `LOWER` clause provides a means of explicitly stating that accepted data will be converted to lower case.

15. The `UPPER` clause provides a means of explicitly stating that accepted data will be converted to upper case.

16. This format of the `ACCEPT` statement will be terminated by any of the following events:

    A. When the Enter key is pressed.

    B. Expiration of the `TIMEOUT` timer — this will be treated as if the Enter key had been pressed with no data being entered.

    C. When a function key (F) is pressed.

    D. The pressing of the PgUp or PgDn keys, if the `COB_SCREEN_EXCEPTIONS` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables) is set to any non-blank value.

    E. The pressing of the Esc key if *both* the `COB_SCREEN_ESC` run-time environment variable as well as `COB_SCREEN_EXCEPTIONS` run-time environment variable are set to any non-blank value.

    F. The pressing of the Up-arrow, Down-Arrow or PrtSc (Print Screen) keys. These keys are not detectable on Windows systems, however.

17. The following apply when <identifier-1> is defined in the `SCREEN SECTION`:

A. Alphanumeric data entered into <identifier-1> or any screen data item subordinate to it *must* be consistent with the `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) clause of that item. This will be enforced at runtime by the `ACCEPT` statement.

B. If <identifier-1> or any screen data item subordinate to it are defined as numeric, entered data must be acceptable as `NUMVAL` intrinsic function (see NUMVAL) input (no decimal points are allowed, however). The value stored into the screen data item will be as if the input were passed to that function.

C. If <identifier-1> or any screen data item subordinate to it are defined as numeric edited, entered data must be acceptable as `NUMVAL-C` intrinsic function (see NUMVAL-C) input (again, no decimal points are allowed). The value stored into the screen data item will be as if the input were passed to that function.

18. The following apply when <identifier-1> is *not* defined in the `SCREEN SECTION`:

    A. Alphanumeric data entered into <identifier-1> *should* be consistent with the `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) clause of that item, although that will not be enforced by the `ACCEPT` statement. You may use `Class Conditions` (see Class Conditions) after the data is accepted to enforce the data type.

    B. If <identifier-1> is defined as numeric, entered data must be acceptable as `NUMVAL` intrinsic function (see NUMVAL) input (no decimal points are allowed, however). The value stored into <identifier-1> will be as if the input were passed to that function.

    C. If <identifier-1> is defined as numeric edited, entered data must be acceptable as `NUMVAL-C` intrinsic function (see NUMVAL-C) input (again, no decimal points are allowed). The value stored into <identifier-1> will be as if the input were passed to that function.

19. The optional `ON EXCEPTION` and `NOT ON EXCEPTION` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of the screen I/O attempt. See ON EXCEPTION + NOT ON EXCEPTION, for additional information. The ESCAPE sub clause is allowed instead of EXCEPTION as a synonymous, with the same meaning.

    After this format of the `ACCEPT` statement is executed, the program's `CRT STATUS` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) identifier will be populated with one of the following:

Code	Meaning
0000	ENTER key pressed
1001–1064	F1–F64, respectively, were pressed
2001	PgUp was pressed
2002	PgDn was pressed

Code	Meaning
2003	Up-Arrow was pressed
2004	Down-Arrow was pressed
2005	Esc was pressed
2006	PrtSc (Print Screen) was pressed
2007	Tab
2008	Back Tab
2009	Key Left
2010	Key Right
2011	Insert Key on accept omitted
2012	Delete Key on accept omitted
2013	Backspace Key on accept omitted
2014	Home Key on accept omitted
2015	End Key on accept omitted
2040-	2095 Exception keys for Mouse Handling
2040	Mouse Move
2041	Left Pressed
2042	Left Released
2043	Left Dbl Click
2044	Mid Pressed
2045	Mid Released
2046	Mid Dbl Click
2047	Right Pressed
2048	Right Released
2049	Right Dbl Click
2050	Shift Move
2051	Shift Left Pressed
2052	Shift Left Released
2053	Shift Left Dbl Click
2054	Shift Mid Pressed
2055	Shift Mid Released

Code	Meaning
2056-	Shift Mid Dbl Click
2057	Shift Right Pressed
2058	Shift Right Released
2059	Shift Right Dbl Click
2060	Ctrl Move
2061	Ctrl Left Pressed
2062	Ctrl Left Released
2063	Ctrl Left Dbl Click
2064	Ctrl Mid Pressed
2065	Ctrl Mid Released
2066	Ctrl Mid Dbl Click
2067	Ctrl Right Pressed
2068	Ctrl Right Released
2069	Ctrl Right Dbl Click
2070	Alt Move
2071	Alt Left Pressed
2072	Alt Left Released
2073-	Alt Left Dbl Click
2074	Alt Mid Pressed
2075	Alt Mid Released
2076	Alt Mid Dbl Click
2077	Alt Right Pressed
2078	Alt Right Released
2079	Alt Right Dbl Click
2080	Wheel Up
2081	Wheel Down
2082	Wheel Left
2083	Wheel Right
2084	Shift Wheel Up
2085	Shift Wheel Down

Code	Meaning
2086	Shift Wheel Left
2087	Shift Wheel Right
2088	Ctrl Wheel Up
2089	Ctrl Wheel Down
2090	Ctrl Wheel Left
2091	Ctrl Wheel Right
2092	Alt Wheel Up
2093	Alt Wheel Down
2094	Alt Wheel Left
2095	Alt Wheel Right
	Input validation
8000	NO Field
8001	Time Out
	Other errors
9000	Fatal
9001	Max Field

20. The actual key pressed to generate a function key (F) will depend on the type of terminal device you're using (PC, Macintosh, VT100, etc.) and what type of enhanced display driver was configured with the version of GnuCOBOL you're using.

    For example, on a GnuCOBOL build for a Windows PC using MinGW and "PDCurses", F1–F12 are the actual F-keys on the PC keyboard, F–F are entered by shifting the F-keys, F–F are entered by holding Ctrl while pressing an F-key and F–F are entered by holding Alt while pressing an F-key. On the other hand, a GnuCOBOL implementation built for Windows using Cygwin and NCurses treats the PCs F–F keys as the actual F–F, while shifted F-keys will enter F–F0. With Cygwin/NCurses, Ctrl- and Alt-modified F-keys aren't recognized, nor are Shift-F or Shift-F.

    Mouse Key codes are populated only if mouse management has been enabled. To enable mouse it is first necessary to set `COB_MOUSE_FLAGS` (either externally via terminal command, or internally via `SET ENVIRONMENT` to the applicable ?mouse mask? (specifying which activities you wish the program to detect). Here is an example of setting the mask from a COBOL program:

```
COPY screenio.cpy.

01  mouse-flags PIC 9(4).

...

    COMPUTE mouse-flags = COB-AUTO-MOUSE-HANDLING
                        + COB-ALLOW-LEFT-DOWN
                        + COB-ALLOW-MIDDLE-DOWN
                        + COB-ALLOW-RIGHT-DOWN

    SET ENVIRONMENT "COB_MOUSE_FLAGS" TO mouse-flags.
```

21. Once that has been done, every (extended) ACCEPT, will return a value in COB_CRT_STATUS reflecting mouse activity, when such activity occurs. The applicable values are shown in screenio.cpy under ?Exception keys for mouse handling?. If you define a variable in SPECIAL NAMES as follows:

```
SPECIAL-NAMES.
   CURSOR IS data-name.   *> where data-name is PIC 9(4) or 9(6).
```

22. The cursor or mouse position will be returned as well. The position is expressed as row and column (rrcc or rrrccc).
23. Numeric keypad keys are not recognizable on Windows MinGW/PDCurses builds of GnuCOBOL, regardless of the number lock settings. Windows Cygwin/NCurses builds recognize numeric keypad inputs properly. Although not tested during the preparation of this documentation, I would expect native Windows builds using PDCurses to behave as MinGW builds do and native Unix builds using NCurses to behave as do Cygwin builds.
24. The optional `EXCEPTION-STATUS` clause may be used to detect exceptions from a prior arithmetic verb such as COMPUTE to recover any errors produced. These are recovered using the function `EXCEPTION-STATUS`.
25. The use of `CONTROL` The value of literal-8 and identifier-8 in the CONTROL phrase is used to specify a dynamic option list. The value must be a character-string consisting of a series of keywords delimited by commas; Some keywords allow assignment of a value by following the keyword with an equal sign and the value. Blanks are ignored in the character-string. Lowercase letters are treated as uppercase letters within keywords. Keywords specified override corresponding static options specified as phrases for the same identifier-1. Keywords may be specified in any order. Keywords, which specify options that do not apply to the statement, are ignored.

The keywords that affect an ACCEPT statement are BEEP, BLINK, ECHO, PROMPT, REVERSE, TAB, UNDERLINE, UPDATE, ERASE, ERASE EOL, ERASE EOS, HIGH, LOW, UPPER, NO BEEP, NO BLINK, NO ECHO, NO PROMPT, NO REVERSE, NO TAB, NO UNDERLINE, NO UPDATE, NO ERASE.

The meanings of these keywords when they appear in the value of the CONTROL phrase operand are the same as the corresponding phrases which may be written as static options of the ACCEPT statement, with the addition of the negative forms to allow suppression of statically declared options.

The keywords UNDERLINE and UPPER are not available as static options of the ACCEPT statement. When specified, UPPER causes all lowercase alphabetic characters contained in the screen field to be changed to uppercase alphabetic characters before input data conversion and storing in the receiving field.

When specified, UNDERLINE causes the field on the screen to be shown in underlined mode, provided the terminal supports that mode.

GnuCOBOL provides two additional keywords in the CONTROL phrase that affect an ACCEPT field.

1. FCOLOR = color-name

When FCOLOR is present, color-name specifies the foreground color of the ACCEPT field. This name is then used as the default value for subsequent ACCEPT statements in the program. The initial default for color-name is white.

2. BCOLOR = color-name

When BCOLOR is present, color-name specifies the background color of the DISPLAY field. This value is then used as the default value for subsequent ACCEPT statements in the program. The initial default for color-name is black.

Following table contains a list of all the valid names for color-name. The left column contains the valid color name. The right column shows the color that appears when high intensity is specified (the default intensity).

```
+-------------------------------------------------------------+
|                Valid GnuCOBOL Color Names                   |
+-------------------+-----------------------------------------+
|Valid Color Names  |  High-Intensity Color Values (Defaults)  |
+-------------------+-----------------------------------------+
|Black              |  Gray                                   |
|Blue               |  Light Blue                             |
|Green              |  Light Green                            |
```

```
|Cyan               |  Light Cyan                              |
|Red                |  Light Red                               |
|Magenta            |  Light Magenta                           |
|Brown              |  Yellow                                  |
|White              |  High-Intensity White                    |
 ------------------+------------------------------------------+

Sample program:

       >>SOURCE FREE
id division.
program-id. prog.
data division.
working-storage section.
01 wVAR pic x(10).
procedure division.
accept wVAR at 0101 with control "fcolor=white, bcolor=red, erase eos"
stop run.
```

26. COLOR Phrase

    The COLOR phrase provides an alternate method for setting video attributes. Integer-9 must be a numeric literal. Identifier-9 must be a numeric data item. It also allows the specification of colors for screen fields and controls. They can be set to different numeric values to express various combinations of colors and video attributes.

    You may make combinations by adding the appropriate values together. The following color values are accepted:

```
+--------+--------------+-------------+
|Color   |  Foreground  | Background  |
+--------+--------------+-------------+
|Black   |      1       |     32      |
|Blue    |      2       |     64      |
|Green   |      3       |     96      |
|Cyan    |      4       |    128      |
|Red     |      5       |    160      |
|Magenta |      6       |    192      |
|Brown   |      7       |    224      |
|White   |      8       |    256      |
+--------+--------------+-------------+
```

27. You may specify other video attributes by adding the following values:

```
+-------------------------+--------+
|Reverse video            |   1024 |
|Low intensity            |   2048 |
|High intensity           |   4096 |
|Underline                |   8192 |
|Blink                    |  16384 |
|Protected                |  32768 |
|Background low-intensity |  65536 |
|Background high-intensity| 131072 |
+-------------------------+--------+
```

28. You may also specify high intensity by adding "8" to the foreground color value.
29. The OMITTED format of the `ACCEPT` statement will wait for a keyboard event that terminates input; function keys, or Enter/Return, among others. CRT STATUS (COB-CRT-STATUS `CRT STATUS` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) if not explicitly defined) is set with the keycode, listed in copy/screenio.cpy. You can use extended attributes, useful for setting timeouts or positioning. It also handles a few other keycode terminations not normally used to complete an extended accept.

    The following are examples of keycodes that can be used:

```
COB-SCR-INSERT
COB-SCR-DELETE
COB-SCR-BACKSPACE
COB-SCR-KEY-HOME
COB-SCR-KEY-END
```

8.8.1.5 ACCEPT data-item (Microsoft v1-v2)

ACCEPT data-item Syntax

==========

==========

This format of the `ACCEPT` statement is used to retrieve data from a working storage item using the Microsoft format from v1 and v2 compilers (MsDos). See previous ACCEPT data-Item for detailed information.

8.8.1.6 ACCEPT FROM DATE/TIME

ACCEPT FROM DATE/TIME Syntax

==========

```
ACCEPT identifier-1 FROM { DATE [ YYYYMMDD ] } [ END-ACCEPT ]
~~~~~~               ~~~~ { ~~~~   ~~~~~~~~   }   ~~~~~~~~~~
                          { DAY [ YYYYDDD ]   }
                          { ~~~   ~~~~~~~     }
                          { DAY-OF-WEEK       }
                          { ~~~~~~~~~~~       }
                          { TIME              }
                          { ~~~~              }
                          { MICROSECOND-TIME  }
                            ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `ACCEPT` statement is used to retrieve the current system date, time or current day of the week and store it into a data item.

1. The data retrieved from the system and the format in which it is structured will vary, as follows:

Syntax	Data Retrieved	Format
`DATE`	Current date in Gregorian form	yymmdd
`DATE YYYYMMDD`	Current date in Gregorian form	yyyymmdd
`DAY`	Current date in Julian form	yyddd
`DAY YYYYDDD`	Current date in Julian form	yyyyddd
`DAY-OF-WEEK`	Current day within a week where 1 = Monday.., 7 = Sunday	d
`TIME`	Time, including hundredths of a second (n)	hhmmssnn
`MICROSECOND-TIME`	Time, including micro seconds (u)	hhmmssuuuuuu

2. When using one of `--std=acu` or `--std=acu-strict`, ACCEPT FROM TIME data-item with data-item providing more than 12 digits behaves as if ACCEPT FROM MICROSECOND-TIME data-item is used (six decimal places for fractional seconds).
3. Consider using the standard `FUNCTION FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE` if you need a high precision (up to eight decimal places for fractional seconds).

8.8.1.7 ACCEPT FROM Screen-Info

ACCEPT FROM Screen-Info Syntax

==========

```
ACCEPT identifier-1 FROM { LINES|LINE-NUMBER } [ END-ACCEPT ]
~~~~~~               ~~~~ { ~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~ }   ~~~~~~~~~~
                          { COLS|COLUMNS      }
                          { ~~~~ ~~~~~~~      }
                          { ESCAPE KEY        }
                            ~~~~~~ ~~~
```

==========

This format of the `ACCEPT` statement is used to retrieve information about the console window or about the user's interactions with it.

1. The reserved words `LINES` and `LINE-NUMBER` are interchangeable.
2. The reserved words `COLS` and `COLUMNS` are interchangeable.
3. The following points pertain to the use of the `LINES` and `COLUMNS` options:
   A. The `LINES` and `COLUMNS` options will retrieve the respective components of the size of the console display.
   B. When the console is running in a windowed environment, this will be the sizing of the window in which the program is executing, in terms of horizontal (`COLUMNS`) or vertical (`LINES`) character counts — not pixels.
   C. When the system is not running a windowing environment, the physical console screen attributes will be returned.
   D. Values of 0 will be returned if GnuCOBOL was not generated to include screen I/O.
   E. See the documentation on the `CBL_GET_SCR_SIZE` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_GET_SCR_SIZE) for another way to retrieve this information.
4. The `ESCAPE KEY` option may be used after an ACCEPT data-item has been used to retrieve data off a formatted screen. The result returned, will be the four-digit key id of the special key that was pressed to terminate the ACCEPT data-item (a 0000 is returned for the Enter key).

   If you specify the CRT STATUS is Identifier-1 clause in SPECIAL NAMES, then for an ACCEPT data-item, the system sets a code in the identifier-1 field that indicates which key ended the ACCEPT data-item.

   If the CRT STATUS clause IS identifier-1 is not specified in SPECIAL NAMES. then within the program, you can write two consecutive ACCEPTs:

```
ACCEPT data-item
ACCEPT identifier-1 FROM ESCAPE KEY
```

In this way in the identifier-1 field you will have the return code which indicates which key completed the ACCEPT data-item.

8.8.1.8 ACCEPT FROM Runtime-Info

ACCEPT FROM Runtime-Info Syntax

```
=========================================================================

ACCEPT identifier-1 FROM { EXCEPTION STATUS } [ END-ACCEPT ]
~~~~~~              ~~~~ { ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ }   ~~~~~~~~~~
                         { USER NAME         }
                           ~~~~ ~~~~

=========================================================================
```

This format of the `ACCEPT` statement is used to retrieve run-time information such as the most-recent error exception code and the current user's user name.

1. The following points pertain to the use of the `EXCEPTION STATUS` option:
   A. <identifier-1> must be defined as a `PIC X(4)` item.
   B. See Error Exception Codes, for a complete list of the exception codes and their meanings.
   C. An alternative to the use of `ACCEPT FROM Runtime-Info` is to use the `EXCEPTION-STATUS` intrinsic function (see EXCEPTION-STATUS).
2. The following points pertain to the use of the `USER NAME` option:
   A. The returned result is the userid that was used to login to the system with, and not any actual first and/or last name of the user in question (unless, of course, that is the information used as a logon id). It is not the PID or UID numbers but the name associated with the UID under *nix based systems.
   B. <identifier-1> should be defined large enough to receive the longest user-name on the system.
   C. If insufficient space is allocated, the returned value will be truncated.
   D. If excess space is allocated, the returned value will be padded with spaces (to the right).

8.8.2 ADD

8.8.2.1 ADD TO

ADD TO Syntax

```
=========================================================================
```

```
ADD { identifier-1 }... TO { identifier-2 [ rounded-phrase ] }...
~~~ { literal-1    }     ~~

     [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
          ~~~~ ~~~~~
     [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
       ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-ADD ]
  ~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `ADD` statement generates an intermediate arithmetic sum of the values of all <identifier-1> and <literal-1>) items. The value of each <identifier-2> will be replaced, in turn, by the sum of that <identifier-2>s value and the intermediate sum.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be numeric unedited data items while <literal-1> must be a numeric literal.
3. An <identifier-1> data item may also be coded as an <identifier-2>. Note, however, that the value of such a data item will therefore be included *twice* in the result.
4. The contents of each <identifier-1> will remain unchanged by this statement.
5. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-2> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
6. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-2> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.2.2 ADD GIVING

ADD GIVING Syntax

==========

```
ADD { identifier-1 }... [ TO { identifier-2 } ]
~~~ { literal-1    }          { literal-2    }

         GIVING { identifier-3 [ rounded-phrase ] }...
```

```
         ~~~~~~

   [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
        ~~~~ ~~~~~
   [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
     ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-ADD ]
  ~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `ADD` statement generates the arithmetic sum of the values of all <identifier-1>, <literal-1>) and <identifier-2> (if any) items and then saves that sum to each <identifier-3>.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be numeric unedited data items while <literal-1> must be a numeric literal; <identifier-3> may be either a numeric or numeric edited data item.
3. An <identifier-1> or <identifier-2> data item may be used as an <identifier-3>, if desired.
4. The contents of each <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> will remain unchanged by this statement, unless they happen to also be specified as an <identifier-3>.
5. The current value in each <identifier-3> at the start of the statement's execution is irrelevant, since the contents of each <identifier-3> will simply be replaced with the computed sum.
6. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-3> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
7. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-3> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.2.3 ADD CORRESPONDING

ADD CORRESPONDING Syntax

==========

```
ADD CORRESPONDING identifier-1 TO identifier-2 [ rounded-phrase ]
~~~ ~~~~                       ~~

     [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
          ~~~~ ~~~~~
     [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
       ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-ADD ]
  ~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `ADD` statement generates code equivalent to individual `ADD TO` (see ADD TO) statements for corresponding matches of data items found subordinate to the two identifiers.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be group items.
3. See CORRESPONDING, for information on how corresponding matches will be found between <identifier-1> and <identifier-2>.
4. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-3> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
5. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-3> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.3 ALLOCATE

ALLOCATE Syntax

==========

```
Format 1. Allocate a "BASED" item.

ALLOCATE identifier-1
~~~~~~~~
         [ { INITIALIZED } ]  [ RETURNING identifier-3 ]
           { ~~~~~~~~~~ }       ~~~~~~~~~
           { INITIALISED }
```

```
             ~~~~~~~~~~~


Format 2. Allocate a memory block.

ALLOCATE { literal-1               } CHARACTERS
~~~~~~~~ { identifier-2            } ~~~~~~~~~~
         { arithmetic-expression-1 }

         [ { INITIALIZED } [ TO { literal-1    } ] ] RETURNING identifier-3
           { ~~~~~~~~~~~ } [ ~~ { identifier-2 } ]   ~~~~~~~~~
           { INITIALISED }
             ~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `ALLOCATE` statement is used to dynamically allocate memory at run-time.

1. The reserved words `INITIALIZED` and `INITIALISED` are interchangeable.
2. If <identifier-1> is specified, the RETURNING phrase may be omitted; otherwise, the RETURNING phrase shall be specified.
3. If used, <arithmetic-expression-1> must be an arithmetic expression with a non-zero positive integer value and the RETURNING phrase must be specified.
4. If used, <identifier-1> should be an 01-level item defined in working-storage or local-storage with the `BASED` (see BASED) attribute. It may be an 01 item defined in the linkage section without the `BASED` attribute, but using such a data item is not recommended.
5. If used, <identifier-3> should be a `POINTER` (see USAGE) data item.
6. The optional `RETURNING` clause will return the address of the allocated memory block into the specified `USAGE POINTER` <identifier-3> data item. When this option is used, knowledge of the originally-requested size of the allocated memory block will be retained by the program in case a `FREE` (see FREE) statement is ever issued against <identifier-3>.
7. When the <identifier-1> option is used in conjunction with `INITIALIZED` (or its internationalized alternative `INITIALISED`), the allocated memory block will be initialized as if an `INITIALIZE identifier-1 WITH FILLER ALL TO VALUE THEN TO DEFAULT` (see INITIALIZE) were executed.
8. When the `arithmetic-expression-1 CHARACTERS` option is used, `INITIALIZED` will initialize the allocated memory block to binary zeros. If `INITIALIZED` is not used, the initial contents of allocated memory will be left to whatever rules of memory allocation are in effect for the operating system the program is running under.

9. There are two basic ways in which this statement is used. The simplest is:

   ```
   ALLOCATE My-01-Item
   ```

   With this form, a block of storage equal in size to the defined size of My-01-Item (which must have been defined with the `BASED` attribute) will be allocated. The address of that block of storage will become the base address of My-01-Item so that it and its subordinate data items become usable within the program.

   A second (and equivalent) approach is:

   ```
   ALLOCATE LENGTH OF My-01-Item CHARACTERS RETURNING The-Pointer
   SET ADDRESS OF My-01-Item TO The-Pointer
   ```

10. With this form My-01-Item can either be defined with the `BASED` attribute or be defined in LINKAGE SECTION. Instead of LENGTH OF My-01-Item you may also use a size smaller to the maximum field size as long as you ensure that the complete field is never used.
11. Referencing a `BASED` data item either before its storage has been allocated or after its storage has been released (via the `FREE` statement) will lead to "unpredictable results". That's how reference manuals and standards specifications talk about this situation. In the author's experience, the results are all too predictable: the program aborts from an attempt to reference an unallocated area of memory.

8.8.4 ALTER

ALTER Syntax

```
=========================================================================

 ALTER { procedure-name-1 TO PROCEED TO procedure-name-2 }...
 ~~~~~                    ~~

=========================================================================
```

The `ALTER` statement was used in the early years of the COBOL language to edit the object code of a program **at execution time**, changing a `GO TO` (see Simple GO TO) statement to branch to a spot in the program different than where the `GO TO` statement was originally compiled for.

1. The reserved words `PROCEED` and `TO` (the one *after* `PROCEED`) are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. <procedure-name-1> must contain only a single statement, and that statement must be a simple `GO TO`.

3. The effect of this statement will be as if the generated machine-language code for the `GO TO` statement in <procedure-name-1> is changed so that the `GO TO` statement now transfers control to <procedure-name-2>, rather than to whatever procedure name was specified in the program source code.
4. Support for the `ALTER` verb has been added to GnuCOBOL for the purpose of enabling GnuCOBOL to pass those National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) tests for the COBOL programming language that require support for `ALTER`.
5. Because of the catastrophic effect this statement has on program readability and therefore the programmer's ability to debug problems with program logic, the use of `ALTER` in new programs is **STRONGLY** discouraged.

8.8.5 CALL

CALL Syntax

==========

```
CALL [ { STATIC          } ] [ WITH { STDCALL } LINKAGE ] { literal-1    }
~~~~   { ~~~~~~          }      ~~~~ { ~~~~~~~ } ~~~~~~~   { identifier-1 }
       { STDCALL         }           { C       }
       { ~~~~~~~         }           { ~       }
       { C               }           { PASCAL  }
       { ~               }            ~~~~~~
       { PASCAL          }
       { ~~~~~~          }
       { EXTERN          }
       { ~~~~~~          }
       { mnemonic-name-1 }

     [ USING { [ BY { REFERENCE } ]
       ~~~~~ {      { ~~~~~~~~~ }
             {      { CONTENT   }
             {      { ~~~~~~~   }
             {      { VALUE     }
                      ~~~~~

     { [ UNSIGNED SIZE IS { AUTO      } ] { literal-2    }... } }... ]
     {            ~~~~    { ~~~~      }   { identifier-2 }     } }
     {                    { integer-1 }                       } }
     {                                                        } }
     { OMITTED                                                } }
```

```
     [ RETURNING|GIVING { INTO identifier-3       } ]
       ~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ { ADDRESS OF identifier-4 }
                         { ~~~~~~~                 }
                         { NOTHING                 }
                         { ~~~~~~~                 }
                         { NULL                    }
                         { ~~~~                    }
                         { OMITTED                 }
                           ~~~~~~~

     [ ON OVERFLOW|EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1 ]
          ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~
     [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
       ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~
[ END-CALL ]
  ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `CALL` statement is used to transfer control to a subroutine. See Sub-Programming, for the specifics of using subprograms with GnuCOBOL programs.

1. The reserved words `BY`, `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `EXCEPTION` and `OVERFLOW` are interchangeable.
3. The reserved words `GIVING` and `RETURNING` are interchangeable.
4. The expectation is that the subroutine will eventually return control back to the calling program, at which point the `CALL`ing program will resume execution starting with the statement immediately following the `CALL`. Subprograms are not required to return to their callers, however, and are free to halt program execution if they wish.
5. The <mnemonic-name-1> / `STATIC` / `STDCALL` option, if used, affects the linkage conventions that will be used to the subroutine being called, as follows:

   `STATIC`

   causes the linkage to the subroutine to be performed in such a way as to require the subroutine to be statically-linked with the calling program. Note that this enables static-linking to be used on a subroutine-by-subroutine selective basis.

STDCALL

allows system standard calling conventions (as opposed to GnuCOBOL calling conventions) to be used when calling a subroutine. The definition of what constitutes "system standard" may vary from operating system to operating system. Use of this requires special knowledge about the linkage requirements of subroutines you are intending to `CALL`. Subroutines written in GnuCOBOL do not need this option.

<mnemonic-name-1>

allows a custom defined calling convention to be used. Such mnemonic names are defined using the `CALL-CONVENTION` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) clause. That clause associates a decimal integer value with <mnemonic-name-1> such that the individual bits set on or off in the binary equivalent of the integer affect linkage to the subroutine as described in the following chart. Those rows of the chart marked with a “No” in the **Supported** column represent bit positions (switch settings) in the integer value that are currently accepted (to provide compatibility to other COBOL implementations) if coded, but are otherwise unsupported.

Note that bit 0 is the right-most bit in the binary value.

Bit	Supported	Meaning if 0	Meaning if 1
0	No	Arguments will be passed in right-to-left sequence	Arguments will be passed in left-to-right sequence.
1	No	The calling program will flush processed arguments from the argument stack.	The called program (subroutine) will flush processed arguments from the argument stack.
2	Yes	The `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be updated in addition to any `RETURNING` or `GIVING` data item.	The `RETURN-CODE` special register will not be updated (but any `RETURNING` or `GIVING` data item still will).
3	Yes	If `CALL literal` is used, the subroutine will be located and linked in with the calling program at compile time or may be dynamically located and loaded at execution time, depending on compiler switch settings and operating system capabilities.	If `CALL literal` is used, the subroutine can only be located and linked with the calling program at compilation time.
4	No	OS/2 “OPTLINK” conventions will not be used to CALL the subprogram.	OS/2 “OPTLINK” conventions will be used to CALL the subprogram.
5	No	Windows 16-bit “thunking” will not be in effect.	Windows 16-bit “thunking” will be used to call the subroutine as a DLL.
6	Yes	The `STDCALL` convention will not be used.	The `STDCALL` convention, required to use the Microsoft Win32 API, will be used.

Using the `STATIC` option on a `CALL` statement is equivalent to using `CALL-CONVENTION 8` (only bit 3 set).

Using the `STDCALL` option on a `CALL` statement is equivalent to using `CALL CONVENTION 64` (only bit 6 set).

6. The value of <literal-1> or <identifier-1> is the entry-point of the subprogram you wish to call.

7. When you call a subroutine using <identifier-1>, you are forcing the runtime system to call a dynamically-loadable subprogram. The contents of <identifier-1> will be the entry-point name within that module. If this is the *first* call to any entry-point within the module being made at run-time, the contents of <identifier-1> must be the primary entry-point name of the module (which must also match the filename, minus any OS-mandated extension) of the executable file comprising the module).

8. You can force the GnuCOBOL runtime system to pre-load all dynamically-loaded modules that could ever be called by the program, at the time the program starts executing. This is accomplished through the use of the `COB_PRE_LOAD` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables). If used, this will only pre-load those modules invoked via `CALL literal-1`, as the runtime contents of <identifier-1> cannot be predicted.

9. If the subprogram being called is a GnuCOBOL program, and if that program had the `INITIAL` (see IDENTIFICATION DIVISION) attribute specified on its `PROGRAM-ID` clause, all of the subprogram's data division data will be restored to its initial state each time the subprogram is executed, regardless of which entry-point within the subprogram is being referenced.

   This [re]-initialization behaviour will *always* apply to any subprogram's local-storage (if any), regardless of the use (or not) of `INITIAL`.

10. The `USING` clause defines a list of arguments that may be passed from the calling program to the subprogram. The manner in which any given argument is passed to the subroutine depends upon the `BY` clause (if any) coded (or implied) for that argument, as follows:

    `BY REFERENCE`
    passes the *address* of the argument to the subprogram. If the subprogram changes the contents of that argument, the change will be "visible" to the calling program.

    `BY CONTENT`
    passes the *address* of a *copy* of the argument to the subprogram. If the subprogram changes the value of such an argument, the change only affects the copy back in the calling program, not the original version.

    `BY VALUE`
    passes the *actual numeric value* of the literal or identifiers contents as the argument. This feature exists to provide compatibility with C, C++ and other languages and would not normally be used when calling GnuCOBOL subprograms. Only numeric literals or numeric data items should be passed in this manner.

If an argument lacks a `BY` clause, the most-recently encountered `BY` specification on that `CALL` statement will be assumed. If the first argument specified on a `CALL` lacks a `BY` clause, `BY REFERENCE` will be assumed.

11. No more than 251 arguments may be passed to a subroutine, unless the GnuCOBOL compiler was built with a specifically different argument limit specified for it. If you have access to the GnuCOBOL source code, you may adjust this limit by changing the value of the `COB_MAX_FIELD_PARAMS` in the `call.c` file (found in the `libcob` folder) as well as the last shown `#if MAX_CALL_FIELD_PARAMS` statement before you run `make` to build the compiler and run-time library.
12. The `RETURNING` clause allows you to specify a numeric data item into which the subroutine should return a numeric value. If you use this clause on the `CALL`, the subroutine should include a `RETURNING` (see PROCEDURE DIVISION RETURNING) clause on its procedure division header. Of course, a subroutine may pass a value of any kind back in any argument passed `BY REFERENCE`.
13. The optional `ON OVERFLOW` and `NOT ON OVERFLOW` clauses (or `ON EXCEPTION` and `NOT ON EXCEPTION` — they are interchangeable) may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to `CALL` the subroutine. Failure, in this context, is defined as the inability to either locate or load the object code of the subroutine at execution time. See ON OVERFLOW + NOT ON OVERFLOW, for additional information.
14. Call also supports using an entry point stored in a `PROGRAM-POINTER`, avoiding the dynamic runtime lookup. GnuCOBOL keeps a cache of lookups during a program run. Repeated use of a named function does not suffer much penalty, but `PROGRAM-POINTER` will be just that little bit faster. To set a `PROGRAM-POINTER` use `SET program-reference TO ENTRY "name"` (or get the address from an API, and take part in callback programming).
15. An extension of `CALL` allows a call to a <Program-Pointer-1> which is preset using `SET program-pointer-1 TO ENTRY x`. Additional the `RETURNING` clause may return a data pointer or a `PROGRAM-POINTER`

8.8.6 CANCEL

CANCEL Syntax

```
================================================================================
```

```
CANCEL { literal-1    }...
~~~~~~ { identifier-1 }
```

```
================================================================================
```

The `CANCEL` statement unloads the dynamically-loadable subprogram module containing the entry-point specified as <literal-1> or <identifier-1> from memory.

1. If a dynamically-loadable module unloaded by the CANCEL statement is subsequently re-executed, all data division storage for that module will once again be in its initial state.
2. Whether the CANCEL statement actually physically unloads a dynamically-loaded module or simply marks it as logically-unloaded depends on the use and value of the COB_PHYSICAL_CANCEL run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables).
3. Since the CANCEL statement applies only to dynamically-loadable subprogram modules, it will have no effect if the subroutine is statically linked with the calling program.

   For further details, see CALL, see Dynamic vs Static Subprograms.

8.8.7 CLOSE

CLOSE Syntax

==========

```
CLOSE { file-name-1 [ { REEL|UNIT [ FOR REMOVAL ] } ] }...
~~~~~                 { ~~~~ ~~~~       ~~~~~~~   }
                      { WITH LOCK                 }
                      {      ~~~~                 }
                      { WITH NO REWIND            }
                             ~~ ~~~~~~
```

The REEL, LOCK and NO REWIND clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional, except for the CLOSE…NO REWIND statement, which will generate a file status of 07 rather than the usual 00 (but take no other action).

==========

The CLOSE statement terminates the program's access to the specified file(s).

1. The reserved words FOR and WITH are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words REEL and UNIT are interchangeable.
3. The CLOSE statement may only be executed against files that have been successfully opened.
4. A successful CLOSE will write any remaining unwritten record buffers to the file (similar to an UNLOCK statement (see UNLOCK)) and release any file locks for the file, regardless of open mode. A closed file will then be no longer available for subsequent I/O statements until it is once again OPENED.
5. When a ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL (see ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL) or LINE ADVANCING (see LINE ADVANCING) file is closed, a final delimiter sequence will be written to

the file to signal the termination point of the final data record in the file. This will only be necessary if the final record written to the file was written with the `AFTER ADVANCING` (see WRITE) option.

8.8.8 COMMIT

COMMIT Syntax

```
================================================================================

 COMMIT
 ~~~~~~

================================================================================
```

The `COMMIT` statement performs an `UNLOCK` against every currently-open file, but does not close any of the files. See the `UNLOCK` statement (see UNLOCK) for additional details.

8.8.9 COMPUTE

COMPUTE Syntax

```
================================================================================

COMPUTE { identifier-1 [ rounded-phrase ] }...
~~~~~~~
          =|EQUALS arithmetic-expression-1|boolean-expression-1
           ~~~~~
   [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
        ~~~~ ~~~~~
   [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
     ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-COMPUTE ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~

================================================================================
```

The `COMPUTE` statement provides a means of easily performing complex arithmetic operations with a single statement, instead of using cumbersome and possibly confusing sequences of `ADD`, `SUBTRACT`, `MULTIPLY` and `DIVIDE` statements. `COMPUTE` also allows the use of exponentiation — an arithmetic operation for which no other statement exists in COBOL.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved word `EQUAL` is interchangeable with the use of '`=`'.
3. Each <identifier-1> must be a numeric or numeric-edited data item.

4. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-1> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
5. See Arithmetic Expressions, for more information on arithmetic expressions.
6. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined either as having an <identifier-3> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point or attempting to divide by zero. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.
7. The COMPUTE verb can also be used to evaluate boolean expressions. See the following example:

```
       >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTBOOLEAN.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 A pic 9 comp-x value B'00000101'.
01 B pic 9 comp-x value B'00000011'.
01 c pic 9        value LOW-VALUE.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
  display space
  display '   a          b     c        a                b          c    '
  display '  --- ------ ---   ---    -------- -------- --------   --------'
  display '   '  a  '  initial ' b '     ' c '     ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(a) ' initial
          ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) '   ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
  display space   display space
  display '   a operator b     c        a     operator    b          c    '
  display '  --- ------ ---   ---    -------- -------- --------   --------'
  compute c = a B-AND b
  display '   '  a  '   AND    ' b '  =  ' c '     '  FUNCTION BIT-Of(a)  '
          AND    ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) ' = ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
  compute c = a B-OR b
  display '   '  a  '   OR     ' b '  =  ' c '     '  FUNCTION BIT-Of(a)  '
          OR     ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) ' = ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
  compute c = a B-XOR b
  display '   '  a  '   XOR    ' b '  =  ' c '     '  FUNCTION BIT-Of(a)  '
          XOR    ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) ' = ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
  compute c = B-NOT b
  display '   -'    '   NOT    ' b '  =  ' c '         -   '              '
          NOT    ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) ' = ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
```

```
  accept omitted
  STOP RUN.
```

8. and in particular with the boolean shift operators, see the following example:

```
        >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTBOOLEANSHIFT.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 A pic 9 comp-x value B'00000001'.
01 B pic 9 comp-x value B'00000101'.
01 c pic 9        value LOW-VALUE.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
  display space
  display '   a            b     c        a                   b          c    '
  display '  --- ------   ---   ---    -------- ---------- --------   --------'
  display '   '  a  '  initial   ' b '     ' c '     ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(a)   '
            initial    ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) '   ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
  display space   display space
  display '   a operator   b     c        a     operator      b          c    '
  display '  --- ------   ---   ---    -------- ---------- --------   --------'
  compute c = a B-SHIFT-L  b
  display '   '  a  ' B-SHIFT-L  ' b '  =  ' c '     '  FUNCTION BIT-Of(a)  '
          B-SHIFT-L  ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) ' = ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
  compute c = a B-SHIFT-LC b
  display '   '  a  ' B-SHIFT-LC ' b '  =  ' c '     '  FUNCTION BIT-Of(a)  '
          B-SHIFT-LC ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) ' = ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
  compute c = a B-SHIFT-R  b
  display '   '  a  ' B-SHIFT-R  ' b '  =  ' c '     '  FUNCTION BIT-Of(a)  '
          B-SHIFT-R  ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) ' = ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
  compute c = a B-SHIFT-RC b
  display '   '  a  ' B-SHIFT-RC ' b '  =  ' c '     '  FUNCTION BIT-Of(a)  '
          B-SHIFT-RC ' FUNCTION BIT-Of(b) ' = ' FUNCTION BIT-OF(c)
  accept omitted
  STOP RUN.
```

8.8.10 CONTINUE

CONTINUE Syntax

==========

```
 CONTINUE [ AFTER { literal-1               } SECONDS ]
 ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~ { identifier-1            } ~~~~~~~
                  { arithmetic-expression-1 }
```

==========

The CONTINUE statement is a no-operation statement that may be coded anywhere an imperative statement (see Imperative Statement) may be coded.

1. The CONTINUE statement has no effect on the execution of the program.
2. This statement (perhaps in combination with an appropriate comment or two) makes a convenient "place holder" — particularly in ELSE (see IF) or WHEN (see EVALUATE) clauses where no code is currently expected to be needed, but a place for code to handle the conditions in question is to be reserved in case it's ever needed.
3. The optional extension of (AFTER) when used with the CONTINUE statement pauses execution for a specified length of time.

8.8.11 DELETE

DELETE Syntax

==========

```
Format 1

   DELETE file-name-1 RECORD
   ~~~~~~
      [ INVALID KEY imperative-statement-1 ]
        ~~~~~~~
      [ NOT INVALID KEY imperative-statement-2 ]
        ~~~ ~~~~~~~
 [ END-DELETE ]
   ~~~~~~~~~~


Format 2

   DELETE FILE { file-name-1 }...
   ~~~~~~ ~~~~
      [ ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1 ]
           ~~~~~~~~~
      [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
        ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~
```

```
[ END-DELETE ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The Format 1 `DELETE` statement logically deletes a record from a file, the following pertains to such.

1. The reserved words `KEY` and `RECORD` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The `ORGANIZATION` of <file-name-1> cannot be `ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL` (see ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL).
3. The <file-name-1> file cannot be a sort/merge work file (a file described using a `SD` (see File/Sort-Description)).
4. For files in the `SEQUENTIAL` access mode, the last input-output statement executed against <file-name-1> prior to the execution of the `DELETE` statement must have been a successfully executed sequential-format `READ` statement (see Sequential READ). That `READ` will therefore identify the record to be deleted.
5. If <file-name-1> is a `RELATIVE` file whose `ACCESS MODE` (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) is either `RANDOM` or `DYNAMIC`, the record to be deleted is the one whose relative record number is currently the value of the field specified as the files `RELATIVE KEY` in its `SELECT` statement.
6. If <file-name-1> is an `INDEXED` file whose `ACCESS MODE` (see ORGANIZATION INDEXED) is `RANDOM` or `DYNAMIC`, the record to be deleted is the one whose primary key is currently the value of the field specified as the `RECORD KEY` in the file's `SELECT` statement.
7. The optional `INVALID KEY` and `NOT INVALID KEY` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to delete a record. See INVALID KEY + NOT INVALID KEY, for additional information.
8. No `INVALID KEY` or `NOT INVALID KEY` clause may be specified for a file who's `ACCESS MODE IS SEQUENTIAL`.

The Format 2 `DELETE FILE` statement deletes a file and the following pertains to such.

1. DELETE FILE takes from 1 to n "ASSIGN" names, sets and return the FILE-STATUS (like ex. 35 FILE not found), has ON EXCEPTION and NOT ON EXCEPTION routines and always deletes all parts belonging to a multi-part ISAM file (the index file or files and the data file).
2. Instead CBL_DELETE_FILE takes any "filename string" and only deletes exactly that, while C$DELETE can (depending on the file-type parameter) delete multiple files (like isam.1, isam.2, ...) and also takes a "filename string".

8.8.12 DISPLAY

8.8.12.1 DISPLAY UPON device

DISPLAY UPON device Syntax

```
========================================================================
DISPLAY { literal-1    }... [ UPON mnemonic-name-1 ] [ WITH NO ADVANCING ]
~~~~~~~ { identifier-1 }       ~~~~                          ~~ ~~~~~~~~~

      [ ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1 ]
           ~~~~~~~~~~
      [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
        ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~~
[ END-DISPLAY ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~
========================================================================
```

This format of the `DISPLAY` statement displays the specified identifier contents and/or literal values on the system output device specified via the `UPON` clause.

1. The reserved words `ON` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. If no `UPON` clause is specified, `UPON CONSOLE` will be assumed. If the `UPON` clause *is* specified, <mnemonic-name-1> must be one of the built-in output device names `CONSOLE`, `PRINTER`, `STDERR`, `STDOUT`, `SYSERR`, `SYSLIST`, `SYSLST` or `SYSOUT` or a mnemonic name assigned to one of those devices via the `SPECIAL-NAMES` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) paragraph.

   When displaying upon the `STDERR` or `SYSERR` devices or to a <mnemonic-name-1> attached to one of those two devices, the output will be written to output pipe #2, which will normally cause the output to appear in the console output window. You may, if desired, redirect that output to a file by appending `2> filename` to the end of the command that executes the program. This applies to both Windows (any type) or Unix versions of GnuCOBOL.

   When displaying upon the `CONSOLE`, `PRINTER`, `STDOUT`, `SYSLIST`, `SYSLST` or `SYSOUT` devices or to a <mnemonic-name-1> attached to one of them, the output will be written to output pipe #1, which will normally cause the output to appear in the console output window. You may, if desired, redirect that output to a file by appending `1> filename` or simply `> filename` to the end of the command that executes the program. This applies to both Windows (any type) or Unix versions of GnuCOBOL.

3. The `NO ADVANCING` clause, if used, will suppress the carriage-return / line-feed sequence that is normally added to the end of any console display.
4. The optional `ON EXCEPTION` and `NOT ON EXCEPTION` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to display output to the specified device. See ON EXCEPTION + NOT ON EXCEPTION, for additional information.

8.8.12.2 DISPLAY UPON COMMAND-LINE

DISPLAY UPON COMMAND-LINE Syntax

```
========================================================================
```

```
DISPLAY { literal-1    } UPON { ARGUMENT-NUMBER | COMMAND-LINE }
~~~~~~~ { identifier-1 } ~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~~~

     [ ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1 ]
          ~~~~~~~~~
     [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
       ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~
[ END-DISPLAY ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~
```

```
========================================================================
```

This form of the `DISPLAY` statement may be used to specify the command-line argument number to be retrieved by a subsequent `ACCEPT FROM ARGUMENT-VALUE` statement (see ACCEPT FROM COMMAND-LINE) or to specify a new value for the command-line arguments themselves.

1. The reserved word `ON` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. By displaying a numeric integer value `UPON ARGUMENT-NUMBER`, you will specify which argument (by its relative number) will be retrieved by a subsequent `ACCEPT FROM ARGUMENT-VALUE` statement.
3. Executing a `DISPLAY UPON COMMAND-LINE` will influence subsequent `ACCEPT FROM COMMAND-LINE` statements (which will then return the value you displayed), but will not influence subsequent `ACCEPT FROM ARGUMENT-VALUE` statements — these will continue to return the original program execution parameters.
4. The optional `ON EXCEPTION` and `NOT ON EXCEPTION` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to display output to the specified item. See ON EXCEPTION + NOT ON EXCEPTION, for additional information.

8.8.12.3 DISPLAY UPON ENVIRONMENT

DISPLAY UPON ENVIRONMENT Syntax

==========

```
DISPLAY { literal-1    } UPON { ENVIRONMENT-VALUE }
~~~~~~~ { identifier-1 } ~~~~ { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ }
                               { ENVIRONMENT-NAME  }
                                 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
     [ ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1 ]
          ~~~~~~~~~
     [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
       ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~
[ END-DISPLAY ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This form of the `DISPLAY` statement can be used to create or modify environment variables.

1. The reserved word `ON` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. To create or change an environment variable will require two `DISPLAY` statements. The following example sets the environment variable `MY_ENV_VAR` to a value of '`Demonstration Value`':

   ```
   DISPLAY "MY_ENV_VAR" UPON ENVIRONMENT-NAME
   DISPLAY "Demonstration Value" UPON ENVIRONMENT-VALUE
   ```

3. Environment variables created or changed from within GnuCOBOL programs will be available to any sub-shell processes spawned by that program (i.e. `CALL 'SYSTEM'` (see SYSTEM)) but will not be known to the shell or console window that started the GnuCOBOL program.
4. Consider using `SET ENVIRONMENT` (see SET ENVIRONMENT) in lieu of `DISPLAY` to set environment variables as it is much simpler.
5. The optional `ON EXCEPTION` and `NOT ON EXCEPTION` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to display output to the specified item. See ON EXCEPTION + NOT ON EXCEPTION, for additional information.

8.8.12.4 DISPLAY data-item

DISPLAY data-item Syntax

==========

```
DISPLAY { { identifier-1 }   [ UPON CRT|CRT-UNDER ]   [ MODE IS BLOCK ]
~~~~~~~   { literal-1    }     ~~~~ ~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~       ~~~~    ~~~~~

          [ { | AT LINE            NUMBER { integer-1              } | } ]
          [ { |    ~~~~                    { identifier-2           } | } ]
          [ { |                           { arithmetic-expression-1 } | } ]
          [ { |                                                       | } ]
          [ { | AT COLUMN|POSITION NUMBER { integer-2              } | } ]
          [ { |    ~~~    ~~~              { identifier-3           } | } ]
          [ { |                           { arithmetic-expression-2 } | } ]
          [ {                                                         } ]
          [ { AT { integer-3    }                                     } ]
          [ { ~~ { identifier-4 }                                     } ]

          [ WITH BELL|BEEP ]
                 ~~~~ ~~~~
          [ WITH BLANK { LINE|SCREEN } ]
                 ~~~~~   ~~~~ ~~~~~~
          [ WITH ERASE { EOL|EOS                  } ]
          [      ~~~~~ { ~~~ ~~~                  } ]
          [            { [ TO END OF ] LINE|SCREEN } ]
                           ~~~      ~~~~ ~~~~~~
          [ WITH BACKGROUND-COLOR|BACKGROUND-COLOUR IS|= integer-4|identifier-5 ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
          [ WITH FOREGROUND-COLOR|FOREGROUND-COLOUR IS|= integer-5|identifier-6 ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
          [ WITH HIGHLIGHT|LOWLIGHT ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
          [ WITH BLINK ]
                 ~~~~~
          [ WITH REVERSE-VIDEO|REVERSE|REVERSED ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
          [ WITH OVERLINE ]
                 ~~~~~~~~
          [ WITH UNDERLINE ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~
          [ WITH SCROLL [ UP   ] [ { integer-6    } LINE|LINES ] ]
          [      ~~~~~~ [ ~~   ] [ { identifier-9 } ~~~~ ~~~~~ ] ]
          [             [ DOWN ]                                 ]
                          ~~~~
          [ WITH CONVERSION ]
```

```
                ~~~~~~~~~~
          [ WITH SIZE IS  { integer-7    } ]
          [      ~~~~     { identifier-8 } ]

          [ WITH CONTROL  { literal-7    } ]
          [      ~~~~~~~  { identifier-7 } ]

          [ WITH COLOUR|COLOR IS { integer-8     } ]
          [      ~~~~~~ ~~~~~    { identifier-10 } ]  }...

      [ ON EXCEPTION     imperative-statement-1 ]
           ~~~~~~~~~~
      [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
        ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~~
[ END-DISPLAY ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

The `UPON CRT`, `UPON CRT-UNDER` and `CONVERSION` clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional. They are supported to provide compatibility with COBOL source written for other COBOL implementations.

==========

This format of the `DISPLAY` statement presents data onto a formatted screen.

1. The reserved words `AFTER`, `LINE`, `LINES`, `NUMBER` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `COLUMN` and `POSITION` are interchangeable.
3. The reserved words `LINE` and `LINES` are interchangeable.
4. If <identifier-1> is defined in the `SCREEN SECTION` (see SCREEN SECTION), any `AT`, <Attribute-Specification> and `WITH` clauses will be ignored. All field definition, cursor positioning and screen control will occur as a result of the screen section definition of <identifier-1>.
5. The reserved word `OMITTED` when used, will act to position the cursor or any screen clearance without changing any content of the screen.
6. The following points apply if <identifier-1> is not defined in the screen section:
   A. The purpose of the `AT` clause is to define where on the screen <identifier-1> should be displayed. See ACCEPT data-item, for additional information.
   B. The purpose of the `WITH` clause is to define the visual attributes that should be applied to <identifier-1> when it is displayed on the screen as well as other presentation-control characteristics.

C. The following <Attribute-Specification> clauses are allowed on the DISPLAY statement — these are the same as those allowed for SCREEN SECTION data items. A particular <Attribute-Specification> may be used only once in any DISPLAY:

- BACKGROUND-COLOR (see BACKGROUND-COLOR)
- BELL (see BELL)
- BLANK (see BLANK)
- BLINK (see BLINK)
- ERASE (see ERASE)
- FOREGROUND-COLOR (see FOREGROUND-COLOR)
- HIGHLIGHT (see HIGHLIGHT)
- LOWLIGHT (see LOWLIGHT)
- OVERLINE (see OVERLINE)
- REVERSE-VIDEO (see REVERSE-VIDEO)
- UNDERLINE (see UNDERLINE)

D. SIZE <positive-integer>

If SIZE is less than the length of <identifier-1> then only the SIZE number of characters display.

If SIZE is greater than the length of <identifier-1>, then the screen pads with spaces after the field to the SIZE length.

Figurative constants display repeatedly the number of times in SIZE. Except that LOW-VALUES always positions the cursor (see SIZE ZERO below).

E. SIZE ZERO or SIZE option not specified>

<identifier-1> displays with the field length.

F. CONTROL The CONTROL phrase allow dynamic (runtime as opposed to compile time) specification of characteristics. Literal-7 must be a nonnumeric literal. Identifier-7 must be a nonnumeric data item. The value of identifier-7 or literal-7 in the CONTROL phrase must be a character-string consisting of a series of keywords delimited by commas; some keywords allow assignment of a value by following the keyword with an equal sign and the value. Blanks are ignored in the character-string. Lowercase letters are treated as uppercase letters within keywords. Keywords specified override corresponding static options specified as phrases. Keywords may be specified in any order. Keywords, which specify options that do not apply to the statement, are ignored.

G. The keywords that affect a DISPLAY statement are BEEP, BLINK, HIGH, LOW, CONVERT, REVERSE, UNDERLINE, ERASE, ERASE EOL, ERASE EOS, NO ERASE, NO BEEP, NO BLINK, NO CONVERT, NO REVERSE, NO UNDERLINE. The meanings of these keywords when they appear in the value of the CONTROL phrase operand are the same as the corresponding phrases which may be written as static options of the DISPLAY statement, with the addition of the negative forms to allow suppression of statically declared options.

H. GnuCOBOL provides three additional keywords in the CONTROL phrase that affect a DISPLAY field. 1. FCOLOR = color-name When FCOLOR is present, color-name specifies the foreground color of the DISPLAY field. This name is then used as the default value for subsequent DISPLAY statements in the program. The initial default for color-name is white. 2. BCOLOR = color-name When BCOLOR is present, color-name specifies the background color of the DISPLAY field. This value is then used as the default value for subsequent DISPLAY statements in the program. The initial default for color-name is black. Following table contains a list of all the possible names for color-name. The left column contains the valid color name. The right column shows the color that appears when high intensity is specified (the default intensity).

```
+-------------------------------------------------------------+
|                 Valid COBOL Color Names                     |
+-------------------+-----------------------------------------+
|Valid Color Names  |  High-Intensity Color Values (Defaults)  |
+-------------------+-----------------------------------------+
|Black              |  Gray                                   |
|Blue               |  Light Blue                             |
|Green              |  Light Green                            |
|Cyan               |  Light Cyan                             |
|Red                |  Light Red                              |
|Magenta            |  Light Magenta                          |
|Brown              |  Yellow                                 |
|White              |  High-Intensity White                   |
+-------------------+-----------------------------------------+
```

I. `GRAPHICS` The GRAPHICS keyword causes the characters in following table to be translated to line draw characters. Characters that are not listed in the following table are output unchanged.

```
+-------------------------------------------------------------------+
|                       Line Draw Characters                        |
+-------------------+----------------------+----------------------+
```

```
|Description        | Single-Line Character | Double-Line Character |
|lower-right corner |        j(+)           |        J(+)           |
|upper-right corner |        k(+)           |        K(+)           |
|upper-left corner  |        l(+)           |        L(+)           |
|lower-left corner  |        m(+)           |        M(+)           |
|plus               |        n(+)           |        N(+)           |
|horizontal line    |        q(-)           |        Q(-)           |
|left tee           |        t(+)           |        T(+)           |
|right tee          |        u(+)           |        U(+)           |
|bottom tee         |        v(-)           |        V(-)           |
|top tee            |        w(-)           |        W(-)           |
|vertical line      |        x(|)           |        X(|)           |
+-------------------+-----------------------+-----------------------+
```

J. If the requested line draw characters are not available, the runtime system uses the best available characters. If double-line characters are requested and only single-line characters are available, they are used. If no line draw characters are available, then plus-characters, vertical bars, and dashes are used.

```
Sample program that demonstrates how boxes are drawn:

     >>SOURCE FREE
 IDENTIFICATION   DIVISION.
 PROGRAM-ID.      CONTROL1.
 DATA             DIVISION.
 WORKING-STORAGE  SECTION.
 01  success-flag PIC X VALUE 'Y'.
     88  success  VALUE 'Y', 'y'.
 77  LIN-START    PIC 99    COMP-5.
 77  LIN          PIC 99    COMP-5.
 01  scr1 PIC X(75)
         VALUE 'Enter "y" if you see line draw characters. '
         & 'The first set (single/double)'.
 01  scr2 PIC X(75)
         VALUE 'uses HIGHLIGHT, the second uses '
         & 'LOWLIGHT, BLINK and MAGENTA.'.
 01  graphcontrol PIC X(50) VALUE 'HIGH, GRAPHICS'.
 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
      MOVE 2 TO LIN
      DISPLAY scr1 AT LINE LIN COL 2
      ADD  1 TO LIN
```

```
      DISPLAY scr2 AT LINE LIN COL 2
      MOVE 5 TO LIN-START
      PERFORM DSPCOL
      MOVE 12 TO LIN-START
      MOVE "LOW BLINK FCOLOR=MAGENTA GRAPHICS" TO graphcontrol
      PERFORM DSPCOL
      ACCEPT success-flag AT 1801 UPDATE REQUIRED
      IF success AND COB-CRT-STATUS = 0
          GOBACK RETURNING 0
      ELSE
          GOBACK RETURNING 1.
 DSPCOL.
*>   Single-line graphics
     MOVE LIN-START TO LIN
     DISPLAY "lqqqqwqqqqk" LINE LIN COL 05, CONTROL graphcontrol.
     ADD  1 TO LIN
     DISPLAY "x    x    x" LINE LIN COL 05, CONTROL graphcontrol.
     ADD  1 TO LIN
     DISPLAY "tqqqqnqqqqu" LINE LIN COL 05, CONTROL graphcontrol.
     ADD  1 TO LIN
     DISPLAY "x    x    x" LINE LIN COL 05, CONTROL graphcontrol.
     ADD  1 TO LIN
     DISPLAY "mqqqqvqqqqj" LINE LIN COL 05, CONTROL graphcontrol.
*>   Double-line graphics
     MOVE LIN-START TO LIN
     DISPLAY "LQQQQWQQQQK" LINE LIN COL 20, CONTROL graphcontrol.
     ADD  1 TO LIN
     DISPLAY "X    X    X" LINE LIN COL 20, CONTROL graphcontrol.
     ADD  1 TO LIN
     DISPLAY "TQQQQNQQQQU" LINE LIN COL 20, CONTROL graphcontrol.
     ADD  1 TO LIN
     DISPLAY "X    X    X" LINE LIN COL 20, CONTROL graphcontrol.
     ADD  1 TO LIN
     DISPLAY "MQQQQVQQQQJ" LINE LIN COL 20, CONTROL graphcontrol.
```

K. `COLOUR` The COLOR phrase provides an alternate method for setting video attributes. Integer-8 must be a numeric literal. Identifier-8 must be a numeric data item. It also allows the specification of colors for screen fields and controls. They can be set to different numeric values to express various combinations of colors and video attributes. You may make combinations by adding the appropriate values together. The following color values are accepted:

```
+--------+--------------+-------------+
|Color   |  Foreground  | Background  |
+--------+--------------+-------------+
|Black   |      1       |     32      |
|Blue    |      2       |     64      |
|Green   |      3       |     96      |
|Cyan    |      4       |    128      |
|Red     |      5       |    160      |
|Magenta |      6       |    192      |
|Brown   |      7       |    224      |
|White   |      8       |    256      |
+--------+--------------+-------------+
```

L. You may specify other video attributes by adding the following values:

```
+-------------------------+--------+
|Reverse video            |   1024 |
|Low intensity            |   2048 |
|High intensity           |   4096 |
|Underline                |   8192 |
|Blink                    |  16384 |
|Protected                |  32768 |
|Background low-intensity |  65536 |
|Background high-intensity| 131072 |
+-------------------------+--------+
```

M. You may also specify high intensity by adding "8" to the foreground color value.

```
Sample program that demonstrates how COLOR is used.

        >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. COLOR1.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wLIN            PIC     99 value zero.
01 wCOLOR          PIC 999999 value zero.
01 wBlack-Fore     PIC 999 value   1.
01 wBlack-Back     PIC 999 value  32.
01 wBlue-Fore      PIC 999 value   2.
01 wBlue-Back      PIC 999 value  64.
01 wGreen-Fore     PIC 999 value   3.
```

```
01 wGreen-Back     PIC 999 value  96.
01 wCyan-Fore      PIC 999 value   4.
01 wCyan-Back      PIC 999 value 128.
01 wRed-Fore       PIC 999 value   5.
01 wRed-Back       PIC 999 value 160.
01 wMagenta-Fore   PIC 999 value   6.
01 wMagenta-Back   PIC 999 value 192.
01 wBrown-Fore     PIC 999 value   7.
01 wBrown-Back     PIC 999 value 224.
01 wWhite-Fore     PIC 999 value   8.
01 wWhite-Back     PIC 999 value 256.
01 wReverseVideo              PIC 999999 value   1024.
01 wLowIntensity              PIC 999999 value   2048.
01 wHighIntensity             PIC 999999 value   4096.
01 wUnderline                 PIC 999999 value   8192.
01 wBlink                     PIC 999999 value  16384.
01 wProtected                 PIC 999999 value  32768.
01 wBackground-low-intensity  PIC 999999 value  65536.
01 wBackground-high-intensity PIC 999999 value 131072.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
ADD 1 to WLIN
compute wCOLOR = wCyan-Fore + wWhite-Back + wUnderline
DISPLAY FUNCTION CONCATENATE ("XXX COLOR=" wCOLOR " XXXXXXXXX ")
        AT LINE wLIN COL 001 COLOR wCOLOR.
ADD 1 to WLIN
compute wCOLOR = wBrown-Fore + wRed-Back + wHighIntensity
DISPLAY FUNCTION CONCATENATE ("XXX COLOR=" wCOLOR " XXXXXXXXX ")
        AT LINE wLIN COL 001 COLOR wCOLOR.
ADD 1 to WLIN
compute wCOLOR = wBrown-Fore + wRed-Back + wHighIntensity + wReverseVideo
DISPLAY FUNCTION CONCATENATE ("XXX COLOR=" wCOLOR " XXXXXXXXX ")
        AT LINE wLIN COL 001 COLOR wCOLOR.
ADD 1 to WLIN
compute wCOLOR = wWhite-Fore + wGreen-Back + wBlink
DISPLAY FUNCTION CONCATENATE ("XXX COLOR="  wCOLOR " XXXXXXXXX ")
        AT LINE wLIN COL 001 COLOR wCOLOR.
STOP RUN.
```

N. See ACCEPT data-item, for additional information on the other `WITH` clause options.

7. The optional `ON EXCEPTION` and `NOT ON EXCEPTION` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of the screen I/O attempt. See ON EXCEPTION + NOT ON EXCEPTION, for additional information.

When `DISPLAY` is used with Line and column where multiple variables or literals are used before `LINE` only the first will be displayed.

If this is needed then the use of `CONCATENATE` to built more than one element together prior to the display, *e.g.*, `DISPLAY FUNCTION CONCATENATE (VARS-1 VARS-2) AT 0201`.

When `DISPLAY` is used without line or column controls only one variable or literal may will appear on a line, so the use of the above example should also be employed.

8.8.12.5 DISPLAY data-item (Microsoft v1-v2)

DISPLAY data-item Syntax

==========

```
DISPLAY { position-spec { identifier-1 }... }
~~~~~~~ {               { literal-1    }     }
        {               { ERASE        }     }
        {                 ~~~~~              }
        { ERASE                              }
          ~~~~~

        [ WITH [ BELL|BEEP ]
          ~~~~   ~~~~ ~~~~
               [ BLANK LINE|SCREEN ]
                 ~~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~~~
               [ ERASE { EOL|EOS                   } ]
               [ ~~~~~ { ~~~ ~~~                   } ]
               [       { [ TO END OF ] LINE|SCREEN } ]
                               ~~~      ~~~~ ~~~~~~
               [ BACKGROUND-COLOR|BACKGROUND-COLOUR IS|= integer-4|identifier-5 ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
               [ FOREGROUND-COLOR|FOREGROUND-COLOUR IS|= integer-5|identifier-6 ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
               [ HIGHLIGHT|LOWLIGHT ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
               [ BLINK ]
                 ~~~~~
               [ REVERSE-VIDEO|REVERSE|REVERSED ]
                 ~~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
               [ OVERLINE ]
```

```
                ~~~~~~~~
              [ UNDERLINE ]
                ~~~~~~~~~~
              [ SCROLL [ UP   ] [ { integer-6    } LINE|LINES ] ]
              [ ~~~~~~ [ ~~   ] [ { identifier-9 } ~~~~ ~~~~~ ] ]
              [        [ DOWN ]                                 ]
                         ~~~~
              [ CONVERSION ]
                ~~~~~~~~~~
              [ SIZE IS  { integer-7    } ]
              [ ~~~~     { identifier-8 } ]

              [ CONTROL  { literal-7    } ]
              [ ~~~~~~~  { identifier-7 } ]

              [ COLOUR|COLOR IS { integer-8     } ]
              [ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~    { identifier-10 } ]   ]

[ END-DISPLAY ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~

     where  position-spec is

     { (position-spec-num, position-spec-num) }
     { (,position-spec-num)                   }
     { (position-spec-num,)                   }

     where  position-spec-num  is

     { identifier-11 } [ +|- integer-10 ]
     { integer-9     }
```

==========

This format of the `DISPLAY` statement presents data onto a formatted screen using the Microsoft format from v1 and v2 compilers (MsDos).

8.8.13 DIVIDE

8.8.13.1 DIVIDE INTO

DIVIDE INTO Syntax

==========

```
DIVIDE { literal-1    } INTO { identifier-2 [ rounded-phrase ] }...
~~~~~~ { identifier-1 } ~~~~

    [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
         ~~~~ ~~~~~
    [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
      ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-DIVIDE ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~
```

For further clarification, the following examples are provided to be used with the various flavours of the `DIVIDE` statement when using `BY`, `INTO` and `GIVING`.

```
--------------------------------------+---+-----+--------------+--------------------+
DIVIDE Operation                      | A |  B  |      C       |         D          |
--------------------------------------+---+-----+--------------+--------------------+
DIVIDE A INTO B                       | A | B/A |              |                    |
--------------------------------------+---+-----+--------------+--------------------+
DIVIDE A INTO B GIVING C              | A |  B  |     B/A      |                    |
--------------------------------------+---+-----+--------------+--------------------+
DIVIDE A INTO B GIVING C REMAINDER D  | A |  B  | Integer(B/A) | Integer remainder |
--------------------------------------+---+-----+--------------+--------------------+
DIVIDE A BY   B GIVING C              | A |  B  |     A/B      |                    |
--------------------------------------+---+-----+--------------+--------------------+
DIVIDE A BY   B GIVING C REMAINDER D  | A |  B  | Integer(A/B) | Integer remainder |
--------------------------------------+---+-----+--------------+--------------------+
```

==========

This format of the `DIVIDE` statement will divide a numeric value (specified as a literal or numeric data item) into another numeric value (also specified as a literal or numeric data item) and will then replace the contents of one or more receiving data items with the results of that division.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be numeric unedited data items and <literal-1> must be a numeric literal.
3. A division operation will be performed for each <identifier-2>, in turn. Each of the results of those divisions will be saved to the corresponding <identifier-2> data item(s).

4. Should any <identifier-2> be an integer numeric data item, the result computed when that <identifier-2> is divided by <literal-1> or <identifier-1> will also be an integer — any remainder from that division will be discarded.
5. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-2> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
6. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being numeric truncation caused by an <identifier-2> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point, or an attempt to divide by zero. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.13.2 DIVIDE INTO GIVING

DIVIDE INTO GIVING Syntax

```
========================================================================
```

```
DIVIDE { literal-1    } INTO { literal-2    }
~~~~~~ { identifier-1 } ~~~~ { identifier-2 }

         GIVING { identifier-3 [ rounded-phrase ] }...
         ~~~~~~

       [ REMAINDER identifier-4 [ rounded-phrase ] ]
         ~~~~~~~~~

  [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
       ~~~~ ~~~~~
  [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
    ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-DIVIDE ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~
```

```
========================================================================
```

This format of the `DIVIDE` statement will divide one numeric value (specified as a literal or numeric data item) into another numeric value (also specified as a literal or numeric data item) and will then replace the contents of one or more receiving data items with the results of that division.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.

2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be numeric unedited data items while both <identifier-3> and <identifier-4> must be numeric (edited or unedited) data items.
3. Both <literal-1> and <literal-2> must be numeric literals.
4. If the `REMAINDER` clause is coded, there may be only one <identifier-3> specified.
5. The result obtained when the value of <literal-2> or <identifier-2> is divided by the value of <literal-1> or <identifier-1> is computed; this result is then moved into each <identifier-3>, in turn, applying the rules defined by the `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause (if any) for that <identifier-3> to the move.
6. If a `REMAINDER` clause is specified, the value of the one and only <identifier-3> (as stated earlier, if `REMAINDER` is specified there may only be a single <identifier-3> coded on the statement) after it was assigned a value according to the previous rule will be multiplied by the value of <literal-1> or <identifier-1>; that result is then subtracted from the value of <literal-2> or <identifier-2> and *that* result is the value which is moved to <identifier-4>.
7. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-2> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point, or an attempt to divide by zero. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.13.3 DIVIDE BY GIVING

DIVIDE BY GIVING Syntax

==========

```
DIVIDE { literal-1    } BY { literal-2    }
~~~~~~ { identifier-1 } ~~ { identifier-2 }

         GIVING { identifier-3   [ rounded-phrase ] }...
         ~~~~~~

       [ REMAINDER identifier-4 [ rounded-phrase ] ]
         ~~~~~~~~~

  [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
       ~~~~ ~~~~~
  [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
    ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-DIVIDE ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `DIVIDE` statement will divide one numeric value (specified as a literal or numeric data item) by another numeric value (also specified as a literal or numeric data item) and will then replace the contents of one or more receiving data items with the results of that division.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be numeric unedited data items while both <identifier-3> and <identifier-4> must be numeric (edited or unedited) data items.
3. Both <literal-1> and <literal-2> must be numeric literals.
4. If the `REMAINDER` clause is coded, there may be only one <identifier-3> specified.
5. The result obtained when the value of <literal-1> or <identifier-1> is divided by the value of <literal-2> or <identifier-2> is computed; this result is then moved into each <identifier-3>, in turn, applying the rules defined by the `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause (if any) for that <identifier-3> to the move.
6. If a `REMAINDER` clause is specified, the value of the one and only <identifier-3> (as stated earlier, if `REMAINDER` is specified there may only be a single <identifier-3> coded on the statement) after it was assigned a value according to the previous rule will be multiplied by the value of <literal-2> or <identifier-2>; that result is then subtracted from the value of <literal-1> or <identifier-1> and *that* result is the value which is moved to <identifier-4>.
7. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-2> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point, or an attempt to divide by zero. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.14 ENTRY

ENTRY Syntax

==========

```
ENTRY [ { STATIC          } ] [ WITH { STDCALL } LINKAGE ] literal-1
~~~~~   { ~~~~~~          }      ~~~~ { ~~~~~~~ } ~~~~~~~
        { STDCALL         }           { C       }
        { ~~~~~~~         }           { ~       }
        { C               }           { PASCAL  }
        { ~               }            ~~~~~~
        { PASCAL          }
```

```
        { ~~~~~~          }
        { EXTERN          }
        { ~~~~~~          }
        { mnemonic-name-1 }

      [ USING  { [ BY { REFERENCE } ] { identifier-1 }... }... ]
        ~~~~~          { ~~~~~~~~~ }
                       { VALUE     }
                         ~~~~~


  Format 2 (Special purpose and for GO TO )

  ENTRY FOR GO TO literal-2
  ~~~~~ ~~~ ~~ ~~

  Note for Fixed format sources, this statement must only be used in area B.
```

==========

The ENTRY statement is used to define an alternate entry-point into a subroutine, along with the arguments that subroutine will be expecting.

1. The reserved word BY is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. You may not use an ENTRY statement in a nested subprogram, nor may you use it in any form of user-defined function.
3. The USING clause defines the arguments the subroutine entry-point supports. This list of arguments must match up against the USING clause of any CALL statement that will be invoking the subroutine using this entry-point.
4. Each <ENTRY-Argument> specified on the ENTRY statement must be defined in the linkage section of the subroutine in which the ENTRY statement exists.
5. The <literal-1> value will specify the entry-point name of the subroutine. It must be specified exactly on CALL statements (with regard to the use of upper- and lower-case letters) as it is specified on the ENTRY statement.
6. The meaning of REFERENCE and VALUE are the same as the equivalent specifications on the CALL statement (see CALL). Whatever specification will be used for an argument on the CALL to this entry-point should match the specification used in the corresponding <ENTRY-Argument>. The same rules regarding the presence or absence of a BY clause on a CALL

statement apply to the presence or absence of a BY clause on the corresponding argument of the ENTRY statement.

7. The <GO TO> with the ENTRY FOR is an GnuCOBOL special purpose extension for use with various GnuCobol tools.
8. The ENTRY statement when coding using FIXED format source must start within area B only.

```
An example:

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM ID. MAINPROG.
...
DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
FD INV-FILE.
01 INV-REC.
   02 PT-NUM       PIC X(10).
   02 PT-NAME      PIC X(30).
   02 BEGIN-QTY    PIC 9(6).
   02 PRICE-WHSL   PIC 9(3)V99.
   02 PRICE-RETAIL PIC 9(4)V99.
FD SALES-FILE.
01 SALES-REC.
   02 SOLD-PT-NO   PIC X(10).
   02 SOLD-PART    PIC X(30).
   02 SOLD-QTY     PIC 9(6).
...
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
MAIN-PARA-001.
...
IF SOLD-QTY IS NOT EQUAL TO ZERO
   CALL "SUBPRO1-ENTRY" USING INV-REC, SALES-REC.
...
STOP RUN.

Following is the subprogram:

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. SUBPRO1.
...
DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
```

```
FD PRINT-FILE.
01 P-REC PIC X(132).
...
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 HEADER.
...
01 WRITE-SALES.
   02 FILLER       PIC X(15)     VALUE SPACES.
   02 NAME         PIC X(30)     VALUE SPACES.
   02 FILLER       PIC X(5)      VALUE SPACES.
   02 NUM-1        PIC X(10)     VALUE SPACES.
   02 FILLER       PIC X(5)      VALUE SPACES.
   02 QUANTITY     PIC Z(3)9(3)  VALUE ZERO.
   02 FILLER       PIC X(5)      VALUE SPACES.
   02 GROSS-SALES  PIC $Z(10).99 VALUE ZEROS.
   02 FILLER       PIC X(5)      VALUE SPACES.
   02 GROSS-PROFIT PIC $9(10).99.
...
LINKAGE SECTION.
01 ORIGINAL.
   02 PT-NUM       PIC X(10).
   02 PT-NAME      PIC X(30).
   02 START-QTY    PIC 9(6).
   02 OUR-PRICE    PIC 9(3)V99.
   02 THEIR-PRICE  PIC 9(4)V99.
01 SALES.
   02 SOLD-NUM     PIC X(10).
   02 SOLD-NAME    PIC X(30).
   02 QTY-SOLD     PIC 9(6).

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
SUB-PARA-001.
...
CALC-PARA-100.
ENTRY "SUBPRO1-ENTRY" USING ORIGINAL, SALES.
   MULTIPLY QTY-SOLD  BY THEIR-PRICE GIVING GROSS-SALES.
   SUBTRACT START-QTY FROM QTY-SOLD  GIVING QUANTITY.
   COMPUTE GROSS-PROFIT = (THEIR-PRICE - OUR-PRICE) * QTY-SOLD.
   MOVE PT-NUM  TO NUM-1.
   MOVE PT-NAME TO NAME.
   WRITE P-REC FROM HEADER      AFTER ADVANCING 1 LINES.
```

```
   WRITE P-REC FROM WRITE-SALES AFTER ADVANCING 3 LINES.
   GOBACK.
...
```

8.8.15 EVALUATE

EVALUATE Syntax

==========

```
   EVALUATE Selection-Subject-1 [ ALSO Selection-Subject-2 ]...
   ~~~~~~~~                       ~~~~
    { WHEN Selection-Object-1 [ ALSO Selection-Object-2 ]...
      ~~~~                     ~~~~
           [ imperative-statement-1 ] }...
    [ WHEN OTHER
      ~~~~ ~~~~~
             imperative-statement-other ]

  [ END-EVALUATE ]
    ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

EVALUATE Selection Subject Syntax

==========

```
  { TRUE         }
  { ~~~~         }
  { FALSE        }
  { ~~~~~        }
  { expression-1 }
  { identifier-1 }
  { literal-1    }
```

==========

EVALUATE Selection Object Syntax

==========

```
  { ANY                                                 }
  { ~~~                                                 }
  { TRUE                                                }
```

```
 { ~~~~                                                  }
 { FALSE                                                 }
 { ~~~~~                                                 }
 { partial-expression-1                                  }
 {                                                       }
 { { expression-2 } [ THRU|THROUGH { expression-3 } ] }
 { { identifier-2 }   ~~~~ ~~~~~~~ { identifier-3 }   }
 { { literal-2    }                { literal-3    }   }
```

==========

The `EVALUATE` statement provides a means of defining processing that should take place under any number of mutually-exclusive conditions.

1. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
2. There must be at least one `WHEN` clause (in addition to any `WHEN OTHER` clause) specified on any `EVALUATE` statement.
3. There must be at least one <Selection-Subject> specified on the `EVALUATE` statement. Any number of additional <Selection-Subject> clauses may be specified, using the `ALSO` reserved word to separate each from the prior.
4. Each `WHEN` clause (other than the `WHEN OTHER` clause, if any) must have the same number of <Selection-Object> clauses as there are <Selection-Subject> clauses.
5. When using `THRU`, the values on both sides of the `THRU` must be the same class (both numeric, both alphanumeric, etc.).
6. A <partial-expression> is one of the following:
   A. A Class Condition without a leading <identifier-1> (see Class Conditions).
   B. A Sign Condition without a leading <identifier-1> (see Sign Conditions).
   C. A Relation Condition with nothing to the left of the relational operator (see Relation Conditions).
7. At execution time, each <Selection-Subject> on the `EVALUATE` statement will have its value matched against that of the corresponding <Selection-Object> on a `WHEN` clause, in turn, until:
   A. A `WHEN` clause has *each* of its <Selection-Object>(s) successfully matched by the corresponding <Selection-Subject>; this will be referred to as the '*Selected WHEN clause*'.
   B. The complete list of `WHEN` clauses (except for the `WHEN OTHER` clause, if any) has been exhausted. In this case, there is no '*Selected WHEN Clause*'.
8. If a '*Selected WHEN Clause*' was identified:

A. The <imperative-statement-1> (see Imperative Statement) immediately following the '*Selected WHEN Clause*' will be executed. If the '*Selected WHEN Clause*' is lacking an <imperative-statement-1>, the first <imperative-statement-1> found after any following `WHEN` clause will be executed.

B. Once the <imperative-statement-1> has been executed, or no <imperative-statement-1> was found anywhere after the '*Selected WHEN Clause*', control will proceed to the statement following the `END-EVALUATE` or, if there is no `END-EVALUATE`, the first statement that follows the next period. If, however, the <imperative-statement-1> included a `GO TO` statement, and that `GO TO` was executed, then control will transfer to the procedure named on the `GO TO` instead.

9. If no '*Selected WHEN Clause*' was identified:

   A. The `WHEN OTHER` clause's <imperative-statement-other> will be executed, if such a clause was coded.

   B. Control will then proceed to the statement following the `END-EVALUATE` or the first statement that follows the next period if there is no `END-EVALUATE`. If,however, the <imperative-statement-other> included a `GO TO` statement, and that `GO TO` was executed, then control will transfer to the procedure named on the `GO TO` instead.

10. In order for a <Selection-Subject> to match the corresponding <Selection-Object> on a `WHEN` clause, at least one of the following must be true:

    A. The <Selection-Object> is `ANY`

    B. The implied Relation Condition `Selection-Subject = Selection Object` is `TRUE` — See Relation Conditions, for the rules on how the comparison will be made.

    C. The value of the <Selection-Subject> falls within the range of values specified by the `THRU` clause of the <Selection-Object>

    D. If the <Selection-Object> is a <partial-expression>, then the conditional expression that would be represented by coding `Selection-Subject Selection-Object` evaluates to `TRUE`

11. Here is a sample program that illustrates the EVALUATE statement.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DEMOEVALUATE.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Test-Digit PIC 9(1).
    88 Digit-Is-Odd   VALUE 1, 3, 5, 7, 9.
    88 Digit-Is-Prime VALUE 1, 3, 5, 7.
```

```
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
PERFORM UNTIL EXIT
    DISPLAY "Enter a digit (0 Quits): " WITH NO ADVANCING
    ACCEPT Test-Digit
    IF Test-Digit = 0 EXIT PERFORM END-IF
    EVALUATE Digit-Is-Odd ALSO Digit-Is-Prime
        WHEN TRUE ALSO FALSE
            DISPLAY Test-Digit " is ODD"   WITH NO ADVANCING
        WHEN TRUE ALSO TRUE
            DISPLAY Test-Digit " is PRIME" WITH NO ADVANCING
        WHEN FALSE ALSO ANY
            DISPLAY Test-Digit " is EVEN"  WITH NO ADVANCING
    END-EVALUATE
    EVALUATE Test-Digit
        WHEN < 5
            DISPLAY " and it's small too"
        WHEN < 8
            DISPLAY " and it's medium too"
        WHEN OTHER
            DISPLAY " and it's large too"
    END-EVALUATE
END-PERFORM
DISPLAY "Bye!"
STOP RUN.
```

Console output when run (user input follows the colons on the prompts for input):

```
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 1
1 is PRIME and it's small too
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 2
2 is EVEN and it's small too
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 3
3 is PRIME and it's small too
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 4
4 is EVEN and it's small too
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 5
5 is PRIME and it's medium too
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 6
6 is EVEN and it's medium too
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 7
7 is PRIME and it's medium too
```

```
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 8
8 is EVEN and it's large too
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 9
9 is ODD and it's large too
Enter a digit (0 Quits): 0
Bye!
```

8.8.16 EXAMINE

EXAMINE Syntax

==========

```
EXAMINE identifier-1
~~~~~~~
     { TALLYING  { ALL          } literal-1 [ REPLACING BY literal-2 ] }
     { ~~~~~~~~  { ~~~          }             ~~~~~~~~~ ~~            }
     {           { LEADING      }                                     }
     {           { ~~~~~~~      }                                     }
     {           { UNTIL FIRST  }                                     }
     {             ~~~~~ ~~~~~                                        }
     {                                                                }
     { REPLACING { ALL             } literal-3 BY literal-4           }
     { ~~~~~~~~~ { ~~~             }            ~~                    }
     {           { LEADING         }                                  }
     {           { ~~~~~~~         }                                  }
     {           { [ UNTIL ] FIRST }                                  }
                     ~~~~~   ~~~~~
```

==========

The `EXAMINE` statement is the pre runner for INSPECT which should be used over the pre 1970 Cobol standard EXAMINE, and it is used to count the number of times a specified character appears in a data item and/or to replace a character with another character.

1. This statement is only available subject to specific dialects being set when running the GnuCOBOL compiler.
2. In all cases, the description of identifier must be such that its usage is display (explicitly or implicitly).
3. When identifier represents a non numeric data item, examination starts at the leftmost character and proceeds to the right. Each character in the data item is examined in turn. For purposes of the EXAMINE statement, external floating point items are treated as non numeric data items.

4. When identifier represents a numeric data item, this data item must consist of numeric characters, and may possess an operational sign. Examination starts at the leftmost character and proceeds to the right. Each character is examined in turn.
5. If the letter 'S' is used in the PICTURE of the data item description to indicate the presence of an operational sign, the sign is ignored by the EXAMINE statement.
6. Each literal must consist of a single character belonging to a class consistent with that of the identifier; in addition, each literal may be any figurative constant except ALL. If identifier is numeric, each literal must be an unsigned integer or the figurative constant ZERO (ZEROES, ZEROS).
7. When Format 1 is used, an integral count is created which replaces the value of a special register called TALLY, whose implicit description is that of an unsigned integer of five digits.
8. When the ALL option is used, this count represents the number of occurrences of literal-1.
9. When the LEADING option is used, this count represents the number of occurrences of literal-1 prior to encountering a character other than literal-1.
10. When the UNTIL FIRST option is used, this count represents all characters encountered before the first occurrence of literal-1.
11. Whether Format 2 is used, or the REPLACING option of Format 1, the replacement rules are the same. They are as follows:
12. When the ALL option is used, literal-2 is substituted for each occurrence of literal-1.
13. When the LEADING option is used, the substitution of literal-2 for each occurrence of literal-1 terminates as soon as a character other than literal-1 or the right hand boundary of the data item is encountered.
14. When the UNTIL FIRST option is used, the substitution of literal-2 terminates as soon as literal-1 or the right hand boundary of the data item is encountered.

8.8.17 EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
EXHIBIT [CHANGED][NAMED] [position-spec] [ERASE] {identifier-1 | literal-1} ...
~~~~~~~  ~~~~~~~  ~~~~~                    ~~~~~
        [UPON mnemonic-name-1]
         ~~~~
```

```
where position-spec is

  {(position-spec-num, position-spec-num)}
  {(, position-spec-num)                 }
  {(position-spec-num, )                 }

where position-spec-num is

  {identifier-2} [{+} integer-2]
  {integer-1   } [{-}          ]
```

==========

The `EXHIBIT` statement causes an (optionally conditional) display of the literals, and/or identifiers (optionally preceded by the identifier name) specified in the statement for the purposes of debugging.

1. EXHIBIT is only present to ease migrations, this is an archaic language element in GnuCOBOL (but without the archaic message warning because there is no explicit dialect configuration for that other than the reserved word). Depending on the -std used it will either compile or not. As the standard says about archaic language elements:

   it should not be used in new compilation groups because better programming practices exist

   The use of DISPLAY is more portable and allows for the same feature-set (with the exception of CHANGED which GnuCOBOL may not support for a long time and with the need of a literal for NAMED). This statement can be removed from any later version.
2. The reserved words `NAMED`, `CHANGED` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
3. Each identifier specified in the EXHIBIT statement can be any class of data. TALLY and RETURN-CODE are the only special registers that can be used as identifiers.
4. Literals and identifiers displayed by the EXHIBIT statement are separated by a space on the displayed line.
5. Each literal can be any figurative constant other than ALL.
6. If the literal is numeric, it must be an unsigned integer.
7. Each execution of an EXHIBIT NAMED statement displays each identifier or literal specified, with each identifier (including any qualifiers and subscripts) followed by a "=" (equal sign) and its current value. They all appear on a single line on the order in which they appear in the statement.

8. Each execution of an EXHIBIT CHANGED NAMED statement displays each identifier or literal specified, with each identifier (including any qualifiers and subscripts) followed by a "=" (equal sign) and its current value. They all appear on a single line on the order in which they appear in the statement. However, the display for each identifier (name and value) is conditional on the value of that identifier having changed since the last execution of the current EXHIBIT statement. If one or more of the identifier values have not changed, neither the name nor the value is printed for those identifiers. If none of the identifier values has changed, and no literals are specified, no display takes place (display of a blank line is suppressed).
9. Each execution of an EXHIBIT CHANGED statement displays the current value of each identifier or literal specified. They all appear on a single line on the order in which they appear in the statement. However, the value display for each identifier is conditional on the value of that identifier having changed since the last execution of the current EXHIBIT statement. If one or more of the identifier values have not changed, the value for those identifiers are not printed and spaces are inserted instead. If none of the identifier values has changed, and no literals are specified, a blank line is displayed (display of a blank line is not suppressed).
10. Each execution of an EXHIBIT statement with neither the CHANGED nor the NAMED option displays each identifier or literal specified. They all appear on a single line in the order in which they appear in the statement.
11. An EXHIBIT statement is the same as an EXHIBIT NAMED statement.
12. ERASE is a display attribute which got into GnuCOBOL when MS-COBOL support was increased, it is not yet implemented.
13. The CHANGED clause is not yet implemented but recognised by GnuCOBOL.
14. The UPON mnemonic-name-1 clause is not yet implemented but recognised by Gnu-COBOL.

8.8.18 EXIT

EXIT Syntax

==========

```
EXIT  [ { PROGRAM  [ RETURNING|GIVING { identifier-1 } ] } ]
~~~~    { ~~~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ { literal-1    }   }
        {                                                 }
        {                                                 }
        { FUNCTION                                        }
        { ~~~~~~~~                                        }
```

```
         {                                                    }
       { PERFORM [ CYCLE ]                                }
        { ~~~~~~~   ~~~~~                                   }
         {                                                    }
        { SECTION                                           }
        { ~~~~~~~                                             }
       { PARAGRAPH                                         }
          ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `EXIT` statement is a multi-purpose statement; it may provide a common end point for a series of procedures, exit an in-line `PERFORM`, paragraph or section or it may mark the logical end of a subprogram, returning control back to the calling program.

1. The `EXIT PROGRAM` statement is not legal anywhere within a user-defined function.
2. The `EXIT FUNCTION` statement cannot be used anywhere within a subroutine.
3. Neither `EXIT PROGRAM` nor `EXIT FUNCTION` may be used within a `USE GLOBAL` routine in `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES).
4. The following points describe the `EXIT` statement with none of the optional clauses:
   A. When this form of an `EXIT` statement is used, it must be the only statement in the procedure (paragraph or section) in which it occurs. This is *not* enforced in GnuCOBOL.
   B. This usage of the `EXIT` statement simply provides a common “GO TO” end point for a series of procedures, as may be seen in the following example:

```
01  Switches.
    05 Input-File-Switch PIC X(1).
       88 EOF-On-Input-File VALUE ``Y'' FALSE ``N''.
…
    SET EOF-On-Input-File TO FALSE.
    PERFORM 100-Process-A-Transaction THRU 199-Exit
        UNTIL EOF-On-Input-File.
…
100-Process-A-Transaction.
    READ Input-File
         AT END SET EOF-On-Input-File TO TRUE
                GO TO 199-Exit
    END-READ.
    IF Input-Rec of Input-File = SPACES
        GO TO 199-Exit  *> IGNORE BLANK RECORDS!
```

```
    END-IF.
    <<process the record just read>>
199-Exit. EXIT.
```

C. In this case, the `EXIT` statement takes no other run-time action.

5. The following points apply to the `EXIT PARAGRAPH` and `EXIT SECTION` statements:

   A. If an `EXIT PARAGRAPH` statement or `EXIT SECTION` statement resides in a paragraph *within* the scope of a procedural `PERFORM` (see Procedural PERFORM), control will be returned back to the `PERFORM` for evaluation of any `TIMES`, `VARYING` and/or `UNTIL` clauses.

   B. If an `EXIT PARAGRAPH` statement or `EXIT SECTION` statement resides *outside* the scope of a procedural `PERFORM`, control simply transfers to the first executable statement in the next paragraph (`EXIT PARAGRAPH`) or section (`EXIT SECTION`).

   C. The following shows how the previous example could have been coded without a `GO TO` by utilizing an `EXIT PARAGRAPH` statement.

```
01  Switches.
    05 Input-File-Switch PIC X(1).
       88 EOF-On-Input-File VALUE ``Y'' FALSE ``N''.
…
    SET EOF-On-Input-File TO FALSE.
    PERFORM 100-Process-A-Transaction
        UNTIL EOF-On-Input-File.
…
100-Process-A-Transaction.
    READ Input-File
         AT END SET EOF-On-Input-File TO TRUE
                EXIT PARAGRAPH
    END-READ.
    IF Input-Rec of Input-File = SPACES
        EXIT PARAGRAPH *> IGNORE BLANK RECORDS!
    END-IF.
    <<process the record just read>>
```

6. The following points apply to the `EXIT PERFORM` and `EXIT PERFORM CYCLE` statements:

   A. The `EXIT PERFORM` and `EXIT PERFORM CYCLE` statements are intended to be used in conjunction with an in-line `PERFORM` statement (see Inline PERFORM).

   B. An `EXIT PERFORM CYCLE` statement will terminate the current iteration of the in-line `PERFORM`, giving control to any `TIMES`, `VARYING` and/or `UNTIL` clauses for them to determine if another cycle needs to be performed.

C. An `EXIT PERFORM` statement will terminate the in-line PERFORM outright, transferring control to the first statement following the `END-PERFORM` (if there is one) or to the next sentence following the `PERFORM` if there is no `END-PERFORM`.

D. This last example shows the final modification to the previous examples by using an in-line `PERFORM` along with `EXIT PERFORM` and `EXIT PERFORM CYCLE` statements:

```
PERFORM FOREVER
    READ Input-File
         AT END EXIT PERFORM
    END-READ
    IF Input-Rec of Input-File = SPACES
        EXIT PERFORM CYCLE *> IGNORE BLANK RECORDS!
    END-IF
    <<process the record just read>>
END PERFORM
```

7. The following points apply to the `EXIT PROGRAM` and `EXIT FUNCTION` statements:

A. The `EXIT PROGRAM` and `EXIT FUNCTION` statements terminate the execution of a subroutine (i.e. a program that has been CALLed by another) or user-defined function, respectively, returning control back to the calling program.

B. An `EXIT PROGRAM` statement returns control back to the statement following the `CALL` (see CALL) of the subprogram. An `EXIT FUNCTION` statement returns control back to the processing of the statement in the calling program that invoked the user-defined function.

C. For `EXIT PROGRAM` statement usage of `RETURNING` statement or `GIVING` statement will provide value defined by indentifer-1 or literal-1 back to the calling routine.

D. If executed by a main program, neither the `EXIT PROGRAM` nor `EXIT FUNCTION` statements will take any action.

E. The COBOL2002 standard has made a common extension to the COBOL language — the `GOBACK` statement (see GOBACK) — a standard language element; the `GOBACK` statement should be strongly considered as the preferred alternative to both `EXIT PROGRAM` and `EXIT FUNCTION` for new subprograms.

8.8.19 FREE

FREE Syntax

==========

```
FREE { [ ADDRESS OF ] identifier-1 }...
~~~~     ~~~~~~~
```

==========

The FREE statement releases memory previously allocated to the program by the ALLOCATE statement (see ALLOCATE).

1. The ADDRESS OF clause is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this clause has no effect upon the program.
2. <identifier-1> must have a USAGE (see USAGE) of POINTER, or it must be an 01-level data item with the BASED (see BASED) attribute.
3. If <identifier-1> is a USAGE POINTER data item and it contains a valid address, the FREE statement will release the memory block the pointer references. In addition, any BASED data items that the pointer was used to provide an address for will become un-based and therefore unusable. If <identifier-1> did not contain a valid address, no action will be taken.
4. If <identifier-1> is a BASED data item and that data item is currently based (meaning it currently has memory allocated to it), its memory is released and <identifier-1> will become un-based and therefore unusable. If <identifier-1> was not based, no action will be taken.

8.8.20 GENERATE

GENERATE Syntax

==========

```
GENERATE { report-name-1 }
~~~~~~~~ { identifier-1  }
```

==========

The GENERATE statement presents data to a report.

1. The following points apply when <identifier-1> is specified:
   A. <identifier-1> must be the name of a DETAIL (see RWCS Lexicon) report group.
   B. If necessary, <identifier-1> may be qualified with a report name.
   C. The file in whose FD a REPORT clause exists for the report in which <identifier-1> is a detail group must be opened for OUTPUT or EXTEND at the time the GENERATE is executed. See OPEN, for information on file open modes.

D. The report in which <identifier-1> is a `DETAIL` group must have been successfully initiated via the `INITIATE` statement (see INITIATE) and not yet terminated via the `TERMINATE` statement (see TERMINATE) at the time the `GENERATE` is executed.

E. If at least one `GENERATE` statement of this form is executed against a report, the report is said to be a detail report. If no `GENERATE` statements of this form are executed against a report, the report is said to be a summary report.

2. The following points apply when <report-name-1> is specified:

   A. <report-name-1> must be the name of a report having an `RD` defined for it in the report section.

   B. There must be at least one `CONTROL` (see RWCS Lexicon) group defined for <report-name-1>.

   C. There cannot be more than one `DETAIL` group defined for <report-name-1>.

   D. The file in whose `FD` a `REPORT report-name-1` clause exists must be open for `OUTPUT` or `EXTEND` at the time the GENERATE is executed.

   E. <report-name-1> must have been successfully initiated (via `INITIATE report-name-1`) and not yet terminated (via TERMINATE) at the time the `GENERATE` is executed. See OPEN, for information on file open modes.

   F. The `DETAIL` group which is defined for <report-name-1> *will* be processed but will not actually be presented to any report page. This will allow summary processing to take place. If all `GENERATE` statements are of this form, the report is said to be a summary report. If at least one `GENERATE identifier-1` is executed, the report is considered to be a detail report.

3. When the first `GENERATE` statement for a report is executed, the contents of all control fields are saved so they may be referenced during the processing of subsequent `GENERATE` statements.

4. When, during the processing of a subsequent `GENERATE`, it is determined that a control field has changed value (ie. a control break has occurred), the appropriate control footing and control heading processing will take place and a snapshot of the current values of all control fields will again be saved.

8.8.21 GOBACK

GOBACK Syntax

```
=================================================================
```

```
GOBACK [ RETURNING|GIVING { literal-1    } ]
~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ { identifier-1 }
```

==========

The `GOBACK` statement is used to logically terminate an executing program.

1. If executed within a subprogram (i.e. a subroutine or user-defined function), `GOBACK` behaves like an `EXIT PROGRAM` or `EXIT FUNCTION` statement, respectively.
2. If executed within a main program, `GOBACK` will act as a `STOP RUN` statement.
3. The optional `RETURNING` clause provides the opportunity to return a numeric value to the operating system (technically, an *exit status* The manner in which the exit status value is interrogated by the operating system varies. Windows can use `%ERRORLEVEL%` to query the exit status while Unix shells such as `sh`, `bash` and `ksh` can query the exit status as `$?`. Other Unix shells may have different ways to access the exit status.

8.8.22 GO TO

8.8.22.1 Simple GO TO

Simple GO TO Syntax

==========

```
GO TO procedure-name-1
~~

GO TO ENTRY literal-1
~~    ~~~~~
```

==========

This form of the `GO TO` statement unconditionally transfers control in a program to the first executable statement within the specified <procedure-name-1>.

1. The reserved word `TO` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. If this format of the `GO TO` statement appears in a consecutive sequence of imperative statements (see Imperative Statement) within a sentence, it must be the *final* statement in the sentence.
3. If a `GO TO` is executed within the scope of...
   A. ...an in-line `PERFORM` (see PERFORM), the `PERFORM` is terminated as control of execution transfers to <procedure-name-1>.
   B. ...a procedural `PERFORM` (see PERFORM), and <procedure-name-1> lies outside the scope of that `PERFORM`, the `PERFORM` is terminated as control of execution transfers to <procedure-name-1>.

C. ...a MERGE statement (see MERGE) OUTPUT PROCEDURE or within the scope of either an INPUT PROCEDURE or OUTPUT PROCEDURE of a SORT statement (see File SORT), and <procedure-name-1> lies outside the scope of that procedure, the SORT or MERGE operation is terminated as control of execution transfers to <procedure-name-1>. Any sorted or merged data accumulated to that point is lost.

4. A GO TO ENTRY is an GnuCOBOL special purpose extension for use with various GnuCobol tools and is not part of any current ISO standard. See also ENTRY.
5. The GO TO ENTRY format has to be used together with ENTRY FOR GO TO.

8.8.22.2 GO TO DEPENDING ON

GO TO DEPENDING ON Syntax

```
========================================================================

GO TO {procedure-name-1}... DEPENDING ON identifier-1
~~                           ~~~~~~~~~

GO TO ENTRY {literal-1}... DEPENDING ON identifier-1
~~    ~~~~~                ~~~~~~~~~


========================================================================
```

This form of the GO TO statement will transfer control to any one of a number of specified procedure names depending on the numeric value of the identifier specified on the statement.

1. The reserved word TO is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program but does help with read-ability.
2. The PICTURE (see PICTURE) and/or USAGE (see USAGE) of the specified <identifier-1> must be such as to define it as a numeric, unedited, preferably unsigned integer data item.
3. If the value of <identifier-1> has the value 1, control will be transferred to the 1st specified procedure name. If the value is 2, control will transfer to the 2nd procedure name, and so on.
4. The GO TO ENTRY ... DEPENDING ON format has to be used together with ENTRY FOR GO TO.

   If control of execution is transferred to a procedure named on the statement, and the GO TO is executed within the scope of...

   A. ...an in-line PERFORM (see PERFORM), the PERFORM is terminated as control of execution transfers to the procedure named on the statement.

B. ...a procedural `PERFORM` (see PERFORM), and <procedure-name-1> lies outside the scope of that `PERFORM`, the `PERFORM` is terminated as control of execution transfers to the procedure named on the statement.

C. ...a `MERGE` statement (see MERGE) `OUTPUT PROCEDURE` or within the scope of either an `INPUT PROCEDURE` or `OUTPUT PROCEDURE` of a `SORT` statement (see File SORT), and <procedure-name-1> lies outside the scope of that procedure, the `SORT` or `MERGE` operation is terminated as control of execution transfers to the procedure named on the statement. Any sorted or merged data accumulated to that point is lost.

5. If the value of <identifier-1> is less than 1 or exceeds the total number of procedure names specified on the statement, control will simply fall through into the next statement following the `GO TO`.

6. The following example shows how `GO TO ... DEPENDING ON` may be used in a real application situation, and compares it against an alternative — `EVALUATE` (see EVALUATE).

GO TO DEPENDING ON

```
    GO TO
      ACCT-TYPE-1
      ACCT-TYPE-2
      ACCT-TYPE-3
    DEPENDING ON Acct-Type.
    <<< Invalid Acct Type >>>
    GO TO All-Done.
Acct-Type-1.
    <<< Handle Acct Type 1 >>>
    GO TO All-Done.
Acct-Type-2.
    <<< Handle Acct Type 2 >>>
    GO TO All-Done.
Acct-Type-3.
    <<< Handle Acct Type 3 >>>
All-Done.
```

EVALUATE

```
EVALUATE Acct-Type
WHEN 1
    <<< Handle Acct Type 1 >>>
WHEN 2
    <<< Handle Acct Type 2 >>>
WHEN 3
    <<< Handle Acct Type 3 >>>
WHEN OTHER
    <<< Invalid Acct Type >>>
END-EVALUATE.
```

7. Current programming philosophy would prefer the use of the `EVALUATE` statement to that of this form of the `GO TO` statement.

8.8.23 IF

IF Syntax

==========

```
  IF conditional-expression
  ~~
  THEN { imperative-statement-1 }
       { NEXT SENTENCE          }
         ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
[ ELSE { imperative-statement-2 } ]
  ~~~~ { NEXT SENTENCE          }
         ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
[ END-IF ]
  ~~~~~~
```

==========

The `IF` statement is used to conditionally execute an imperative statement (see Imperative Statement) or to select one of two different imperative statements to execute based upon the `TRUE`/`FALSE` value of a conditional expression.

1. The reserved word `THEN` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. You cannot use both `NEXT SENTENCE` and the `END-IF` scope terminator in the same `IF` statement.
3. If <conditional-expression> evaluates to `TRUE`, <imperative-statement-1> will be executed regardless of whether or not an `ELSE` clause is present. Once <imperative-statement-1> has been executed, control falls into the first statement following the `END-IF` or to the first statement of the next sentence if there is no `END-IF` clause.
4. If the optional `ELSE` clause is present and conditional-expression evaluates to false, then (and only then) <imperative-statement-2> will be executed. Once <imperative-statement-2> has been executed, control falls into the first statement following the `END-IF` or to the first statement of the next sentence if there is no `END-IF` clause.
5. The clause `NEXT SENTENCE` may be substituted for either imperative-statement, but not both. If control reaches a `NEXT SENTENCE` clause due to the truth or falsehood of <conditional-expression>, control will be transferred to the first statement of the next sentence found in the program (the first statement after the next period).

   `NEXT SENTENCE` was needed for COBOL programs that were coded according to pre-1985 standards that wish to nest one `IF` statement inside another. See Use of VERB/END-VERB Constructs, for an explanation of why `NEXT SENTENCE` was necessary.

   Programs coded for 1985 (and beyond) standards don't need it, instead using the explicit scope-terminator `END-IF` to inform the compiler where <imperative-statement-2> (or <imperative-statement-1> if there is no `ELSE` clause coded) ends. New GnuCOBOL programs

should be coded to use the `END-IF` scope terminator for `IF` statements. See Use of VERB/END-VERB Constructs, for additional information.

8.8.24 INITIALIZE

INITIALIZE Syntax

==========

```
INITIALIZE|INITIALISE identifier-1...
~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~
    [ WITH FILLER ]
           ~~~~~~
    [ { category-name-1 } TO VALUE ]
      { ALL             }    ~~~~~
        ~~~
    [ THEN REPLACING { category-name-2 DATA BY
           ~~~~~~~~~                        ~~
         [ LENGTH OF ] { literal-1    } }... ]
           ~~~~~~      { identifier-1 }

    [ THEN TO DEFAULT ]
             ~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `INITIALIZE` statement initializes each <identifier-1> with certain specific values, depending upon the options specified.

1. The reserved words `DATA`, `OF`, `THEN`, `TO` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `INITIALIZE` and `INITIALISE` are interchangeable.
3. The `WITH FILLER`, `REPLACING` and `DEFAULT` clauses are meaningful only if <identifier-1> is a group item. They are accepted if it's an elementary item, but will serve no purpose. The `VALUE` clause is meaningful in both cases.
4. A <category-name-1> and/or <category-name-2> may be any of the following:

   ALPHABETIC
   The `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) of the data item only contains `A` symbols.

   ALPHANUMERIC
   The `PICTURE` of the data item contains only `X` or a combination of `A` and `9` symbols.

ALPHANUMERIC-EDITED
: The `PICTURE` of the data item contains only `X` or a combination of `A` and `9` symbols plus at least one `B`, `0` (zero) or `/` symbol.

NUMERIC
: The data item is one that is described with a picture less `USAGE` (see USAGE) or has a `PICTURE` composed of nothing but `P`, `9`, `S` and `V` symbols.

NUMERIC-EDITED
: The `PICTURE` of the data item contains nothing but the symbol `9` and at least one of the editing symbols `$`, `+`, `-`, `CR`, `DB`, `.`, `,`, `*` or `Z`.

NATIONAL
: The data item is one containing nothing but the `N` symbol.

NATIONAL-EDITED
: The data item contains nothing but `N`, `B`, `/` and `0` symbols.

5. From the sequence of <identifier-1> data items specified on the `INITIALIZE` statement, a list of initialized fields referred to as the *field list* in the remainder of this section, will include:

   A. Every <identifier-1> that is an elementary item, including any that may have the `REDEFINES` (see REDEFINES) clause in their descriptions.

   B. Every non-`FILLER` elementary item subordinate to <identifier-1>, provided that elementary item neither contains a `REDEFINES` clause in its definition nor belongs to a group item *subordinate to* <identifier-1> which contains a `REDEFINES` clause in its definition.

   C. If the optional `WITH FILLER` clause is included on the `INITIALIZE` statement, then every FILLER elementary item subordinate to each <identifier-1> will be included as well, provided that elementary item neither contains a `REDEFINES` clause in its definition nor belongs to a group item *subordinate to* <identifier-1> which contains a `REDEFINES` clause in its definition..

6. Once a field list has been determined, each item in that field list will be initialized as if an individual `MOVE` (see MOVE) statement to that effect had been coded. The rules for initialization are as follows:

7. If no `VALUE`, `REPLACING` or `DEFAULT` clauses are coded, each member of the field list will be initialized as if the figurative constant `ZERO` (if the field list item is numeric or numeric-edited) or `SPACES` (otherwise) were being moved to it.

8. If a `VALUE` clause is specified on the `INITIALIZE` statement, each qualifying member of the field list having a compile-time `VALUE` (see VALUE) specified in its definition will be initial-

ized to that value. Field list members with VALUE clauses will qualify for this treatment as follows:

A. If the ALL keyword was specified on the VALUE clause, all members of the field list with VALUE clauses will qualify.

B. If <category-name-1> is specified instead of ALL, only those members of the field list with VALUE clauses that also meet the criteria set down for the specified <category-name> (see the list above) will qualify.

C. If you need to apply VALUE initialization to multiple <category-name-1> values, you will need to use multiple INITIALIZE statements.

9. If a REPLACING clause is specified on the INITIALIZE statement, each qualifying member of the field list that was not already initialized by a VALUE clause, if any, will be initialized to the specified <literal-1> or <identifier-1> value.

   Only those as-yet uninitialized list members meeting the criteria set forth for the specified <category-name-2> will qualify for this initialization.

   If you need to apply REPLACING initialization to multiple <category-name-2> values, you may repeat the syntax after the reserved word REPLACING, as necessary.

10. If a DEFAULT clause is specified, any remaining uninitialized members of the field list will be initialized according to the default for their class (numeric and numeric-edited are initialized to ZERO, all others are initialized to SPACES).

11. The following example may help your understanding of how the INITIALIZE statement works. The sample code makes use of the COBDUMP program to dump the storage that is (or is not) being initialized. See section “COBDUMP” in GnuCOBOL Sample Programs, for a source and cross-reference listing of the COBDUMP program.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DemoInitialize.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Item-1.
    05 I1-A VALUE ALL '*'.
       10 FILLER               PIC X(1).
       10 I1-A-1               PIC 9(1) VALUE 9.
    05 I1-B                    USAGE BINARY-CHAR.
    05 I1-C                    PIC A(1) VALUE 'C'.
    05 I1-D                    PIC X/X VALUE 'ZZ'.
    05 I1-E                    OCCURS 2 TIMES PIC 9.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
```

```
000-Main.
    DISPLAY "MOVE HIGH-VALUES TO Item-1"
        PERFORM 100-Init-Item-1
        CALL "COBDUMP" USING Item-1
        DISPLAY " "

    DISPLAY "INITIALIZE Item-1"
        INITIALIZE Item-1
        CALL "COBDUMP" USING Item-1
        PERFORM 100-Init-Item-1
        DISPLAY " "

    DISPLAY "INITIALIZE Item-1 WITH FILLER"
        MOVE HIGH-VALUES TO Item-1
        INITIALIZE Item-1 WITH FILLER
        CALL "COBDUMP" USING Item-1
        PERFORM 100-Init-Item-1
        DISPLAY " "

    DISPLAY "INITIALIZE Item-1 ALL TO VALUE"
        MOVE HIGH-VALUES TO Item-1
        INITIALIZE Item-1 ALPHANUMERIC TO VALUE
        CALL "COBDUMP" USING Item-1
        PERFORM 100-Init-Item-1
        DISPLAY " "

    DISPLAY "INITIALIZE Item-1 REPLACING NUMERIC BY 1"
        MOVE HIGH-VALUES TO Item-1
        INITIALIZE Item-1 REPLACING NUMERIC BY 1
        CALL "COBDUMP" USING Item-1
        PERFORM 100-Init-Item-1
        DISPLAY " "

    STOP RUN
    .

100-Init-Item-1.
    MOVE HIGH-VALUES TO Item-1
    .
```

When executed, this program produces the following output:

```
MOVE HIGH-VALUES TO Item-1
<-Addr-> Byte <---------------- Hexadecimal ----------------> <---- Char ---->
======== ==== ================================================ ================
00404058    1 FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF                       .........

INITIALIZE Item-1
<-Addr-> Byte <---------------- Hexadecimal ----------------> <---- Char ---->
======== ==== ================================================ ================
00404058    1 FF 30 00 20 20 2F 20 30 30                       .0.  / 00

INITIALIZE Item-1 WITH FILLER
<-Addr-> Byte <---------------- Hexadecimal ----------------> <---- Char ---->
======== ==== ================================================ ================
00404058    1 20 30 00 20 20 2F 20 30 30                        0.  / 00

INITIALIZE Item-1 ALL TO VALUE
<-Addr-> Byte <---------------- Hexadecimal ----------------> <---- Char ---->
======== ==== ================================================ ================
00404058    1 2A 2A FF 43 5A 5A 20 FF FF                       **.CZZ ..

INITIALIZE Item-1 REPLACING NUMERIC BY 1
<-Addr-> Byte <---------------- Hexadecimal ----------------> <---- Char ---->
======== ==== ================================================ ================
00404058    1 FF 31 01 FF FF FF FF 31 31                       .1.....11
```

8.8.25 INITIATE

INITIATE Syntax

==========

```
INITIATE { report-name-1 }...
~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `INITIATE` statement starts Report-Writer Control System (RWCS) processing for a report.

1. Each <report-name-1> must be the name of a report having an `RD` (see REPORT SECTION) defined for it.
2. The file in whose `FD` (see File/Sort-Description) a `REPORT report-name-1` clause exists must be open for `OUTPUT` or `EXTEND` at the time the `INITIATE` statement is executed. See OPEN, for more information on file open modes.

3. The `INITIATE` statement will initialize all of the following for each report named on the statement:
   - All sum counters, if any, will be set to 0
   - The report's `LINE-COUNTER` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to 0
   - The report's `PAGE-COUNTER` special register will be set to 1
4. No report content will actually presented to the report file as a result of a successful `INITIATE` statement — that will not occur until the first `GENERATE` statement (see GENERATE) is executed.

8.8.26 INSPECT

INSPECT Syntax

==========

```
INSPECT { literal-1           }
~~~~~~~ { identifier-1        }
        { function-reference-1 }

 [ TALLYING { identifier-2 FOR { ALL|LEADING|TRAILING { literal-2    } }
   ~~~~~~~~               ~~~ { ~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~ { identifier-3 } }
                              { CHARACTERS                           }
                                ~~~~~~~~~~
              [ | { AFTER|BEFORE } INITIAL { literal-3    } | ] }... ]
                |   ~~~~~ ~~~~~~           { identifier-4 } |

 [ REPLACING { { { ALL|FIRST|LEADING|TRAILING { literal-4    } }
   ~~~~~~~~~   { { ~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~ { identifier-5 } }
               { CHARACTERS                                   }
               { ~~~~~~~~~~                                   }

                BY { [ ALL ] literal-5 }
                ~~ {   ~~~             }
                   { identifier-6      }

              [ | { AFTER|BEFORE } INITIAL { literal-6    } | ] }... ]
                |   ~~~~~ ~~~~~~           { identifier-7 } |

 [ CONVERTING { { literal-7    } TO { literal-8    }
   ~~~~~~~~~~   { identifier-8 } ~~ { identifier-9 }
```

```
                [ | { AFTER|BEFORE } INITIAL { literal-9     } | ] ]
                  |   ~~~~~ ~~~~~~           { identifier-10 } |
```

==========

The `INSPECT` statement is used to perform various counting and/or data-alteration operations against strings.

1. The reserved word `INITIAL` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this words has no effect upon the program.
2. If a `CONVERTING` clause is specified, neither the `TALLYING` nor `REPLACING` clauses may be used.
3. If either the `TALLYING` or `REPLACING` clauses are specified, the `CONVERTING` clause cannot be used.
4. If both the `TALLYING` and `REPLACING` clauses are specified, they must be specified in the order shown.
5. All literals and identifiers must be explicitly or implicitly defined as alphanumeric or alphabetic.
6. If <function-reference-1> is specified, it must be an invocation of an intrinsic function that returns a *string* result. Additionally, only the `TALLYING` clause may be specified.
7. If <literal-1> is specified, only the `TALLYING` clause may be specified.
8. Whichever is specified — <literal-1>, <identifier-1> or <function-reference-1> — that item will be referred to in the discussions that follows as the '*inspect subject*'.
9. The three optional clauses control the operation of this statement as follows:
   A. The `CONVERTING` clause replaces one or more individual characters found in the inspect subject with a different character in much the same manner as is possible with the `TRANSFORM` statement (see TRANSFORM).
   B. The `REPLACING` clause replaces one or more sub strings located in the inspect subject with a different, but equally-sized replacement sub string. If you need to replace a sub string with another of a *different* length, consider using either the `SUBSTITUTE` intrinsic function (see SUBSTITUTE) or the `SUBSTITUTE-CASE` intrinsic function (see SUBSTITUTE-CASE).
   C. The `TALLYING` clause counts the number of occurrences of one or more strings of characters in the inspect subject.
10. The optional `INITIAL` clauses may be used to limit the range of characters in the inspect subject that the `CONVERTING`, `REPLACING` or `TALLYING` instruction in which they occur will

apply. We call this the '*target range*' of the inspect subject. The target range is defined as follows:

A. If there is no `INITIAL` clause specified, the target range is the entire inspect subject.

B. Either a `BEFORE` phrase, an `AFTER` phrase or both may be specified. They may be specified in any order.

C. The starting point of the target range will be the first character following the sub string identified by the `AFTER` specification. The ending point will be the last character immediately preceding the sub string identified by the `BEFORE` specification.

D. If no `AFTER` is specified, the first character position of the target range will be character position #1 of the inspect subject.

E. If no `BEFORE` is specified, the last character position of the target range will be the last character position of the inspect subject.

11. The following points apply to the use of the `TALLYING` clause:

    A. While there will typically be only be a single set of counting instructions on an `INSPECT`:

    ```
    INSPECT Character-String
        TALLYING C-ABC FOR ALL "ABC"
    ```

    There could be multiple counting instructions specified:

    ```
    INSPECT Character-String
        TALLYING C-ABC FOR ALL "ABC"
                 C-BCDE FOR ALL "BCDE"
    ```

    When there *are* multiple instructions, the one specified first will take priority over the one specified second, (and so forth) as the `INSPECT` proceeds forward through the inspect subject, character-by-character.

    With the above example, if the inspect subject were `--ABCDEF----BCDEF--`, the final result of the counting would be that `C-ABC` would be incremented by 1 while `C-BCDE` would be incremented only once; although the human eye clearly sees two '`BCDE`' sequences, the `INSPECT ... TALLYING` would only "see" the second — the first would have been processed by the first (higher-priority) counting instruction.

    B. Each set of counting instructions contains the following information:

        a. A target range, specified by the presence of an `AFTER INITIAL` and/or `BEFORE INITIAL` clause; the rules for specifying target ranges were covered previously.

b. A Target Sub string — this is a sequence of characters to be located somewhere in the inspect subject and counted. Target sub strings may be defined as a literal value (figurative constants are allowed) or by the contents of an identifier. If the target sub string is specified as a figurative constant, it will be assumed to have a length of one ('1') character. The keywords before the literal or identifier control how many target sub strings could be identified from that replacement instruction, as follows:

   `ALL` — identifies every possible target sub string that occurs within the target range. There are three occurrences of `ALL 'XX'` found in `aXXabbXXccXXdd`.

   `LEADING` — identifies only an occurrence of the target sub string found either at the first character position of the target range or immediately following a previously-found occurrence. There are no occurrences of `LEADING 'XX'` found in `aXXabbXXccXXdd`, but there is one occurrence of `LEADING 'a'` (the first character).

   `TRAILING` — identifies only an occurrence of the target sub string found either at the very end of the target range or toward the end, followed by nothing but other occurrences. There are no occurrences of `LEADING 'XX'` found in `aXXabbXXccXXdd`, but there are two occurrences of `TRAILING 'd'`.

   The `CHARACTERS` option will match any one single character, regardless of what that character is.

C. <identifier-2> will be incremented by 1 each time the target sub string is found within the target range of the inspect subject. The `INSPECT` statement *will not* zero-out <identifier-2> at the start of execution of the `INSPECT` — it is the programmer's responsibility to ensure that all <identifier-2> data items are properly initialized to the desired starting values prior to execution of the `INSPECT`.

12. The following points apply to the use of the `REPLACING` clause:

A. While there will typically be only be a single set of replacement instructions on an `INSPECT`:

```
INSPECT Character-String REPLACING ALL "ABC" BY "DEF"
```

There could be multiple replacement instructions:

```
INSPECT Character-String REPLACING ALL "ABC"  BY "DEF"
                                   ALL "BCDE" BY "WXYZ"
```

When there *are* multiple replacement instructions, the one specified first will take priority over the one specified second, (and so forth) as the `INSPECT` proceeds forward through the inspect subject, character-by-character.

With the above example, if the inspect subject were `--ABCDEF----BCDEF--`, the final result of the replacement would be `--DEFDEF----WXYZF--`.

B. Each set of replacement instructions contains the following information:

   a. A target range, specified by the presence of an `AFTER INITIAL` and/or `BEFORE INITIAL` clause; the rules for specifying target ranges were covered previously.

   b. A Target Sub string — this is a sequence of characters to be located somewhere in the inspect subject and subsequently replaced with a new value. Target sub strings, which are specified before the `BY` keyword, may be defined as a literal value (figurative constants are allowed) or by the contents of an identifier. If the target sub string is specified as a figurative constant, it will be assumed to have a length of one ('`1`') character. The keywords before the literal or identifier control how many target sub strings could be identified from that replacement instruction, as follows:

      `ALL` — identifies every possible target sub string that occurs within the target range. There are three occurrences of `ALL 'XX'` found in `aXXabbXXccXXdd`.

      `FIRST` — the first occurrence of the target sub string found within the target range. The `FIRST 'XX'` found in `aXXabbXXccXXdd` would be the one found between the '`a`' and '`b`' characters.

      `LEADING` — an occurrence of the target sub string found either at the first character position of the target range or immediately following a previously-found occurrence. There are no occurrences of `LEADING 'XX'` found in `aXXabbXXccXXdd`, but there is one occurrence of `LEADING 'a'` (the first character).

      `TRAILING` — an occurrence of the target sub string found either at the very end of the target range or toward the end, followed by nothing but other occurrences. There are no occurrences of `LEADING 'XX'` found in `aXXabbXXccXXdd`, but there are two occurrences of `TRAILING 'd'`.

      The `CHARACTERS` option will match any one single character. When you use this option, the replacement sub string (see the next item) must be exactly one character in length.

   c. A Replacement Sub string — this is the sequence of characters that should replace the target sub string. Replacement sub strings are specified after the `BY` keyword. They too may be specified as a literal, either with or without an `ALL` prefix (again, figurative constants are allowed) or the value of an identifier. If a figurative constant is coded, the `ALL` keyword will be assumed, even if it wasn't specified. Literals without `ALL` will either be truncated or padded with spaces on the right to match the length of the target sub string. Literals with `ALL` or figurative constants will be repeated as necessary to match the length of the target sub string. Identifiers

specified as replacement sub strings must be defined with a length equal to that of the target sub string.

13. When both `REPLACING` and `TALLYING` are specified:

    A. The `INSPECT` statement will make a single pass through the sequence of characters comprising the inspect subject. As the pointer to the current inspect target character reaches a point where it falls within the explicit or implicit target ranges specified on the operational instructions of the two clauses, the actions specified by those instructions will become eligible to be taken. As the character pointer reaches a point where it falls past the end of target ranges, the instructions belonging to those target ranges will become disabled.

    B. At any point in time, there may well be multiple `REPLACING` and/or `TALLYING` operational instructions active. Only one of the `TALLYING` and one of the `REPLACING` instructions (if any) can be executed for any one character pointer position. In each case, it will be the first of the instructions in each category that produces a match with its target string specification.

    C. When both a `TALLYING` and a `REPLACING` instruction have been selected for execution, the `TALLYING` instruction will be executed first. This guarantees that `TALLYING` will compute occurrences based upon the *initial* value of the inspect subject before any replacements occur.

14. The following points apply to the use of the `CONVERTING` clause:

    A. A `CONVERTING` clause performs a series of single-character substitutions against a data item in much the same manner as is possible with the `TRANSFORM` statement (see TRANSFORM).

    B. Unlike the `TALLYING` and `REPLACING` clauses, both of which may have multiple operations specified, there may be only one `CONVERTING` operation per `INSPECT`.

    C. If the length of <literal-7> or <identifier-8> (the “from” string) *exceeds* the length of <literal-8> or <identifier-9> (the “to” string), then the “to” string will be assumed to be padded to the right with enough spaces to make it the same length as the “from” string.

    D. If the length of the “from” string *is less than* the length of the “to” string, then the “to” string will be truncated to the length of the “from” string.

    E. Each character, in turn, within the “from” string will be searched for in the target range of the inspect subject. Each located occurrence will be replaced by the corresponding character of the “to” string.

8.8.27 JSON GENERATE

JSON GENERATE Syntax

```
========================================================================
JSON GENERATE identifier-1 FROM identifier-2
~~~~ ~~~~~~~~              ~~~~
   [ COUNT IN identifier-3 ]
     ~~~~~
   [ NAME OF {identifier-4 IS literal-1}... ]
     ~~~~
   [ SUPPRESS {identifier-5}... ]
     ~~~~~~~~
   [ ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1 ]
     ~~ ~~~~~~~~~
   [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
     ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~
[ END-JSON ]
  ~~~~~~~~
========================================================================
```

The `JSON GENERATE` statement creates a JSON document based on the structure and content of the input data item. It takes as input a source data item to generate and store the corresponding JSON document in a target data item. Both the source and receive data items must be declared in program's Data Division. The JSON generated document follows syntax rules described at https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc8259.

1. Identifier-1 is an alphanumeric data item, it will contain the generated JSON document output. It must be large enough to contain the generated JSON document. Typically, it should be from two to three times the size of identifier-2, depending on the length of the data-name or data-names within identifier-2. If identifier-1 is not large enough, an error condition exists at the end of the JSON GENERATE statement (see XML-CODE).
2. If identifier-1 is longer than the generated JSON document, only the initial part of identifier-1 changes. The rest of identifier-1 will contain the data that was present before this execution of the JSON GENERATE statement. To avoid referring to that data, either initialize identifier-1 to spaces before the JSON GENERATE statement or specify the COUNT IN phrase.
3. The element names in the JSON documents generated from identifier-2 are derived from the name of the data item specified by identifier-2 and from any eligible data-names that are subordinate to identifier-2. The following rules apply:

a. The exact mixed-case spelling of data-names from the data description entry is retained. The spellings from any references to that data item (for example, in an OCCURS DEPENDING ON clause) are not used.

b. Data-names beginning with a digit are prefixed by an underscore. For example, the data-name 4C becomes JSON name _4C.

FROM.

4. The group or elementary data item identifier-2 is to be converted to the JSON document. identifier-2 must not be described with the RENAMES clause. The following data items specified by identifier-2 are ignored by the JSON GENERATE statement:
   a. Any unnamed or FILLER data item with its subordinates.
   b. Any elementary data item that assumes a pointer, e.g. USAGE POINTER.
   c. Any data item (with its subordinates) subordinate to identifier-2 that is described with the REDEFINES clause.
   d. Any group item (with its subordinates) subordinate to identifier-2 that contains a non-unique name within the same level.
   e. Any group item that does not contain at least one elementary data item of category alphabetic, alphanumeric, numeric, or index.
   f. The content of each elementary data item within identifier-2 is converted to character format.
   g. Alphabetic, alphanumeric, alphanumeric-edited, external floating-point, and numeric-edited items are not converted.
5. Fixed-point numeric data items are converted as if they were moved to a numeric-edited item that has:
   a. An explicit decimal point, if the numeric item has at least one decimal position.
   b. The same number of decimal positions as the numeric item.
   c. A leading '-' picture symbol if the data item is signed and has an S in its PICTURE clause.
6. For COMPUTATIONAL-5 (COMP-5) binary data items, the number of integer positions depends on the number of '9' symbols in the picture character string. If the data item has one to four '9' picture symbols, the number of integer positions is five minus the number of decimal places. If the data item has five to nine '9' picture symbols, the number of integer positions is ten minus the number of decimal places. If the data item has 10 to 18 '9' picture symbols, the number of integer positions is 20 minus the number of decimal places.

7. All other fixed-point numeric data items will have as many integer positions as the numeric item, but with at least one integer position.
8. Internal floating-point data items are converted as if they were moved to a data item as follows:
    a. For COMP-1: an external floating-point data item with PICTURE −9.9(8)E+99.
    b. For COMP-2: an external floating-point data item with PICTURE −9.9(17)E+99 (illegal because of the number of digit positions).
9. Index data items are converted as if they were declared USAGE COMP-5 PICTURE S9(9). After conversion, leading and trailing spaces and leading zeroes are removed, as described under Data trimming.
10. After conversion, if a data item contains characters that are illegal in JSON, the value in the data item before conversion or trimming is represented in hexadecimal, and an element tag name with the prefix "hex." is substituted for the regular tag name. For example, if data item Customer-Name is found at run time to contain LOW-VALUES, the XML element tag name ‘hex.Customer-Name’ is used instead of the normal ‘Customer-Name’, and the content is represented as a string of pairs of zero digits.
11. Trailing spaces and leading zeroes are eliminated. Values converted from signed numeric values have their leading space removed if the value is positive. Values converted from numeric items have leading zeroes eliminated (after any initial minus sign). This is up to but not including the digit immediately before the actual or implied decimal point. Trailing zeroes after a decimal point are retained. For example: 012.340 becomes −12.340; 0000.45 becomes 0.45 ; 0013 becomes 13 ; 0000 becomes 0. Character values from alphabetic, alphanumeric data items have either trailing or leading spaces removed, depending on whether the corresponding data items have left or right justification, respectively left being the default. Trailing spaces are removed from values whose corresponding data items do not specify the JUSTIFIED clause. Leading spaces are removed from values whose data items do specify the JUSTIFIED clause. If a character value consists solely of spaces, all spaces are removed but one.

    COUNT IN.
12. Identifier-3 contains the count of generated JSON characters. It must be an integer data item and normally contains a length of the generated JSON document in bytes.
13. Use the COUNT IN phrase to determine the total number of character positions, in bytes, that were generated. identifier-3 will then contain this information after JSON GENERATE executes. You can use identifier-3 as a reference modification length field to refer to the part of identifier-2 that contains the generated JSON document.
14. Identifier-1, identifier-2, identifier-3 must not overlap each other.

NAME.

15. Allows you to supply element and attribute names.
16. Identifier-4 must reference identifier-2 or one of its subordinate data items. It cannot be a function identifier and cannot be reference modified or subscripted. It must not specify any data item which is ignored by the JSON GENERATE statement. For more information about identifier-2, see the description of identifier-2. If identifier-4 is specified more than once in the NAME phrase, the last specification is used.
17. Literal-1 must be an alphanumeric literal containing the attribute or element name to be generated in the JSON document corresponding to identifier-4.

    SUPPRESS.

18. Optionally, you can code the SUPPRESS phrase to specify whether individual data items are generated based on whether or not they meet certain criteria. If the SUPPRESS phrase is specified, identifier-1 must be large enough to contain the generated JSON document before any suppression.
19. With the generic-suppression-phrase, elementary items subordinate to identifier-2 that are not otherwise ignored by JSON GENERATE operations are identified generically for potential suppression.

    ON EXCEPTION and NOT ON EXCEPTION.

20. When an error occurs during JSON document generation, an exception condition exists. An example of this is when identifier-1 is not large enough to contain the generated XML document. In this case, JSON generation stops and the content of the receiver, identifier-1, is undefined. If the COUNT IN phrase was specified, identifier-3 contains the number of character positions that were generated. This can range from zero to the length of identifier-1.
21. If the ON EXCEPTION phrase is specified, control is transferred to imperative-statement-1. If it is not specified, NOT ON EXCEPTION phrases are ignored, and control is transferred to the end of the JSON GENERATE statement.
22. At termination of an JSON GENERATE statement, special register JSON-CODE contains either 0, indicating successful completion of JSON generation, or a non-zero error code, indicating that an exception occurred during JSON generation.
23. If no exception conditions arise during generation of the JSON document, control is passed to imperative-statement-2, if specified, or to the end of the JSON GENERATE statement. If an ON EXCEPTION phrase is specified, it is ignored. Special register JSON-CODE contains a zero after the JSON GENERATE statement has finished executing.

    END-JSON.

24. Is an explicit scope terminator that delimits the scope of JSON GENERATE statement. With END-JSON, conditional JSON GENERATE statements can be nested in other conditional statements. Conditional JSON GENERATE statements specify the ON EXCEPTION or NOT ON EXCEPTION phrase.
25. The scope of a conditional JSON GENERATE or JSON PARSE statement is terminated by:
    a. An END-JSON phrase at the same level of nesting
    b. A separator period

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. JSONGEN.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 payload.
    03 reference-id               pic x(10).
    03 model-specific-data .
      05 model-id                 pic x(10).
      05 model-values.
         10 model-attrib-name     pic x(01).
         10 model-value           pic x(3).
         10 model-value-boolean   pic x.
            88 true-val           value 't'.
01  PAYLOAD-JSON                  pic U(500).
01  JSON-LEN                      pic 9999.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
1000-init-data.
    move spaces     to payload payload-json.
    move "abc123"   to REFERENCE-ID.
    move "model 01" to MODEL-ID.
    move "a"        to model-attrib-name.
    move "A01"      to model-value.
    move "t"        to model-value-boolean.
2000-create-json.
    JSON GENERATE PAYLOAD-JSON FROM PAYLOAD
         COUNT json-len
         SUPPRESS model-value
    END-JSON.
9000-ending.
    DISPLAY function concatenate("COUNT= " json-len)
    display "JSON DOCUMENT = "
```

```
       display PAYLOAD-JSON
       GOBACK.
```

8.8.28 JSON PARSE

JSON PARSE Syntax

==========

```
   JSON PARSE identifier-1 INTO identifier-2
   ~~~~ ~~~~~              ~~~~
      [ WITH DETAIL ]
             ~~~~~~
      [ NAME OF {identifier-3 IS literal-1}... ]
        ~~~~
      [ SUPPRESS {identifier-4}... ]
        ~~~~~~~~
      [ ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1 ]
          ~~~~~~~~~
      [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
        ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~
 [ END-JSON ]
   ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `JSON PARSE` statement starts an event-driven JSON parser, the processing procedure is performed as each component of the JSON document is identified in order.

This statement is not available in the runtime yet and will raise a JSON exception during execution.

8.8.29 MERGE

MERGE Syntax

==========

```
MERGE sort-file-1 { ON { ASCENDING  } KEY { identifier-1 }... }...
~~~~~                  { ~~~~~~~~~  }
                       { DESCENDING }
                        ~~~~~~~~~~
   [ WITH DUPLICATES IN ORDER ]
          ~~~~~~~~~~
   [ COLLATING SEQUENCE IS alphabet-name-1 ]
               ~~~~~~~~
```

```
  USING file-name-1 { file-name-2 }...
  ~~~~~
{ GIVING { file-name-3 }...                        }
{ ~~~~~~                                                  }
{ OUTPUT PROCEDURE IS procedure-name-1 [THRU|THROUGH procedure-name-2 ]  }
  ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~                      ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
```

The `DUPLICATES` clause is syntactically recognized but is otherwise non-functional.

==========

The `MERGE` statement merges the contents of two or more files that have each been pre-sorted on a set of specified identical keys.

1. The reserved words `IN`, `IS`, `KEY`, `ON`, `ORDER`, `SEQUENCE` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
3. GnuCOBOL always behaves as if the `WITH DUPLICATES IN ORDER` clause is specified, even if it isn't.

   While any COBOL implementation's sort or merge facilities guarantee that records with duplicate key values will be in proper sequence with regard to other records with different key values, they generally make no promises as to the resulting relative sequence of records having duplicate key values with one another.

   Some COBOL implementations provide this optional clause to force their sort and merge facilities to retain duplicate key-value records in their original input sequence, relative to one another.
4. The <sort-file-1> named on the `MERGE` statement must be defined using a sort description (`SD` (see File/Sort-Description)). This file is referred to in the remainder of this discussion as the *merge work file*.
5. Each <file-name-1>, <file-name-2> and <file-name-3> (if specified) must reference `ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL` (see ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL) or `ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL` (see ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL) files. These files must be defined using a file description (`FD` (see File/Sort-Description)).
6. The <identifier-1> ... field(s) must be defined as field(s) within a record of <sort-file-1>.
7. The record descriptions of <file-name-1>, <file-name-2>, <file-name-3> (if any) and <sort-file-1> are assumed to be identical in layout and size. While the actual data names used for fields in these files' records may differ, the structure of records, `PICTURE` (see PICTURE)

of fields, `USAGE` (see USAGE) of fields, size of fields and location of fields within the records should match field-by-field across all files, at least as far as the `KEY` fields are concerned.

8. A common programming technique when using the `MERGE` statement is to define the records of all files involved as simple elementary items of the form `01 record-name PIC X(n).` where n is the record size. The only file where records are actually described in detail would then be <sort-file-1>.
9. The following rules apply to the files named on the `USING` clause:
   A. None of them may be open at the time the `MERGE` is executed.
   B. Each of those files is assumed to be already sorted according to the specifications set forth on the `MERGE` statement's `KEY` clause.
   C. No two of those files may be referenced on a `SAME RECORD AREA` (see SAME RECORD AREA), `SAME SORT AREA` or `SAME SORT-MERGE AREA` statement.
10. The merging process is as follows:
    A. As the `MERGE` statement begins execution, the first record in each of the `USING` files is read automatically.
    B. As the `MERGE` statement executes, the current record from each of the `USING` files is examined and compared to each other according to the rules set forth by the `KEY` clause and the alphabet (see Alphabet-Name-Clause) specified on the `COLLATING SEQUENCE` clause. The record that should be next in sequence will be written to the merge work file and the `USING` file from which that record came will be read so that its next record is available. As end-of-file conditions are reached on `USING` files, those files will be excluded from further processing — processing continues with the remaining files until all the contents of all of them have been exhausted.
    C. After the merge work file has been populated, the merged data will be written to each <file-name-3> if the `GIVING` clause was specified, or will be processed by utilizing an `OUTPUT PROCEDURE`.
    D. When `GIVING` is specified, none of the <file-name-3> files can be open at the time the `MERGE` statement is executed.
    E. When an output procedure is used, the procedure(s) specified on the `OUTPUT PROCEDURE` clause will be invoked as if by a procedural `PERFORM` (see Procedural PERFORM) statement with no `VARYING`, `TIMES` or `UNTIL` options specified. Merged records may be read from the merge work file — one at a time — within the output procedure using the `RETURN` (see RETURN) statement.

       A `GO TO` statement (see GO TO) that transfers control out of the output procedure will terminate the `MERGE` statement but allows the program to continue executing from the

point where the GO TO statement transferred control to. Once an output procedure has been "aborted" using a GO TO it cannot be resumed, and the contents of the merge work file are lost. You may, however, re-execute the MERGE statement itself. *Using a GO TO statement to prematurely terminate a merge, or re-starting a previously-cancelled merge is not considered good programming style and should be avoided*.

An output procedure should be terminated in the same way a procedural PERFORM statement would be. Usually, this action will be taken once the RETURN statement indicates that all records in the merge work file have been processed, but termination could occur at *any* time — via an EXIT statement (see EXIT) — if required.

Neither a file-based SORT statement (see File SORT) nor another MERGE statement may be executed within the scope of the procedures comprising the output procedure unless those statements utilize a different sort or merge work file.

F. Once the output procedure terminates, or the last <file-name-3> file has been populated with merged data, the output phase — and the MERGE statement itself — is complete.

8.8.30 MOVE

8.8.30.1 Simple MOVE

Simple MOVE Syntax

```
=============================================================================

  MOVE { literal-1    } TO { identifier-2 }...
  ~~~~ { identifier-1 } ~~

=============================================================================
```

The Simple MOVE statement moves a specific value to one or more receiving data items.

1. The MOVE statement will replace the contents of one or more receiving data items (<identifier-2>) with a new value — the one specified by <literal-1> or <identifier-1>.
2. Only numeric data can be moved to a numeric or numeric-edited <identifier-2>. A MOVE involving numeric data will perform any necessary format conversions that might be necessary due to differing USAGE (see USAGE) specifications.
3. The contents of the <identifier-1> data item will not be changed, unless that same data item appears as an <identifier-2>. Note that such situations will cause a warning message to be issued by the compiler, if warning messages are enabled.

8.8.30.2 MOVE CORRESPONDING

MOVE CORRESPONDING Syntax

```
========================================================================
 MOVE CORRESPONDING identifier-1 TO { identifier-2 }...
 ~~~~ ~~~~                          ~~

========================================================================
```

The `MOVE CORRESPONDING` statement moves similarly-named items from one group item to another.

1. The reserved word `CORRESPONDING` may be abbreviated as `CORR`.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be group items.
3. See CORRESPONDING, for a discussion of how corresponding matches between two group items are established.
4. When corresponding matches are established, the effect of a `MOVE CORRESPONDING` on those matches will be as if a series of individual `MOVE`s were done — one for each match.

8.8.31 MULTIPLY

8.8.31.1 MULTIPLY BY

MULTIPLY BY Syntax

```
========================================================================
MULTIPLY { literal-1    } BY { identifier-2 [ rounded-phrase ] }...
~~~~~~~~ { identifier-1 } ~~

  [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
       ~~~~ ~~~~~
  [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
    ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-MULTIPLY ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~

========================================================================
```

The `MULTIPLY BY` statement computes the product of one or more data items (<identifier-2>) and either a numeric literal or another data item.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be numeric un-edited data items; <literal-1> must be a numeric literal.

3. The product of <identifier-1> or <literal-1> and each <identifier-2>, in turn, will be computed and moved to each of the <identifier-2> data items, replacing the prior contents.
4. The value of <identifier-1> is not altered, unless that same data item appears as an <identifier-2>.
5. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-2> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
6. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-2> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.31.2 MULTIPLY GIVING

MULTIPLY GIVING Syntax

```
=================================================================================
```

```
MULTIPLY { literal-1    } BY { literal-2    }
~~~~~~~~ { identifier-1 } ~~ { identifier-2 }

           GIVING { identifier-3 [ rounded-phrase ] }...
           ~~~~~~

  [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
       ~~~~ ~~~~~
  [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
    ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-MULTIPLY ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

```
=================================================================================
```

The `MULTIPLY GIVING` statement computes the product of two literals and/or data items and saves that result in one or more other data items.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be numeric un-edited data items; <literal-1> and <literal-2> must be numeric literals.
3. The product of <identifier-1> or <literal-1> and <identifier-2> or <literal-2> will be computed and moved to each of the <identifier-3> data items, replacing their old contents.

4. Neither the value of <identifier-1> nor <identifier-2> will be altered, unless either appears as an <identifier-3>.
5. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-2> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
6. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-2> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.32 NEXT SENTENCE

OPEN Syntax

==========

```
 NEXT SENTENCE
 ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `NEXT SENTENCE` statement transfers execution to the first statement following the current sentence, in other words NEXT SENTENCE transfers control to the first statement following the closest separator period. See Appendix A glossary of Terms for "sentence" definition.

It must be noted that when NEXT SENTENCE is specified with END-IF, control does not pass to the statement following the END-IF. Instead, control passes to the statement after the closest following period.

Another equivalent definition is the following: when NEXT SENTENCE is specified, control passes to an implicit CONTINUE statement immediately preceding the next separator period. This clause is classed as archaic" and in any event there a better ways of logically doing the same function.

```
Sample program.

ID DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTNS.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
  display 'Starting ..........'
  NEXT SENTENCE
*> acts as a go to to "the first statement after the next separating period"
  display 'skipped 1 ..........' .
```

```
  display '1st new sentence ...'
  display '2nd new sentence ...'
  NEXT SENTENCE
*> acts as a go to to "the first statement after the next separating period"
  display 'skipped 2 ..........'
  display 'skipped 3 ..........' .
  display 'Ending ............'
  stop run.
```

8.8.33 OPEN

OPEN Syntax

==========

```
OPEN {[ EXCLUSIVE ] { INPUT  } [sharing-mode] {file-name-1 [open-options]}... }...
~~~~                { ~~~~~  }
                    { OUTPUT }
                    { ~~~~~~ }
                    { I-O    }
                    { ~~~    }
                    { EXTEND }
                      ~~~~~~

where "sharing-mode" is:

      [ SHARING WITH { ALL OTHER } ]
      [  ~~~~~~~~    { ~~~       } ]
      [              { NO OTHER  } ]
      [              { ~~        } ]
      [              { READ ONLY } ]
                       ~~~~ ~~~~

where "open-options" are:

      [ [ WITH ] { LOCK      } ] [ WITH NO REWIND ]
      [ [ FOR  ]   ~~~~        ] [      ~~ ~~~~~~ ]
      [                        ] [ REVERSED       ]
      [ ALLOWING { ALL       } ]   ~~~~~~~~
      [ ~~~~~~~~ { ~~~       } ]
      [          { READERS   } ]
      [          { ~~~~~~~   } ]
      [          { UPDATERS  } ]
```

```
      [          { ~~~~~~~   } ]
      [          { WRITERS   } ]
      [          { ~~~~~~~   } ]
      [          { NO OTHERS } ]
                   ~~
```

The `NO REWIND`, and `REVERSED` clauses are syntactically recognized but are otherwise non-functional.

==========

The `OPEN` statement makes one or more files described in your program available for use.

1. The reserved words `OTHER` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The `SHARING` and `WITH LOCK` clauses may not both be specified in the same `OPEN` statement.
3. Any file defined in a GnuCOBOL program must be successfully opened before it or any of its record descriptions may be referenced on:

   A `CLOSE` statement (see CLOSE)

   A `DELETE` statement (see DELETE)

   A `READ` statement (see READ)

   A `REWRITE` statement (see REWRITE)

   A `START` statement (see START)

   An `UNLOCK` statement (see UNLOCK)

   A `WRITE` statement (see WRITE)
4. Any attempt to open a file that is already open will fail with a file status of 41 (see File Status Codes).
5. Any open failure (including status 41) may be trapped using `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES) or an error procedure established using the `CBL_ERROR_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_ERROR_PROC) built-in subroutine or even just checking the status field defined. It is up to the programmer to check for bad statuses and respond accordingly such as issue a CLOSE before dealing with the problem.
6. The `INPUT`, `OUTPUT`, `I-O` and `EXTEND` open modes inform GnuCOBOL of the manner in which you wish to use the file, as follows:

INPUT
: You may only read the existing contents of the file — only the `CLOSE`, `READ`, `START` and `UNLOCK` statements will be allowed. This enforcement takes place at execution time, not compilation time.

OUTPUT
: You may only write new content (which will completely replace any previous file contents) to the file — only the `CLOSE`, `UNLOCK` and `WRITE` statements will be allowed. This enforcement takes place at execution time, not compilation time.

I-O
: You may perform any operation you wish against the file — all file I/O statements will be allowed.

EXTEND
: You may only write new content (which will be appended after the previously existing file contents) to the file — only the `CLOSE`, `UNLOCK` and `WRITE` statements will be allowed. This enforcement takes place at execution time, not compilation time. You cannot extend an empty file; this will not generate a runtime error, but no output will appear in the file.

7. The `SHARING` clause informs the GnuCOBOL file runtime modules how you are willing to co-exist with any other GnuCOBOL programs that may attempt to open the same file after your program does. See File Sharing, for an explanation of the `SHARING` clause.
8. The `WITH LOCK` option will be functional only if your GnuCOBOL build can support it. GnuCOBOL built for MinGW or native Windows will not, because the Unix `fcntl` primitive doesn't exist in those environments. GnuCOBOL built for Cygwin or Unix will.

8.8.34 PERFORM

8.8.34.1 Procedural PERFORM

Procedural PERFORM Syntax

```
========================================================================
```

```
PERFORM procedure-name-1 [ THRU|THROUGH procedure-name-2 ]
~~~~~~~                    ~~~~ ~~~~~~~

    [ { { literal-1    } TIMES                                      } ]
      { { identifier-1 } ~~~~~                                      }
      {                                                             }
      { [ WITH TEST { BEFORE } ] { VARYING-Clause                 } }
      {        ~~~~ { ~~~~~~ }   {                                  } }
      {             { AFTER  }   { UNTIL { conditional-expression-1 } }
```

```
      {               ~~~~~      { ~~~~~ { EXIT                    } }
      {                                    ~~~~                      }
      {  FOREVER                                                     }
         ~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `PERFORM` statement is used to transfer control to one or more procedures, which will return control back when complete. Execution of the procedure(s) can be done a single time, multiple times, repeatedly until a condition becomes `TRUE` or forever (with some way of breaking out of the control of the `PERFORM` or of halting program execution within the procedure(s)).

1. The reserved word `WITH` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
3. The reserved word and phrase `FOREVER` and `UNTIL EXIT` are interchangeable.
4. Both <procedure-name-1> and <procedure-name-2> must be procedure division sections or paragraphs defined in the same program as the `PERFORM` statement. If <procedure-name-2> is specified, it must follow <procedure-name-1> in the program's source code.
5. The perform scope is defined as being the statements within <procedure-name-1>, the statements within <procedure-name-2> and all statements in all procedures defined between them.
6. <literal-1> must be a numeric literal or a reference to a function that returns a numeric value. The value must be an integer greater than zero.
7. <identifier-1> must be an elementary un-edited numeric data item with an integer value greater than zero.
8. Without the `UNTIL`, `UNTIL EXIT`, `TIMES`, *VARYING-Clause* (see VARYING) or `FOREVER` clauses, the code within the perform scope will be executed once, after which control will return to the statement following the `PERFORM`.
9. The `FOREVER` option will repeatedly execute the code within the perform scope with no conditions defined for termination of the repetition — it will be up to the programmer to include an `EXIT SECTION` statement (see EXIT) or `EXIT PARAGRAPH` statement within the procedure(s) being performed that will break out of the loop.
10. The `TIMES` option will repeat the execution of the code within the perform scope a fixed number of times. When the `PERFORM` statement begins execution, an internal repeat

counter (not accessible to the programmer) will be set to the value of <literal-1> or the value within <identifier-1>.

If the counter has a value greater than zero, the statement(s) within the `PERFORM` scope will be executed, after which the counter will be decremented by 1 with each repetition. Once that counter reaches zero, repetition will cease and control will fall into the next statement following the `PERFORM`.

If the <identifier-1> option was used, altering the value of that data item within the perform scope will *not* affect the repetition count.

11. The `UNTIL conditional-expression-1` option will repeat the code within the perform scope until the specified conditional expression evaluates to a `TRUE` value.
12. The optional `WITH TEST` clause will control whether `UNTIL` testing occurs `BEFORE` the statements within the perform scope are executed on each iteration (creating the possibility — if <conditional-expression-1> is initially `TRUE` — that the statements within the perform scope will never be executed) or `AFTER` (guaranteeing the statements within the perform scope will be executed at least once).

    The default, if this clause is absent, is `WITH TEST BEFORE`.

    This clause may not be coded when the `TIMES` clause is used.
13. The optional `VARYING-Clause` is a mechanism that creates an advanced loop-management mechanism complete with one or more numeric data items being automatically incremented (or decremented) on each loop iteration as well as the termination control of an `UNTIL` clause. See VARYING, for the details.

8.8.34.2 Inline PERFORM

Inline PERFORM Syntax

==========

```
PERFORM
~~~~~~~

    [ { { literal-1    } TIMES                                      } ]
      { { identifier-1 } ~~~~~                                      }
      {                                                             }
      { [ WITH TEST { BEFORE } ] { VARYING-Clause                 } }
      {        ~~~~ { ~~~~~~ }   {                                  } }
      {             { AFTER  }   { UNTIL { conditional-expression-1 } }
      {               ~~~~~      { ~~~~~ { EXIT                   } }
      {                                    ~~~~                     }
```

```
      {  FOREVER                                                    }
         ~~~~~~~

    imperative-statement-1

END-PERFORM
~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `PERFORM` statement is identical in operation to the procedural `PERFORM`, except for the fact that the statement(s) comprising the perform scope (<imperative-statement-1>) (see Imperative Statement) are now specified in-line with the `PERFORM` code rather than in procedures located elsewhere within the program.

8.8.34.3 VARYING

VARYING Syntax

==========

```
 VARYING identifier-2 FROM { literal-2    } [ BY { literal-3    } ]
 ~~~~~~~              ~~~~ { identifier-3 }   ~~ { identifier-4 }
          UNTIL conditional-expression-1
          ~~~~~
 [ AFTER identifier-5 FROM { literal-4    } [ BY { literal-5    } ]
   ~~~~~              ~~~~ { identifier-6 }   ~~ { identifier-7 }
          UNTIL conditional-expression-2   ]...
          ~~~~~
```

==========

The `VARYING` clause, available on both formats of the `PERFORM` statement, is a looping mechanism that allows for the specification of one or more numeric data items that will be initialized to a programmer-specified value and automatically incremented by another programmer-specified value after each loop iteration.

1. All identifiers used in a <VARYING-Clause> must be elementary, un-edited numeric data items. All literals must be numeric literals.
2. The following points describe the sequence of events that take place as a result of the `VARYING` portion of the clause:

   A. When the `PERFORM` begins execution, the `FROM` value will be moved to <identifier>.

B. If the PERFORM specifies or implies WITH TEST BEFORE, <conditional-expression-1> will be evaluated and processing of the PERFORM will halt if the expression evaluates to TRUE. If WITH TEST BEFORE was *not* specified or implied, or if the conditional expression evaluated to FALSE, processing proceeds with step C.

C. The statements within the perform scope will be executed. If a GO TO executed within the perform scope transfers control to a point outside the perform scope, processing of the PERFORM will halt.

D. When the statements within the perform scope terminate the loop iteration, by one of:

   - allowing the flow of execution to attempt to fall past the last statement in the perform scope
   - executing an EXIT PERFORM CYCLE statement (see EXIT)
   - executing an EXIT PARAGRAPH statement or EXIT SECTION statement when there is only one paragraph (or section) in the perform scope (this option only applies to a procedural PERFORM)

   If WITH TEST AFTER was specified, control will return back to the PERFORM, where <conditional-expression-1> will be evaluated, and processing of the PERFORM will halt if the expression evaluates to TRUE. If WITH TEST AFTER was *not* specified, or if the conditional expression evaluated to FALSE, processing continues with the next step.

E. The BY value, if any, will be added to <identifier-2>. If no BY is specified, it will be treated as if BY 1 had been specified.

F. Return to step C.

3. Most VARYING-Clauses have no AFTER specified. Those that do, however, are establishing a loop-within-a-loop situation where the process described above in steps ('A') through ('F') will take place from the AFTER, and those six processing steps actually replace step C of the VARYING. This "nesting" process can continue indefinitely, with each additional AFTER.

An example should really help you see this at work. Observe the following code which defines a two-dimensional (3 row by 4 column) table and a pair of numeric data items to be used to subscript references to each element of the table:

```
01  PERFORM-DEMO.
    05 PD-ROW             OCCURS 3 TIMES.
       10 PD-COL          OCCURS 4 TIMES
          15 PD           PIC X(1).
01  PD-Col-No             PIC 9 COMP.
01  PD-Row-No             PIC 9 COMP.
```

Let's say the 3x4 "grid" defined by the above structure has these values:

```
A B C D
E F G H
I J K L
```

This code will display `ABCDEFGHIJKL` on the console output window:

```
PERFORM WITH TEST AFTER
        VARYING PD-Row-No FROM 1 BY 1 UNTIL PD-Row-No = 3
          AFTER PD-Col-No FROM 1 BY 1 UNTIL PD-Col-No = 4
    DISPLAY PD (PD-Row-No, PD-Col-No) WITH NO ADVANCING
END-PERFORM
```

While this code will display `AEIBFJCGKDHL` on the console output window:

```
PERFORM WITH TEST AFTER
        VARYING PD-Col-No FROM 1 BY 1 UNTIL PD-Col-No = 4
          AFTER PD-Row-No FROM 1 BY 1 UNTIL PD-Row-No = 3
    DISPLAY PD (PD-Row-No, PD-Col-No) WITH NO ADVANCING
END-PERFORM
```

While we're looking at sample code, this code displays `ABCEFG`:

```
PERFORM
        VARYING PD-Row-No FROM 1 BY 1 UNTIL PD-Row-No = 3
          AFTER PD-Col-No FROM 1 BY 1 UNTIL PD-Col-No = 4
    DISPLAY PD (PD-Row-No, PD-Col-No) WITH NO ADVANCING
END-PERFORM
```

By removing the `WITH TEST` clause, the statement is now assuming `WITH TEST BEFORE`. Since testing now happens *before* the `DISPLAY` statement gets executed, when PD-Row-No is 3 and PD-Col-No is 4 the `DISPLAY` statement won't be executed.

Most COBOL programmers, when using `WITH TEST BEFORE` explicitly or implicitly have developed the habit of using '`>`' rather than '`=`' on `UNTIL` clauses. This would make the sample code:

```
PERFORM
        VARYING PD-Row-No FROM 1 BY 1 UNTIL PD-Row-No > 3
          AFTER PD-Col-No FROM 1 BY 1 UNTIL PD-Col-No > 4
    DISPLAY PD (PD-Row-No, PD-Col-No) WITH NO ADVANCING
END-PERFORM
```

With this change, `ABCDEFGHIJKL` is once again displayed.

8.8.35 READ

8.8.35.1 Sequential READ

Sequential READ Syntax

```
========================================================================
   READ file-name-1 [ { NEXT|PREVIOUS } ] RECORD [ INTO identifier-1 ]
   ~~~~               { ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~ }            ~~~~
    [ { IGNORING LOCK    } ]
      { ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~    }
      { WITH [ NO ] LOCK }
      {        ~~   ~~~~ }
      { WITH KEPT LOCK   }
      {      ~~~~ ~~~~   }
      { WITH IGNORE LOCK }
      {      ~~~~~~ ~~~~ }
      { WITH WAIT        }
            ~~~~
    [ AT END imperative-statement-1 ]
         ~~~
    [ NOT AT END imperative-statement-2 ]
      ~~~    ~~~
 [ END-READ ]
   ~~~~~~~~
========================================================================
```

This form of the `READ` statement retrieves the next (or previous) record from a file.

1. The reserved words `AT`, `RECORD` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The <file-name-1> file *must* have been defined via an `FD` (see File/Sort-Description), not an `SD`.
3. The <file-name-1> file must currently be open for `INPUT` (see File OPEN Modes) or `I-O`.
4. If <file-name-1> is an `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE` (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) or `ORGANIZATION INDEXED` (see ORGANIZATION INDEXED) file with an `ACCESS MODE RANDOM`, this statement cannot be used.
5. If <file-name-1> was specified as `ACCESS MODE SEQUENTIAL`, this is the *only* format of the `READ` statement that is available.

6. If <file-name-1> is an `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE` (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) or `ORGANIZATION INDEXED` (see ORGANIZATION INDEXED) file with `ACCESS MODE DYNAMIC`, this statement as well as a random `READ` (see Random READ) may be used.
7. The keywords `NEXT` and `PREVIOUS` specify what "direction of travel" the reading process will take through the file. If neither is specified, `NEXT` is assumed.
8. The `PREVIOUS` option is available only for `ORGANIZATION INDEXED` files.
9. When reading any sequential (any organization) or relative file, the "next" direction refers to the physical sequence of records in the file. When reading an indexed file, the "next" and "previous" directions refer to the sequence of primary or alternate record key values in the file's records, regardless of where the records physically occur within the file.
10. The minimal statement `READ file-name-1` is perfectly legal according to *both* READ formats. For that reason, when `ACCESS MODE DYNAMIC` has been specified and you want to tell the GnuCOBOL compiler that this minimal statement should be treated as a *sequential* `READ`, you must add either `NEXT` or `PREVIOUS` to the statement (otherwise it will be treated as a random `READ`).
11. A successful sequential READ will retrieve the next available record from <file-name-1>, in either a "next" or "previous" direction from the most-recently-read record, depending upon the use of the `NEXT` or `PREVIOUS` option. The newly-retrieved record data will be saved into the 01-level record structure(s) that immediately follow the file's `FD`. If the optional `INTO` clause is present, a copy of the just-retrieved record will be automatically moved to <identifier-1>.
12. When an `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE` file has been successfully read, the file's `RELATIVE KEY` (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) field will be automatically populated with the relative record number (ordinal occurrence number) of the record in the file.
13. The optional `LOCK` options may be used to manually control access to the retrieved record by other programs while this program is running. See Record Locking, to review the various record locking behaviours.
14. The optional `AT END` clause, if coded, is used to detect and react to the failure of an attempt to retrieve another record from the file due to an end-of-file (i.e. no more records) condition.
15. The optional `NOT AT END` clause, if coded, will check for a file status value of 00. See File Status Codes, for additional information.

8.8.35.2 Random READ

Random READ Syntax

```
================================================================
```

```
   READ file-name-1 RECORD [ INTO identifier-1 ]
   ~~~~                     ~~~~
    [ { IGNORING LOCK    } ]
      { ~~~~~~~~ ~~~~    }
      { WITH [ NO ] LOCK }
      {        ~~   ~~~~ }
      { WITH KEPT LOCK   }
      {      ~~~~ ~~~~   }
      { WITH IGNORE LOCK }
      {      ~~~~~~ ~~~~ }
      { WITH WAIT        }
             ~~~~
    [ KEY IS identifier-2 ]
      ~~~
    [ INVALID KEY imperative-statement-1 ]
      ~~~~~~~
    [ NOT INVALID KEY imperative-statement-2 ]
      ~~~ ~~~~~~~
 [ END-READ ]
   ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This form of the `READ` statement retrieves an arbitrary record from an `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE` (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) or `ORGANIZATION INDEXED` (see ORGANIZATION INDEXED) file.

1. The reserved words `IS`, `KEY` (on the `INVALID` and `NOT INVALID` clauses), `RECORD` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The <file-name-1> file *must* have been defined via an `FD` (see File/Sort-Description), not an `SD`.
3. The <file-name-1> file must currently be open for `INPUT` (see File OPEN Modes) or `I-O`.
4. If the `ACCESS MODE` of <file-name-1> is `SEQUENTIAL`, or the `ORGANIZATION` of the file is any form of sequential, this format of the `READ` statement cannot be used.
5. If the `ACCESS MODE` of <file-name-1> is `RANDOM`, this is the *only* format of the `READ` statement that is available.
6. If <file-name-1> is an `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE` (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) or `ORGANIZATION INDEXED` (see ORGANIZATION INDEXED) file with `ACCESS MODE DYNAMIC`, this statement as well as a sequential `READ` (see Sequential READ) may be used.

7. The minimal statement `READ file-name-1` is perfectly legal according to *both* READ formats. For that reason, when `ACCESS MODE DYNAMIC` has been specified and you want to tell the GnuCOBOL compiler that this minimal statement should be treated as a *random* `READ`, you must omit the `NEXT` or `PREVIOUS` available to the sequential format of the `READ` statement to ensure the statement *will* be treated as a random `READ`.

8. The optional `KEY` clause tells the compiler how a record is to be located in the file.

   If the `KEY` clause is absent, and the file is

   `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE`
   : the contents of the field declared as the file's `RELATIVE KEY` will be used to identify a record

   `ORGANIZATION INDEXED`
   : the contents of the field declared as the file's `RECORD KEY` will be used to identify a record.

   If the `KEY` clause *is* specified, and the file is

   `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE`
   : the contents of <identifier-2> will be used as the relative record number of the record to be accessed. <identifier-2> need not be the `RELATIVE KEY` (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) field of the file (although it could be if you wish).

   `ORGANIZATION INDEXED`
   : <identifier-2> *must* be the `RECORD KEY` (see ORGANIZATION INDEXED) or one of the file's `ALTERNATE RECORD KEY` fields (if any). The current contents of that field will identify the record to be accessed. If an alternate record key is used, and that key allows duplicate values, the record accessed will be the *first* one having that key value.

9. Once read from the file, the newly-retrieved record data will be saved into the 01-level record structure(s) that immediately follow the file's `FD`. If the optional `INTO` clause is present, a copy of the just-retrieved record will be automatically moved to <identifier-1>.

10. When an `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE` file has been successfully read, the file's `RELATIVE KEY` (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) field will be automatically populated with the relative record number (ordinal occurrence number) of the record in the file.

11. The optional `LOCK` options may be used to manually control access to the retrieved record by other programs while this program is running. See Record Locking, to review the various record locking behaviours.

12. The optional `INVALID KEY` and `NOT INVALID KEY` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, by detecting non-zero (typically 23 = key not found

= record not found) and 00 file status codes, respectively. See File Status Codes, for additional information.

8.8.36 READY TRACE

READY TRACE Syntax

```
=============================================================================

  READY TRACE
  ~~~~~ ~~~~~

=============================================================================
```

The `READY TRACE` statement turns procedure or procedure-and-statement tracing on.

1. In order for this statement to be functional, tracing code must have been generated into the compiled program using either the `-ftrace` switch (procedures only) or `-ftraceall` switch (procedures and statements).
2. Tracing may be turned off at any point by executing the `RESET TRACE` statement (see RESET TRACE).
3. The `COB_SET_TRACE` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables) provides another way to control tracing. If this environment variable is set to a value of 'Y' prior to the start of program execution, tracing starts at the point the program begins execution, as if `READY TRACE` were the first executed statement.

8.8.37 RELEASE

RELEASE Syntax

```
=============================================================================

  RELEASE record-name-1 [ FROM { literal-1    } ]
  ~~~~~~~                 ~~~~ { identifier-1 }

=============================================================================
```

The `RELEASE` statement adds a new record to a sort work file.

1. This statement is valid only within the `INPUT PROCEDURE` of a file-based `SORT` statement (see File SORT).
2. The specified <record-name-1> must be a record defined to the sort description (`SD` (see File/Sort-Description)) of the sort work file being processed by the current sort.
3. The optional `FROM` clause will cause <literal-1> or <identifier-1> to be automatically moved into <record-name-1> prior to writing <record-name-1>'s contents to the <file-name-1>.

If this clause is not specified, it is the programmer's responsibility to populate <record-name-1> with the desired data prior to executing the `RELEASE`.

8.8.38 RESET TRACE

RESET TRACE Syntax

```
================================================================================
```

```
RESET TRACE
~~~~~ ~~~~~
```

```
================================================================================
```

The `RESET TRACE` statement turns procedure or procedure-and-statement tracing off.

1. By default, procedure and procedure-and-statement tracing is off as programs begin execution. The `READY TRACE` statement (see READY TRACE) can be used to turn tracing on.
2. In order for this statement to be functional, tracing code must have been generated into the compiled program using either the `-ftrace` switch (procedures only) or `-ftraceall` switch (procedures and statements).
3. The `COB_SET_TRACE` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables) provides another way to control tracing. If this environment variable is set to a value of 'Y' prior to the start of program execution, tracing started at the point the program begins execution, as if `READY TRACE` were the first executed statement. The `RESET TRACE` statement, if executed, will then turn off tracing.

8.8.39 RETURN

RETURN Syntax

```
================================================================================
```

```
   RETURN sort-file-name-1 RECORD
   ~~~~~~
    [ INTO identifier-1 ]
      ~~~~
      AT END imperative-statement-1
         ~~~
    [ NOT AT END imperative-statement-2 ]
      ~~~    ~~~
[ END-RETURN ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~
```

```
================================================================================
```

The RETURN statement reads a record from a sort or merge work file.

1. The reserved words AT and RECORD are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The RETURN statement is valid only within the OUTPUT PROCEDURE of a file-based SORT (see File SORT) or a MERGE statement (see MERGE) statement.
3. The <sort-file-name-1> file must be a sort- or merge work file defined with a SD (see File/Sort-Description), not an FD.
4. A successful RETURN will retrieve the next available record from <sort-file-name-1>. The newly-retrieved record data will be saved into the 01-level record structure(s) that immediately follow the file's SD. If the optional INTO clause is present, a copy of the just-retrieved record will be automatically moved to <identifier-1>.
5. The mandatory AT END clause is used to detect and react to the failure of an attempt to retrieve another record from the file due to an end-of-file (i.e. no more records) condition.
6. The optional NOT AT END clause, if coded, will check checking for a file status value of 00. See File Status Codes, for additional information.

8.8.40 REWRITE

REWRITE Syntax

==========

```
 REWRITE { record-name-1   [ FROM { identifier-1 } ] }
 ~~~~~~~ {                 [ ~~~~ { literal-1    } ] }
         {                                           }
         { FILE file-name-1  FROM { identifier-1 }   }
         { ~~~~              ~~~~ { literal-1    }   }

     [ WITH [ NO ] LOCK ]
            ~~   ~~~~
     [ INVALID KEY imperative-statement-1 ]
       ~~~~~~~
     [ NOT INVALID KEY imperative-statement-2 ]
       ~~~ ~~~~~~~
[ END-REWRITE ]
```

==========

The REWRITE statement replaces a logical record on a disk file.

1. The reserved words KEY and WITH are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.

2. The <record-name-1> specified on the statement must be defined as an 01-level record subordinate to the File Description (FD (see File/Sort-Description)) of a file that is currently open for I-O (see File OPEN Modes).
3. The optional FROM clause will cause <literal-1> or <identifier-1> to be automatically moved into <record-name-1> prior to writing <record-name-1>'s contents to the <file-name-1>. If this clause is not specified, it is the programmer's responsibility to populate <record-name-1> with the desired data prior to executing the REWRITE.
4. This statement may not be used with ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL (see ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL) files.
5. Rewriting a record does not cause the contents of the file to be physically updated until the next block of the file is read, a COMMIT (see COMMIT) or UNLOCK statement (see UNLOCK) is issued or that file is closed.
6. If the file has ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL (see ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL):
   A. The record to be rewritten will be the one retrieved by the most-recently executed READ (see READ) of the file.
   B. If the FD of the file contains the RECORD CONTAINS or RECORD IS VARYING clause, and that clause allows the record size to vary, the size of <record-name-1> cannot be altered.
7. If the file has ORGANIZATION RELATIVE (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) or ORGANIZATION INDEXED (see ORGANIZATION INDEXED):
   A. If the file has ACCESS MODE SEQUENTIAL, the record to be rewritten will be the one retrieved by the most-recently executed READ of the file. If the file has ACCESS MODE RANDOM or ACCESS MODE DYNAMIC, no READ is required before a record may be rewritten — the RELATIVE KEY or RECORD KEY definition for the file, respectively, will specify the record to be updated.
   B. If the FD of the file contains the RECORD CONTAINS or RECORD IS VARYING clause, and that clause allows the record size to vary, the size *can* be altered.
8. The optional LOCK options may be used to manually control access to the re-written record by other programs while this program is running. See Record Locking, to review the various record locking behaviours.
9. The optional INVALID KEY and NOT INVALID KEY clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, by detecting non-zero (typically 23 = key not found = record not found) and 00 file status codes, respectively. See File Status Codes, for additional information.

8.8.41 ROLLBACK

ROLLBACK Syntax

```
==========================================================================

ROLLBACK
~~~~~~~~

==========================================================================
```

The `ROLLBACK` statement has the same effect as if an `UNLOCK` statement (see UNLOCK) were executed against every open file in the program.

1. All locks currently being held for all open files will be released.
2. See Record Locking, to review the various record locking behaviours.

8.8.42 SEARCH

8.8.42.1 SEARCH Serial

SEARCH Syntax

```
==========================================================================

SEARCH identifier-1 [ VARYING { identifier-2 } ]
~~~~~~                ~~~~~~~ { index-name-1 }

     [ AT END imperative-statement-1 ]
          ~~~
     { WHEN conditional-expression-1 imperative-statement-2 }...
       ~~~~

[ END-SEARCH ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~

==========================================================================
```

The `SEARCH` statement is used to sequentially search a table, stopping either once a specific value is located within the table or when the table has been completely searched.

1. The reserved word `AT` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. The searching process will be controlled through a Search Index — a data item with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `INDEX`. The search index is either the <index-name-1> identifier specified on the `VARYING` clause or — if no `VARYING` is specified — the `USAGE INDEX` data item implicitly created by an `INDEXED BY` (see OCCURS) clause in the table's definition.
3. At the time the `SEARCH` statement is executed, the current value of the search index data item will define the starting position in the table where the searching process will begin.

Typically, one initializes that index to a value of 1 before starting the `SEARCH` via `SET search-index TO 1`.

4. Each of the <conditional-expression-n>s on the `WHEN` clause(s) should involve a data element within the table, subscripted using the search index.
5. The searching process is as follows:
   A. Each <conditional-expression-n> will be evaluated, in turn, until either one evaluates to a value of `TRUE` or all have evaluated to `FALSE`.
   B. The <imperative-statement-n> (see Imperative Statement) specified on the `WHEN` clause whose <conditional-expression-n> evaluated to `TRUE` will be executed; after that, the search will be considered complete and control will fall into the first executable statement following the `SEARCH`.
   C. If all <conditional-expression-n>s evaluated to FALSE:
      - The search index will be incremented by 1
      - If the search index now has a value greater than the number of entries in the table, the search is considered to have failed and the <imperative-statement-1> on the optional `AT END` clause, if any, will be executed. After that, control will fall into the first executable statement following the `SEARCH`.
      - If the search index now has a value less than or equal to the number of entries in the table, search processing returns back to step A.

8.8.42.2 SEARCH ALL (Binary)

SEARCH ALL Syntax

```
========================================================================
```

```
SEARCH ALL identifier-1
~~~~~~ ~~~

      [ AT END imperative-statement-1 ]
         ~~~
       WHEN { data-name-1 IS EQUALS|= TO { identifier-2           }
       ~~~~ {                ~~~~~       { literal-1              }
            {                            { arithmetic-expression-1 }
            { condition-name-1                                     }

     [ AND  { data-name-2 IS EQUALS|= TO { identifier-3           } ]...
       ~~~~ {                ~~~~~       { literal-2              }
            {                            { arithmetic-expression-2 }
```

```
             { condition-name-2                                    }

    imperative-statement-2

[ END-SEARCH ]
```

==========

The `SEARCH ALL` statement performs a binary, or half-interval, search against a sorted table. This is generally *significantly* faster than performing a sequential `SEARCH` of a table, especially if the table contains a large number of entries.

1. The reserved word `AT` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. To be eligible for searching via `SEARCH ALL`:
   A. The `OCCURS` clause of <table-name-1> must contain the following elements:
      - An `INDEXED BY` entry to define an implicit search index data item with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `INDEX`.
      - An `ASCENDING KEY` or `DESCENDING KEY` clause to specify the field within the table by which all entries in the table are sorted.

   B. Just because the table has one or more `KEY` clauses doesn't mean the data is actually *in* that sequence in the table — the actual sequence of the data *must* agree with the KEY clause(s)! A table-based `SORT` (see Table SORT) can prove very useful in this regard.

   C. No two records in the table may have the same `KEY` field values. If the table has multiple `KEY` definitions, then no two records in the table may have the same *combination* of `KEY` field values.
3. If rule *A* is violated, the compiler will reject the `SEARCH ALL`. If rules *B* and/or *C* are violated, there will be no message issued by the compiler, but the run-time results of a `SEARCH ALL` against the table will probably be incorrect.
4. The <conditional-expression-1> should involve the `KEY` field(s), using the search index (the table's `INDEXED BY` index name) as a subscript.
5. The function of the single, mandatory, `WHEN` clause is to compare the key field(s) of the table, as indexed by the search index data item, against whatever literal and/or identifier values you are comparing the key field(s) to in the <conditional-expression-1> in order to locate the desired entry in the table. The search index will be automatically varied in a manner designed to require the minimum number of tests.

6. The internal processing of the SEARCH ALL statement begins by setting internal "first" and "last" pointers to the 1st and last entry locations of the table. Processing then proceeds as follows:

   A. The entry half-way between "first" and "last" is identified. We'll call this the "current" entry, and will set its table entry location into <index-name-1>.

   B. The <conditional-expression-1> is evaluated. This comparison of the key(s) against the target literal/identifier values will have one of three possible outcomes:

      - If the key(s) and value(s) match, <imperative-statement-2> (see Imperative Statement) is executed, after which control falls through into the next statement following the `SEARCH ALL`.
      - If the key(s) are LESS THAN the value(s), then the table entry being searched for can only occur in the "current" to "last" range of the table, so a new "first" pointer value is set (it will be set to the "current" pointer).
      - If the key(s) are GREATER THAN the value(s), then the table entry being searched for can only occur in the "first" to "current" range of the table, so a new "last" pointer value is set (it will be set to the "current" pointer).

   C. If the new "first" and "last" pointers are different than the old "first" and "last" pointers, there's more left to be searched, so return to step *A* and continue.

   D. If the new "first" and "last" pointers are the same as the old "first" and "last" pointers, the table has been exhausted and the entry being searched for cannot be found; <imperative-statement-1> is executed, after which control falls through into the next statement following the `SEARCH ALL`. If there is no `AT END` clause coded, control simply falls into the next statement following the `SEARCH ALL`.

7. The net effect of the above algorithm is that only a fraction of the number of elements in the table need ever be tested in order to decide whether or not a particular entry exists. This is because the half the remaining entries in the table are discarded each time an entry is checked.

8. Computer scientists will compare the two techniques implemented by the `SEARCH` and `SEARCH ALL` statements as follows:

9. When searching a table with *N* entries, a sequential search will need an average of *N/2* tests and a worst case of *N* tests in order to find an entry and *N* tests to identify that an entry doesn't exist.

10. When searching a table with *N* entries, a binary search will need a worst-case of log2(*N*) tests in order to find an entry and log2(*N*) tests to identify that an entry doesn't exist (*N* = the number of entries in the table), where *log2* is the base-2 logarithm function.

Here's a more practical view of the difference. Let's say that a table has 1,000 entries in it. With a sequential search, on average, you'll have to check 500 of them to find an entry and you'll have to look at all 1,000 of them to find that an entry doesn't exist.

With a binary search, express the number of entries as a binary number (1,000 = 1111101000), count the number of digits in the result (which is, essentially, what a logarithm is, when rounded up to the next integer — the number of digits a decimal number would have if expressed in the logarithm's number base). In this case, we end up with 10 — *that* is the worst-case number of tests required to find an entry or to identify that it doesn't exist. That's quite an improvement!

8.8.43 SET

8.8.43.1 SET ENVIRONMENT

SET ENVIRONMENT Syntax

```
========================================================================

  SET ENVIRONMENT { literal-1    } TO { literal-2    }
  ~~~ ~~~~~~~~~~~ { identifier-1 } ~~ { identifier-2 }

========================================================================
```

The `SET ENVIRONMENT` statement provides a straight-forward means of setting environment values from within a program.

1. The value of <literal-1> or <identifier-1> specifies the name of the environment variable to set.
2. The value of <literal-2> or <identifier-2> specifies the value to be assigned to the environment variable.
3. SET ENVIRONMENT is especially useful for managing the configuration variables listed in chapter 10.2.3 Run Time Environment Variables and in particular the variables in chapter 10.2.3.5 Screen I/O.
4. As an example, use SET ENVIRONMENT 'COB_HIDE_CURSOR' TO 'TRUE' to make the cursor invisible when doing a DISPLAY or an ACCEPT.
5. Environment variables created or changed from within GnuCOBOL programs will be available to any sub-shell processes spawned by that program (i.e. `CALL "SYSTEM"`) but will not be known to the shell or console window that started the GnuCOBOL program.

This is a much simpler and more readable means of setting environment variables than by using the `DISPLAY UPON ENVIRONMENT` statement (see DISPLAY UPON ENVIRONMENT). For example, these two code sequences produce identical results:

```
DISPLAY "VARNAME" UPON ENVIRONMENT-NAME
DISPLAY "VALUE" UPON ENVIRONMENT-VALUE

SET ENVIRONMENT "VARNAME" TO "VALUE"
```

8.8.43.2 SET Program-Pointer

SET Program-Pointer Syntax

==========

```
 SET program-pointer-1 TO ENTRY { literal-1    }
 ~~~                   ~~ ~~~~~ { identifier-1 }
```

==========

The `SET Program-Pointer` statement allows you to retrieve the address of a procedure division code module — specifically the `PROGRAM-ID`, `FUNCTION-ID` or an entry-point established via the `ENTRY` statement (see ENTRY).

1. The `USAGE` (see USAGE) of <program-pointer-1> must be `PROGRAM-POINTER`.
2. The <literal-1> or <identifier-1> value specified must name a primary entry-point name (`PROGRAM-ID` of a subroutine or `FUNCTION-ID` of a user-defined function) or an alternate entry-point defined via an `ENTRY` statement within a subprogram.
3. Once the address of a procedure division code area has been acquired in this way, the address could be passed to a subroutine (usually written in C) for whatever use it needs it for. For examples of `PROGRAM-POINTER`s at work, see the discussions of the `CBL_ERROR_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_ERROR_PROC) and `CBL_EXIT_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_EXIT_PROC).

```
Example of use:

        >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTPROCEDUREPOINTER.
*> this program CALL a SUBprogram using procedure-pointer (and an EXTERNAL field)
*> the SUBprogram creates a line sequential file with data received from EXTERNAL field
*> Programs can be compiled in one of two ways:
*> compiled together (putting the callee (nested or not) in the same source as
the caller)
*> compiled separately (the caller as .exe and the called as .dll in windows).
DATA DIVISION.
```

```
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  PGMSUB-PTR       PROCEDURE-POINTER.
01  PGMSUB-PGM       pic X(8)  value 'PGMSUB'.
01  wCOMMON-AREA     EXTERNAL.
    05  wCOMMAND     pic X(05).
    05  wDATA.
        07 wFILLER1  pic X(20).
        07 wCOUNT    pic 9(06).
        07 wFILLER2  pic X(74).
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
display space display 'PGMMAIN - START OF MAIN PROGRAM.'
move zero      to wCOUNT
set PGMSUB-PTR to entry PGMSUB-PGM
move 'OPEN '   to wCOMMAND
call PGMSUB-PTR
move 'WRITE'   to wCOMMAND
perform until wCOUNT >= 13
    compute   wCOUNT  = wCOUNT + 1
    move ' Record Num ......: ' to wFILLER1
    move space                  to wFILLER2
    call PGMSUB-PTR
end-perform
move 'CLOSE'    to wCOMMAND
call PGMSUB-PTR
display space display 'PGMMAIN - END OF MAIN PROGRAM.'
accept omitted
STOP RUN.
END PROGRAM TESTPROCEDUREPOINTER.

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PGMSUB.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
FILE-CONTROL.
SELECT PGMSUB-FILE  ASSIGN TO 'PGMSUB.TXT'
       ORGANIZATION  IS LINE SEQUENTIAL
       ACCESS MODE   IS SEQUENTIAL.
DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
FD  PGMSUB-FILE.
01  PGMSUB-REC       PIC X(80).
```

```
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  wCOMMON-AREA     EXTERNAL.
    05  wCOMMAND     pic X(5).
    05  wDATA.
        07 wFILLER1  pic X(20).
        07 wCOUNT    pic 9(06).
        07 wFILLER2  pic X(74).
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
evaluate wCOMMAND
    when 'OPEN ' Open Output PGMSUB-FILE
          display space display 'at time: ' Function CURRENT-DATE(09:08) ' PGMSUB -
open  '
    when 'WRITE' Write PGMSUB-REC from wDATA
       display 'at time: ' Function CURRENT-DATE(09:08) ' PGMSUB - write ' wDATA (01:40)
    when 'CLOSE' Close PGMSUB-FILE
         display 'at time: ' Function CURRENT-DATE(09:08) ' PGMSUB - close '
end-evaluate
GOBACK.
```

8.8.43.3 SET ADDRESS

SET ADDRESS Syntax

==========

```
 SET [ ADDRESS OF ] { pointer-name-1 }... TO { [ ADDRESS OF ] { pointer-name-2 } }
 ~~~   ~~~~~~~      { identifier-1   }     ~~ {   ~~~~~~~      { identifier-2   } }
                                           {   NULLS                           }
                                               ~~~~
```

==========

The `SET ADDRESS` statement can be used to work with the addresses of data items rather than their contents.

1. When the `ADDRESS OF` clause is used *before* the `TO` you will be using this statement to alter the address of a linkage section or `BASED` (see BASED) data item. Without that clause you will be assigning an address to one or more data items whose `USAGE` (see USAGE) is `POINTER`.
2. When the `ADDRESS OF` clause is used *after* the `TO`, this statement will be identifying the address of <identifier-2> as the address to be assigned to <identifier-1> or stored in <pointer-name-1>.
3. If the `ADDRESS OF` clause is absent after the `TO`, the contents of <pointer-name-2> will serve as the address to be assigned.

8.8.43.4 SET Index

SET Index Syntax

```
==========================================================================

  SET index-name-1 TO { literal-1    }
  ~~~              ~~ { identifier-2 }

==========================================================================
```

This statement assigns a value to a `USAGE INDEX` data item.

1. Either the `USAGE` (see USAGE) of <index-name-1> should be `INDEX`, or <index-name-1> must be identified in a table `INDEXED BY` clause.

8.8.43.5 SET UP/DOWN

SET UP/DOWN Syntax

```
==========================================================================

  SET  { identifier-1 }... { UP   } BY  [ LENGTH OF ] { integer-1    }
  ~~~                      { ~~   } ~~    ~~~~~~ ~~   { identifier-2 }
                           { DOWN }
                             ~~~~

==========================================================================
```

Use this statement to increment or decrement the value of an index or pointer by a specified amount.

1. The `USAGE` (see USAGE) of <identifier-1> must be `INDEX`, `POINTER` or `PROGRAM-POINTER`.
2. The typical usage when <identifier-1> is a `USAGE INDEX` data item is to increment its value `UP` or `DOWN` by 1, since an index is usually being used to sequentially walk through the elements of a table.

8.8.43.6 SET Condition Name

SET Condition Name Syntax

```
==========================================================================

  SET { { condition-name-1 }... TO { TRUE  } }...
  ~~~                           ~~ { ~~~~  }
                                   { FALSE }
                                     ~~~~~

==========================================================================
```

The SET Condition Name statement provides one method of specifying the TRUE / FALSE value of a level-88 condition name.

1. By setting the specified <condition-name-1>(s) to a TRUE or FALSE value, you will actually be assigning a value to the parent data item(s) to which the condition name data item(s) is(are) subordinate to.
2. When specifying TRUE, the value assigned to each parent data item will be the first value specified on the condition name's VALUE clause.
3. When specifying FALSE, the value assigned to each parent data item will be the value specified for the FALSE clause of the condition name's definition; if any <condition-name-1> occurrence lacks a FALSE clause, the SET statement will be rejected by the compiler.

8.8.43.7 SET Switch

SET Switch Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
SET { { mnemonic-name-1 }... TO { ON  } } ...
~~~                           ~~ { ~~  }
                                 { OFF }
                                   ~~~
```

```
=============================================================================
```

This form of the SET statement is used to turn switches on or off.

1. Switches are defined using the SPECIAL-NAMES (see SPECIAL-NAMES) paragraph.
2. Switches may be tested via the IF statement (see IF) and a Switch-Status Condition. See Switch-Status Conditions, for more information.

8.8.43.8 SET ATTRIBUTE

SET ATTRIBUTE Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
SET identifier-1 ATTRIBUTE { { BELL | BEEP   } { ON  }  } ...
~~~              ~~~~~~~~~   { ~~~~   ~~~~   } { ~~  }
                             { BLINK         } { OFF }
                             { ~~~~~         }   ~~~
                             { HIGHLIGHT     }
                             { ~~~~~~~~~     }
                             { LEFTLINE      }
                             { ~~~~~~~~      }
```

```
                                { LOWLIGHT      }
                                { ~~~~~~~~      }
                                { OVERLINE      }
                                { ~~~~~~~~      }
                                { REVERSE-VIDEO }
                                { ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ }
                                { UNDERLINE     }
                                  ~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `SET ATTRIBUTE` statement may be used to modify one or more attributes of a screen section data item at run-time.

1. When making an attribute change to <identifier-1>, the change will not become visible on the screen until the screen section data item containing <identifier-1> is next accepted (if <identifier-1> is an input field) or is next displayed (if <identifier-1> is not an input field).
2. The attributes shown in the syntax diagram are the only ones that may be altered by this statement. See Data Description Clauses, for information on their usage.

8.8.43.9 SET LAST EXCEPTION

SET ATTRIBUTE Syntax

==========

```
SET LAST EXCEPTION TO OFF
~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~ ~~ ~~~
```

==========

The `SET LAST EXCEPTION` statement will set the last program exception status to indicate no exception.

1. The predefined object reference EXCEPTION-OBJECT is set to null, and the last exception status is set to indicate no exception.
2. This action resets the global exception object completely (FUNCTION EXCEPTION-{FILE, LOCATION, STATEMENT, STATUS }), and will not show anything afterwards), no matter what the last exception was (such as a divide by zero). Use with care.

8.8.43.10 SET Indentifier

SET Indentifier Syntax

==========

```
 SET { identifier-1 }...  TO { identifier-2 }
 ~~~                        ~~ { integer-1    }
                               { literal-1    }
```

==========

The `SET Identifier` statement will set the the specified identifier.

```
Example of use:

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. SETSAMPLE.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 BLACK    PIC 99 VALUE 00.
01 GREEN    PIC 99 VALUE 02.
01 BG-COLOR PIC 99.
01 FG-COLOR PIC 99.
01 wABC     PIC XXX.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    SET BG-COLOR FG-COLOR TO GREEN
    SET wABC              TO 'ABC'
    STOP RUN.
```

8.8.43.11 SET FCD and KEY DEFINITION BLOCK

SET FCD and KEY DEFINITION BLOCK Syntax

==========

```
SET ADDRESS OF { identifier-1 }... TO ADDRESS OF { FH--FCD    } OF indexedfilename
~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~                      ~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~ { ~~~~~~~    } ~~
                                                  { FH--KEYDEF }
                                                    ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

When normal I/O operations (OPEN, READ ...) in a GnuCOBOL program, a FILE CONTROL DESCRIPTION (FCD) is created for each file. To access this FCD, set up a FCD definition in the Linkage Section of your program. An example FCD COBOL definition is supplied in a file called xfhfcd3.cpy. This definition (that takes up no physical memory) can then be mapped onto the FCD you want to read or alter using the following SET statement in your program:

```
SET ADDRESS OF { identifier-1 } TO ADDRESS OF FH--FCD OF indexedfile
```

Where the parameters are: a. identifier-1 The name of the FCD definition in the Linkage Section of your program; b. FH–FCD OF namefile (note the double hyphen). The pointer special register automatically allocated to the file with FD-name: indexedfile. Following this SET operation, the data items defined in the Linkage Section group item identifier-1 become the fields of the FCD of the file referenced in the SET statement.

Similarly, you can access the Key Definition Block by:

```
SET ADDRESS OF { identifier-2 } TO ADDRESS OF FH--KEYDEF OF indexedfile
```

Where the parameters are: a. identifier-2 the name of the key definition Block in the Linkage Section of your program; b. FH—KEYDEF of indexedfile (note the double hyphen) the pointer special register automatically allocated to the file with FD-name indexfile to point to its Key Definition Block.

See also EXTFH in this document and FH–FCD and FH–KEYDEF into the NEWS file.

8.8.43.12 SET TO SIZE OF

SET TO SIZE OF Syntax

==========

```
 SET {identifier-1}... TO SIZE OF {identifier-2 | literal-1 }
 ~~~                      ~~~~
```

==========

```
See example program.

ID DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTSET.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wSIGNED-LONG   SIGNED-LONG.
01 wSIZE1         PIC 99.
01 wSIZE2         PIC 99.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
SET wSIZE1 wSIZE2 TO SIZE OF wSIGNED-LONG.
DISPLAY wSIZE1 ' ' wSIZE2.
SET wSIZE1 wSIZE2 TO SIZE OF '1234567890'.
DISPLAY wSIZE1 ' ' wSIZE2.
STOP RUN.
```

8.8.43.13 SET LOCALE

SET LOCALE Syntax

==========

```
Format 1. SET LOCALE

SET LOCALE { LC-ALL       } TO { identifier-1   }
           { LC_COLLATE   }    { locale-name    }
           { LC_CTYPE     }    { USER-DEFAULT   }
           { LC_MESSAGES  }    { SYSTEM-DEFAULT }
           { LC_MONETARY  }
           { LC_NUMERIC   }
           { LC_TIME      }
           { USER-DEFAULT }

Format 2. SET to save LOCALE

SET identifier-1 TO LOCALE { LC-ALL       }
    ~~~~~~~~~~~~    ~~~~~~ { ~~~~~~       }
                           { USER-DEFAULT }
                           { ~~~~~~~~~~~~ }
```

==========

Use the set locale function to set, change, or query some or all of the current program locale information

1. LC_ALL stores all information, it is a way to backup and restore all locale settings fast
2. SYSTEM-DEFAULT is effectively LC_ALL after runtime initialization.
3. USER-DEFAULT is similar, but it is a runtime-wide way to store / reset a given setup, the initial value is SYSTEM-DEFAULT, but that may be changed with the second format.
4. For the first format: identifier or locale-name shall be specified in the TO phrase.
5. Identifier-1 has to be of category data-pointer.
6. Locale-name is setup in LOCALE clause of SPECIAL-NAMES paragraph.
7. If TO identifier-1 has invalid content (It only checks for NULL), it raises EC-LOCALE-INVALID-PTR, if the locale is not available (or just no valid locale according to the system), EC-LOCALE-MISSING is raised (that also applies to locale-name)
8. Warning: This has not yet been implemented (as of 1 November 2025).

8.8.44 SORT

8.8.44.1 File SORT

File-Based SORT Syntax

==========

```
SORT sort-file-1 { ON { ASCENDING  } KEY { identifier-1 }... }...
~~~~             { ~~~~~~~~~~  }
                 { DESCENDING }
                   ~~~~~~~~~~
    [ WITH DUPLICATES IN ORDER ]
          ~~~~~~~~~~
    [ COLLATING SEQUENCE IS alphabet-name-1 ]
      ~~~~~~~~~

    { USING { file-name-1 }...                        }
    { ~~~~~                                                }
    { INPUT PROCEDURE IS procedure-name-1 [ THRU|THROUGH procedure-name-2 ]     }
      ~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~                       ~~~~ ~~~~~~~

    { GIVING { file-name-2 }...                       }
    { ~~~~~~                                                }
    { OUTPUT PROCEDURE IS procedure-name-3 [ THRU|THROUGH procedure-name-4 ]   }
      ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~                       ~~~~ ~~~~~~~
```

The `DUPLICATES` clause is syntactically recognized but is otherwise non-functional.

==========

This format of the `SORT` statement is designed to sort large volumes of data according to one or more key fields.

1. The reserved words `IN`, `IS`, `KEY`, `ON`, `ORDER`, `SEQUENCE` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `THRU` and `THROUGH` are interchangeable.
3. GnuCOBOL always behaves as if the `WITH DUPLICATES IN ORDER` clause is specified, even if it isn't.

   While any COBOL implementation's sort or merge facilities guarantee that records with duplicate key values will be in proper sequence with regard to other records with different key values, they generally make no promises as to the resulting relative sequence of records having duplicate key values with one another.

Some COBOL implementations provide this optional clause to force their sort and merge facilities to retain duplicate key-value records in their original input sequence, relative to one another.

4. The <sort-file-1> named on the `SORT` statement must be defined using a sort description (`SD` (see File/Sort-Description)). This file is referred to in the remainder of this discussion as the *sort work file*.
5. If specified, <file-name-1> and <file-name-2> must reference `ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL` (see ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL) or `ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL` (see ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL) files. These files must be defined using a file description (`FD` (see File/Sort-Description)). The same file(s) may be used for <file-name-1> and <file-name-2>.
6. The <identifier-1> ... field(s) must be defined as field(s) within a record of <sort-file-1>.
7. A sort work file is never opened or closed.
8. The sorting process works in three stages — the Input Stage, the Sort Stage and the Output Stage.
9. The following points pertain to the Input Stage:
   A. The data to be sorted is loaded into the sort work file either by copying the entire contents of the file(s) named on the `USING` clause (done automatically by the sort) or by utilizing an input procedure.
   B. When `USING` is specified, none of the <file-name-1> files may be open at the time the `SORT` statement is executed.
   C. When an input procedure is used, the procedure(s) specified on the `INPUT PROCEDURE` clause will be invoked as if by a procedural `PERFORM` statement (see Procedural PERFORM) with no `VARYING`, `TIMES` or `UNTIL` options specified. Records will be loaded into the sort work file — one at a time — within the input procedure using the `RELEASE` statement (see RELEASE). This, by the way, is how you could sort the contents of relative or indexed files.

      A `GO TO` statement (see GO TO) that transfers control out of the input procedure will terminate the `SORT` statement but allows the program to continue executing from the point where the `GO TO` statement transferred control to. Once an input procedure has been "aborted" using a `GO TO` it cannot be resumed, and the contents of the sort work file are lost. You may, however, re-execute the `SORT` statement itself.[1]

[1] Using a `GO TO` statement to prematurely terminate a sort, or re-starting a previously-cancelled sort is not considered good programming style and should be avoided.

An input procedure should be terminated in the same way a procedural `PERFORM` statement would be.

Neither a another file-based `SORT` statement nor a `MERGE` statement may be executed within the input procedure unless those statements utilize a different sort or merge work file.

D. Once the input procedure terminates, the input phase is complete.

E. As data is loaded into the sort work file, it is actually being buffered in dynamically-allocated memory. Only if the amount of data to be sorted exceeds the amount of available sort memory (128 MB) will actual disk files be allocated and utilized. There is a `COB_SORT_MEMORY` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables) that you may use to allocate more or less memory to the sorting process.

10. The following points pertain to the Sort Stage:

A. The sort will take place by arranging the data records in the sequence defined by the `KEY` specification(s) on the `SORT` statement according to the `COLLATING SEQUENCE` specified on the `SORT` (if any) or — if none was defined — the `PROGRAM COLLATING SEQUENCE` (see OBJECT-COMPUTER). Keys may be any supported data type and `USAGE` (see USAGE) except for level-78 or level-88 data items.

B. For example, let's assume we're sorting a series of financial transactions. The SORT statement might look like this:

```
SORT Sort-File
    ASCENDING  KEY Transaction-Date
    ASCENDING  KEY Account-Number
    DESCENDING KEY Transaction-Amount
```

The effect of this statement will be to sort all transactions into ascending order of the date the transaction took place (oldest first, newest last). Unless the business running this program is going out of business, there are most-likely many transactions for any given date. Therefore, within each grouping of transactions all with the same date, transactions will be sub-sorted into ascending sequence of the account number the transactions apply to. Since it's quite possible there might be multiple transactions for an account on any given date, a third level sub-sort will arrange all transactions for the same account on the same date into descending sequence of the actual amount of the transaction (largest first, smallest last). If two or more transactions of $100.00 were recorded for account #12345 on the 31st of August 2009, those transactions will be retained in the order in which they were loaded into the sort work file.

C. Should disk work files be necessary due to the amount of data being sorted, they will be automatically allocated to disk in a folder defined by the `TMPDIR` run-time environment variable, `TMP` run-time environment variable or `TEMP` run-time environment variable run-time environment variables (see Run Time Environment Variables) (checked for existence in that sequence). These disk files will be automatically purged upon `SORT` termination or program execution termination (normal or otherwise).

11. The following points pertain to the Output Stage:

    A. Once the sort stage is complete, a copy of the sorted data will be written to each <file-name-2> if the `GIVING` clause was specified. None of the <file-name-2> files can be open at the time the sort is executed.

    B. When an output procedure is used, the procedure(s) specified on the `OUTPUT PROCEDURE` clause will be invoked as if by a procedural `PERFORM` statement (see Procedural PERFORM) with no `VARYING`, `TIMES` or `UNTIL` options specified. Records will be retrieved from the sort work file — one at a time — within the output procedure using the `RETURN` statement (see RETURN).

    A `GO TO` statement (see GO TO) that transfers control out of the output procedure will terminate the `SORT` statement but allows the program to continue executing from the point where the `GO TO` statement transferred control to. Once an output procedure has been "aborted" using a `GO TO` it cannot be resumed, and the contents of the sort work file are lost. You may, however, re-execute the `SORT` statement itself. USING A `GO TO` statement[2]

    An output procedure should be terminated in the same way a procedural `PERFORM` statement would be.

    Neither a another file-based `SORT` statement nor a `MERGE` statement may be executed within the output procedure unless those statements utilize a different sort or merge work file.

    C. Once the output procedure terminates, the sort is complete.

8.8.44.2 Table SORT

Table SORT Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
SORT table-name-1 { ON { ASCENDING  } KEY identifier-1... }...
~~~~                   { ~~~~~~~~~  }
                       { DESCENDING }
```

[2]To prematurely terminate a sort, or re-starting a previously-cancelled sort is not considered good programming style and should be avoided.

```
                          ~~~~~~~~~~
  [ WITH DUPLICATES IN ORDER ]
         ~~~~~~~~~~
  [ COLLATING SEQUENCE IS alphabet-name-1 ]
    ~~~~~~~~~
```

The `DUPLICATES` clause is syntactically recognized but is otherwise non-functional.

==========

This format of the `SORT` statement sorts relatively small quantities of data — namely data contained in a data division table — according to one or more key fields.

1. The reserved words `IN`, `IS`, `KEY`, `ON`, `ORDER`, `SEQUENCE` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. GnuCOBOL always behaves as if the `WITH DUPLICATES IN ORDER` clause is specified, even if it isn't.

   While any COBOL implementation's sort or merge facilities guarantee that records with duplicate key values will be in proper sequence with regard to other records with different key values, they generally make no promises as to the resulting relative sequence of records having duplicate key values with one another.

   Some COBOL implementations provide this optional clause to force their sort and merge facilities to retain duplicate key-value records in their original input sequence, relative to one another.
3. The <table-name-1> data item must be a table defined in any data division section *except* the report or screen sections.
4. The data within <table-name-1> will be sorted in-place (i.e. no sort file is required).
5. The sort will take place by rearranging the data in <table-name-1> into the sequence defined by the `KEY` specification(s) on the `SORT` statement, according to the `COLLATING SEQUENCE` specified on the `SORT` (if any) or — if none was defined — the `PROGRAM COLLATING SEQUENCE` (see OBJECT-COMPUTER). Keys may be any supported data type and `USAGE` (see USAGE) except for level-78 or level-88 data items.
6. If you are sorting <table-name-1> for the purpose of preparing the table for use with a `SEARCH` statement (see SEARCH) (to use a binary search with `SEARCH ALL`), care must be taken that the `KEY` specifications on the `SORT` agree with those in the table's definition.
7. Although the specification of one or more `KEY` clauses is optional, currently, a table sort with no `KEY` specification(s) made on the `SORT` statement is unsupported by GnuCOBOL and will be rejected by the compiler.

8.8.45 START

START Syntax

==========

```
START file-name-1
~~~~~
      [ { FIRST                                                  } ]
        { ~~~~~                                                  }
        {                                                        }
        { KEY IS { EQUALS TO                          } identifier-1 }
        { ~~~    { ~~~~~                              }             }
        {        { =                                  }             }
        {        {                                    }             }
        {        { [ NOT ] LESS THAN                  }             }
        {        {   ~~~   ~~~~                       }             }
        {        { [ NOT ] <                          }             }
        {        {   ~~~                              }             }
        {        { [ NOT ] LESS THAN OR EQUALS TO     }             }
        {        {   ~~~   ~~~~      ~~ ~~~~~         }             }
        {        { [ NOT ] <=                         }             }
        {        {   ~~~                              }             }
        {        { [ NOT ] GREATER THAN               }             }
        {        {   ~~~   ~~~~~~~                    }             }
        {        { [ NOT ] >                          }             }
        {        {   ~~~                              }             }
        {        { [ NOT ] GREATER THAN OR EQUALS TO   }             }
        {        {   ~~~   ~~~~~~~      ~~ ~~~~~     }             }
        {        { [ NOT ] >=                         }             }
        {            ~~~                                         }
        {        [ WITH { SIZE   } { literal-1               } ]   }
        {        [      { ~~~~   } { identifier-2            } ]   }
        {        [      { LENGTH } { arithmetic-expression-1 } ]   }
        {                 ~~~~~~                                 }
        {                                                        }
        { LAST                                                   }
          ~~~~
  [ INVALID KEY imperative-statement-1 ]
    ~~~~~~~
  [ NOT INVALID KEY imperative-statement-2 ]
    ~~~ ~~~~~~~
```

```
[ END-START ]
   ~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `START` statement defines the logical starting point within a relative or indexed file for subsequent sequential read operations. It positions an internal logical record pointer to a particular record in the file, but does not actually transfer any of that record's data into the record buffer.

1. The reserved words `IS`, `THAN` and `TO` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. To use this statement, <file-name-1> must be an `ORGANIZATION RELATIVE` (see ORGANIZATION RELATIVE) or `ORGANIZATION INDEXED` (see ORGANIZATION INDEXED) file that must have been defined with an `ACCESS MODE DYNAMIC` or `ACCESS MODE SEQUENTIAL` in its `SELECT` statement (see SELECT).
3. At the time this statement is executed, <file-name-1> must be open in either `INPUT` or `I-O` (see File OPEN Modes) mode.
4. If <file-name-1> is a relative file, <identifier-1> must be the defined `RELATIVE KEY` of the file.
5. If <file-name-1> is an indexed file, <identifier-1> must be the defined `RECORD KEY` of the file or any of the `ALTERNATE RECORD KEY` fields for the file.
6. If no `FIRST`, `LAST` or `KEY` clause is specified, `KEY IS EQUAL TO xxx` will be assumed, where `xxx` is the defined `RELATIVE KEY` of (if <file-name-1> is a relative file) or the defined `RECORD KEY` (if <file-name-1> is an indexed file).
7. After successful execution of a `START` statement, the internal logical record pointer into the <file-name-1> data will be positioned to the record which satisfied the actual or implied `FIRST`, `LAST` or `KEY` clause specification, as follows:

   `FIRST`
   : the logical record pointer will point to the first record in the file.

   `LAST`
   : the logical record pointer will point to the last record in the file.

   `KEY`
   : (specified or implied), and the relation used is. Warning: Later versions of the compiler may well not use implied, so always specify it and it makes the code easier to read any way.

SIZE
WITH SIZE or LENGTH arithmetic-expression specifies the number of characters in the key to be used in the positioning process.

LENGTH
WITH LENGTH or SIZE arithmetic-expression specifies the number of characters in the key to be used in the positioning process.

SIZE and LENGTH are interchangeable and mean exactly the same.

EQUAL TO, GREATER THAN or GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO (or equivalent)
the logical record pointer will be specified to the *first* record satisfying the relation condition; to identify this record. The file's contents are searched in a first-to-last (in sequence of the key implied by the KEY clause), provided the relation is

LESS THAN, LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO or NOT GREATER THAN (or equivalent)
the logical record pointer will be specified to the *last* record satisfying the relation condition; to identify this record. The file's contents are searched in a last-to-first (in sequence of the key implied by the KEY clause)

The next sequential READ statement will read the record that is pointed to by the logical record pointer.

8. The optional INVALID KEY and NOT INVALID KEY clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, by detecting non-zero (typically 23 = key not found = record not found) and 00 file status codes, respectively. See File Status Codes, for additional information.

8.8.46 STOP

STOP Syntax

```
=============================================================================
```

```
STOP { RUN [ { RETURNING|GIVING { literal-1    }           } ] }
~~~~ { ~~~ [ { ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ { identifier-1 }           } ] }
     {     [ {                                             } ] }
     {     [ { WITH { ERROR  } STATUS [ { literal-2    } ] } ] }
     {     [ {      { ~~~~~  }        [ { identifier-2 } ] } ] }
     {     [ {      { NORMAL }                             } ] }
     {     [ {        ~~~~~~                               } ] }
     {     [ {                                             } ] }
     {     [ { literal-4|identifier-4                      } ] }
     {                                                       }
     { literal-3|identifier-3                                }
```

```
      { ERROR                                                   }
        ~~~~~
```

==========

The `STOP` statement suspends program execution. Some options will allow program execution to resume while others return control to the operating system.

1. The reserved words `STATUS` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `RETURNING` and `GIVING` are interchangeable.
3. The `RUN` clause halts the program without displaying any special message to that effect.
4. The <literal-3>, <literal-4>, <identifier-3> and <identifier-4> clause displays the specified text on the `SYSOUT`/`STDOUT` device, waits for the user to press the Enter key and then — once the key has been pressed — allows the program to continue execution.
5. The optional `RETURNING` clause provides the opportunity to return a numeric value to the operating system (an exit status). The manner in which the exit status may be interrogated by the operating system varies, but Windows can use `%ERRORLEVEL%` to query the exit status while Unix shells such as sh, bash and ksh can query the exit status as `$?`. Other Unix shells may have different ways to access return code values.
6. The `STATUS` clause provides another means of returning an exit status. Using the `STATUS` clause is functionally equivalent to using the `RETURNING` clause.
7. Using the `STATUS` clause without a <literal-2> or <identifier-2> will return an exit status of 0 if the `NORMAL` keyword is used or a 1 if `ERROR` was specified.
8. Your program will *always* return an exit status, even if no `RETURNING` or `STATUS` clause is specified. In the absence of the use of these clauses, the value in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) at the time the `STOP` statement is executed will be used as the exit status.
9. Any programmer-defined exit procedure (established via the `CBL_EXIT_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_EXIT_PROC)) will be executed by `STOP RUN`, but not by `STOP literal-3`.
10. Valid return code values can be in the range −2147483648 to +2147483647.
11. The three code snippets below are all equivalent. They show different ways in which a GnuCOBOL program may be coded to pass an exit status value of 16 back to the operating system and then halt.

    1. ```
       STOP RUN RETURNING 16
       ```
       ```

2.
```
MOVE 16 TO RETURN-CODE
STOP RUN
```

3.
```
STOP RUN WITH ERROR STATUS 16
```

12. STOP ERROR is a dialect specific way to abort the runtime.

    Used in hard, non-recoverable error cases, for example when you pre-catch runtime exceptions "that should never happen" yourself, or for example if an API/socket/whatever endpoint does not exist/is not reachable. Depending on compile-time flags and runtime options you get the "common" abort handling (possibly creation of dump file, creation of core-dump, stop within GDB, stack-trace output, ...) and also error procedures registered with CBL_ERROR_PROC.

    This is one of the dialect specific. -fstop-error-statement is set to "unconformable" for anything but GCOS. You can override that with -fstop-error-statement=ok.

    See also CALL "CBL_RUNTIME_ERROR" routine.

8.8.47 STRING

STRING Syntax

```
=============================================================================
STRING { { literal-1    }... [ DELIMITED BY { SIZE         } ] }...
~~~~~~   { identifier-1 }       ~~~~~~~~~    { ~~~~         }
                                             { literal-2    }
                                             { identifier-2 }

        INTO identifier-3 [ WITH POINTER identifier-4 ]
        ~~~~                      ~~~~~~~

    [ ON OVERFLOW imperative-statement-1 ]
         ~~~~~~~~
    [ NOT ON OVERFLOW imperative-statement-2 ]
      ~~~    ~~~~~~~~
[ END-STRING ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~
=============================================================================
```

The `STRING` statement is used to concatenate all or a part of one or more strings together, forming a new string.

1. The reserved words `BY`, `ON` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. All literals and identifiers (except for <identifier-4>) must be explicitly or implicitly defined with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `DISPLAY`. Any of the identifiers may be group items.
3. The `POINTER` data item — <identifier-4> — must be a non-edited elementary integer numeric data item with a value greater than zero.
4. Each <literal-1> / <identifier-1> will be referred to as a source item. The receiving data item is <identifier-3>.
5. The `STRING` statement's processing is based upon a current character pointer. The initial value of the current character pointer will be the value of <identifier-4> at the time the `STRING` statement began execution. If no `POINTER` clause is coded, a value of 1 (meaning "the 1st character position") will be assumed for the current character pointer's initial value.
6. For each source item, the contents of the sending item will be copied — character-by-character — into <identifier-3> at the character position specified by the current character pointer. After each character is copied, the current character pointer will be incremented by 1 so that it points to the position within <identifier-3> where the *next* character should be copied.
7. The `DELIMITED BY` clause specifies how much of each source item will be copied into <identifier-3>. `DELIMITED BY SIZE` (the default if no `DELIMITED BY` clause is specified) causes the *entire* contents of the source item to be copied into <identifier-3>.
8. Using `DELIMITED BY literal-2` or `DELIMITED BY identifier-2` causes only the contents of the source item up to but not including the character sequence specified by the literal or identifier to be copied.
9. `STRING` processing will cease when one of the following occurs:
   A. The initial value of the current character pointer is less than 1 or greater than the number of characters in <identifier-3>, or...
   B. The value of the current character pointer exceeds the size of <identifier-3> at the point the STRING statement wants to copy a character into <identifier-3>, or...
   C. All sending items have been fully processed
10. If event *A* occurs, <identifier-3> will remain unchanged.
11. The occurrence of either event *A* or *B* triggers what is referred to as an overflow condition.
12. The <identifier-3>) is neither automatically initialized (to spaces or any other value) at the start of a `STRING` statement nor will it be space-filled should the total number of

sending item characters copied into it be less than its size. You may explicitly initialize <identifier-3> yourself via the `INITIALIZE` (see INITIALIZE) or `MOVE` (see MOVE) statements before executing the `STRING` if you wish.

13. The optional `ON OVERFLOW` and `NOT ON OVERFLOW` clauses may be used to detect and react to the occurrence or not, respectively, of an overflow condition. See ON OVERFLOW + NOT ON OVERFLOW, for additional information.

8.8.48 SUBTRACT

8.8.48.1 SUBTRACT FROM

SUBTRACT FROM Syntax

==========

```
SUBTRACT { identifier-1 }... FROM { identifier-2 [ rounded-phrase ] }...
~~~~~~~~ { literal-1    }     ~~~~

   [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
        ~~~~ ~~~~~
   [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
     ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-SUBTRACT ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This format of the `SUBTRACT` statement generates the arithmetic sum of all arguments that appear before the `FROM` (<identifier-1> or <literal-1>) and subtracts that sum from each <identifier-2>.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be numeric unedited data items.
3. <literal-1> must be a numeric literal.
4. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-2> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
5. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-2> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.48.2 SUBTRACT GIVING

SUBTRACT GIVING Syntax

==

```
SUBTRACT { identifier-1 }...  FROM { identifier-2 }
~~~~~~~~ { literal-1    }       ~~~~ { literal-2    }

           GIVING { identifier-3 [ rounded-phrase ] }...
           ~~~~~~

   [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
        ~~~~ ~~~~~
   [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
     ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-SUBTRACT ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==

The `SUBTRACT GIVING` statement generates the arithmetic sum of all arguments that appear before the `FROM` (<identifier-1> or <literal-1>), subtracts that sum from the contents of <identifier-2> and then replaces the contents of the identifiers listed after the `GIVING` (<identifier-3>) with that result.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be numeric unedited data items.
3. <literal-1> must be a numeric literal.
4. <identifier-3> must be a numeric (edited or unedited) data item.
5. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-3> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
6. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-3> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.48.3 SUBTRACT CORRESPONDING

SUBTRACT CORRESPONDING Syntax

==

```
SUBTRACT CORRESPONDING identifier-1 FROM identifier-2 [ rounded-phrase ]
~~~~~~~~ ~~~~                       ~~~~

   [ ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-1 ]
        ~~~~ ~~~~~
   [ NOT ON SIZE ERROR imperative-statement-2 ]
     ~~~    ~~~~ ~~~~~
[ END-SUBTRACT ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `SUBTRACT CORRESPONDING` statement generates code equivalent to individual `SUBTRACT FROM` statements for corresponding matches of data items found subordinate to the two identifiers.

1. The reserved words `IS` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. Both <identifier-1> and <identifier-2> must be group items.
3. See CORRESPONDING, for information on how corresponding matches will be found between <identifier-1> and <identifier-2>.
4. The optional `ROUNDED` (see ROUNDED) clause available to each <identifier-2> will control how non-integer results will be saved.
5. The optional `ON SIZE ERROR` and `NOT ON SIZE ERROR` clauses may be used to detect and react to the failure or success, respectively, of an attempt to perform a calculation. In this case, failure is defined as being an <identifier-2> with an insufficient number of digit positions available to the left of any implied decimal point. See ON SIZE ERROR + NOT ON SIZE ERROR, for additional information.

8.8.49 SUPPRESS

SUPPRESS Syntax

==========

```
 SUPPRESS PRINTING
 ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `SUPPRESS` statement causes the presentation of a report group to be suppressed.

1. The reserved word `PRINTING` is optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of this word has no effect upon the program.
2. This statement may only appear within a `USE BEFORE REPORTING` procedure (in `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES)).
3. `SUPPRESS` only prevents the presentation of the report group within whose `USE BEFORE REPORTING` procedure the statement occurs.
4. This statement must be executed each time presentation of the report group is to be suppressed.
5. When a report group's presentation is suppressed, none of the following operations for the report will take place:
   A. Actual presentation of the report group in question.
   B. Processing of any `LINE` (see LINE) clauses within the report group in question.
   C. Processing of the `NEXT GROUP` (see NEXT GROUP) clause (if any) within the report group in question.
   D. Any modification to the `LINE-COUNTER` special register (see Special Registers).
   E. Any modification to the `PAGE-COUNTER` special register.

8.8.50 TERMINATE

TERMINATE Syntax

```
=========================================================================

INITIATE { report-name-1 }...
~~~~~~~~

=========================================================================
```

The `TERMINATE` statement causes the processing of the specified report(s) to be completed.

1. Each <report-name-1> must be the name of a report having an `RD` (see REPORT SECTION) defined for it.
2. The specified report name(s) must be currently initiated (via `INITIATE` (see INITIATE)) and cannot yet have been terminated.
3. The `TERMINATE` statement will present each `CONTROL FOOTING` (if any), in reverse sequence of the control hierarchy, starting with the most minor up to `FINAL` (if any). During the presentation of these groups and the processing of any `USE BEFORE REPORTING` procedures for those groups, the prior set of control data item values will be available, as though a control break had been detected at the most major control data name.

4. During the presentation of the `CONTROL FOOTING` groups, any necessary `PAGE FOOTING` and `PAGE HEADING` groups will be presented as well.
5. Finally,the `REPORT FOOTING` group, if any, will be presented.
6. If an `INITIATE` is followed by a `TERMINATE` with no intervening `GENERATE` (see GENERATE) statements (all pertaining to the same report, of course), no report groups will be presented to the output file.

8.8.51 TRANSFORM

TRANSFORM Syntax

==========

```
TRANSFORM identifier-1 CHARACTERS FROM { literal-1    } TO { literal-2    }
~~~~~~~~~                          ~~~~ { identifier-2 } ~~ { identifier-3 }
```

==========

The `TRANSFORM` statement scans a data item performing a series of mono-alphabetic substitutions, defined by the arguments before and after the `TO` clause.

1. Both <literal-1> and/or <literal-2> must be alphanumeric literals.
2. All of <identifier-1>, <identifier-2> and <identifier-3> must either be group items or alphanumeric data items. Numeric data items with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `DISPLAY` are accepted, but will generate warning messages from the compiler.
3. The `TRANSFORM` statement will replace characters within <identifier-1> that are found in the string specified *before* the `TO` keyword with the corresponding characters from the string specified *after* the `TO` keyword.
4. Usage of word CHARACTERS has no effect on operations other than for appearance.
5. This statement exists within GnuCOBOL to provide compatibility with COBOL programs written to pre-1985 standards. The `TRANSFORM` statement was made obsolete in the 1985 standard of COBOL, having been replaced by the `CONVERTING` clause of the `INSPECT` statement (see INSPECT). New programs should be coded to use `INSPECT CONVERTING` rather than `TRANSFORM`.

8.8.52 UNLOCK

UNLOCK Syntax

==========

```
UNLOCK filename-1 RECORD|RECORDS
~~~~~~
```

==========

This statement synchronizes any as-yet unwritten file I/O buffers to the specified file (if any) and releases any record locks held for records belonging to <file-name-1>.

1. The reserved words `RECORD` and `RECORDS` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. If <file-name-1> is a Sort/Merge work file, no action will be taken.
3. Not all GnuCOBOL implementations support locking. Whether they do or not depends upon the operating system they were built for and the build options that were used when GnuCOBOL was generated. When a program using one of those GnuCOBOL implementations issues an UNLOCK, it will ignored. There will be no compiler message issued. Buffer syncing, if needed, will still occur.
4. For GnuCOBOL UNLOCK is implied in GnuCOBOL on file close so there's no use to do it afterwards. A CLOSE will always trigger syncing the file to disk, too.
5. Doing UNLOCK before a close, will explicit unlock any records with a lock when running on INDEXED files, for other files it will release any locks on the file if it wasn't opened for exclusive locking and will trigger syncing to disk (not done for any INDEXED file).
6. When using Linux and for that matter most *nix platforms, the system maintains it's own cache and buffers for file processing so there can and most likely will be a short delay before all data is written out to disk.
7. See Record Locking, for additional information on record locking.

8.8.53 UNSTRING

UNSTRING Syntax

==========

```
UNSTRING { literal-0    }
~~~~~~~~ { identifier-1 }

  [ DELIMITED BY [ ALL ] { literal-1    } [ OR [ ALL ] { literal-2    } ]... ]
    ~~~~~~~~~      ~~~   { identifier-2 }   ~~   ~~~   { identifier-3 }

   INTO { identifier-4 [ DELIMITER IN identifier-5 ] [ COUNT IN identifier-6 ] }...
   ~~~~                 ~~~~~~~~~                     ~~~~~
  [ WITH POINTER identifier-7 ]
         ~~~~~~~
  [ TALLYING IN identifier-8 ]
    ~~~~~~~~
```

```
  [ ON OVERFLOW imperative-statement-1 ]
       ~~~~~~~~
  [ NOT ON OVERFLOW imperative-statement-2 ]
    ~~~    ~~~~~~~~
[ END-UNSTRING ]
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `UNSTRING` statement parses a string, extracting any number of sub strings from it.

1. The reserved words `BY`, `IN` and `ON` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. <identifier-1> through <identifier-5> must be explicitly or implicitly defined with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `DISPLAY`. Any of those identifiers may be group items.
3. Both <literal-1> and <literal-2> must be alphanumeric literals.
4. Each of <identifier-6>, <identifier-7> and <identifier-8> must be elementary non-edited integer numeric items.
5. At the time the `UNSTRING` statement begins execution, <identifier-7> must have a value greater than 0.
6. <identifier-1> will be referred to as the *source string* and each <identifier-4> will be referred to as a *destination field* in the following discussions.
7. The `UNSTRING` statement's processing is based upon a *current character pointer*, the initial value of which will be the value of <identifier-7> at the time the `UNSTRING` statement began execution. If no `POINTER` clause is coded, a value of 1 (meaning "the 1st character position") will be assumed for the current character pointer's initial value.
8. The source string will be parsed into sub strings starting from the current character pointer position. Sub strings are identified by using the various delimiter strings specified on the `DELIMITED BY` clause as inter-sub string separators.
9. Using the `ALL` option allows a delimiter sequence to be an arbitrarily long sequence of occurrences of the delimiter literal whereas its absence treats each occurrence as a separate delimiter. When multiple delimiters are specified, they will be looked for in the source string in the sequence in which they are coded.
10. Two consecutive delimiter sequences will identify a null sub string.
11. Identified sub strings will be moved into each destination field in the sequence they are identified; values moved into a destination field will be truncated if the sub string length exceeds the destination field length, or padded with spaces if the destination field length

exceeds the sub string length. Both truncation and padding will be controlled by the presence or absence of a `JUSTIFIED` (see JUSTIFIED) clause on the destination field.

12. Each destination field may have an optional `DELIMITER` clause. If a `DELIMITER` clause is specified, <identifier-5> will have the delimiter character string used to identify the sub string for the destination field moved into it. If a destination field was not altered (because an insufficient number of sub strings were identified), <identifier-5> for that destination field will also be unchanged.
13. Each destination field may have an optional `COUNT` clause. If a `COUNT` clause is specified, <identifier-6> will have the size of the sub string (in characters) for the destination field moved into it. If a destination field was not altered (because an insufficient number of sub strings were identified), <identifier-6> for that destination field will also be unchanged. The COUNT/identifier-6 will be greater than the size of the destination field when the sub string length exceeds the destination field length. This condition is not detected by the ON OVERFLOW clause.
14. If a `TALLYING` clause is coded, <identifier-8> will be incremented by 1 each time a destination field is populated.
15. None of <identifier-4>, <identifier-5>, <identifier-6>, <identifier-7> or <identifier-8> are initialized by the `UNSTRING` statement. You need to do that yourself via a `MOVE` (see MOVE) or `INITIALIZE` statement (see INITIALIZE).
16. `UNSTRING` processing will cease when one of the following occurs:
    A. The initial value of the current character pointer is less than 1 or greater than the number of character positions in <identifier-1>, or...
    B. All destination fields have been fully processed
17. If event *A* occurs, none of the destination field contents (or the contents of their `DELIMITER` or <COUNT> identifiers) will be changed.
18. An *overflow* condition exists if either event *A* occurs, or if event *B* occurs with at least one character position in <identifier-1> not having been processed.
19. The optional `ON OVERFLOW` and `NOT ON OVERFLOW` clauses may be used to detect and react to the occurrence or not, respectively, of an overflow condition. See ON OVERFLOW + NOT ON OVERFLOW, for additional information.

The following sample program illustrates the `UNSTRING` statement statement.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DEMOUNSTRING.
DATA DIVISION.
```

```
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Full-Name                  PIC X(40).
01  Parsed-Info.
    05 Last-Name               PIC X(15).
    05 First-Name              PIC X(15).
    05 MI                      PIC X(1).
    05 Delim-LN                PIC X(1).
    05 Delim-FN                PIC X(1).
    05 Delim-MI                PIC X(1).
    05 Count-LN                BINARY-CHAR.
    05 Count-FN                BINARY-CHAR.
    05 Count-MI                BINARY-CHAR.
    05 Tallying-Ctr            BINARY-CHAR.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
PERFORM UNTIL EXIT
   DISPLAY "Enter Full Name (null quits):" WITH NO ADVANCING
   ACCEPT Full-Name
   IF Full-Name = SPACES
      EXIT PERFORM
   END-IF
   INITIALIZE Parsed-Info
   UNSTRING Full-Name DELIMITED BY ", " OR "," OR ALL SPACES
       INTO Last-Name  DELIMITER IN Delim-LN COUNT IN Count-LN
            First-Name DELIMITER IN Delim-FN COUNT IN Count-FN
            MI         DELIMITER IN Delim-MI COUNT IN Count-MI
       TALLYING Tallying-Ctr
   DISPLAY "First-Name=" First-Name " Delim='" Delim-FN "' Count=" Count-FN
   DISPLAY "MI        =" MI         " Delim='" Delim-MI "' Count=" Count-MI
   DISPLAY "Last-Name =" Last-Name  " Delim='" Delim-LN "' Count=" Count-LN
   DISPLAY "Tally=     " Tallying-Ctr
END-PERFORM
DISPLAY "Bye!"
STOP RUN   .
```

The following is sample output from the program:

```
Enter Full Name (null quits):Cutler, Gary L
First-Name=Gary            Delim=' ' Count=+004
MI        =L               Delim=' ' Count=+001
Last-Name =Cutler          Delim=',' Count=+006
Tally=     +003
```

```
Enter Full Name (null quits):Snoddgrass,Throckmorton,P
First-Name=Throckmorton    Delim=',' Count=+012
MI        =P               Delim=' ' Count=+001
Last-Name =Snoddgrass      Delim=',' Count=+010
Tally=     +003
Enter Full Name (null quits):Munster   Herman
First-Name=Herman          Delim=' ' Count=+006
MI        =                Delim=' ' Count=+000
Last-Name =Munster         Delim=' ' Count=+007
Tally=     +002
Enter Full Name (null quits):
Bye!
```

8.8.54 WRITE

WRITE Syntax

==========

```
Format 1. For Sequential and Line Sequential files:

WRITE { record-name-1   [ FROM { identifier-1 } ] }
~~~~~ {                 [ ~~~~ { literal-1    } ] }
      {                                           }
      { FILE file-name-1  FROM { identifier-1 }   }
      { ~~~~              ~~~~ { literal-1    }   }

      [ { BEFORE } ADVANCING { { literal-2    } LINE|LINES } ]
      [ { ~~~~~~ }           { { identifier-2 }            } ]
      [ { AFTER  }           { PAGE                        } ]
      [   ~~~~~              { ~~~~                        } ]
      [                      { mnemonic-name-1             } ]

      [ WITH [ NO ] LOCK ]
               ~~   ~~~~
      [ AT END-OF-PAGE|EOP imperative-statement-1 ]
           ~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~
      [ NOT AT END-OF-PAGE|EOP imperative-statement-2 ]
        ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~
[ END-WRITE ]
  ~~~~~~~~~

Format 2. For Indexed and Relative files:
```

```
WRITE { record-name-1   [ FROM { identifier-1 } ] }
~~~~~ {                 [ ~~~~ { literal-1    } ] }
      {                                           }
      { FILE file-name-1  FROM { identifier-1 }   }
      { ~~~~              ~~~~ { literal-1    }   }

      [ WITH [ NO ] LOCK ]
               ~~   ~~~~
      [ INVALID KEY imperative-statement-3 ]
        ~~~~~~~
      [ NOT INVALID KEY imperative-statement-4 ]
        ~~~ ~~~~~~~
[ END-WRITE ]
  ~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `WRITE` statement writes a new record to an open file.

1. The reserved words `ADVANCING`, `AT`, `KEY`, `LINE`, `LINES` and `WITH` are optional and may be omitted. The presence or absence of these words has no effect upon the program.
2. The reserved words `END-OF-PAGE` and `EOP` are interchangeable.
3. The <record-name-1> specified on the statement must be defined as an 01-level record subordinate to the File Description (`FD` (see File/Sort-Description)) of a file that is currently open for `OUTPUT` (see File OPEN Modes), `EXTEND` or `I-O`.
4. The optional `FROM` clause will cause <literal-1> or <identifier-1> to be automatically moved into <record-name-1> prior to writing <record-name-1>'s contents to the appropriate file. If this clause is not specified, it is the programmer's responsibility to populate <record-name-1> with the desired data prior to executing the `WRITE`.
5. The optional `LOCK` options may be used to manually control access to the just-written record by other programs while this program is running. See Record Locking, to review the various record locking behaviour.
6. The optional `INVALID KEY` and `NOT INVALID KEY` clauses may be used when writing to relative or indexed files to detect and react to the failure (non-zero file status code) or success (00 file status code), respectively, of the statement. See File Status Codes, for additional information.
7. When `WRITE` is used against an `ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL` (see ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL) file, with or without the `LINE ADVANCING` (see LINE ADVANCING) option, an

end-of-record delimiter character sequence will be written to the file to signify where one record ends and the next record begins. This delimiter sequence will be either of the following:

- A line-terminator sequence consisting of an ASCII carriage-return/line-feed character sequence (`X'0D0A'`) if you are running a MinGW or native Windows build of GnuCOBOL
- A line-terminator sequence consisting of an ASCII line-feed character (`X'0A'`) if you are running a Cygwin, Linux, Unix or OSX build of GnuCOBOL

8. The following points pertain to the use (or not) of the `ADVANCING` clause:

   A. Using this clause with any organization other than `ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL` will either be rejected outright by the compiler (relative or indexed files) or may introduce unwanted characters into the file (`ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL` (see ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL)).

   B. If no `ADVANCING` clause is specified on a `WRITE` to a line-advancing file, `AFTER ADVANCING 1 LINE` will be assumed; on other than line-advancing files, `BEFORE ADVANCING 1 LINE` will be assumed.

   C. When `BEFORE ADVANCING` is used (or implied), the record is written to the file before the `ADVANCING` action writes line-terminator characters to the file.

   D. If `AFTER ADVANCING` is used (or implied), the `ADVANCING` action writes line-terminator characters to the file and then the record data is written to the file.

   E. The `ADVANCING n LINES` clause will introduce the specified number of line-terminator character sequences into the file either before the written record (`AFTER ADVANCING`) or after the written record (`BEFORE ADVANCING`).

   F. If the `LINAGE` (see File/Sort-Description) clause is *absent* from the file's `FD`:

      a. The `ADVANCING PAGE` clause will introduce an ASCII formfeed character into the file either before the written record (`AFTER PAGE`) or after the written record (`BEFORE PAGE`).

      b. Management of areas on the printed page such as top-of page headers, bottom-of-page footers, dealing with "full page" situations and the like are the complete responsibility of the programmer.

   G. If the LINAGE clause is *present* in the file's `FD`:

      a. The `ADVANCING PAGE` clause will introduce the appropriate number of line-terminator character sequences into the file either before the written record (`AFTER ADVANCING`) or after the written record (`BEFORE ADVANCING`) so as to force the printer to automatically advance to a new sheet of paper when the file prints. No formfeed characters will be generated when `LINAGE` is specified — instead, it is assumed that the printer

to which the report will be printed will be loaded with special forms that conform to the specifications defined by the `LINAGE` clause.

b. Management of areas on the printed page such as top-of page headers, bottom-of-page footers, dealing with “full page” situations and the like are now the joint responsibility of the programmer and the GnuCOBOL run-time library, which provides tools such as the `LINAGE-COUNTER` special register (see Special Registers) and the `END-OF-PAGE` clause to deal with page formatting issues.

c. The `AT END-OF-PAGE` clause will be triggered, thus executing <imperative-statement-1> (see Imperative Statement), if the `WRITE` statement introduces a data line or line-feed character into the file at a line position within the Page Footer area defined by the `LINAGE` clause. The `NOT AT END-OF-PAGE` clause will be triggered (thus executing <imperative-statement-2>) if no end-of-page condition occurred during the `WRITE`.

8.8.55 XML GENERATE

XML GENERATE Syntax

```
==========================================================================
```

```
XML GENERATE identifier-1 FROM identifier-2
~~~ ~~~~~~~~              ~~~~
     [COUNT IN identifier-3]
      ~~~~~
    [ WITH ENCODING codepage ]
           ~~~~~~~~
    [ WITH  XML-DECLARATION ]
            ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
    [ WITH ATTRIBUTES ]
           ~~~~~~~~~~
    [NAMESPACE IS {identifier-4 }[ NAMESPACE-PREFIX IS {identifier-5 }]
     ~~~~~~~~~    {literal-4    }  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~    {literal-5    }]]

    [NAME OF   {identifier-6 IS literal-6 } ... ]
     ~~~~
    [TYPE OF   {identifier-7 IS {ATTRIBUTE|ELEMENT|CONTENT}} ... ]
     ~~~~                       ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~

    [SUPPRESS  {identifier-8 [when-phrase] }  ... ]
     ~~~~~~~~  {generic-suppression-phrase }

    [ ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1 ]
         ~~~~~~~~~
```

```
    [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
      ~~~    ~~~~~~~~~~
[ END-XML ]
  ~~~~~~~

when-phrase Format

   WHEN   {     ZERO    }   [ [ OR ] {     ZERO    }  ] ...
   ~~~~   {    ZEROES   }             {    ZEROES   }
          {     ZEROS   }             {     ZEROS   }
          {     SPACE   }             {     SPACE   }
          {    SPACES   }             {    SPACES   }
          {  LOW-VALUE  }             {  LOW-VALUE  }
          {  LOW-VALUES }             {  LOW-VALUES }
          {  HIGH-VALUE }             {  HIGH-VALUE }
          { HIGH-VALUES }             { HIGH-VALUES }

Generic-suppression-phrase Format

   [[EVERY  {NUMERIC    [ATTRIBUTE|ELEMENT|CONTENT] } ]  when-phrase  ]
            {NONNUMERIC [ATTRIBUTE|ELEMENT|CONTENT] }
            {ATTRIBUTE                              }
            {CONTENT                                }
            {ELEMENT                                }
```

==========

The `XML GENERATE` statement creates an XML document based on the structure and content of the input data item. It takes as input a source data item to generate and store the corresponding XML document in a target data item. Both the source and receive data items must be declared in program's Data Division. The XML generated document follows syntax rules described at http://www.w3.org/TR/xml.

1. Identifier-1 is an alphanumeric data item, it will contain the generated XML document output. It must be large enough to contain the generated XML document. Typically, it should be from five to ten times the size of identifier-2, depending on the length of the data-name or data-names within identifier-2. If identifier-1 is not large enough, an error condition exists at the end of the XML GENERATE statement (see XML-CODE).
2. If identifier-1 is longer than the generated XML document, only the initial part of identifier-1 changes. The rest of identifier-1 will contain the data that was present before this execution of the XML GENERATE statement. To avoid referring to that data, either

initialize identifier-1 to spaces before the XML GENERATE statement or specify the COUNT IN phrase.

3. The element tag names in the XML documents generated from identifier-2 are derived from the name of the data item specified by identifier-2 and from any eligible data-names that are subordinate to identifier-2. The following rules apply:
   a. The exact mixed-case spelling of data-names from the data description entry is retained. The spellings from any references to that data item (for example, in an OCCURS DEPENDING ON clause) are not used.
   b. Data-names beginning with a digit are prefixed by an underscore. For example, the data-name 4C becomes XML tag name _4C.
   c. Names of data items that contain characters that are illegal in XML version 1.0 are prefixed by hex., and the content itself is expressed in hexadecimal.
   d. The XML declaration (header) is not generated. No extra white space, new line, etc. is inserted to make the generated XML more readable.

   FROM.
4. The group or elementary data item identifier-2 is to be converted to the XML document. identifier-2 must not be described with the RENAMES clause. The following data items specified by identifier-2 are ignored by the XML GENERATE statement:
   a. Any unnamed or FILLER data item with its subordinates.
   b. Any elementary data item that assumes a pointer, e.g. USAGE POINTER.
   c. Any data item (with its subordinates) subordinate to identifier-2 that is described with the REDEFINES clause.
   d. Any group item (with its subordinates) subordinate to identifier-2 that contains a non-unique name within the same level.
   e. Any group item that does not contain at least one elementary data item of category alphabetic, alphanumeric, numeric, or index.
   f. The content of each elementary data item within identifier-2 is converted to character format.
   g. Alphabetic, alphanumeric, alphanumeric-edited, external floating-point, and numeric-edited items are not converted.
5. Fixed-point numeric data items are converted as if they were moved to a numeric-edited item that has:
   a. An explicit decimal point, if the numeric item has at least one decimal position.

b. The same number of decimal positions as the numeric item.

c. A leading '-' picture symbol if the data item is signed and has an S in its PICTURE clause.

6. For COMPUTATIONAL-5 (COMP-5) binary data items, the number of integer positions depends on the number of '9' symbols in the picture character string. If the data item has one to four '9' picture symbols, the number of integer positions is five minus the number of decimal places. If the data item has five to nine '9' picture symbols, the number of integer positions is ten minus the number of decimal places. If the data item has 10 to 18 '9' picture symbols, the number of integer positions is 20 minus the number of decimal places.
7. All other fixed-point numeric data items will have as many integer positions as the numeric item, but with at least one integer position.
8. Internal floating-point data items are converted as if they were moved to a data item as follows:
   a. For COMP-1: an external floating-point data item with PICTURE −9.9(8)E+99.
   b. For COMP-2: an external floating-point data item with PICTURE −9.9(17)E+99 (illegal because of the number of digit positions).
9. Index data items are converted as if they were declared USAGE COMP-5 PICTURE S9(9). After conversion, leading and trailing spaces and leading zeroes are removed, as described under Data trimming.
10. After conversion, if a data item contains characters that are illegal in XML, the value in the data item before conversion or trimming is represented in hexadecimal, and an element tag name with the prefix "hex." is substituted for the regular tag name. For example, if data item Customer-Name is found at run time to contain LOW-VALUES, the XML element tag name 'hex.Customer-Name' is used instead of the normal 'Customer-Name', and the content is represented as a string of pairs of zero digits.
11. Any remaining instances of the five special characters & (ampersand), (apostrophe), > (greater-than sign), < (less-than sign), and (quotation mark) are converted into the equivalent XML references: &, ', >, <, and ", respectively.
12. Trailing spaces and leading zeroes are eliminated. Values converted from signed numeric values have their leading space removed if the value is positive. Values converted from numeric items have leading zeroes eliminated (after any initial minus sign). This is up to but not including the digit immediately before the actual or implied decimal point. Trailing zeroes after a decimal point are retained. For example: 012.340 becomes −12.340; 0000.45 becomes 0.45 ; 0013 becomes 13 ; 0000 becomes 0. Character values from alphabetic, alphanumeric data items have either trailing or leading spaces removed, depending on whether the corresponding data items have left or right justification,

respectively left being the default. Trailing spaces are removed from values whose corresponding data items do not specify the JUSTIFIED clause. Leading spaces are removed from values whose data items do specify the JUSTIFIED clause. If a character value consists solely of spaces, all spaces are removed but one.

COUNT IN.

13. Identifier-3 contains the count of generated XML characters. It must be an integer data item and normally contains a length of the generated XML document in bytes.
14. Use the COUNT IN phrase to determine the total number of character positions, in bytes, that were generated. identifier-3 will then contain this information after XML GENERATE executes. You can use identifier-3 as a reference modification length field to refer to the part of identifier-2 that contains the generated XML document.
15. Identifier-1, identifier-2, identifier-3 must not overlap each other.

    XML-CODE.

16. After execution of the XML GENERATE statement, the special register XML-CODE contains either zero, which indicates successful completion, or a non-zero exception code.

```
----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
Exception
code      Description
(decimal)
----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
0         The receiver contains the successfully generated XML document. The COUNT
          [IN] data item contains the count of character positions in the generated
            XML document.
400           The receiver was too small to contain the generated XML document.
The COUNT
         IN data item, if specified, contains the count of character positions that
            were actually generated.
401             A DBCS data-name contained a character that, when converted to
Unicode, was
            not valid in an XML element or attribute name.
402          The first character of a DBCS data-name, when converted to Unicode,
was not
            valid as the first character of an XML element or attribute name.
403         The value of an OCCURS DEPENDING ON variable exceeded 16,777,215.
410       The CCSID (coded character set identifier) page specified by the CODEPAGE
            compiler option is not supported for conversion to Unicode.
```

```
411        The CCSID (coded character set identifier) specified by the CODEPAGE
           compiler option is not a supported single-byte CCSID.
414       The CCSID (coded character set identifier) specified for the XML document
           was invalid or was not supported.
415       The receiver was national, but the encoding specified for the document was
           not UTF-16.
416        The XML name space identifier contained invalid XML characters.
417       Element character content or an attribute value contained characters that
          are illegal in XML content. XML generation has continued, with the element
          tag name or the attribute name prefixed with 'hex.' and the original data
           value represented in the document in hexadecimal.
418        Substitution characters were generated by encoding conversion.
419        The XML name space prefix was invalid.
420          The receiver was alphanumeric and the input included national or
DBCS data
           or names, but the encoding specified for the document was not 1208.
600 - 699  Internal error. Report the error to your service representative.
```

17. The XML-CODE special register has the implicit definition

```
01 XML-CODE PICTURE S9(9)USAGE BINARY VALUE 0.
```

18. If an error (XML-CODE NOT = 0) occurs during generation of the XML document, control is passed to the conditional statement imperative-statement-1. If ON EXCEPTION is not specified control is passed to the end of the XML GENERATE statement.
19. If no error (XML-CODE = 0) occurs during generation of the XML document, control is passed to the conditional statement imperative-statement-2. If NOT ON EXCEPTION is not specified, control is passed to the end of the XML GENERATE statement.
20. Example of the above :

```
01  wXML-DOCUMENT pic x(512).
01  wCHAR-COUNT   pic 9(9) binary.
01  wSOURCE.
    05  wA     pic x(10) value "aaa".
    05  wB.
        10  wC pic x(10) value "ccc".
        10  wD pic x(10) value "ddd".
    05  wE     pic x(10) value "eee".
    . . .
```

```
XML GENERATE wXML-DOCUMENT
    FROM     wSOURCE
    COUNT IN wCHAR-COUNT
 ON EXCEPTION
     DISPLAY 'XML generation error ' XML-CODE
     STOP RUN
 NOT ON EXCEPTION
     DISPLAY 'XML document generated.' wXML-DOCUMENT(1:wCHAR-COUNT)
 END-XML

The code generates the following XML document:

<wSOURCE><wA>aaa</wA><wB><wC>ccc</wC><wD>ddd</wD></wB><wE>eee</wE></wSOURCE>
```

ENCODING, XML-DECLARATION

21. You can code the ENCODING phrase of the XML GENERATE statement to specify the coded character set identifier CCSID of the generated XML document. If you do not use the ENCODING phrase, the document encoding is determined by the category of the receiving data item and by the CODEPAGE compiler option. The XML-DECLARATION phrase causes the generated XML document to have an XML declaration that includes version information and an encoding declaration.

```
  01  MESSAGE.
      05  MSG PIC X(80) VALUE 'Hello COBOL!'

      XML GENERATE OUTPUT FROM MESSAGE
          WITH ENCODING 1208
          WITH XML-DECLARATION
```

The code above generates the following XML document:

```
<?XML VERSION=1.0" ENCODING=UTF-8"?><MESSAGE><MSG>Hello COBOL!</MSG></MESSAGE>
```

If you do not code the XML-DECLARATION phrase, an XML declaration is not generated.

```
CCSID       Description
-----     -----------

1208      UTF-8
1047      Latin 1 / Open Systems
1140, 37  USA, Canada, . . . Euro Country Extended Code Page (ECECP),
```

```
                              Country Extended Code Page (CECP)
1141, 273 Austria, Germany ECECP, CECP
1142, 277 Denmark, Norway ECECP, CECP
1143, 278 Finland, Sweden ECECP, CECP
1144, 280 Italy ECECP, CECP
1145, 284 Spain, Latin America (Spanish) ECECP, CECP
1146, 285 UK ECECP, CECP
1147, 297 France ECECP, CECP
1148, 500 International ECECP, CECP
1149, 871 Iceland ECECP, CECP
```

ATTRIBUTES.

22. You can use the ATTRIBUTES phrase of the XML GENERATE statement to have each elementary data item included in the generated XML document to be expressed as an attribute of the XML element that corresponds to its immediately superordinate data item, rather than as a child element.

```
 01  wXML-INPUT.
     05  wNAME      PIC X(10) VALUE "PETER".
     05  wSALARY.
         10 wBASIC  PIC X(05) VALUE "20000".
         10 wHRA    PIC X(03) VALUE "3000".
     05  wDEPT      PIC X(03) VALUE "TRADE".

 XML   GENERATE XML-OUT FROM wXML-INPUT
                        WITH ATTRIBUTE.
```

23. The code would then generate the following XML document, in which wNAME and wDEPT are expressed as attributes of element XML-INPUT and wBASIC and wHRA become attributes of element wSALARY

```
<wXML-INPUT wNAME=PETER wDEPT=TRADE>
<wSALARY wBASIC=20000" wHRA=3000"></wSALARY>
</wXML-INPUT>
```

NAMESPACE and NAMESPACE-PREFIX

24. Use the NAMESPACE phrase to identify a namespace for the generated XML document. If the NAMESPACE phrase is not specified, or if identifier-4 has length zero or contains all spaces, the element names of XML documents produced by the XML GENERATE statement are not in any namespace.

25. Use the NAMESPACE-PREFIX phrase to qualify the start and end tag of each element in the generated XML document with a prefix.
26. If the NAMESPACE-PREFIX phrase is not specified, or if identifier-5 is of length zero or contains all spaces, the namespace specified by the NAMESPACE phrase specifies the default namespace for the document. In this case, the namespace declared on the root element applies by default to each element name in the document, including that of the root element. (Default namespace declarations do not apply directly to attribute names).
27. If the NAMESPACE-PREFIX phrase is specified, and identifier-5 is not of length zero and does not contain all spaces, then the start and end tag of each element in the generated document is qualified with the specified prefix. The prefix should therefore preferably be short. When the XML GENERATE statement is executed, the prefix must be a valid XML name, but without the colon (:), as defined in Namespaces in XML 1.0. at http://www.w3.org/TR/xml-names/#ns-decl. The prefix can have trailing spaces, which are removed before use.

    Identifier-4, literal-4; identifier-5, literal-5
28. Identifier-4, literal-4: The namespace identifier, which must be a valid Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) as defined in Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax at http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc3986.txt.
29. Identifier-5,literal-5: The namespace prefix, which serves as an alias for the namespace identifier.
30. Identifier-4 and identifier-5 must reference data items of category alphanumeric.
31. Identifier-4 and identifier-5 must not overlap identifier-1 or identifier-3.
32. Literal-4 and literal-5 must be of category alphanumeric and must not be figurative constants.
33. For full details about namespaces, see Namespaces in XML 1.0 at http://www.w3.org/TR/xml-names/#ns-decl.

```
      01 MESSAGE.
         05 MSG PIC X(80) VALUE 'Hello COBOL!'.
      01 NAME-SPACE PIC X(10) VALUE "HTTP://GNUCOBOL.COM".

      XML GENERATE OUTPUT FROM MESSAGE
          WITH ENCODING 1208
          WITH XML-DECLARATION
```

The code above generates the following XML document:

```
<MESSAGE XMLNS=HTTP://GNUCOBOL><MSG>Hello COBOL!</MSG></MESSAGE>
```

If you do not specify a namespace, the element names in the generated XML document are not in any namespace.

```
     01  wRegards.
         05  msg  pic x(80)  value 'Hello,COBOL!'.
     01  NS       pic x(20)  value 'http://sample'.
     01  NP       pic x(5)   value 'pfx'.
     ...

     XML Generate Doc from Greeting
         namespace        is NS
         namespace-prefix is NP

       <pfx:wRegards  xmlns:pfx="http://sample"><pfx:msg>Hello,COBOL!</pfx:msg></
pfx:wRegards>
```

NAME.

34. Allows you to supply element and attribute names.
35. Identifier-6 must reference identifier-2 or one of its subordinate data items. It cannot be a function identifier and cannot be reference modified or subscripted. It must not specify any data item which is ignored by the XML GENERATE statement. For more information about identifier-2, see the description of identifier-2. If identifier-6 is specified more than once in the NAME phrase, the last specification is used.
36. Literal-6 must be an alphanumeric literal containing the attribute or element name to be generated in the XML document corresponding to identifier-6. It must be a valid XML local name.

    TYPE.

37. Allows you to control attribute and element generation.
38. Identifier-7 must reference an elementary data item that is subordinate to identifier-2. It cannot be a function identifier and cannot be reference modified or subscripted. It must not specify any data item which is ignored by the XML GENERATE statement. For more information about identifier-2, see the description of identifier-2. If identifier-7 is specified more than once in the TYPE phrase, the last specification is used.

    1. If the XML GENERATE statement also includes a WITH ATTRIBUTES phrase, the TYPE phrase has precedence for identifier-7.

2. When ATTRIBUTE is specified, identifier-7 must be eligible to be an XML attribute. identifier-7 is expressed in the generated XML as an attribute of the XML element immediately superordinate to identifier-7 rather than as a child element.
3. When ELEMENT is specified, identifier-7 is expressed in the generated XML as an element. The XML element name is derived from identifier-7 and the element character content is derived from the converted content of identifier-7 as described in Operation of XML GENERATE.
4. When CONTENT is specified, identifier-7 is expressed in the generated XML as element character content of the XML element that corresponds to the data item immediately superordinate to identifier-7. The value of the element character content is derived from the converted content of identifier-7 as described in Operation of XML GENERATE. When CONTENT is specified for multiple identifiers all corresponding to the same superordinate identifier, the multiple contributions to the element character content are concatenated.

39. The exact mixed-case spelling of data-names from the data description entry is retained.
40. You likely want to change the COBOL variable names to all lower case or use the NAME phrase for all data entries (at least if you expect it to be all in lower case as in your "target sample").

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. XMLPROG.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 TOTAL-CHAR PIC 9(05) VALUE 0.
01 x PIC X(200).
01 y.
   03 z PIC X(15) VALUE "hello,COBOL!".
   03 az PIC X(15) VALUE "goodbye, COBOL!".
   03 ab.
      05 abc PIC x(03) value spaces.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
XML GENERATE x FROM y
    COUNT IN TOTAL-CHAR
    WITH XML-DECLARATION
    NAME OF abc IS "ABCDEF",
              z IS "zeta"
    TYPE OF   z IS ATTRIBUTE
    SUPPRESS WHEN SPACES
```

```
    END-XML

    DISPLAY "0. [" TOTAL-CHAR "] COUNT"
    DISPLAY "1. [" FUNCTION TRIM(x) "]"

    XML GENERATE x FROM abc,
        NAME OF abc IS "sfdasd"
    DISPLAY "0. [" TOTAL-CHAR "] COUNT"
    DISPLAY "2. [" FUNCTION TRIM(x) "]"

    XML GENERATE x FROM ab,
        WITH ATTRIBUTES.
    DISPLAY "0. [" TOTAL-CHAR "] COUNT"
    DISPLAY "3. [" FUNCTION TRIM(x) "]"
    DISPLAY "4. [" x(1:TOTAL-CHAR)  "]".
```

SUPPRESS

41. Optionally, you can code the SUPPRESS phrase to specify whether individual data items are generated based on whether or not they meet certain criteria. If the SUPPRESS phrase is specified, identifier-1 must be large enough to contain the generated XML document before any suppression.
42. With the generic-suppression-phrase, elementary items subordinate to identifier-2 that are not otherwise ignored by XML GENERATE operations are identified generically for potential suppression.
43. Either items of class numeric, if the NUMERIC keyword is specified, or items that are not of class numeric, if the NONNUMERIC keyword is specified, or both, might be suppressed.
44. If the ATTRIBUTE keyword is specified, only items that would be expressed in the generated XML document as an XML attribute are identified for potential suppression.
45. If the ELEMENT keyword is specified, only items that would be expressed in the generated XML document as an XML element are identified for potential suppression.
46. If the CONTENT keyword is specified, only items that would be expressed in the generated XML document as element character content of the XML element corresponding to the data item superordinate to the CONTENT data item are identified for potential suppression.
47. If multiple generic-suppression-phrase are specified, the effect is cumulative.
48. Identifier-8 explicitly identifies items for potential suppression.

49. If the WHEN phrase is specified, identifier-8 must reference an elementary data item that is subordinate to identifier-2 and that is not otherwise ignored by the XML GENERATE operations. identifier-8 cannot be a function identifier and cannot be reference modified or subscripted.

50. If the WHEN phrase is omitted, identifier-8 can reference not only an elementary data item but also a group data item. That group data item and all data items that are subordinate to the group item are suppressed. If identifier-8 is specified more than once in the SUPPRESS phrase, the last specification is used. The explicit suppression specification for identifier-8 overrides the suppression specification that is implied by any generic-suppression-phrase, if identifier-8 is also one of the identifiers generically identified.

51. If identifier-8 is specified, the following rules apply to it:

    A. If ZERO, ZEROES, or ZEROS is specified in the WHEN phrase, identifier-8 must not be of USAGE DISPLAY

    B. If SPACE or SPACES is specified in the WHEN phrase, identifier-8 must be of USAGE DISPLAY, DISPLAY-1, or NATIONAL. If identifier-8 is a zoned or national decimal item, it must be an integer.

    C. If LOW-VALUE, LOW-VALUES, HIGH-VALUE, or HIGH-VALUES is specified in the WHEN phrase, identifier-8 must be of USAGE DISPLAY. If identifier-8 is a zoned decimal item, it must be an integer.

52. If the generic-suppression-phrase is specified, data items are selected for potential suppression according to the following rules:

    A. If ZERO, ZEROES, or ZEROS is specified in the WHEN phrase, all data items except those that are defined with USAGE DISPLAY-1 are selected.

    B. If SPACE or SPACES is specified in the WHEN phrase, data items of USAGE DISPLAY, DISPLAY-1, or NATIONAL are selected. For zoned or national decimal items, only integers are selected.

    C. If LOW-VALUE, LOW-VALUES, HIGH-VALUE, or HIGH-VALUES is specified in the WHEN phrase, data items of USAGE DISPLAY are selected. For zoned decimal items, only integers are selected.

53. When the SUPPRESS phrase is specified, a group item subordinate to identifier-2 is suppressed in the generated XML document if all the eligible items subordinate to the group item are suppressed or if, after suppressing any subordinate items, the XML corresponding to the group item would be an empty element with no attributes. The root element is always generated, even if all the items subordinate to identifier-2 are suppressed.

```
     01 wG.
        02 HiddenInfo.
           03 SSN pic x(11) value '123-45-6789'.
           03 HomeAddress pic x(50) value '123 Main St, Anytown, USA'.
        02 Atable value spaces.
           03 wA pic AAA occurs 5.
        02 Btable value spaces.
           03 wB pic XXX occurs 5.
        02 Ctable value zeros.
           03 wC pic 999 occurs 5.

    Move 'abc' to wA(1)
    Move 123   to wC(3)
    XML GENERATE wDoc from wG
        suppress HiddenInfo
                 every nonnumeric element when space
                 every numeric    element when zero
    END-XML

Generated document:

   <wG>
      <Atable><A>abc</A></Atable>
      <Ctable><C>123</C></Ctable>
   </wG>
```

ON EXCEPTION and NOT ON EXCEPTION.

54. When an error occurs during XML document generation, an exception condition exists. An example of this is when identifier-1 is not large enough to contain the generated XML document. In this case, XML generation stops and the content of the receiver, identifier-1, is undefined. If the COUNT IN phrase was specified, identifier-3 contains the number of character positions that were generated. This can range from zero to the length of identifier-1.
55. If the ON EXCEPTION phrase is specified, control is transferred to imperative-statement-1. If it is not specified, NOT ON EXCEPTION phrases are ignored, and control is transferred to the end of the XML GENERATE statement.
56. At termination of an XML GENERATE statement, special register XML-CODE contains either 0, indicating successful completion of XML generation, or a non-zero error code, indicating that an exception occurred during XML generation.

57. If no exception conditions arise during generation of the XML document, control is passed to imperative-statement-2, if specified, or to the end of the XML GENERATE statement. If an ON EXCEPTION phrase is specified, it is ignored. Special register XML-CODE contains a zero after the XML GENERATE statement has finished executing.

    END-XML

58. Is an explicit scope terminator that delimits the scope of XML GENERATE statement. With END-XML, conditional XML GENERATE statements can be nested in other conditional statements. Conditional XML GENERATE statements specify the ON EXCEPTION or NOT ON EXCEPTION phrase.

59. The scope of a conditional XML GENERATE or XML PARSE statement is terminated by:

    a. An END-XML phrase at the same level of nesting

    b. A separator period

    NESTED XML GENERATE STATEMENTS.

60. When a given XML GENERATE statement appears as imperative-statement-1 or imperative-statement-2, or as part of imperative-statement-1 or imperative-statement-2 of another XML GENERATE statement, that given XML GENERATE statement is a nested XML GENERATE statement.

61. Nested XML GENERATE statements are considered to be matched XML GENERATE and END-XML combinations proceeding from left to right. For this reason, when END-XML phrases are encountered, they are matched with the nearest preceding XML GENERATE statements that have not already been terminated.

8.8.56 XML PARSE

XML PARSE Syntax

==========

```
XML PARSE identifier-1
~~~ ~~~~~
    [ WITH ENCODING codepage ]
           ~~~~~~~~
    [ RETURNING NATIONAL ]
      ~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
    [ VALIDATING WITH identifier-2 ]
      ~~~~~~~~~~
    PROCESSING PROCEDURE IS procedure-name-1 [ { THROUGH } procedure-name-2 ]
    ~~~~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~~                     [ { ~~~~~~~ }                  ]
                                             [ { THRU    }                  ]
```

```
                                                      ~~~~
    [ ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-1     ]
         ~~~~~~~~~~
    [ NOT ON EXCEPTION imperative-statement-2 ]
      ~~~     ~~~~~~~~~~
  [ END-XML ]
    ~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `XML PARSE` statement starts an event-driven XML parser, the processing procedure is performed as each component of the XML document is identified in order.

This statement is not available in the runtime yet and will raise a XML exception during execution.

9 Functions

9.1 Intrinsic Functions

GnuCOBOL supports a wide variety of "intrinsic functions" that may be used anywhere in the PROCEDURE DIVISION where a literal is allowed. For example:

```
MOVE FUNCTION LENGTH(Employee-Last-Name) TO Employee-LN-Len
```

Note how the word `FUNCTION` is part of the syntax when you use an intrinsic function. You can use intrinsic functions without having to include the reserved word `FUNCTION` via settings in the `REPOSITORY` (see REPOSITORY) paragraph. You may accomplish the same thing by specifying the `-fintrinsics` switch to the GnuCOBOL compiler when you compile your programs.

User-written functions (see Subprogram Types) never require the `FUNCTION` keyword when they are executed, because each user-written function a program uses *must* be included in that program's `REPOSITORY` paragraph, which therefore makes the `FUNCTION` keyword optional.

The following intrinsic functions, known to other "dialects" of COBOL, are defined to GnuCOBOL as reserved words but are not otherwise implemented currently. Any attempts to use these functions will result in a compile-time error message. However they are described at the end of this chapter.

```
BOOLEAN-OF-INTEGER
CHAR-NATIONAL
DISPLAY-OF
EXCEPTION-FILE-N
EXCEPTION-LOCATION-N
INTEGER-OF-BOOLEAN
NATIONAL-OF
STANDARD-COMPARE

Date and Time Formats
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

For functions `FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE`, `FORMATTED-DATE`, `FORMATTED-TIME` and `FORMATTED-DATETIME`, the format literal argument indicates the format of the date or time value that is the result of the function. The result of the function will have the same type as its format literal, which can be alphanumeric, national or UTF-8.

For functions `INTEGER-OF-FORMATTED-DATE`, `SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME` and `TEST-FORMATTED-DATETIME`, the format literal indicates the format of the date or time value specified as the second argument of the function.

The permissible format strings are listed as follows. For a full description of each subfield in the format literals, including a range of permissible values in data associated with the formats, see the Value meanings and limits section.

```
Integer Date Form:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

A value in integer date form is a positive integer that represents the number of days since 31 December, 1600 in the Gregorian calendar.

It must be greater than zero and less than or equal to the value of FUNCTION INTEGER-OF-DATE (99991231), which is 3,067,671.

```
Standard Date Form:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

A value in standard date form is an integer of the form YYYYMMDD, calculated using (YYYY * 10,000) + (MM * 100) + DD, where:

YYYY represents the year in the Gregorian calendar. It must be an integer in the range [1601, 9999].

MM represents a month and must be an integer in the range [01, 12].

DD represents a day and must be an integer in the range [01, 31], valid for the specified month and year combination.

```
Julian Date Form:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

A value in Julian date form is an integer of the form YYYYDDD, calculated using (YYYY * 1000) + DDD, where:

YYYY represents the year in the Gregorian calendar. It must be an integer in the range [1601, 9999].

DDD represents the day of the year. It must be a positive integer in the range [1, 366], valid for the year specified.

```
UTC Offset Value:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

A UTC offset value is an integer representation of offset from UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) expressed in minutes. The value must be greater than or equal to −1439 and less than or equal to 1439.

Note: The offset value 1439 represents 23 hours 59 minutes, which is one minute less than a day.

```
Standard numeric time form
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

A value in standard numeric time form is a numeric value representing seconds past mid-night. The value must be greater than or equal to zero and less than 86,400

```
Date and Time Formats:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

For functions `FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE`, `FORMATTED-DATE`, `FORMATTED-TIME` and `FORMATTED-DATETIME`, the format literal argument indicates the format of the date or time value that is the result of the function. The result of the function will have the same type as its format literal, which can be alphanumeric, national or UTF-8.

For functions `INTEGER-OF-FORMATTED-DATE`, `SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME` and `TEST-FORMATTED-DATETIME`, the format literal indicates the format of the date or time value specified as the second argument of the function.

The permissible format strings are listed as follows. For a full description of each subfield in the format literals, including a range of permissible values in data associated with the formats, see Value meanings and limits.

```
Field Sizes
~~~~~~~~~~~
Caution must be applied when using the above processes in that the data size used
for days, MUST be in excess of any requirements in the future but in particular for
the years 2038 onwards so that dates expressed as days from 1601 are not exceeded by
the field format, i.e., 32 bit fields or larger must be used. e.g., 2038 - 1600 =
438 years, x 365.25 = 159,980 days, requires 4 bytes minimum as only 2 bytes provide
for 64k only - far too small.  Always assume that any application will be in use far
beyond your expectations as proven by the year 2000 millennium bug that caused a lot
of issues in 1999. Not that I can complain as I made a lot of money fixing such issues
for various sites :)

Date formats            Format literals
~~~~~~~~~~~~            ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

```
Basic calendar date     YYYYMMDD
Extended calendar date  YYYY-MM-DD
Basic ordinal date      YYYYDDD
Extended ordinal date   YYYY-DDD
Basic week date         YYYYWwwD
Extended week date      YYYY-Www-D

Integer-seconds time formats:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Integer-seconds time formats            Format literals

Basic local time                        hhmmss
Extended local time                     hh:mm:ss
Basic Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)  hhmmssZ
Extended UTC time                       hh:mm:ssZ
Basic offset time                       hhmmss+hhmm
Extended offset time                    hh:mm:ss+hh:mm

Fractional-seconds time formats:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Fractional-seconds time formats         Format literals

Basic local time                        hhmmss.ssss
Extended local time                     hh:mm:ss.ssss
Basic Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)  hhmmss.ssssZ
Extended UTC time                       hh:mm:ss.ssssZ
Basic offset time                       hhmmss.ssss+hhmm
Extended offset time                    hh:mm:ss.ssss+hh:mm
```

Note: The period is used as the decimal separator, and four "s" characters after the period are used for illustrative purposes. The number of "s" characters that might be specified after the decimal separator in these formats might range from 1 to 9.

```
Value Meanings and Limits:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
The permissible date and time formats have the following meanings and limits:

Format    Meaning and limits
YYYY      Year, 1601-9999
MM        Month, 01-12
DD        Day of month, 01-{28|29|30|31} dependent on month sub-field
```

```
DDD       Day of year for ordinal date formats, 001-365|366
ww        Week of year, 01-53
D         Day of week, 1-7
W
-
hh        Hours, 00-23
mm        Minutes, 00-59
ss        Seconds, 00-59
.s        Fractional seconds, always prefixed with '.' then 1-9 's'
+|-hh:mm  UTC offset hours (extended times only), the offset can be adjusted
          upward (by a '+' prefix) or downward (by a - prefix). A prefix of 0
          (zero) indicates that an offset of UTC is not available on the system.
Z         UTC time indicator

Value Meanings and Limits:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
The permissible date and time formats have the following meanings and limits:

Format  Meaning and Limits:
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
YYYY      Year, 1601-9999
MM        Month, 01-12
DD        Day of month, 01-{28|29|30|31} dependent on month sub-field
DDD       Day of year for ordinal date formats, 001-365|366
ww        Week of year, 01-53
D         Day of week, 1-7
W
-
hh        Hours, 00-23
mm        Minutes, 00-59
ss        Seconds, 00-59
.s        Fractional seconds, always prefixed with '.' then 1-9 's'
+|-hh:mm  UTC offset hours (extended times only), the offset can be adjusted
          upward (by a '+' prefix) or downward (by a - prefix).

          A prefix of 0 (zero) indicates that an offset of UTC is not available
          on the system.
Z          UTC time indicator
```

The GnuCOBOL intrinsic functions can be grouped into following categories:

```
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| MATHEMATICAL FUNCTIONS                                                       |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| ABS(argument-1)           | Returns the absolute value of argument-1         |
| ABSOLUTE-VALUE(argument-1) | Same as ABS(argument-1)                         |
| E                         | Returns the constant E                           |
| EXP(argument-1)           | Returns e raised to the power of argument-1      |
| EXP10(argument-1)         | Returns 10 raised to the power of argument-1     |
| FACTORIAL(argument-1)     | Returns the factorial value of argument-1        |
| FRACTION-PART(number)     | Returns number from the right of decimal point   |
| INTEGER-PART(number)      | Returns the integer portion of number            |
| LOG(number)               | Returns the natural logarithm (base e) of number |
| LOG10(number)             | Returns the base 10 logarithm of number          |
| MOD(value,modulus)        | Returns the value of remainder from value / modulus |
| PI                        | Returns the constant PI                          |
| REM(number,divisor)       | Returns the remainder of number divided by divisor |
| SIGN(number)              | Returns -1 if number <0, 0 if number =0, 1 if number >0|
| SQRT(argument-1)          | Returns the square root of argument-1            |
| SUM(number-1[,number-2]...)| Returns the sum of number-n arguments           |
| SIN(argument-1)           | Returns the sine of argument-1 (in radians)      |
| COS(argument-1)           | Returns the cosine of argument-1 (in radians)    |
| TAN(argument-1)           | Returns the tangent of argument-1 (in radians)   |
| ASIN(argument-1)          | Returns the arcsine (in radians) of argument-1   |
| ACOS(argument-1)          | Returns the arccosine (in radians) of argument-1 |
| ATAN(argument-1)          | Returns the arctangent (in radians) of argument-1 |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| STATISTICAL FUNCTIONS                                                        |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| MAX(num-1[,num-2]...)     | Returns the maximum value from the list of numbers |
| MEAN(num-1[,num-2]...)    | Returns the mean value of the list of numbers    |
| MEDIAN(num-1[,num-2]...)  | Returns the median value of the list of numbers  |
| MIDRANGE(num-1[,num-2]...) | Returns the mean of minimum and maximum from list |
| MIN(num-1[,num-2]...)     | Returns the minimum from the list of numbers     |
| RANDOM[(seed)]            | Returns a pseudo-random value in range 0 >= to < 1 |
| RANGE(num-1[,num-2 ]...)  | Returns maximum number in the list minus the minimum |
| STANDARD-DEVIATION(num-1[,num-2]...)                                         |
|                           | Returns the standard deviation of the list       |
```

```
| VARIANCE(num-1[,num-2]...) | Returns the variance of the list of numbers          |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| DATE / TIME FUNCTIONS                                                               |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| COMBINED-DATETIME(days,seconds) Returns 7 dig.as value of days, 5 digits as seconds |
| CURRENT-DATE              | Returns the current date and time                       |
| INTEGER-OF-DATE(date)     | Convert from YYYYMMDD to the num.of days since 16001231|
| DATE-OF-INTEGER(argument-1)| Returns a numeric calendar date in YYYYMMDD format     |
| INTEGER-OF-DAY(date)      | Convert from YYYYDDD  to the num.of days since 16001231|
| DAY-OF-INTEGER(argument-1) | Returns a calendar date in YYYYDDD format              |
| DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(...)     | Convert 6-digit date yymmdd to an 8-digit date yyymmdd |
| DAY-TO-YYYYDDD(...)       | Convert 5-digit date yyddd  to a  7-digit date yyyyddd |
| FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE(arg-1)Returns current date/time from the system at runtime   |
| FORMATTED-DATE(arg-1,arg-2)| Convert an integer date form to a date in the req.fmt  |
| FORMATTED-DATETIME(arg-n..)| Uses a timedate form to convert in integer and num.time|
| FORMATTED-TIME (arg-n,...) | Converts seconds past midnight with optional offset    |
| INTEGER-OF-FORMATTED-DATE(args..)Converts a date to integer date form              |
| SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME( Format,time) decodes the string,ret.the number of secs |
| SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT     | Returns curr.time of day as num.seconds since midnight |
| TEST-DATE-YYYYMMDD(date)   | Determines if supplied date argument is a valid date   |
| TEST-DAY-YYYYDDD(date)    | Determines if the supplied date is a valid date        |
| TEST-FORMATTED-DATETIME(arg-1,arg-2) Tests if literal is valid according to spec.fmt|
| YEAR-TO-YYYY(yy ...)      | Converts yy to a four-digit format yyyy                |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS                                                                 |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| ANNUITY(interest-rate, number-of-periods)                                           |
| returns the ratio of an annuity paid at interest-rate for each of number-of-periods |
| PRESENT-VALUE(rate,value-1[,value-2]...)                                            |
| returns pres.value of series of future periodend amounts at disc.rate by rate argumt|
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| STRING AND CHARACTER HANDLING FUNCTIONS                                             |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
```

```
| BIT-OF(arg-1)          | Returns string of 1&0 repres.bin.value of bytes in arg-1  |
| BIT-TO-CHAR(arg-1)     | Returns a string that represents a bit pattern of arg-1   |
| BYTE-LENGTH(string)     | Same as LENGTH-AN                                         |
| CHAR(arg-1)           | Returns char.in the ordinal position specified by arg-1   |
| CONCAT(arg-1,arg-2 ...) | Concatenates arg-1,arg-2, .. into a single string result  |
| CONCATENATE            | Same as CONCAT                                            |
| CONTENT-LENGTH(arg-1)   | Scans for a NUL byte delimiter and returns the length     |
| CONTENT-OF(ptr{length}) | Returns a char.field of data addressed by pointer         |
| HEX-OF(arg-1)          | Returns a string of hexadecimal representation of arg-1   |
| HEX-TO-CHAR(arg-1)     | Returns a string of characters representation from arg-1  |
| HIGHEST-ALGEBRAIC(num-id) Returns highest value could possibly be stored in num-
id  |
| INTEGER(number)        | Returns the greatest integer value < or = equal to number |
| LOWER-CASE(string)     | Returns the value of string converted to lower case       |
| LOWEST-ALGEBRAIC(num-id)| Returns the lowest value could possibly stored in num-
id  |
| LENGTH(string)         | Returns the length in characters of string                |
| LENGTH-AN(string)      | Returns the length in bytes of storage of string          |
| ORD(char)             | Returns the ordinal position corr.to the 1st char.of char |
| ORD-MAX(char-n...)     | Returns ordinal pos.corr.to the char-n whose 1st character|
|                       | Has highest position in the program collating sequence    |
| ORD-MIN(char-n...)     | Returns ordinal pos.corr.to the char-n whose 1st character|
|                       | Has lowest position in the program collating sequence     |
| REVERSE(string)        | Returns the byte-by-byte reversed value of string         |
| SUBSTITUTE(string,...)  | Replace all occurrences with the corresponding to strings |
| SUBSTITUTE-CASE        | Same as SUBSTITUTE but without regard to case             |
| STORED-CHAR-LENGTH(strg)| Returns num.bytes of string minus num.of trailing spaces  |
| TRIM(string[...])      | Removes LEADING or TRAILING spaces from string            |
| UPPER-CASE(string)     | Returns the value of string converted to upper case       |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| GENERAL FUNCTIONS                                                             |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| CURRENCY-SYMBOL        | Returns the currency symbol currently in effect          |
| MONETARY-DECIMAL-POINT  | Returns char.separate integer from frac.part of curr.value|
|   MONETARY-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR   Returns   char.separate   thousands   of   monetary
curr.values|
| NUMERIC-DECIMAL-POINT   | Returns character separate integer from fractional part   |
| NUMERIC-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR Returns char.separate thousands of numeric values      |
| NUMVAL(string)         | Converts a string to its corresponding numeric value      |
```

```
| NUMVAL-C(string...     | Converts a string representing a currency to its num.value|
| NUMVAL-C-2(...)        | Returns the num.value represented by the character string |
| NUMVAL-F(char)         | Converts a string repr.a floating-point value to num.value|
| TEST-NUMVAL(string)    | Evaluates string for being appropriate for NUMVAL function|
| TEST-NUMVAL-C(string...)| Evaluates string for being appropriate for NUMVAL-C funct.|
| TEST-NUMVAL-F (string)  | Evaluates string for being appropriate for NUMVAL-F funct.|
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| FROM ROUTINE "CBL_ERROR_PROC"                                                 |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
|EXCEPTION-FILE    | Returns exc.information from most recently executed I/O statemt |
|EXCEPTION-LOCATION | Returns exc.information from most recently failing statement   |
|EXCEPTION-STATEMENT|   Returns   most   recent   COBOL   statement   that   generated
exc.condition|
|EXCEPTION-STATUS   | Returns error type from most recent COBOL statement gen.exc.cond|
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+

+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| LOCALE FUNCTIONS                                                              |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
|LOCALE-COMPARE(...)| Returns a character indicating result of comparing            |
|LOCALE-DATE(...)   | Converts date from yyyymmdd format to the current locale format |
|LOCALE-TIME(...)   | Converts hhmm or hmmss time to a current locale format         |
|LOCALE-TIME-FROM-SECONDS(...) Converts num.of seconds since midnight to a locale
fmt |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| MODULE FUNCTIONS                                                              |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
|MODULE-CALLER-ID   | Returns the entry-point name of program that called subprogram  |
|MODULE-DATE       | Returns date the program was compiled, in the form yyyymmdd     |
|MODULE-FORMATTED-DATE Returns date & time when the program was compiled             |
|MODULE-ID         | Returns the name (in PROGRAM-ID) of the program                 |
|MODULE-PATH       | Returns the path to the executable version of the program       |
|MODULE-SOURCE     | Returns the filename of the source code of the program          |
|MODULE-TIME       | Returns the time the program was compiled in the form hhmmss    |
```

```
|WHEN-COMPILED     | Returns the date and time the program was compiled            |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
```

The supported intrinsic functions are listed in the following sections, along with their syntax and usage notes.

9.1.1 ABS

ABS Function Syntax

==========

```
 ABS | ABSOLUTE-VALUE (argument-1)
 ~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function determines and returns the absolute value of <argument-1> (a numeric literal or a numeric data item). Note that `ABSOLUTE-VALUE` has an alias for this function.

9.1.2 ACOS

ACOS Function Syntax

==========

```
 ACOS(argument-1)
 ~~~~
```

==========

The `ACOS` function determines and returns a numeric value of an angle in radians that approximates the trigonometric arc-cosine, or inverse cosine, of <argument-1> (a numeric literal, a numeric data item or an arithmetic expression with value from −1 to +1).

The returned value is an angle, expressed in radians, greater than or equal to zero and less than or equal to `PI` (from 0 to 180 degrees). You can convert radians to degrees as follows:

```
COMPUTE degrees = ( radians / FUNCTION PI ) * 180


       >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTACOS. *> SAMPLE PROGRAM
DATA DIVISION. WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wDegrees PIC s999v99999999999999999999999999999.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
```

```
display 'a.ACOS   0: ' FUNCTION ACOS(0)
compute wDegrees = (FUNCTION ACOS(0) / FUNCTION PI) * 180
display '  Degrees : ' wDegrees
display 'b.ACOS  +1: ' FUNCTION ACOS(+1)
compute wDegrees = (FUNCTION ACOS(+1) / FUNCTION PI) * 180
display '  Degrees : ' wDegrees
display 'c.ACOS  -1: ' FUNCTION ACOS(-1)
compute wDegrees = (FUNCTION ACOS(-1) / FUNCTION PI) * 180
display '  Degrees : ' wDegrees
ACCEPT OMITTED STOP RUN.

Output:
a.ACOS   0: 1.57079632679489661923132169163975144209858469968755291048747229
              61539082031431044993140174126710 6
  Degrees : +090.00000000000000000000000000000000
b.ACOS  +1: 000000000
  Degrees : +000.00000000000000000000000000000000
c.ACOS  -1: 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288419716939937510582097494459
              23078164062862089986280348253421 2
  Degrees : +180.00000000000000000000000000000000
```

9.1.3 ANNUITY

ANNUITY Function Syntax

==========

```
 ANNUITY(interest-rate, number-of-periods)
 ~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns a numeric value approximating the ratio of an annuity paid at <interest-rate> (numeric data item or literal) for each of <number-of-periods> (numeric data items or literals).

<interest-rate> is the rate of interest paid at each payment. If you only have an annual interest rate and you wish to compute monthly annuity payments, divide the annual interest rate by 12 and use that value for <interest-rate>.

Multiply the result of this function times the desired principal amount to determine the amount of each period's payment.

A note for the financially challenged: an annuity is basically a reverse loan; an accountant would take the result of this function multiplied by −1 times the principal amount to compute a loan payment you are making.

1. Here is an example of a program using this function. Given a total amount of 100,000 USD and an annual interest of 5% the program calculates the monthly payment for the duration of one year, two years ... up to 10 years.

```
         >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PANNUITY.
*> Given a total amount of 100,000 and an annual interest of 5%
*> the program calculates monthly payment for a duration of 1 year, 2 years
*> ...up to 10 years.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 Total-Loan       Pic 9(9)V99 value 100000.
01 Interest-Rate    Pic 999V99  value 0.05.
01 Interest-RateP   Pic 999V99  value zero.
01 Months           Pic 999     value zero.
01 Years            Pic 999     value zero.
01 Monthly-Payment  Pic 9(9)V99.
01 Total-Payments   Pic 9(9)V99.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
DISPLAY SPACE
COMPUTE Interest-RateP = Interest-Rate * 100
DISPLAY 'Total Loan: ' Total-Loan ' USD - Interest Rate: ' Interest-RateP '%'
DISPLAY SPACE
DISPLAY ' Y   M  Monthly Amount    Total Payments'
DISPLAY '--- ---  -------------    --------------'
PERFORM 10 TIMES
  ADD 12 to Months
  COMPUTE Monthly-Payment = Total-Loan * FUNCTION ANNUITY ((Interest-Rate / 12),
                Months)
  COMPUTE Total-Payments = Monthly-payment * Months
  COMPUTE Years = Months / 12
  DISPLAY Years ' ' Months '   ' Monthly-Payment ' USD  ' Total-Payments
END-PERFORM
ACCEPT omitted
GOBACK.
```

2. Other additional documentation:

When the value of Interest-Rate is zero, the value returned by the function is the approximation of: `(1 / Number-Periods)`.

When the value of Interest-Rate is not zero, the value of the function is the approximation of: `(Interest-Rate / (1 - (1 + Interest-Rate) ** (- (Number-Periods) )))`.

9.1.4 ASIN

ASIN Function Syntax

==========

```
 ASIN(argument-1)
 ~~~~
```

==========

The `ASIN` function determines and returns a numeric value of an angle in radians that approximates the trigonometric arc-sine, or inverse sine, of <argument-1> (a numeric literal, a numeric data item or an arithmetic expression with value from −1 to +1).

The returned value is an angle, expressed in radians, greater than or equal to `-PI/2` and less than or equal to `+PI/2` (from −90 to +90 degrees).

You can convert radians to degrees as follows:

```
COMPUTE degrees = ( radians / FUNCTION PI ) * 180

       >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTASIN. *> SAMPLE PROGRAM
DATA DIVISION. WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wDegrees PIC s999v99999999999999999999999999999.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
display 'a.ASIN   0: ' FUNCTION ASIN(0)
compute wDegrees = (FUNCTION ASIN(0) / FUNCTION PI) * 180
display '  Degrees : ' wDegrees
display 'b.ASIN  +1: ' FUNCTION ASIN(+1)
compute wDegrees = (FUNCTION ASIN(+1) / FUNCTION PI) * 180
display '  Degrees : ' wDegrees
display 'c.ASIN  -1: ' FUNCTION ASIN(-1)
compute wDegrees = (FUNCTION ASIN(-1) / FUNCTION PI) * 180
display '  Degrees : ' wDegrees
ACCEPT OMITTED STOP RUN.

Output:
```

```
a.ASIN   0: 000000000
  Degrees : +000.00000000000000000000000000000
b.ASIN  +1:  1.57079632679489661923132169163975144209858469968755291048747229
               61539082031431044993140174126710 6
  Degrees : +090.00000000000000000000000000000
c.ASIN  -1: -1.57079632679489661923132169163975144209858469968755291048747229
               61539082031431044993140174126710 6
  Degrees : -090.00000000000000000000000000000
```

9.1.5 ATAN

ATAN Function Syntax

==========

```
 ATAN(argument-1)
 ~~~~
```

==========

The `ATAN` function determines and returns a numeric value of an angle in radians that approximates the trigonometric arc-tangent, or inverse tangent, of <argument-1> (a numeric literal, a numeric data item or an arithmetic expression with value from -infinity to +infinity).

The returned value is an angle, expressed in radians, greater than (but not equal to) `-PI/2` and less than (but not equal to) `+PI/2` (from −90 to +90 degrees).

You can convert radians to degrees as follows:

```
COMPUTE degrees = ( radians / FUNCTION PI ) * 180

       >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTATAN. *> SAMPLE PROGRAM
DATA DIVISION. WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wDegrees PIC s999v99999999999999999999999999999.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
display 'a.ATAN   0: ' FUNCTION ATAN(0)
compute wDegrees = (FUNCTION ATAN(0) / FUNCTION PI) * 180
display '  Degrees : ' wDegrees
display 'b.ATAN  +1: ' FUNCTION ATAN(+1)
compute wDegrees = (FUNCTION ATAN(+1) / FUNCTION PI) * 180
display '  Degrees : ' wDegrees
display 'c.ATAN  -1: ' FUNCTION ATAN(-1)
```

```
compute wDegrees = (FUNCTION ATAN(-1) / FUNCTION PI) * 180
display '  Degrees : ' wDegrees
ACCEPT OMITTED STOP RUN.

Output:
a.ATAN   0: 000000000
  Degrees : +000.00000000000000000000000000000
b.ATAN  +1:  0.7853981633974483096156608458198757210492923498437764552437361480
               769541015715522496570087063355290
  Degrees : +044.99999999999999999999999999999
c.ATAN  -1: -0.7853981633974483096156608458198757210492923498437764552437361480
               769541015715522496570087063355290
  Degrees : -044.99999999999999999999999999999
```

9.1.6 BIT-OF

BIT-OF Function Syntax

==========

```
 BIT-OF (argument-1)
 ~~~~~~
```

==========

`BIT-OF` function returns an alphanumeric character string of '1' and '0' characters, which represents the binary value of each byte in the argument used on input.

1. The function type is alphanumeric.
2. <argument-1> must be a data item, literal, or an intrinsic function result of any data class.

Returned values:

1. An alphanumeric character string consisting of the binary representation of each byte in <argument-1>.
2. The length of the character string returned, in bytes, is eight times the length of <argument-1>, in bytes.

```
        >>SOURCE FREE
*> Example of use of function BIT-OF
identification division.
program-id. pgmbitof.
environment division.
configuration section.
```

```
   repository. function all intrinsic.
data division.
working-storage section.
01 AAA PIC XXX VALUE "1 2".
01 BBB PIC XXX VALUE "A B".

procedure division.
  display BIT-OF(1)     at 0110
  display BIT-OF(2)     at 0210
  display BIT-OF(3)     at 0310
  display BIT-OF(0123)  at 0410
  display BIT-OF(AAA)   at 0510
  display BIT-OF(BBB)   at 0610
  accept omitted
  stop run.

Produces :

00110001
00110010
00110011
00110000001100010011001000110011
00110001001000000110010
01000001001000000001000010
```

9.1.7 BIT-TO-CHAR

BIT-TO-CHAR Function Syntax

==========

```
 BIT-TO-CHAR {argument-1)
 ~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`BIT-TO-CHAR` function returns a character string that represents a bit pattern supplied on input.

1. The function type is alphanumeric.
2. <argument-1> must be an alphanumeric literal, alphanumeric data item, or alphanumeric group item.
3. <argument-1> must consist only of the characters "0" and "1".

4. The length of <argument-1> must be a multiple of 8 bytes.

Returned values:

1. A character string consisting of bytes representing the sequence of "0" and "1" characters in <argument-1>.
2. The length of the result string is equal to the length of the input string divided by 8.

```
        >>SOURCE FREE
*> Example of use of function BIT-TO-CHAR
identification division.
program-id. pgmbittochar.
environment division.
configuration section.
  repository. function all intrinsic.
data division.
working-storage section.
01 AAA PIC X(8) VALUE "0110000".

procedure division.
  display BIT-TO-CHAR("00110000") at 0610
  display BIT-TO-CHAR("00110001") at 0710
  display BIT-TO-CHAR("00110010") at 0810
  display BIT-TO-CHAR("00110011") at 0910
  display BIT-TO-CHAR(AAA)        at 1010
  accept omitted
  stop run.

Produces:

    0
    1
    2
    3
    a
```

9.1.8 BYTE-LENGTH

BYTE-LENGTH Function Syntax

==========

```
 BYTE-LENGTH(string)
 ~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`BYTE-LENGTH` returns the length — in bytes — of <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal). This intrinsic function is identical to the `LENGTH-AN` (see LENGTH-AN) function. Note that the value returned by this function is not necessarily the number of *characters* comprising <string>, but rather the number of actual *bytes* required to store it.

For example, if <string> is encoded using a double-byte character set such as Unicode UTF-16 (where each character is represented by 16 bits of storage, not the 8-bits inherent to character sets like ASCII or EBCDIC), then calling this function with a <string> argument whose `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) is `N(4)` would return a value of 8 rather than the value 4.

Contrast this with the `LENGTH` (see LENGTH) function.

9.1.9 CHAR

CHAR Function Syntax

==========

```
CHAR(integer)
~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the character in the ordinal position specified by <integer> (a numeric integer literal or data item with a value of 1 or greater) from the `COLLATING SEQUENCE` (see OBJECT-COMPUTER) being used by the program.

For example, if the program is using the (default) ASCII character set, CHAR(34) returns the 34th character in the ASCII character set — an exclamation-point (‘`!`’). If you are using this function to convert a numeric value to its corresponding ASCII character, you must use an argument value one greater than the numeric value.

If an argument whose value is less than 1 or greater than 256 is specified, the character in the program collating sequence corresponding to a value of all zero bits is returned.

The following code is an alternative approach when you just wish to convert a number to its ASCII equivalent:

```
01  Char-Value.
    05 Numeric-Value        USAGE BINARY-CHAR.
…
    MOVE numeric-character-value TO Numeric-Value
```

The `Char-Value` item now has the corresponding ASCII character value.

9.1.10 COMBINED-DATETIME

COMBINED-DATETIME Function Syntax

==========

```
COMBINED-DATETIME(days, seconds)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns a 12-digit numeric result, the first seven digits of which are the integer value of <days> argument (a numeric data item or literal) and the last five of which are the integer value of <seconds> argument (also a numeric data item or literal).

If <days> is less than 1 or greater than 3,067,671, or if <seconds> is less than 1 or greater than 86,400, a value of 0 is returned and a runtime error will result.

<days> Must be in integer date form. For details, see Integer date form. A value in integer date form is a positive integer that represents a number of days succeeding 31 December 1600, in the Gregorian calendar. It is based on a starting date of Monday, 1 January 1601 and integer date 1 represents Monday, 1 January 1601.

<seconds> Must be in standard numeric time form. For details, see Standard numeric time form. A value in standard numeric time form is a numeric value representing seconds past midnight.

The returned value is determined by arithmetic expression Days-1 + (Seconds-2/100000). The date occupies the integer part of the returned value and the time is represented in the fractional part of the returned value.

Example Given the integer date form value "143951", which represents the date 15 February 1995, and the standard numeric time form value "18867.812479168304", which represents the time "05:14:27.812479168304", the returned value would be exactly "143951.1886781247".

9.1.11 CONCAT

CONCAT Function Syntax

==========

```
CONCAT | CONCATENATE (argument-1 [, argument-2 ]...)
~~~~~~   ~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function concatenates the <argument-1>, <argument-2>, ... (group items, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary items and/or alphanumeric literals) together into a single string result.

If a numeric literal or `PIC 9` identifier is specified as an argument, decimal points, if any, will be removed and negative signs in `PIC S9` fields or numeric literals will be inserted as defined by the `SIGN` (see SIGN) clause (or absence thereof) of the field. Numeric literals are processed as if `SIGN IS TRAILING SEPARATE` were in effect.

Note that `CONCATENATE` (a GnuCOBOL extension) is an alias for this `CONCAT` function.

9.1.12 CONTENT-LENGTH

CONTENT-LENGTH Function Syntax

==========

```
  CONTENT-LENGTH argument-1
  ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Scans for a NUL byte delimiter of the data starting at address in given pointer, and returns the length. The NUL byte is not included in the count. An EC-DATA-PTR-NUL exception is set to exist if the pointer is NUL, and a zero length is returned.

Function CONTENT-LENGTH is a GnuCOBOL extention.

```
Example:

 01  ptr USAGE POINTER.
 01  str  PIC X(4)  VALUE z"abc".

     SET      ptr TO ADDESS OF str.
     DISPLAY  FUNCTION CONTENT-LENGTH (str).

 Will display 3.
```

9.1.13 CONTENT-OF

CONTENT-OF Function Syntax

==========

```
  CONTENT-OF pointer-1 { length }
  ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Takes a pointer and optional length. Returns a character field of the data addressed by the pointer, either up to a NUL byte or to the given length.

The NUL byte is not included in the data when no optional length is given. With an optional count, the character field can hold any content including NUL bytes,

An EC-DATA-PTR-NUL exception is set to exist if the pointer is NUL, and a zero length space is returned.

An EC-SIZE-TRANCATION is set if the resulting field would exceed character field limits and the data is truncated.

Reference modification is allowed on resulting field.

Function CONTENT-OF is a GnuCOBOL extention.

9.1.14 COS

COS Function Syntax

==========

```
 COS(argument-1)
 ~~~
```

==========

The `COS` function determines and returns a numeric value that approximates the cosine of an angle, expressed in radians, that is specified by <argument-1> (a numeric literal, a numeric data item or an arithmetic expression). The returned value is:

```
-1 <= "returned-value" <= +1
```

If you need to determine the cosine of an angle measured in degrees, you first need to convert that angle to radians as follows:

```
COMPUTE radians = ( degrees / 180 ) * FUNCTION PI
```

For example, the angles 0, 90, 180, and 360 degrees correspond to 0, PI/2, PI, and 2PI radians, respectively.

```
       >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTCOS. *> SAMPLE PROGRAM
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wRESULT  PIC s99v99999999999999999999999999999.
```

```
01 wRadians PIC s999v99999999999999999999999999999.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
compute wRadians rounded = (  0 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
move FUNCTION COS(wRadians) to wRESULT
DISPLAY 'a. COS   0: ' wRESULT
display 'b. COS   0: ' FUNCTION COS(wRadians)
display 'c. COS   0: ' FUNCTION COS (  0 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
compute wRadians rounded = (90 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
move FUNCTION COS(wRadians) to wRESULT
DISPLAY 'a. COS  90: ' wRESULT
display 'b. COS  90: ' FUNCTION COS(wRadians)
display 'c. COS  90: ' FUNCTION COS ( 90 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
compute wRadians rounded = (180 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
move FUNCTION COS(wRadians) to wRESULT
DISPLAY 'a. COS 180: ' wRESULT
display 'b. COS 180: ' FUNCTION COS(wRadians)
display 'c. COS 180: ' FUNCTION COS (180 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
ACCEPT OMITTED STOP RUN.

a. COS   0: +01.00000000000000000000000000000000
b. COS   0: 000000001
c. COS   0: 000000001
a. COS  90: -00.00000000000000000000000000000002
b. COS  90: -.00000000000000000000000000002485579014153003124470895125277038460917
              7968568955006859825873263821054668331412860727374546532240
c. COS  90: -.00000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000
              00000000000000000000000000146600892595674335884667645307769522470888 4
              13732029593575944127485794864903073944722017768852552
a. COS 180: -00.99999999999999999999999999999999
b. COS 180: -0.99999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999987643793
               92880437018690803297907025 66
c. COS 180: -000000001
```

9.1.15 CURRENCY-SYMBOL

CURRENCY-SYMBOL Function Syntax

==========

```
 CURRENCY-SYMBOL
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `CURRENCY-SYMBOL` function returns the currency symbol character currently in effect for the locale under which your program is running. On UNIX systems, your locale is established via the `LANG` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables) environment variable. On Windows, the Control Panel's "Regional and Language Options" define the locale.

Changing the currency symbol via the `SPECIAL-NAMES` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) paragraph's `CURRENCY SYMBOL` setting will *not* affect the value returned by this function.

9.1.16 CURRENT-DATE

CURRENT-DATE Function Syntax

==========

```
 CURRENT-DATE
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Returns the current date and time as the following 21-character structure:

```
01  CURRENT-DATE-AND-TIME.
    05 CDT-Year                PIC 9(4).
    05 CDT-Month               PIC 9(2). *> 01-12
    05 CDT-Day                 PIC 9(2). *> 01-31
    05 CDT-Hour                PIC 9(2). *> 00-23
    05 CDT-Minutes             PIC 9(2). *> 00-59
    05 CDT-Seconds             PIC 9(2). *> 00-59
    05 CDT-Hundredths-Of-Secs  PIC 9(2). *> 00-99
    05 CDT-GMT-Diff-Hours      PIC S9(2)
                               SIGN LEADING SEPARATE.
    05 CDT-GMT-Diff-Minutes    PIC 9(2). *> 00 or 30
```

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.17 DATE-OF-INTEGER

DATE-OF-INTEGER Function Syntax

==========

```
 DATE-OF-INTEGER(integer)
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns a numeric calendar date in *yyyymmdd* (i.e. Gregorian) format. The date is determined by adding the number of days specified as <integer> (a numeric integer data item or literal) to the date December 31, 1600. For example, `DATE-OF-INTEGER(1)` returns 16010101 while `DATE-OF-INTEGER(150000)` returns 20110908.

A value less than 1 or greater than 3067671 (9999/12/31) will return a result of 0.

9.1.18 DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD

DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD Function Syntax

==========

```
DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(yymmdd [, yy-cutoff [, yy-execution-time ]])
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

You can use this function to convert the six-digit Gregorian date specified as <yymmdd> (a numeric integer data item or literal) to an eight-digit format (*yyyymmdd*).

The optional <yy-cutoff> (a numeric integer data item or literal) argument is the year cutoff used to delineate centuries; if the year component of the date meets or exceeds this cutoff value, the result will be 19yymmdd; if the year component of the date is less than the cutoff value, the result will be 20yymmdd. The default cutoff value if no second argument is given will be 50.

The optional <yy-execution-time> argument (a numeric integer data item or literal) The default execution time value if no third argument is given will be now equivalent to specifying `(FUNCTION NUMVAL (FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE (1:4)))`.

9.1.19 DAY-OF-INTEGER

DAY-OF-INTEGER Function Syntax

==========

```
DAY-OF-INTEGER(integer)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns a calendar date in yyyyddd (i.e. Julian) format. The date is determined by adding the number of days specified as integer (a numeric integer data item or literal) to December 31, 1600. For example, `DAY-OF-INTEGER(1)` returns 1601001 while `DAY-OF-INTEGER(250000)` returns 2011251.

A value less than 1 or greater than 3067671 (9999/12/31) will return a result of 0.

9.1.20 DAY-TO-YYYYDDD

DAY-TO-YYYYDDD Function Syntax

==========

```
DAY-TO-YYYYDDD(yyddd [, yy-cutoff [, yy-execution-time ]])
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

You can use this function to convert the five-digit Julian date specified as <yyddd> (a numeric integer data item or literal) to a seven-digit numeric Julian format (yyyyddd).

The optional <yy-cutoff> argument (a numeric integer data item or literal) is the year cutoff used to delineate centuries; if the year component of the date meets or exceeds this cutoff value, the result will be 19yyddd; if the year component of the date is less than the cutoff, the result will be 20yyddd. The default cutoff value if no second argument is given will be 50.

The optional <yy-execution-time> argument (a numeric integer data item or literal) The default execution time value if no third argument is given will be now equivalent to specifying (FUNCTION NUMVAL (FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE (1:4))).

9.1.21 E

E Function Syntax

==========

```
E
~
```

==========

This function returns the mathematical constant *E* (the base of natural logarithms). The maximum precision with which this value may be returned is 2.718281828459045235360287471352662 5.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.22 EXCEPTION-FILE

EXCEPTION-FILE Function Syntax

==========

```
EXCEPTION-FILE
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns I/O exception information from the most-recently executed input or output statement. The information is returned as a 34-character string, where the first two characters are the two-digit file status value (see File Status Codes) and the remaining 32 are the <file-name-1> specification from the file's `SELECT` (see SELECT) statement.

The name returned after the file status information will be returned only if the returned file status value is not 00.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

The documentation of the `CBL_ERROR_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_ERROR_PROC) built-in subroutine illustrates the use of this function.

9.1.23 EXCEPTION-LOCATION

EXCEPTION-LOCATION Function Syntax

==========

```
EXCEPTION-LOCATION
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns exception information from the most-recently failing statement. The information is returned to a 1023 character string in one of the following formats, depending on the nature of the failure:

- primary-entry-point-name; paragraph OF section; statement-number
- primary-entry-point-name; section; statement-number
- primary-entry-point-name; paragraph; statement-number
- primary-entry-point-name; statement-number

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

The program must be compiled with the `-debug` switch, `-ftraceall` switch or `-g` switch for this function to return any meaningful information.

The documentation of the `CBL_ERROR_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_ERROR_PROC) built-in subroutine illustrates the use of this function.

9.1.24 EXCEPTION-STATEMENT

EXCEPTION-STATEMENT Function Syntax

==========

```
EXCEPTION-STATEMENT
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the most-recent COBOL statement that generated an exception condition.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

The program must be compiled with the `-debug` switch, `-ftraceall` switch or `-g` switch for this function to return any meaningful information.

The documentation of the `CBL_ERROR_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_ERROR_PROC) built-in subroutine illustrates the use of this function.

9.1.25 EXCEPTION-STATUS

EXCEPTION-STATUS Function Syntax

==========

```
EXCEPTION-STATUS
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the error type (a text string — see column 2 of the upcoming table for the possible values) from the most-recent COBOL statement that generated an exception condition.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

The documentation of the `CBL_ERROR_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_ERROR_PROC) built-in subroutine illustrates the use of this function.

An alternative to the use of `EXCEPTION-STATUS` intrinsic function is to use the PROCEDURE DIVISION statement: `ACCEPT identifier-1 FROM EXCEPTION STATUS END-ACCEPT`.

The following are the error type strings, and their corresponding exception codes and descriptions.

Code	Error Type	Description
`0101`	`EC-ARGUMENT-FUNCTION`	Function argument error
`0202`	`EC-BOUND-ODO`	`OCCURS … DEPENDING` ON data item out of bounds

Code	Error Type	Description
0204	EC-BOUND-PTR	Data-pointer contains an address that is out of bounds
0205	EC-BOUND-REF-MOD	Reference modifier out of bounds
0207	EC-BOUND-SUBSCRIPT	Subscript out of bounds
0303	EC-DATA-INCOMPATIBLE	Incompatible data exception
0500	EC-I-O	input-output exception
0501	EC-I-O-AT-END	I-O status 1x
0502	EC-I-O-EOP	An end of page condition occurred
0504	EC-I-O-FILE-SHARING	I-O status 6x
0505	EC-I-O-IMP	I-O status 9x
0506	EC-I-O-INVALID-KEY	I-O status 2x
0508	EC-I-O-LOGIC-ERROR	I-O status 4x
0509	EC-I-O-PERMANENT-ERROR	I-O status 3x
050A	EC-I-O-RECORD-OPERATION	I-O status 5x
0601	EC-IMP-ACCEPT	Implementation-defined accept condition
0602	EC-IMP-DISPLAY	Implementation-defined display condition
0A00	EC-OVERFLOW	Overflow condition
0A02	EC-OVERFLOW-STRING	STRING overflow condition
0A03	EC-OVERFLOW-UNSTRING	UNSTRING overflow condition
0B05	EC-PROGRAM-NOT-FOUND	Called program not found
0D03	EC-RANGE-INSPECT-SIZE	Size of replace item in inspect differs
1000	EC-SIZE	Size error exception
1004	EC-SIZE-OVERFLOW	Arithmetic overflow in calculation
1005	EC-SIZE-TRUNCATION	Significant digits truncated in store
1007	EC-SIZE-ZERO-DIVIDE	Division by zero
1202	EC-STORAGE-NOT-ALLOC	The data-pointer specified in a FREE statement does not identify currently allocated storage
1203	EC-STORAGE-NOT-AVAIL	The amount of storage requested by an ALLOCATE statement is not available

9.1.26 EXP

EXP Function Syntax

==========

```
EXP(number)
~~~
```

==========

Computes and returns the value of the mathematical constant *e* raised to the power specified by <number> (a numeric literal or data item).

9.1.27 EXP10

EXP10 Function Syntax

==========

```
EXP10(number)
~~~~~
```

==========

Computes and returns the value of 10 raised to the power specified by <number> (a numeric literal or data item).

9.1.28 FACTORIAL

FACTORIAL Function Syntax

==========

```
FACTORIAL(number)
~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function computes and returns the factorial value of <number> (a numeric literal or data item).

9.1.29 FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE

FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE Function Syntax

==========

```
FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE ( argument-1 )
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE` returns the current date and time provided by the system at run-time, formatted according to date-and-time-format according to the argument type.

FUNCTION FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE gives you exactly what you asked it to, including up to nanoseconds (8 decimal positions in the seconds) [but the system may only provide miliseconds, especially on older win32].

The function argument must be a national or alphanumeric literal and the content, a combined date and time format.

The returned value is formatted to the same form as <argument-1>.

9.1.30 FORMATTED-DATE

FORMATTED-DATE Function Syntax

==========

```
FORMATTED-DATE ( argument-1, argument-2 )
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`FORMATTED-DATE` uses a format to convert a date in integer date form to a date in the requested format. The returned value will be in date format.

<argument-1> shall be a national or alphanumeric literal.

<argument-2> shall be a value in integer date form.

Example Given the date format "YYYYMMDD" and the value "143951", which represents the date 15 February 1995, the returned value would be "19950215".

9.1.31 FORMATTED-DATETIME

FORMATTED-DATETIME Function Syntax

==========

```
FORMATTED-DATETIME ( argument-1, argument-2, argument-3, argument-4 )
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`FORMATTED-DATETIME` uses a combined time and date form to convert and combine a date in integer form and a numeric time expressed as seconds past midnight in UTC. See Date and Time Formats for details.

<argument-1> shall be a national or alphanumeric literal.

<argument-2> shall be a value in integer date form.

<argument-3> shall be a value in standard numeric time form.

<argument-4> is an integer specifying the offset from UTC expressed in minutes. If specified must have a value equal or less than 1439. Note: The offset value 1439 represents 23 hours 59 minutes which is one minutes less than a day.

<argument-4> must not be specified if the time portion in <argument-1> is neither a UTC nor an offset format.

The returned value is a representation of the date contained in <argument-2> combined with the time contained in <argument-3> according to the format in <argument-1>.

If the format in <argument-1> indicates that the returned value is to be expressed in UTC, the time portion of the returned value reflects the adjustment of the value in <argument-3> by the offset in <argument-4>.

If the format in <argument-1> indicates that the time is to be returned as an offset from UTC, the value in <argument-3> is reflected directly in the time portion of the returned value and the offset in <argument-4> is reflected directly in the offset portion of the returned value.

Example If the first argument has the format "YYMMDDThhmmss.ss+hhmm", the second argument the value "143951", the third argument the value "18867.812479168304", and the fourth argument the value "+300", the returned value would be "19950215T05142781+0500".

9.1.32 FORMATTED-TIME

FORMATTED-TIME Function Syntax

==========

```
FORMATTED-TIME ( argument-1, argument-2, argument-3 )
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`FORMATTED-TIME` converts a value representing seconds past midnight formatted time of day with optional offset.

<argument-1> shall be a national or alphanumeric literal.

<argument-2> shall be a value in integer time form.

<argument-3> is an integer specifying the offset from UTC expressed in minutes. If specified but have a value equal or less than 1439.

The offset value 1439 represents 23 hours 59 minutes which is one minutes less than a day.

<argument-3> must not be specified if the time portion in <argument-1> is neither a UTC nor an offset format.

Returned value : Is a representation of the standard numeric time contained in <argument-2> according to the format in <argument-1>.

If the format in <argument-1> indicates that the returned value is to be expressed in UTC, the time portion of the returned value reflects the adjustment of the value in <argument-2> by the offset in <argument-3>.

If the format in <argument-1> indicates that the time is to be returned as an offset from UTC, the value in <argument-2> is reflected directly in the time portion of the returned value and the offset in <argument-3> is reflected directly in the offset portion of the returned value.

Example If the first argument has the format "hhmmss.ss+hhmm", the second argument the value "18867.812479168304" which represents the local time, and the third argument the value "−300", which represents the five hours that Eastern Standard Time (EST) differs from UTC, the returned value would be "05142781-0500".

9.1.33 FRACTION-PART

FRACTION-PART Function Syntax

==========

```
 FRACTION-PART(number)
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns that portion of <number> (a numeric data item or a numeric literal) that occurs to the right of the decimal point. `FRACTION-PART(3.1415)`, for example, returns a value of `0.1415`. This function is equivalent to the expression:

```
number -- FUNCTION INTEGER-PART(number)

Example: display "base - " FUNCTION FRACTION-PART(FLOATER).
Gives:   base - 000.456789
```

When moved to a variable, it MUST have a preceding ‘V’ in the PICTURE, i.e., PIC v(4).

9.1.34 HEX-OF

HEX-OF Function Syntax

==========

```
HEX-OF {argument-1)
~~~~~~
```

==========

`HEX-OF` function returns an alphanumeric character string consisting of a hexadecimal representation of the argument used on input.

1. The type of the function is alphanumeric.
2. <argument-1> must be a data item, literal, or an intrinsic function result of any data class.

Returned values:

1. An alphanumeric character string consisting of a hexadecimal representation of <argument-1>.
2. The length of the character string returned, in bytes, is twice the length of <argument-1>, in bytes.

9.1.35 HEX-TO-CHAR

HEX-TO-CHAR Function Syntax

==========

```
HEX-TO-CHAR {argument-1)
~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`HEX-TO-CHAR` function returns a character string that represents the hexadecimal digit characters supplied on input.

1. The type of the function is alphanumeric.
2. <argument-1> must be an alphanumeric literal, alphanumeric data item, or alphanumeric group item.
3. <argument-1> must consist only of the characters ‘0’ through ‘9’, ‘A’ through ‘F’, and ‘a’ through ‘f’.
4. The length of <argument-1> must be a multiple of 2 bytes.

Returned values:

1. A character string of bytes representing the hexadecimal digit characters of <argument-1>.
2. The length of the result string is equal to the length of the input string divided by 2.

9.1.36 HIGHEST-ALGEBRAIC

HIGHEST-ALGEBRAIC Function Syntax

==========

```
HIGHEST-ALGEBRAIC(numeric-identifier)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the highest (i.e. largest or farthest away from 0 in a positive direction if <numeric-identifier> is signed) value that could possibly be stored in <numeric-identifier>. Or in other words the `HIGHEST-ALGEBRAIC` function provide the ability to manipulate numeric data items in a manner similar to the means that `HIGH-VALUES` permit with alphanumeric data items, but without the risks of the data incompatibilities associated with those figurative constants.

9.1.37 INTEGER

INTEGER Function Syntax

==========

```
INTEGER(number)
~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `INTEGER` function returns the greatest integer value that is less than or equal to <number> (a numeric literal or data item).

9.1.38 INTEGER-OF-DATE

INTEGER-OF-DATE Function Syntax

==========

```
INTEGER-OF-DATE(date)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function converts <date> (a numeric integer data item or literal) — presumed to be a Gregorian calendar form standard date (YYYYMMDD) — to internal date form (the number of days that have transpired since 1600/12/31).

Once in that form, mathematical operations may be performed against the internal date before it is transformed back into a date using the `DATE-OF-INTEGER` (see DATE-OF-INTEGER) or `DAY-OF-INTEGER` (see DAY-OF-INTEGER) function.

A particular use of this function could also to find the day of the week for a date. See the following example.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTINTEGEROFDATE.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wDATE  PIC 9(08) value zero.
01 wDOFW  PIC X(10) value space.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
  move FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE(1:8) to wDATE
  evaluate FUNCTION MOD(FUNCTION INTEGER-OF-DATE(wDATE), 7)
      when 0 move 'SUNDAY'    to wDOFW
      when 1 move 'MONDAY'    to wDOFW
      when 2 move 'TUESDAY'   to wDOFW
      when 3 move 'WEDNESDAY' to wDOFW
      when 4 move 'THURSDAY'  to wDOFW
      when 5 move 'FRIDAY'    to wDOFW
      when 6 move 'SATURDAY'  to wDOFW
  end-evaluate
  display 'Today ' wDATE ' IS ' wDOFW
  STOP RUN.
```

9.1.39 INTEGER-OF-DAY

INTEGER-OF-DAY Function Syntax

==========

```
 INTEGER-OF-DAY(date)
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function converts <date> (a numeric integer data item or literal) — presumed to be a Julian calendar form standard date (YYYYDDD) — to internal date form (the number of days that have transpired since 1600/12/31).

Once in that form, mathematical operations may be performed against the internal date before it is transformed back into a date using the `DATE-OF-INTEGER` (see DATE-OF-INTEGER) or `DAY-OF-INTEGER` (see DAY-OF-INTEGER) function.

9.1.40 INTEGER-OF-FORMATTED-DATE

INTEGER-OF-FORMATTED-DATE Function Syntax

==========

```
INTEGER-OF-FORMATTED-DATE ( argument-1, argument-2 )
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`INTEGER-OF-FORMATTED-DATE` converts a date that is in specified format to integer date form.

<argument-1> shall be a national or alphanumeric literal. The content must be either a date format or a combined date and time format.

<argument-2> shall be a data item of the same type as <argument-1>.

If <argument-1> is a date format the content of <argument-2> shall be a valid date in that format.

If <argument-1> is a combined date and time format, the content of <argument-2> shall be a valid combined date and time in same format.

9.1.41 INTEGER-PART

INTEGER-PART Function Syntax

==========

```
INTEGER-PART(number)
~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Returns the integer portion of <number> (a numeric literal or data item).

9.1.42 LENGTH

LENGTH Function Syntax

==========

```
LENGTH(string)
~~~~~~
```

==========

Returns the length — in characters — of <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal).

The value returned by this function is not the number of *bytes* of storage occupied by string, but rather the number of actual *characters* making up the string. For example, if <string> is encoded using a double-byte character set such as Unicode UTF-16 (where each character is represented by 16 bits of storage, not the 8-bits inherent to character sets like ASCII or EBCDIC), then calling this function with a <string> argument whose `PICTURE is X(4)` would return a value of 4 rather than the value 8 (the actual number of bytes of storage occupied by that item).

Contrast this function with the `BYTE-LENGTH` (see BYTE-LENGTH) and `LENGTH-AN` (see LENGTH-AN) functions.

9.1.43 LENGTH-AN

LENGTH-AN Function Syntax

==========

```
LENGTH-AN(string)
~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the length — in bytes of storage — of <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal).

This intrinsic function is identical to the `BYTE-LENGTH` (see BYTE-LENGTH) function.

Note that the value returned by this function is not the number of *characters* making up the <string>, but rather the number of actual *bytes* of storage required to store <string>. For example, if <string> is encoded using a double-byte character set such as Unicode UTF-16 (where each character is represented by 16 bits of storage, not the 8-bits inherent to character sets like ASCII or EBCDIC), then calling this function with a <string> argument whose `PICTURE is N(4)` would return a value of 8 rather than the value 4.

Contrast this with the `LENGTH` (see LENGTH) function.

9.1.44 LOCALE-COMPARE

LOCALE-COMPARE Function Syntax

==========

```
LOCALE-COMPARE(argument-1, argument-2 [ , locale ])
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `LOCALE-COMPARE` function returns a character indicating the result of comparing <argument-1> and <argument-2> using a culturally-preferred ordering defined by a <locale>.

Either or both of the 1st two arguments may be an alphanumeric literal, a group item or an elementary item appropriate to storing alphabetic or alphanumeric data. If the lengths of the two arguments are unequal, the shorter will be assumed to be padded to the right with spaces.

The two arguments will be compared, character by character, against each other until their relationship to each other can be determined. The comparison is made according to the cultural rules in effect for <locale> name or for the current locale if no <locale> argument is specified. Once that relationship is determined, a one-character alphanumeric value will be returned as follows:

- '<' — If <argument-1> is determined to be less than <argument-2>
- '=' — If the two arguments are equal to each other
- '>' — If <argument-1> is determined to be greater than <argument-2>

See LOCALE Names, for a list of typically-available locale names.

9.1.45 LOCALE-DATE

LOCALE-DATE Function Syntax

==========

```
LOCALE-DATE(date [, locale ])
~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Converts the eight-digit Gregorian <date> (a numeric integer data item or literal) from yyyymmdd format to the format appropriate to the current locale. On a Windows system, this will be the "short date" format as set using Control Panel.

You may include an optional second argument to specify the <locale> name (group item or `PIC X` identifier) you'd like to use for date formatting. If used, this second argument *must* be an identifier. Locale names are specified using UNIX-standard names.

9.1.46 LOCALE-TIME

LOCALE-TIME Function Syntax

==========

```
LOCALE-TIME(time [, locale ])
~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Converts the four- (hhmm) or six-digit (hhmmss) <time> (a numeric integer data item or literal) to a format appropriate to the current locale. On a Windows system, this will be the "time" format as set using Control Panel.

You may include an optional <locale> name (a group item or `PIC X` identifier) you'd like to use for time formatting. If used, this second argument *must* be an identifier. Locale names are specified using UNIX-standard names.

9.1.47 LOCALE-TIME-FROM-SECONDS

LOCALE-TIME-FROM-SECONDS Function Syntax

==========

```
LOCALE-TIME-FROM-SECONDS(seconds [, locale ])
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Converts the number of <seconds> since midnight (a numeric integer data item or literal) to a format appropriate to the current locale. On a Windows system, this will be the "time" format as set using Control Panel.

You may include an optional <locale> name (a group item or `PIC X` identifier) you'd like to use for time formatting. If used, this second argument *must* be an identifier. Locale names are specified using UNIX-standard names.

See LOCALE Names, for a list of typically-available locale names.

9.1.48 LOG

LOG Function Syntax

==========

```
LOG(number)
~~~
```

==========

Computes and returns the natural logarithm (base *e*) of <number> (a numeric literal or data item).

9.1.49 LOG10

LOG10 Function Syntax

==========

```
LOG10(number)
~~~~~
```

==========

Computes and returns the base 10 logarithm of <number> (a numeric literal or data item).

9.1.50 LOWER-CASE

LOWER-CASE Function Syntax

==========

```
LOWER-CASE(string)
~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the value of <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal), converted entirely to lower case.

What constitutes a “letter” (or upper/lower case too, for that manner) may be influenced through the use of a `CHARACTER CLASSIFICATION` (see OBJECT-COMPUTER).

9.1.51 LOWEST-ALGEBRAIC

LOWEST-ALGEBRAIC Function Syntax

==========

```
LOWEST-ALGEBRAIC(numeric-identifier)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the lowest (i.e. smallest or farthest away from 0 in a negative direction if <numeric-identifier> is signed) value that could possibly be stored in <numeric-identifier>. Or in other words this function `LOWEST-ALGEBRAIC` provides the ability to manipulate numeric data items in a manner similar to the means that `LOW-VALUES` permit with alphanumeric data items, but without the risks of the data incompatibilities associated with those figurative constants.

9.1.52 MAX

MAX Function Syntax

==========

```
MAX(number-1 [, number-2 ]...)
~~~
```

==========

This function returns the maximum value from the specified list of numbers (each <number-n> may be a numeric data item or a numeric literal).

9.1.53 MEAN

MEAN Function Syntax

==========

```
MEAN(number-1 [, number-2 ]...)
~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the statistical mean value of the specified list of numbers (each <number-n> may be a numeric data item or a numeric literal).

9.1.54 MEDIAN

MEDIAN Function Syntax

==========

```
MEDIAN(number-1 [, number-2 ]...)
~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the statistical median value of the specified list of numbers (each <number-n> may be a numeric data item or a numeric literal).

9.1.55 MIDRANGE

MIDRANGE Function Syntax

==========

```
MIDRANGE(number-1 [, number-2 ]...)
~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `MIDRANGE` (middle range) function returns a numeric value that is the arithmetic mean (average) of the values of the minimum and maximum numbers from the supplied list. Each <number-n> may be a numeric data items or a numeric literal.

9.1.56 MIN

MIN Function Syntax

==========

```
MIN(number-1 [, number-2 ]...)
~~~
```

==========

This function returns the minimum value from the specified list of numbers (each <number-n> may be a numeric data item or a numeric literal).

9.1.57 MOD

MOD Function Syntax

==========

```
MOD(value, modulus)
~~~
```

==========

This function returns the value of <value> modulo <modulus> (essentially the remainder from the division of <value> by <modulus>).

Both arguments may be numeric data items or numeric literals.

Either (or both) may have a non-integer value which is an GnuCobol extension only. The default usage is: <value> and <modulus> shall be integers, and the value of <modulus> shall not be zero. If this rule isn't matched, GnuCOBOL will internally change the arguments to have the same "scale" and ignore the decimal [e.g. if arg-1 is 1.234 and arg-2 is 0.5 GnuCOBOL will calculate 1234 / 500], but that isn't portable across compilers.

9.1.58 MODULE-CALLER-ID

MODULE-CALLER-ID Function Syntax

==========

```
MODULE-CALLER-ID
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the null string if it is executed within a main program. When executed with a subprogram, it returns the entry-point name of the program that called the subprogram.

The discussion of the `MODULE-TIME` (see MODULE-TIME) function includes a sample program that uses this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.59 MODULE-DATE

MODULE-DATE Function Syntax

==========

```
MODULE-DATE
~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function Returns the date the GnuCOBOL program that is executing the function was compiled, in the form yyyymmdd.

The discussion of the `MODULE-TIME` (see MODULE-TIME) function includes a sample program that uses this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.60 MODULE-FORMATTED-DATE

MODULE-FORMATTED-DATE Function Syntax

==========

```
MODULE-FORMATTED-DATE
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the fully-formatted date and time when the program executing the function was compiled. The exact format of this returned string value may vary depending on the operating system and GnuCOBOL build type.

The discussion of the `MODULE-TIME` (see MODULE-TIME) function includes a sample program that uses this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.61 MODULE-ID

MODULE-ID Function Syntax

```
==========================================================================

MODULE-ID
~~~~~~~~~

==========================================================================
```

This function returns the primary entry-point name (i.e. the `PROGRAM-ID` or `FUNCTION-ID` of the program. See IDENTIFICATION DIVISION, for information on those clauses.

The discussion of the `MODULE-TIME` (see MODULE-TIME) function includes a sample program that uses this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.62 MODULE-PATH

MODULE-PATH Function Syntax

```
==========================================================================

MODULE-PATH
~~~~~~~~~~~

==========================================================================
```

This function returns the full path to the executable version of this GnuCOBOL program. The filename component of this value will be exactly as typed on the command line, down to the use of upper- and lower-case letters and presence (or absence) of any extension.

The discussion of the `MODULE-TIME` (see MODULE-TIME) function includes a sample program that uses this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.63 MODULE-SOURCE

MODULE-SOURCE Function Syntax

```
==========================================================================

MODULE-SOURCE
~~~~~~~~~~~~~

==========================================================================
```

The filename of the source code of the program (as specified on the `cobc` command when the program was compiled) is returned by this function.

The discussion of the `MODULE-TIME` (see MODULE-TIME) function includes a sample program that uses this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.64 MODULE-TIME

MODULE-TIME Function Syntax

==========

```
 MODULE-TIME
 ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the time the GnuCOBOL program was compiled, in the form hhmmss.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

The following sample program uses all the MODULE- Functions:

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DEMOMODULE.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
REPOSITORY.
    FUNCTION ALL INTRINSIC.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
000-Main.
    DISPLAY "MODULE-CALLER-ID      = [" MODULE-CALLER-ID ']'
    DISPLAY "MODULE-DATE           = [" MODULE-DATE ']'
    DISPLAY "MODULE-FORMATTED-DATE = [" MODULE-FORMATTED-DATE ']'
    DISPLAY "MODULE-ID             = [" MODULE-ID ']'
    DISPLAY "MODULE-PATH           = [" MODULE-PATH ']'
    DISPLAY "MODULE-SOURCE         = [" MODULE-SOURCE ']'
    DISPLAY "MODULE-TIME           = [" MODULE-TIME ']'
    STOP RUN
    .
```

The program produces this output when executed:

```
MODULE-CALLER-ID = []
MODULE-DATE = [20180522]
MODULE-FORMATTED-DATE = [May 22 2018 12:43:14]
MODULE-ID = [DEMOMODULE]
```

```
MODULE-PATH = [/home/vince/cobolsrc/ACAS/demomodule]
MODULE-SOURCE = [demomodule.cbl]
MODULE-TIME = [124314]
```

9.1.65 MONETARY-DECIMAL-POINT

MONETARY-DECIMAL-POINT Function Syntax

==========

```
 MONETARY-DECIMAL-POINT
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`MONETARY-DECIMAL-POINT` returns the character used to separate the integer portion from the fractional part of a monetary currency value according to the rules currently in effect for the locale under which your program is running.

On UNIX (including OSX, Windows/Cygwin and Windows/MinGW) systems, your locale is established via the `LANG` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables) environment variable. On Windows, the Control Panel's Regional and Language Options define the locale.

Using the `DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) clause in your program will not affect the value returned by this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.66 MONETARY-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR

MONETARY-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR Function Syntax

==========

```
 MONETARY-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the character used to separate the thousands digit groupings of monetary currency values according to the rules currently in effect for the locale under which your program is running.

On UNIX (including OSX, Windows/Cygwin and Windows/MinGW) systems, your locale is established via the `LANG` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables)

environment variable. On Windows, the Control Panel's Regional and Language Options define the locale.

Using the `DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) clause in your program will not affect the value returned by this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.67 NUMERIC-DECIMAL-POINT

NUMERIC-DECIMAL-POINT Function Syntax

==========

```
NUMERIC-DECIMAL-POINT
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the character used to separate the integer portion of a non-integer numeric item from the fractional part according to the rules currently in effect for the locale under which your program is running.

On UNIX (including OSX, Windows/Cygwin and Windows/MinGW) systems, your locale is established via the `LANG` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables) environment variable. On Windows, the Control Panel's Regional and Language Options define the locale.

Using the `DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) clause in your program will not affect the value returned by this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.68 NUMERIC-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR

NUMERIC-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR Function Syntax

==========

```
NUMERIC-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the character used to separate the thousands digit groupings of numeric values according to the rules currently in effect for the locale under which your program is running.

On UNIX (including OSX, Windows/Cygwin and Windows/MinGW) systems, your locale is established via the `LANG` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables)

environment variable. On Windows, the Control Panel's Regional and Language Options define the locale.

Using the `DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) clause in your program will not affect the value returned by this function.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.69 NUMVAL

NUMVAL Function Syntax

==========

```
NUMVAL(string)
~~~~~~
```

==========

The `NUMVAL` function converts a <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal) to its corresponding numeric value.

The <string> must have any of the following formats, where '#' represents a sequence of one or more decimal digits:

-# +# #- #+ #CR #DB

#.# -#.# +#.# #.#- #.#+ #.#CR #.#DB

There must be at least one digit character in the string.

Leading and/or trailing spaces are allowed, as are spaces before the first digit.

The character period in <argument-1> <string>, represents the decimal separator. The character comma in <argument-1> represents the grouping separator. When the `DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA` clause is specified, the character comma shall be used in <argument-1> to represent the decimal separator and the character period shall be used to represent the grouping separator.

Note: Locale-based functionality equivalent to `NUMVAL` can be obtained by using the `NUMVAL-C` function with the `LOCALE` keyword. A currency sign is optional in `NUMVAL-C`. The locale category `LC_MONETARY` will be used because there is no sign convention specified in locale category `LC_NUMERIC`.

Returned values:

The returned value is the numeric value represented by <string>.

If it contains a `CR`, `DB`, or the minus sign ('`-`'), the returned value is negative.

9.1.70 NUMVAL-C

NUMVAL-C Function Syntax

==========

```
NUMVAL-C (string [, symbol              ]
~~~~~~~~
                 [, LOCALE locale-name-1 ] [, ANYCASE ])
```

==========

This function converts a <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal) representing a currency value to its corresponding numeric value.

The currency string if any, and any grouping separators preceding the decimal separator are ignored. Optionally, the currency string, sign convention, grouping separator and the decimal separator permitted in the character string may be specified by locale category `LC-MONETARY`, or the currency string may be specified by <symbol>.

The optional <symbol> character represents the currency symbol (a non-space single-character group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal) that may be used as the currency character in <string>. Any spaces including leading or trailing are ignored. If no <symbol> is specified, the value that would be returned by the `CURRENCY-SYMBOL` intrinsic function (see CURRENCY-SYMBOL) will be used.

If this references the `LOCALE` :

Changing the currency symbol via the `SPECIAL-NAMES` paragraph's `CURRENCY SYMBOL` setting will not affect the value returned by this function.

While `NUMVAL-C` will always use the currency symbol that is specified via the `SPECIAL-NAMES` paragraph's `CURRENCY SYMBOL` (or the system default which is currently always '`$`').

<string> may have any of the following formats, where '#' represents a sequence of one or more decimal digits and '$' represents the <symbol> character:

-# +# #- #+ #CR #DB

#.# -#.# +#.# #.#- #.#+ #.#CR #.#DB

$# -$# +$# $#- $#+ $#CR $#DB

$#.# -$#.# +$#.# $#.#- $#.#+ $#.#CR $#.#DB

There must be at least one digit character in the string.

Leading and/or trailing spaces are allowed, as are spaces before and/or after the currency symbol, sign, CR and DB characters.

If the ANYCASE keyword is used the matching rules for detecting a currency string in <argument-1> are case-insensitive. If the ANYCASE keyword is not specified, the matching rules are case-sensitive.

If neither symbol nor the LOCALE keyword is specified, there shall be only one currency string used, either the default currency sign or a currency string specified in the SPECIAL-NAMES paragraph.

The returned value is the numeric value represented by string.

When the LOCALE keyword is specified, the returned value is negative if string contains a negative sign.

When the LOCALE keyword is not specified, the returning value is negative if string contains CR, DB, or a minus sign.

9.1.71 NUMVAL-C-2

NUMVAL-C Function Syntax

==========

```
NUMVAL-C (argument-1 [, argument-2           ]
~~~~~~~~
                     [, LOCALE locale-name-1 ] [, ANYCASE ])
```

==========

This function returns the numeric value represented by the character string specified by <argument-1> and defined as alphanumeric.

<argument-2>, the currency string if any, and any grouping separators preceding the decimal separator are ignored. Optionally, the currency string, sign convention, grouping separator and the decimal separator permitted in the character string may be specified by locale category LC-MONETARY, or the currency string may be specified by <argument-2>.

The optional alphanumeric <argument-2> character represents the currency symbol (a non-space and at least one single-character item, that may be used as the currency character in <argument-1>. Any spaces including leading or trailing are ignored. If no <argument-2> is specified, the value that would be returned by the CURRENCY-SYMBOL intrinsic function (see CURRENCY-SYMBOL) will be used. <argument-2> must not contain any of the digits - through 9, characters '*', '+', '-', ',' or '.'; or the two consecutive letters CR or DB, whether upper or lower case or a combination of both.

<argument-2> specifies a currency string that may appear in <argument-1>.

If the ANYCASE keyword is specified, the matching rules for detecting a currency string in <argument-1> are case-insensitive. If not specified, the matching rules are case-sensitive.

If neither <argument-2> nor the LOCALE keyword is specified, there shall be only one currency string used, either the default currency sign or a currency string specified in the SPECIAL-NAMES paragraph.

While NUMVAL-C will always use the currency symbol that is specified via the SPECIAL-NAMES paragraph's CURRENCY SYMBOL (or the system default which is currently always '$') <argument-1> shall have any of the following formats, where '#' represents a sequence of one or more decimal digits and '$' represents the <symbol> character:

-# +# #- #+ #CR #DB

#.# -#.# +#.# #.#- #.#+ #.#CR #.#DB

$# -$# +$# $#- $#+ $#CR $#DB

$#.# -$#.# +$#.# $#.#- $#.#+ $#.#CR $#.#DB

There must be at least one digit character in the string.

Leading and/or trailing spaces are allowed, as are spaces before and/or after the currency symbol, sign, CR and DB characters.

The returned value is the numeric value represented by <argument-1>.

When the LOCALE keyword is specified, the returned value is negative if string contains a negative sign and when not specified, the returning value is negative if string contains CR, DB, or a minus sign.

9.1.72 NUMVAL-F

NUMVAL-F Function Syntax

==========

```
NUMVAL-F(char)
~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function converts a <string> (a group item, USAGE DISPLAY elementary item or alphanumeric literal) representing a floating-point value to its corresponding numeric value.

-# +# #E# -#E# +#E#

#E+# -#E+# +#E+# #E-# -#E-# +#E-#

#.# -#.# +#.# #.#E# -#.#E# +#.#E#

#.#E+# -#.#E+# +#.#E+# #.#E-# -#.#E-# +#.#E-#

There must be at least one digit character both before and after the E in the string.

Leading and/or trailing spaces are allowed, as are spaces before and/or after any sign characters.

9.1.73 ORD

ORD Function Syntax

==========

```
ORD(char)
~~~
```

==========

This function returns the ordinal position in the program character set (usually ASCII) corresponding to the 1st character of <char> argument (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal).

For example, assuming the program is using the standard ASCII collating sequence, `ORD('!')` returns 34 because '`!`' is the 34th ASCII character. If you are using this function to convert an ASCII character to its numeric value, you must subtract one from the result. The following code is an alternative approach when you just wish to convert an ASCII character to its numeric equivalent:

```
01  Char-Value.
    05 Numeric-Value        USAGE BINARY-CHAR.
…
    MOVE "character" TO Char-Value
```

`Numeric-Value` now has the numeric value of `character`.

9.1.74 ORD-MAX

ORD-MAX Function Syntax

==========

```
ORD-MAX(char-1 [, char-2 ]...)
~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the ordinal position in the argument list corresponding to the <char-n> whose 1st character has the highest position in the program collating sequence (usually ASCII).

For example, assuming the program is using the standard ASCII collating sequence, `ORD-MAX('Z', 'z', '!')` returns 2 because the 2nd character in the argument list (the ASCII

character ‘z’) occurs after ‘Z’ and ‘!’ in the program collating sequence. Each <char-n> argument may be a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal.

9.1.75 ORD-MIN

ORD-MIN Function Syntax

==========

```
ORD-MIN(char-1 [, char-2 ]...)
~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the ordinal position in the argument list corresponding to the <char-n> whose 1st character has the lowest position in the program collating sequence (usually ASCII).

For example, assuming the program is using the standard ASCII collating sequence, `ORD-MIN('Z', 'z', '!')` returns 3 because the 3rd character in the argument list (the ASCII character ‘!’) occurs before ‘Z’ and ‘z’ in the program collating sequence. Each <char-n> argument may be a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal.

9.1.76 PI

PI Function Syntax

==========

```
PI
~~
```

==========

This function returns the mathematical constant *PI*. The maximum precision with which this value may be returned is 3.14159265358979323846264338327950 29.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.77 PRESENT-VALUE

PRESENT-VALUE Function Syntax

==========

```
PRESENT-VALUE(rate, value-1 [, value-2 ])
~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The PRESENT-VALUE function returns a value that approximates the present value of a series of future period-end amounts specified by the various <value-n> arguments at a discount rate specified by the <rate> argument. All arguments are numeric data items and/or numeric literals.

```
         >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PPresValue.
*> The sample: you pay for a machine 1500 USD
*> You rent the machine at 350 USD per year per 5 years (= 1750).
*> The program calculates (NET)PRESENT VALUE of 1750
*> when the discount rate is 1%, 2% up to 10%.
DATA DIVISION. WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  PaymentsNum      constant as   5.
01  PaymentsAmount   constant as 350.
01  Expenditure      PIC 999999V99 value 1500.
01  TOTAL-CASH-FLOW  PIC 999999V99 value zero.
01  DiscountRate     PIC S99V99 VALUE 0.00.
77  DiscountRateP    PIC S99V99 VALUE 0.00.
01  filler.
    05 PaymentAmount PIC S9999V99 OCCURS PaymentsNum TIMES VALUE PaymentsAmount.
01  PresValue        PIC  9(6)V99  value zero.
01  NET-PresValue    PIC S9(6)V99  value zero.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
COMPUTE TOTAL-CASH-FLOW =
    FUNCTION SUM (PaymentAmount(1) PaymentAmount(2) PaymentAmount(3)
                  PaymentAmount(4) PaymentAmount(5))
DISPLAY SPACE
DISPLAY   'Expenditure: ' Expenditure ' Total Cashflow: ' TOTAL-CASH-FLOW
DISPLAY SPACE
PERFORM 10 TIMES
  COMPUTE DiscountRate  = DiscountRate + 0.01
  COMPUTE DiscountRateP = DiscountRate * 100
  COMPUTE PresValue ROUNDED =
      FUNCTION PRESENT-VALUE (DiscountRate PaymentAmount(1) PaymentAmount(2)
                           PaymentAmount(3) PaymentAmount(4) PaymentAmount(5))
  COMPUTE NET-PresValue = - Expenditure + PresValue
  DISPLAY 'DiscountRate: ' DiscountRateP '%   PresValue: ' PresValue
          ' NET-PresValue: ' NET-PresValue
END-PERFORM
ACCEPT omitted GOBACK.
```

1. This is a case where passing parameters to the intrinsic function PRESENT-VALUE would need the ability to indicate "ALL" and then write the statement as:

   ```
   FUNCTION PRESENT-VALUE(DiscountRate PaymentAmount(ALL))
   ```

   This feature (ALL parameter) has not yet been implemented.

9.1.78 RANDOM

RANDOM Function Syntax

==========

```
RANDOM[(seed)]
~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns a pseudo-random non-integer value in the range 0 >= to < 1 (for example: 0.123456789).

The purpose of the optional <seed> argument, is to initialize the chain of pseudo-random numbers that will be returned by the function. Not only will calls to this function using the same <seed> value return the same pseudo-random number, but so will all subsequent executions of the function without a <seed>. This is actually a good thing when you are testing your program because you can rely on always receiving the same sequence of “random” numbers if you always start using the same <seed>.

The <seed> may be any form of literal or data item or arithmetic expression but MUST be class numeric. Its numeric value will serve as the seed value.

GnuCOBOL has an extension that if that rule is not met it internally calls FUNCTION `NUMVAL` (see NUMVAL) on the given argument and passes that as a seed.

Take, for example, the following sample program:

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DEMORANDOM.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Pseudo-Random-Number USAGE COMP-1.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
MOVE FUNCTION RANDOM(1) TO Pseudo-Random-Number
DISPLAY Pseudo-Random-Number
PERFORM 4 TIMES
    MOVE FUNCTION RANDOM() TO Pseudo-Random-Number
```

```
    DISPLAY Pseudo-Random-Number
END-PERFORM
STOP RUN.
```

Every time this program is executed, it will produce the same output, because the same sequence of pseudo-random numbers will be generated:

```
0.5441364
0.047651578
0.77186662
0.056523036
0.63045478
```

Once your program has been thoroughly tested, you'll want different sequences to be generated each time the program runs. One possible way to accomplish this is to use a <seed> that is likely to be different every time the program is executed, as is likely to be the case if the first `MOVE` statement in the previous example were replaced by this:

```
MOVE RANDOM(FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE(1:16)) TO Pseudo-Random-Number
```

The first 16 characters returned by the `CURRENT-DATE` (see CURRENT-DATE) function will be a number in the format `YYYYMMDDhhmmssnn`, where `YYYYMMDD` is the current calendar date and `hhmmssnn` is the current time of day to the one one-hundredth of a second. Since two different executions of the program will never get identical `CURRENT-DATE` values (unless they are executed in extremely close time frames to one another), using those first sixteen characters as the `RANDOM` seed will guarantee that receiving a duplicate sequence of pseudo-random numbers in two different executions of the program will be *highly* unlikely.

If you do not use a seed then the RANDOM function will automatically determine an internal different seed at each execution using the NUMVAL function.

Often you need to generate a random number between two numbers. Following example shows how to do it.

```
        >>source free
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. RANDOM-IN-RANGE.
*> Generate random numbers from 25 and 70
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 RANDOM-NUMBER PIC 999 value zero.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
```

```
perform 10 times
    compute RANDOM-NUMBER = 25 + ( (70 - 25)     * (FUNCTION RANDOM) )
    display RANDOM-NUMBER
end-perform
display space
*> or, to include the upper value 70 as possible choice
perform 10 times
    compute RANDOM-NUMBER = 25 + ( (70 - 25 + 1) * (FUNCTION RANDOM) )
    display RANDOM-NUMBER
end-perform
accept omitted
STOP RUN.
```

9.1.79 RANGE

RANGE Function Syntax

==========

```
 RANGE(number-1 [, number-2 ]...)
 ~~~~~
```

==========

The `RANGE` function returns a value that is equal to the value of the maximum <number-n> in the argument list minus the value of the minimum <number-n> argument.

All <number-n> arguments are numeric data items and/or numeric literals.

9.1.80 REM

REM Function Syntax

==========

```
 REM(number,divisor)
 ~~~
```

==========

This function returns a numeric value that is the remainder of <number> divided by <divisor>. Both arguments must be numeric data items or numeric literals.

9.1.81 REVERSE

REVERSE Function Syntax

==========

```
REVERSE(string)
~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the byte-by-byte reversed value of <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal).

9.1.82 SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME

SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME Function Syntax

==========

```
SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME(format,time)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function decodes the string <time> — whose value represents a formatted time — and returns the total number of seconds that string represents.

The <time> string must contain hours, minutes and seconds. The time argument may be specified as a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or an alphanumeric literal.

The <format> argument is a string (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or an alphanumeric literal) documenting the format of <time> using `hh`, `mm` and `ss` to denote where the respective time information can be found. Any other characters found in <format> represent character positions that will be ignored. For example, a format of `hhmmss` indicates that <time> will be treated as a six-digit string value where the first two characters are the number of hours, the next two represent minutes and the last two represent seconds. A <format> of `hh:mm:ss`, however, describes <time> as an eight-character string where characters 3 and 6 will be ignored.

9.1.83 SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT

SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT Function Syntax

==========

```
SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the current time of day expressed as the total number of elapsed seconds since midnight. Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

9.1.84 SIGN.

SIGN Function Syntax

==========

```
SIGN(number)
~~~~
```

==========

The `SIGN` function returns a −1 if the value of <number> (a numeric literal or numeric data item) is negative, a zero if the value of <number> is exactly zero and a 1 if the value of <number> if greater than 0. Caution. Please do not confuse the `SIGN` Intrinsic Function with the `SIGN` clause of Data Division.

9.1.85 SIN

SIN Function Syntax

==========

```
SIN(argument-1)
~~~
```

==========

The `SIN` function determines and returns a numeric value that approximates the sine of an angle, expressed in radians, that is specified by <argument-1> (a numeric literal, a numeric data item or an arithmetic expression). The returned value is:

```
-1 <= "returned-value" <= +1
```

If you need to determine the sine of an angle measured in degrees, you first need to convert that angle to radians as follows:

```
COMPUTE radians = ( degrees / 180 ) * FUNCTION PI
```

For example, the angles 0, 90, 180, and 360 degrees correspond to 0, PI/2, PI, and 2PI radians, respectively.

```
       >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION. *> SAMPLE PROGRAM
PROGRAM-ID. TESTSIN.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 wRESULT  PIC s99v99999999999999999999999999999.
01 wRadians PIC s999v99999999999999999999999999999.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
compute wRadians rounded = (  0 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
move FUNCTION SIN(wRadians) to wRESULT
DISPLAY 'a. SIN   0: ' wRESULT
display 'b. SIN   0: ' FUNCTION SIN(wRadians)
display 'c. SIN   0: ' FUNCTION SIN (  0 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
compute wRadians rounded = (90 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
move FUNCTION SIN(wRadians) to wRESULT
DISPLAY 'a. SIN  90: ' wRESULT
display 'b. SIN  90: ' FUNCTION SIN(wRadians)
display 'c. SIN  90: ' FUNCTION SIN ( 90 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
compute wRadians rounded = (180 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
move FUNCTION SIN(wRadians) to wRESULT
DISPLAY 'a. SIN 180: ' wRESULT
display 'b. SIN 180: ' FUNCTION SIN(wRadians)
display 'c. SIN 180: ' FUNCTION SIN (180 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
ACCEPT OMITTED STOP RUN.

Output:
a. SIN   0: +00.00000000000000000000000000000
b. SIN   0: 000000000
c. SIN   0: 000000000
a. SIN  90: +00.99999999999999999999999999999
b. SIN  90: 0.99999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999999996910948
              48220109254672700824476756 42
c. SIN  90: 000000001
a. SIN 180: -00.00000000000000000000000000004
b. SIN 180: -.00000000000000000000000000000497115802830600624894179025055407692183
              59371379100137196517463740804768110938982842881957850732 5
c. SIN 180: -.00000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000
              00000000000000000000000000293201785191348671769335290615539044941776 8
              27464059187151888254971589729806147889444035537705105
```

9.1.86 SQRT

SQRT Function Syntax

==========

```
 SQRT (number)
 ~~~~
```

==========

The `SQRT` function returns a numeric value that approximates the square root of <number> (a numeric data item or numeric literal with a non-negative value).

The following two statements produce identical results:

```
01  Result           PIC 9(4).9(10).
…
    MOVE FUNCTION SQRT(15) TO Result
    COMPUTE Result = 15 ** 0.5
```

9.1.87 STANDARD-DEVIATION

STANDARD-DEVIATION Function Syntax

==========

```
 STANDARD-DEVIATION(number-1 [, number-2 ]...)
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the statistical standard deviation of the list of <number-n> arguments (numeric data items or numeric literals).

9.1.88 STORED-CHAR-LENGTH

STORED-CHAR-LENGTH Function Syntax

==========

```
 STORED-CHAR-LENGTH(string)
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Returns the length — in bytes — of the specified `string` (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal), minus the total number of trailing spaces, if any.

9.1.89 SUBSTITUTE

SUBSTITUTE Function Syntax

==========

```
 SUBSTITUTE(string, from-1, to-1 [, from-n, to-n ]...)
 ~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function parses <string>, replacing all occurrences of <from-n> strings with the corresponding <to-n> strings. The <from-n> strings must match sequences in <string> exactly with regard to value and case. A <from-n> string does not have to be the same length as its corresponding <to-n> string. All arguments are group items, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary items or alphanumeric literals. A null <to-n> string will be treated as a single space.

When using Variables in place of <string> attention to NOT wanting Leading or trailing spaces usage of function TRIM needs to be utilised as failure to do so will result in variables treated with any unwanted spaces leading and/or trailing, i.e.,

```
move function SUBSTITUTE(WS-Dest-File-Path, function TRIM(WS-Inbound-Path),
     function TRIM(WS-Desc-Path)) to WS-Dest-File-Path
```

9.1.90 SUBSTITUTE-CASE

SUBSTITUTE-CASE Function Syntax

==========

```
 SUBSTITUTE-CASE(string, from-1, to-1 [, from-n, to-n ]...)
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `SUBSTITUTE-CASE` function operates the same as the `SUBSTITUTE` (see SUBSTITUTE) function, except that <from-n> string matching is performed without regard to case.

All arguments are group items, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary items or alphanumeric literals.

When using Variables in place of <string> attention to NOT wanting Leading or trailing spaces usage of function TRIM needs to be utilised as failure to do so will result in variables treated with any unwanted spaces leading and/or trailing, i.e.,

```
move function SUBSTITUTE-CASE(WS-Dest-File-Path, function TRIM(WS-Inbound-Path),
     function TRIM(WS-Desc-Path)) to WS-Dest-File-Path
```

9.1.91 SUM.

SUM Function Syntax

==========

```
SUM(number-1 [, number-2 ]...)
~~~
```

==========

The SUM function returns a value that is the sum of <number-n> arguments (these may be numeric data items or numeric literals). Caution. Please do not confuse the SUM Intrinsic Function with the SUM clause of Data Division.

9.1.92 TAN

TAN Function Syntax

==========

```
TAN(argument-1)
~~~
```

==========

The TAN function determines and returns a numeric value that approximates the trigonometric tangent of an angle, expressed in radians, that is specified by <argument-1> (a numeric literal, a numeric data item or an arithmetic expression).

If you need to determine the tangent of an angle measured in degrees, you first need to convert that angle to radians as follows:

```
COMPUTE radians = ( degrees / 180 ) * FUNCTION PI
```

For example, the angles 0, 90, 180, and 360 degrees correspond to 0, PI/2, PI, and 2PI radians, respectively.

```
       >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. TESTTAN. *> SAMPLE PROGRAM
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
*> 01 wRESULT  PIC s999999999999999v999.
01 wRESULT  COMP-2.
01 wRadians PIC s999v99999999999999999999999999999.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
compute wRadians rounded = (  0 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
move FUNCTION TAN(wRadians) to wRESULT
DISPLAY 'a. TAN   0: ' wRESULT
display 'b. TAN   0: ' FUNCTION TAN(wRadians)
```

```
display 'c. TAN   0: ' FUNCTION TAN (  0 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
compute wRadians rounded = (45 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
move FUNCTION TAN(wRadians) to wRESULT
DISPLAY 'a. TAN  45: ' wRESULT
display 'b. TAN  45: ' FUNCTION TAN(wRadians)
display 'c. TAN  45: ' FUNCTION TAN ( 45 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
compute wRadians rounded = (90 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
move FUNCTION TAN(wRadians) to wRESULT
DISPLAY 'a. TAN  90: ' wRESULT
display 'b. TAN  90: ' FUNCTION TAN(wRadians)
display 'c. TAN  90: ' FUNCTION TAN ( 90 / 180  * FUNCTION PI)
ACCEPT OMITTED STOP RUN.

Output:
a. TAN   0: 0
b. TAN   0: 000000000
c. TAN   0: 000000000
a. TAN  45: 1
b. TAN  45: 1.000000000000000000000000000002485579014153003124470895125277347
              3660697484597003341590013965842
c. TAN  45: 000000001
a. TAN  90: -4.023207447061442E+30
b. TAN  90: -402320744706144219569960770086 9.10170206350046037807928549542104 3
             5558831701825450723174164966234
c. TAN  90: -06821240868962529064771258430010129008736353403959449607967148259
             65664542783567559961486449405413
```

9.1.93 TEST-DATE-YYYYMMDD

TEST-DATE-YYYYMMDD Function Syntax

==========

```
 TEST-DATE-YYYYMMDD (date)
 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function determines if the supplied <date> argument (a numeric integer data item or literal) is a valid date. A valid date is one of the form yyyymmdd in the range 1601/01/01 to 9999/12/31, with no more than the expected maximum number of days in the month, accounting for leap year. If the <date> is valid, a 0 value is returned. If it isn't, a value of 1, 2 or 3 is returned signalling the problem lies with the year, month or day, respectively.

9.1.94 TEST-DAY-YYYYDDD

TEST-DAY-YYYYDDD Function Syntax

==========

```
TEST-DAY-YYYYDDD (date)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function determines if the supplied <date> (a numeric integer data item or literal) is a valid date. A valid date is one of the form `yyyyddd` in the range 1601001 to 9999365. Leap year is accounted for in determining the maximum number of days in a year. If the date is valid, a 0 value is returned. If it isn't, a value of 1 or 2 is returned signalling the problem lies with the year or day, respectively.

9.1.95 TEST-FORMATTED-DATETIME

TEST-FORMATTED-DATETIME Function Syntax

==========

```
TEST-FORMATTED-DATETIME ( argument-1, argument-2 )
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`TEST-FORMATTED-DATETIME` tests whether a date literal representing a date, a time or a combined date and time is valid according to the specified format.

<argument-1> must a literal of type alphanumeric, UTF-8 or national, that contains a date, time or combined data time format. See Date and Time formats for details.

<argument-2> must be a data item of the same type as <argument-1>.

Returned value: if no format or range problems occur during evaluation of <argument-2> according to the format in <argument-1>, the returned value is zero. Otherwise the returned value is the ordinal character position at which the first error in <argument-2> was detected.

Example: using following arguments will generates a ret.value of 5, as the fifth char of argument-2 ("4") contains an incorrect value for the first digit of the month representation.

```
FUNCTION TEST-FORMATTED-DATETIME("YYYYMMDD", "20124523")
```

9.1.96 TEST-NUMVAL

TEST-NUMVAL Function Syntax

==========

```
TEST-NUMVAL (string)
~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The TEST-NUMVAL function evaluates <string> (a group item, USAGE DISPLAY elementary item or alphanumeric literal) for being appropriate for use as the <string> argument to a NUMVAL (see NUMVAL) function, returning to a integer a zero value if it is appropriate otherwise if one or more characters are in error, the position of the first character in error or the length of the field plus one for other cases such as all spaces. Note that these errors include but are not limited to: argument (<string>) is zero length, contains only spaces or contains valid characters but is incomplete, such as the string '+.'.

9.1.97 TEST-NUMVAL-C

TEST-NUMVAL-C Function Syntax

==========

```
TEST-NUMVAL-C (string[,symbol])
~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function evaluates <string> (a group item, USAGE DISPLAY elementary item or alphanumeric literal) for being appropriate for use as the <string> argument to a NUMVAL-C (see NUMVAL-C) function, returning to a integer a zero value if it is appropriate otherwise if one or more characters are in error, the position of the first character in error or the length of the field plus one for other cases such as all spaces. Note that these errors include but are not limited to: argument (<string>) is zero length, contains only spaces or contains valid characters but is incomplete, such as the string '+.'. The optional <symbol> argument serves the same function — and has the same default and possible values — as the corresponding argument of the NUMVAL-C function.

9.1.98 TEST-NUMVAL-F

TEST-NUMVAL-F Function Syntax

==========

```
TEST-NUMVAL-F (string)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function evaluates <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal) for being appropriate for use as the <string> argument to a `NUMVAL-F` (see NUMVAL-F) function, returning to a integer a zero value if it is appropriate otherwise if one or more characters are in error, the position of the first character in error or the length of the field plus one for other cases such as all spaces. Note that these errors include but are not limited to: argument (string) is zero length, contains only spaces or contains valid characters but is incomplete, such as the string '`+.`'.

9.1.99 TRIM

TRIM Function Syntax

==========

```
TRIM(string [, LEADING|TRAILING ])
~~~~           ~~~~~~~ ~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function removes `LEADING` or `TRAILING` spaces from <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal).

The second argument is specified as a keyword, not a quoted string or identifier. If no second argument is specified, *both* leading and trailing spaces will be removed. The case (upper, lower or mixed) of this argument is irrelevant.

9.1.100 UPPER-CASE

UPPER-CASE Function Syntax

==========

```
UPPER-CASE(string)
~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the value of <string> (a group item, `USAGE DISPLAY` elementary item or alphanumeric literal), converted entirely to upper case.

What constitutes a "letter" (or upper/lower case too, for that manner) may be influenced through the use of a `CHARACTER CLASSIFICATION` (see OBJECT-COMPUTER).

9.1.101 VARIANCE

VARIANCE Function Syntax

==========

```
VARIANCE(number-1 [, number-2 ]...)
~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This function returns the statistical variance of the specified list of <number-n> arguments (these may be numeric data items or numeric literals).

9.1.102 WHEN-COMPILED

WHEN-COMPILED Function Syntax

==========

```
WHEN-COMPILED
~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

The `WHEN-COMPILED` intrinsic function, not to be confused with the `WHEN-COMPILED` (see Special Registers) special register, returns the date and time the program was compiled, in ASCII.

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

Unlike the `WHEN-COMPILED` special register, which has an ASCII value of the compilation date/time in the format `mm/dd/yyhh.mm.ss`, the `WHEN-COMPILED` intrinsic function returns the compilation date/time as an ASCII string in the format `yyyymmddhhmmssnnooooo`, where `yyyymmdd` is the date, `hhmmss` is the time, `nn` is the hundredths of a second component of the compilation time, if available (or `00` if it isn't) and `ooooo` is the time zone offset from GMT.

If the `-fintrinsics=WHEN-COMPILED` switch or `-fintrinsics=ALL` switch is specified to the compiler or the `REPOSITORY` (see REPOSITORY) paragraph specifies either `FUNCTION WHEN-COMPILED INTRINSIC` or `FUNCTION ALL INTRINSIC`, then references to `WHEN-COMPILED` (without a leading `FUNCTION` keyword will always reference this intrinsic function and there will be no way to access the `WHEN-COMPILED` special register.

9.1.103 YEAR-TO-YYYY

YEAR-TO-YYYY Function Syntax

==========

```
YEAR-TO-YYYY(yy [, yy-cutoff [, yy-execution-time ]])
~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`YEAR-TO-YYYY` converts <yy> — a two-digit year — to a four-digit format (`yyyy`).

The optional <yy-cutoff> argument is the year cutoff used to delineate centuries; if <yy> meets or exceeds this cutoff value, the result will be 19yy; if <yy> is less than the cutoff, the result will be 20yy. The default cutoff value if no second argument is given will be 50.

The optional <yy-execution-time> argument (a numeric integer data item or literal) The default execution time value if no third argument is given will be now equivalent to specifying (FUNCTION NUMVAL (FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE (1:4))).

All arguments must be numeric data items or numeric literals.

9.1.104 BOOLEAN-OF-INTEGER

BOOLEAN-OF-INTEGER Function Syntax

==========

```
BOOLEAN-OF-INTEGER(argument-1 argument-2)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

This option is not yet implemented.

The included file NEWS will indicate when it is.

==========

`BOOLEAN-OF-INTEGER` returns a boolean item of usage bit representing the binary value of <argument-1>. <argument-2> specifies the length of the boolean data item that is returned.

<argument-1> must be a positive integer.

<argument-2> must be a positive non-zero integer

Returned value is a boolean item of usage bit that has the same bit configuration as the binary representation of the value of <argument-1>, where the rightmost boolean position is the low-order binary digit. The boolean value is zero-filled or truncated on the left, if necessary, in order to return a boolean item whose length is specified by <argument-2> in terms of boolean positions.

9.1.105 CHAR-NATIONAL

CHAR-NATIONAL Function Syntax

==========

```
CHAR-NATIONAL(argument-1)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

This option is not yet implemented.

The included file NEWS will indicate when it is.

==========

`CHAR-NATIONAL` returns a one character value that is a character in the national program collating sequence having the ordinal position equal to the value of the argument.

<argument-1> must be a integer and greater than zero and less than or equal to the number of positions in the national program collating sequence.

9.1.106 DISPLAY-OF

DISPLAY-OF Function Syntax

==========

```
DISPLAY-OF(argument-1 [ argument-2] )
~~~~~~~~~~
```

This option is not yet implemented.

The included file NEWS will indicate when it is.

==========

`DISPLAY-OF` returns a character string containing the alphabetic coded character set representation of the national characters in the argument.

<argument-1> must be of class national.

<argument-2> must be a of class alphabetic or alphanumeric and is one character position in length. It specifies an alphanumeric substitution character for use in conversion of national characters for which there is no corresponding alphanumeric character.

A character string is returned with each national character of <argument-1> converted to its corresponding alphanumeric character representation, if any.

If <argument-2> is specified, the alphanumeric substitution character is returned for each national character in <argument-1> that has no corresponding alphanumeric character representation.

If <argument-2> is un-specified, and <argument-1> contains a national character for which there is no corresponding alphanumeric character representation, a substitution character is used as the corresponding alphanumeric character and the EC-DATA-CONVERSION exception condition is set. The length of the returned value is the number of character positions of usage display required to hold the converted argument and depends on the number of characters contained in <argument-1>.

9.1.107 EXCEPTION-FILE-N

EXCEPTION-FILE-N Function Syntax

==========

```
EXCEPTION-FILE-N
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

This option is not yet implemented.

The included file NEWS will indicate when it is.

==========

`EXCEPTION-FILE-N` returns a national character string that is the I/O status value and file-name of the file connector, if any, associated with the last exception status.

The value returned has a length that is based on its contents and the contents are as follows: If the last exception status is not an `EC-I-O` exception condition, the returned value is two national zeros.

The returned value is two national spaces when the last exception status indicates an `EC-I-O` exception condition that originates from one of the following statements:

- a `RAISE` statement.
- an `EXIT` or a `GOBACK` statement with a `RAISING` phrase that specifies an `EC-I-O` exception-name.

Otherwise the returned value is a character string that is as long as is needed to contain the I-O status value and the filename. The first two characters are the I-O status value in national characters. The succeeding characters contain the file-name exactly as specified in the `SELECT` clause converted at runtime to the runtime national character set.

The documentation of the `CBL_ERROR_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_ERROR_PROC) built-in subroutine illustrates the use of this function.

9.1.108 EXCEPTION-LOCATION-N

EXCEPTION-LOCATION-N Function Syntax

==========

```
EXCEPTION-LOCATION-N
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

This option is not yet implemented.

The included file NEWS will indicate when it is.

==========

`EXCEPTION-LOCATION-N` returns an national character string containing exception information from the most-recently failing statement. The information is returned to a 1023 character string in one of the following formats, depending on the nature of the failure:

- primary-entry-point-name; paragraph OF section; statement-number
- primary-entry-point-name; section; statement-number
- primary-entry-point-name; paragraph; statement-number
- primary-entry-point-name; statement-number

Since this function has no arguments, no parenthesis should be specified.

The program must be compiled with the `-debug` switch, `-ftraceall` switch or `-g` switch for this function to return any meaningful information.

The documentation of the `CBL_ERROR_PROC` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_ERROR_PROC) built-in subroutine illustrates the use of this function.

9.1.109 INTEGER-OF-BOOLEAN

INTEGER-OF-BOOLEAN Function Syntax

==========

```
INTEGER-OF-BOOLEAN(argument-1)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

This option is not yet implemented.

The included file NEWS will indicate when it is.

==========

`INTEGER-OF-BOOLEAN` returns the numeric value of the boolean string in <argument-1> which is class boolean.

Returned value as <argument-1> is assigned to a temporary boolean data item of usage bit described with the same number of boolean positions.

The unsigned binary value represented by the same bit configuration as the bit configuration of that temporary boolean data item is determined.

Note: Binary representation is a mathematical concept. It is not required that this representation be the same as a COBOL representation.

9.1.110 NATIONAL-OF

NATIONAL-OF Function Syntax

==========

```
NATIONAL-OF(argument-1 [argument-2] )
~~~~~~~~~~~
```

This option is not yet implemented.

The included file NEWS will indicate when it is.

==========

`NATIONAL-OF` returns a character string containing the national character representation of the characters in the argument which must be of class boolean.

A character string is returned with each alphanumeric character in <argument-1> converted to its corresponding national coded character set representation.

If <argument-2> is specified, each character in <argument-1> that has no corresponding national representation is converted to the substitution character specified by <argument-2>.

If <argument-2> is unspecified and <argument-1> contains an alphanumeric character for which there is no corresponding national character representation, a substitution character is used as the corresponding national character and the `EC-DATA-CONVERSION` exception condition is set to exist.

The length of the returned value is the number of character positions of usage national required to hold the converted argument and depends on the number of characters contained in <argument-1>.

9.1.111 STANDARD-COMPARE

STANDARD-COMPARE Function Syntax

==========

```
STANDARD-COMPARE(argument-1 argument-2 [ordering-name-1] [argument-4] )
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

This option is not yet implemented.

The included file NEWS will indicate when it is.

==========

`STANDARD-COMPARE` returns a character indicating the result of comparing <argument-1> as a alphanumeric and <argument-2> using a cultural ordering table.

1. <argument-1> shall be of class alphabetic, alphanumeric, or national.
2. <argument-2> shall be of class alphabetic, alphanumeric, or national.
3. <argument-1> and <argument-2> may be of different classes.

4. Neither <argument-1> nor <argument-2> shall be a zero-length literal.
5. <ordering-name-1>, if specified, shall be associated with a cultural ordering table in the `ORDER TABLE` clause of the `SPECIAL-NAMES` paragraph. It identifies the ordering table to be used for the comparison. If <ordering-name-1> is not specified, the default ordering table 'ISO14651_2010_TABLE1' described in Appendix A of ISO/IEC 14651:2011 shall be used.
6. <argument-4>, if specified, shall be a positive nonzero integer.

Returned values:

1. If <argument-4> is unspecified, the highest level defined in the ordering table is used for the comparison.
2. If the cultural ordering table is not available on the processor, or the specified ordering level is not available, or the level number specified by <argument-4> is not defined in the ordering table, the `EC-ORDER-NOT-SUPPORTED` exception condition is set.
3. If the arguments are of different classes, and one is national, the other argument is converted to class national for purposes of comparison.
4. For purposes of comparison, trailing spaces are truncated from the operands except that an operand consisting of all spaces is truncated to a single space.
5. <argument-1> and <argument-2> are compared in accordance with the ordering table and ordering level being used. *Note*: This comparison is culturally sensitive and the default ordering table is acceptable for most cultures. It is not necessarily a character-by-character comparison and not necessarily a case-sensitive comparison. In order to use this function, users should understand the types of comparisons specified by ISO/IEC 14651:2D11 and the ordering tables in use for their installation.
6. The returned value is:

   '='
   : the arguments compare equal,

   '<'
   : <argument-1> is less than <argument-2>,

   '>'
   : <argument-1> is greater than <argument-2>.

7. The length of the returned value is 1.

9.2 Built-In System Subroutines

There are a number of built-in system subroutines included with GnuCOBOL.

Generally, these routines are intended to match those available in Micro Focus COBOL, ACUCOBOL and directly for GnuCOBOL.

It is recommended to change the CBL_OC routines to CBL_GC for forward compatibility as at some point they will be removed as they are a hangover from Open Cobol.

Prefix explanation:

C$

–> ACU

CBL_

–> MF

CBL_GC_

(For backwards compatibility some routines are also available as CBL_OC_ as well): but these wonderful extensions are *only* available with GnuCOBOL.

These routines, all executed via their *upper-case names* via the CALL statement (see CALL), are capable of performing the following functions:

- Changing the current directory
- Copying files
- Creating a directory
- Creating, Opening, Closing, Reading and Writing byte-stream files
- Deleting directories (folders)
- Deleting files
- Determining how many arguments were passed to a subroutine
- Getting file information (size and last-modification date/time)
- Getting the length (in bytes) of an argument passed to a subroutine
- Justifying a field left-, right- or center-aligned
- Moving files (a destructive “copy”)
- Putting the program “to sleep”, specifying the sleep time in seconds
- Putting the program “to sleep”, specifying the sleep time in nanoseconds; *Caveat*: although you’ll express the time in nanoseconds, Windows systems will only be able to sleep at a millisecond granularity
- Retrieving information about the currently-executing program
- Submitting a command to the shell environment appropriate for the version of GnuCOBOL you are using for execution

Early versions of Micro Focus COBOL allowed programmers to access various runtime library routines by using a single two-digit hexadecimal number as the entry-point name. These were known as call-by-number routines. Over time, Micro Focus COBOL evolved, replacing most of the call-by-number routines with ones accessible using a more conventional call-by-name technique.

Most of the call-by-number routines have evolved into even more powerful call-by-name routines, many of which are supported by GnuCOBOL.

Some of the original call-by-number routines never evolved call-by-name equivalents; GnuCOBOL supports some of these routines. See all currently used in Appendix's C and D.

GnuCOBOL provides and supports built-in system subroutines of following categories:

```
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Directory Routines                                                                  |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR | Retrieves the fully-qualified pathname of current directory  |
| CBL_CREATE_DIR      | With this routine you may create a new directory             |
| C$MAKEDIR           | Same as CBL_CREATE_DIR                                       |
| CBL_CHANGE_DIR      | Makes a directory-path the current directory                 |
| C$CHDIR             | Same as CBL_CHANGE_DIR                                       |
| CBL_DELETE_DIR      | This subroutine deletes an empty directory                   |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| File Routines                                                                       |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST| Retrieve the size, date, time modified of a file             |
| C$FILEINFO          | Same as CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST                                 |
| CBL_COPY_FILE       | Copy source file to destination file                         |
| C$COPY              | Same as CBL_COPY_FILE                                        |
| CBL_RENAME_FILE     | Use this subroutine to rename a file                         |
| CBL_DELETE_FILE     | Deletes the file specified                                   |
| C$DELETE            | Same as CBL_DELETE_FILE                                      |
| CBL_FLUSH_FILE      | This routine is non-functional in GnuCOBOL                   |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Byte-stream File Routines                                                           |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
```

```
| CBL_CREATE_FILE    | Creates new file & opens it for output as a byte-stream file  |
| CBL_OPEN_FILE      | Opens an existing file for use as a byte-stream file          |
| CBL_READ FILE      | Reads n bytes from the byte-stream file                       |
| CBL_WRITE_FILE     | Writes n bytes of data to the byte-stream file                |
| CBL_CLOSE_FILE     | Closes a byte stream file previously opened                   |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Virtual Heap Routines                                                               |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| CBL_OPEN_VFILE     | Opens a "virtual file" (heap)                                |
| CBL_WRITE_VFILE    | Writes bytes to heap; offset 4 byte binary                   |
| CBL_READ_VFILE     | Reads bytes from heap; offset 4 byte binary                  |
| CBL_CLOSE_VFILE    | Closes the heap handle                                       |
| CBL_GC_OPEN_VFILE64 | Opens a "virtual file" (heap)                               |
| CBL_GC_WRITE_VFILE64| Writes bytes to heap; offset 8 byte binary                  |
| CBL_GC_READ_VFILE64 | Reads bytes from heap; offset 8 byte binary                 |
| CBL_GC_CLOSE_VFILE64| Closes the heap handle                                      |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Text Routines                                                                       |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| CBL_TOLOWER          | Convert the first "n" characters of a data-item to lower-
case |
| C$TOLOWER          | Same as CBL_TOLOWER                                          |
| CBL_TOUPPER          | Convert the first "n" characters of a data-item to upper-
case |
| C$TOUPPER          | Same as CBL_TOUPPER                                          |
| C$JUSTIFY          | Use to left, right or center justify a data-item             |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Logic Operator Routines                                                             |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| CBL_AND            | Performs a bit-by-bit logical AND between 2 data items       |
| CBL_OR             | Performs a bit-by-bit logical OR between 2 data items        |
| CBL_NOR            | Performs the NEGATION of a bit-by-bit logical OR b/data items |
| CBL_XOR            | Performs a bit-by-bit logical XOR between 2 data items       |
| CBL_EQ             | Performs a bit-by-bit logical comparison between 2 data items |
| CBL_NOT              | "Flips" the bits of item changing 0 bits to 1, & 1 bits to
```

```
0  |
| CBL_IMP            | Performs a bit-by-bit logical IMPLIES between 2 data items    |
| CBL_NIMP           | Performs the NEGATION of a bit-by-bit logical IMPLIES         |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+

+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Screen Routines                                                                     |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| CBL_GET_SCR_SIZE    | Retrieve the current console screen size                      |
| CBL_GC_SET_SCR_SIZE | Set the current console screen size                           |
| CBL_GC_SCR_DUMP     | Writes the current contents of the screen to a dump file      |
| CBL_GC_SCR_RESTORE  | Restore the screen from a dump file                           |
| CBL_GC_WINDOW      | Implement multiple TUI (Text User Interface) window support    |
| CBL_GET_CSR_POS     | Retrieve the current cursor location on the screen            |
| CBL_SET_CSR_POS     | Set the current cursor position on the screen                 |
| CBL_ALARM_SOUND     | Create a noise (a beep) using the internal speaker            |
| CBL_BELL_SOUND      | Same as CBL_ALARM_SOUND                                       |
| X"E5"               | Same as CBL_ALARM_SOUND                                       |
| X"E4"               | Use X"E4" to clear the screen                                 |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Keyboard Routines                                                                   |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| CBL_READ_KBD_CHAR   | Waits until a character is typed from the terminal and then   |
|                     | read it with no echo                                          |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Bit-packing Routines                                                                |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| X"F4"               | Packs rightmost bit from eight 1-byte items into              |
|                    | corresponding bit positions of a single-byte data item         |
| X"F5"              | Unpacks bit of the single-byte data item into the rightmost    |
|                     | bit of corresponding eight 1-byte items                       |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Run-unit Handling Routines                                                          |
```

```
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| C$CALLEDBY         | Returns the program name that called the executing program    |
| C$NARG             | Returns the numb.of parameters passed to the current program  |
| C$PARAMSIZE        | Returns the numb.of bytes passed by caller for a parameter    |
| CBL_GC_GETOPT      | Adapts the option parser "getopt" to GnuCOBOL                 |
| CBL_OC_GETOPT      | Same as CBL_GC_GETOPT but deprecated                          |
| CBL_ERROR_PROC     | Registers a general error-handling routine                    |
| CBL_EXIT_PROC      | Registers a general exit-handling routine                     |
| CBL_GC_HOSTED      | Provides access to some C hosted variables                    |
| CBL_OC_HOSTED      | Same as CBL_GC_HOSTED but deprecated                          |
| CBL_GC_NANOSLEEP   | Puts the program to sleep for specified number of nanoseconds |
| CBL_OC_NANOSLEEP   | Same as CBL_GC_NANOSLEEP but deprecated                       |
| C$SLEEP            | Puts the program to sleep for specified number of seconds     |
| CBL_GC_PRINTABLE   | Converts the contents of a data-item to printable characters  |
| C$PRINTABLE        | Same as CBL_GC_PRINTABLE                                      |
| CBL_GC_WAITPID     | Allows you to wait until another system process ended         |
| C$GETPID           | Return the PID (process ID) of the executing GnuCOBOL program |
| CBL_GC_FORK        | Allows you to fork the current COBOL process to a new one     |
| CBL_RUNTIME_ERROR  | exiting the runtime as a hard error                           |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Operating System Routines                                                     |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| SYSTEM             | Submits command to a command shell for execution              |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+


+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Miscellaneous Routines                                                        |
+------------------------
-------------------------------------------------------------+
| EXTFH              | Callable File Handler, is primarily an API for file I-O       |

| X"91"              | Routine capable of providing a wide variety of functions      |
|  Function code 11  | Sets  all eight of the COBOL switches (0 - 7)                 |
|  Function code 12  | Reads all eight of the COBOL switches (0 - 7)                 |
|  Function code 13  | Allow access to runtime switches A - Z (11 - 36) - UNFINISHED |
|  Function code 14  | Allow access to runtime switches A - Z (11 - 36) - UNFINISHED |
```

```
|  Function code 16   | Retrieves the number of arguments passed to the program      |
|  Function code 35   | Prepare for DOS EXEC call [ EXEC call "like DOS 4B call ]    |
                          "in testing": EXEC call "like DOS 4B call"
|                     |        - - -  UNFINISHED - - -                               |

|                                                                                    |
>> GnuCOBOL 4 additionally provides (as the FD related file io settings a 4+ feature):
|  Function code 46-47| Prepare for file specific settings LS NULLS - Enable / Disable|
|  Function code 48-49| Prepare for file specific settings LS TABS - Enable / Disable |

>> The following two are NOT supported within GnuCobol at this time :
|  Function code 15   | Checks to see if a program exists                            |
|                     |                                                              |
|  Function code 69   | Prepare for directory search                                 |
+------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+

Note UNFINISHED means just that do not use unless you are helping to test GC v3.3++
```

The following sections describe the various built-in subroutines. *All subroutine arguments are mandatory except where explicitly noted to the contrary*. Any subroutine returning a value to the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) could utilize the `RETURNING` clause on the `CALL` statement to return the result back to the full-word binary data item of your choice.

9.2.1 C$CALLEDBY

C$CALLEDBY Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "C$CALLEDBY" USING prog-name-area
 ~~~~              ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine returns the name of the program that called the currently-executing program. The program name will be returned, left-justified and space filled, in <prog-name-area> argument, which should be a `PIC X` elementary item or a group item. If <prog-name-area> is too small to receive the entire program name, the program name value will be truncated (on the right) to fit.

The `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to one of the following values:

−1 An error occurred. The <prog-name-area> contents will be unchanged.

0 The program calling `C$CALLEDBY` was not called by any other program (in other words, it is a main program). The <prog-name-area> contents will be set entirely to spaces.

1 The program calling `C$CALLEDBY` was indeed called by another program, and that program's name has been saved in <prog-name-area>.

9.2.2 C$CHDIR

C$CHDIR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$CHDIR" USING directory-path, result
~~~~           ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine makes <directory-path> (an alphanumeric literal or identifier) the current directory.

The return code of the operation is returned both in the <result> argument (any non-edited numeric identifier) as well as in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers). The return code of the operation will be either 0=Success or 128=failure.

The directory change remains in effect until the program terminates (in which the original current directory at the time the program was started will be automatically restored) or until another `C$CHDIR` or a `CBL_CHANGE_DIR` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_CHANGE_DIR) is executed.

9.2.3 C$COPY

C$COPY Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$COPY" USING src-file-path, dest-file-path, 0
~~~~           ~~~~~
```

==========

Use this subroutine to copy file <src-file-path> to <dest-file-path> as if it were done via the `cp` (Unix/OSX) or `COPY` (Windows) command.

Both file path arguments may be alphanumeric literals or identifiers.

The third argument is required, but is unused.

If the attempt to copy the file fails (for example, it or the destination directory doesn't exist), the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to 128; on successful completion it will be set to 0.

9.2.4 C$DELETE

C$DELETE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$DELETE" USING file-path, 0
~~~~            ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine deletes the file specified by the <file-path> argument (an alphanumeric literal or identifier) just as if that were done using the `rm` (Unix/OSX) or `ERASE` (Windows) command.

The second argument is required, but is unused.

If the attempt to delete the file fails (for example, it doesn't exist), the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to 128; on successful completion it will be set to 0.

See also `CBL_DELETE_FILE` routine and the `DELETE FILE` statement of PROCEDURE DIVISION.

9.2.5 C$FILEINFO

C$FILEINFO Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$FILEINFO" USING file-path, file-info
~~~~             ~~~~~
```

==========

With this routine you may retrieve the size of the file specified as the <file-path> argument (an alphanumeric literal or identifier) and the date/time that file was last modified. File size information may not be available in the particular GnuCOBOL build / Operating System combination you are using and may therefore always be returned as zero. The information is returned to the <file-info> argument, which is defined as the following 16-byte area:

```
01  File-Info.
    05 File-Size-In-Bytes  PIC 9(18) COMP.
    05 Mod-YYYYMMDD        PIC 9(8)  COMP. *> Modification Date
    05 Mod-HHMMSS00        PIC 9(8)  COMP. *> Modification Time
```

The last two decimal digits in the modification time will always be 00.

If the subroutine is successful, a value of 0 will be returned in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers). Failure to retrieve the needed statistics on the file will cause a `RETURN-CODE` special register value of 35 to be passed back. Supplying less than two arguments will generate a 128 `RETURN-CODE` special register value.

9.2.6 C$GETPID

C$GETPID Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$GETPID"
~~~~
```

==========

Use this subroutine to return the PID (process ID) of the executing GnuCOBOL program. The PID value is returned into the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

There are no arguments to this routine.

The Process ID (PID) is a unique number that identifies each process / program running on Linux or windows.

To find the PID with Linux do ps -la if you are the usr running it or ps aux | grep app-name.

For windows a bit more complex - isn't it always - To find the PID of an application on Windows:

a. Task Manager: Open Task Manager by pressing CTRL + SHIFT + ESC. Select the application whose PID you want to find and click Details. The PID of the application will be displayed in the PID column.

b. Command Prompt: Open Command Prompt and type "tasklist". The PID of all running applications will be displayed in the PID column.

c. PowerShell: Open PowerShell and type "Get-Process". The PID of all running applications will be displayed in the Id column.

9.2.7 C$JUSTIFY

C$JUSTIFY Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$JUSTIFY" USING data-item, "justification-type"
~~~~             ~~~~~
```

==========

Use `C$JUSTIFY` to left, right or center-justify an alphabetic, alphanumeric or numeric edited data-item. The optional <justification-type> argument indicates the type of the justification to be performed. Its value is interpreted as follows:

'C'
: the value will be centered

'R'
: the value will be right-justified, space-filled to the left

'L'
: the value will be left-justified, space-filled to the right

If it begins with anything else, or is absent, it will be treated as if it is present and begins with a capital 'R'

9.2.8 C$MAKEDIR

C$MAKEDIR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$MAKEDIR" USING dir-path
~~~~             ~~~~~
```

==========

With this routine you may create a new directory — the name of which is supplied as the <dir-path> argument (an alphanumeric literal or identifier).

Only the lowest-level directory (last) in the specified path can be created — all others must already exist. This subroutine will *not* behave as a `mkdir -p` (Unix) or `mkdir /p` (Windows).

The `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to the return code of the operation; the value will be either 0=Success or 128=failure.

9.2.9 C$NARG

C$NARG Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$NARG" USING arg-count-result
~~~~          ~~~~~
```

==========

This subroutine returns the number of arguments passed to the program that calls it back to in the numeric field <arg-count-result>. When called from within a user-defined function,

a value of one (1) is returned if any arguments were passed to the function or a zero (0) otherwise.

When called from a main program, the returned value will always be 0.

9.2.10 C$PARAMSIZE

C$PARAMSIZE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$PARAMSIZE" USING argument-number
~~~~               ~~~~~
```

==========

This subroutine returns the size (in bytes) of the subroutine argument supplied using the <argument-number> parameter (a numeric literal or data item).

The size is returned in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

If the specified argument does not exist, or an invalid argument number is specified, a value of 0 is returned.

9.2.11 C$PRINTABLE

C$PRINTABLE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "C$PRINTABLE" USING data-item [ , char ]
~~~~               ~~~~~
```

==========

The `C$PRINTABLE` subroutine converts the contents of the data-item specified as the first argument to printable characters. Those characters that are deemed printable (as defined by the character set used by <data-item>) will remain unchanged, while those that are NOT printable will be converted to the character specified as the second argument.

If no <char> argument is provided, a period (‘.’) will be used.

Note: CBL_GC_PRINTABLE replaces this although it is currently still supported for legacy reasons.

9.2.12 C$SLEEP

C$SLEEP Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "C$SLEEP" USING seconds-to-sleep
 ~~~~           ~~~~~
```

==========

`C$SLEEP` puts the program to sleep for the specified number of seconds and/or fractions of a second. The <seconds-to-sleep> argument may be a numeric literal or data item.

Sleep times less than 1 will be interpreted as 0, subject to the speed of the CPU and the O/S (Operating System) used, as well as the timing of the generated C code, which will immediately returns control to the calling program without any sleep delay.

When using a variable argument defined as 9(n)v9(m) where n is maximum seconds in 7 days, i.e., (60 x 60 x 24 x 7) = 604,800 (seconds) and m is at a point too fast for the CPU and O/S. In practice m should be 2 for a hundredth of a second but actual testing against the target CPU would be needed.

The maximum time can be adjusted by the define MAX_SLEEP_TIME during compilation of the compiler [and no I do not know where it is in the codebase] e.g.:

```
/* maximum sleep time in seconds, currently 7 days */
#define MAX_SLEEP_TIME 3600*24*7

Extract from a working program :-
This routine completes a process on newly arrived files at 30 minutes past each hour
When complete sleeps for 60 minutes - time past nn:30:

*> In WS: Computed last finished, based on Sleep secs
*>        changes depend on UPDATE run & finished time.
 01  WS-Cycle-Process-Data.
     03  WS-Sleep-Minutes    pic 9(5)        value 60.   *>Default 60 = 1 hour
     03  WS-Sleep-Seconds    pic 9(5)        value zeros.
     03  WS-Cycle-Start      pic 99          value 30.  *> time to run past the hour
     03  WS-Cycle-Secs       pic s9(6)       value zeros.
     03  WS-Tmp-Secs1        pic s9(6)       value zero.
     03  WS-Rerun-Cycles-No  pic s999        value -1.
     03  WS-Tmp-Sleep        pic 9(6)        value zero.
 01  Current-Date-And-Time.
     03  CDT-DateTime.                        *> 16
         05  CDT-Year        pic 9(4).
         05  CDT-Month       pic 9(2). *> 01-12
         05  CDT-Day         pic 9(2). *> 01-31
         05  CDT-Hour        pic 9(2). *> 00-23
```

```
         05  CDT-Minutes     pic 9(2). *> 00-59
         05  CDT-Seconds     pic 9(2). *> 00-59
         05  CDT-Huns-Of-Secs pic 9(2). *> 00-99
     03  filler redefines CDT-DateTime.
         05  CDT-DDT         pic 9(8).
         05  filler          pic x(8).
     03  filler.
         05 CDT-GMT-Diff-HH  pic S9(2)  sign leading separate.
         05 CDT-GMT-Diff-MMM pic 9(2). *> 00 or 30


*> In Procedure Division: Now if set to sleep do so,
*>                        for normal processing multi (24) times per day
*>                        First use minutes & at end convert to secs
         move     FUNCTION Current-Date to Current-Date-And-Time
         compute  WS-Tmp-Secs1 = WS-Cycle-Secs - ((CDT-Minutes * 60) + CDT-Seconds)
         if       WS-Tmp-Secs1 is negative
              or  WS-Tmp-Secs1 = zero
                  add WS-Sleep-Seconds to WS-Tmp-Secs1
         end-if
         move     WS-Tmp-Secs1 to WS-Tmp-Sleep
         move     spaces to Log-Msg
         string   "Time Now "
                  CDT-Hour ":" CDT-Minutes ":" CDT-Seconds
                  space "Sleep time " WS-Tmp-Sleep into Log-Msg
         display  FUNCTION TRIM (Log-Msg) at 1601 with erase eol
*> Code skipped
*>
*> Allow ESCape to terminate after NEXT update cycle but time will be out 1 sec
         accept   Accept-Reply at line WS-Lines col 42 TIME-OUT 1
         if       Cob-Crt-Status = Cob-Scr-Esc
                  go to AA040-EOJ end-if
         call     "C$SLEEP" using WS-Tmp-Sleep
         go to    AA032-Test-Update
```

9.2.13 C$TOLOWER

C$TOLOWER Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "C$TOLOWER" USING data-item, BY VALUE convert-length
 ~~~~             ~~~~~                ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine will converts the <convert-length> (a numeric literal or data item) leading characters of <data-item> (an alphanumeric identifier) to lower-case.

The <convert-length> argument must be specified `BY VALUE` (see CALL). Any characters in <data-item> after the <convert-length> point will remain unchanged.

If <convert-length> is negative or zero, no conversion will be performed.

9.2.14 C$TOUPPER

C$TOUPPER Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "C$TOUPPER" USING data-item, BY VALUE convert-length
 ~~~~             ~~~~~                ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine will converts the <convert-length> (a numeric literal or data item) leading characters of <data-item> (an alphanumeric identifier) to upper-case.

The <convert-length> argument must be specified `BY VALUE` (see CALL). Any characters in <data-item> after the <convert-length> point will remain unchanged.

If <convert-length> is negative or zero, no conversion will be performed.

9.2.15 CBL_ALARM_SOUND

CBL_ALARM_SOUND Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_ALARM_SOUND"
~~~~
```

==========

This routine will create a noise (a beep) using the internal speaker if present. Works the same as function CBL_BELL_SOUND and X"E5".

9.2.16 CBL_BELL_SOUND

CBL_BELL_SOUND Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_BELL_SOUND"
~~~~
```

==========

This routine works the same as function CBL_ALARM_SOUND and X"E5".

9.2.17 CBL_AND

CBL_AND Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_AND" USING item-1, item-2, BY VALUE byte-length
~~~~           ~~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

Old Arg 1 Bit	Old Arg 2 Bit	New Arg 2 Bit
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

This subroutine performs a bit-by-bit logical `AND` operation between the left-most 8*<byte-length> corresponding bits of <item-1> and <item-2>, storing the resulting bit string into <item-2>. The truth table shown to the left documents the `AND` process. The <item-1> argument may be an alphanumeric literal or a data item and <item-2> must be a data item. The length of both <item-1> and <item-2> must be at least 8*<byte-length>.

The <byte-length> argument may be a numeric literal or data item, and must be specified using `BY VALUE` (see CALL).

Any bits in <item-2> after the 8*<byte-length> point will be unaffected.

A result of zero will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

9.2.18 CBL_CHANGE_DIR

CBL_CHANGE_DIR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_CHANGE_DIR" USING directory-path
~~~~                  ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine makes <directory-path> (an alphanumeric literal or identifier) the current directory.

The return code of the operation, which will be either 0=Success or 128=failure, is returned in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

The directory change remains in effect until the program terminates (in which the original current directory at the time the program was started will be automatically restored) or until another `CBL_CHANGE_DIR` or a `C$CHDIR` built-in system subroutine (see C$CHDIR) is executed.

9.2.19 CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST

CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST" USING file-path, file-info
~~~~                        ~~~~~
```

==========

With this routine you may retrieve the size of the file specified as the <file-path> argument (an alphanumeric literal or identifier) and the date/time that file was last MODIFIED. File size information may not be available in the particular GnuCOBOL build / Operating System combination you are using and may therefore always be returned as zero.

The information is returned to the <file-info> argument, which is defined as the following 16-byte area:

```
01  file-info.
    05 File-Size-In-Bytes  PIC 9(18)  COMP.
    05 Mod-DD              PIC 9(2)   COMP.  *> Modification Date
    05 Mod-MO              PIC 9(2)   COMP.
    05 Mod-YYYY            PIC 9(4)   COMP.
    05 Mod-HH              PIC 9(2)   COMP.  *> Modification Time
    05 Mod-MM              PIC 9(2)   COMP.
    05 Mod-SS              PIC 9(2)   COMP.
    05 FILLER              PIC 9(2)   COMP.  *> Always 00
```

If the subroutine is successful, a value of 0 will be returned in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers). Failure to retrieve the needed statistics on the file will cause a `RETURN-CODE` special register value of 35 to be passed back. Supplying less than two arguments will generate a 128 `RETURN-CODE` special register value.

9.2.20 CBL_CLOSE_FILE

CBL_CLOSE_FILE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_CLOSE_FILE" USING file-handle
~~~~                  ~~~~~
```

==========

The `CBL_CLOSE_FILE` subroutine closes a byte stream file previously opened by either the `CBL_OPEN_FILE` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_OPEN_FILE) or `CBL_CREATE_FILE` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_CREATE_FILE) subroutines.

If the file defined by the <file-handle> argument (a `PIC X(4) USAGE COMP-X` data item) was opened for output, an implicit `CBL_FLUSH_FILE` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_FLUSH_FILE) will be performed before the file is closed.

If the subroutine is successful, a value of 0 will be returned in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers). Failure will cause a `RETURN-CODE` special register value of −1 to be passed back.

An example of the use of OPEN, CLOSE, READ etc., can be found in Contribs program printcbl.cbl which is basically also in cobxref.cbl as program 3.

9.2.21 CBL_COPY_FILE

CBL_COPY_FILE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_COPY_FILE" USING src-file-path, dest-file-path
~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

Use this subroutine to copy file <src-file-path> to <dest-file-path> as if it were done via the `cp` (Unix/OSX) or `COPY` (Windows) command.

Both arguments may be alphanumeric literals or identifiers.

If the attempt to copy the file fails (for example, it or the destination directory doesn't exist), the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to 128; on successful completion it will be set to 0.

9.2.22 CBL_CREATE_DIR

CBL_CREATE_DIR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_CREATE_DIR" USING dir-path
~~~~                  ~~~~~
```

==========

With this routine you may create a new directory — the name of which is supplied as the <dir-path> argument (an alphanumeric literal or identifier).

Only the lowest-level directory (last) in the specified path can be created — all others must already exist. This subroutine will *not* behave as a `mkdir -p` (Unix) or `mkdir /p` (Windows).

The `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to the return code of the operation; The value will be either 0 = Success or 128 = failure.

9.2.23 CBL_CREATE_FILE

CBL_CREATE_FILE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_CREATE_FILE" USING file-path, 2, 0, 0, file-handle
~~~~                   ~~~~~
```

==========

The `CBL_CREATE_FILE` subroutine creates the new file specified using the file-path argument and opens it for output as a byte-stream file usable by `CBL_WRITE_FILE` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_WRITE_FILE).

Arguments 2, 3 and 4 should be coded as the constant values shown. `CBL_CREATE_FILE` is actually a special-case of the `CBL_OPEN_FILE` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_OPEN_FILE) routine — see that routine for a description of the meanings of arguments 2, 3 and 4.

A <file-handle> (`PIC X(4) USAGE COMP-X`) will be returned, for use on any subsequent `CBL_WRITE_FILE` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_WRITE_FILE) or `CBL_CLOSE_FILE` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_CLOSE_FILE) calls.

The success or failure of the subroutine will be reported back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers), with a value of −1 indicating an invalid argument and a value of 0 indicating success.

9.2.24 CBL_DELETE_DIR

CBL_DELETE_DIR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_DELETE_DIR" USING dir-path
~~~~                  ~~~~~
```

==========

This subroutine deletes an empty directory.

The only argument — <dir-path> (an alphanumeric literal or identifier) — is the name of the directory to be deleted.

Only the lowest-level directory (last) in the specified path will be deleted, and that directory must be empty to be deleted.

The `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to the return code of the operation; the value will be either 0=Success or 128=failure.

9.2.25 CBL_DELETE_FILE

CBL_DELETE_FILE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_DELETE_FILE" USING file-path
~~~~                   ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine deletes the file specified by the <file-path> argument (an alphanumeric literal or identifier) just as if that were done using the `rm` (Unix/OSX) or `ERASE` (Windows) command.

If the attempt to delete the file fails (for example, it doesn't exist), the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to 128; on successful completion it will be set to 0.

See also `C$DELETE` routine and the `DELETE FILE` statement of PROCEDURE DIVISION.

9.2.26 CBL_EQ

CBL_EQ Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_EQ" USING item-1, item-2, BY VALUE byte-length
~~~~          ~~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

```
 Old    Old    New
Arg 1  Arg 2  Arg 2
 Bit    Bit    Bit
=====  =====  =====
  0      0      1
  0      1      0
  1      0      0
  1      1      1
```

This subroutine performs a bit-by-bit comparison between the left-most 8*<byte-length> corresponding bits of <item-1> and <item-2>, storing the resulting bit string into <item-2>. The truth table shown to the left documents the EQ process. The <item-1> argument may be an alphanumeric literal or a data item and <item-2> must be a data item. The length of both <item-1> and <item-2> must be at least 8*<byte-length>.

The <byte-length> argument may be a numeric literal or data item, and must be specified using `BY VALUE` (see CALL).

Any bits in <item-2> after the 8*<byte-length> point will be unaffected.

A result of zero will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

9.2.27 CBL_ERROR_PROC

CBL_ERROR_PROC Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_ERROR_PROC" USING function, program-pointer
~~~~                  ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine registers a general error-handling routine.

The <function> argument must be a numeric literal or a 32-bit binary data item (`USAGE BINARY-LONG`, for example) with a value of 0 or 1. A value of 0 means that you will be registering ("installing") an error procedure while a value of 1 indicates you're de-registering ("uninstalling") a previously-installed error procedure.

The <program-pointer> must be a data item with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `PROGRAM-POINTER` containing the address of your error procedure. This item should be given a value using the `SET Program-Pointer` statement (see SET Program-Pointer). If the error procedure is written in GnuCOBOL, it must be a subroutine, not a user-defined function.

A success (0) or failure (non-0) result will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

A custom error procedure will trigger when a runtime error condition is encountered. An error procedure may be registered by a main program or a subprogram, but regardless of from where it was registered, it applies to the overall program compilation group and will trigger when a runtime error occurs anywhere in the executable program. If the error procedure was defined by a subprogram, that program must be loaded at the time the error procedure is executed.

An error procedure may be used to take whatever actions might be warranted to display additional information or to gracefully close down work in progress, but it cannot *prevent* the termination of program execution; should the error procedure not issue its own `STOP RUN`, control will return back to the standard error routine when the error procedure exits.

The code within the handler will be executed and — once the handler issues a `return`, if it was written in C, or an `EXIT PROGRAM` statement (see EXIT) or `GOBACK` statement, if it was written in GnuCOBOL, the system-standard error handling routine will be executed.

Only one user-defined error procedure may be in effect at any time.

The following is a sample GnuCOBOL program that registers an error procedure. The output of that program is shown as well. As as you can see, the error handler's messages appear followed by the standard GnuCOBOL message.

```
1.     IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
2.     PROGRAM-ID. DemoERRPROC.
3.     ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
4.     DATA DIVISION.
5.     WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
6.     01  Err-Proc-Address           USAGE PROGRAM-POINTER.
7.     PROCEDURE DIVISION.
8.     S1.
9.         DISPLAY 'Program is starting'
10.        SET Err-Proc-Address TO ENTRY 'ErrProc'
11.        CALL 'CBL_ERROR_PROC' USING 0, Err-Proc-Address
12.        CALL 'Tilt' *> THIS DOESN'T EXIST!!!!
13.        DISPLAY 'Program is stopping'
14.        STOP RUN
15.        .
16.    END PROGRAM DemoERRPROC.
17.
18.    IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
19.    PROGRAM-ID. ErrProc.
20.    PROCEDURE DIVISION.
21.    000-Main.
22.        DISPLAY 'Error: ' FUNCTION EXCEPTION-LOCATION
23.        DISPLAY '       ' FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATEMENT
24.        DISPLAY '       ' FUNCTION EXCEPTION-FILE
25.        DISPLAY '       ' FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS
26.        DISPLAY '*** Returning to Standard Error Routine ***'
27.        EXIT PROGRAM
28.        .
29.    END PROGRAM ErrProc.
```

When executed, this sample program generates the following console output.

```
E:\Programs\Demos>demoerrproc
Program is starting
Error: DemoERRPROC; S1; 12
       CALL
```

```
       00
       EC-PROGRAM-NOT-FOUND
*** Returning to Standard Error Routine ***
DEMOERRPROC.cbl: 27: libcob: Cannot find module 'Tilt'

E:\Programs\Demos>
```

9.2.28 CBL_EXIT_PROC

CBL_EXIT_PROC Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_EXIT_PROC" USING function, program-pointer
 ~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine registers a general exit-handling routine.

The <function> argument must be a numeric literal or a 32-bit binary data item (`USAGE BINARY-LONG`, for example) with a value of 0 or 1. A value of 0 means that you will be registering ("installing") an exit procedure while a value of 1 indicates you're deregistering ("uninstalling") a previously-installed exit procedure.

The <program-pointer> must be a data item with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `PROGRAM-POINTER` containing the address of your exit procedure.

A success (0) or failure (non-0) result will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

An exit procedure, once registered, will trigger whenever a `STOP RUN` statement (see STOP) or a `GOBACK` statement (see GOBACK) is executed anywhere in the program. The exit procedure may execute whatever code is desired to undertake an orderly shut down of the program. Once the exit procedure terminates by executing an `EXIT PROGRAM` statement (see EXIT) or a `GOBACK` statement, the system-standard program termination routine will be executed.

Only one user-defined exit procedure may be in effect at any time.

The following is a sample GnuCOBOL program that registers an exit procedure. The output of that program is shown as well.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. demoexitproc.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
```

```
01  Exit-Proc-Address           USAGE PROGRAM-POINTER.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
000-Register-Exit-Proc.
    SET Exit-Proc-Address TO ENTRY "ExitProc"
    CALL "CBL_EXIT_PROC" USING 0, Exit-Proc-Address
    IF RETURN-CODE NOT = 0
        DISPLAY 'Error: Could not register Exit Procedure'
    END-IF.
099-Now-Test-Exit-Proc.
    DISPLAY 'Executing a STOP RUN...' END-DISPLAY
    GOBACK.
END PROGRAM demoexitproc.

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. ExitProc.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Display-Date               PIC XXXX/XX/XX.
01  Display-Time               PIC XX/XX/XX.
01  Now                        PIC X(8).
01  Today                      PIC X(8).
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
000-Main.
    DISPLAY '*** STOP RUN has been executed ***'
    ACCEPT Today FROM DATE YYYYMMDD
    ACCEPT Now   FROM TIME
    MOVE Today TO Display-Date
    MOVE Now   TO Display-Time
    INSPECT Display-Time REPLACING ALL '/' BY ':'
    DISPLAY '***    ' Display-Date '  ' Display-Time '    ***'
    GOBACK.
END PROGRAM ExitProc.
```

9.2.29 CBL_FLUSH_FILE

CBL_FLUSH_FILE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_FLUSH_FILE" USING file-handle
 ~~~~                  ~~~~~
```

==========

In Micro Focus COBOL, calling this subroutine flushes any as-yet unwritten buffers for the (output) file whose file-handle is specified as the argument to disk.

This routine is non-functional in GnuCOBOL. It exists only to provide compatibility for applications that may have been developed for Micro Focus COBOL.

9.2.30 CBL_GC_FORK

CBL_GC_FORK Built-In Subroute Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_GC_FORK" USING Child-PID
~~~~               ~~~~~
```

==========

`CBL_GC_FORK` allows you to fork the current COBOL process to a new one.

The current content of the process's storage (including LOCAL-STORAGE) will be identical, any file handles get invalid in the new process, positions and file and record locks are only available to the original process. This system routine is not available on Windows (exception: GCC on Cygwin).

Parameters: none. Returns: `pid` (the child process gets '0' returned, the calling process gets the `pid` of the created child). Negative values are returned for system dependant error codes and −1 if the function is not available on the current system.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. prog.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  CHILD-PID      PIC S9(9) BINARY.
01  WAIT-STS       PIC S9(9) BINARY.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    CALL     "CBL_GC_FORK" RETURNING CHILD-PID END-CALL
    EVALUATE TRUE
             WHEN CHILD-PID = ZERO
                  PERFORM CHILD-CODE
             WHEN CHILD-PID > ZERO
                  PERFORM PARENT-CODE
             WHEN CHILD-PID = -1
                  DISPLAY 'CBL_GC_FORK is not available on the current'
                  ' system!'
                  PERFORM CHILD-CODE
```

```
                 MOVE 0 TO CHILD-PID
                 PERFORM PARENT-CODE
            WHEN OTHER
                 MULTIPLY -1 BY CHILD-PID END-MULTIPLY
                 DISPLAY 'CBL_GC_FORK returned system error: ' CHILD-PID
    END-EVALUATE
    STOP RUN.
CHILD-CODE.
    CALL     "C$SLEEP" USING 1 END-CALL
    DISPLAY  "Hello, I am the child"
    MOVE     2 TO RETURN-CODE.
PARENT-CODE.
    DISPLAY  "Hello, I am the parent"
    CALL     "CBL_GC_WAITPID" USING CHILD-PID RETURNING WAIT-STS
    MOVE     0 TO RETURN-CODE
    EVALUATE TRUE
             WHEN WAIT-STS >= 0
                  DISPLAY 'Child ended with status: ' WAIT-STS
             WHEN WAIT-STS = -1
                  DISPLAY 'CBL_GC_WAITPID is not available on the '
                  'current system!'
             WHEN WAIT-STS < -1
                  MULTIPLY -1 BY WAIT-STS END-MULTIPLY
                  DISPLAY 'CBL_GC_WAITPID returned system error: ' WAIT-STS
    END-EVALUATE.
```

9.2.31 CBL_GC_GETOPT

CBL_GC_GETOPT Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_GC_GETOPT" USING   BY REFERENCE SHORTOPTIONS LONGOPTIONS LONGIND
~~~~                 ~~~~~   BY VALUE LONG-ONLY
                             BY REFERENCE RETURN-CHAR OPT-VAL
```

==========

`CBL_GC_GETOPT` adapts the well-known option parser, `getopt`, to GnuCOBOL.

The usage of this system routine is described by the following example.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PROG.
```

```
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
78  SHORTOPTIONS VALUE "jkl".
01  LONGOPTIONS.
    05 OPTIONRECORD OCCURS 2 TIMES.
       10  OPTIONNAME   PIC X(25).
       10  HAS-VALUE    PIC 9.
       10  VALPOINT     POINTER VALUE NULL.
       10  RETURN-VALUE PIC X(4).
01  LONGIND             PIC 99.
01  LONG-ONLY           PIC 9 VALUE 1.
01  RETURN-CHAR         PIC X(4).
01  OPT-VAL             PIC X(10).
01  COUNTER             PIC 9 VALUE 0.
```

We first need to define the necessary fields for `getopt`'s `shortoptions`, `longoptions`, longoption index (`longind`), long-only-option (`long-only`) and also the fields for return values `return-char` and `opt-val` (arbitrary size with trimming, see return codes).

The `shortoptions` are written down as an alphanumeric field (i.e., a string with arbitrary size) as follows:

```
"ab:c::d"
```

This means we want `getopt` to look for short options named '`a`', '`b`', '`c`' or '`d`', require an option value for '`b`', and accept an optional one for '`c`'.

The `longoptions` are defined as a table of records with `oname`, `has-value`, `valpoint` and `val`.[3]

`oname` defines the name of a longoption. `has-value` defines if an option value is demanded (`has-val = 1`), optional (`has-val = 2`) or not required (`has-val = 0`).

`valpoint` is a pointer used to specify an address to save `getopt's` return value to. The pointer is optional. If it is `NULL`, `getopt` returns a value as usual. If you use the pointer it has to point to a `PIC X(4)` field. The field val is a `PIC X(4)` character which is returned if the longoption was recognized.

The longoption structure is immutable! You can only vary the number of records.

Now we have the tools to run `CBL_GC_GETOPT` within the procedure division.

```
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
     MOVE     "version" to OPTIONNAME (1).
```

[3]Say what? the discussion and code seem to have diverged.

```
    MOVE     0 TO HAS-VALUE (1).
    MOVE     'V' TO RETURN-VALUE (1).
    MOVE     "verbose" TO OPTIONNAME (2).
    MOVE     0 TO HAS-VALUE (2).
    MOVE     'V' TO RETURN-VALUE (2).
    PERFORM  WITH TEST AFTER UNTIL RETURN-CODE = -1
             CALL 'CBL_GC_GETOPT' USING
                 BY REFERENCE SHORTOPTIONS LONGOPTIONS LONGIND
                 BY VALUE LONG-ONLY
                 BY REFERENCE RETURN-CHAR OPT-VAL
             END-CALL
             DISPLAY RETURN-CHAR END-DISPLAY
             DISPLAY OPT-VAL END-DISPLAY
    END-PERFORM
    STOP RUN.
```

The example shows how we initialize all parameters and call the routine until `CBL_GC_GETOPT` runs out of options and returns −1.

`return-char` might contain the following regular character if an option was recognized:

`?`
: undefined or ambiguous option

`1`
: non-option (only if first byte of so is '`-`')

`0`
: `valpoint != NULL` and we are writing the return value to the specified address

`-1`
: no more options (or reach the first non-option if first byte of `shortoptions` is '`+`')

The return-codes of `CBL_GC_GETOPT` are:

`1`
: a non-option (only if first byte of so is '`-`')

`0`
: `valpoint != NULL` and we are writing the return value to the specified address

`-1`
: no more options (or reach the first non-option if first byte of `shortoptions` is '`+`')

`2`
: truncated option value in `opt-val` (because `opt-val` was too small)

3

a regular answer from `getopt`

This routine replaces CBL_OC_GETOPT which is kept as a legacy item.

Note that the legacy name of this routine that starts with `CBL_OC` is deprecated, as is `GETOPT` but will still work. It is recommended that all library routines names starting with `CBL_OC` are replaced with `CBL_GC` to minimise issues.

9.2.32 CBL_GC_HOSTED

CBL_GC_HOSTED Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_GC_HOSTED" USING ARG-1  ARG-2
~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

`CBL_GC_HOSTED` provides access to the following C hosted variables:

argc

`binary-long by value`

argv

`pointer to char **`

stdin, stdout, stderr

`pointer`

errno

giving address of `errno` in pointer to `binary-long`, use `based` for more

Direct access and conditional access to the following variables:

tzname

`pointer to pointer to array of two char pointer`s

timezone

C `long`, will be seconds west of UTC

daylight

C `int`, will be 1 during daylight savings

The system will need `HAVE TIMEZONE` defined for these to return anything meaningful. Attempts made when they are not available will return 1 from `CBL GC HOSTED`.

It returns 0 when match, 1 on failure, case matters as does length, "arg" won't match.

The usage of this system routine is described by the following example.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
 PROGRAM-ID. HOSTED.
 DATA DIVISION.
 WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
 01  Argc        BINARY-LONG.
 01  Argv        POINTER.
 01  Stdin       POINTER.
 01  Stdout      POINTER.
 01  Stderr      POINTER.
 01  Errno       POINTER.
 01  Err         BINARY-LONG BASED.
 01  Domain      FLOAT-LONG VALUE 3.0.
 01  Tzname      POINTER.
 01  Tznames     POINTER BASED.
     05  Tzs     POINTER OCCURS 2.
 01  Timezone    BINARY-LONG.
 01  Daylight    BINARY-SHORT.
*>
 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
     call     "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using stdin "stdin"
     display  "stdin : " stdin
     call     "feof" using by value stdin
     display  "feof stdin : " return-code
     call     "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using stdout "stdout"
     display  "stdout : " stdout
     call     "fprintf" using by value stdout by content "Hello" & x"0a"
     call     "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using stderr "stderr"
     display  "stderr : " stderr
     call     "fprintf" using by value stderr by content "on err" & x"0a"
     call     "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using argc "argc"
     display  "argc : " argc
     call     "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using argv "argv"
     display  "argv : " argv
     call     "args" using by value argc argv
     call     "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using errno "errno"
     display  "&errno : " errno
     set      address of err to errno
     display  "errno : " err
     call     "acos" using by value domain
     display  "errno after acos(3.0): " err ", EDOM is 33"
     call     "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using argc "arg"
```

```
     display  "'arg' lookup : " return-code
     call     "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using null "argc"
     display  "null with argc : " return-code
     display  "argc is still : " argc
*> the following only returns zero if the system has HAVE_TIMEZONE set
     call     "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using daylight "daylight "
     display  "'timezone' lookup : " return-code
     if       return-code not = 0
              display "system doesn't has timezone"
     else
              display "timezone is : " timezone
              call "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using daylight "daylight "
              display "'daylight' lookup : " return-code
              display "daylight is : " daylight
              set environment "TZ" to "PST8PDT"
              call static "tzset" returning omitted on exception
                       continue end-call
              call "CBL_GC_HOSTED" using tzname "tzname"
              display "'tzname' lookup : " return-code
*> tzs(1) will point to z"PST" and tzs(2) to z"PDT"
              if   return-code equal 0 and tzname not equal null then
                   set address of tznames to tzname
                   if   tzs(1) not equal null then
                        display "tzs #1 : " tzs(1)
                   end-if
                   if   tzs(2) not equal null then
                        display "tzs #2 : " tzs(2)
                   end-if
              end-if
     end-if
     goback.
 end program HOSTED.
```

This routine replaces CBL_OC_HOSTED which is kept as a legacy item.

Note that the legacy name of this routine that starts with `CBL_OC` is deprecated, as is `HOSTED` but will still work. It is recommended that all library routines names starting with `CBL_OC` are replaced with `CBL_GC` to minimise issues.

9.2.33 CBL_GC_NANOSLEEP

CBL_GC_NANOSLEEP Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_GC_NANOSLEEP" USING nanoseconds-to-sleep
 ~~~~                    ~~~~~
```

==========

This subroutine puts the program to sleep for the specified number of nanoseconds.

The effective granularity of <nanoseconds-to-sleep> values will depend upon the granularity of the system clock your computer is using and the timing granularity of the operating system that computer is running.

For example, you will not expect to see any difference between values of 1, 100, 500 or 1000, but you should see a difference between values such as 250000000 and 500000000.

The <nanoseconds-to-sleep> argument is a numeric literal or data item.

There are one *billion* nanoseconds in a second, so if you wanted to put the program to sleep for 1/4 second you'd use a <nanoseconds-to-sleep> value of 250000000.

This routine replaces CBL_OC_NANOSLEEP which is kept as a legacy item.

Note that the legacy name of this routine starts with "CBL_OC" is deprecated, as is `NANOSLEEP`, but will still work. It is recommended that all library routines names starting with "CBL_OC" are replaced with "CBL_GC" to minimise issues.

9.2.34 CBL_GC_PRINTABLE

CBL_GC_PRINTABLE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_GC_PRINTABLE" USING data-item [ , char ]
 ~~~~                    ~~~~~

Note replaces C$PRINTABLE which is kept as a legacy item.
```

==========

The `CBL_GC_PRINTABLE` subroutine converts the contents of the data-item specified as the first argument to printable characters.

Those characters that are deemed printable (as defined by the character set used by <data-item>) will remain unchanged, while those that are *not* printable will be converted to the character specified as the second argument.

If no <char> argument is provided, a period ('.') will be used.

9.2.35 CBL_GC_SCR_DUMP

CBL_GC_SCR_DUMP Built-In Subroutine Syntax

```
==========================================================================
 CALL "CBL_GC_SCR_DUMP" USING file-name, return-code
 ~~~~                   ~~~~~
==========================================================================
```

Use this subroutine to writes the current contents of the screen to the file named by file-name. This function prepares the file that will be used with the CBL_GC_SCR_RESTORE function.

The following is a sample GnuCOBOL program that shows how to use the DUMP and RESTORE routines.

```
        >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FREE
REPLACE ==:BCOL:== BY ==with BACKGROUND-COLOR==
        ==:FCOL:== BY ==FOREGROUND-COLOR==.
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
program-id. SCRDUMPRESTORE.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 Black constant as 00.
01 Green constant as 02.
01 wBco        pic 9(02) value Green.
01 wFco        pic 9(02) value Black.
01 wLin        pic 99 value 05.
01 wCol        pic 99 value 10.
01 wScreenName PIC X(256) value space.
01 wScrOk      BINARY-LONG value zero.
01 wScrOk9     pic 99.
01 .
   03 Bmess pic x(30) occurs 20 value space.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
   *> D I S P L A Y 1st S C R E E N
   move Green to wBco move Black to wFco
   move '11111111111111111111111111111' to Bmess(1)
   move '>>>>>>>>>> MESSAGE 1 <<<<<<<<<' to Bmess(2)
   move '11111111111111111111111111111' to Bmess(3)
   move '11111111111111111111111111111' to Bmess(4)
   move '11111111111111111111111111111' to Bmess(5)
   move '11111111111111111111111111111' to Bmess(6)
   move '-----------------------------' to Bmess(7)
```

```
   perform DisplayMessage thru DisplayMessageEx
   display 'PRESS ENTER TO DUMP 1st SCREEN ' at line 01 col 01 :BCOL: 07 :FCOL: black
   accept omitted
   *> save 1st screen
   move 'DUMPSCREEN.TMP' & x'00' to wScreenName
   call 'CBL_GC_SCR_DUMP' using by reference wScreenName returning wScrOk end-call
  display '1st SCREEN DUMPED - RETURN CODE IS: ' at line 01 col 01 :BCOL: 07 :FCOL: black
   move wScrOk to wScrOk9
   display wScrOk9 at line 01 col 41 :BCOL: 07 :FCOL: black
   accept omitted
    display 'PRESS ENTER TO DISPLAY 2nd SCREEN           ' at line 01 col 01 :BCOL:
07 :FCOL: black
   accept omitted
   *> D I S P L A Y 2nd S C R E E N
   DISPLAY ' ' AT 0101 WITH ERASE EOS
   move 12 to wLin move 20 to wCol
   move 04 to wBco move Black to wFco
   move '+----------------------------+' to Bmess(1)
   move '|22222222222222222222222222|' to Bmess(2)
   move '|22222222222222222222222222|' to Bmess(3)
   move '| MESSAGE 2 |' to Bmess(4)
   move '|22222222222222222222222222|' to Bmess(5)
   move '|22222222222222222222222222|' to Bmess(6)
   move '+----------------------------+' to Bmess(7)
   perform DisplayMessage thru DisplayMessageEx
    display 'PRESS ENTER TO RESTORE 1st SCREEN           ' at line 01 col 01 :BCOL:
07 :FCOL: black
   accept omitted
   *> restore 1st screen
   call 'CBL_GC_SCR_RESTORE' using by reference wScreenName returning wScrOk end-call
   CALL 'CBL_DELETE_FILE' USING wScreenName
    display '1st SCREEN RESTORED - RETURN CODE IS: ' at line 01 col 01 :BCOL:
07 :FCOL: black
   move wScrOk to wScrOk9
   display wScrOk9 at line 01 col 41 :BCOL: 07 :FCOL: black
   accept omitted
   STOP RUN.

DisplayMessage.
   display Bmess(1) at line wLin + 1 col wCol :BCOL: wBco :FCOL: wFco
   display Bmess(2) at line wLin + 2 col wCol :BCOL: wBco :FCOL: wFco
```

```
   display Bmess(3) at line wLin + 3 col wCol :BCOL: wBco :FCOL: wFco
   display Bmess(4) at line wLin + 4 col wCol :BCOL: wBco :FCOL: wFco
   display Bmess(5) at line wLin + 5 col wCol :BCOL: wBco :FCOL: wFco
   display Bmess(6) at line wLin + 6 col wCol :BCOL: wBco :FCOL: wFco
   display Bmess(7) at line wLin + 7 col wCol :BCOL: wBco :FCOL: wFco
   continue.
DisplayMessageEx. exit.
```

9.2.36 CBL_GC_SCR_RESTORE

CBL_GC_SCR_RESTORE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_GC_SCR_RESTORE" USING file-name, return-code
 ~~~~                      ~~~~~
```

==========

Use this subroutine to restore the screen to the way it looked in the dump file which must have been created using the CBL_GC_SCR_DUMP function.

9.2.37 CBL_GC_SET_SCR_SIZE

CBL_GC_SET_SCR_SIZE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_GC_SET_SCR_SIZE" USING no-of-lines, no-of-cols
 ~~~~                       ~~~~~
```

==========

Use this subroutine to set the current console screen size.

When the system is running in a windowed environment, this will be the sizing of the console window in which the program is executing. When the system is not running a windowing environment, the physical console screen attributes will be set. In environments such as a Windows console window, where the logical size of the window may far exceed that of the physical console window, the size set will be that for the physical console window.

The size data must be in binary form or any other numeric forms to be accepted.

The following are possibly typical <no-of-lines> and <no-of-columns> definitions:

```
01  NO-OF-LINES             USAGE BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED.
01  NO-OF-COLUMNS           USAGE BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED.
```

This system call will only work if the terminal program used is compatible for such operations and not all are.

9.2.38 CBL_GC_WAITPID

CBL_GC_WAITPID Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_GC_WAITPID" USING ARG-1
 ~~~~                  ~~~~~
                       RETURNING RET-STATUS
                       ~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

`CBL_GC_WAITPID` allows you to wait until another system process ended.

Additionally you can check the process's return code.

Parameters: none

Returns: function-status / child-status

Negative values are returned for system dependant error codes and −1 if the function is not available on the current system.

```
CALL     "CBL_GC_WAITPID" USING CHILD-PID RETURNING WAIT-STS
MOVE     0 TO RETURN-CODE
DISPLAY  'CBL_GC_WAITPID ended with status: ' WAIT-STS
```

9.2.39 CBL_GC_WINDOW

CBL_GC_WINDOW Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_GC_WINDOW" USING command parameters return-code
 ~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

`CBL_GC_WINDOW` is a new callable function which implement multiple TUI (Text User Interface) window support. It is available starting from GnuCOBOL 3.3. Also there is a new copy member used to call them, GCWINDOW.CPY.

The functionality to support multiple TUI windows on the terminal screen has been implemented by making use of the panel libraries which are part of both PDCURSES and NCURSES variants. Note that panels are NOT supported in X/OPEN CURSES. If panels are not supported

then the functions implemented below will return a non-zero value in the COBOL RETURN-CODE. Also note that if called with a parameter of the wrong length it will return a non-zero value in the GnuCOBOL RETURN-CODE.

Panels are TUI windows with the added feature of depth, so they can be stacked on top of each other, and only the visible portions of each window will be displayed. Panels can be added, moved on the physical screen, moved to the top or bottom of the stack, made visible or not visible, and removed.

For the implementation of this in GnuCOBOL, none of the curses functions / data structures are directly exposed to COBOL programs.

If called with "L" (List) command, this will return an array containing informations about all of the windows created by the function. The order of the entries is their depth in the deck of windows. Note that the hidden windows will be present after all of the non hidden windows.

Note restriction about hidden windows, the only allowable functions on a hidden window are "V" (Show) or "D" (Delete). See error codes 40 and 42 below.

All of the functions require the WP-NUMBER to contain the number returned by the WP-NEW function. Note that the HIDDEN variable below is now bit switch in the WP-FLAGS field. It is required for the SHOW / HIDE functions. An example on how commands and parameters are settled follows.

```
*> CBL_GC_WINDOW ROUTINE
*>
*> for all commands excluding L use:
*> call "CBL_GC_WINDOW" using WP-COMMAND WP-PARMS WP-RETCODE
*> only for command L use:
*> call "CBL_GC_WINDOW" using WP-COMMAND WL-LIST  WP-RETCODE
*>
*> COMMAND    NUM START-L START-C LINS COLS FG  BG  FLAGS  RETCODE
*> ---------- --- ------- ------- ---- ---- --- --- ------ -------
*> N NEW      ret   req     req   req  req  req req   -      ret
*> T TOP      req    -       -     -    -    -   -    -      ret
*> B BOTTOM   req    -       -     -    -    -   -    -      ret
*> D DELETE   req    -       -     -    -    -   -    -      ret
*> M MOVE     req   req     req    -    -    -   -    -      ret
*> I HIDE     req    -       -     -    -    -   -    -      ret
*> V SHOW     req    -       -     -    -    -   -    -      ret
*> G GET      req   ret     ret   ret  ret  ret ret  ret     ret
*> S SET      req    -       -     -    -   req req   -      ret
*> L LIST      -    ret     ret   ret  ret  ret ret  ret     ret
*> ---------- --- ------- ------- ---- ---- --- --- ------ --------
```

```
 *> req= required, ret= returned
 *> the window on TOP of the deck always has the focus

 01  WP-COMMAND      PIC X.    *> command
     88  WP-NEW      VALUE 'N'.*> create new window on top of the deck
     88  WP-TOP      VALUE 'T'.*> put the window on top of the deck
     88  WP-BOTTOM   VALUE 'B'.*> put the window at bottom of the deck
     88  WP-DELETE   VALUE 'D'.*> delete window from the deck
     88  WP-MOVE     VALUE 'M'.*> move the window on screen
     88  WP-HIDE     VALUE 'I'.*> make the window invisible (hide it)
     88  WP-SHOW     VALUE 'V'.*> make visible a hidden window
     88  WP-GET      VALUE 'G'.*> get settings & attributes of a window
     88  WP-SET      VALUE 'S'.*> set video attributes of a window
     88  WP-LIST     VALUE 'L'.*> get window's list with settings/attributes

 *> communication area to manage information about a single window
 01  WP-PARMS.
     03  WP-NUMBER           BINARY-SHORT.
     66  WP-HANDLE renames   WP-NUMBER.
     03  WP-SETTINGS.
         05  WP-START-LINE   BINARY-SHORT.
         05  WP-START-COL    BINARY-SHORT.
         05  WP-LINES        BINARY-SHORT.
         05  WP-COLUMNS      BINARY-SHORT.
     03  WP-VIDEO-ATTRIBUTES.
         05  WP-FG-COLOR     BINARY-SHORT.
         05  WP-BG-COLOR     BINARY-SHORT.
         05  WP-FLAGS        BINARY-SHORT.

 *>  Optional flags for the windows
 78  WP-FLAG-HIDDEN   VALUE h'01'.
 78  WP-FLAG-NOSCROLL VALUE h'02'.
 78  WP-FLAG-NOWRAP   VALUE h'04'.

*> communication area for information about list of windows
*> low value = end of window list
 01  WL-LIST.
     05  WL-WINDOW OCCURS 20 TIMES INDEXED BY WL-INDEX.
         10  WL-DEPTH         BINARY-SHORT.
         10  WL-NUMBER        BINARY-SHORT
         66  WL-HANDLE renames WL-NUMBER.
```

```
         10  WL-START-LINE    BINARY-SHORT.
         10  WL-START-COL     BINARY-SHORT.
         10  WL-LINES         BINARY-SHORT.
         10  WL-COLUMNS       BINARY-SHORT.
         10  WL-FG-COLOR      BINARY-SHORT.
         10  WL-BG-COLOR      BINARY-SHORT.
         10  WL-FLAGS         BINARY-SHORT.

01  WP-RETCODE                   BINARY-INT.
    88  WP-UNSUPPORTED             VALUE -1.
    88  WP-DISABLED                VALUE -2.
    88  WP-BAD-PARAMETER-LEN       VALUE -8.
    88  WP-OK                      VALUE  0.
    88  WP-LINE-EXCEEDS-MAX        VALUE  2.
    88  WP-COL-EXCEEDS-MAX         VALUE  4.
    88  WP-WIN-LINES-EXCEEDS-MAX   VALUE  6.
    88  WP-WIN-COLS-EXCEEDS-MAX    VALUE  7.
    88  WP-INVALID-BG-COLOR        VALUE  8.
    88  WP-INVALID-FG-COLOR        VALUE  9.
    88  WP-WIN-NUMBER-INVALID      VALUE 10.
    88  WP-FG-BG-COLORS-ARE-SAME   VALUE 11.
    88  WP-NO-MORE-WINDOWS-LEFT    VALUE 20.
    88  WP-NEWWIN-FAILED           VALUE 22.
    88  WP-NEW-PANEL-FAILED        VALUE 24.
    88  WP-PAN-USRPTR-FAILED       VALUE 26.
    88  WP-WINDOW-NOT-FOUND        VALUE 28.
    88  WP-MOVE-WINDOW-FAILED      VALUE 29.
    88  WP-SHOW-WINDOW-FAILED      VALUE 30.
    88  WP-HIDE-WINDOW-FAILED      VALUE 32.
    88  WP-TOP-WINDOW-FAILED       VALUE 34.
    88  WP-BOTTOM-WINDOW-FAILED    VALUE 35.
    88  WP-DELETE-WINDOW-FAILED    VALUE 36.
    88  WP-DELETE-PANEL-FAILED     VALUE 38.
    88  WP-WINDOW-IS-HIDDEN        VALUE 40.
    88  WP-WINDOW-IS-NOT-HIDDEN    VALUE 42.
    88  WP-WINDOW-MODE-IS-INVALID  VALUE 44.
```

Note that the following are bit masks for the WP-FLAGS field. To modify the values you will need to use the B-OR to turn a bit on. The B-XOR can be used to turn a bit off.

```
COMPUTE WP-FLAGS = WP-FLAGS B-OR  WP-FLAG-HIDDEN     turn bit on
COMPUTE WP-FLAGS = WP-FLAGS B-XOR WP-FLAG-HIDDEN     turn bit off
```

9.2.40 CBL_GET_CSR_POS

CBL_GET_CSR_POS Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_GET_CSR_POS" USING cursor-locn-buffer
 ~~~~                   ~~~~~
```

==========

This subroutine will retrieve the current cursor location on the screen, returning a 2-byte value into the supplied <cursor-locn-buffer>. The first byte of <cursor-locn-buffer> will receive the current line (row) location while the second receives the current column location.

The returned location data will be in binary form, and will be based upon starting values of 0, meaning that if the cursor is located at line 15, column 12 at the time this routine is called, a value of (14,11) will be returned.

The following is a typical <cursor-locn-buffer> definition:

```
01  CURSOR-LOCN-BUFFER.
    05 CURSOR-LINE          USAGE BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED.
    05 CURSOR-COLUMN        USAGE BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED.
```

Values of 1 (Line) and 1 (column) will be returned if GnuCOBOL was not generated to include screen I/O.

9.2.41 CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR

CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR" USING BY VALUE 0,
 ~~~~                       ~~~~~    ~~~~~
                                BY VALUE length,
                                   ~~~~~
                                BY REFERENCE buffer
                                   ~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

This retrieves the fully-qualified pathname of the current directory, saving up to <length> characters of that name into <buffer>.

The first argument is unused, but must be specified. It must be specified `BY VALUE` (see CALL).

The <length> argument must be specified `BY VALUE`. The <buffer> argument must be specified `BY REFERENCE`.

The value specified for the <length> argument (a numeric literal or data item) should not exceed the actual length of <buffer> argument.

If the value specified for the <length> argument is LESS THAN the actual length of <buffer> argument, the current directory path will be left-justified and space filled within the first <length> bytes of <buffer> — any bytes in <buffer> after that point will be unchanged.

If the routine is successful, a value of 0 will be returned to the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers). If the routine failed because of a problem with an argument (such as a negative or 0 length), a value of 128 will result. Finally, if the 1st argument value is anything but zero, the routine will fail with a 129 value.

9.2.42 CBL_GET_SCR_SIZE

CBL_GET_SCR_SIZE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_GET_SCR_SIZE" USING no-of-lines, no-of-cols
~~~~                    ~~~~~
```

==========

Use this subroutine to retrieve the current console screen size.

When the system is running in a windowed environment, this will be the sizing of the console window in which the program is executing. When the system is not running a windowing environment, the physical console screen attributes will be returned. In environments such as a Windows console window, where the logical size of the window may far exceed that of the physical console window, the size returned will be that of the physical console window. Two one-byte values will be returned — the first will be the current number of lines (rows) while the second will be the number of columns.

The returned size data will be in binary form.

The following are typical <no-of-lines> and <no-of-columns> definitions:

```
01  NO-OF-LINES             USAGE BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED.
01  NO-OF-COLUMNS           USAGE BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED.
```

GnuCOBOL run-time screen management must have been initialized prior to CALLing this routine in order to receive meaningful values. This means that a `DISPLAY data-item` statement (see DISPLAY data-item) or a `ACCEPT data-item` statement (see ACCEPT data-item) must have been executed prior to executing the `CALL` statement.

Zero values will be returned if the screen has not been initialized and values of 24 (lines) and 80 (columns) will be returned if GnuCOBOL was not generated to include screen I/O.

Maximum values for BINARY-CHAR is 255 and any excess to this will be wrong so if lines or columns exceed 255, results will not be valid.

9.2.43 CBL_IMP

CBL_IMP Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_IMP" USING item-1, item-2, BY VALUE byte-length
~~~~           ~~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

Old Arg 1 Bit	Old Arg 2 Bit	New Arg 2 Bit
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

This subroutine performs a bit-by-bit logical *implies* process between the left-most 8*<byte-length> corresponding bits of <item-1> and <item-2>, storing the resulting bit string into <item-2>. The truth table shown to the left documents the `IMP` process. The <item-1> argument may be an alphanumeric literal or a data item and <item-2> must be a data item. The length of both <item-1> and <item-2> must be at least 8*<byte-length>.

The <byte-length> argument may be a numeric literal or data item, and must be specified using `BY VALUE` (see CALL).

Any bits in <item-2> after the 8*<byte-length> point will be unaffected.

A result of zero will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

9.2.44 CBL_NIMP

CBL_NIMP Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_NIMP" USING item-1, item-2, BY VALUE byte-length
~~~~            ~~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

```
=========================================================================
```

```
 Old    Old    New
Arg 1  Arg 2  Arg 2
 Bit    Bit    Bit
=====  =====  =====
  0      0      0
  0      1      0
  1      0      1
  1      1      0
```

This subroutine performs the *negation* of a bit-by-bit logical *implies* process between the left-most 8*<byte-length> corresponding bits of <item-1> and <item-2>, storing the resulting bit string into <item-2>. The truth table shown to the left documents the `NIMP` process. The <item-1> argument may be an alphanumeric literal or a data item and <item-2> must be a data item. The length of both <item-1> and <item-2> must be at least 8*<byte-length>.

The <byte-length> argument may be a numeric literal or data item, and must be specified using `BY VALUE` (see CALL).

Any bits in <item-2> after the 8*<byte-length> point will be unaffected.

A result of zero will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

9.2.45 CBL_NOR

CBL_NOR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

```
=========================================================================
```

```
CALL "CBL_NOR" USING item-1, item-2, BY VALUE byte-length
~~~~           ~~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

```
=========================================================================
```

```
 Old    Old    New
Arg 1  Arg 2  Arg 2
 Bit    Bit    Bit
=====  =====  =====
  0      0      1
  0      1      0
  1      0      0
  1      1      0
```

This subroutine performs the negation of a bit-by-bit logical *or'* process between the left-most 8*<byte-length> corresponding bits of <item-1> and <item-2>, storing the resulting bit string into <item-2>. The truth table shown to the left documents the `NOR` process. The <item-1> argument may be an alphanumeric literal or a data item and <item-2> must be a data item. The length of both <item-1> and <item-2> must be at least 8*<byte-length>.

The <byte-length> argument may be a numeric literal or data item, and must be specified using `BY VALUE` (see CALL).

Any bits in <item-2> after the 8*<byte-length> point will be unaffected.

A result of zero will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

9.2.46 CBL_NOT

CBL_NOT Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_NOT" USING item-1, BY VALUE byte-length
~~~~           ~~~~~            ~~~~~
```

==========

This subroutine “flips” the left-most 8*<byte-length> bits of <item-1>, changing 0 bits to 1, and 1 bits to 0. The changes are made directly in <item-1>.

The <item-1> argument must be a data item. The length of <item-1> must be at least 8*<byte-length>.

The <byte-length> argument may be a numeric literal or data item, and must be passed using `BY VALUE` (see CALL).

Any bits in <item-1> after the 8*<byte-length> point will be unaffected.

A result of zero will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

9.2.47 CBL_OC_GETOPT

CBL_GC_GETOPT Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_GC_GETOPT" USING   BY REFERENCE SHORTOPTIONS LONGOPTIONS LONGIND
~~~~                 ~~~~~   BY VALUE LONG-ONLY
                             BY REFERENCE RETURN-CHAR OPT-VAL
```

==========

Use function CBL_GC_GETOPT instead as redundant and will be removed.

9.2.48 CBL_OC_HOSTED

CBL_GC_HOSTED Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_GC_HOSTED" USING ARG-1  ARG-2
~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

Use function CBL_GC_HOSTED instead as redundant and will be removed.

9.2.49 CBL_OC_NANOSLEEP

CBL_GC_NANOSLEEP Built-In Subroutine Syntax

```
======================================================================
```

```
CALL "CBL_GC_NANOSLEEP" USING nanoseconds-to-sleep
~~~~                    ~~~~~
```

```
======================================================================
```

Use function CBL_GC_NANOSLEEP instead as redundant and will be removed.

9.2.50 CBL_OPEN_FILE

CBL_OPEN_FILE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

```
======================================================================
```

```
CALL "CBL_OPEN_FILE" USING file-path, access-mode, 0, 0, handle
~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

```
======================================================================
```

This routine opens an existing file for use as a byte-stream file usable by CBL_WRITE_FILE or CBL_READ_FILE.

The <file-path> argument is an alphanumeric literal or data-item.

The <access-mode> argument is a numeric literal or data item with a `PIC X USAGE COMP-X` (or `USAGE BINARY-CHAR`) definition; it specifies how you wish to use the file, as follows:

1
: input (read-only)

2
: output (write-only)

3
: input and/or output

The third and fourth arguments would specify a locking mode and device specification, respectively, but they're not implemented in GnuCOBOL (currently, at least) — just specify each as 0.

The final argument (<handle>) is a `PIC X(4) USAGE COMP-X` item that will receive the handle to the file. That handle is used on all other byte-stream functions to reference this specific file.

A `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) value of −1 indicates an invalid argument, while a value of 0 indicates success. A value of 35 means the file does not exist.

An example of the use of OPEN, CLOSE, READ etc., can be found in Contribs program printcbl.cbl which is basically also in cobxref.cbl as program 3.

NOTE.

A byte-stream file opened in input-output mode (access-mode = 3) can be used with true dynamic access.

After creating a file with CBL_CREATE_FILE and closing it with CBL_CLOSE_FILE the file can be opened in input-output mode (access-mode = 3) for writing with CBL_WRITE_FILE and reading with CBL_READ_FILE in any kind of sequence with any offset and buffer length. The same definitions for offset, length, flags and buffer can be shared by these routines. For retrieving the file size a CBL_READ_FILE can be used with the read-flag set to 128. In this case the buffer is not filled, instead the file size is returned in the offset variable. This procedure can be used to append additional records to the file, addressing the space immediately after the last record.

To read from the file and fill the buffer with the content of the file from the given offset with the given length the read-flag has to be set to zero. Records can be written even outside the file boundary. In this case a CBL_WRITE_FILE will fill gaps in the file with the necessary number of hex 00 bytes. If the file is 100 byte long and the CBL_WRITE_FILE is executed with an offset of 120 the 20 bytes between offset 100 and 120 are filled with hex 00, after this the contents of the buffer are written in the given length. The gaps filled with hex 00 can be addressed like any other space in the file. Updates can be executed with CBL_READ_FILE and CBL_WRITE_FILE in input-output open-mode (access-mode = 3). The buffer can be altered and rewritten at the same position, as long as offset and length are not changed. The special register RETURN-CODE usually returns the known codes for error-evaluation in the COBOL file system, i.e. 35 for the attempt to open a non-existent file, zero for a successful operation, 30 for permanent i-o error, etc. Only exception is −1 which means one of the parameters is wrong.

Warning. The only problem encountered during read tests is the file system return code for EOF, code 10. Repeated CBL_READ_FILE in input-output mode (access-mode = 3) never returned any file error. Even if the offset of the read went far beyond the file boundary the RETURN-CODE was always zero. In input mode (access-mode = 1) the EOF condition was only returned on an empty file (length 0 bytes). It is good advice to use a counter or intercept the offset to work around this problem. Conclusion: with the exception of the EOF problem the byte-stream file routines can be used like the ones introduced once by Micro Focus.

9.2.51 CBL_OR

CBL_OR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_OR" USING item-1, item-2, BY VALUE byte-length
~~~~          ~~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

```
 Old    Old    New
Arg 1  Arg 2  Arg 2
 Bit    Bit    Bit
=====  =====  =====
  0      0      0
  0      1      1
  1      0      1
  1      1      1
```

This subroutine performs a bit-by-bit logical *or* process between the left-most 8*<byte-length> corresponding bits of <item-1> and <item-2>, storing the resulting bit string into <item-2>. The truth table shown to the left documents the `OR` process. The <item-1> argument may be an alphanumeric literal or a data item and <item-2> must be a data item. The length of both <item-1> and <item-2> must be at least 8*<byte-length>.

The <byte-length> argument may be a numeric literal or data item, and must be specified using `BY VALUE` (see CALL).

Any bits in <item-2> after the 8*<byte-length> point will be unaffected.

A result of zero will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

9.2.52 CBL_READ_FILE

CBL_READ_FILE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_READ_FILE" USING handle, offset, nbytes, flag, buffer
~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine reads <nbytes> of data starting at byte number <offset> from the byte-stream file defined by <handle> into <buffer>.

The <handle> argument (`PIC X(4) USAGE COMP-X`) must have been populated by a prior call to `CBL_OPEN_FILE` built-in system subroutine (see CBL_OPEN_FILE).

The <offset> argument (`PIC X(8) USAGE COMP-X`) defines the location in the file of the first byte to be read. The first byte of a file is byte offset 0 and MUST be preset to zero for first use.

The <nbytes> argument (`PIC X(4) USAGE COMP-X`) specifies how many bytes (maximum) will be read. If the <flag> argument is specified as 128, the size of the file (in bytes) will be returned into the file offset argument (argument 2) upon completion. Not all operating system/ GnuCOBOL environments may be able to retrieve file sizes in such cases, a value of zero will

be returned. The only other valid value for flags is 0. This argument may be specified either as a numeric literal or as a `PIC X USAGE COMP-X` data item.

Upon completion, the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to 0 if the read was successful or to 10 if an "end-of-file" condition occurred. If a value of −1 is returned, a problem was identified with the subroutine arguments.

9.2.53 CBL_READ_KBD_CHAR

CBL_READ_KBD_CHAR Build-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_READ_KBD_CHAR" USING char RETURNING status-code.
~~~~                     ~~~~~      ~~~~~~~~~
```

==========

Waits until a character is typed from the terminal and then read it with no echo.

Parameters: char `PIC X`. Receives the character that was typed, in ASCII.

status-code `PIC XX COMP-5`.

If `RETURNING` is not used the `RETURN-CODE` special register receives the status-code where zero is success and non-zero it is not.

[Above information taken from MF WB manual].

9.2.54 CBL_RENAME_FILE

CBL_RENAME_FILE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_RENAME_FILE" USING old-file-path, new-file-path
~~~~                   ~~~~~
```

==========

You may use this subroutine to rename a file.

The file specified by <old-file-path> will be “renamed” to the name specified as <new-file-path>. Each argument may be an alphanumeric literal or data item.

Despite what the name of this routine might make you believe, this routine is more than just a simple “rename” — it will actually move the file supplied as the 1st argument to the file specified as the 2nd argument. Think of it as a two-step sequence, first copying the <old-file-path> file to the <new-file-path> file and then a second step where the <old-file-path> is deleted.

If the attempt to move the file fails (for example, it doesn't exist), the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to 128; on successful completion it will be set to 0.

9.2.55 CBL_RUNTIME_ERROR

CBL_RUNTIME_ERROR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_RUNTIME_ERROR" USING  item-1 { error-message-string }
~~~~                     ~~~~~         { literal-1            }
                                       { OMITTED              }
                                         ~~~~~~~
```

==========

Support for exiting the runtime from COBOL as a hard error (including possible [core-]dump and stacktrace).

Used in hard, non-recoverable error cases, for example when you pre-catch runtime exceptions "that should never happen" yourself, or for example if an API/socket/whatever endpoint does not exist/is not reachable.

First parameter item-1 is a pic x(4) comp-5 data item which must be zero. It is ignored in GnuCOBOL (we may add abcode and reasoncode as well as cleanup into the current first parameter at some later date). In any case for now it is "reserved for future use".

Second parameter: an optional alphanumeric null-terminated error message to be outputted after a run-time message. The output leading to stderr, will be: libcob: prog.cob:12: error: Program abandoned at user request: Your error message here To produce no additional message, pass the reserved word OMITTED instead.

Depending on compile-time flags and runtime options you get the "common" abort handling (possibly creation of dump file, creation of core-dump, stop within GDB, stack-trace output, ...) and also error procedures registered with CBL_ERROR_PROC.

See also the "STOP ERROR" statement.

9.2.56 CBL_SET_CSR_POS

CBL_SET_CSR_POS Build-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_SET_CSR_POS" USING cursor-locn-buffer
 ~~~~                   ~~~~~
```

==========

Set current cursor position on terminal.

This subroutine will set the cursor location on the screen, using a 2-byte value into the supplied <cursor-locn-buffer>. The first byte of <cursor-locn-buffer> is for the line (row) location while the second sets the column location.

The two byte data block must be in binary form, and will be based upon starting values of 0, meaning that if the routine is called with a value of (14,11) cursor will be located at line 15, column 12. The following is a typical <cursor-locn-buffer> definition:

```
01  CURSOR-LOCN-BUFFER.
    05 CURSOR-LINE          USAGE BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED.
    05 CURSOR-COLUMN        USAGE BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED.
```

9.2.57 CBL_TOLOWER

CBL_TOLOWER Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_TOLOWER" USING data-item, BY VALUE convert-length
 ~~~~               ~~~~~              ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine will convert the first <convert-length> (a numeric literal or data item) characters of <data-item> (an alpha-numeric identifier) to lower-case.

The <convert-length> argument must be specified `BY VALUE` (see CALL). It specifies how many (leading) characters in data-item will be converted — any characters after that will remain unchanged.

If <convert-length> is negative or zero, no conversion will be performed.

9.2.58 CBL_TOUPPER

CBL_TOUPPER Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "CBL_TOUPPER" USING data-item, BY VALUE convert-length
 ~~~~               ~~~~~              ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine will convert the first <convert-length> (a numeric literal or data item) characters of <data-item> (an alpha-numeric identifier) to upper-case.

The <convert-length> argument must be specified `BY VALUE` (see CALL). It specifies how many (leading) characters in data-item will be converted — any characters after that will remain unchanged.

If <convert-length> is negative or zero, no conversion will be performed.

9.2.59 CBL_virtual_heap_routines

CBL_VIRTUAL_HEAP_ROUTINES Built-In Subroutines Syntax

```
=========================================================================

CALL "CBL_OPEN_VFILE"  USING          heap-ID heap-status RETURNING status-code.
~~~~                   ~~~~~                              ~~~~~~~~~

CALL "CBL_CLOSE_VFILE" USING BY VALUE heap-ID             RETURNING status-code.
~~~~                   ~~~~~    ~~~~~                     ~~~~~~~~~

CALL "CBL_WRITE_VFILE" USING BY VALUE heap-ID relative-addr data-len
~~~~                   ~~~~~    ~~~~~
                              BY REFERENCE strings RETURNING stat-code.
                                 ~~~~~~~~~         ~~~~~~~~~

CALL "CBL_READ_VFILE"  USING BY VALUE heap-ID relative-addr data-len
~~~~                   ~~~~~    ~~~~~
                              BY REFERENCE strings RETURNING stat-code.
                                 ~~~~~~~~~         ~~~~~~~~~

=========================================================================
```

The VFILE functions provide functionality consistent with Microfocus / Fujitsu, but the heap is never paged to disk. The VFILE64 functions are a GnuCOBOL extension to allow for access beyond the 4 GB offset when using a 64 bit environment. They are available starting from GnuCOBOL 3.3.

```
CBL_OPEN_VFILE       opens a "virtual file" (heap)
CBL_WRITE_VFILE      writes bytes to heap; offset 4 byte binary
CBL_READ_VFILE       reads bytes from heap; offset 4 byte binary
CBL_CLOSE_VFILE      closes the heap handle

CBL_GC_OPEN_VFILE64  opens a "virtual file" (heap)
CBL_GC_WRITE_VFILE64 writes bytes to heap; offset 8 byte binary
CBL_GC_READ_VFILE64  reads bytes from heap; offset 8 byte binary
CBL_GC_CLOSE_VFILE64 closes the heap handle
```

```
01 heap-ID       PIC 9(4) COMP-5.
01 heap-status   PIC X(2).        *> The area to store heap-status
01 relative-addr PIC 9(4) COMP-5. *> The relative address in a heap
01 data-len      PIC 9(4) COMP-5. *> The length of data to be read or written.
01 strings       PIC X(n).        *> Area to store the read string or the string to
be written
01 stat-code     PIC S(4) COMP-5. *> 0: Successful, other than 0: Failure
```

9.2.60 CBL_WRITE_FILE

CBL_WRITE_FILE Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_WRITE_FILE" USING handle, offset, nbytes, 0, buffer
~~~~                  ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine writes <nbytes> of data from <buffer> to the byte-stream file defined by <handle> starting at byte number <offset> within the file.

The <handle> argument (`PIC X(4) USAGE COMP-X`) must have been populated by a prior call to CBL_OPEN_FILE. The offset argument (`PIC X(8) USAGE COMP-X`) defines the location in the file of the first byte to be written to. The first byte of a file is byte offset 0.

The <nbytes> argument (`PIC X(4) USAGE COMP-X`) specifies how many bytes (maximum) will be written.

Currently, the only allowable value for the flags argument is 0. This argument may be specified either as a numeric literal or as a `PIC X(1) USAGE COMP-X` data item.

Upon completion, the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) will be set to 0 if the write was successful or to 30 if an I/O error condition occurred. If a value of −1 is returned, a problem was identified with the subroutine arguments.

9.2.61 CBL_XOR

CBL_XOR Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL "CBL_XOR" USING item-1, item-2, BY VALUE byte-length
~~~~           ~~~~~                 ~~~~~
```

```
=========================================================================
```

```
 Old    Old    New
Arg 1  Arg 2  Arg 2
 Bit    Bit    Bit
=====  =====  =====
  0      0      0
  0      1      1
  1      0      1
  1      1      0
```

This subroutine performs a bit-by-bit logical *exclusive or* process between the left-most 8*<byte-length> corresponding bits of <item-1> and <item-2>, storing the resulting bit string into <item-2>. The truth table shown to the left documents the `XOR` process. The <item-1> argument may be an alphanumeric literal or a data item and <item-2> must be a data item. The length of both <item-1> and <item-2> must be at least 8*<byte-length>.

The <byte-length> argument may be a numeric literal or data item, and must be specified using `BY VALUE` (see CALL).

Any bits in <item-2> after the 8*<byte-length> point will be unaffected.

A result of zero will be passed back in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

9.2.62 EXTFH

EXTFH Built-In Subroutine Syntax

```
=========================================================================
```

```
CALL "EXTFH" USING  opcode fcd
~~~~         ~~~~~
```

```
=========================================================================
```

The Callable File Handler (EXTFH), is primarily an API for file I-O and a kind of an industry standard.

It can be used to access to GnuCOBOL files by some other programming languages (like C, Visual Basic, Python ...) on several platforms.

It also allows to use GnuCOBOL LIBCOB's fileio routines from other compilers (AcuCobol, MicroFocus, IBM Cobol ...) and vice versa (which of course needs a license). This can also help during migration phases.

The EXTFH API also provides features such as: Record locking, Data compression, New Index creation, Relative Byte Address, ...

You can also write your own file handler and run it in place of EXTFH, when it conforms to the call interface defined in this chapter.

The Callable File Handler handles all file organizations: sequential, line sequential, relative and indexed. The file operations performed by EXTFH fit into the following categories: Open

files, Read and Write records, Move through records, Delete records, File and records locking, Unlocking records, Close files.

GnuCOBOL EXTFH file handling include support a callable EXTFH interface also provided by several compilers including Micro Focus The GnuCOBOL external file handler can be directly invoked from COBOL too, using `CALL "EXTFH"`

To have the compiled program `call yourfh()` for file I/O use: `cobc -fcallfh=yourfh`

In turn yourfh() may call EXTFH() to use I/O functions from GnuCOBOL.

Support for the EXTFH includes support for `FH--FCD` and `FH--KEYDEF`.

Some sample use of EXTFH.

a. Write a GnuCOBOL program that accepts as parameters: file type (sequential, relative indexed etc ...), number and length of keys, both the primary and any alternative keys.

This GnuCOBOL program, always the same, will be able to create various types of files (sequential, relative, indexed) with a primary key that can be 5 bytes or 20 or 30 bytes long, with a record length of 100 bytes or 1000 bytes etc, etc, .. simply by accepting parameters with one or many ACCEPT statements ... with as an example an open output and a close.

b. Allow a Microfocus COBOL (or AcuCOBOL or RM Cobol or Realia COBOL ...) program to read an indexed file that was created with a GnuCOBOL program that used BDB or VB-ISAM.

Conversely, read from a GnuCOBOL program an indexed file created by a Microfocus COBOL program with its proprietary system for example IDX4. This would require that EXTFH be available in the non GnuCOBOL environment.

c. Generate file io statistics. Each I-O operation can record the number of times a read, write, delete, open - any file I-O statement.

You could record the start of the call to EXTFH, the return from EXTFH - even the before and after image of the record processed.

You can implement recording stats from the file activity in your EXTFH services. The intent to provide operation reporting performance / consumption.

Each I-O operation can record the number of times a read, write, delete, open - any file I-O statement. You could record the start of the call to EXTFH, the return from EXTFH - even the before and after image of the record processed.

If you use EXTFH you can gather the statistics and only need to recompile the program - no change in them needed at all.

You can create a new EXTFH module named "myiostats.cbl" that uses the "xfhfcd3.cpy" for its LINKAGE and to get the 78 values, which only counts the statistics and possibly write them out when a CLOSE was requested; filter in that program as you like (for example for

the filename, filetype, ...) before adding to the statistics; end with CALL "EXTFH" USING fcd-record to let libcob do the actual file io; compile with with `cobc -c myiostats.cbl` .

Compile your programs with an additional `-fcallfh=myiostats myiostats.o` to route all io through them. Consequently it does not affect the GnuCOBOL's EXTFH.

To use EXTFH in any COBOL environment that needs to provide an option like GnuCOBOL has with -fcallfh or MF with its CALLFH directive (GnuCOBOL supports that when included in source files as well).

To be able to call another COBOL's EXTFH entry point from a GnuCOBOL module to allow the io be routed to that, this environment also needs this entry point and a way to call it directly or via a "to GnuCOBOL foreign" COBOL module that calls into that. So this part means that you can only use it from a GnuCOBOL module if there's some way to access it.

d. You could read from a Python or Visual Basic program etc etc ... an indexed file written with the GnuCOBOL program using BDB or VB-ISAM as along as you use the applicable structure to call into EXTFH (the C structure is part of libcob / common.h).

The COBOL syntax defining a file (the SELECT and the FD statement) cause the compiler to create the data areas needed to define the file and to hold the file records.

EXTFH uses 4 data areas during file operations: File Control Description (FCD), Record Area, Filename Area, Key Definition Block.

To use the EXTFH you must follow these steps:

a. Allocate data areas for the File Control Description (FCD), Record Area, Filename Area and Key Definition Block(for indexed files only).

b. Initialize all the data areas to binary zeros to ensure that EXTFH does not receive invalid values.

c. Fill in the fields in the Record Area, Filename Area, and Key Definition Block that are needed for the selected Operation Code.

d. Set the pointers in the File Control Description (FCD) to point at Record Area, Filename Area and Key Definition Block (for indexed files only)

e. Select an Operation Code to decide which file operation to be performed

f. Fill in the fields in the FCD that are needed for the selected Operation Code.

g. Call the File Handler.

h. Determine the success of the file I/O operation by checking the returned File Status

i. Process any data in the the Record Area and the FCD output fields

Use the following syntax to call the File Handler from COBOL: `CALL "EXTFH" USING opcode fcd` where opcode is a PIC X(2) COMP-X field specifying the operation code.

FILE CONTROL DESCRIPTION (FCD)

The FCD area contains information about the file in use, set the appropriate fields in the FCD before calling EXTFH.

After performing the specified operation, EXTFH completes the appropriate fields in the FCD before passing control back to the calling program.

All unused or reserved areas of the FCD must be set to binary zeros.

The FCD used on the call to open a file must be the one used on all subsequent calls to that file. The supplied GnuCOBOL copyfile `XFHFCD3.CPY` contains a COBOL definition of the FCD.

```
01 FCD-AREA.
   COPY 'xfhfcd3.cpy'.
```

The structure of the FCD is defined below, bit 7 is always the leftmost bit.

When using COBOL, this and the following pointers are USAGE POINTER items, set using a statement of the form: `SET POINTER TO ADDRESS OF data item`

where:

pointer is one of these fields,

data item is the relevant data area.

Offset and size are in bytes.

```
OFFSET SIZE DESCRIPTION
------ ---- ----------------------------------------------------------------
 0     2    File Status Code. See also offsets 6 and 33.
            After every operation except a COMMIT or ROLLBACK operation,
            this field is updated with a standard file status value telling
            you the status of the operation.
 2     3    Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
 5     1    File organization: 0 Line sequential, 1 Sequential, 2 Indexed,
            3 Relative
 6     1    User Status and Access Mode indicators.
            User Status is indicated by bit 7. The bit is set if you have
            defined a file status.
            Defining a file status can affect how some operations (such as
            RETRYLOCK) are performed.
            When calling EXTFH directly, this bit should be set.
```

```
            however, file status is obtained directly from offset 0.
            Access mode is indicated by bits 6-0:
            0 - Sequential access mode, 4 - Random access mode,8 - Dynamic
            access mode.
 7     1    Open mode: you must set this field to 128 before opening a file.
            This field is written to by the Callable File Handler so that,
            on return, it indicates the open mode of the file: 0 INPUT,
            1 OUTPUT, 2 I/O, 3 EXTEND, 128 File is closed.
 8     3    Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
11     2    Length of filename.
13     8    Relative byte address.
            This field is used instead of the 4 byte field at offset 72 if
            bit 4 of byte 93 is set.
21     3    Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
24     1    Lock mode flags for shareable files:
            Bit 7 - Lock on multiple records
            Bit 6 - WRITELOCK directive enabled
            Bit 5 - RETRYOPEN
            Bit 4 - SKIPLOCK directive enabled
            Bit 3 - RETRYLOCK directive enabled
            Bit 2 - Lock mode MANUAL
            Bit 1 - Lock mode AUTOMATIC
            Bit 0 - Lock mode EXCLUSIVE
25      1   Other flags:
            Bit 7 - OPTIONAL file (OPEN INPUT)
            Bit 6 - Reserved
            Bit 5 - Not OPTIONAL (OPEN I/O and EXTEND)
            Bit 4 - Filename is EXTERNAL
            Bit 3 - Reserved
            Bit 2 - NODETECTLOCK directive enabled
            Bit 1 - Multiple Reel file (Record Sequential)
            Bit 0 - Line Advancing file (Record Sequential).
26      2   Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
28      4   File handle
32      1   Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
33      1   File status type. See also offsets 0 and 6:
            Bit 7 Set for ANSI'85 COBOL file status by default, otherwise
            ANSI'74 COBOL file status
            Bits 6-3 Reserved
            Bit 2 Enables tab insertion for line sequential files
            Bit 1 Enables null insertion for line sequential files
```

```
            Bit 0 Reserved.
            Bits 1 and 2 are set/unset by EXTFH at open time,
            depending on the settings of the N and T RTS switches. These
            bits can be set/unset after an OPEN operation to override the
            N and T RTS switches.
34      1   File format:
            0 - Operating system default. C-ISAM on UNIX,
                same as specifying a value of 3 on DOS, Windows and OS/2.
            1 - C-ISAM format
            2 - LEVEL II COBOL format
            3 - Micro Focus COBOL format
            4 - IDXFORMAT"4" format
            All platforms except UNIX:
            5 - Btrieve format with ANSI emulation
            6 - Btrieve format without ANSI emulation
            All platforms:
            8 - IDXFORMAT"8" format
            11 - Sequential files only. Mainframe print file.
            14 - Heap file
35      3   Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
38      2   Maximum record length (in bytes).
40      3   Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
            32-bit:
42      1   File descriptor. Returned for line sequential fixed length
            sequential and relative files and C-ISAM files on UNIX.
43      4   Relative record number.
47      1   Recording mode: Bits 7-1 Reserved,Bit 0: 0 - Fixed, 1 - Variable
48      2   Current record length (in bytes).
50      2   Minimum record length (in bytes).
52      2   Key-of-Reference (indexed files).
            This field identifies the Key-of-Reference, used for random READ
            operations.
            To specify the prime key, set this field to zero.
            For example, to specify the first alternate key defined, use a
            value 1; the second alternate key defined use value 2.
            Or:
            Line count (Line Sequential files).
            This field specifies the number of lines to skip when writing a
            file. For example:
            WRITE AFTER ADVANCING line-count LINES
54      2   Effective key length.
```

```
            When using a START operation on indexed files, you can specify
            only the leading part of a key instead of the whole key. You
            should set this field to the number of bytes to be used in the
            comparison.It must be > than zero and no bigger than the key
            being used.
56      4   Pointer to the record area.
60      4   Pointer to the filename area.
64      4   Pointer to key definition block.
68      4   Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
72      4   Relative byte address. Unless bit 4 of byte 93 is set,
            in which case the relative byte address is held at offset 13
76      2   Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
78      1   Data compression routine indicator:
            0 = No compression
            1-127 = Micro Focus data compression routine number (1=CBLDC001)
            128-255 = User-defined data compression routine number
            (128=USRDC128)
79      4   Fileshare V2 session-id.
83      2   Fileshare V2 file-id.
85      6   Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
91      1   Bit 7- Interlanguage locking (LOCKTYPE 1), Bits 6-0- Reserved.
92      1   Fileshare V2 flags: Bit 7 - Transaction logging; Bits 6-0 -
            Reserved.
93      1   Configuration flags:
            Bit 7  - WRITETHRU
            Bit 6  - Use Relative Byte Address
            Bit 5  - Update current record pointer
            Bit 4  - Use offset 13 for relative byte address, instead of
                     offset 72
            Bits 3-2  - Reserved
            Bit 1  - Check COBFSTATCONV
            Bit 0  - Set if IGNORELOCK required.
94      1   Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
95      1   Bit 7- Use EBCDIC collating sequence
            Bit 6- Set if file is to have WRITE AFTER ADVANCING
            Bit 5- Set if file is to have WRITE BEFORE ADVANCING
            Bit 4- ADV byte
            Bit 3- Ignore minimum length checking on variable-length files
            Bits 2-0- Reserved.
96      1   Index cache size.
```

```
97      1   Index cache area.
98      2   Reserved.
```

RECORD AREA

The record area is an area into which records are read, and from which records are (re)written.

The size of the record area must be four bytes larger than the largest record in the file. The record length fields in the FCD always contain true record lengths, not the length of the record area. (See offsets 38, 48 and 50 in the FCD.)

The following GnuCOBOL sample code shows how the FCD is set up to point to the record area:

```
01 wRECORD-AREA      PIC X(90).
   ...
   SET FCD-RECORD-ADDRESS TO ADDRESS OF wRECORD-AREA
   ...
```

FILENAME AREA

The filename area contains the name of the file in use. It can contain drive and/or path information as well as the actual name of the file. If the actual name is shorter than the length of the buffer specified in the FCD, it must be terminated by a space.

This data area must be filled before the first operation on the file.

The following GnuCOBOL sample code shows how the FCD is set up to point to the filename area:

```
01 wFILENAME-AREA    PIC X(60) VALUE "file001.dat".
   ...
   MOVE LENGTH OF wFILENAME-AREA  TO FCD-NAME-LENGTH
   SET FCD-FILENAME-ADDRESS TO ADDRESS OF wFILENAME-AREA
   ...
```

KEY DEFINITION BLOCK

The Key Definition BLOCK is used to hold index key information during operations on indexed files. It consists of three data areas: Global Information area, Key Definition area, Component Definition area.

Global Information Area.

It tells the size of the Key Definition Area and how many keys are in the file. All unused or reserved areas must be initialized to binary zeros. The structure is shown below.

```
OFFSET SIZE DESCRIPTION
------ ---- -------------------------------------
0      2    Length of the Key Definition Block
2      4    Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros
6      2    Number of keys
8      6    Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
```

Key Definition Area Parameter Block

It describes the keys used in the indexed file and consists of one Key Definition for each key in the file. You must define all keys before their components. The order of defining the keys is important. The ordinal position of the key is used to identify it.

For example, if you have an indexed file with a prime key and two alternate keys, the Key Definition area would contain three key definitions. The prime key is key 0, the first alternate is key 1, and the second alternate is key 2. All unused or reserved areas must be initialized to binary zeros.

The structure is shown below.

```
OFFSET SIZE DESCRIPTION
------ ---- ------------------------------------------------------------
0      2    Component count. For ordinary keys, the component count is 1.
            For split keys, the component count is the number of components
            making up the split key.
2      2    Offset to first Component Definition area for this key.
            This offset is relative to the start of the Global Information
            area, starting at 0.
4      1    Key flags:
            Bit 7 - Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros
            Bit 6 - Duplicates allowed
            Bit 5 - Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros
            Bit 4 - Set to indicate that this is the prime key. If this is
            not set for any key, the file handler assumes that the first
            key is the prime key.
            Bit 3 - Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros
            Bit 2 - Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros
            Bit 1 - Sparse key. See offset 6
            Bit 0 - Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
5      1    Compression flags:
            Bits 7-3  - Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros
            Bit 2  - Compression of trailing spaces
            Bit 1  - Compression of leading characters
```

```
             Bit 0  - Compression of duplicates
6      2     Sparse character. If bit 1 of the key flags (offset 4) is set,
             the key is suppressed if it is entirely made up of this character.
7      8     Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
```

Component Definition Area

It follows the Key Definition Area and contains one component definition for each key component. Each key consists of one component, unless defined as a split key, when each component of the key requires its own Component Definition.

The Component Definitions define the location in the record and length of the key component. All unused or reserved areas must be initialized to binary zeros.

The structure of a Component Definition is shown below.

```
OFFSET SIZE DESCRIPTION
------ ---- ----------------------------------------------------------------
0      2    Reserved. Must be set to binary zeros.
2      4    Offset of component in the record (starting at 0).
6      4    Length of the component (in bytes).
```

OPERATION CODES

There are two types of operation codes:

Standard: The code contain x"FA" in the leftmost byte; the least significant byte indicates the specific operation

Special: The codes contain x"00" in the leftmost significant byte; the least significant byte indicates the specific operation

Opcode A 2-character operation code specifying an exact operation PIC X(2) COMP-X .

Operation The operation performed by the chosen opcode.

File Type L Line Sequential, S Record Sequential(including vS), R Relative(including vR), I Indexed, vS Variable format Sequential only, vR Variable format Relative only

Input fields The offset values of fields in the FCD to be set before calling.

Output fields The offset values of fields set by EXTFH during the call.

STANDARD OPERATION CODES

They are identified by x"FA" in the leftmost significant byte of the operation code.

The least significant byte indicates the specific operation, as shown in the following sections.

OPEN

Initiates the processing of files.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- ------------------------------ -------
00   OPEN INPUT                     L S R I
01   OPEN OUTPUT                    L S R I
02   OPEN I-O                       L S R I
03   OPEN EXTEND                    L S R I
04   OPEN INPUT WITH NO REWIND      L S
05   OPEN OUTPUT WITH NO REWIND     L S
08   OPEN INPUT REVERSED            L S

Input Fields:
Offset 5  File organization
Offset 6  Access mode
Offset 7  Open mode. Must be set to 128 before opening a file.
Offset 11 Length of filename
Offset 24 Lock mode flags
Offset 25 Other flags
Offset 34 File format
Offset 38 Maximum record length
Offset 47 Recording mode
Offset 50 Minimum record length
Offset 60 Pointer to the filename area
Offset 64 Pointer to the key definition block (I)
Offset 78 Data compression
Offset 91 Interlanguage locking
Filename area
Key Definition Area (only for Indexed Files)

Output Fields:
Offset 0  User file status
Offset 7  Open mode
FCD Use for all subsequent accesses to this file
```

Opening a File More Than Once.

With EXTFH you can assign several FCDs to the same physical file and have them all open at the same time. The operating system counts it as just one open file. The physical file is not closed until every logical file assigned to it has been closed.

CLOSE

Terminates the processing of files.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- ------------------------------ -------
80   CLOSE                          L S R I
81   CLOSE WITH LOCK                L S R I
82   CLOSE WITH NO REWIND           L S
84   CLOSE REEL/UNIT                L S
85   CLOSE REEL/UNIT FOR REMOVAL    L S
86   CLOSE REEL/UNIT WITH NO REWIND L S

Input Fields: None
Output Fields: Offset 0 - User file status
```

READ

Makes available a specified record (random access) or the next or previous logical record (sequential access).

```
OP                                   FILE
CODE OPERATION                       TYPE
---- ------------------------------- -------
8D   READ (sequential) WITH NO LOCK  L S R I
D8   READ (sequential) WITH LOCK     L S R I
D9   READ (sequential) WITH KEPT LOCK L S R I
F5   READ (sequential)               L S R I
8C   READ PREVIOUS WITH NO LOCK          R I
DE   READ PREVIOUS WITH LOCK            R I
DF   READ PREVIOUS WITH KEPT LOCK       R I
F9   READ PREVIOUS                      R I
8E   READ (random) WITH NO LOCK         R I
DA   READ (random) WITH LOCK            R I
DB   READ (random) WITH KEPT LOCK       R I
F6   READ (random)                      R I
8F   READ (direct) WITH NO LOCK      L S R I
D6   READ (direct) WITH LOCK         L S R I
D7   READ (direct) WITH KEPT LOCK    L S R I
C9   READ (direct)                   L S R I
F1   READ (position)                 L S R I

Input Fields:
Offset 43 Relative record number (R) if READ random or direct
```

```
Offset 52 Key identifier (I)
Offset 56 Pointer to the record area

Output Fields:
Offset  0 User file status
Offset 48 Current record length
Offset 72 Relative byte address
Record Area
```

WRITE/REWRITE

Releases a logical record for an output or input-output file. For sequential files, it can also be used for vertical positioning of lines in a logical page.

The REWRITE operation logically replaces a record existing in a disk file. The WRITE operation releases record locks and writes records.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- -------------------------------- -------
E1   WRITE BEFORE                     L S
E2   WRITE AFTER                      L S
E3   WRITE BEFORE TAB                 L S
E4   WRITE AFTER TAB                  L S
E5   WRITE BEFORE PAGE                L S
E6   WRITE AFTER PAGE                 L S
EC   WRITE BEFORE mnemonic name         S
ED   WRITE AFTER mnemonic name          S
F3   WRITE                            L S R I
F4   REWRITE                          L S R I

Input Fields:
Offset 43 Relative record number (R)
Offset 48 Current record length
Offset 52 Line count (WRITE only)
Offset 56 Pointer to the record area

Output Fields:
Offset  0 User file status
Offset 72 Relative byte address
```

START

Provides a basis for logical positioning in a relative or indexed file, for subsequent retrieval of records.

```
OP                                        FILE
CODE OPERATION                            TYPE
---- -------------------------------      -------
E8   START equal to full length prime key      R I
E9   START equal to (any key/record number)    R I
EA   START greater than (>)                    R I
EB   START not less than (>=)                  R I
FE   START less than (<)                       R I
FF   START less than or equal to (<=)          R I

Input Fields:
Offset 43 Relative record number (R)
Offset 52 Key identifier (I)
Offset 54 Effective key length (I)
Offset 56 Pointer to the record area

Output Fields:
Offset  0 User file status
```

STEP

Steps to the next physical record, this operation enables very fast access to a record.

```
OP                                        FILE
CODE OPERATION                            TYPE
---- -------------------------------      -------
90   STEP NEXT WITH NO LOCK               L S R I
D4   STEP NEXT WITH LOCK                  L S R I
D5   STEP NEXT WITH KEPT LOCK             L S R I
CA   STEP NEXT                            L S R I
92   STEP FIRST WITH NO LOCK              L S R I
D0   STEP FIRST WITH LOCK                 L S R I
D1   STEP FIRST WITH KEPT LOCK            L S R I
CC   STEP FIRST                           L S R I

Input Fields: Offset 56 Pointer to the record area
Output Fields: Offset 0 User file status
```

STEP

operations are a method of sequentially retrieving records in a relative or indexed file without having to read via a key or relative record number. Generally, this is a faster method of accessing data in the file.

A STEP NEXT operation returns the record that is physically stored immediately after the one that was last retrieved in the file (either by a STEP or READ operation).

If you are using relative byte addressing and you have specified that the current record pointer should be updated to the record you have just accessed, STEP operations are relative to this new position.

The relative byte address is returned on every STEP operation, so if you need to update the current record pointer to the record just retrieved, you can use the READ (direct) operation using the address returned. The current record pointer is not affected by STEP operations.

DELETE

Logically removes a record from a disk file.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- ------------------------------ -------
F7   DELETE                         vS R I

Input Fields
Offset 43 Non-sequential access to relative record number (R)
Offset 56 Non-sequential access to record pointer (I)

Output Fields:
Offset  0 User file status
```

DELETE FILE

Physically removes the specified file from the physical devices on which it resides.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- ------------------------------ -------
F8   DELETE FILE                    L S R I

Input Fields:
Offset  5 File organization
Offset 11 Filename length
Offset 34 File format
Offset 60 Pointer to the filename area
```

```
Filename Area
Output Fields:
Offset  0 User file status
```

COMMIT

Releases all record locks in all files held by this run unit. This operation code always requires use of the FCD.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- ------------------------------ -------
DC   COMMIT (UNLOCK all files)      L S R I

Input Fields: Always requires FCD used by the file
Output Fields: None
```

ROLLBACK

Releases all record locks in all files held by this run unit.

```
OP                                   FILE
CODE OPERATION                       TYPE
---- ------------------------------- -------
DD   ROLLBACK (UNLOCKs all files)    L S R I

Input Fields: None
Output Fields: None
```

UNLOCK

Releases all record locks held by the run unit on a named file.

```
OP                                   FILE
CODE OPERATION                       TYPE
---- ------------------------------- -------
0E   UNLOCK                          L S R I

Input Fields: None

Output Fields: Offset 0 User file status
```

SPECIAL OPERATION CODES

They must be identified by the hexadecimal code x"00" in the most significant byte of the operation code.

The least significant byte indicates the operation, as shown in the following sections.

GET FILE INFO

Returns information on keys for the specified file in the format of the Key Definition Block for index files and general file information for all file types supported.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- -------------------------------- -------
06   Return file information         vS vR I

Input Fields:
Offset  5 File organization (can be x"FF")
Offset 11 Length of filename
Offset 60 Pointer to the filename area
Offset 64 Pointer to the key definition area (I)

Output Fields:
Offset  0 User file status
Offset  5 File organization

Key definition Area (I)
Offset 34 File format
Offset 38 Maximum record length
Offset 47 Recording mode
Offset 50 Minimum record length
Offset 72 File size
Offset 78 Data compression routine
```

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have enough space allocated for the key definition block to hold all the information returned.

Failure to allocate enough space causes corruption of some data areas. For variable-length sequential files and variable-length relative files, no key definition information exists.

If the organization byte of the FCD is set to x"FF", this tries to determine the file type and return with the relevant information set. This mode of operation is not recommended if fixed-length sequential files are involved as it might be impossible to determine the difference between the first record of a fixed-length sequential file and the header of a variable-length

sequential file. When the file type is determined as incompatible, the error code 9/161 is returned.

CREATE NEW INDEX

Creates a new .idx file, containing only header information for the file to allow new indexes to be added.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- -------------------------------- -------
07   Open new index                       I

Input fields: same as open
Output fields: same as open
```

GET NEXT RECORD

Gets the next physical record from the index data file.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- -------------------------------- -------
08   Get next record                      I

Input fields: offset 56 pointer to record area

Output fields:
offset  0 user file status
offset 48 current record length
offset 72 relative byte offset
```

ADD KEY VALUE

Adds key value to the index for the key specified

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- -------------------------------- -------
09   Add key value                   I

Input fields:
offset 52 key identifier
offset 56 pointer to record area
```

```
Output fields: offset 0 user file status
```

FLUSH FILE

Ensure all data for a specific file is flushed to disk.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- -------------------------------- -------
0C   Flush File                     L S R I

Input Fields: None
Output Fields: None
```

UNLOCK RECORD

Unlocks a specific record in a file.

```
OP                                  FILE
CODE OPERATION                      TYPE
---- -------------------------------- -------
0F   Unlock record                        I

Input Fields: Offset 56  Pointer to the record area

Output Fields: None
```

SAMPLE PROGRAM

EXTFH is very powerful, it requires many parameters to work and provides many return data.An example is very useful to better clarify all these aspects.

The following example also shows the COBOL structure of the FCD area and the Key Definition Area

The following is a single source EXTFH02.COB to be compiled with a single command but which includes two programs EXTFH02A and EXTFH02B.

The first program creates an indexed file with 10 records with the normal I-O statements and calls the second program.

The second program instead uses EXTFH for OPEN, READ REWRITE START READ PREVIOUS and CLOSE operations.

```
      >>SOURCE FREE
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. EXTFH02A.
*>*************************************************************
*> CREATE AN INDEXED FILE WITH 10 RECORDS FOR NEXT PROGRAM
*>*************************************************************
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
FILE-CONTROL.
SELECT OUTFILE
    ASSIGN TO "FILE01EXTFH"
    ORGANIZATION IS INDEXED
    RECORD KEY   IS PRIME-KEY
    ACCESS MODE  IS SEQUENTIAL
    FILE STATUS  IS FS-OUT.
DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
FD OUTFILE.
01  OUT-REC.
    05  PRIME-KEY PIC X(25) VALUE ALL 'K'.
    05  IN-DATA   PIC X(10) VALUE ALL 'x'.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  FS-OUT        PIC XX  VALUE space.
01  OUT-RECNUM    PIC 999 VALUE 0.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    OPEN OUTPUT OUTFILE.
    INITIALIZE OUT-REC ALL TO VALUE.
    perform 10 times
      MOVE "RECORD-"  TO PRIME-KEY (1:7)
      ADD 1  TO OUT-RECNUM MOVE OUT-RECNUM TO PRIME-KEY (8:3)
      DISPLAY 'WRITE: ' OUT-REC  WRITE OUT-REC
    end-perform
    DISPLAY OUT-RECNUM ' records written'.
    CLOSE OUTFILE
    display 'Enter to continue...' accept omitted
    CALL 'EXTFH02B'
    STOP RUN.
END PROGRAM EXTFH02A.

*>*************************************************************
*> USE CALL 'EXTFH' TO OPEN READ REWRITE START READPREV CLOSE
```

```
*>*************************************************************
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. EXTFH02B.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 OperationCode.
    05  wOperationType    pic x(01).
        78  Standard-Type              value x'FA'.
        78  Special-Type               value x'00'.
    05  wOperationCode           pic x(01).
        *> Standard Codes (Type is x'FA')
        78  Open-Input                 value x'00'.
        78  Open-Output                value x'01'.
        78  Open-I-O                   value x'02'.
        78  Open-Extend                value x'03'.
        78  Open-Input-No-Rewind       value x'04'.
        78  Open-Output-No-Rewind      value x'05'.
        78  Open-Input-Reversed        value x'08'.
        78  Close-File                 value x'80'.
        78  Close-Lock                 value x'81'.
        78  Close-No-Rewind            value x'82'.
        78  Close-Reel-Unit            value x'84'.
        78  Close-Reel-Unit-For-Removal value x'85'.
        78  Close-Reel-Unit-No-Rewind  value x'86'.
        78  Read-Seq-No-Lock           value x'8D'.
        78  Read-Seq-Lock              value x'D8'.
        78  Read-Seq-Kept-Lock         value x'D9'.
        78  Read-Seq                   value x'F5'.
        78  Read-Previous-No-Lock      value x'8C'.
        78  Read-Previous-Lock         value x'DE'.
        78  Read-Previous-Kept-Lock    value x'DF'.
        78  Read-Previous              value x'F9'.
        78  Read-Random-No-Lock        value x'8E'.
        78  Read-Random-Lock           value x'DA'.
        78  Read-Random-Kept-Lock      value x'DB'.
        78  Read-Random                value x'F6'.
        78  Read-Direct-No-Lock        value x'8F'.
        78  Read-Direct-Lock           value x'D6'.
        78  Read-Direct-Kept-Lock      value x'D7'.
        78  Read-Direct                value x'C9'.
        78  Read-Position              value x'F1'.
```

```
          78  Write-Before               value x'E1'.
          78  Write-After                value x'E2'.
          78  Write-Before-Tab           value x'E3'.
          78  Write-After-Tab            value x'E4'.
          78  Write-Before-Page          value x'E5'.
          78  Write-After-Page           value x'E6'.
          78  Write-Record               value x'F3'.
          78  Rewrite-Record             value x'F4'.
          78  Start-Equal-Prime-Key      value x'E8'.
          78  Start-Equal-Key            value x'E9'.
          78  Start-Greater              value x'EA'.
          78  Start-Not-Less             value x'EB'.
          78  Start-Less                 value x'FE'.
          78  Start-Less-Or-Equal        value x'FF'.
          78  Step-Next-No-Lock          value x'90'.
          78  Step-Next-Lock             value x'D4'.
          78  Step-Next-Kept-Lock        value x'D5'.
          78  Step-Next                  value x'CA'.
          78  Step-First-No-Lock         value x'92'.
          78  Step-First-Lock            value x'D0'.
          78  Step-First-Kept-Lock       value x'D1'.
          78  Step-First                 value x'CC'.
          78  Delete-Record              value x'F7'.
          78  Delete-File                value x'F8'.
          78  Unlock-Current             value x'0E'.
          78  Commit-All                 value x'DC'.
          78  Rollback-All               value x'DD'.
*> Special codes  (Type is x'00')
          78  Get-File-Info              value x'06'. *> not avail. for BDB files
          78  Open-New-Index             value x'07'.
          78  Get-Next-Record            value x'08'.
          78  Add-Key-Value              value x'09'.
          78  Unlock-Record              value x'0F'.

  01  FCD-AREA. *> or use: COPY 'XFHFCD3.CPY'.
      10 FCD-FILE-STATUS.
        15 FCD-STATUS-KEY-1         pic x.
        15 FCD-STATUS-KEY-2         pic x.
        15 FCD-BINARY redefines FCD-STATUS-KEY-2 pic x comp-x.
      10 FCD-LENGTH                  pic xx comp-x.
      10 FCD-VERSION                 pic x comp-x.
```

```
         78 fcd--version-number      value 1.
       10 FCD-ORGANIZATION            pic x comp-x.
         78 fcd--line-sequential-org value 0.
         78 fcd--sequential-org      value 1.
         78 fcd--indexed-org         value 2.
         78 fcd--relative-org        value 3.
         78 fcd--determine-org       value 255. *> see wOperationCode 0006:
       10 FCD-ACCESS-MODE             pic x comp-x.
         78 fcd--sequential-access   value 0.
         78 fcd--dup-prime-access    value 1.
         78 fcd--random-access       value 4.
         78 fcd--dynamic-access      value 8.
         78 fcd--status-defined      value h"80".
       10 FCD-OPEN-MODE               pic x comp-x. *> open mode
         78 fcd--open-input          value 0.
         78 fcd--open-output         value 1.
         78 fcd--open-i-o            value 2.
         78 fcd--open-extend         value 3.
         78 fcd--open-max            value 3.
         78 fcd--open-closed         value 128.
       10 FCD-RECORDING-MODE          pic x comp-x. *> recording mode
         78 fcd--recmode-fixed       value 0.
         78 fcd--recmode-variable    value 1.
       10 FCD-FILE-FORMAT             pic x comp-x.
         78 fcd--format-liiv1        value 0.
         78 fcd--format-cisam        value 1.
         78 fcd--format-liiv2        value 2.
         78 fcd--format-cobol2       value 3.
         78 fcd--format-idx4         value 4.
         78 fcd--format-btrieve-ansi value 5.
         78 fcd--format-btrieve-non-ansi  value 6.
*>       78 fcd--format-rlio         value 7.
         78 fcd--format-big          value 8.
         78 fcd--format-leafrec      value 9.
         78 fcd--format-cst          value 10.
         78 fcd--format-mvs-print    value 11.
*>       78                         value 13.
         78 fcd--format-heap         value 14.
         78 fcd--format-esds         value 15.
         78 fcd--format-qsamv        value 255.
         78 fcd--max-file-format     value 16. *> 1 > max permissible format:
```

```
       10 FCD-DEVICE-FLAG             Pic x comp-x.
         78 fcd--dev-normal          value 0.
         78 fcd--dev-device          value 1.
         78 fcd--dev-stdin           value 2.
         78 fcd--dev-stdout          value 3.
         78 fcd--dev-stderr          value 4.
         78 fcd--dev-badname         value 5.
         78 fcd--dev-input-pipe      value 6.
         78 fcd--dev-output-pipe     value 7.
         78 fcd--dev-i-o-pipe        value 8.
         78 fcd--dev-library         value 9.
         78 fcd--dev-disk-file       value 10.
         78 fcd--dev-null            value 11.
         78 fcd--dev-disk-redir      value 12.
         78 fcd--dev-no-map          value 13.
       10 FCD-LOCK-ACTION             pic x comp-x. *> Used only in c-isam type calls
         78 fcd--getlock             value 1.
         78 fcd--nolock              value 2.
         78 fcd--ignorelock          value 3.
       10 FCD-DATA-COMPRESS           pic x comp-x.
       10 FCD-BLOCKING                pic x comp-x.
       10 FCD-additional-status redefines FCD-blocking pic x comp-x.
       10 FCD-IDXCACHE-SIZE           pic x comp-x.
       10 FCD-PERCENT                 pic x comp-x.
       10 FCD-REC-COUNT-SET redefines FCD-PERCENT  pic x comp-x.
       10 FCD-BLOCK-SIZE              pic x comp-x.
       10 FCD-FLAGS-1                 pic x comp-x.
         78 fcd--mainframe-compat    value h"80".
         78 fcd--ansi-line-adv       value h"40".
         78 fcd--return-key-only     value h"20".
         78 fcd--bypass-esds         value h"10".
         78 fcd--no-xfhname-mapping  value h"08".
         78 fcd--dont-call-xfhtrace  value h"04".
         78 fcd--call-xfhtrace       value h"02".
         78 fcd--fcd-decl            value h"01". *> declaratives exist:
       10 FCD-FLAGS-2                 pic x comp-x.
         78  fcd--convert-dbspace    value h"01".
       10 fcd-mvs-flags               pic x comp-x. *> MVS flag bits
         78  fcd--file-is-syspunch   value h"10".
         78  fcd--file-is-indd       value h"08".
         78  fcd--file-is-outdd      value h"04".
```

```
  78  fcd--amode-31bit        value h"02".
  78  fcd--amode-24bit        value h"01".
  78  fcd--amode-bits value fcd--amode-31bit + fcd--amode-24bit.
10 FCD-STATUS-TYPE              pic x comp-x.
  78 fcd--ans85-status         value h"80".
  78 fcd--no-space-fill        value h"40".
  78 fcd--no-strip-spaces      value h"20".
  78 fcd--no-expand-tabs       value h"10".
  78 fcd--rec-term-bit         value h"08".
  78 fcd--insert-tabs          value h"04".
  78 fcd--insert-nulls         value h"02".
  78 fcd--cr-delimiter         value h"01".
  78 fcd--modify-writes   value fcd--insert-tabs + fcd--insert-nulls.
10 FCD-OTHER-FLAGS              pic x comp-x.
  78 fcd--optional-file        value h"80".
  78 fcd--nodetectlock-input   value h"40".
  78 fcd--not-optional         value h"20".
  78 fcd--external-name        value h"10".
  78 fcd--get-info             value h"08".
  78 fcd--nodetectlock         value h"04".
  78 fcd--multiple-reel        value h"02".
  78 fcd--line-advancing       value h"01".
  78 fcd--special-sequential
      value fcd--optional-file + fcd--multiple-reel + fcd--line-advancing.
10 FCD-TRANS-LOG                pic x comp-x.
  78 fcd--open-input-shared    value h"80".
  78 fcd--allow-input-locks    value h"40".
  78 fcd--no-read-sema         value h"20".
  78 fcd--expand-positioning-bit value h"10".
  78 fcd--no-seq-check         value h"08".
  78 fcd--dat-term-bit         value h"04".
  78 fcd--slow-read            value h"02".
  78 fcd--suppress-adv         value h"01".
10 FCD-LOCKTYPES                pic x comp-x.
  78 fcd--interlang-locking    value h"80".
  78 fcd--allow-readers        value h"40".
  78 fcd--separate-lock-file   value h"20".
  78 fcd--single-open          value h"10".
  78 fcd--nfs-file-lock        value h"08".
  78 fcd--nfs-file-lock-hp     value h"04".
  78 fcd--nfs-file-locks value fcd--nfs-file-lock + fcd--nfs-file-lock-hp.
```

```
      10 FCD-FS-FLAGS                pic x comp-x.
        78 fcd--transaction-processing-bit value h"80".
        78 fcd--recovery-run-b       value h"04".
        78 fcd--fs-server-bit        value h"02".
      10 FCD-CONFIG-FLAGS             pic x comp-x.
        78 fcd--writethru-bit        value h"80".
        78 fcd--relative-bit         value h"40".
        78 fcd--set-crp-bit          value h"20".
        78 fcd--bigfile-bit          value h"10".
*>      78 fcd--return-percent       value h"08".
*>      78 fcd--dont-call-xfhconv    value h"04".
        78 fcd--call-cobfstatconv    value h"02".
        78 fcd--ignorelock-bit       value h"01".
      10 FCD-MISC-FLAGS               pic x comp-x.
        78 fcd--mainframe-hostfd     value h"80".
        78 fcd--set-idxdatbuf        value h"40".
        78 fcd--load-onto-heap       value h"20".
        78 fcd--usage-unknown        value h"10".
        78 fcd--recmode-s            value h"08".
        78 fcd--recmode-u            value h"04".
        78 fcd--external-fcd         value h"02".
        78 fcd--closed-with-lock     value h"01".
      10 FCD-CONFIG-FLAGS2            pic x comp-x.
        78 fcd--file-is-ebcdic       value h"80".
        78 fcd--file-has-write-after value h"40".
        78 fcd--file-has-write-before value h"20".
        78 fcd--file-has-adv-specified value h"10".
        78 fcd--no-min-len-check     value h"08".
        78 fcd--no-key-check         value h"04".
        78 fcd--convert-to-ascii     value h"02".
        78 fcd--rm-behaviour         value h"01".
        78 fcd--file-has-before-or-after
            value fcd--file-has-write-before + fcd--file-has-write-after.
      10 FCD-LOCK-MODE                pic x comp-x.
        78 fcd--multilock-bit        value h"80".
        78 fcd--writelock-bit        value h"40".
        78 fcd--retry-open-bit       value h"20".
        78 fcd--skip-lock-bit        value h"10".
        78 fcd--retry-lock-bit       value h"08".
        78 fcd--manual-lock-bit      value h"04".
        78 fcd--auto-lock-bit        value h"02".
```

```
  78 fcd--exclusive-bit        value h"01".
  78 fcd--sharing-bits value fcd--manual-lock-bit + fcd--auto-lock-bit.
10 FCD-SHR2                     pic x comp-x.
  78 fcd--file-max-bit         value h"08".
  78 fcd--file-pointer-bit     value h"04".
  78 fcd--retry-time-bit       value h"02".
  78 fcd--start-unlock         value h"01".
10 FCD-IDXCACHE-BUFFS    pic x comp-x.
10 FCD-INTERNAL-FLAGS-1  pic x comp-x.
10 FCD-INTERNAL-FLAGS-2  pic x comp-x.
10                       pic x comp-x occurs 15.
10 FCD-NLS-ID            pic xx comp-x.   *>   NLS id (else 0)
10 FCD-FS-FILE-ID        pic xx comp-x.
10 fcd-retry-open-count  pic xx comp-x.
10 FCD-NAME-LENGTH       pic xx comp-x.
10 fcd-idxname-length    pic xx comp-x.
10 fcd-retry-count       pic xx comp-x.
*> Indexed key identifier for random READ
10 FCD-KEY-ID            pic xx comp-x.
10 FCD-LINE-COUNT        pic xx comp-x. *> Line count (seq files)
10 FCD-USE-FILES         pic x  comp-x.
10 FCD-GIVE-FILES        pic x  comp-x.
10 FCD-KEY-LENGTH        pic xx comp-x. *> Effective key length
                                        *>  (START KEY LENGTH IS n)
10                       pic x comp-x occurs 20.
10 FCD-CURRENT-REC-LEN   pic x(4) comp-x. *> Current record length
10 FCD-MIN-REC-LENGTH    pic x(4) comp-x. *> Minimum record length
10 FCD-MAX-REC-LENGTH    pic x(4) comp-x. *> Max record length
10 FCD-SESSION-ID        pic x(4) comp-x.
10                       pic x comp-x occurs 24.
10 FCD-RELADDR-OFFSET    pic x(8) comp-x.
10 FCD-RELADDR           redefines FCD-RELADDR-OFFSET pic x(8) comp-x.
10 FCD-RELADDR-BIG       redefines FCD-RELADDR-OFFSET pic x(8) comp-x.
10 FCD-MAX-REL-KEY       pic x(8) comp-x.
10 FCD-RELATIVE-KEY      pic x(8) comp-x.
10 FCD-PTR-FILLER1       pic x(8) comp-x.
10 FCD-HANDLE            redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER1 usage pointer.
10 FCD-HANDLE-NUM        redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER1 pic x(4) comp-x.
10 FCD-PTR-FILLER2       pic x(8) comp-x.   *> Pointer to record area
10 FCD-RECORD-ADDRESS    redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER2 usage pointer.
10 FCD-PTR-FILLER3       pic x(8) comp-x.   *> Pointer to file name
```

```
      10 FCD-FILENAME-ADDRESS  redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER3 usage pointer.
      *> Pointer to index name (applies only if separate index file exists)
      10 FCD-PTR-FILLER4       pic x(8) comp-x.
      10 FCD-IDXNAME-ADDRESS   redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER4 usage pointer.
      10 FCD-INDEX-NAME        redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER4 usage pointer.
      10 FCD-PTR-FILLER5       pic x(8) comp-x.   *> Pointer to key def block
      10 FCD-KEY-DEF-ADDRESS   redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER5 usage pointer.
      10 FCD-PTR-FILLER6       pic x(8) comp-x.   *> Pointer to collating seq
      10 FCD-COL-SEQ-ADDRESS   redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER6 usage pointer.
      10 FCD-PTR-FILLER7       pic x(8) comp-x.   *> Pointer to using list
      10 FCD-FILDEF-ADDRESS    redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER7 usage pointer.
      10 FCD-PTR-FILLER8       pic x(8) comp-x.
      10 FCD-DFSORT-ADDRESS    redefines FCD-PTR-FILLER8 usage pointer.

  01  FILE-NAME                      PIC X(64).
  01  RECORD-AREA.
      05  PRIME-KEY                  PIC X(25).
      05  DATA-AREA                  PIC X(10).
  01  RECORD-AREA2.
      05  PRIME-KEY2                 PIC X(25).
      05  DATA-AREA2                 PIC X(10).

  01 KEY-DEF-BLOCK.
     47 GLOBAL-INFORMATION-AREA.
        49 LENGTH-OF-KEY-DEF-AREA      pic 9(04) comp-x.
        49 key-version                 pic 9(02) comp-x value 2.
        49 filler                      pic 9(06) comp-x. *> reserved
        49 NUMBER-OF-KEYS              pic 9(04) comp-x.
        49 filler                      pic 9(13) comp-x. *> reserved
*> key-def-area is repeated for the n.of keys defined by NUMBER-OF-KEYS
     47 KEY-DEF-AREA.
        49 component-count             pic 9(4) comp-x.
*> The offset for the component-specification for this key
        49 component-defs              pic 9(4) comp-x.
        49 key-flags                   pic 9(2) comp-x.
           78 KEY2KEYFLAG-DUPS-IN-ORDER    value h"40".
           78 KEY2KEYFLAG-PRIME            value h"10".
           78 KEY2KEYFLAG-SPARSE-KEY       value h"02".
        49 key-compression pic 9(2) comp-x.
           78 KEY2COMPRESS-TRAILING-NULLS  value h"08".
           78 KEY2COMPRESS-TRAILING-SPACES value h"04".
```

```
           78 KEY2COMPRESS-IDENTICAL-CHARS value h"02".
           78 KEY2COMPRESS-FOLLOWING-DUP   value h"01".
           78 KEY2COMPRESS-NO-COMPRESSION  value h"00".
           78 KEY2COMPRESS-DEFAULT value KEY2COMPRESS-NO-COMPRESSION.
        49 sparse-characters           pic x(2).
        49 filler                      pic x(8). *> reserved
*> component-specifications for all keys follows after the key definition area
*> for all the keys.
     47 COMPONENT-DEF-AREA.
        49 component-flags             pic 9(2) comp-x.
        49 component-type              pic 9(2) comp-x.
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-NUMERIC          value h"80".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-SIGNED           value h"40".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-COMP             value h"20".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-COMP-3           value h"21".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-COMP-X           value h"22".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-COMP-5           value h"23".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-FLOAT            value h"24".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-COMP-6           value h"25".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-DISPLAY          value h"00".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-SIGN-TRAIL-INCL value h"00".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-SIGN-TRAIL-SEP  value h"01".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-SIGN-LEAD-INCL  value h"02".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-SIGN-LEAD-SEP   value h"03".
           78 KEY2PARTTYP-SIGN-LEAD-FLOAT value h"04".
        49 component-offset            pic 9(9) comp-x.
        49 component-length            pic 9(9) comp-x.

  01  OP-N                 PIC X COMP-X.
  01  OP-X REDEFINES OP-N  PIC X.

  PROCEDURE DIVISION.
      PERFORM 1000-OPEN-FILE.
      INITIALIZE RECORD-AREA.
      MOVE 'RECORD-003KKKKKKKKKKKKKK' TO PRIME-KEY.
      PERFORM 2000-READ-RECORD.
      DISPLAY 'AFTER RANDOM READ ------> ' RECORD-AREA '<' DISPLAY SPACE
      PERFORM 3000-REWRITE-RECORD.
      PERFORM 2000-READ-RECORD.
      DISPLAY 'READ AFTER REWRITE -----> ' RECORD-AREA '<' DISPLAY SPACE
      PERFORM 5000-CLOSE-FILE.
```

```
    PERFORM 1000-OPEN-FILE.
    PERFORM 6000-START.
    PERFORM 7000-READ-PREVIOUS.
    DISPLAY 'AFTER 1ST READ PREVIOUS -> ' RECORD-AREA2 '<' DISPLAY SPACE
    PERFORM 7000-READ-PREVIOUS.
    DISPLAY 'AFTER 2ND READ PREVIOUS -> ' RECORD-AREA2 '<' DISPLAY SPACE
    PERFORM 5000-CLOSE-FILE.
    STOP RUN.

1000-Open-File.
    MOVE 'FILE01EXTFH'          TO FILE-NAME
    MOVE STANDARD-TYPE          TO wOperationType
    MOVE OPEN-I-O               TO wOperationCode
    MOVE LOW-VALUES             TO FCD-AREA
    MOVE LENGTH OF FCD-AREA     TO FCD-LENGTH
    MOVE LENGTH OF FILE-NAME    TO FCD-NAME-LENGTH
    MOVE fcd--version-number    TO FCD-VERSION
    SET  FCD-FILENAME-ADDRESS   TO ADDRESS OF FILE-NAME
    SET  FCD-RECORD-ADDRESS     TO ADDRESS OF RECORD-AREA
    SET  FCD-KEY-DEF-ADDRESS    TO ADDRESS OF KEY-DEF-AREA
    MOVE fcd--exclusive-bit     TO FCD-LOCK-MODE
    MOVE fcd--format-cobol2     TO FCD-FILE-FORMAT
    MOVE fcd--indexed-org       TO FCD-ORGANIZATION
    MOVE fcd--dynamic-access    TO FCD-ACCESS-MODE
    MOVE fcd--recmode-fixed     TO FCD-RECORDING-MODE
    MOVE LENGTH OF RECORD-AREA  TO FCD-MIN-REC-LENGTH
    MOVE LENGTH OF RECORD-AREA  TO FCD-MAX-REC-LENGTH
    MOVE LENGTH OF RECORD-AREA  TO FCD-CURRENT-REC-LEN
    move fcd--open-closed       TO FCD-OPEN-MODE
    MOVE 16                     TO FCD-FS-FLAGS
    MOVE 1                      TO NUMBER-OF-KEYS
    MOVE LENGTH OF PRIME-KEY    TO COMPONENT-LENGTH
    display "01--- OPEN I-O"
    PERFORM 9000-CALL-EXTFH.
2000-Read-Record.
    INITIALIZE RECORD-AREA.
    MOVE 'RECORD-003KKKKKKKKKKKKKK' TO PRIME-KEY.
    MOVE READ-RANDOM-LOCK     TO wOperationCode.
    SET FCD-RECORD-ADDRESS    TO ADDRESS OF RECORD-AREA.
    display "02--- READ"
```

```
    PERFORM 9000-CALL-EXTFH.
3000-Rewrite-Record.
    MOVE REWRITE-RECORD        TO wOperationCode.
    MOVE '1234567890' TO DATA-AREA.
    display "03--- REWRITE"
    PERFORM 9000-CALL-EXTFH.
5000-Close-File.
    MOVE CLOSE-FILE            TO wOperationCode.
    display "04--- CLOSE"
    PERFORM 9000-CALL-EXTFH.
6000-Start.
    SET FCD-RECORD-ADDRESS     TO ADDRESS OF RECORD-AREA.
    MOVE 25                    TO FCD-KEY-LENGTH.
    MOVE HIGH-VALUES           TO PRIME-KEY.
    MOVE START-LESS            TO wOperationCode.
    display "05--- START"
    PERFORM 9000-CALL-EXTFH.
7000-Read-Previous.
    MOVE READ-PREVIOUS  TO wOperationCode.
    INITIALIZE RECORD-AREA2.
    SET FCD-RECORD-ADDRESS     TO ADDRESS OF RECORD-AREA2.
    display "06--- READ PREVIOUS"
    PERFORM 9000-CALL-EXTFH.
9000-CALL-EXTFH.
    move '99' to FCD-FILE-STATUS
    display 'BEFORE OpCode: ' FUNCTION HEX-OF(OperationCode)
    perform 9900-Display
    CALL 'EXTFH' USING OperationCode FCD-AREA
    display 'AFTER OpCode : ' FUNCTION HEX-OF(OperationCode)
    perform 9900-Display
    accept omitted
    IF FCD-FILE-STATUS NOT = '00'
        MOVE wOperationCode TO OP-X
        IF FCD-STATUS-KEY-1 = '9'
            DISPLAY 'FILE ERROR, STATUS: 9/' FCD-BINARY '
                      wOperationCode: ' OP-N
        ELSE
            DISPLAY 'FILE ERROR, STATUS:   ' FCD-FILE-STATUS '
                                             wOperationCode: ' OP-N
        END-IF
        STOP RUN
```

```
    END-IF.
9900-Display.
    display 'FILE-STATUS  : ' FCD-FILE-STATUS
    if wOperationCode NOT = READ-PREVIOUS
          display 'RECORD-AREA  : '  RECORD-AREA
    else  display 'RECORD-AREA2 : '  RECORD-AREA2
    end-if
    display 'KEY-DEF-AREA :' display FUNCTION HEX-OF(KEY-DEF-AREA)
    continue.
END PROGRAM EXTFH02B.
```

RELATIVE BYTE ADDRESSING

When you read or write a record, you obtain its relative byte address. Using this address, you can re-read, re-write or delete the record without using keys and indexes.

This is a fast method of accessing records, but has limitations :

- A normal relative byte address operation does not affect the current record pointer. Therefore, a READ (sequential) after a relative byte addressing operation returns the record after the last one accessed using normal access methods. It does not return the record after the one you accessed using relative byte addressing.

- It is possible, however, to update the file position indicator so it points to the record you accessed using relative byte addressing. A subsequent READ returns you to the record after the one you accessed using the relative byte address operation.

- To update the file position indicator, you should set Bit 5 of the configuration flags (offset 93) in the FCD before calling the Callable File Handler to perform the relative byte address operation.

- Relative byte operations update the index when a record is re-written or deleted.

- If the record has been deleted since the relative byte address for it was obtained, a read or write using its relative byte address usually fails.

- However, you should be aware that it is possible for the record to have been replaced by a different record.

Record locking is supported by relative byte addressing.

The relative byte address of a record is returned in offset 72 of the FCD (or offset 13, if bit 4 of offset 93 is set) on all operations that involve specific records.

To use this address, simply save the contents of this field after a READ operation. Note that if the operation is unsuccessful, the value in the relative byte address is undefined.

Once you have obtained the relative byte address of a record, you can perform a number of operations. These are outlined in the following sections.

You can read a specific record from a file in two ways using the relative address:

Put the relative address in the relative byte address field of the FCD and set bit 6 of the configuration flags in the FCD (offset 93).

If you want to update the file position indicator to this record, set bit 5 of the configuration flags (offset 93).

Perform a READ (random) WITH NO LOCK, READ (random) WITH LOCK, READ (random) WITH KEPT LOCK or READ (random) operation on the file.

The READ (direct) operations work the same as described above, but do not require certain bits in the FCD to be set.

The READ (direct) operations always return the record at the address given in the relative byte address field of the FCD and update the file position indicator.

Both of the above methods provide a way of switching the current key-of-reference to a different key. For example, if READ (sequential) operations are performed via the primary key, you can start reading via the first alternate key from the current record using the following steps:

a. Read the next record in the file (the address of this record is in the FCD relative byte address field).

b. Put the new key-of-reference in the key-of-reference field in the FCD (offset 52).

c. Perform a READ (direct) operation to return the record at this address. The key-of-reference is changed to the new one.

d. Read the next record in the file. This is the next record in the new key-of-reference index.

You can re-write a record to a specific address by specifying that address in the relative byte address field of the FCD and setting bit 6 of the configuration flags in the FCD (offset 93). If you want to update the file position indicator, set bit 5 of the configuration flags in the FCD (offset 93). You can delete a record at a specific address by specifying that address in the relative byte address field of the FCD and setting bit 6 of the configuration flags in the FCD (offset 93).

CREATING A NEW INDEX

That enables you to recreate an index file using only the information in the data file. To recreate an index file, your program must:

a. Open the file using the open-new-index operation code.

b. Read records from the file using the get-next-rec operation code.

c. Create an index from each separate record, using the add-index operation code.

```
GnuCOBOL Example:
78 open-new-index         value x"0007".
78 get-next-rec           value x"0008".
78 add-key-value          value x"0009".
78 close-file             value x"fa80".
      ...
  move open-new-index to opcode
  perform EXTFH-op
  move get-next-rec   to opcode
  perform EXTFH-op
  perform until fcd-status(1:1) not = "0"
     perform varying fcd-key-id from 0 by 1 until fcd-key-id = key-count
             or fcd-status(1:1) not = "0"
         move add-key-value to opcode
         perform EXTFH-op
     end-perform
     move get-next-rec to opcode
     perform EXTFH-op
  end-perform
  move close-file to opcode
  perform EXTFH-op
       ...

EXTFH-op.
  call "EXTFH" using opcode, fcd
  if fcd-status of fcd (1:1)  "1"
      move 1 to return-code
  end-if.
```

ACCESSING A COMPILER GENERATED FCD

When normal I/O operations (OPEN, READ ...) in a GnuCOBOL program, an FCD is created for each file.

To access this FCD, set up a FCD definition in the Linkage Section of your program. An example FCD COBOL definition is supplied in a file called xfhfcd3.cpy.

This definition (that takes up no physical memory) can then be mapped onto the FCD you want to read or alter using the following SET statement in your program:

```
SET ADDRESS OF fcd TO ADDRESS OF fh--fcd OF namefile
```

where the parameters are:

fcd The name of the FCD definition in the Linkage Section of your program;

fh–fcd OF namefile (note the double hyphen). The pointer special register automatically allocated to the file with FD-name: namefile.

Following this SET operation, the data items defined in the Linkage Section group item fcd become the fields of the FCD of the file referenced in the SET statement.

Similarly, you can access the Key Definition Block by:

```
SET ADDRESS OF kda TO ADDRESS OF fh--keydef OF namefile
```

where the parameters are:

kda the name of the key definition Block in the Linkage Section of your program;

fh–keydef of indexedfile the pointer special register automatically allocated to the file with FD-name indexfile to point to its Key Definition Block.

TURN ON KEY COMPRESSION IN A FILE

Following sample program turns on key compression in a file by setting bits in the file's Key Definition Block.

```
    select MASTERFILE
        assign to ...
        organization is indexed
        record key is M-RecKey
        alternate key is M-AltKey1 with duplicates
        alternate key is M-AltKey2
        alternate key is M-AltKey3 with duplicates.
     select INDEXEDFILE
        assign to ...
        organization is indexed
        record key is I-RecKey
        alternate key is I-AltKey1 with duplicates.
    ...
    ...
 LINKAGE SECTION.
 01 KeyDefinitionBlock.
     03 filler              pic x(6).
     03 KeyCount            pic 9(4) comp-x.
     03 filler              pic x(6).
     03 KeyDefinition       occurs 1 to 4 times depending on KeyCount.
         05 filler          pic x(5).
         05 KeyCompression  pic 9(2) comp-x.
         05 filler          pic x(10).
```

```
   ...

 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
*>
*> set appropriate key compressions:
*>          +-- trailing space compression
*>          |+-- leading character compression
*>          ||+-- duplicate key compression
*>          |||
*> 7 = 00000111 - all compressions
*> 6 = 00000110 - leading character & trailing space
*> 2 = 00000010 - leading character compression
*> 1 = 00000001 - duplicate key compression

  set address of KeyDefinitionBlock to address of fh--keydef of MASTERFILE
  move 4 to KeyCount
  move 6 to KeyCompression(1)
  move 7 to KeyCompression(2)
  move 6 to KeyCompression(3)
  move 7 to KeyCompression(4)
  open I-O MASTERFILE
  . . .
  set address of KeyDefinitionBlock to address of fh--keydef of INDEXEDFILE
  move 2 to KeyCount
  move 4 to KeyCompression(1)
  move 1 to KeyCompression(2)
  open input INDEXEDFILE
```

See the file NEWS for other details as implementation may varies between compiler versions.

9.2.63 SYSTEM

SYSTEM Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL "SYSTEM" USING command
 ~~~~          ~~~~~
```

==========

This subroutine submits <command> (an alphanumeric literal or data item) to a command shell for execution as if it were typed into a console/terminal window.

A shell will be opened subordinate to the GnuCOBOL program issuing the call to `SYSTEM`.

Output from the command (if any) will appear in the command window in which the GnuCOBOL program was executed.

On a Unix system, the shell environment will be established using the default shell program. This is also true when using a GnuCOBOL build created with and for OSX or the Cygwin Unix emulator.

With native Windows Windows/MinGW builds, the shell environment will be the Windows console window command processor (usually `cmd.exe`) appropriate for the version of Windows you're using.

To trap output from the executed command and process it within the GnuCOBOL program, use a redirection ('>') to send the command output to a temporary file which you read from within the program once control returns.

The exit status of the executed command will be available in the `RETURN-CODE` special-register.

9.2.64 X"91"

X"91" Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL X"91" USING return-code, function-code, binary-variable-arg
~~~~       ~~~~~
```

==========

The original Micro Focus version of this routine is capable of providing a wide variety of functions. GnuCOBOL supports just three of them namely 11, 12 and 16, but maybe more on the way subject to version of compiler (see file NEWS):

- 11 Sets and/or clears all eight of the COBOL switches (`SWITCH-1` through `SWITCH-8`). See SPECIAL-NAMES, for an explanation of those switches. Also referred to as programmable 0 - 7.

  The <variable-arg> argument should be an `OCCURS 8 TIMES` table of `USAGE BINARY-CHAR` or `USAGE COMP-X`.

  Each occurrence that is set to a value of zero prior to the `CALL X"91"` will cause the corresponding switch to be cleared. Each occurrence set to 1 prior to the `CALL X"91"` will cause the corresponding switch to be set.

  Values other than 0 or 1 will be ignored.

  ```
  Syntax:
  FN-Status          set to 0 if the function is successful, else 1.
  X91-function       set to 11.
  ```

```
Group-item         group-item with -
Switch-flags       values ( 0 or 1 ) for each of the 8 switches.

Parameters:
01  FN-Return-Code   pic x comp-x.
01  x91-function     pic x comp-x.
01  Group-item.
01  Switch-Flags     pic x comp-x occurs 8

Code example:
77 fn-Return-Code pic x comp-x.
77 x91-function   pic x comp-x value 11.
01 Group-item.
05 switch-flags   pic x comp-x occurs 8.
...
move 1 to switch-flags(1).
call x"91" using fn-Return-Code, x91-Function, Group-item
...
```

- 12 Reads all eight of the COBOL switches (`SWITCH-1` through `SWITCH-8`) and debug switches as prorammable 0 - 7.

  The <variable-arg> argument should be an `OCCURS 8 TIMES` table of `USAGE BINARY-CHAR` or `USAGE COMP-X`.

  Each of the 1st eight occurrences of the array will be set to either 0 or 1 — 1 if the corresponding switch is set, 0 otherwise.

```
Syntax:
FN-Status          set to 0 if the function is successful, else 1.
X91-function       set to 12.
Group-item         group-item to receive -
Switch-flags       value of each of the switches set.

Parameters:
01  FN-Return-Code   pic x comp-x.
01  x91-function     pic x comp-x.
01  Group-item.
01  Switch-Flags     pic x comp-x occurs 8

Code example:
...
```

```
special-names.
switch 1 is switch-1.
...

77 fn-Return-Code pic x comp-x.
77 x91-function   pic x comp-x value 12.
01 group-item.
05 switch-flags   pic x comp-x occurs 8.
...
set switch-1 to on
call x"91" using fn-Return-Code, x91-function, Group-item.
...
```

- 16 Retrieves the number of arguments passed to the program executing the `CALL X"91"`, saving that number into the <variable-arg> argument. That should be a binary numeric data item (`USAGE BINARY-CHAR` or `USAGE COMP-X` is recommended).

```
Usage:
call x"91" using fn-status, x91-function, num-params.

Parameters:
01  Fn-status        pic x comp-x
01  x91-function     pic x comp-x
01  num-params       pic x comp-x

Syntax:
Fn-status       Set to 0 if the function is successful, else 1.
X91-function    Set to 16.
num-params      Receives the number of parameters on the Procedure Division USING /
CHAINING statement.
```

The <return-code> argument must be a one-byte binary numeric data item (`USAGE BINARY-CHAR` is recommended). It will receive a value of 0 if the operation was successful, 1 otherwise.

The <function-code> argument must be either a numeric literal or a one-byte binary numeric data item (`USAGE BINARY-CHAR` is recommended).

The third argument — <variable-arg> — is defined differently depending upon the <function-code> value, but are not implemented and are as follows:

13 + 14

Allow access to runtime switches 1 - 26 as A-Z. In case of A.N.T: set related runtime setting. Option 13 read them and option 14 sets them.

15

Prepare for program lookup. Checks to see if a program exists. You pass the program name and its length in parameter. When routine exits, result is zero if found and non-zero if not. Parameter is a group item consisting of two data items: a PIC X COMP-X specifyinh length in bytes of data item containing the file name and PIC X data item of varaiable length containing the file name.

35

Prepare for DOS EXEC call.

46-49

Prepare for file specific settings LS_NULLS/LS_TABS.

69

Prepare for directory search.

9.2.65 X"E4"

X"E4" Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL X"E4"
~~~~
```

==========

Use `X"E4"` to clear the screen. There are no arguments and no returned value.

9.2.66 X"E5"

X"E5" Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
CALL X"E5"
~~~~
```

==========

The `X"E5"` routine will sound the PC “bell”. There are no arguments and no returned value. Works the same as function CBL_ALARM_SOUND and CBL_BELL_SOUND.

9.2.67 X"F4"

X"F4" Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL X"F4" USING byte, table
 ~~~~       ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine packs the low-order (rightmost) bit from each of the eight 1-byte items in <table> into the corresponding bit positions of the single-byte data item <byte>.

The <byte> data item need be only a single byte in size. If it is longer, the excess will be unaffected by this subroutine.

The <table> data item must be at least 8 bytes long. If it is longer, the excess will be ignored by this subroutine.

Typically, table is defined similarly to the following:

```
01  Table-Arg.
    05 Each-Byte OCCURS 8 TIMES USAGE BINARY-CHAR.
```

9.2.68 X"F5"

X"F5" Built-In Subroutine Syntax

==========

```
 CALL X"F5" USING byte, table
 ~~~~       ~~~~~
```

==========

This routine unpacks each bit of the single-byte data item <byte> into the low-order (rightmost) bit of each of the corresponding eight 1-byte items in <table>. The other seven bit positions of each of the first eight entries in <table> will be set to zero.

The <byte> data item need be only a single byte in size. If it is longer, the excess will be unaffected by this subroutine.

The <table> data item must be at least 8 bytes long. If it is longer, the excess will be ignored by this subroutine.

Typically, table is defined similarly to the following:

```
01  Table-Arg.
    05 Each-Byte OCCURS 8 TIMES USAGE BINARY-CHAR.
```

10 Report Writer Usage

10.1 RWCS Lexicon

There are a number of terms that describe various aspects of the operation of the Report Writer Control System (RWCS). Understanding the meanings of these terms is vital to developing an understanding of the subject.

Control Break

An event that is triggered when a control field on an RWCS-generated report changes value. It is these events that trigger the generation of control heading and control footing groups.

Control Field

A field of data being presented within a detail group; as the various detail groups that comprise the report are presented, they are presumed to appear in sorted sequence of the control fields contained within them. As an example, a department-by-department sales report for a chain of stores would probably be sorted by store number and – within like store numbers – be further sorted by department number. The store number will undoubtedly serve as a control field for the report, allowing control heading groups to be presented before each sequence of detail groups for the same store and control footing groups to be presented after each such sequence.

Control Footing

A report group that appears immediately after one or more detail groups of an RWCS-generated report. Such are produced automatically as a result of a control break. This type of group typically serves as a summary of the detail group(s) that precede it, as might be the case on a sales report for a chain of stores, where the detail groups documenting sales for each department (one department per detail group) from the same store might be followed by a control footing that provides a summation of the department-by-department sales for that store.

Control Heading

A report group that appears immediately before one or more detail groups of an RWCS-generated report. Such are produced automatically as a result of a control break. This type of group typically serves as an introduction to the detail group(s) that follow, as might be the case on a sales report for a chain of stores, where the detail groups documenting sales for each department (one department per detail group) from the same store might be preceded by a control heading that states the full name and location of the store.

Detail Group

A report group that contains the detailed data being presented for the report.

Page Footing

A report group that appears at the bottom of every page of an RWCS-generated report. Information typically found within such a report group might be:

- The date the report was generated
- The current page number of the report

Page Heading

A report group that appears at the top of every page of an RWCS-generated report. Information typically found within such a report group might be:

- A title for the report
- The date the report was generated
- The current page number of the report
- Column headings describing the fields within the detail group(s)

Report Footing

A report group that occurs only once in an RWCS-generated report — as the very last presented report group of the report. These typically serve as a visual indication that the report is finished.

Report Group

One or more consecutive lines on a report that serve a common informational purpose or function. For example, lines of text that are displayed at the top or bottom of every printed page of a report.

Report Heading

A report group that occurs only once in an RWCS-generated report — as the very first presented report group of the report. These typically serve as an introduction to the report.

10.2 The Anatomy of a Report

Every report has the same basic structure, as shown here, even though not all reports will have all of the groups shown. In fact, it is a very unusual report indeed that actually has every one of these groups:

- REPORT HEADING
- PAGE HEADING [1]
- CONTROL HEADING(S) [2]

- DETAIL GROUP(S) [2]
- CONTROL FOOTING(S) [2]
- FINAL CONTROL FOOTING
- PAGE FOOTING [1]
- REPORT FOOTING

[1] Presented throughout the report, as needed

[2] Repeated, as needed

These groups will be presented (printed) across however many formatted pages are necessary to hold them. No single report group will be allowed to cross page boundaries.

The management of paging, enforcement of the *groups cannot span pages* rule and almost every aspect of report generation are handled entirely by the Report Writer Control System.

10.3 The Anatomy of a Report Page

Each page of a report is divided into as many as five (5) areas, as shown in the following diagram.

```
_____________________________________
| |
| Top-of-page Unusable Area |—# Lines: LINES AT TOP (LINAGE)
|_____________________________________|
| |—Line #: HEADING (RD)
| Heading Area |
|_____________________________________|—Line #: FIRST DETAIL (RD) - 1
| |—Line #: FIRST DETAIL (RD)
| |
| Body Area |—Line #: LAST CONTROL HEADING (RD)
| |—Line #: LAST DETAIL (RD)
|_____________________________________|—Line #: FOOTING (RD)
| |—Line #: FOOTING (RD) + 1
| Footing Area |
|_____________________________________|
| |
| Bottom-of-page Unusable Area |—# Lines: LINES AT BOTTOM (LINAGE)
|_____________________________________|
```

When describing a report via the `RD` (see REPORT SECTION) clause, the total number of usable lines are specified as the `PAGE LIMIT` value; this value is the sum of the number of lines contained in the Heading, Body and Footing Areas.

The unusable areas of a page (if any) will appear above and below that usable area. You don't specify the unusable area in the `RD`, but rather using a `LINAGE` (see File/Sort-Description) clause in the `FD` of the file the report is "attached" to.

The various report groups will be presentable in the various areas of a page, as follows:

`REPORT HEADING`
: Heading Area — An exception to this is the situation where the report heading report group contains the `NEXT GROUP NEXT PAGE` (see NEXT GROUP) option; in those cases, the report heading will be presented on a page by itself (anywhere on that page) at the beginning of the report.

`PAGE HEADING`
: Heading Area

`CONTROL HEADING`
: Body Area, but no line of a control heading is allowed past the line number specified by `LAST CONTROL HEADING`

`DETAIL`
: Body Area, but no line of a detail report group is allowed past the line number specified by `LAST DETAIL`

`CONTROL FOOTING`
: Body Area, but no line of a control footing report group is allowed past the line number specified by `FOOTING`

`PAGE FOOTING`
: Footing Area

`REPORT FOOTING`
: Footing Area — An exception to this is the situation where the report footing report group contains the `NEXT PAGE` option in its `LINE` (see LINE) clause; in those cases, the report footing will be presented on a page by itself at the end of the report.

10.4 How RWCS Builds Report Pages

A report created via a `WRITE` statement (see WRITE) will contain carriage-control information. Most notably, ASCII form-feed characters (X'0C') will be written to the report file to support the statement's `ADVANCING PAGE` option. Whether the data for a report line created via `ADVANCING PAGE` occurs *before* or *after* the form-feed character depends upon whether the programmer coded `WRITE record-name BEFORE ADVANCING PAGE` or `WRITE record-name AFTER ADVANCING PAGE`, respectively.

The GnuCOBOL implementation of RWCS does not issue any carriage-control information to the report files it produces — instead, it relies upon the information coded in the `RD` for

the report (specifically the `PAGE LIMITS` and related options) and its internally-generated and managed `LINE-COUNTER` special register (see Special Registers) for the report to know when to issue any blank lines to the file to fill-out the end of a printed page.

Because this is the way the GnuCOBOL RWCS works, in order to design an RWCS-generated report you'll need to know answers to the following questions:

1. What printer(s) will the report be printed on?
2. What paper orientation will you use, — Landscape (long edge of the paper at the top and bottom of page), or Portrait (long edge of the paper at the left and right of page)?
3. What tool will be used to print the report (direct printing to the device, notepad.exe, MS-Word, ...)?
4. What font and font size will be used for the report when it is printed? RWCS-generated reports will assume that a fixed-width font such as "Courier", "Lucida Console", "Consolas" and the like will be used to print, as variable-pitch fonts would make the proper alignment of columns of data on reports virtually impossible.
5. When unprintable area exists at all four margins of the paper? These are generally caused by the printer itself or by its software driver.
6. What is the maximum number of lines per page that may be printed on a single sheet of paper?
7. What is the maximum number of characters that may be printed on one line?

Once you know the answer to questions 1-4, you may easily determine the answers to the remaining questions as follows:

1. Prepare a text file containing 100 or so records, each consisting of a numeric scale (`123456789012345678901234`...).
2. Print the file in a manner consistent with your answers to questions 1-4.
3. Add any necessary additional digits to each record in your test file (if lines weren't full) or remove characters from the end of each record if lines wrapped. If you made changes, reprint the file.
4. Now that you know *exactly* how long each record may be, add additional records and reprint. Continue until printing overflows to a second page.
5. The first page you print is now a perfect template to use when designing reports — it shows, given the answers to questions 1-4, every available printable character position on a page! The number of lines printed on that page becomes your `PAGE LIMIT` value for the `RD`.

The remaining `PAGE LIMIT` values can be established as required by your report(s).

Using <identifier> rather than <integer> specifications in the RD will give your program the ability — at run time — to accommodate multiple printers, fonts, font sizes and paper orientation. Just follow the above steps for each combination you wish your program to support.

10.5 Control Hierarchy

Every report that employs control breaks has a natural hierarchy of those control breaks based upon the manner in which the data the report is being generated from is sorted. This concept is best understood using an example which assumes a COBOL program to process sales data collected from every computerized cash register across a chain of stores having multiple departments is being developed.

The application that collects data from the various cash registers at each store will generate data records that look like this to a COBOL program:

```
01  Sales-For-Register.
    05 Sales-Date            PIC 9(8).
    05 Time-Collected        PIC 9(6).
    05 Register-Number       PIC 9(7).
    05 Store-Number          PIC 9(3).
    05 Department-Number     PIC 9(3).
    05 Total-Sales           PIC 9(6)V99.
```

Your task is to develop a report that shows the sales total from each cash register and summarizes those sales by department within each store, by store and also generates a total sales figure for the day across all stores.

To accomplish this, you will use a SORT statement (see SORT) to sort the file of cash register sales data into:

1. Ascending sequence of store number
2. Within each store, data will be sorted into ascending sequence of department number
3. If there are multiple cash registers in a particular department of a specific store, the data needs to be further sorted so that the cash registers are ordered in sequence of their register number.

So, assuming a sort file has been defined and its record layout (essentially a mirror of the raw data file) is defined as follows:

```
01  Sorted-Sales-For-Register.
    05 Sorted-Sales-Date           PIC 9(8).
    05 Sorted-Time-Collected       PIC 9(6).
    05 Sorted-Register-Number      PIC 9(7).
```

```
    05 Sorted-Store-Number          PIC 9(3).
    05 Sorted-Department-Number     PIC 9(3).
    05 Sorted-Total-Sales           PIC 9(6)V99.
```

Then the `SORT` statement to accomplish the desired sequencing would be:

```
SORT SORT-FILE
    ASCENDING KEY Sorted-Store-Number
                  Sorted-Department-Number
                  Sorted-Register-Number
    USING Input-file
    OUTPUT PROCEDURE 100-Generate-Report
```

As a result of the sort, our program might expect to see data somewhat like this (date, time and sales totals are shown as "..."):

```
   +-------------------- Register Number
   |      +------------- Store Number
   |      |  +---------- Department Number
   |      |  |
...0535240001001...
...0589130001001...
...0625174001001...
...0122234001002...
...0732345001002...
...0003423001003...
...2038774001004...
...0112646002001...
...9963348002002...
...3245677002003...
...4456778002003...
...0002345002004...
```

Because of the sort, the most-frequently changing value of the three sort keys will be that of `Sorted-Register-Number`. This essentially defines the "detail" level of the report.

The next most-frequently changing value is that of `Sorted-Department-Number`, and the least-frequently changing value is that of `Sorted-Store-Number`. remember that the program should be generating totals each time one of these two values change, plus a grand total of sales at the end of the report. These three points are the Control Break points of the report.

When the report is defined, its `RD` would contain a `CONTROLS ARE` clause that lists the control breaks in least- to most-frequent sequence of changing. This would be coded as: `CONTROLS ARE FINAL, Sorted-Store-Number, Sorted-Department-Number`

A `FINAL` control break only occurs once, at the very end of the report. The `CONTROL FOOTING` for this break will be the one that produces the grand total of sales for all stores.

The next break listed on the `CONTROLS` clause will be the one that occurs next most-frequently (`Sorted-Store-Number`). This control break will be the one that produces the summation for each entire store, and will have its own `CONTROL FOOTING`.

The next (and last, in this case) break listed on the `CONTROLS` clause will be the one that occurs even more frequently (`Sorted-Department-Number`). The `CONTROL FOOTING` for this control field will be the one that summarizes sales for each department within a store.

This sequence of control breaks from least- to most-frequent (in other words, in the order they occur on the `CONTROLS ARE` clause) is the '*control hierarchy*' of the report; control breaks that occur more frequently than others are said to be at a lower level in the control hierarchy.

Defining a control hierarchy (via `CONTROLS ARE`) that does not match the actual sequence in which data will be processed is a great way to guarantee a "broken" report. I'll show you an example in a later section.

10.6 An Example

This section contains an example of the RWCS at work. The complete program, presented here, is a stripped-down version of a program I have used to generate a report for a class I teach on PC hardware. This report will provide benchmark statistics on a variety of popular AMD and Intel CPUs. The data for the report was obtained from the website www.cpubenchmark.net in December of 2013. By the time you are reading this, that data will most likely have become rather out of date, but it illustrates RWCS well enough.

10.6.1 Data

Here is the data that the program will be reading. Each record reflects the aggregated benchmark scoring for one particular CPU, as scores for benchmarks against that CPU have been reported to the cpubenchmark.net website by their PassMark benchmark software. The data consists of four fields. Fields are separated from one another by a single comma. The descriptions of the fields are as follows:

Benchmark Score

A five-digit number showing the aggregated benchmark scores for the CPU; the higher this number, the better the CPU performed in benchmark testing.

Vendor

The name of the vendor who makes the CPU. In this data, that will either be “AMD” (American Micro Devices) or “INTEL”.

Family

The 7-character family of CPU products the CPU falls into. This will have values such as “A4”, “A10”, “Core i5”, “Core i7”, etc.

Model

The specific model of CPU within the family.

The first record of data shown below shows that the aggregated score of all benchmarks reported for the AMD A10-4600M CPU is 3145, as compared to the second record which shows that the aggregated score reported of all benchmarks reported for the Intel Core-i7-4960X CPU is 14291.

The following is the complete set of input data used for this example. This is by no means the complete set of data available at cpubenchmark.net — it is just a representative sample used for this example. For my class, I give my students a report showing the results for almost a thousand CPUs.

For the sake of brevity, this document lists the data in three columns.

```
03145,AMD,A10,4600M          05421,AMD,FX,6100           03917,Intel,Core i5,4300U
14291,Intel,Core i7,4960X    05813,AMD,FX,6120           01743,Intel,Core i5,4300Y
02505,AMD,A10,4655M          06194,AMD,FX,6200           04804,Intel,Core i5,4330M
03449,AMD,A10,4657M          06388,AMD,FX,6300           03604,Intel,Core i5,4350U
04251,AMD,A10,5700           07017,AMD,FX,6350           06282,Intel,Core i5,4430
02758,AMD,A10,5745M          06163,AMD,FX,8100           05954,Intel,Core i5,4430S
03332,AMD,A10,5750M          06605,AMD,FX,8120           06517,Intel,Core i5,4440
03253,AMD,A10,5757M          06845,AMD,FX,8140           07061,Intel,Core i5,4570
04798,AMD,A10,5800B          07719,AMD,FX,8150           06474,Intel,Core i5,4570R
04677,AMD,A10,5800K          08131,AMD,FX,8320           06803,Intel,Core i5,4570S
04767,AMD,A10,6700           09067,AMD,FX,8350           02503,Intel,Core i5,4570T
05062,AMD,A10,6800K          09807,AMD,FX,9370           07492,Intel,Core i5,4670
00677,AMD,A4,1200            10479,AMD,FX,9590           07565,Intel,Core i5,4670K
00559,AMD,A4,1250           03076,Intel,Core i3,3110M    06351,Intel,Core i5,4670T
01583,AMD,A4,3300           03301,Intel,Core i3,3120M    03701,Intel,Core i7,3517U
01237,AMD,A4,3300M          03655,Intel,Core i3,3130M    03449,Intel,Core i7,3517UE
01227,AMD,A4,3305M           03820,Intel,Core i3,3210     04588,Intel,Core i7,3520M
01263,AMD,A4,3310MX          02266,Intel,Core i3,3217U    03912,Intel,Core i7,3537U
01193,AMD,A4,3320M           04219,Intel,Core i3,3220     04861,Intel,Core i7,3540M
01343,AMD,A4,3330MX         03724,Intel,Core i3,3220T    04009,Intel,Core i7,3555LE
01625,AMD,A4,3400           04407,Intel,Core i3,3225     06144,Intel,Core i7,3610QE
```

```
01768,AMD,A4,3420          02575,Intel,Core i3,3227U     07532,Intel,Core i7,3610QM
01685,AMD,A4,4300M         01885,Intel,Core i3,3229Y     06988,Intel,Core i7,3612QE
01169,AMD,A4,4355M         04259,Intel,Core i3,3240      06907,Intel,Core i7,3612QM
01919,AMD,A4,5000          03793,Intel,Core i3,3240T     05495,Intel,Core i7,3615QE
01973,AMD,A4,5150M         04414,Intel,Core i3,3245      07310,Intel,Core i7,3615QM
02078,AMD,A4,5300          04757,Intel,Core i3,3250      07759,Intel,Core i7,3630QM
01632,AMD,A4,5300B         03443,Intel,Core i3,4000M     07055,Intel,Core i7,3632QM
02305,AMD,A4,6300          02459,Intel,Core i3,4010U     06516,Intel,Core i7,3635QM
01634,AMD,A6,1450           02003,Intel,Core i3,4010Y     04032,Intel,Core i7,3667U
01964,AMD,A6,3400M          04904,Intel,Core i3,4130      04271,Intel,Core i7,3687U
02101,AMD,A6,3410MX         04041,Intel,Core i3,4130T     03479,Intel,Core i7,3689Y
02078,AMD,A6,3420M         05115,Intel,Core i3,4330      08347,Intel,Core i7,3720QM
02277,AMD,A6,3430MX        05117,Intel,Core i3,4340      08512,Intel,Core i7,3740QM
01995,AMD,A6,3500           03807,Intel,Core i5,3210M      09420,Intel,Core i7,3770
02798,AMD,A6,3600          03995,Intel,Core i5,3230M     09578,Intel,Core i7,3770K
02892,AMD,A6,3620          03126,Intel,Core i5,3317U     09074,Intel,Core i7,3770S
03232,AMD,A6,3650          04101,Intel,Core i5,3320M     08280,Intel,Core i7,3770T
03327,AMD,A6,3670           05902,Intel,Core i5,3330      08995,Intel,Core i7,3820
01630,AMD,A6,4400M         05690,Intel,Core i5,3330S     08548,Intel,Core i7,3820QM
01296,AMD,A6,4455M         05781,Intel,Core i5,3335S     09025,Intel,Core i7,3840QM
02440,AMD,A6,5200          03280,Intel,Core i5,3337U     09196,Intel,Core i7,3920XM
01958,AMD,A6,5350M          02252,Intel,Core i5,3339Y     12107,Intel,Core i7,3930K
01878,AMD,A6,5357M         06282,Intel,Core i5,3340      09052,Intel,Core i7,3940XM
01906,AMD,A6,5400B          04327,Intel,Core i5,3340M     12718,Intel,Core i7,3960X
02174,AMD,A6,5400K          05372,Intel,Core i5,3340S     12823,Intel,Core i7,3970X
02384,AMD,A6,6400K          06199,Intel,Core i5,3350P     03992,Intel,Core i7,4500U
02050,AMD,A8,3500M          04314,Intel,Core i5,3360M     04507,Intel,Core i7,4558U
02426,AMD,A8,3510MX         04555,Intel,Core i5,3380M     04892,Intel,Core i7,4600M
02245,AMD,A8,3520M          03589,Intel,Core i5,3427U     04484,Intel,Core i7,4600U
02276,AMD,A8,3530MX         03479,Intel,Core i5,3437U     03680,Intel,Core i7,4610Y
02866,AMD,A8,3550MX         03057,Intel,Core i5,3439Y     04345,Intel,Core i7,4650U
03215,AMD,A8,3800          06442,Intel,Core i5,3450      07352,Intel,Core i7,4700EQ
03217,AMD,A8,3820          06071,Intel,Core i5,3450S     08161,Intel,Core i7,4700HQ
03552,AMD,A8,3850          06576,Intel,Core i5,3470      07946,Intel,Core i7,4700MQ
03682,AMD,A8,3870K         06077,Intel,Core i5,3470S     08002,Intel,Core i7,4702HQ
02709,AMD,A8,4500M         04591,Intel,Core i5,3470T     07647,Intel,Core i7,4702MQ
02193,AMD,A8,4555M         05991,Intel,Core i5,3475S     08066,Intel,Core i7,4750HQ
04052,AMD,A8,5500           06828,Intel,Core i5,3550      07367,Intel,Core i7,4765T
03464,AMD,A8,5500B          06631,Intel,Core i5,3550S      09969,Intel,Core i7,4770
02434,AMD,A8,5545M          06993,Intel,Core i5,3570      10190,Intel,Core i7,4770K
03052,AMD,A8,5550M          07118,Intel,Core i5,3570K     09803,Intel,Core i7,4770S
```

```
02935,AMD,A8,5557M           06709,Intel,Core i5,3570S     08803,Intel,Core i7,4770T
04348,AMD,A8,5600K           05414,Intel,Core i5,3570T     10078,Intel,Core i7,4771
04390,AMD,A8,6500           04333,Intel,Core i5,4200M     08567,Intel,Core i7,4800MQ
04719,AMD,A8,6600K           03355,Intel,Core i5,4200U     09969,Intel,Core i7,4820K
04055,AMD,FX,4100           02358,Intel,Core i5,4200Y     09331,Intel,Core i7,4850HQ
04153,AMD,FX,4130           02382,Intel,Core i5,4210Y     09323,Intel,Core i7,4900MQ
04094,AMD,FX,4150           03482,Intel,Core i5,4250U     13620,Intel,Core i7,4930K
04774,AMD,FX,4170           04381,Intel,Core i5,4258U     09754,Intel,Core i7,4930MX
04711,AMD,FX,4300           04663,Intel,Core i5,4288U     10262,Intel,Core i7,4960HQ
05247,AMD,FX,4350             04786,Intel,Core i5,4300M
```

10.6.2 Program

Here is the program that will be producing the report. Pay attention to how the data is sorted and how the control hierarchy (`CONTROLS ARE`) relates to the `SORT`.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DEMORWCS.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
REPOSITORY. FUNCTION ALL INTRINSIC.
INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
FILE-CONTROL.
    SELECT CPU-FILE             ASSIGN TO "CPUDATA.txt"
                                LINE SEQUENTIAL.
    SELECT REPORT-FILE          ASSIGN TO "CPUREPORT.txt"
                                LINE SEQUENTIAL.
    SELECT SORT-FILE            ASSIGN TO DISK.
DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
FD  CPU-FILE.
01  CPU-REC                    PIC X(26).

FD  REPORT-FILE
    REPORT IS CPU-Report.

SD  SORT-FILE.
01  SORT-REC.
    05 F-SR-Score-NUM          PIC 9(5).
    05 F-SR-Vendor-TXT         PIC X(5).
    05 F-SR-Family-TXT         PIC X(7).
    05 F-SR-Model-TXT          PIC X(6).
```

```
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  WS-Date                    PIC 9(8).

01  WS-Family-Counters.
    05 WS-FC-AVE               PIC 9(5)V99.
    05 WS-FC-Qty               BINARY-LONG.
    05 WS-FC-Total-NUM         BINARY-LONG.

01  WS-Flags.
    05 WS-F-EOF                PIC X(1).

01  WS-One-Const               PIC 9 VALUE 1.

01  WS-Overall-Counters.
    05 WS-OC-AVE               PIC 9(5)V99.
    05 WS-OC-Qty               BINARY-LONG.
    05 WS-OC-Total-NUM         BINARY-LONG.

01  WS-Starz                   PIC X(44) VALUE ALL '*'.

01  WS-Vendor-Counters.
    05 WS-VC-AVE               PIC 9(5)V99.
    05 WS-VC-Qty               BINARY-LONG.
    05 WS-VC-Total-NUM         BINARY-LONG.

REPORT SECTION.
RD  CPU-Report
    CONTROLS ARE FINAL
                 F-SR-Vendor-TXT
                 F-SR-Family-TXT

    PAGE LIMIT IS    36 LINES
        HEADING      1
        FIRST DETAIL 5
        LAST DETAIL  36.

01  TYPE IS PAGE HEADING.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE WS-Date               PIC 9999/99/99.
       10 COL 14 VALUE 'CPU Benchmark Scores'.
       10 COL 37 VALUE 'Page:'.
```

```
       10 COL 43 SOURCE PAGE-COUNTER           PIC Z9.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE WS-Starz               PIC X(44).
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  VALUE '**'.
       10 COL 6  VALUE 'All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net'.
       10 COL 43 VALUE '**'.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE WS-Starz               PIC X(44).

01  TYPE CONTROL HEADING F-SR-Family-TXT.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE F-SR-Vendor-TXT        PIC X(6).
       10 COL 8  SOURCE F-SR-Family-TXT        PIC X(7).
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  VALUE 'Family'.
       10 COL 9  VALUE 'Model'.
       10 COL 16 VALUE 'Benchmark Score (High to Low)'.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  VALUE '======'.
       10 COL 9  VALUE '======'.
       10 COL 16 VALUE '============================'.

01  Detail-Line TYPE IS DETAIL.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE F-SR-Family-TXT PIC X(7) GROUP INDICATE.
       10 COL 9  PIC X(6)       SOURCE F-SR-Model-TXT.
       10 COL 16 PIC ZZZZ9      SOURCE F-SR-Score-NUM.

01  End-Family TYPE IS CONTROL FOOTING F-SR-Family-TXT.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 9                 VALUE  'Ave...'.
       10 COL 16 PIC ZZZZ9.99   SOURCE WS-FC-AVE.
       10 COL 25                VALUE  '('.
       10 COL 26 PIC ZZ9        SUM    WS-One-Const.
       10 COL 30                VALUE  'Family CPUs)'.

01  End-Vendor TYPE IS CONTROL FOOTING F-SR-Vendor-TXT.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 9                 VALUE  'Ave...'.
       10 COL 16 PIC ZZZZ9.99   SOURCE WS-VC-AVE.
```

```
       10 COL 25                VALUE  '('.
       10 COL 26 PIC ZZ9        SUM    WS-One-Const.
       10 COL 30                VALUE  'Vendor CPUs)'.

01  End-Overall TYPE IS CONTROL FOOTING FINAL.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 9                 VALUE  'Ave...'.
       10 COL 16 PIC ZZZZ9.99   SOURCE WS-OC-AVE.
       10 COL 25                VALUE  '('.
       10 COL 26 PIC ZZ9        SUM    WS-One-Const.
       10 COL 30                VALUE  'CPUs)'.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
DECLARATIVES.
000-End-Family SECTION.
    USE BEFORE REPORTING End-Family.
1.  IF WS-FC-Qty > 0
        COMPUTE WS-FC-AVE = WS-FC-Total-NUM / WS-FC-Qty
    ELSE
        MOVE 0 TO WS-FC-AVE
    END-IF
    MOVE 0 TO WS-FC-Qty
              WS-FC-Total-NUM
    .
000-End-Vendor SECTION.
    USE BEFORE REPORTING End-Vendor.
1.  IF WS-VC-Qty > 0
        COMPUTE WS-VC-AVE = WS-VC-Total-NUM / WS-VC-Qty
    ELSE
        MOVE 0 TO WS-VC-AVE
    END-IF
    MOVE 0 TO WS-VC-Qty
              WS-VC-Total-NUM
    .
000-End-Overall SECTION.
    USE BEFORE REPORTING End-Overall.
1.  IF WS-OC-Qty > 0
        COMPUTE WS-OC-AVE = WS-OC-Total-NUM / WS-OC-Qty
    ELSE
        MOVE 0 TO WS-OC-AVE
    END-IF
```

```
    MOVE 0 TO WS-OC-Qty
              WS-OC-Total-NUM
    .
END DECLARATIVES.

010-Main SECTION.
1.  ACCEPT WS-Date FROM DATE YYYYMMDD
    SORT SORT-FILE
        ASCENDING KEY    F-SR-Vendor-TXT
                         F-SR-Family-TXT
        DESCENDING KEY   F-SR-Score-NUM
        ASCENDING KEY    F-SR-Model-TXT
        INPUT PROCEDURE  100-Pre-Process-Data
        OUTPUT PROCEDURE 200-Generate-Report
    STOP RUN
    .
100-Pre-Process-Data SECTION.
1.  OPEN INPUT CPU-FILE
    PERFORM FOREVER
        READ CPU-FILE
        AT END
            EXIT PERFORM
        END-READ
        MOVE SPACES TO SORT-REC
        UNSTRING CPU-REC DELIMITED BY ','
            INTO F-SR-Score-NUM,
                 F-SR-Vendor-TXT,
                 F-SR-Family-TXT,
                 F-SR-Model-TXT
        RELEASE SORT-REC
    END-PERFORM
    CLOSE CPU-FILE
    .
200-Generate-Report SECTION.
1.  INITIALIZE WS-Family-Counters
               WS-Flags
    OPEN OUTPUT REPORT-FILE
    INITIATE CPU-Report
    RETURN SORT-FILE
    AT END
        MOVE 'Y' TO WS-F-EOF
```

```
    END-RETURN
    PERFORM UNTIL WS-F-EOF = 'Y'
        GENERATE Detail-Line
        ADD 1              TO WS-FC-Qty
                              WS-OC-Qty
                              WS-VC-Qty
        ADD F-SR-Score-NUM TO WS-FC-Total-NUM
                              WS-OC-Total-NUM
                              WS-VC-Total-NUM
        RETURN SORT-FILE
        AT END
            MOVE 'Y' TO WS-F-EOF
        END-RETURN
    END-PERFORM
    TERMINATE CPU-Report
    CLOSE REPORT-FILE
    .
```

10.6.3 Generated Report Pages

Finally, here's the report the program generates!

```
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  1
*****************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
*****************************************
AMD    A10
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ============================
A10     6800K   5062
        5800B   4798
        6700    4767
        5800K   4677
        5700    4251
        4657M   3449
        5750M   3332
        5757M   3253
        4600M   3145
        5745M   2758
        4655M   2505
        Ave...  3817.90 ( 11 Family CPUs)
AMD    A4
```

```
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ============================
A4      6300    2305
        5300    2078
        5150M   1973
        5000    1919
        3420    1768
        4300M   1685
        5300B   1632
        3400    1625
        3300    1583
        3330MX  1343
        3310MX  1263
        3300M   1237
        3305M   1227
        3320M   1193
_____________________________________________
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  2
*********************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
*********************************************
A4      4355M   1169
        1200     677
        1250     559
        Ave...  1484.47 ( 17 Family CPUs)
AMD    A6
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ============================
A6      3670    3327
        3650    3232
        3620    2892
        3600    2798
        5200    2440
        6400K   2384
        3430MX  2277
        5400K   2174
        3410MX  2101
        3420M   2078
        3500    1995
        3400M   1964
        5350M   1958
```

```
        5400B   1906
        5357M   1878
        1450    1634
        4400M   1630
        4455M   1296
        Ave...  2220.22 ( 18 Family CPUs)
AMD    A8
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ============================
A8      6600K   4719
        6500    4390
        5600K   4348

_____________________________________________
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  3
*********************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
*********************************************
A8      5500    4052
        3870K   3682
        3850    3552
        5500B   3464
        3820    3217
        3800    3215
        5550M   3052
        5557M   2935
        3550MX  2866
        4500M   2709
        5545M   2434
        3510MX  2426
        3530MX  2276
        3520M   2245
        4555M   2193
        3500M   2050
        Ave...  3148.68 ( 19 Family CPUs)
AMD    FX
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ============================
FX      9590   10479
        9370    9807
        8350    9067
        8320    8131
```

```
        8150    7719
        6350    7017
        8140    6845
        8120    6605
        6300    6388
        6200    6194
        8100    6163
        6120    5813
_____________________________________________
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  4
*******************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
*******************************************
FX      6100    5421
        4350    5247
        4170    4774
        4300    4711
        4130    4153
        4150    4094
        4100    4055
        Ave...  6457.00 ( 19 Family CPUs)
        Ave...  3448.86 ( 84 Vendor CPUs)
Intel  Core i3
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ============================
Core i3 4340    5117
        4330    5115
        4130    4904
        3250    4757
        3245    4414
        3225    4407
        3240    4259
        3220    4219
        4130T   4041
        3210    3820
        3240T   3793
        3220T   3724
        3130M   3655
        4000M   3443
        3120M   3301
        3110M   3076
```

```
        3227U   2575
        4010U   2459
        3217U   2266
        4010Y   2003

_____________________________________________
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  5
*******************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
*******************************************
Core i3 3229Y   1885
        Ave...  3677.76 ( 21 Family CPUs)
Intel  Core i5
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ============================
Core i5 4670K   7565
        4670    7492
        3570K   7118
        4570    7061
        3570    6993
        3550    6828
        4570S   6803
        3570S   6709
        3550S   6631
        3470    6576
        4440    6517
        4570R   6474
        3450    6442
        4670T   6351
        3340    6282
        4430    6282
        3350P   6199
        3470S   6077
        3450S   6071
        3475S   5991
        4430S   5954
        3330    5902
        3335S   5781
        3330S   5690
        3570T   5414
        3340S   5372
        4330M   4804
```

```
_____________________________________________
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  6
*****************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
*****************************************
Core i5 4300M   4786
        4288U   4663
        3470T   4591
        3380M   4555
        4258U   4381
        4200M   4333
        3340M   4327
        3360M   4314
        3320M   4101
        3230M   3995
        4300U   3917
        3210M   3807
        4350U   3604
        3427U   3589
        4250U   3482
        3437U   3479
        4200U   3355
        3337U   3280
        3317U   3126
        3439Y   3057
        4570T   2503
        4210Y   2382
        4200Y   2358
        3339Y   2252
        4300Y   1743
        Ave...  5026.13 ( 52 Family CPUs)
Intel  Core i7
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ==============================
Core i7 4960X  14291
        4930K  13620
        3970X  12823

_____________________________________________
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  7
*****************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
```

```
*****************************************
Core i7 3960X  12718
        3930K  12107
        4960HQ 10262
        4770K  10190
        4771   10078
        4770    9969
        4820K   9969
        4770S   9803
        4930MX  9754
        3770K   9578
        3770    9420
        4850HQ  9331
        4900MQ  9323
        3920XM  9196
        3770S   9074
        3940XM  9052
        3840QM  9025
        3820    8995
        4770T   8803
        4800MQ  8567
        3820QM  8548
        3740QM  8512
        3720QM  8347
        3770T   8280
        4700HQ  8161
        4750HQ  8066
        4702HQ  8002
        4700MQ  7946
        3630QM  7759
        4702MQ  7647
        3610QM  7532
        4765T   7367
_____________________________________________
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  8
*****************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
*****************************************
Core i7 4700EQ  7352
        3615QM  7310
        3632QM  7055
```

```
        3612QE  6988
        3612QM  6907
        3635QM  6516
        3610QE  6144
        3615QE  5495
        4600M   4892
        3540M   4861
        3520M   4588
        4558U   4507
        4600U   4484
        4650U   4345
        3687U   4271
        3667U   4032
        3555LE  4009
        4500U   3992
        3537U   3912
        3517U   3701
        4610Y   3680
        3689Y   3479
        3517UE  3449
        Ave...  7725.58 ( 58 Family CPUs)
        Ave...  6005.16 (131 Vendor CPUs)
        Ave...  5006.42 (215 CPUs)




_____________________________________________
```

10.7 Control Hierarchy (Revisited)

The sample program just discussed presents a great opportunity to show what can happen if you don't define the control hierarchy of a report properly.

I changed the `CONTROLS ARE` clause on the sample program from this:

```
CONTROLS ARE FINAL
             F-SR-Vendor-TXT
             F-SR-Family-TXT
```

To this:

```
CONTROLS ARE FINAL
             F-SR-Family-TXT
             F-SR-Vendor-TXT
```

And then ran the report again. Here are the first two pages of that new report. See what happened to the control breaks?

```
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  1
*****************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
*****************************************
AMD    A10
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ============================
A10     6800K   5062
        5800B   4798
        6700    4767
        5800K   4677
        5700    4251
        4657M   3449
        5750M   3332
        5757M   3253
        4600M   3145
        5745M   2758
        4655M   2505
        Ave...  3817.90 ( 11 Vendor CPUs)
        Ave...  3817.90 ( 11 Family CPUs)
AMD    A4
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ============================
A4      6300    2305
        5300    2078
        5150M   1973
        5000    1919
        3420    1768
        4300M   1685
        5300B   1632
        3400    1625
        3300    1583
        3330MX  1343
        3310MX  1263
```

```
        3300M   1237
        3305M   1227

_____________________________________________
2013/12/24   CPU Benchmark Scores   Page:  2
*******************************************
**   All CPU Data From cpubenchmark.net   **
*******************************************
A4      3320M   1193
        4355M   1169
        1200     677
        1250     559
        Ave...  1484.47 ( 17 Vendor CPUs)
        Ave...  1484.47 ( 17 Family CPUs)
AMD    A6
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ==============================
A6      3670    3327
        3650    3232
        3620    2892
        3600    2798
        5200    2440
        6400K   2384
        3430MX  2277
        5400K   2174
        3410MX  2101
        3420M   2078
        3500    1995
        3400M   1964
        5350M   1958
        5400B   1906
        5357M   1878
        1450    1634
        4400M   1630
        4455M   1296
        Ave...  2220.22 ( 18 Vendor CPUs)
        Ave...  2220.22 ( 18 Family CPUs)
AMD    A8
Family  Model  Benchmark Score (High to Low)
======  ====== ==============================
A8      6600K   4719
```

```
_____________________________________________
```

10.8 Turning PHYSICAL Page Formatting Into LOGICAL Formatting

You can trick RWCS into using the `PAGE LIMIT` values as logical specifications rather than physical ones quite easily — simply include an ASCII form-feed (`X'0C'`) character into your page heading design! Here's how the sample program shown earlier could be easily modified:

Simply Change This...

```
01  TYPE IS PAGE HEADING.
    05 LINE NUMBER 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE WS-Date PIC 9999/99/99.
       10 COL 14 VALUE 'CPU Benchmark Scores'.
       10 COL 37 VALUE 'Page:'.
       10 COL 43 SOURCE PAGE-COUNTER PIC Z9.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE WS-Starz PIC X(44).
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  VALUE '**'.
       10 COL 6  VALUE 'All CPU Data From ' &
                       'cpubenchmark.net'.
       10 COL 43 VALUE '**'.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE WS-Starz PIC X(44).
```

To This...

```
01  TYPE IS PAGE HEADING.
    05 LINE NUMBER 1.                          *> NEW
       10 COL 1  VALUE X'0C'.                  *> NEW
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.                 *> CHANGED
       10 COL 1  SOURCE WS-Date PIC 9999/99/99.
       10 COL 14 VALUE 'CPU Benchmark Scores'.
       10 COL 37 VALUE 'Page:'.
       10 COL 43 SOURCE PAGE-COUNTER PIC Z9.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE WS-Starz PIC X(44).
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  VALUE '**'.
```

```
       10 COL 6  VALUE 'All CPU Data From ' &
                      'cpubenchmark.net'.
       10 COL 43 VALUE '**'.
    05 LINE NUMBER PLUS 1.
       10 COL 1  SOURCE WS-Starz PIC X(44).
```

RWCS will still be counting lines to decide when to close off one page and start a new one, but when a new page is started its page heading will *physically* form-feed the printer when the report is printed. As long as any printer you plan on using supports at least as many physical print lines as what is defined as the `PAGE LIMIT` value in whatever paper orientation and font you plan on (or are limited to) printing in, you have now divorced your program from the physical realities of the printer!

Of course, whatever software you are using to deliver the printed document to the printer with, must allow the ASCII form-feed character to pass through to the printer.

11 Interfacing With The OS

11.1 Compiling Programs

Program source files should have by convention, extensions of `.cob` or `.cbl`.

Program file names should match exactly the specification of `PROGRAM-ID` (including case).

Spaces cannot be included in primary entry-point names and therefore must not be included in program file names.

The GnuCOBOL compiler will translate your COBOL program into C source code, compile that C source code into executable binary form using the C compiler specified when GnuCOBOL was built and link that executable binary into:

Directly executable form
: This is an executable file directly-executable from the command-line. On Windows computers, this would be an `.exe` file. On Unix systems, this will be a file with no specific extension, but with execute permissions. This file will include the main program as well as any static-linked subprograms.

Static-linkable form
: This is a single subprogram compiled into object-code form, ready to be linked in with a main program to form a directly-executable program. On windows computers, these generally are `.o` (object-code) files.

Dynamically-loadable executable form
: These are dynamically-loadable object code files ready to be invoked from other programs at execution time. On Windows systems, these would be `.dll` files, while on Unix systems they are typically `.so` files (OSX uses `.dylib`).

11.1.1 cobc - The GnuCOBOL Compiler

The GnuCOBOL compiler is named `cobc` (`cobc.exe` on a Windows system).

The following describes the syntax and option switches of the cobc command. This information may be displayed by entering the command `cobc --help` or `cobc -h`.

```
GnuCOBOL compiler for most COBOL dialects with lots of extensions

Sorted within groups

Usage: cobc [options]... file...
```

```
Options:
  -h, --help             display this help and exit

  -du(mpversion)         display compiler version and exit
  -i, --info             display compiler information (build/environment)
                         and exit
  -q, --brief            reduced displays, commands invoked not shown
  -v, --verbose          verbose mode, display additional information;
                         multiple -v options increase the verbosity,
                         the maximum is 3 as follows:
                         (1) display compiler version and the commands
                         invoked by the compiler,
                         (2) pass verbose option to assembler/compiler
                         (3) pass verbose option to linker
  -V, --version          display compiler version information and exit
  -###                   like -v but commands not executed

  -A <options>           add <options> to the C compile phase
  -b                     combine all input files into a single
                         dynamically loadable module
  -c                     compile and assemble, but do not link
  --conf=<file>          user-defined dialect configuration; see -std
  -C                     translation only; convert COBOL to C
  -d, --debug            enable all run-time error checking,
                         equal to -fstack-check -fec=EC-ALL
  -D <define>            define <define> for COBOL compilation
  -ext <extension>       add file extension for resolving COPY
  -E                     preprocess only; do not compile or link
  -F, --free             use free source format (alias for -fformat=free)
  --fixed                use fixed source format (default; alias for
                         -fformat=fixed)
  -fec=<exception-name>    enable code generation for <exception-name>,
                         see --list-exceptions for the possible values,
                         sets -fsource-location
  -fno-ec=<exception-name>
                         disable code generation for <exception-name>
  -g                     enable C compiler debug and stack check
  -I <directory>         add <directory> to copy/include search path
  -j [<args>], --job[=<args>]
                         run program after build, passing <args>
```

```
-K <entry>             generate CALL to <entry> as static
-l <lib>               link the library <lib>
-L <directory>         add <directory> to library search path
--list-exceptions      display exception names
--list-intrinsics      display intrinsic functions
--list-mnemonics       display mnemonic names
--list-reserved        display reserved words and internal registers
--list-system          display system routines
-m                     build a dynamically loadable module (default)
-o <file>              place the output into <file>
-O, -O2, -O3, -Os      enable optimization
-O0                    disable optimization
-P[=<dir or file>]     generate preprocessed program listing (.lst)
-Q <options>           add <options> to the C link phase
-std=<dialect>         warnings/features for a specific Cobol dialect
                       <dialect> can be one of:
                       default
                       acu             ACUCOBOL-GT compatibility
                       acu-strict      ACUCOBOL-GT compatibility       - strict
                       bs2000          BS2000 COBOL compatibility (back again)
                       bs2000-strict   BS2000 COBOL compatibility      - strict
                       cobol85         COBOL (19) 85 Standard
                       cobol2002       COBOL 2002 Standard
                       cobol2014       COBOL 2014 Standard
                       gcos-strict     GCOS  COBOL compatibility       - strict
                       gcos            GCOS  COBOL compatibility
                       ibm             IBM COBOL compatibility
                       ibm-strict      IBM COBOL compatibility         - strict
                       mf              Micro Focus COBOL compatibility
                       mf-strict       Micro Focus COBOL compatibility - strict
                       mvs             MVS/VM COBOL compatibility
                       mvs-strict      MVS/VM COBOL compatibility      - strict
                       rm              RM-COBOL compatibility
                       rm-strict       RM-COBOL compatibility          - strict
                       xopen           X/Open COBOL Standard

                       See configuration files in directory config and more detail
                       at -std= below.

-S                     compile only; output assembly file
--save-temps[=<dir>]   save intermediate files
```

```
                        * default: current directory
  -t <file>             generate and place a program listing into <file>
  --tlines=<lines>      specify lines per page in listing, default = 55
  -T <file>             generate and place a wide program listing into <file>
  -x                    build an executable program
  -X, --Xref            generate internal cross reference


Warning options:
  -w                    disable all warnings
  -Wall                 enable most warnings (all except as noted below)
  -Wadditional          additional warnings only raised with -Wall
  -Warchaic             warn if archaic features are used
  -Warithmetic-osvs     warn if arithmetic expression precision has changed
  -Wcall-params         warn about non 01/77 items for CALL parameters
                        * NOT set with -Wall
  -Wcolumn-overflow     warn about text after program-text area, FIXED format
                        * NOT set with -Wall
  -Wconstant-expression  warn about expressions that always resolve to true/false
  -Wconstant-numlit-expression
                        warn about numeric expressions that always resolve to
                        true/false
  -Wdangling-text       warn about source text after program-area
                        * NOT set with -Wall
  -Werror               treat all warnings as errors
  -Werror=<warning>     treat specified <warning> as error
  -Wextra               like -Wall but enable some extra warning flags
  -Wimplicit-define     warn whenever data items are implicitly defined
                        * NOT set with -Wall
  -Winitial-value       warn if initial VALUE clause is ignored
  -Wlarger-01-redefines  warn about larger redefines allowed by COBOL standards
  -Wlinkage             warn about dangling LINKAGE items
                        * NOT set with -Wall
  -Wobsolete            warn if obsolete features are used
  -Woverlap             warn about overlapping MOVE of items
  -Wno-corresponding    do not warn about CORRESPONDING with no matching items
                        * ALWAYS active
  -Wno-dialect          do not warn about dialect specific issues
                        * ALWAYS active
  -Wgoto-different-section
                       warn about GO TO a praragraph defined in a different section
```

```
-Wno-error             don't treat warnings as errors
-Wno-error=<warning>   don't treat specified <warning> as error
-Wno-goto-section      do not warn about GO TO section-name
                       * ALWAYS active
-Wno-ignored-error     do not warn about errors in code parts which are
                       unreachable and so normally ignored
                       * ALWAYS active
-Wno-missing-newline   do not warn about missing newlines
                       * ALWAYS active
-Wno-others            do not warn about different issues
                       * ALWAYS active
-Wno-pending           do not warn if pending features are used
                       * ALWAYS active
-Wno-repository-checks
                       do not warn/check for program/function/external signature
                       mismatch
                       * ALWAYS active
-Wno-unfinished        do not warn if unfinished features are used
                       * ALWAYS active
-Wno-unsupported       do not warn if runtime does not support a feature used
-Wno-<warning>         disable warning enabled by default, -Wall or -Wextra
-Wparentheses          warn if parentheses are omitted around AND within OR
-Wpossible-overlap     warn about MOVE of items that may overlap depending on
                       variables
                       * NOT set with -Wall
-Wpossible-truncate    warn about possible field truncation
                       * NOT set with -Wall
-Wprototypes           warn about missing FUNCTION prototypes/definitions
-Wredefinition         warn about non-referenced ambiguous data items
-Wstrict-typing        warn strictly about type mismatch
-Wsuspicious-perform-thru
                       warn if PERFORM THRU references procedures not in ascending
                       order or multiple sections
                       * ALWAYS active
-Wterminator           warn about lack of scope terminator END-XXX
                       * NOT set with -Wall
-Wtruncate             warn about field truncation from constant assignments
-Wunreachable          warn about likely unreachable statements
                       * NOT set with -Wall
```

```
Compiler options:
  -fsign=[ASCII|EBCDIC]  define display sign representation
                         * default: machine native
  -ffold-copy=[UPPER|LOWER]
                         fold COPY subject to value
                         * default: no transformation
  -ffold-call=[UPPER|LOWER]
                         fold PROGRAM-ID, CALL, CANCEL subject to value
                         * default: no transformation
  -fmax-errors=<number>    maximum number of errors to report before
                         compilation is aborted
                         * default: 128
  -fintrinsics=[ALL|intrinsic
                         function name(,name,...)]
                         intrinsics to be used without FUNCTION keyword
  -fdump=<scope>         dump data fields on abort, <scope> may be
                         a combination of: ALL, WS, LS, RD, FD, SC, LO
  -fcallfh=<name>        specifies <name> to be used for I/O
                         as external provided EXTFH interface module
  -febcdic-table=[DEFAULT|RESTRICTED-GC|IBM|GCOS]
                         define EBCDIC translation table:
                         * default: translation to extended ASCII as per MF
                         * restricted-gc: translation from restricted ASCII only
                         * ibm: translation to restricted ASCII as per IBM
                         * gcos: translation to extended ASCII as per GCOS7
  -fdefault-colseq=[ASCII|EBCDIC|NATIVE]
                         define default collating sequence
                         * default: NATIVE
  -fstack-extended       store origin of entrypoints and PERFORM
                         * turned on by -debug/-dump
  -fno-remove-unreachable
                         disable remove of unreachable code
                         * turned off by -g
  -ftrace                generate trace code
                         * scope: executed SECTION/PARAGRAPH
  -ftraceall             generate trace code
                         * scope: executed SECTION/PARAGRAPH/STATEMENTS
  -fsyntax-only          syntax error checking only; don't emit any output
  -fdebugging-line       enable debugging lines
                         * 'D' in indicator column or floating >>D
  -fsource-location      generate source location code
```

```
                        * turned on by -debug/-ftraceall/-fec/-dump
-fimplicit-init         automatic initialization of the COBOL runtime system
-fno-recursive-check    disable check of recursive program call;
                        effectively compiling as RECURSIVE program
-fstack-check           PERFORM stack checking
                        * turned on by -debug/-g
-fsection-exit-check    check that code execution does not leave the scope of
                        SECTIONs
-fimplicit-goback-check
                        check that code execution does not end implicit at end of
                        PROCEDURE DIVISION
-fwrite-after           use AFTER 1 for WRITE of LINE SEQUENTIAL
                        * default: BEFORE 1
-fmfcomment             '*' in column 1 treated as comment with listing suppression
                        * FIXED/COBOL85/VARIABLE format only
-facucomment            '$' in indicator area treated as '*',
                        '|' treated as floating comment
-fno-trunc              allow numeric field overflow
                        * non-ANSI behaviour
-fsingle-quote          use a single quote (apostrophe) for QUOTE
                        * default: double quote
-foptional-file         treat all files as OPTIONAL
                        * unless NOT OPTIONAL specified
-fstatic-call           output static function calls for the CALL statement
-fno-gen-c-decl-static-call
                        disable generation of C function declarations
                        for subroutines with static CALL
-fgen-c-line-directives
                        generate source location directives in C code;
                        * turned on by -g
-fgen-c-labels          generate extra labels in C sources;
                        * turned on by -g
-fno-theaders           suppress all headers and output of compilation
                        options from listing while keeping page breaks
-fno-tsource            suppress source from listing
-fno-tmessages          suppress warning and error summary from listing
-ftsymbols              specify symbols in listing
-fno-diagnostics-show-option
                        suppress output of option that directly
                        controls the diagnostic
```

```
Compiler dialect configuration options:
  -freserved-words=<value>
                        use of complete/fixed reserved words
  -ftab-width=1..12     number of spaces that are assumed for tabs
  -ftext-column=72..255 right margin column number for fixed-form reference format
  -fpic-length=<number> maximum number of characters allowed in the PICTURE
                        character-string
  -fword-length=1..63   maximum word-length for COBOL (= programmer defined) words
  -fliteral-length=<number>
                        maximum literal size in general
  -fnumeric-literal-length=1..38
                        maximum numeric literal size
  -fdefaultbyte=<value> default initialization for fields without VALUE, may be
                        one of
                        * character in quotes
                        * decimal 0..255 representing a character
                        * "init" to initialize to PICTURE/USAGE
                        * "none" to do no explicit initialization
                        * default: "init"
  -fformat=<value>      default reference-format, may be one of: FIXED, FREE,
                        COBOL85, VARIABLE, XOPEN, XCARD, CRT, TERMINAL, COBOLX
  -fbinary-size=<value> binary byte size - defines the allocated bytes according to
                        PIC, may be one of: 2-4-8, 1-2-4-8, 1--8
  -fbinary-byteorder=<value>
                        binary byte order, may be one of: native, big-endian
  -fassign-clause=<value>
                       how to interpret 'ASSIGN word': as 'ASSIGN EXTERNAL word' or
                        'ASSIGN DYNAMIC word', may be one of: dynamic, external,
                        ibm (= external), mf (= dynamic)
  -fscreen-section-rules=<value>
                        which compiler's rules to apply to SCREEN SECTION item
                        clauses, may be one of: acu, gc, mf, rm, std, xopen
  -fdpc-in-data=<value> whether DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA has effect in XML/JSON
                        GENERATE, may be one of: none, xml, json, all
  -ffilename-mapping    resolve file names at run time using environment variables
  -fpretty-display      alternate formatting of numeric fields
  -fbinary-truncate     numeric truncation according to ANSI
  -fcomplex-odo         allow complex OCCURS DEPENDING ON
  -fodoslide           adjust items following OCCURS DEPENDING (implies complex-odo)
  -findirect-redefines  allow REDEFINES to other than last equal level number
```

```
-frelax-syntax-checks  allow certain syntax variations (e.g. REDEFINES position)
-fref-mod-zero-length  allow zero length reference-modification (only changed with
                       EC-BOUND-REF-MOD active)
-frelax-level-hierarchy
                       allow non-matching level numbers
-fselect-working       require ASSIGN USING items to be in WORKING-STORAGE
-flocal-implies-recursive
                       LOCAL-STORAGE SECTION implies RECURSIVE attribute
-fsticky-linkage       LINKAGE SECTION items remain allocated between invocations
-fmove-ibm             MOVE operates as on IBM (left to right, byte by byte)
-fperform-osvs         exit point of any currently executing perform is recognized
                       if reached
-farithmetic-osvs      limit precision in intermediate results to precision of
                       final result (less accurate)
-fconstant-folding     evaluate constant expressions at compile time
-fhostsign             allow hexadecimal value 'F' for NUMERIC test of signed
                       PACKED DECIMAL field
-fprogram-name-redefinition
                       program names don't lead to a reserved identifier
-faccept-update        set WITH UPDATE clause as default for ACCEPT dest-item,
                       instead of WITH NO UPDATE
-faccept-auto          set WITH AUTO clause as default for ACCEPT dest-item,
                       instead of WITH TAB
-fconsole-is-crt       assume CONSOLE IS CRT if not set otherwise
-fno-echo-means-secure    NO-ECHO
                       hides input with asterisks like SECURE
-fline-col-zero-default
                       assume a field DISPLAY starts at LINE 0 COL 0 (i.e. at the
                       cursor), not LINE 1 COL 1
-fdisplay-special-fig-consts
                       special behaviour of DISPLAY SPACE/ALL X'01'/ALL X'02'/ALL
                       X'07'
-fbinary-comp-1        COMP-1 is a 16-bit signed integer
-fnumeric-pointer      POINTER is a 64-bit unsigned integer
-fmove-non-numeric-lit-to-numeric-is-zero
                       imply zero in move of non-numeric literal to numeric items
-fimplicit-assign-dynamic-var
                       implicitly define a variable if an ASSIGN DYNAMIC does not
                       match any data item
-fdevice-mnemonics     specifying device by mnemonic
-fxml-parse-xmlss      XML PARSE XMLSS
```

```
-fareacheck            check contents of Area A (when reference format supports
                       Area A enforcement),
                       enabled checks include:
                       * division, section, paragraph names, level indicators (FD,
                       SD, RD, and CD),
                         and toplevel numbers (01 and 77) must start in Area A;
                       * statements must not start in Area A; and
                       * separator periods must not be within Area A
-fcomment-paragraphs=<support>
                       comment paragraphs in IDENTIFICATION DIVISION (AUTHOR,
                       DATE-WRITTEN, ...)
-fcontrol-division=<support>
                       CONTROL DIVISION
-fpartial-replace-when-literal-src=<support>
                       apply partial replacing with literal source operand even
                       when it replaces with spaces only;
                       * "skip" prevents such replacements
-fmemory-size-clause=<support>
                       MEMORY-SIZE clause
-fmultiple-file-tape-clause=<support>
                       MULTIPLE-FILE-TAPE clause
-flabel-records-clause=<support>
                       LABEL-RECORDS clause
-fvalue-of-clause=<support>
                       VALUE-OF clause
-fdata-records-clause=<support>
                       DATA-RECORDS clause
-ftop-level-occurs-clause=<support>
                       OCCURS clause on top-level
-fsame-as-clause=<support>
                       SAME AS clause
-ftype-to-clause=<support>
                       TYPE TO clause
-fusage-type=<support>  USAGE type-name
-fsynchronized-clause=<support>
                       SYNCHRONIZED clause
-fsync-left-right=<support>
                       LEFT/RIGHT phrases in SYNCHRONIZED clause
-fspecial-names-clause=<support>
                       SPECIAL-NAMES clause
-fgoto-statement-without-name=<support>
```

```
                       GOTO statement without name
-fstop-literal-statement=<support>
                       STOP-literal statement
-fstop-identifier-statement=<support>
                       STOP-identifier statement
-fstop-error-statement=<support>
                       STOP ERROR statement
-fdebugging-mode=<support>
                       DEBUGGING MODE and debugging indicator
-fuse-for-debugging=<support>
                       USE FOR DEBUGGING
-fpadding-character-clause=<support>
                       PADDING CHARACTER clause
-fnext-sentence-phrase=<support>
                       NEXT SENTENCE phrase
-flisting-statements=<support>
                       listing-directive statements EJECT, SKIP1, SKIP2, SKIP3
-ftitle-statement=<support>
                       listing-directive statement TITLE
-fentry-statement=<support>
                       ENTRY statement
-fmove-noninteger-to-alphanumeric=<support>
                       move noninteger to alphanumeric
-fmove-figurative-constant-to-numeric=<support>
                       move figurative constants to numeric
-fmove-figurative-space-to-numeric=<support>
                       move figurative constant SPACE to numeric
-fmove-figurative-quote-to-numeric=<support>
                       move figurative constant QUOTE to numeric
-fodo-without-to=<support>
                       OCCURS DEPENDING ON without to
-fsection-segments=<support>
                       section segments
-falter-statement=<support>
                       ALTER statement
-fcall-overflow=<support>
                       OVERFLOW clause for CALL
-fnumeric-boolean=<support>
                       boolean literals (B'1010')
-fhexadecimal-boolean=<support>
                       hexadecimal-boolean literals (BX'A')
```

```
-fnational-literals=<support>
                      national literals (N'UTF-16 string')
-fhexadecimal-national-literals=<support>
                      hexadecimal-national literals (NX'265E')
-fnational-character-literals=<support>
                      non-standard national literals (NC'UTF-16 string')
-fhp-octal-literals=<support>
                      HP COBOL octal literals (%377)
-facu-literals=<support>
                      ACUCOBOL-GT literals (#B #O #H #X)
-fword-continuation=<support>
                      continuation of COBOL words
-fnot-exception-before-exception=<support>
                      NOT ON EXCEPTION before ON EXCEPTION
-faccept-display-extensions=<support>
                      extensions to ACCEPT and DISPLAY
-frenames-uncommon-levels=<support>
                      RENAMES of 01-, 66- and 77-level items
-flarger-redefines=<support>
                      allow larger REDEFINES items
-fsymbolic-constant=<support>
                      constants defined in SPECIAL-NAMES
-fconstant-78=<support>
                      constant with level 78 item (note: has left to right
                      precedence in expressions)
-fconstant-01=<support>
                      constant with level 01 CONSTANT AS/FROM item
-fperform-varying-without-by=<support>
                      PERFORM VARYING without BY phrase (implies BY 1)
-freference-out-of-declaratives=<support>
                      references to sections not in DECLARATIVES from within
                      DECLARATIVES
-fprogram-prototypes=<support>
                      CALL/CANCEL with program-prototype-name
-fcall-convention-mnemonic=<support>
                      specifying call-convention by mnemonic
-fcall-convention-linkage=<support>
                      specifying call-convention by WITH ... LINKAGE
-fnumeric-value-for-edited-item=<support>
                      numeric literals in VALUE clause of numeric-edited items
-fincorrect-conf-sec-order=<support>
```

```
                        incorrect order of CONFIGURATION SECTION paragraphs
-fdefine-constant-directive=<support>
                        allow >> DEFINE CONSTANT var AS literal
-ffree-redefines-position=<support>
                        REDEFINES clause not following entry-name in definition
-frecords-mismatch-record-clause=<support>
                        record sizes does not match RECORD clause
-frecord-delimiter=<support>
                        RECORD DELIMITER clause
-fsequential-delimiters=<support>
                        BINARY-SEQUENTIAL and LINE-SEQUENTIAL phrases in
                        RECORD DELIMITER
-frecord-delim-with-fixed-recs=<support>
                        RECORD DELIMITER clause on file with fixed-length records
-fmissing-statement=<support>
                        missing statement (e.g. empty IF / PERFORM)
-fmissing-period=<support>
                        missing period in PROCEDURE DIVISION (when reference
                        format supports Area A enforcement)
-fzero-length-literals=<support>
                        zero-length literals, e.g. '' and ""
-fxml-generate-extra-phrases=<support>
                        XML GENERATE's phrases other than COUNT IN
-fcontinue-after=<support>
                        AFTER phrase in CONTINUE statement
-fgoto-entry=<support>  ENTRY FOR GOTO and GOTO ENTRY statements
-fassign-variable=<support>
                        ASSIGN [TO] variable in SELECT
-fassign-using-variable=<support>
                        ASSIGN USING/VARYING variable in SELECT
-fassign-ext-dyn=<support>
                        ASSIGN EXTERNAL/DYNAMIC in SELECT
-fassign-disk-from=<support>
                        ASSIGN DISK FROM variable in SELECT
-fvsam-status=<support>
                        VSAM status in FILE STATUS
-fself-call-recursive=<support>
                        CALL to own PROGRAM-ID implies RECURSIVE attribute
-frecord-contains-depending-clause=<support>
                        DEPENDING clause in RECORD CONTAINS
-fpicture-l=<support>  PICTURE string with 'L' character
```

```
    where <support> is one of the following:
    'ok', 'warning', 'archaic', 'obsolete', 'skip', 'ignore', 'error',
    'unconformable'

    -fnot-reserved=<word>   word to be taken out of the reserved words list
-freserved=<word>       word to be added to reserved words list
-freserved=<word>:<alias>
                        word to be added to reserved words list as alias
-fnot-register=<word>   special register to disable
-fregister=<word> or <word>:<definition>
                        special register to enable
```

For `-std=` option and others, more details.

Note: The GnuCOBOL compiler tries to limit both the feature-set and reserved words to the specified compiler when the "strict" dialects are used. COBOL sources compiled with these dialects are therefore likely to compile with the specified compiler and vice versa: sources that were compiled on the specified compiler should compile without any issues with GnuCOBOL.

With the "non-strict" dialects GnuCOBOL will activate the complete feature-set where it doesn't directly conflict with the specified dialect, including reserved words and GnuCOBOL specific extensions. COBOL sources compiled with these dialects therefore may work only with GnuCOBOL. COBOL sources may need a change because of rich feature-set and reserved words in GnuCOBOL, otherwise offending words may be removed by '-fno-reserved=word'. COBOL-85, X/Open COBOL, COBOL 2002 and COBOL 2014 are always "strict".

The intrinsic functions that are actually available as intrinsic functions depend on the -std used. Function names that aren't marked as intrinsic functions by the current -std can be used freely as user defined words or even as user defined functions.

-fformat dialect option, and extended SOURCE FORMAT directives, with the following newly supported reference-formats (in addition to FIXED/FREE):

```
    COBOL85      Fixed-form format with enforcement of Area A
    COBOLX       GCOS 7 extended format
    CRT          ICOBOL Free-form format
    TERMINAL     ACUCOBOL-GT Terminal format
    VARIABLE     Micro Focus Variable Fixed-form format
    XCARD        ICOBOL xCard (extended card) format
    XOPEN        X/Open Free-form format
```

These formats come with Area A enforcement (except for XOPEN), that checks whether division, section, and paragraph names start in Area A (i.e, before margin B), and so do level indicators FD, SD, RD, and CD, and level numbers 01, and 77. The underlying checks are enabled or disabled by default using dialect option 'areacheck', and then with '$SET AREACHECK' and '$SET NOAREACHECK' compiler directives.

As a result of reference format being a dialect option, Area A enforcement is available and enabled by default for dialects BS2000 COBOL, CA Realia II, COBOL85, GCOS COBOL, IBM COBOL, MVS/VM COBOL, RM-COBOL, and X/Open COBOL.

Area A enforcement additionally enables detection of missing periods before level numbers that lie in Area A in the DATA DIVISION, and before paragraph and section names in the PROCEDURE DIVISION. More generally, some, but not all, missing periods can be reported and recovered from. This is configurable with option 'missing-period'.

and others, that discuss dialect options:

The most important part is: * if you use a -strict option, then the behaviour is according to that dialect and features are limited to what the dialect supports, that's especially true for reserved words (which are not unlikely to create problems in case of same user-defined names [for example NOTHING]), intrinsic functions and registers; if a feature does not conflict at all with a dialect it may still be available; we definitely don't drop any CBL routines, for example (you could create those in other compilers as well, after all) * non-strict are "identical behaviour" (for example initialization and soon possibly also runtime checks) but with all features (and reserved words) enabled that don't directly conflict with that dialect

If you start a migration and/or need to "still compile and run" on the other compiler: use the strict one; if you then want to use GnuCOBOL's features because that is already done, then use the non-strict one, possible unreserving single words that conflict with your code. If you want to be portable between compilers use xopen/cobol85 (because that's widely supported) or the newer COBOL standards (but many features of that aren't available in other compilers). If you start with a new COBOL project and want to stick to GnuCOBOL in the future: just use the default.

And in any case there's the option to manually override any dialect option on the command line or write your own conf file that includes a dialect, then overrides what you want different and only reference that by –conf.

To learn more about the dialect options: check cobc –help (or directly cobc/config.def) and the config files itself. To see what reserved words / intrinsics / registers are active: use cobc's –list options after using -std/-conf (and maybe -f[not-]reserved).

Each file specified on the `cobc` command constitutes a Compilation Unit. A compilation unit may be a single GnuCOBOL program — with or without nested subprograms(see Indepen-

dent vs Contained vs Nested Subprograms) — or multiple GnuCOBOL programs, separated by `END PROGRAM` or `END FUNCTION` marker lines, as appropriate. See Independent vs Contained vs Nested Subprograms, for some examples of these marker lines.

A compilation unit may also be a C-language source program, recognized as such by having a file extension of `.c` or an assembly-language program, recognized by its file extension of `.s`. In such a case, *COBOL* compilation of that file will be bypassed by the `cobc` command; instead, the file will be passed directly to the C compiler or assembler (executed automatically by `cobc`).

A compilation unit may *also* be an object-code module (output from the C compiler), recognized as such by having a file extension of `.o`. In these situations, all compilation will be bypassed, and the object code will be "bound" into the generated executable by the linker (an `ld` command executed internally by the `cobc` command).

Pre-compiled object-code subprograms may be automatically located by the GnuCOBOL compiler and the loader by using the `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` compilation-time environment variable (see Compilation Time Environment Variables). If they are locatable through that environment variable, they need not be named on the `cobc` command.

The collection of compilation units supplied on a *single* `cobc` execution constitute a Compilation Group. All executable code produced from a single compilation group will be collected together into a single executable file, whose filename will be the same as that of the first compilation unit specified on the `cobc` command.

The simplest mode of compilation is to generate a single executable file from one or more GnuCOBOL source files:

```
cobc -x mainprog.cbl sub1.cbl sub2.cbl
```

The main program must be the first program found in the first compilation unit (`mainprog.cbl`). The remainder of that compilation unit as well as the rest of the files in the compilation group (`sub1.cbl` and `sub2.cbl`) must be independent and/or contained subprograms (see Independent vs Contained vs Nested Subprograms).

This command assumes that all source files are in the directory from which the `cobc` command was executed. You are, of course, free to include full pathnames with any filename, if necessary.

With the `-x` switch on the compiler command, a single directly-executable executable file (UNIX, Windows/Cygwin, OSX) or "exe" file (Windows, Windows/MinGW) will be generated. This executable file has the compiled code for all COBOL programs contained within the compilation group specified on the `cobc` command included in the file.

Any subroutines or user-defined functions that weren't included in any of the source files comprising the compilation group will be treated as dynamically loadable subprograms (see Dynamic vs Static Subprograms).

Optionally, the `-o` switch may be used in addition to `-x` to specify the name of the generated executable file. If `-o` switch is not specified, the filename of the 1st compilation unit will be used as the name of the executable file. The appropriate extension for the generated file (`.exe`, on a Windows computer, for example) will be added to the filename that is explicitly specified or implicitly assumed for the output file.

Compilations may be performed to generate dynamically-loadable modules (or dynamically-loadable libraries, as they are frequently called). These compilations are performed by using the `-m` switch instead of `-x` switch:

```
cobc -m mainprog.cbl sub1.cbl sub2.cbl
```

When the `-m` switch is used, an operating-system-specific dynamically-loadable module is generated *for each individual compilation unit*, using the filename of each compilation unit as its module filename and either an extension of `.so` (UNIX, Windows/Cygwin), `.dylib` (OSX) or `.dll` (Windows, Windows/MinGW).

You may compile GnuCOBOL subprograms into assembler source code which can then be assembled and linked with a main program when that main program is compiled. To create such an assembler source file, compile the subprogram(s) as follows:

```
cobc -S sprog1.cbl
```

The above generates an assembler source file named `sprog1.s`. If you have multiple subprograms to compile this way, just string their file names out on the command. Each will be translated to its own assembler source file.

Later, when you wish to compile a calling program and combine any needed assembly language subroutines in (as static subroutines — see Dynamic vs Static Subprograms), use a command such as this:

```
cobc -x mainprog.cbl sprog1.s
```

11.1.2 cobc option -Xref an example

The following shows the output from using -Xref.

```
   Using the internal -Xref as extra options -X -t prog.list :

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LINE    PG/LN  A...B.....................................................

000001  000001 IDENTIFICATION   DIVISION.
000002  000002 PROGRAM-ID.      prog.
000003  000003 ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
```

```
000004  000004 CONFIGURATION SECTION.
000005  000005 DATA            DIVISION.
000006  000006 WORKING-STORAGE  SECTION.
000007  000007 COPY 'values.cpy'.
000001C 000001 78  I   VALUE 20.
000002C 000002 78  J   VALUE 5000.
000003C 000003 78  M   VALUE 5.
000008  000008 01  SETUP-REC.
000009  000009     05  FL1       PIC X(04).
000010  000010     05  FL2       PIC ZZZZZ.
000011  000011     05  FL3       PIC 9(04).
000012  000012     05  FL4       PIC 9(08) COMP.
000013  000013     05  FL5       PIC 9(04) COMP-4.
000014  000014     05  FL6       PIC Z,ZZZ.99.
000015  000015     05  FL7       PIC S9(05) SIGN LEADING SEPARATE.
000016  000016     05  FL8       PIC X(04).
000017  000017     05  FL9 REDEFINES FL8 PIC 9(04).
000018  000018     05  FLA.
000019  000019         10  FLB OCCURS I TIMES.
000020  000020             15  FLC PIC X(02).
000021  000021         10  FLD   PIC X(20).
000022  000022     05  FLD1      PIC X(100).
000023  000025     05  FLD3      PIC X(3).
000024  000026     05  FLD4      PIC X(4).
000025  000023     05  FLD2 OCCURS M TO J TIMES DEPENDING ON FL5.
000026  000024         10  FILLER PIC X(01).
000027  000027 PROCEDURE        DIVISION.
000028  000028     STOP RUN.
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NAME                          DEFINED               REFERENCES

SETUP-REC                     8      referenced by child
FL1                           9      not referenced
FL2                           10     not referenced
FL3                           11     not referenced
FL4                           12     not referenced
FL5                           13       25                            x1
FL6                           14     not referenced
FL7                           15     not referenced
FL8                           16     not referenced
```

```
FL9                             17     not referenced
FLA                             18     not referenced
FLB                             19     not referenced
FLC                             20     not referenced
FLD                             21     not referenced
FLD1                            22     not referenced
FLD3                            23     not referenced
FLD4                            24     not referenced
FLD2                            25     not referenced

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LABEL                           DEFINED               REFERENCES

E prog                          27

0 warnings in compilation group
0 errors in compilation group
```

11.1.3 Cross Reference listing using cobxref

This program is found in the contrib area or by itself in Sourceforge under its own name (`cobxref`).

The following shows the output from using `cobxref` with the same program example.

Note that cobxref also reports the COPY depth which can be up to 9 and includes the program being compiled as depth 1.

```
Using cobxref with command cobxref prog.cbl :

Cobol Xref v2.02.03   Dictionary File for PROG    25/11/2021  15:22:00:04    Page    1

     1  000001 IDENTIFICATION   DIVISION.
     2  000002 PROGRAM-ID.      prog.
     3  000003 ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
     4  000004 CONFIGURATION SECTION.
     5  000005 DATA             DIVISION.
     6  000006 WORKING-STORAGE  SECTION.
     7  000007*COPY 'values.cpy'.
     8  000001 78  I   VALUE 20.
     9  000002 78  J   VALUE 5000.
    10  000003 78  M   VALUE 5.
```

```
    11  000008 01  SETUP-REC.
    12  000009     05  FL1       PIC X(04).
    13  000010     05  FL2       PIC ZZZZZ.
    14  000011     05  FL3       PIC 9(04).
    15  000012     05  FL4       PIC 9(08) COMP.
    16  000013     05  FL5       PIC 9(04) COMP-4.
    17  000014     05  FL6       PIC Z,ZZZ.99.
    18  000015     05  FL7       PIC S9(05) SIGN LEADING SEPARATE.
    19  000016     05  FL8       PIC X(04).
    20  000017     05  FL9 REDEFINES FL8 PIC 9(04).
    21  000018     05  FLA.
    22  000019         10  FLB OCCURS I TIMES.
    23  000020             15  FLC PIC X(02).
    24  000021         10  FLD   PIC X(20).
    25  000022     05  FLD1      PIC X(100).
    26  000025     05  FLD3      PIC X(3).
    27  000026     05  FLD4      PIC X(4).
    28  000023     05  FLD2 OCCURS M TO J TIMES DEPENDING ON FL5.
    29  000024         10  FILLER PIC X(01).
    30  000027 PROCEDURE        DIVISION.
    31  000028     STOP RUN.
    32        *>>>Info: Total Copy Depth Used = 02
Cobol Xref v2.02.03 Dictionary File for PROG    25/11/2021  15:22:00:04  Page    2
Symbols of Module: PROG (PROG)
------------------------------

Data Section (WORKING-STORAGE)  Defn     Locations
--------------------------------+----------------------------------------
FL1                             000012W
FL2                             000013W
FL3                             000014W
FL4                             000015W
FL5                             000016W  000028
FL6                             000017W
FL7                             000018W
FL8                             000019W  000020
FL9                             000020W
FLA                             000021W
FLB                             000022W
FLC                             000023W
FLD                             000024W
```

```
FLD1                            000025W
FLD2                            000028W
FLD3                            000026W
FLD4                            000027W
I                               000008W  000022
J                               000009W  000028
M                               000010W  000028
SETUP-REC                       000011W
Cobol Xref v2.02.03  Dictionary File for PROG    25/11/2021  15:22:00:04  Page    3
Symbols of Module: PROG (PROG)
------------------------------
Procedure                       Defn     Locations
--------------------------------+-----------------------------------------

None
```

11.1.4 Compilation Time Environment Variables

The following are the various environment variables that can play a role in the compilation of GnuCOBOL programs.

COB_CC

Set to the name of the C compiler you wish GnuCOBOL to use.

Use this feature at your own risk – you should always use the c compiler your gnucobol build was generated for.

COB_CFLAGS

Set to any switches that you'd like to pass on to the C compiler from the `cobc` compiler (in addition to any that `cobc` will specify).

COB_CONFIG_DIR

Set to the path to the folder where GnuCOBOL *config* files are kept.

COB_COPY_DIR

If copybooks your program needs are *not* stored in the same directory as your program, set this environment variable to the folder in which the copybooks may be found (IBM mainframe programmers will recognize this as `SYSLIB`).

COB_LDADD

Set to any additional linker switches (`ld`) that can specify where standard libraries that must be linked with the program can be found. The default is "" (empty).

COB_LDFLAGS

Set to any linker (`ld`) switches that you'd like to pass on to the C compiler from the `cobc` compiler (in addition to any that cobc will specify).

COB_LIBS
: Set to any linker switches (`ld`) that specify where standard libraries that must be linked with the program can be found.

COBCPY
: This environment variable provides an additional means of specifying where copybooks may be found by the compiler (see also COB_COPY_DIR, above).

LD_LIBRARY_PATH
: If you are planning on using static-linked subroutine libraries, set this variable to the path of the directory containing your libraries.

TMPDIR; **TMP**
: Set to a directory/folder appropriate to create temporary files in. The intermediate working files created by the compiler will be created here (and deleted once they're no longer needed).

  The variable `TMPDIR` is checked for a valid path first; if that isn't set, then `TMP` is checked.

  On a Windows system, the `TMP` environment variable is normally set for you when you logon. If you wish to use a different temporary folder, you may set `TMPDIR` yourself and have no fear of disrupting other Windows software that relies on TMP.

* The starred environment variables above have default values, established when the version of GnuCOBOL you are using was built. To see these default values, as well as other build-specific information, execute the command:

```
cobc -i
```

11.1.5 Predefined Compilation Variables

GnuCOBOL defines compilation variables when certain conditions are true.

If the condition associated with a variable is false, the variable is not defined during compilations.

DEBUG
: The `-d` debug flag is specified.

EXECUTABLE
: The module being compiled contains the main program.

GCCOMP

The size of a `COMP` item is determined according to the GnuCOBOL scheme, where for a `PICTURE` of length:

1-2

item has 1 byte

3-4

item has 2 bytes

5-9

item has 4 bytes

10-18

item has 8 bytes.

HOSTSIGNS

A signed packed-decimal item's value may be considered `NUMERIC` if the sign has value `X"F"`.

IBMCOMP

The size of a `COMP` item is determined according to the IBM scheme, where for a `PICTURE` of length:

1-4

item has 2 bytes

5-9

item has 4 bytes

10-18

item has 8 bytes.

MODULE

The module being compiled does not contain the main program.

NOHOSTSIGNS

A signed packed-decimal item's value may not be considered

NUMERIC

if the sign has value `X"F"`.

NOIBMCOMP

The size of a `COMP` item is not determined according to the IBM scheme.

NOSTICKYLINKAGE

Sticky-linkage (linkage-section items remaining allocated between invocations) is not enabled.

NOTRUNC
Numeric data items are truncated according to their internal representation.

P64
Pointers are greater than 32 bits long

STICKY-LINKAGE
Sticky-linkage (linkage-section items remaining allocated between invocations) is enabled.

TRUNC
Numeric data items are truncated according to their `PICTURE` clauses.

While still supported, this may well be removed in the future and should not be used. See `GCCOMP` and `GNUCOBOL` instead:

OCCOMP
The size of a `COMP` <item> is determined according to the GnuCOBOL scheme, where for a `PICTURE` of length:

1 - 2
<item> = 1 byte

3 - 4
<item> = 2 bytes

5 - 9
<item> = 4 bytes

10 - 18
<item> = 8 bytes

11.1.6 Locating Copybooks

The GnuCOBOL compiler will attempt to locate copybooks by searching for them in the following folders. The search will occur in the sequence shown below, and will terminate once a copybook is found.

1. The folder named as the <library-name-1> on the `COPY` statement (see COPY).
2. The folder in which the program being compiled resides.
3. The folder named on the `-I` switch.
4. Each of the folders named on the `COB_CPY_DIR` compilation-time environment variable (see Compilation Time Environment Variables) in order of presentation.
5. Each of the folders named on the `COBCPY` compilation-time environment variable (see Compilation Time Environment Variables) in order of presentation.

A single folder may be named or multiple folders may be specified, separated by a system-appropriate delimiter character. When multiple folders are specified, they will be searched in the order they are named on the environment variable.

If the GnuCOBOL compiler you are using was built to utilize a native Windows environment, use a semicolon (';') as the delimiter character.

If, however, the GnuCOBOL compiler was built for a Unix, OSX or Linux environment, or was built for a Windows environment utilizing either the Cygwin or MinGW Unix emulators, use a colon character (':') as the delimiter.

6. For v1.1 only, the *single* folder specified on the COB_COPY_DIR environment variable. (If not defined, for order see results of 'cobc –info').

The search order is as specified in the copy/include statement, then as specified via -ext, then the defaults that follows below.

As each of the above folders is searched for a copybook — `COPY XXXXXXXX.`, for example — the GnuCOBOL compiler will attempt to locate the copybook file by any of the following names, in the sequence shown:

- `XXXXXXXX.CPY`
- `XXXXXXXX.CBL`
- `XXXXXXXX.COB`
- `XXXXXXXX.cpy`
- `XXXXXXXX.cbl`
- `XXXXXXXX.cob`
- `XXXXXXXX`

The `COPY` statement is case-sensitive on UNIX systems; `COPY copybookname` and `COPY COPYBOOKNAME` will both fail to locate the `CopyBookName` copybook on a UNIX system.

Windows implementations of GnuCOBOL may, or may not, be similarly case sensitive with regard to copybook names, depending upon the Windows version and GnuCOBOL build options — it is safest to simply treat the COPY command as case-sensitive in all environments.

It is possible, however, to automatically cause all `COPY` statements to "fold" the names of all copybooks to upper-case by specifying the `-ffold-copy` switch with the `upper` option (i.e. `--fold-copy=upper`) to the GnuCOBOL compiler. Similarly, names could be folded to lower-case by using the `lower` option (i.e. `--fold-copy=lower`. If copybook libraries are maintained entirely using upper- or lower-case file names and extensions, either of these options will allow copybooks to be found regardless of how the programmer entered their names on `COPY` statements.

Case-folding may also be turned on and off within the program source code using the CDF `>>SET` statement (see >>SET).

11.1.7 Compiler Configuration Files

GnuCOBOL uses compiler configuration files to define various options that will control the compilation process. These configuration files are specified using the `-conf` switch compilation switch and are found in the folder defined by the `COB_CONFIG_DIR` compilation-time environment variable (see Compilation Time Environment Variables).

If this is not defined under *nix it will default to `/usr/local/share/gnucobol/config`.

The following is a verbatim listing of the default configuration file (the one used if you don't specify the `-conf` switch), just to show you the types of settings that may appear and taken from v3.1.2 :

```
# Value: any string
name: "GnuCOBOL"

# Value: enum
standard-define         0
# NOTE: see enum cb_std_def, defined in cobc/cobc.h.
#        CB_STD_GC = 0,
#        CB_STD_MF,
#        CB_STD_IBM,
#        CB_STD_MVS,
#        CB_STD_BS2000,
#        CB_STD_ACU,
#        CB_STD_RM,
#        CB_STD_85,
#        CB_STD_2002,
#        CB_STD_2014

# Default source reference-format; values: FIXED, FREE, COBOL85,
# VARIABLE, XOPEN, XCARD, CRT, TERMINAL, COBOLX
format:             auto

# Value: int
tab-width:          8
text-column:            72
# Maximum word-length for COBOL words / Programmer defined words
# Be aware that GC checks the word length against COB_MAX_WORDLEN
# first (currently 63)
word-length:            63
```

```
# Maximum literal size in general
literal-length:         8191

# Maximum numeric literal size (absolute maximum: 38)
numeric-literal-length:     38

# Maximum number of characters allowed in the character-string (max. 255)
pic-length:         255

# Enable AREACHECK by default, for reference formats other than {fixed,free}
areacheck:          no

# Default assign type
# Value: 'dynamic', 'external'
assign-clause:          dynamic

# If yes, file names are resolved at run time using
# environment variables.
# For example, given ASSIGN TO "DATAFILE", the file name will be
#  1. the value of environment variable 'DD_DATAFILE' or
#  2. the value of environment variable 'dd_DATAFILE' or
#  3. the value of environment variable 'DATAFILE' or
#  4. the literal "DATAFILE"
# If no, the value of the assign clause is the file name.
#
filename-mapping:       yes

# Alternate formatting of numeric fields
pretty-display:         yes

# Allow complex OCCURS DEPENDING ON
complex-odo:            no

# Adjust position of items following OCCURS DEPENDING
odoslide:           no

# Do ISAM indexes with DUPLICATES get compressed
keycompress:            0

# Allow REDEFINES to other than last equal level number
```

```
indirect-redefines:     no

# Binary byte size - defines the allocated bytes according to PIC
# Value:         signed  unsigned  bytes
#                ------  --------  -----
# '2-4-8'         1 -  4    same        2
#                 5 -  9    same        4
#                10 - 18    same        8
#
# '1-2-4-8'       1 -  2    same        1
#                 3 -  4    same        2
#                 5 -  9    same        4
#                10 - 18    same        8
#
# '1--8'          1 -  2    1 -  2      1
#                 3 -  4    3 -  4      2
#                 5 -  6    5 -  7      3
#                 7 -  9    8 -  9      4
#                10 - 11   10 - 12      5
#                12 - 14   13 - 14      6
#                15 - 16   15 - 16      7
#                17 - 18   17 - 18      8
#
binary-size:            1-2-4-8

# Numeric truncation according to ANSI
binary-truncate:        yes

# Binary byte order
# Value: 'native', 'big-endian'
binary-byteorder:       big-endian

# Allow larger REDEFINES items other than 01 non-external
larger-redefines:       error

# Allow certain syntax variations (eg. REDEFINES position)
relax-syntax-checks:        no

# Allow zero length reference-modification
# (only checked with active EC-BOUND-REF-MOD)
ref-mod-zero-length:        yes
```

```
# Perform type OSVS - If yes, the exit point of any currently
# executing perform is recognized if reached.
perform-osvs:           no

# Compute intermediate decimal results like IBM OSVS
arithmetic-osvs:        no

# MOVE like IBM (mvc); left to right, byte by byte
move-ibm:           no

# LOCAL-STORAGE SECTION implies RECURSIVE attribute
local-implies-recursive:    no

# If yes, LINKAGE SECTION items remain allocated
# between invocations.
sticky-linkage:         no

# If yes, allow non-matching level numbers
relax-level-hierarchy:      no

# If yes, evaluate constant expressions at compile time
constant-folding:       yes

# Allow Hex 'F' for NUMERIC test of signed PACKED DECIMAL field
hostsign:           no

# If yes, set WITH UPDATE clause as default for ACCEPT dest-item,
# except if WITH NO UPDATE clause is used
accept-update:          no

# If yes, set WITH AUTO clause as default for ACCEPT dest-item,
# except if WITH TAB clause is used
accept-auto:            no

# If yes, DISPLAYs and ACCEPTs are, by default, done on the CRT (i.e., using
# curses).
console-is-crt:         no

# If yes, allow redefinition of the current program's name. This prevents its
# use in a prototype-format CALL/CANCEL statement.
```

```
program-name-redefinition:  yes

# If yes, NO ECHO/NO-ECHO/OFF is the same as SECURE (hiding input with
# asterisks, not spaces).
no-echo-means-secure:       no

# If yes, the first item in a field screen ACCEPT/DISPLAY (e.g. DISPLAY x UPON
# CRT) is located after the previous ACCEPT/DISPLAY (as though LINE 0 COL 0 had
# been specified).
line-col-zero-default:      yes

# If yes, then REPORT, COLUMN may have any of PLUS num, + num, or +num
# to define a relative column position
# If no, then COLUMN +num is not accepted due to signed numeric
report-column-plus:     yes

# If yes, DISPLAY SPACES acts as ERASE EOS, DISPLAY X"01" acts as ERASE EOL,
# DISPLAY X"02" acts as BLANK SCREEEN and DISPLAY X"07" acts as BELL. Note
# DISPLAY LOW-VALUE is excluded from this; it will always just position the
# cursor.
display-special-fig-consts: no

# If yes, COMP-1 is a signed 16-bit integer and any PICTURE clause is ignored.
binary-comp-1:          no

# If yes, POINTER is handled as BINARY-DOUBLE UNSIGNED instead of its own class
numeric-pointer:        no

# auto-adjust to zero like MicroFocus does
move-non-numeric-lit-to-numeric-is-zero: no

# If yes, implicitly define a variable for an ASSIGN DYNAMIC which does not
# match an existing data item.
implicit-assign-dynamic-var:    yes

# If yes, ACCEPT and DISPLAY statements accept device names using mnemonics
device-mnemonics:       no

# full clauses in XML PARSE - and adjusted XML-EVENTs
xml-parse-xmlss:        yes
```

```
# What rules to apply to SCREEN SECTION items clauses
screen-section-rules:       gc

# Whether DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA has effect in XML/JSON GENERATE
dpc-in-data:            xml

# Functionality of JUSTIFY for INITIALIZE verb and initialization of storage
init-justify:           no

# Dialect features
# Value: 'ok', 'warning', 'archaic', 'obsolete', 'skip', 'ignore', 'error',
#        'unconformable'

alter-statement:            obsolete
comment-paragraphs:         obsolete
control-division:           unconformable
partial-replace-when-literal-src:   obsolete
call-overflow:              archaic
data-records-clause:            obsolete
debugging-mode:             ok
use-for-debugging:          ok
listing-statements:         skip        # may be a user-defined word
title-statement:            skip        # may be a user-defined word
entry-statement:            ok
goto-statement-without-name:        obsolete
label-records-clause:           obsolete
memory-size-clause:         obsolete
move-noninteger-to-alphanumeric:    error
move-figurative-constant-to-numeric:    archaic
move-figurative-space-to-numeric:   error
move-figurative-quote-to-numeric:   obsolete
multiple-file-tape-clause:      obsolete
next-sentence-phrase:           archaic
odo-without-to:             warning
odo-last-varlen:            ok
padding-character-clause:       obsolete
occurs-max-length-without-subscript:    no
section-segments:           ignore
stop-literal-statement:         obsolete
stop-identifier-statement:      obsolete
stop-error-statement:           unconformable
```

```
same-as-clause:             ok
type-to-clause:             ok
usage-type:             ok
synchronized-clause:            ok
sync-left-right:            ok
special-names-clause:           ok
top-level-occurs-clause:        ok
value-of-clause:            obsolete
numeric-boolean:            ok
hexadecimal-boolean:            ok
national-literals:          ok
hexadecimal-national-literals:      ok
national-character-literals:        warning
# TO-DO: Add separate config option for H"..." to be unsupported,numeric,non-
numeric(acu)
acu-literals:               unconformable
hp-octal-literals:          unconformable
ebcdic-symbolic-characters:     no
word-continuation:          warning
length-in-data-division:        yes
depending-on-not-fixed:         warning
not-exception-before-exception:     ok
accept-display-extensions:      ok
renames-uncommon-levels:        ok
symbolic-constant:          ok
constant-78:                ok
constant-01:                ok
perform-varying-without-by:     ok
reference-out-of-declaratives:      warning
# Is reference modification required to be within the single field
reference-bounds-check:         warning
program-prototypes:         ok
call-convention-mnemonic:       ok
call-convention-linkage:        ok
numeric-value-for-edited-item:      ok
incorrect-conf-sec-order:       ok
define-constant-directive:      archaic
free-redefines-position:        warning
records-mismatch-record-clause:     warning
record-delimiter:           ok
sequential-delimiters:          ok
```

```
record-delim-with-fixed-recs:       ok
record-sequential-advancing:        warning
missing-statement:          warning
missing-period:             warning     # when format not in {fixed,free}
zero-length-literals:           ok
xml-generate-extra-phrases:     ok
continue-after:             ok
goto-entry:             warning
binary-sync-clause:         ignore
nonnumeric-with-numeric-group-usage:    ok
assign-variable:            ok
assign-using-variable:          ok
assign-ext-dyn:             ok
assign-disk-from:           ok
vsam-status:                ignore
self-call-recursive:            skip
record-contains-depending-clause:   unconformable
align-record:               0
align-opt:              no
defaultbyte:                 init        # GC inits as INITIALIZE ALL TO VALUE THEN
TO DEFAULT,
                            # with INDEXED BY variables initialized to 1
picture-l:              ok

# use complete word list; synonyms and exceptions are specified below
reserved-words:     default

# not-reserved:
# Value: Word to be taken out of the reserved words list
not-reserved:   TERMINAL
#not-reserved:  TRANSACTION
not-reserved:   EXAMINE

# reserved:
#   Entries of the form word-1=word-2 define word-1 as an alias for default
# reserved word word-2. No spaces are allowed around the equal sign.
reserved:   AUTO-SKIP=AUTO
reserved:   AUTOTERMINATE=AUTO
reserved:   BACKGROUND-COLOUR=BACKGROUND-COLOR
reserved:   BEEP=BELL
reserved:   BINARY-INT=BINARY-LONG
```

```
reserved:   BINARY-LONG-LONG=BINARY-DOUBLE
reserved:   CELLS=CELL
reserved:   COLOURS=COLORS
reserved:   EMPTY-CHECK=REQUIRED
reserved:   EQUALS=EQUAL
reserved:   FOREGROUND-COLOUR=FOREGROUND-COLOR
reserved:   HIGH-VALUES=HIGH-VALUE
reserved:   INITIALISE=INITIALIZE
reserved:   INITIALISED=INITIALIZED
reserved:   LENGTH-CHECK=FULL
reserved:   LOW-VALUES=LOW-VALUE
reserved:   ORGANISATION=ORGANIZATION
reserved:   PIXELS=PIXEL
reserved:   SYNCHRONISED=SYNCHRONIZED
reserved:   TIMEOUT=TIME-OUT
reserved:   ZEROES=ZERO
reserved:   ZEROS=ZERO
```

11.2 Running Programs

Once GnuCOBOL programs have been compiled into either directly-executable programs (created via the `-x` switch) or dynamically-loadable libraries (created via the `-m` switch), those programs may be executed from any shell environment. The exact manner in which the two are executed will differ, as described in the upcoming sections.

11.2.1 Direct Execution

GnuCOBOL programs compiled with the `-x` switch will be generated as directly-executable programs. For example, a native Windows or Windows/MinGW build of GnuCOBOL will generate an `.exe` file when the `-x` switch switch is specified to the compiler.

On Unix, OSX, or Windows/Cygwin builds, the `-x` switch switch will generate an executable binary file, usually with no particular extension unless one is explicitly requested of the compiler via the `-o` switch.

On a UNIX system this means the programs may be executed from a command shell such as bash, csh, ksh and so forth. When a GnuCOBOL program runs on a Windows system, it runs within a console window (i.e. `cmd.exe`). OSX versions of GnuCOBOL programs run within a `terminal.app` window.

Interactions between the program and the user will take place using the standard input, standard output and standard error streams. Any screen section I/O performed by the program will take place within the terminal window.

Direct program execution syntax is `[path]program [arguments]`.

For example:

```
/usr/local/printaccount ACCT=6625378
```

or

```
C:\\Users\\Me\\Documents\\Programs\\printaccount.exe ACCT=6625378
```

11.2.2 Executing Dynamically-Loadable Libraries

As discussed previously, dynamically-loadable libraries are created via the compiler's `-m` switch. Once so created, the program(s) in these libraries are executed from the command line (via the GnuCOBOL `cobcrun` utility), or as dynamically-loadable subprograms.

11.2.2.1 cobcrun - Command-line Execution

It is possible to generate executable modules for all GnuCOBOL programs, not just subprograms, by choosing to use the `-m` switch option to specify the loader output format, even for main programs.

Some may prefer to compile their GnuCOBOL main programs into these dynamically-loadable modules in the interests of using the same general compilation command for all programs without having to think "Is it a main program or a subprogram?".

Main programs compiled in this manner should be executed as follows:

```
[path]cobcrun program [arguments]
```

Do not specify the `.so` or `.dll` extension on the program name. The *program* value must exactly match the primary entry-point name of the main program (including upper- and lower-case letters), unless you are planning on using *Call Folding* (see Dynamically Loaded Subprograms).

The general usage and syntax of cobcrun is as follows as issued by running cobcrun -h (or –help) :

```
GnuCOBOL module loader

Usage: cobcrun [options] PROGRAM [parameter ...]
  or:  cobcrun options

Options:
  -h, -help                     display this help and exit
  -V, -version                  display cobcrun and runtime version and exit
```

```
  -i, -info                      display runtime information (build/environment)
  -v, -verbose                   display extended output with --info
  -c <file>, -config=<file>      set runtime configuration from <file>
  -r, -runtime-config            display current runtime configuration
                                 (value and origin for all settings)
  -M <module>, -module=<module>  set entry point module name and/or load path
                                 where -M module prepends any directory to the
                                 dynamic link loader library search path
                                 and any basename to the module preload list
                                 (COB_LIBRARY_PATH and/or COB_PRELOAD)
```

Here are two examples of using `cobcrun`. First, on a Unix, OSX or Windows/Cygwin system:

```
cd /usr/local
cobcrun printaccount acct=6625378
```

Or, on a Native Windows or Windows/MinGW system:

```
cd C:\Users\Me\Documents\Programs
cobcrun printaccount.exe acct=6625378
```

Note how the `cobcrun` command does not allow a path to be specified with the program name — the directory in which the programs dynamically loadable module exists must either be the current directory or must be defined in the current `PATH`.

11.2.2.2 Dynamically Loaded Subprograms

Dynamically-loaded subprograms are executed (from a COBOL syntax point of view) just like any other subprograms. What makes them unique, however, is that they are loaded into memory only when they are actually used the first time during the execution of a program.

When a dynamically-loadable module needs to be loaded (because it is not already in memory from a previous subprogram execution), the dynamically-loadable library will be sought by libcob in each directory named in the library specified by the `COB_LIBRARY_PATH` run-time environment variable will be searched and if not found then. Finally, if it *still* cannot be located, execution will be terminated with an error message (*libcob: Cannot find module 'xxxxxxxx'*). For speed performance purposes all such should therefore be stored within the directories pointed to by the environment variable `COB_LIBRARY_PATH` run-time environment variable.

The process of locating dynamically-loadable modules is case sensitive on UNIX systems; `CALL "dynsub"` and `CALL "DYNSUB"` will both fail to locate the `DynSub.so` library on a UNIX system.

Windows implementations of GnuCOBOL may, or may not, be similarly case sensitive with regard to library names, depending upon the Windows version and GnuCOBOL build options — it is safest to simply treat library names as case sensitive in all environments.

It is possible, however, to automatically cause all library names to 'fold' to upper-case by specifying the `-ffold-call` switch with the "upper" option (i.e. `--fold-call=upper`) to the GnuCOBOL compiler. Similarly, library names could be folded to lower-case by using the "lower" option (i.e. `--fold-call=lower`. If libraries are maintained entirely using upper- or lower-case file names, either of these options will allow libraries to be found regardless of how the programmer entered their names on `CALL` statements.

See Sub-Programming, for a complete discussion of sub-programming.

11.2.3 Run Time Environment Variables

The following is a list of the various environment variables that can play a role in the execution of GnuCOBOL programs.

`COB_DISPLAY_WARNINGS`

If set to a value of '`Y`', any run-time warnings (such as noting the implicit closing of open files when a `GOBACK` statement (see GOBACK) or `STOP` statement (see STOP) with the `RUN` option is executed) will be displayed. Any other value for this environment variable (including not setting the variable at all) will suppress such messages.

`COB_LIBRARY_PATH`

At runtime, GnuCOBOL will attempt to locate and load any application dynamically loadable libraries used this variable that points to the directories specified, if it wasn't found there, using the `PATH` environment variable.

`COB_LOAD_CASE`

If set to either `UPPER` or `LOWER`, this environment variable will internally convert referenced entry point names to either upper- or lower-case before initiating searches for dynamically loadable modules. The `UPPER` and `LOWER` values of the environment variable are actually case insensitive.

`COB_PHYSICAL_CANCEL`

If set to '`Y`', '`y`' or '`1`', a `CANCEL` statement (see CANCEL) will physically unload a subprogram dynamically loadable module. If set to anything else, a `CANCEL` statement (see CANCEL) logically unloads a module so that subsequent use will re-initialize the module as if it had actually been reloaded, but the overhead of actually reloading the module will be avoided.

`COB_PRE_LOAD`

If set to any non-null value, this variable will cause all dynamically loadable libraries to be loaded when the program begins execution (rather than searching for and loading the module upon first use).

COB_SET_DEBUG

If a `USE FOR DEBUGGING` (see DECLARATIVES) section exists, the code within it will be disabled unless this environment variable is set to a value of '`Y`', '`y`' or '`1`'.

COB_SET_TRACE

If the `-ftrace` switch (trace procedures) or `-ftraceall` switch (trace procedures and statements) was used when the program was compiled, setting this environment variable to a value of '`Y`' will activate the trace at the point the program begins execution. Setting this environment variable to any other value (or never setting it to ANY value) will disable tracing. Tracing, if configured by one of the two switches described above, can also be controlled via the the `READY TRACE` statement (see READY TRACE) and `RESET TRACE` statement (see RESET TRACE). If COB_SET_TRACE is set to Y, then tracing will always occur regardless of the presence of READY TRACE or RESET TRACE so in effect they will have no action on program execution.

COB_SCREEN_ESC

If set to any non-blank value, this variable allows a `ACCEPT data-item` statement (see ACCEPT data-item) to detect the `Esc` key.

COB_SCREEN_EXCEPTIONS

Setting this variable to any non-blank value will allow the `ACCEPT data-item` statement (see ACCEPT data-item) to detect the pressing of the `Esc`, `PgUp` and `PgDn` keys.

COB_SORT_MEMORY

The value of this variable (an integer) will be used to define how much memory will be allocated for use in sorting. If the value is 1048576 or greater, that value will be used "as is" as the amount of memory (in bytes) to allocate. If the value is less than 1048576, the value will specify how many MB of memory will be allocated. The default sort memory amount is 128 MB.

COB_SWITCH_n

(n=0 to 15); These environment variables correspond to `SWITCH-0` through `SWITCH-15`, defined in the `SPECIAL-NAMES` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) paragraph. Setting them to `ON` will activate them; any other value turns them off.

COB_SYNC

If set to a value of upper- or lower-case '`p`', this variable will force a file commit every time a file is written to (ensuring that data is immediately written to the file rather than retained in memory until a future commit occurs). This will slow-down update access to files, but will provide for better integrity in the event of a program failure.

COB_TRACE_FILE

If set to any non-null value, this environment variable specifies the file to which all `-ftrace` switch and `-ftraceall` switch output will be written. If this is NOT set to a value, all `-ftrace` switch and `-ftraceall` switch output will be written to STDERR, where it may be piped via a "2> filename" on the command that executes the program.

DB_HOME

If your GnuCOBOL build uses the Berkeley Database (BDB) package, use this environment variable to specify the folder in which the lock management files to be associated with all non-SORT files opened by the program will be stored. `ORGANIZATION INDEXED` (see ORGANIZATION INDEXED) files will also have their data file allocated in the folder pointed to by this environment variable, if it exists.. Having this variable defined will activate record locking features on the `READ` statement (see READ), `REWRITE` statement (see REWRITE) and `WRITE` statement (see WRITE). Even with DB_HOME, locking will not work with `ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL` (see ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL), `ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL` (see ORGANIZATION LINE SEQUENTIAL) or ORGANIZATION RELATIVE files with GnuCOBOL builds created for Windows/MinGW. `ORGANIZATION INDEXED` locks will work with Windows/MinGW + BDB and all locks will work for all file organizations with UNIX GnuCOBOL builds.

OS

Use this environment variable to retrieve the value of the Operating System in which the program is running.

```
The statement ACCEPT identifier-1 FROM ENVIRONMENT "OS" returns the
value "Windows_NT" if the program is running in a WINDOWS 10
environment.
```

PATH

The GnuCOBOL "bin" directory should be defined in the PATH.

TMPDIR; **TMP**; **TEMP**

One of these environment variables must be set to a directory/folder appropriate to create temporary files in. They will be checked in the order shown. This will be used by the `SORT` statement (see SORT) and `MERGE` statement (see MERGE) to create temporary work files. You may also use this folder for any temporary files your application may require.

Also used during execution of programs is runtime.cfg also found in `/usr/local/share/gnucobol/config` for *nix and this file can also be changed to match your environment if needed. When viewing, note the Default settings.

11.2.3.1 General instructions

```
#
## General instructions
#

# The initial runtime.cfg file is found in the  $COB_CONFIG_DIR  ,
# which defaults to  installdir/gnucobol/config  (see  cobcrun --info  for the
# local path that is configured).
# The environment variable  COB_RUNTIME_CONFIG  may define a different runtime
# configuration file to read.

# If settings are included in the runtime environment file multiple times
# then the last setting value is used, no warning occurs.

# Settings via environment variables always take precedence over settings
# that are given in runtime configuration files. And the environment is
# checked after completing processing of the runtime configuration file(s)

# All values set to string variables or environment variables are checked
# for  ${envvar}  and replacement is done at the time of the setting.
# You can also specify a default value for the case that envvar is not set:
#   ${envvar:default}  (the format  ${envvar:-default}  is supported, too).

# Any environment variable may be set with the directive  setenv  .
# Example:  setenv COB_LIBARAY_PATH ${LD_LIBRARY_PATH}

# Any environment variable may be unset with the directive  unsetenv
# (one var per line).
# Example:  unsetenv COB_LIBRARY_PATH

# Runtime configuration files can include other files with the
# directive  include  .
# Example:  include my-runtime-configuration-file

# To include another configuration file only if it is present use the
# directive  includeif  .
# You can also use  ${envvar}  inside this.
# Example:  includeif ${HOME}/mygc.cfg

# If you want to reset a parameter to its default value use
#   reset parametername  .
```

```
# Most runtime variables have boolean values, some are switches, some have
# string values, integer values (if not explicit noted: unsigned) and some
# are size values.
# The boolean values will be evaluated as following:
#   to true:      1, Y, ON, YES, TRUE  (no matter of case)
#   to false:     0, N, OFF
# A 'size' value is an unsigned integer optionally followed by K, M, or G
# for kilo, mega or giga.

# Variables of type string can be of three different kinds:
# regular string, file name, and path list
# All those may contain the following escape sequences:
#   $$  process id
#   $f  executable filename (full path)
#   $b  executable basename (anything after the last separator)
#   $d  date (yyyymmdd)
#   $t  time (hhmmss)

# For convenience a parameter in the runtime.cfg file may be defined by using
# either the environment variable name or the parameter name.
# In most cases the environment variable name is the parameter name (in upper
# case) with the prefix  COB_  .

# For a complete list of the settings in use see  cobcrun --runtime-config  .

# Note:
# If you want to *slightly* speed up a program's startup time, remove all
# of the comments from the actual real configuration file that is processed.
```

11.2.3.2 General Environment

```
#
## General environment
#

# Environment name:  COB_DISABLE_WARNINGS
#   Parameter name:  disable_warnings
#          Purpose:  turn off runtime warning messages
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  DISABLE_WARNINGS  TRUE
```

```
# Environment name:  COB_ENV_MANGLE
#   Parameter name:  env_mangle
#          Purpose:  names checked in the environment would get non alphanumeric
#                    change to '_'
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  ENV_MANGLE  TRUE

# Environment name:  COB_SET_DEBUG
#   Parameter name:  debugging_mode
#          Purpose:  to enable USE ON DEBUGGING procedures that were active
#                    during compile-time because of WITH DEBUGGING MODE,
#                    otherwise the code generated will be skipped
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  COB_SET_DEBUG  1

# Environment name:  COB_SET_TRACE
#   Parameter name:  set_trace
#          Purpose:  to enable COBOL trace feature
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  SET_TRACE  TRUE

# Environment name:  COB_TRACE_FILE
#   Parameter name:  trace_file
#          Purpose:  to define where COBOL trace output should go
#             Type:  string (file) ; may use $-sequences
#             Note:  file is opened for append if name starts with "+"
#          Default:  stderr
#          Example:  TRACE_FILE  ${HOME}/mytrace.$$

# Environment name:  COB_TRACE_FORMAT
#   Parameter name:  trace_format
#          Purpose:  to define format of COBOL trace output
#             Type:  string
#          Default:  "%P %S Line: %L"
#                    %P is replaced by Program-Id/Function-Id minimal length 29
#                       with prefix
#                    %I is replaced by Program-Id/Function-Id variable length,
```

```
#                       without prefix
#                    %L is replaced by Line number, right justified, length 6
#                    %S is replaced by statement type and name
#                    %F is replaced by source file name
#          Example:  TRACE_FORMAT  "Line: %L %S"
#             Note:  format of GC2.2 and older:
#                    "PROGRAM-ID: %I   Line: %L    %S"

# Environment name:  COB_TRACE_IO
#   Parameter name:  trace_io
#          Purpose:  define if I/O details should be added to trace
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  TRACE_IO true

# Environment name:  COB_CORE_ON_ERROR
#   Parameter name:  core_on_error
#          Purpose:  to enable operating system handling of signals and to
#                    raise an ABORT signal on runtime error instead of the
#                    default error handling, which will commonly kill the
#                    process after creating a coredump
#             Type:  0   means catching all default signals and do full
#                        internal error handling as done in versions pre 3.2
#                        along with full internal handling of COBOL runtime
#                        errors
#                    1   means to forward any signals; whatever happens
#                        by means of system signal handers will happen,
#                        which may include creating coredumps and killing
#                        the process before libcob does any cleanup; preserve
#                        full internal handling of COBOL runtime errors
#                    2   is identical to 1, but on runtime errors explicit
#                        raises SIGABRT after displaying it along with the
#                        stacktrace and after doing minimal cleanup
#                    3   similar to 2, but instead of raising SIGABRT execute
#                        "gcore -a -o NAME $$" (where $$ is the process id and
#                        NAME is specified by COB_CORE_FILENAME) as early as
#                        possible before doing the normal internal error
#                        handling; if the command does not work or if a signal
#                        handler was executed before a SIGABRT is raised
#          Default:  0
#          Example:  core_on_error 3
```

```
#             Note:  If the operating system kills the process as part of the
#                    signal handling no COBOL centric dump will be created and
#                    no cleanup will be done either.
#                    When catching a signal (for example 11) it will be
#                    returned as exit code of the process, the generated
#                    coredumps store the reason for the error in the variable
#                    "runtime_err_str".

# Environment name:  COB_CORE_FILENAME
#   Parameter name:  core_filename
#          Purpose:  to adjust the default name or specify a folder for a
#                    COB_CORE_ON_ERROR=3 generated coredump
#             Type:  string
#          Default:  ./core.libcob
#          Example:  core_filename /home/me/SomeApp.core

# Environment name:  COB_STACKTRACE
#   Parameter name:  stracktrace
#          Purpose:  to disable stracktrace creation on abort
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  true
#          Example:  STRACKTRACE  no

# Environment name:  COB_DUMP_FILE
#   Parameter name:  dump_file
#          Purpose:  to define where COBOL dump output should go
#             Note:  the -fdump=all compile option prepares for dump;
#                    file is opened for append if name starts with "+";
#                    may be disabled by setting it to "NONE"
#             Type:  string (file) ; may use $-sequences
#          Default:  stderr
#          Example:  DUMP_FILE  ${HOME}/mytrace.log

# Environment name:  COB_DUMP_WIDTH
#   Parameter name:  dump_width
#          Purpose:  to define COBOL dump line length
#             Type:  integer
#          Default:  100
#          Example:  dump_width 120

# Environment name:  COB_STATS_RECORD
```

```
#   Parameter name:  stats_record
#          Purpose:  define if I/O statistics should be written
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  STATS_RECORD true

# Environment name:  COB_STATS_FILE
#   Parameter name:  stats_file
#          Purpose:  to define where COBOL I/O statistics should be written
#                    The file is appended to
#             Type:  string
#          Default:  stderr
#          Example:  STATS_FILE  ${HOME}/mystats.txt

# Environment name:  COB_CURRENT_DATE
#   Parameter name:  current_date
#          Purpose:  specify an alternate Date/Time to be returned to ACCEPT
#                    statement; this is used for testing purposes or to tweak
#                    a missing offset, partial setting is allowed
#             Type:  numeric string in format YYYYDDMMHHMISS or date string
#                    or seconds since the epoch as @SSSSSSSS
#          Default:  the operating system date is used
#          Example:  COB_CURRENT_DATE "2026/03/16 16:40:52"
#                    current_date YYYYMMDDHHMMSS+01:00

# Environment name:  COB_PROF_FILE
#   Parameter name:  prof_file
#          Purpose:  to define where COBOL profiling output should go
#             Type:  string (file) ; may use $-sequences
#          Default:  cob-prof-$b-$$-$d-$t.csv
#          Example:  PROF_FILE  ${HOME}/$$-prof.csv

# Environment name:  COB_PROF_ENABLE
#   Parameter name:  prof_enable
#          Purpose:  to enable profiling for modules compiled with profiling;
#                    note that this disables physical cancel
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  PROF_ENABLE yes

# Environment name:  COB_PROF_MAX_DEPTH
```

```
#   Parameter name:  prof_max_depth
#          Purpose:  the number of sections and paragraphs that can be nested;
#                    if the nesting level is higher than this threshold,
#                    profiling is disabled automatically
#             Type:  integer
#          Default:  8192
#          Example:  PROF_MAX_DEPTH  8192

# Environment name:  COB_PROF_FORMAT
#   Parameter name:  prof_format
#          Purpose:  to define the format of the columns in the profiling CSV file.
#             Type:  string a comma separated list of fields, with %m for module,
#                    %s for section, %p for paragraph, %e for entry, %w for
#                    location, %k for kind (PROGRAM,SECTION,PARAGRAPH,ENTRY)
#                    %f for file, %i for PID, %t for time in nano-seconds,
#                    %h for human-readable time, %n for number of calls
#          Default:  %m,%s,%p,%e,%w,%k,%t,%h,%n
#          Example:  COB_PROF_FORMAT %m,%s,%p,%e,%w,%k,%t,%h,%n
```

11.2.3.3 Call Environment

```
#
## Call environment
#

# Environment name:  COB_LIBRARY_PATH
#   Parameter name:  library_path
#          Purpose:  paths for dynamically-loadable modules
#             Type:  string (path list)
#             Note:  the default paths .:/installpath/extras are always
#                    added to the given paths
#          Example:  LIBRARY_PATH    /opt/myapp/test:/opt/myapp/production

# Environment name:  COB_PRE_LOAD
#   Parameter name:  pre_load
#          Purpose:  modules that are loaded during startup, can be used
#                    to CALL COBOL programs or C functions that are part
#                    of a module library
#             Type:  string
#             Note:  the modules listed should NOT include extensions, the
#                    runtime will use the right ones on the various platforms,
#                    COB_LIBRARY_PATH is used to locate the modules
```

```
#          Example:  PRE_LOAD      COBOL_function_library:external_c_library

# Environment name:  COB_LOAD_CASE
#   Parameter name:  load_case
#          Purpose:  resolve ALL called program names to UPPER or LOWER case
#             Type:  Only use  UPPER  or  LOWER
#          Default:  if not set program names in CALL are case sensitive
#          Example:  LOAD_CASE  UPPER

# Environment name:  COB_PHYSICAL_CANCEL
#   Parameter name:  physical_cancel
#          Purpose:  physically unload a dynamically-loadable module on CANCEL,
#                    this frees some RAM and allows the change of modules during
#                    run-time but needs more time to resolve CALLs (both to
#                    active and not-active programs)
#            Alias:  default_cancel_mode, LOGICAL_CANCELS (0 = yes)
#             Type:  TRUE/YES/1  unload module on CANCEL
#                    FALSE/NO/0  unload module on STOP RUN only
#                    NEVER       never unload module, only useful for profilers
#                                and tracing tools that do a post-mortem lookup
#                                of function address
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  PHYSICAL_CANCEL  TRUE
```

11.2.3.4 File I/O

```
#
## File I/O
#

# Environment name:  COB_VARSEQ_FORMAT
#   Parameter name:  varseq_format
#          Purpose:  declare format to be used for variable length sequential files
#                Type:   0     means 2 byte record length (big-endian) plus 2 NULs
precedes record
#                    1    means 4 byte record length (big-endian) precedes record
#                 2    means 4 byte record length (local machine int) precedes record
#                3    means 2 byte record length (local machine short) precedes record
#                    b32  means 'type 2' above but the 'int' is in Big-Endian format
#                  l32  means 'type 2' above but the 'int' is in Little-Endian format
#                    mf   means create the file in Micro Focus compatible format
#          Default:  0
```

```
#          Example:  VARSEQ_FORMAT 1

# Environment name:  COB_VARREL_FORMAT
#   Parameter name:  varrel_format
#          Purpose:  declare format to be used for variable length relative files
#             Type:  gc   means 'size_t' record length (local machine) precedes
#                         maximum length data record
#                    mf   means file is in Micro Focus format
#                    b32  means Big-Endian 32-bit 'int' record length precedes data
#                    b64  means Big-Endian 64-bit 'int' record length precedes data
#                   l32  means Little-Endian 32-bit 'int' record length precedes data
#                   l64  means Little-Endian 64-bit 'int' record length precedes data
#          Default:  gc
#             NOTE:  'gc' results in files which cannot be used if copied between
#                         machines of different hardware architecture
#          Example: VARREL_FORMAT mf

# Environment name:  COB_FIXREL_FORMAT
#   Parameter name:  fixrel_format
#          Purpose:  declare format to be used for fixed length relative
#                    files (different types and lengths preceding each record)
#             Type:  b32  means 4 byte record length (big-endian)
#                    l32  means 4 byte record length (little-endian)
#                    b64  means 8 byte record length (big-endian)
#                    l64  means 8 byte record length (little-endian)
#                    mf   means Micro Focus default
#                    gc   means 'size_t' with record length precedes data record
#          Default:  gc
#             NOTE:  'gc' results in files which cannot be used if copied between
#                         machines of different hardware architecture
#          Example:  FIXREL_FORMAT B32

# Environment name:  COB_FILE_PATH
#   Parameter name:  file_path
#          Purpose:  define default location(s) where data files are stored
#             Type:  file path directory list
#          Default:  .  (current directory)
#          Example:  FILE_PATH ${HOME}/mydata
#  Unix/Linux list:  FILE_PATH ${HOME}/mydata:${PROJECT}/datafiles
#     Windows list:  FILE_PATH C:\proja\mydata;D:\projb\yourdata;.
```

```
# Environment name:  COB_FILE_DICTIONARY
#   Parameter name:  file_dictionary
#          Purpose:  define when a file format description is written
#                    is written to 'asgname.dd'
#             Type:  false   means never write
#                    no      means never write
#                    true    means write for BDB or LMDB only
#                    min     means write for BDB or LMDB only
#                    always  means write for all file types
#                    max     means write for all file types
#          Default:  min
#          Example:  file_dictionary always

# Environment name:  COB_FILE_DICTIONARY_PATH
#   Parameter name:  file_dictionary_path
#          Purpose:  define where the 'asgname.dd' is written
#             Type:  file path directory
#          Default:  .  (current directory)
#          Example:  FILE_DICTIONARY_PATH ${HOME}/mystuff

# Environment name:  COB_BDB_BYTEORDER
#   Parameter name:  bdb_byteorder
#          Purpose:  Defines the byte order to be used for BDB
#             Type:  native        - use the system byte order
#                    big-endian    - use big-endian order
#                    little-endian - use little-endian order
#          Default:  native
#          Example:  bdb_byteorder big-endian

# Environment name:  COB_FILE_FORMAT
#   Parameter name:  file_format
#          Purpose:  Declares if all files in the program should be in
#                    Micro Focus compatible format or old GnuCOBOL 3 format.
#             Type:  mf   means create files in Micro Focus compatible format
#                    gc   means create files in old GnuCOBOL 3 format
#          Default:  GC   (depends on compiler build --with-file-format= )
#          Example:  FILE_FORMAT = MF

# Environment name:  COB_LS_FIXED
#   Parameter name:  ls_fixed
#          Purpose:  Defines if LINE SEQUENTIAL files should be fixed length
```

```
#                    (or variable, by removing trailing spaces)
#             Alias:  STRIP_TRAILING_SPACES  (0 = yes)
#              Type:  boolean
#           Default:  false
#              Note:  This setting is most useful if you want to REWRITE those
#                     files.
#           Example:  LS_FIXED TRUE

# Environment name:  COB_LS_VALIDATE
#   Parameter name:  ls_validate
#           Purpose:  Defines for LINE SEQUENTIAL files that the data should be
#                     validated as it is read (status 09) / written (status 71).
#              Type:  boolean
#           Default:  true (per COBOL 2022)
#              Note:  If active effectively disables COB_LS_NULLS.
#           Example:  LS_VALIDATE FALSE

# Environment name:  COB_LS_NULLS
#   Parameter name:  ls_nulls
#           Purpose:  Defines for LINE SEQUENTIAL files what to do with data
#                     which is not DISPLAY type.  This could happen if a LINE
#                     SEQUENTIAL record has BINARY/COMP data fields in it.
#                     This option is only for GnuCOBOL format files
#              Type:  boolean
#           Default:  true (for MF files) otherwise false
#              Note:  The TRUE setting will insert a null character x"00" before
#                     those values to escape them, and redo on read-in plus
#                     validating that they only occur after a null character.
#                     Decreases LINE SEQUENTIAL performance and prevents writing
#                     escape sequences or formatting within the data.
#                     Only checked if COB_LS_VALIDATE is disabled.
#           Example:  LS_NULLS = TRUE

# Environment name:  COB_LS_SPLIT
#   Parameter name:  ls_split
#           Purpose:  Defines for LINE SEQUENTIAL files what to do when a record
#                     is longer than the program handles. If 'ls_split=true' then
#                     the data is returned as multiple records with io status 06,
#                     otherwise the record is truncated, io status set to 04 and
#                     the file skips to the next LF.
#              Type:  boolean
```

```
#          Default:  true (per COBOL 2022)
#          Example:  LS_SPLIT = FALSE

# Environment name:  COB_LS_INSTAB
#   Parameter name:  ls_instab
#          Purpose:  Defines for LINE SEQUENTIAL files that multiple spaces
#                    should be replaced by a TAB character, assuming a 'tab set'
#                    value of 8. Each TAB means to skip to the next column that
#                    is a multiple of 8
#                    Similar to Micro Focus INSERTTAB=ON option
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  LS_INSTAB = TRUE

# Environment name:  COB_SHARE_MODE
#   Parameter name:  share_mode
#          Purpose:  Defines what file sharing option should be used
#             Type:  -- choice of values ---
#                    none - nothing overrides application code
#                    read - files opened as SHARE READ ONLY
#                    all  - files opened as SHARE ALL OTHERS
#                    no   - files opened as SHARE NO OTHERS
#          Default:  none
#          Example:  share_mode = ALL

# Environment name:  COB_RETRY_MODE
#   Parameter name:  retry_mode
#          Purpose:  Defines what I/O retry sharing option should be used
#             Type:  --- choice of values ---
#                    none    - nothing overrides application code
#                    never   - I/O is never retried
#                    forever - I/O will be retried until success
#          Default:  none
#          Example:  retry_mode = never

# Environment name:  COB_RETRY_TIMES
#   Parameter name:  retry_times
#          Purpose:  Defines how many times I/O should be retried
#             Type:  integer
#          Default:  0
#          Example:  retry_times = 10
```

```
# Environment name:  COB_RETRY_SECONDS
#   Parameter name:  retry_seconds
#          Purpose:  Defines how many seconds I/O should be retried
#             Type:  integer
#          Default:  0
#          Example:  retry_seconds = 6

# Environment name:  COB_KEYCHECK
#   Parameter name:  keycheck
#          Purpose:  Must INDEXED file keys match COBOL SELECT exactly
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  true
#          Example:  keycheck = off

# Environment name:  COB_DUPS_AHEAD
#   Parameter name:  dups_ahead
#          Purpose:  Should INDEXED file handler return status 02 for dups
#             Type:  -- choice of values ---
#                    default - yes, if the low level I/O routine handles it
#                    never   - Even if 02 is return from xISAM, ignore it
#                    always  - fisam/foci/fodbc should do extra work to compute
#          Default:  default
#          Example:  dups_ahead = never

# Environment name:  COB_SYNC
#   Parameter name:  sync
#          Purpose:  Should the file be synced to disk after each write/update
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  SYNC: TRUE

# Environment name:  COB_FILE_ROLLBACK
#   Parameter name:  rollback
#          Purpose:  Should file updates be recorded for later COMMIT/ROLLBACK
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  rollback=TRUE

# Environment name:  COB_FILE_VBISAM
#   Parameter name:  file_vbisam
```

```
#          Purpose:  Should ISAM files be created in the old VB-ISAM format
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  file_vbisam=TRUE

# Environment name:  COB_FILE_ISNODAT
#   Parameter name:  file_isnodat
#          Purpose:  Should ISAM 'data file' have the '.dat' extension or not
#                    (The ISAM 'index file' will always have a '.idx' extension)
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  file_isnodat=TRUE

# Environment name:  COB_STOP_RUN_COMMIT
#   Parameter name:  stop_run_commit
#          Purpose:  On STOP RUN with updates pending should it COMMIT
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#                    When 'false' a ROLLBACK of pending updates will be done
#          Example:  stop_run_commit=true

# Environment name:  COB_HEAP_MEMORY
#   Parameter name:  heap_memory
#          Purpose:  Defines how much RAM to use when allocating segments
#                    of memory to be used by the VIRTAUL HEAP functions.
#             Type:  size  but must be between 16K and 64M
#          Default:  1M
#          Example:  HEAP_MEMORY 1M

# Environment name:  COB_HEAP_MEMORY_64
#   Parameter name:  heap_memory_64
#          Purpose:  Defines how much RAM to use when allocating segments
#                    of memory to be used by the VIRTAUL HEAP functions
#                    when using the 64 bit READ / WRITE VFILE versions.
#             Type:  size  but must be >= 256K
#          Default:  64M
#          Example:  HEAP_MEMORY_64 128M

# Environment name:  COB_SORT_MEMORY
#   Parameter name:  sort_memory
#          Purpose:  Defines how much RAM to assign for sorting data
```

```
#                   if this size is exceeded the  SORT  will be done
#                   on disk instead of memory
#             Type:  size  but must be more than 1M
#          Default:  128M
#          Example:  SORT_MEMORY 64M

# Environment name:  COB_SORT_CHUNK
#   Parameter name:  sort_chunk
#          Purpose:  Defines how much RAM to assign for sorting data in chunks
#             Type:  size  but must be within 128K and 16M
#          Default:  256K
#          Example:  SORT_CHUNK 1M

# Environment name:  COB_SEQ_CONCAT_NAME
#   Parameter name:  seq_concat_name
#          Purpose:  Does DD_asgname hold multiple input file names
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  seq_concat_name = true

# Environment name:  COB_SEQ_CONCAT_SEP
#   Parameter name:  seq_concat_sep
#          Purpose:  Character separating file names
#             Type:  char
#          Default:  +
#          Example:  seq_concat_sep = '&'

#
## File I/O database specfic for OCI and ODBC
#

# Environment name:  COB_SCHEMA_DSN
#          Purpose:  Defines the DSN name for connecting to the database.
#                    (DSN is commonly defined in /usr/local/etc/odbc.ini or
#                    /etc/odbc.ini)
#             Type:  string
#          Example:  COB_SCHEMA_DSN = testdb

# Environment name:  COB_SCHEMA_CON
#          Purpose:  Defines the complete database connection string,
#                    normally DSN is enough.
```

```
#             Type:  string
#          Example:  COB_SCHEMA_CON = "what goes here"

# Environment name:  COB_SCHEMA_SID
#          Purpose:  Defines the Oracle SID name for connecting to the database.
#             Type:  string
#          Example:  COB_SCHEMA_SID = mydb

# Environment name:  COB_SCHEMA_UID
#          Purpose:  Defines the Oracle UID name for connecting to the database.
#             Type:  string
#          Example:  COB_SCHEMA_UID = myname

# Environment name:  COB_SCHEMA_PWD
#          Purpose:  Defines the Oracle PWD value for connecting to the database.
#             Type:  string
#          Example:  COB_SCHEMA_PWD = mypassword
```

11.2.3.5 Screen I/O

```
#
## Screen I/O
#

# Environment name:  COB_BELL
#   Parameter name:  bell
#          Purpose:  Defines how a request for the screen to beep is handled
#             Type:  FLASH, SPEAKER, FALSE, BEEP
#          Default:  BEEP
#          Example:  BELL SPEAKER

# Environment name:  COB_REDIRECT_DISPLAY
#   Parameter name:  redirect_display
#          Purpose:  Defines if DISPLAY output should be sent to 'stderr'
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  redirect_display Yes

# Environment name:  COB_SCREEN_ESC
#   Parameter name:  screen_esc
#          Purpose:  Enable handling of ESC key during ACCEPT
#             Type:  boolean
```

```
#          Default:  false
#             Note:  is only evaluated if COB_SCREEN_EXCEPTIONS is active
#          Example:  screen_esc Yes

# Environment name:  COB_SCREEN_EXCEPTIONS
#   Parameter name:  screen_exceptions
#          Purpose:  enable exceptions for function keys during ACCEPT
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  screen_exceptions Yes

# Environment name:  COB_TIMEOUT_SCALE
#   Parameter name:  timeout_scale
#          Purpose:  specify translation in milliseconds for ACCEPT clauses
#                    BEFORE TIME value / AFTER TIMEOUT
#             Type:  integer
#                    0 means 1000 (Micro Focus COBOL compatible), 1 means 100
#                    (ACUCOBOL compatible), 2 means 10, 3 means 1
#          Default:  0
#             Note:  the minimum and possible maximum value depend on the
#                    screenio library used
#          Example:  timeout_scale 3

# Environment name:  COB_INSERT_MODE
#   Parameter name:  insert_mode
#          Purpose:  specify default insert mode for ACCEPT; 0=off, 1=on
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#             Note:  also sets the cursor type (if available)
#          Example:  insert_mode Y

# Environment name:  COB_HIDE_CURSOR
#   Parameter name:  hide_cursor
#          Purpose:  hide the cursor; 0=visible, 1=hidden
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  false
#          Example:  hide_cursor Y

# Environment name:  COB_MOUSE_FLAGS
#   Parameter name:  mouse_flags
#          Purpose:  specify which mouse events will be sent as function key
```

```
#                    to the application during ACCEPT and how they will be
#                    handled
#             Type:  int (by bits)
#          Default:  1
#             Note:  0 disables the mouse cursor, any other value enables it,
#                    any value containing 1 will enable internal handling (click
#                    to position, double-click to enter).
#                    See copy/screenio.cpy for list of events and their values.
#            Alias:  MOUSE_FLAGS
#          Example:  11 (enable internal handling => 1, left press => 2,
#                        double-click => 8; 1+2+8=11)

# Environment name:  COB_MOUSE_INTERVAL
#   Parameter name:  mouse_interval
#          Purpose:  specifies the maximum time (in thousands of a second)
#                    that can elapse between press and release events for them
#                    to be recognized as a click.
#             Type:  int (0 - 166)
#          Default:  100
#             Note:  0 disables the click resolution (instead press + release
#                    are recognized), also disables positioning by mouse click

# Environment name:  COB_DISPLAY_PRINT_PIPE
#   Parameter name:  display_print_pipe
#          Purpose:  Defines command line used for sending output of
#                    DISPLAY UPON PRINTER to (via pipe)
#                    This is very similar to Micro Focus COBPRINTER
#             Note:  Each executed DISPLAY UPON PRINTER statement causes a
#                    new invocation of command-line (= new process start).
#                    Each invocation receives the data referenced in
#                    the DISPLAY statement and is followed by an
#                    end-of-file condition.
#                    COB_DISPLAY_PRINT_FILE, if set, takes precedence
#                    over COB_DISPLAY_PRINT_PIPE.
#            Alias:  COBPRINTER
#             Type:  string
#          Default:  not set
#          Example:  print 'cat >>/tmp/myprt.log'

# Environment name:  COB_DISPLAY_PRINT_FILE
#   Parameter name:  display_print_file
```

```
#          Purpose:  Defines file to be appended to by DISPLAY UPON PRINTER
#             Note:  Each DISPLAY UPON PRINTER opens, appends and closes the file.
#             Type:  string ; may use $-sequences
#          Default:  not set
#          Example:  display_printer '/tmp/myprt.log'

# Environment name:  COB_DISPLAY_PUNCH_FILE
#   Parameter name:  display_punch_file
#          Purpose:  Defines file to be created on first
#                    DISPLAY UPON SYSPUNCH/SYSPCH
#             Note:  The file will be only be closed on runtime exit.
#             Type:  string ; may use $-sequences
#          Default:  not set
#          Example:  display_punch './punch_$$.out'

# Environment name:  COB_LEGACY
#   Parameter name:  legacy
#          Purpose:  keep behavior of former runtime versions, currently only
#                    for setting screen attributes for non input fields and
#                    disabling blinking on some systems
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  not set
#          Example:  legacy true

# Environment name:  COB_EXIT_WAIT
#   Parameter name:  exit_wait
#          Purpose:  to wait on main program exit if an extended screenio
#                    DISPLAY was issued without an ACCEPT following
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  true
#          Example:  COB_EXIT_WAIT off

# Environment name:  COB_EXIT_MSG
#   Parameter name:  exit_msg
#          Purpose:  string to display if COB_EXIT_WAIT is processed, set to ''
#                    if no actual display but an ACCEPT should be done
#             Type:  string
#          Default:  'end of program, please press a key to exit' (localized)
#          Example:  COB_EXIT_MSG ''
```

11.2.3.6 Report I/O

```
#
## Report I/O
#

# Environment name:  COB_COL_JUST_LRC
#   Parameter name:  col_just_lrc
#          Purpose:  If true, then COLUMN defined as LEFT, RIGHT or CENTER
#                    will have the data justified within the field limits
#                    If false, then the data is just copied into the column as is
#             Type:  boolean
#          Default:  TRUE
#          Example:  col_just_lrc True
```

11.2.3.7 File I/O Environment Variables and/or dictionary file

```
#
## File I/O Environment Variables and/or dictionary file
#

# Before a file is opened a check is done for environment variables that
# may define various attributes of the file
# First a check is made for attributes for files of the same ORGANIZATION
# IX_OPTIONS for INDEXED, SQ_OPTIONS for SEQUENTIAL, RL_OPTIONS for RELATIVE
# LS_OPTIONS for LINE SEQUENTIAL, LA_OPTIONS for LINE ADVANCING SEQUENTIAL
# If none of these are present, it then checks for IO_OPTIONS
#
# Then an additional check is done for IO_asgnmame where 'asgname' was
# the ASSIGN EXTERNAL name used in the program
#
# The environment variable (or dictionary file) may contain any of the
# following keywords, separated by spaces and/or commas
#
# You can specify just the keyword and it is assumed to mean set to true,
# or no-keyword (or no_keyword or nokeyword) which means set to false,
# or keyword=true or keyword=false.  The valid keywords are:
# Keyword       Meaning
# =========     ======================================================
# type=xx       Set file organization where 'xx' is one of
#               IX = INDEXED, SQ = SEQUENTIAL, RL = RELATIVE
#               LS = LINE SEQUENTIAL, LA = LINE ADVANCING
# mf            Set file to Micro Focus compatible format
```

```
# gc            Set to original GNU Cobol default format
# recsz         The size for fixed size record file
# maxsz         Maximum record size for variable length records
# minsz         Minimum record size for variable length records
# ls_nulls      Do NUL insertion before characters less than a SPACE,
#               Default: false
# ls_validate   Validate data for LINE Sequential Files, Default: true
# crlf          Lines end with CR LF (Windows format for text files)
# lf            Lines end with LF (Unix format for text files)
# sync          Sync all writes to disk
# B32           Use 32-bit Big-Endian format 'int' as record length
# L32           Use 32-bit Little-Endian format 'int' as record length
# B64           Use 64-bit Big-Endian format 'int' or 'size_t' as record length
# L64           Use 64-bit Little-Endian format 'int' or 'size_t' as record length
# trace         Enable I/O trace when program execution tracing is enabled
# stats         Write I/O statistic information on file close
# retry_times   Default number of times to retry I/O
# retry_seconds Number of seconds between I/O retry attempts
# retry_forever Retry I/O forever
# retry_never   Never retry I/O operations
# ignore_lock   Ignore record locks
# advancing_lock Advance to the next record if lock condition
# share_all     Share file with ALL others
# share_read    Share file for READ only
# share_no      Share file with NO others
#  ---- For INDEXED files -----
# format=ixhandler  INDEXED file format: CISAM,DISAM,VBISAM,VBCISAM,OCI,ODBC,BDB,LMDB
# format=auto   INDEXED file format is determined by inspecting the file
# dups_ahead=   default,never,always
# rollback=     yes, no
#                 (OCI & ODBC will 'autocommit' each update is not defined and not
APPLY COMMIT)
#               (fileio will handle COMMIT/ROLLBACK for all other files)
# nkeys=n       number of indexes
# key1=(loc:len)     loc (zero relative) of key, len of key
# key2=(loc:len,loc:len ...)     define composite index
# dupn=Y         index allows dups
#  ---- For INDEXED BDB files -----
# big_endian    Set internal 'int' byte order to BIG ENDIAN
# little_endian Set internal 'int' byte order to LITTLE ENDIAN
#
```

11.2.4 Program Arguments

Regardless of the manner in which a main program is executed (i.e. directly or via `cobcrun`), any arguments specified to the program may be retrieved via any of the following:

- `ACCEPT FROM COMMAND-LINE` (see ACCEPT FROM COMMAND-LINE)
- `PROCEDURE DIVISION CHAINING` (see PROCEDURE DIVISION CHAINING)

11.3 Binary Truncation

By default, the GnuCOBOL compiler will truncate binary data items to the precision indicated by their `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) clause, if they have one. This applies to COMP, BINARY and COMP-4 items Only. The fact is, however, that binary truncation has a significant effect on the performance of GnuCOBOL programs. When binary truncation is in effect, arithmetic operations performed against all types of numeric data items (even `USAGE DISPLAY`) are slowed down.

Before continuing, it's worth making the point that we're *not* talking about astronomical performance degradations here. Today's computers are *fast*, and a user sitting at the keyboard, running a GnuCOBOL program is unlikely to notice. But, if you have a GnuCOBOL program that has to process large amounts of data, performing some significant "number crunching" against that data as it goes, the impact of truncation could become noticeable.

The following program compares the performance of performing arithmetic operations (in a totally non-scientific, non-rigorous way) against data items with a `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `DISPLAY`, `COMP` and `BINARY-LONG`. It was actually my intent when I first wrote the program to merely demonstrate the relative performance differences between different types of numeric data storage, and it certainly met that objective.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DEMOMATH.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Begin-Time.
    05 BT-HH                   PIC 9(2).
    05 BT-MM                   PIC 9(2).
    05 BT-SS                   PIC 9(2).
    05 BT-HU                   PIC 9(2).
01  Binary-Item         BINARY-LONG SIGNED VALUE 0.
01  Comp-Item           COMP    PIC S9(9)  VALUE 0.
01  Display-Item        DISPLAY PIC S9(9)  VALUE 0.
01  End-Time.
    05 ET-HH                   PIC 9(2).
```

```
    05 ET-MM                    PIC 9(2).
    05 ET-SS                    PIC 9(2).
    05 ET-HU                    PIC 9(2).
78  Repeat-Count               VALUE 10000000.
01  Time-Diff                  PIC ZZ9.99.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
010-Test-Usage-DISPLAY.
    ACCEPT  Begin-Time FROM TIME
    PERFORM Repeat-Count TIMES
        ADD 7 TO Display-Item
    END-PERFORM
    PERFORM 100-Determine-Time-Diff
    DISPLAY 'USAGE DISPLAY: ' Time-Diff ' SECONDS'.
020-Test-Usage-COMP.
    ACCEPT Begin-Time FROM TIME
    PERFORM Repeat-Count TIMES
        ADD 7 TO Comp-Item
    END-PERFORM
    PERFORM 100-Determine-Time-Diff
    DISPLAY 'USAGE COMP:    ' Time-Diff ' SECONDS'.
040-Test-Usage-BINARY.
    ACCEPT Begin-Time FROM TIME
    PERFORM Repeat-Count TIMES
        ADD 7 TO Binary-Item
    END-PERFORM
    PERFORM 100-Determine-Time-Diff
    DISPLAY 'USAGE BINARY:  ' Time-Diff ' SECONDS'.
099-Done.
    STOP RUN.
100-Determine-Time-Diff.
    ACCEPT End-Time FROM TIME
    COMPUTE Time-Diff =
      ( (ET-HH * 360000 + ET-MM * 6000 + ET-SS * 100 + ET-HU)
      - (BT-HH * 360000 + BT-MM * 6000 + BT-SS * 100 + BT-HU) )
      / 100.
```

Each data item has 7 added to it ten *million* times.

The time (to one-one-hundredth of a second) will be retrieved before and after each test and the difference between the two is displayed. This is why the computations were done so many times — it was to make sure the timing was measurable with only a 1/100 second “stopwatch”.

I also ran the tests multiple times, just to make sure I had consistent results (I did). Like I mentioned earlier, this is not a rigorous, scientific benchmark of numeric performance; it's just a quick-and-dirty comparison.

Here are the results:

```
Test 1:
USAGE DISPLAY:   1.72 SECONDS
USAGE COMP:      0.62 SECONDS
USAGE BINARY:    0.02 SECONDS

Test 2:
USAGE DISPLAY:   1.69 SECONDS
USAGE COMP:      0.61 SECONDS
USAGE BINARY:    0.02 SECONDS

Test 3:
USAGE DISPLAY:   1.69 SECONDS
USAGE COMP:      0.65 SECONDS
USAGE BINARY:    0.02 SECONDS
```

The results I saw here were consistent with those that would have been obtained from most of the COBOL implementations I have ever worked with — `USAGE COMP` has a significant performance advantage over `USAGE DISPLAY` and `USAGE BINARY-LONG` (and presumably the other `BINARY-xxx` usages as well) perform identically, within the measurement tolerances of the test.

Imagine my surprise, however, when I discovered that the use of `-fno-trunc` switch also made a difference:

```
Test 4:
USAGE DISPLAY:   1.72 SECONDS
USAGE COMP:      0.07 SECONDS
USAGE BINARY:    0.02 SECONDS

Test 5:
USAGE DISPLAY:   1.72 SECONDS
USAGE COMP:      0.07 SECONDS
USAGE BINARY:    0.02 SECONDS

Test 6:
USAGE DISPLAY:   1.73 SECONDS
```

```
USAGE COMP:      0.06 SECONDS
USAGE BINARY:    0.02 SECONDS
```

As you can see, there was a huge drop in `USAGE COMP` timings by turning off truncation. As a result, I see absolutely no reason whatsoever why the `-fno-trunc` switch option shouldn't be used on all GnuCOBOL compilations.

If you want to squeeze every last bit of performance out of your GnuCOBOL programs, don't forget to investigate the `-O` switch, `-O2` switch and the `-Os` switch, all of which influence the optimization of compiled code. Actually run programs using various optimization switches (or not) and compare execution times against those of unoptimized compiled versions of your programs. Don't just compare the generated C code because sometimes the differences can't be seen at the C source-code level.

```
Test 7:
cobc -x demomath.cbl -O2;demomath
USAGE DISPLAY:   1.68 SECONDS
USAGE COMP:      0.60 SECONDS
USAGE BINARY:    0.00 SECONDS

Test 8:
cobc -x demomath.cbl -fnotrunc -O2;demomath
USAGE DISPLAY:   1.67 SECONDS
USAGE COMP:      0.01 SECONDS
USAGE BINARY:    0.00 SECONDS
```

All tests above carried out under Linux with a AMD FX8350 under very low loading prior to the test.

12 Sub-Programming

12.1 Subprogram Types

Simply stated, a Subprogram is a program that is invoked by another program; the subprogram performs whatever its designed operations are and — when complete — typically returns control back to the program that invoked it. There are two different types of subprograms supported by GnuCOBOL, subroutines and user-defined functions. The distinction between these two subprogram types lies in the manner in which they are executed.

When program *A* invokes subprogram *B* as a Subroutine, it does so using a special statement dedicated to that function (the `CALL` statement (see CALL), just as if *B* were one of the built-in system subroutines.

When program *A* invokes program *B* as a User-Defined Function, it does so in a manner identical to how *B* would have been invoked had it been one of the many built-in intrinsic functions.

In either instance, program *A* is referred to as the Calling Program while program *B* is known as the Called Program. GnuCOBOL programs may be a calling program, a called program or both.

A program written in the C programming language may serve as either the calling or called program too. A called program may act as a calling program to another called program. When a calling program does not serve as a called program to any program, that calling program is known as a Main Program.

Both subroutines and user-defined functions may return a value. The value they return must be an integer in the range −2147483648 to +2147483647. This value will be available in the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers) and also as the value of the data item specified on the `RETURNING` (see CALL) clause of a subroutine's `CALL`.

12.2 Independent vs Contained vs Nested Subprograms

Subprograms (either subroutines or user-defined functions) can be implemented in three different ways.

Independent Subprograms

These are subprograms that are coded as the only COBOL program in their Compilation Unit (see Compilation Unit).

Contained Subprograms

These are subprograms which occur in the same Compilation Unit as a main program and/or other subprograms. Each contained subprogram is separated from the next via an `END PROGRAM` marker line. As an example...

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. SUB1.
…
END PROGRAM SUB1.

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. SUB2.
…
END PROGRAM SUB2.
```

Program source code may be concatenated as shown here, provided an `END PROGRAM` marker naming the `PROGRAM-ID` of the just-completed program is used to separate one program from another.

There's no reason that user-defined functions cannot be included too — they'll just have `FUNCTION-ID`s and will be ended by `END FUNCTION` markers.

The last program in any GnuCOBOL source file need not have an `END` marker.

When multiple programs occur in a source file, it is assumed that the programs are related to one another in that they will be `CALL`ed or executed as functions from the others.

Nested Subprograms

It is also possible to create source files where GnuCOBOL programs are nested inside each other. Take for example these four GnuCOBOL programs:

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PROG1.
…
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PROG2.
…
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PROG3.
…
END PROGRAM PROG3.
END PROGRAM PROG2.
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PROG4.
…
END PROGRAM PROG4.
END PROGRAM PROG1.
```

Here we see that `PROG2` is nested inside of `PROG1` because there is no `END PROGRAM` marker separating them. This means that data items or files defined within `PROG1` can be used within `PROG2` simply by attaching the `GLOBAL` (see GLOBAL) attribute to them back in `PROG1` when they are defined.

Similarly, since there is no `END PROGRAM` marker separating `PROG3` from `PROG2`, it is possible for `PROG3` to access `GLOBAL` files and data items defined within `PROG2`. Since `PROG2` is nested within `PROG1`, any `GLOBAL` resources defined within `PROG1` will be available to `PROG3` as well.

The two `END PROGRAM` markers for `PROG3` and `PROG2` (note their sequence) mean that PROG4 is nested within `PROG1` only. It will not have access to any `GLOBAL` resources defined within either `PROG2` or `PROG3`.

The `END PROGRAM PROG1.` marker, since it is the last line in the source file, is entirely optional.

12.3 Alternate Entry Points

Any subroutine may have multiple entry-points defined within it. This means the subroutine could be called either via a `CALL 'program-id'` or a `CALL 'entry-point'` statement. There may be any number of alternate entry-points defined within a subroutine.

Alternate entry-points provide multiple ways in which the same subroutine may be called; presumably, each entry-point will provide some different functionality to the calling program.

For example, if you wished to write a subroutine that manipulates "student" records in a database, you might have the primary entry-point name retrieve a student record from the database, while the alternate entry points `Add-Student`, `Update-Student` and `Delete-Student` could provide the alternate functions implied by their entry-point names.

The alternative to using multiple entry points in your subroutine, by the way, would be to include an additional argument to the primary (and only) entry point of the subroutine; this new argument might be named `STUDENT-FUNCTION` and might have values of '`FETCH`', '`ADD`', '`UPDATE`' or '`DELETE`'.

The primary entry-point for any subroutine is always the first executable statement following any `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES) in the procedure division. The name of that entry-point (the name that will be called) is the subroutine's `PROGRAM-ID` (see IDENTIFICATION DIVISION).

An alternate entry point is added to a subroutine using the `ENTRY` statement (see ENTRY).

When an alternate entry-point is called, execution within the subroutine will begin at the first executable statement following the `ENTRY` statement.

12.4 Dynamic vs Static Subprograms

Any subprogram may be either statically or dynamically loaded into memory.

A Static Subprogram is one which was in the same Compilation Unit (see Compilation Unit) as the other program(s) which call it, therefore meaning that its executable object code is part of the same executable file as its calling program. The static subprogram was therefore loaded into memory as part of and at the same time as the calling program.

A Dynamic Subprogram is one whose executable object code exists as an executable file separate from that containing the calling program; these two programs were therefore each compiled in their own separate Compilation Group (see Compilation Group). Dynamic subprograms are located and loaded into memory the first time they are executed. Dynamic subprograms may be unloaded from memory via the `CANCEL` statement (see CANCEL), if desired.

GnuCOBOL subprograms may be created as either static or dynamic subprograms, as desired by the programmer.

To demonstrate, assume that a GnuCOBOL Main Program (whose code resides in the file `M.cbl`) will be calling three subprograms, named *A*, *B* and *C* (these are the `PROGRAM-ID`s of the three subprograms, and their source code may be found in the files `A.cbl`, `B.cbl` and `C.cbl`, respectively.

Here is how these four programs would be compiled if the three subprograms are to be static:

```
cobc -x M.cbl A.cbl B.cbl C.cbl
```

This command informs the compiler (cobc) that four programs are to be compiled (the first named on the command must always be the main program), and a single executable file is to be created (due to the `-x` switch).

Here is how the main program and the three subprograms could be compiled if the three subprograms are to be dynamic:

```
cobc -x M.cbl
cobc -m A.cbl B.cbl C.cbl
```

These commands will create an executable file for the main program (`-x` switch) and three separate dynamically-loadable libraries (see `-m` switch), one for each of the three subprograms. Had we wished, we could have created a single dynamically-loadable library containing all three subprograms by adding the `-b` switch to their compilation:

```
cobc -m -b A.cbl B.cbl C.cbl
```

Dynamically-loadable *libraries* are also known by the term dynamically-loadable *modules*. The two terms are synonymous.

Here are the rules about GnuCOBOL dynamically-loadable modules:

1. There may be multiple GnuCOBOL subprograms contained within a single dynamically-loadable library if the `-b` switch is used in addition to `-m`. If not, each subprogram will be compiled to a separate dynamically-loadable library.
2. Dynamically-loadable modules will be named `xxxxxxxx.dll` on a Windows system, `xxxxxxxx.so` on a Unix system or `xxxxxxxx.dylib` on an OSX system, where `xxxxxxxx` exactly matches, including the usage of upper- and lower-case letters, the primary entry-point name (`PROGRAM-ID` or `FUNCTION-ID`) or an alternate entry point name defined via the `ENTRY` statement (see ENTRY) of any one of the GnuCOBOL programs included in that module.
3. The first time any of the GnuCOBOL subprograms in a dynamically-loadable module are invoked, the entry-point referenced must be the one for which the `.dll`, `.so` or `.dylib` file is named.
4. When a dynamically-loadable module needs to be loaded (because it is not already in memory from a previous subprogram execution), the dynamically-loadable library will be sought in the same directory from which the main program was loaded. If it cannot be found there, each directory named in the `PATH` run-time environment variable (see Run Time Environment Variables) will be searched. If it was not located in any of those directories, the library specified by the `COB_LIBRARY_PATH` run-time environment variable will be

searched. Finally, if it *still* cannot be located, execution will be terminated with an error message (*libcob: Cannot find module 'xxxxxxxx'*).

5. Once the dynamically-loadable module has been successfully loaded, any of the entry-points contained within it are now available for reference.
6. Dynamically-loadable modules may be removed from memory via the `CANCEL` statement (see CANCEL).
7. Once a dynamically-loadable module is actually loaded into memory, even if it is subsequently unloaded (via the `CANCEL` statement), its list of entry-points remain available to the GnuCOBOL run-time library and subsequent re-executions of any of those entry points will be able to bypass the search (rule #4) as well as the *first-execution rule* (rule #3).

Consult the documentation on the `COB_PRE_LOAD` run-time environment variable, `COB_PHYSICAL_CANCEL` run-time environment variable and `COB_LOAD_CASE` run-time environment variable run-time environment variables (see Run Time Environment Variables) for additional options when using dynamically-loadable modules.

12.5 Subprogram Execution Flow

When a subprogram is invoked, the flow of execution will differ slightly depending on whether the subprogram is a subroutine or a user-defined function.

12.5.1 Subroutine Execution Flow

When a subroutine is `CALL`ed:

1. The calling program issues a statement of the form `CALL 'entry-point' USING ...` to transfer control to the subroutine.
2. The executable for the called program will be located and loaded into memory:
   A. If it is a static subroutine, it will already be part of the executable program issuing the `CALL` (see CALL).
   B. If it is a dynamic subroutine, the GnuCOBOL run-time system will check to see if a dynamically-loadable module containing the subprogram's entry point was already located. If it was, no further "location" activity is needed. If not, the dynamically-loadable module will be located (see Locating Dynamically-Loadable Modules).
   C. Once the module has been located (if location was needed), it will be loaded into memory (if not already loaded).
3. Execution of the calling program is suspended and control will transfer to the called program, as follows:

A. If the PROGRAM-ID (see IDENTIFICATION DIVISION) clause of the subprogram included the INITIAL clause, the program will be reinitialized back to its compile-time state. This will happen regardless of the INITIAL clause the first time the subprogram is executed.

B. Local-storage, if any, will be allocated and initialized.

C. Execution will begin at the first executable statement following the subprograms entry-point. The entry point will be either the first executable statement following any DECLARATIVES (see DECLARATIVES) that might be present (if the subprogram was invoked using its primary entry-point name) or the first executable statement following the ENTRY statement (see ENTRY) naming the entry-point specified on the CALL if the subprogram was invoked using an alternate entry point.

4. The flow of execution will then progress through the coding of the subprogram as it would with any other program.

5. If the subprogram issues a STOP statement (see STOP) with the RUN option, program execution ceases and control returns to the operating system or whatever execution shell invoked the main program.

6. If the subprogram wishes to return control back to the calling program, it will do so using either the GOBACK statement (see GOBACK) or the EXIT PROGRAM statement (see EXIT). At this time:

   A. If the subprograms procedure division header or ENTRY statement included a RETURNING, the value of the data item found on that clause is moved to the RETURN-CODE special register (see Special Registers); this behaviour can be altered utilizing the CALL-CONVENTION (see SPECIAL-NAMES) feature to leave RETURN-CODE unchanged.

   B. Local-storage, if any, is de-allocated.

   C. If the calling program included a RETURNING clause on the CALL statement that invoked the subprogram, the value of the RETURNING data item in the subroutine is moved to that data item. If there was no RETURNING specified in the subroutine, the value of the RETURN-CODE special register is moved to that data item.

   D. Execution will resume back in the calling program with the first executable statement following the CALL that invoked the subprogram.

12.5.2 User-Defined Function Execution Flow

When a user-defined function is executed:

1. The object code for the called program (the user-defined function) will be located, as follows:

   A. If it is a static user-defined function, it will already be part of the executable file containing the calling program.

B. If it is a dynamic user-defined function, the GnuCOBOL run-time system will check to see if a dynamically-loadable module containing the function's entry point was already located. If it was, no further "location" activity is needed. If not, the dynamically-loadable module will be located (see Locating Dynamically-Loadable Modules).

C. Once the module has been located (if location was needed), it will be loaded into memory (if not already loaded).

2. Execution of the calling program is suspended and control will transfer to the called program, as follows:

   A. Local-storage, if any, will be allocated and initialized.

   B. Execution will begin with the first executable statement in the procedure division following any `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES) that might be present.

3. The flow of execution will then progress through the coding of the function as it would with any other program.

4. If the function issues a `STOP` statement (see STOP) with the `RUN` option, program execution ceases and control returns to the operating system or whatever execution shell invoked the main program.

5. If the function wishes to return control back to the calling program, it will do so using either the `GOBACK` statement (see GOBACK) or the `EXIT FUNCTION` statement (see EXIT). At this time:

   A. The value of the data item found on the user-defined functions `PROCEDURE DIVISION RETURNING` (see PROCEDURE DIVISION RETURNING) clause is moved to the `RETURN-CODE` special register (see Special Registers).

   B. Local-storage, if any, is de-allocated.

   C. Execution will resume back in the calling program at the point where the returned value of the function is needed. At that point, the value in the `RETURN-CODE` special register will be used for the function's value.

12.6 Sharing Data Between Calling and Called Programs

12.6.1 Subprogram Arguments

12.6.1.1 Calling Program Considerations

Data items defined in a calling program may be passed to either type of called program (subroutine or user-defined function) as arguments.

Arguments must be described in both the calling and called programs, and while they don't need to have the same names in both programs, they should be described in an identical manner with regard to the following characteristics:

- `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) (including both type and length)
- `SIGN` (see SIGN)
- `SYNCHRONIZED` (see SYNCHRONIZED)
- `USAGE` (see USAGE)

A subroutine may be passed a maximum of 251 arguments; if you build the GnuCOBOL software yourself from the distributed source, you CAN change this value by altering the defined value of `COB_MAX_FIELD_PARAMS` in the `call.h` header file but also see 7.8.5.11 for more information. There is no built-in GnuCOBOL limit to how many arguments a user-defined function may be passed.

Whether or not changes made to an argument within a subroutine will be "visible" to the calling program depends on how the argument was passed. There are three ways in which arguments may be passed from a calling program to a subroutine, as defined by the use of optional `BY` clauses in the `CALL` (see CALL) statement's list of arguments.

As an example, the following statement passes three arguments to a subroutine — each argument is passed differently.

```
CALL "subroutine" USING BY REFERENCE arg-1
                        BY CONTENT arg-2
                        BY VALUE arg-3
END-CALL
```

The three ways arguments are passed are as follows.

`BY REFERENCE`

When a subroutine argument is passed `BY REFERENCE`, the subroutine is passed the *address* of the *actual data item* being passed as an argument. The item may be anything defined within the data division of the program. If the subroutine modifies the contents of this argument, the calling program will "see" the results of that change when the subroutine returns control. This is the default manner in which GnuCOBOL passes arguments to a subroutine, should no `BY` clauses be included on the `CALL`.

BY CONTENT

When a subroutine is passed an argument BY CONTENT, the subroutine is passed the *address* of a *copy* of the actual data being passed as an argument. The item may be anything defined within the data division of the program. The copy is made each time the CALL statement is executed, immediately before the CALL actually takes place. If the subroutine modifies the contents of this argument, it will be the *copy* that is modified, not the original data item; the calling program will therefore not "see" the results of that change when the subroutine returns control.

BY VALUE

Passing a subroutine argument BY VALUE passes the *actual value* of the data being passed as an argument. The item may be any elementary binary numeric item defined within the data division of the program. If the subroutine modifies the contents of this argument, the calling program will not "see" the results of that change when the subroutine returns control.

The first two ways in which arguments may be passed (BY REFERENCE and BY CONTENT) are intended for use when a GnuCOBOL program is being called, while the first and third (BY REFERENCE and BY VALUE) are intended for use when a C program is being called. You *can* use BY VALUE arguments when calling GnuCOBOL subroutines, but remember that those arguments are limited to being a numeric binary data item.

Arguments to user-defined functions are always passed BY REFERENCE.

12.6.1.2 Called Program Considerations

When coding a GnuCOBOL subprogram (a subroutine or user-defined function), all arguments to the subprogram must be defined in the subprogram's linkage section.

These arguments must be explicitly included on the PROCEDURE DIVISION USING (see PROCEDURE DIVISION USING) clause that lists the arguments in the sequence in which they will be passed to the subprogram.

These arguments described in the PROCEDURE DIVISION USING clause may each be defined as either BY REFERENCE, if the calling program is passing them either BY REFERENCE or BY CONTENT, or as BY VALUE if they are being passed BY VALUE.

By default, all arguments are assumed to be BY REFERENCE unless explicitly stated otherwise on the procedure division header.

Arguments to a user-defined function are always to be specified as BY REFERENCE (either explicitly or by not using any BY).

If the subprogram returns a value, the data item in which the value is returned must also be defined in the subprogram's linkage section, with a USAGE (see USAGE) of BINARY-LONG SIGNED, or its equivalent.

12.6.2 GLOBAL Data Items

Another way in which a data item may be shared between a calling program (*A*) and a called program (*B*) is by defining the data item in the calling program and attaching the `GLOBAL` (see GLOBAL) clause to it so that it may be used within the called program. In order for this to work, program *B* (the one called by program *A*) must be a nested subprogram within program *A*.

Here's a small example:

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DemoGLOBAL.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Arg GLOBAL                     PIC X(10).
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    MOVE ALL "X" TO Arg
    CALL "DemoSub" END-CALL
    DISPLAY "DemoGLOBAL: " Arg END-DISPLAY
    GOBACK.
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DemoSub.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    MOVE ALL "*" TO Arg.
    GOBACK.
END PROGRAM DemoSub.
END PROGRAM DemoGLOBAL.
```

When the program runs, it produces the output:

```
DemoGLOBAL: **********
```

12.6.3 EXTERNAL Data Items

The final way in which a data item may be shared between a calling program (*A*) and a called program (*B*) is by defining the data item (with the same name) in both programs and attaching the `EXTERNAL` (see EXTERNAL) clause to it (again, in both programs). This approach works regardless of whether the called program is nested within the calling program or not. It also works even if the two programs are compiled separately.

Here's a demonstration:

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DemoEXTERNAL.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Arg EXTERNAL                PIC X(10).
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    MOVE ALL "X" TO Arg
    CALL "DemoSub" END-CALL
    DISPLAY "DemoEXTERNAL: " Arg END-DISPLAY
    GOBACK.
END PROGRAM DemoEXTERNAL.
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DemoSub.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Arg EXTERNAL                PIC X(10).
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    MOVE ALL "*" TO Arg.
    GOBACK.
END PROGRAM DemoSub.
```

When the program runs, it produces the output:

```
DemoEXTERNAL: **********
```

12.7 Recursive Subprograms

A subroutine may `CALL` itself, either directly or indirectly from another subroutine or user-defined function that it `CALL`s. Any subroutine that indulges in this sort of behaviour (called recursion) is called a Recursive Subprogram.

Any GnuCOBOL subroutine can be recursively invoked only if it is defined to the GnuCOBOL compiler as *being* a recursive subroutine. This is accomplished by adding the `RECURSIVE` attribute to its `PROGRAM-ID` (see IDENTIFICATION DIVISION).

All User-defined functions are automatically capable of being executed recursively.

Here is an example of a main program (DEMOFACT) that calls both a subprogram (RECURSIVESUB) and a user-defined function (RECURSIVEFUNC) to compute the factorial value of a number.

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. DEMOFACT.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
REPOSITORY. FUNCTION RECURSIVEFUNC.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Result    USAGE BINARY-LONG.
01  Arg       USAGE BINARY-LONG.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    MOVE 6 TO Arg
    CALL "RECURSIVESUB" USING BY CONTENT Arg RETURNING Result
    DISPLAY Arg "! = " Result
    DISPLAY Arg "! = " RECURSIVEFUNC(Arg)
    GOBACK.
END PROGRAM DEMOFACT.

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. RECURSIVESUB RECURSIVE.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01  Result      USAGE BINARY-LONG.
01  Next-Arg    USAGE BINARY-LONG.
01  Next-Result USAGE BINARY-LONG.
LINKAGE SECTION.
01  Arg         USAGE BINARY-LONG.
PROCEDURE DIVISION USING Arg.
    DISPLAY "Entering SUB Arg=" Arg
    IF Arg = 1
      MOVE 1 TO Result
      DISPLAY "Leaving SUB" " Returning " Result
    ELSE
      SUBTRACT 1 FROM Arg GIVING Next-Arg
      CALL "RECURSIVESUB" USING BY CONTENT Next-Arg RETURNING Next-Result
      COMPUTE Result = Arg * Next-Result
      DISPLAY "Leaving SUB Returning " Result "=" Arg "*" Next-Result
    END-IF
    MOVE Result TO RETURN-CODE
    GOBACK.
END PROGRAM RECURSIVESUB.
```

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
FUNCTION-ID. RECURSIVEFUNC.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
LINKAGE SECTION.
01  Arg     USAGE BINARY-LONG.
01  Result  USAGE BINARY-LONG SIGNED.
PROCEDURE DIVISION USING Arg RETURNING Result.
    DISPLAY "Entering FUNC Arg=" Arg
    IF Arg = 1
      MOVE 1 TO Result
    ELSE
      COMPUTE Result = Arg * RECURSIVEFUNC(Arg - 1)
    END-IF
    DISPLAY "Leaving FUNC Returning " Result
    GOBACK.
END FUNCTION RECURSIVEFUNC.
```

When DEMOFACT is executed, the output shown below is generated.

```
E:\Programs\Demos>demofact
Entering RECURSIVESUB Arg=+0000000006
Entering RECURSIVESUB Arg=+0000000005
Entering RECURSIVESUB Arg=+0000000004
Entering RECURSIVESUB Arg=+0000000003
Entering RECURSIVESUB Arg=+0000000002
Entering RECURSIVESUB Arg=+0000000001
Leaving RECURSIVESUB Returning +0000000001
Leaving RECURSIVESUB Returning +0000000002=+0000000002*+0000000001
Leaving RECURSIVESUB Returning +0000000006=+0000000003*+0000000002
Leaving RECURSIVESUB Returning +0000000024=+0000000004*+0000000006
Leaving RECURSIVESUB Returning +0000000120=+0000000005*+0000000024
Leaving RECURSIVESUB Returning +0000000720=+0000000006*+0000000120
+0000000006! = +0000000720
Entering RECURSIVEFUNC Arg=+0000000006
Entering RECURSIVEFUNC Arg=+0000000005
Entering RECURSIVEFUNC Arg=+0000000004
Entering RECURSIVEFUNC Arg=+0000000003
Entering RECURSIVEFUNC Arg=+0000000002
```

```
Entering RECURSIVEFUNC Arg=+0000000001
Leaving RECURSIVEFUNC Returning +0000000001
Leaving RECURSIVEFUNC Returning +0000000002
Leaving RECURSIVEFUNC Returning +0000000006
Leaving RECURSIVEFUNC Returning +0000000024
Leaving RECURSIVEFUNC Returning +0000000120
Leaving RECURSIVEFUNC Returning +0000000720
+0000000006! = +0000000720
```

12.8 Combining GnuCOBOL and C Programs

The upcoming sections deal the issues pertaining to calling C language programs from GnuCOBOL programs, and vice versa. Two additional sections provide samples illustrating specifics as to how those issues are overcome in actual program code.

12.8.1 GnuCOBOL Run-Time Library Requirements

Like most other implementations of the COBOL language, GnuCOBOL utilizes a run-time library. When the first program executed in a given execution sequence is a GnuCOBOL program, any run-time library initialization will be performed by the compiled COBOL code in a manner that is transparent to the C-language programmer. If, however, a C program is the first to execute, the burden of performing GnuCOBOL run-time library initialization falls upon the C program. See C Main Programs Calling GnuCOBOL Subprograms, for an example of how to do this.

12.8.2 String Allocation Differences Between GnuCOBOL and C

Both languages store strings as a fixed-length continuous sequence of characters.

COBOL stores these character sequences up to a specific quantity limit imposed by the `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) clause of the data item. For example: `01 LastName PIC X(15).`.

There is never an issue of exactly what the length of a string contained in a `USAGE DISPLAY` (see USAGE) data item is — there are always exactly how ever many characters as were allowed for by the `PICTURE` clause. In the example above, `LastName` will always contain exactly fifteen characters; of course, there may be anywhere from 0 to 15 trailing SPACES as part of the current LastName value.

C actually has no “string” data type; it stores strings as an array of `char` data type items where each element of the array is a single character. Being an array, there is an upper limit to how many characters may be stored in a given “string”. For example:

```
char lastName[15]; /* 15 chars: lastName[0] through lastName[14] */
```

C provides a robust set of string-manipulation functions to copy strings from one char array to another, search strings for certain characters, compare one char array to another, concatenate char arrays and so forth. To make these functions possible, it was necessary to be able to define the logical end of a string. C accomplishes this via the expectation that all strings (char arrays) will be terminated by a NULL character (`x'00'`). Of course, no one forces a programmer to do this, but if [s]he ever expects to use any of the C standard functions to manipulate that string they had *better* be null-terminating their strings!

So, GnuCOBOL programmers expecting to pass strings to or receive strings from C programs had best be prepared to deal with the null-termination issue, as follows:

1. Pass a quoted literal string from GnuCOBOL to C as a zero-delimited string literal (`Z'string'`).
2. Pass alphanumeric (`PIC X`) or alphabetic (`PIC A`) data items to C subroutines by appending an ASCII `NUL` character (`X'00'`) to them. For example, to pass the 15-character `LastName` data item described above to a C subroutine:

   ```
   01  LastName-Arg-to-C     PIC X(16).
   ...
       MOVE FUNCTION CONCATENATE(LastName,X'00') TO LastName-Arg-to-C
   ```

   And then pass `LastName-Arg-to-C` to the C subprogram!
3. When a COBOL program needs to process string data prepared by a C program, the embedded null character must be accounted for. This can easily be accomplished with an `INSPECT` statement (see INSPECT) such as the following:

   ```
   INSPECT Data-From-a-C-Program
       REPLACING FIRST X'00' BY SPACE
                 CHARACTERS BY SPACE AFTER INITIAL X'00'
   ```

12.8.3 Matching C Data Types with GnuCOBOL USAGE's

Matching up GnuCOBOL numeric Usage's with their C language data type equivalents is possible via the following chart:

COBOL	C
BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED	unsigned char
BINARY-CHAR [SIGNED]	signed char
BINARY-SHORT UNSIGNED	unsigned unsigned int unsigned short unsigned short int

COBOL	C
BINARY-SHORT [SIGNED]	int short short int signed int signed short signed short int
BINARY-LONG UNSIGNED	unsigned long unsigned long int
BINARY-LONG [SIGNED] BINARY-INT	long long int signed long signed long int
BINARY-C-LONG [SIGNED]	long
BINARY-DOUBLE UNSIGNED	unsigned long long unsigned long long int
BINARY-DOUBLE [SIGNED] BINARY-LONG-LONG	long long int signed long long int
COMPUTATIONAL-1	float
COMPUTATIONAL-2	double
N/A (no GnuCOBOL equivalent)	long double

These sizes conform to the COBOL standard and the minimum sizes of the COBOL types are the same as the minimum sizes of the corresponding C data types. There's no official compatibility between them. Note that values in square braces '[ ]' are the defaults.

12.8.4 GnuCOBOL Main Programs CALLing C Subprograms

Here's a sample of a GnuCOBOL program that CALLs a C subprogram.

```
COBOL Calling Program               C Called Program
================================    ==============================
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.            #include <stdio.h>
PROGRAM-ID. maincob.                int subc(char *arg1,
DATA DIVISION.                               char *arg2,
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.                     unsigned long *arg3) {
01  Arg1     PIC X(7).               char nu1[7]="New1";
01  Arg2     PIC X(7).               char nu2[7]="New2";
01  Arg3     USAGE BINARY-LONG.      printf("Starting subc\n");
PROCEDURE DIVISION.                 printf("Arg1=%s\n",arg1);
000-Main.                           printf("Arg2=%s\n",arg2);
    DISPLAY 'Starting maincob'      printf("Arg3=%d\n",*arg3);
    MOVE Z'Arg1'   TO Arg1          arg1[0]='X';
    MOVE Z'Arg2'   TO Arg2          arg2[0]='Y';
    MOVE 123456789 TO Arg3          *arg3=987654321;
    CALL 'subc'                     return 2;
```

```
        USING BY CONTENT   Arg1,    }
              BY REFERENCE Arg2,
              BY REFERENCE Arg3
    DISPLAY 'Back'
    DISPLAY 'Arg1=' Arg1
    DISPLAY 'Arg2=' Arg2
    DISPLAY 'Arg3=' Arg3
    DISPLAY 'Returned value='
            RETURN-CODE
    STOP RUN.
```

The idea is to pass two string and one full-word unsigned arguments to the subprogram, have the subprogram print them out, change all three and pass a return code of 2 back to the caller. The caller will then re-display the three arguments (showing changes only to the two `BY REFERENCE` arguments), display the return code and halt.

While simple, these two programs illustrate the techniques required quite nicely.

Note how the COBOL program ensures that a null end-of-string terminator is present on both string arguments.

Since the C program is planning on making changes to all three arguments, it declares all three as pointers in the function header and references the third argument as a pointer in the function body. It actually had no choice for the two string (char array) arguments — they must be defined as pointers in the function even though the function code references them without the leading '`*`' that normally signifies pointers.

These programs are compiled and executed as follows.

```
$ cobc -x maincob.cbl subc.c
$ maincob
Starting maincob
Starting subc
Arg1=Arg1
Arg2=Arg2
Arg3=123456789
Back
Arg1=Arg1
Arg2=Yrg2
Arg3=+0987654321
Returned value=+000000002
$
```

Remember that the null characters are actually in the GnuCOBOL `Arg1` and `Arg2` data items. They don't appear in the output, but they *are* there.

Did you notice the output showing the contents of `Arg1` after the subroutine was called? Those contents were unchanged! The subroutine *definitely* changed that argument, but since the COBOL program passed that argument `BY CONTENT`, the change was made to a *copy* of the argument, not to the `Arg1` data item itself.

12.8.5 C Main Programs Calling GnuCOBOL Subprograms

Now, the roles of the two languages in the previous section will be reversed, having a C main program execute a GnuCOBOL subprogram.

```
C Calling Program                                GNU-COBOL Called Program
================================================ ================================
#include <libcob.h> /* COB RUN-TIME */          IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
#include <stdio.h>                               PROGRAM-ID. subcob.
int main (int argc, char **argv) {               DATA DIVISION.
   int returnCode;                               LINKAGE SECTION.
   char arg1[7] = "Arg1";                        01  Arg1      PIC X(7).
   char arg2[7] = "Arg2";                        01  Arg2      PIC X(7).
   unsigned long arg3 = 123456789;               01  Arg3      USAGE BINARY-LONG.
   printf("Starting mainc...\n");                PROCEDURE DIVISION USING
   cob_init (argc, argv); /* COB RUN-TIME */        BY VALUE     Arg1,
   returnCode = subcob(arg1,arg2,&arg3);             BY REFERENCE Arg2,
   printf("Back\n");                                 BY REFERENCE Arg3.
   printf("Arg1=%s\n",arg1);                     000-Main.
   printf("Arg2=%s\n",arg2);                         DISPLAY 'Starting cobsub.cbl'
   printf("Arg3=%d\n",arg3);                         DISPLAY 'Arg1=' Arg1
   printf("Returned value=%d\n",returnCode);         DISPLAY 'Arg2=' Arg2
   return returnCode;                                DISPLAY 'Arg3=' Arg3
}                                                    MOVE 'X' TO Arg1 (1:1)
                                                     MOVE 'Y' TO Arg2 (1:1)
                                                     MOVE 987654321 TO Arg3
                                                     MOVE 2 TO RETURN-CODE
                                                     GOBACK.
```

Since the C program is the one that will execute first, before the GnuCOBOL subroutine, the burden of initializing the GnuCOBOL run-time environment lies with that C program; it will have to invoke the `cob_init` function, which is part of the `libcob` library. The two required C statements are shown highlighted.

The arguments to the `cob_init` routine are the argument count and value parameters passed to the main function when the program began execution. By passing them into the Gnu-

COBOL subprogram, it will be possible for that GnuCOBOL program to retrieve the command line or individual command-line arguments. If that won't be necessary, `cob_init(0,NULL);` could be specified instead.

Since the C program wants to allow `arg3` to be changed by the subprogram, it prefixes it with a '`&`' to force a `CALL BY REFERENCE` for that argument. Since `arg1` and `arg2` are strings (char arrays), they are automatically passed by reference.

Here's the output of the compilation process as well as the program's execution. The example assumes a Windows system with a GnuCOBOL build that uses the GNU C compiler on that system; the technique works equally well regardless of which C compiler and which operating system you're using.

```
C:\Users\Gary\Documents\Programs> cobc -S subcob.cbl
C:\Users\Gary\Documents\Programs> gcc mainc.c subcob.s -o mainc.exe -llibcob
C:\Users\Gary\Documents\Programs> mainc.exe
Starting mainc...
Starting cobsub.cbl
Arg1=Arg1
Arg2=Arg2
Arg3=+0123456789
Back
Arg1=Xrg1
Arg2=Yrg2
Arg3=987654321
Returned value=2
C:\Users\Gary\Documents\Programs>
```

Note that even though we told GnuCOBOL that the 1st argument was to be `BY VALUE`, it was treated as if it were `BY REFERENCE` anyway. String (char array) arguments passed from C callers to GnuCOBOL subprograms will be modifiable by the subprogram. It's best to pass a copy of such data if you want to ensure that the subprogram doesn't change it.

The third argument is different, however. Since it's not an array you have the choice of passing it either `BY REFERENCE` or `BY VALUE`.

13 Programming Style Suggestions

This chapter deals with a variety of stylistic issues that may be of interest to someone who is just starting out learning and using COBOL. Much of this chapter makes recommendations and suggestions for how to write your own programs. The sample programs in the *Sample Programs* document (see section “Top” in Sample Programs) were coded using almost all of these recommendations.

There’s no particular order of importance to the topics presented here.

13.1 Marking Changes in Programs

Historically in the early 60′s programs were first punched on to paper tape and by the mid 60′s that was replaced almost totally, by punched cards although paper tape was still used by programmers for the odd few changes to their sources held on magnetic tape or disk as a portable paper tape punch could be put in your pocket. Now the problem with punched cards were there was 2,000 cards per box and that they could and did, get dropped. So, cc (column) 1 through 6 had the card sequence number in and that way if a box was dropped they could be feed in to a card sorter to be fixed. This was after the cards was cleaned up so that they were all in the same direction which one corner cut out helped.

In the late 70′s cards was also on its way out to the point where P.C’s started being used (and no they were not made by IBM), so these columns could be used for other purposes including cc 73 - 80 instead of indicating the 8 character program name which was the maximum size allowed on a IBM system.

For quite a while now (back to the late 1970′s), the *sequence number area’* of a COBOL statement (columns 1-6) has come to be used as a change indicator area. Programmers would place a code in columns 1-6 of every line they changed in a program. The author works in a COBOL shop where change indicators of the form “xxmmyy” are required on every altered line of a program — “xx” is the initials of the programmer while “mmyy” are the month and two-digit year of the date the change was made. This is frequently accompanied by a comment block at or near the top of a COBOL program providing general documentation of what changes were made and what change indicator was used to mark that change.

The GCic sample program source listing (see section “GCic” in GnuCOBOL Sample Programs) provides an excellent example of such documentation.

This technique of using columns 1-6 as a change indicator will *only* work if fixed source-record format is in effect.

Some COBOL shops prefer to use the eight-character Program Name Area (columns 73-80) as a change code area.

Marking changes becomes more of a challenge when free-format source code is in effect. Creating a top-of-program comment block to generically describe changes that have been made isn't difficult, even in free-form. What *is* difficult, however, is coming up with a scheme for per-statement mark up of changes that doesn't introduce a ridiculously excessive number of source lines to the program. I'm not sure there is a good answer to this problem (if a reader has one, please let me know). Generally, I've noticed that shops using free-format conventions for their COBOL source tend to stick with just the top-of-program comment block combined with minimal comment blocks sprinkled throughout the program noting areas that underwent major changes.

13.2 Data Item Coding and Naming Conventions

When programs get very large, it becomes more and more challenging to keep track of the data items that will be used in the program. Here, in no particular order of importance, are a variety of conventions that can simplify that problem.

Remember that the points described here are intended to make things easier for you, the programmer. No COBOL compiler cares one way or another whether any of these suggestions are followed.

1. Avoid the use of level 77 data items in new programs. Once (1968 and before) there were valid reasons for creating level-77 data items, but since the 1974 ANSI standard of COBOL there really hasn't been any reason why an elementary level-01 data item couldn't have been used instead of a level-77 item.
2. Allocate level-01 data items in alphabetical sequence in the program source wherever practical. This will make it vastly easier to locate the definitions of 01-level items in the program source without having to resort to a compilation cross-reference listing and/or text editor "find" command to locate them.
3. *Consider* prefixing data items with an indication of where in the program structure they were created. For example:
   - Start everything defined in the file section with "F-"
   - Start everything defined in working-storage with "WS-"
   - Start everything defined in local-storage with "LS-"
   - Start everything defined in the linkage section with "L-"
   - Start everything defined in the screen section with "S-"
   - Start everything defined in the report section with "R-"

A convention such as this makes it simple, when you're reviewing code in the procedure division, to know in which section of the data division you should look in when locating the detailed description of a data item. Once you're in the right division, coding convention #2 will assist in locating the data item definition.

4. Consider including a trailing descriptor of the nature of all data items in their names. The following chart presents a variety of such descriptors the author has encountered and used through the years.

`-ADDR`
: The data item contains all or a part of an Address (`City-ADDR`, `State-ADDR`, `Street-ADDR`, ...)

`-BOOL`
: A level-88 data item (which only has the value `TRUE` or `FALSE`)

`-CD`
: A *code* whose value denotes information content above and beyond that of the mere value itself. Some examples could be `Error-CD`, `Status-CD`, `Billing-CD`

`-CHR`
: A data item containing a single character of data.

`-CONST`
: A constant, specified as a level-78 data item, a level-01 item with the `CONST` attribute

`-DT`
: The data item contains a complete or partial date (`Birth-DT`, `Birth-Month-DT`, `Birth-Year-DT`, ...)

`-DTTM`
: A data item containing both a date and a time

`-FILE`
: A file name. Note that these items would probably also have a "F-" prefix.

`-IDX`
: A data item used as a table index (see section 12.3)

`-NM`
: All or a portion of a person's name. These could be extended to include business names, product names, etc.

`-PTR`
: A data item whose `USAGE` is `POINTER`

`-NUM`
: A generic numeric data item that doesn't fit into any of the other categories

-QTY
: A count of something

-REC
: An 01-level item defined in the `FILE SECTION` (constituting the layout of a record within a file). Note that these items would probably also have a "F-" prefix.

-SCR
: The data item contains a complete or partial screen description (appropriate for SCREEN SECTION 01-level data items).

-SUB
: A numeric item used as a table subscript (see section 12.3)

-TEL
: All or part of a telephone number

-TM
: The data item contains a complete or partial time value

-TXT
: The data item contains generic alphanumeric text that doesn't fit into any of the other categories.

The above is by no means an exhaustive list, but good programmers will use as few of these descriptors as possible as having too many defeats any benefits of such classification/documentation efforts.

5. Consider including an acronym to be inserted into the name of any data item defined directly or indirectly subordinate to an 01-level item, typically to be specified after any section-level tag, if you're using them. For example, consider the names used in the following structure:

```
01  WS-File-Status-Message-TXT.
    05 FILLER                    PIC X(13) VALUE 'Status Code: '.
    05 WS-FSM-Status-CD          PIC 9(2).
    05 FILLER                    PIC X(11) VALUE ', Meaning: '.
    05 WS-FSM-Msg-TXT            PIC X(25).
....
01  WS-OI-SUB                   PIC 99  COMP.
01  WS-OI-IDX                   PIC 99  COMP.
```

The "-FSM-" acronyms make it easier to locate the description of the 01-item the status code and message text items belong to.

13.3 Table Subscripting versus Table Indexing

The elements of a table may be referenced either using a subscript or an index. Syntactically, this is coded using parenthesis, as per the following three examples, all of which store the letter 'A' into the 17th occurrence of a data item named WS-Output-Image-TXT:

1. `MOVE 'A' TO WS-Output-Image-TXT (17)`
2. `MOVE 17 TO WS-OI-SUB MOVE 'A' TO WS-Output-Image-TXT (WS-OI-SUB)`
3. `SET WS-OI-IDX TO 17 MOVE 'A' TO WS-Output-Image-TXT (WS-OI-IDX)`

The 1st and 2nd examples are referred to as Subscripting while the 3rd is known as Indexing. The distinction is fairly simple.

Indexing is the process of referencing an element of a table utilizing a data item with an explicitly or implicitly defined `USAGE` (see USAGE) of `INDEX` to select the desired occurrence, while ...

Subscripting is the process of referencing an element of a table utilizing either a numeric constant or an unedited numeric data item to select the desired occurrence.

Various implementations of COBOL generate object code that is quite different in each of these three situations, and GnuCOBOL is no exception.

In general, table references such as example #1 (constant subscript) generate the smallest, simplest and fastest object code while table references such as example #2 (numeric data item subscript) generate the largest, most-complicated and slowest object code.

Table references such as example #3 (table indexing) generate object code that falls in the middle of the other two but is far closer in efficiency to example #1 than #2.

Some COBOL statements (`SEARCH` (see SEARCH) (Serial and Binary), and the table-based `SORT` (see Table SORT)) require you to index the affected table and to utilize that index with those statements. With any other references to tables, the choice is left to the programmer as to which approach should be used. In general, follow these rules:

1. Use constant subscripts (example #1) wherever possible/practical.
2. If references to table elements are going to be performed many, many times (tens or hundreds of thousands of times or more) during program execution, you will probably see a noticeable reduction in program execution time if you use indexing versus subscripting.

It's impossible to perform any arithmetic operation against an index data item directly (other than a simple incrementation or decremental operation via the `SET UP/DOWN` statement (see SET UP/DOWN)). Situations where any non-trivial computations are required to calculate the effective occurrence number for a table reference will require you to use a conventional

unedited numeric data item as the receiving field for the calculation. That calculated value would then need to be saved into the index data item via a `SET Index` statement.

If you only need to use the computed occurrence number once, you might as well just use the computed occurrence number data item as a subscript. If, however, you will need to use a computed "subscript" many more times than once, the run-time overhead of converting that occurrence value to an index (via `SET Index`) will be worth the coding effort.

Whew!

If references to table elements are not going to be performed many, many times it probably won't make much difference whether you use indexing or subscripting.

The index-value (starting position of data item) is calculated using the formula:

```
   index-value = ((occurrence-number - 1) * occurrence-length) + 1

01 WS-CUSTOMER-TABLE.
   03 WS-CUSTOMER OCCURS 100 TIMES INDEXED BY WS-CUST-IDX.
      05 WS-CODE         PIC X(03).
      05 WS-NAME         PIC X(20).
```

For the second occurrence of WS-CUSTOMER, the binary value in WS-CUST-IDX is ((2 - 1) * 23) + 1, which is 24. So, when accessing WS-CUSTOMER(2), the data is retrieved starting at 24th byte, 23 bytes of length.

If you are comfortable with the C programming language, you might find the following simple GnuCOBOL program useful in exploring the differences between subscripting and indexing:

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID.  SUBVSINDEX.
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 WS-TABLE-SUB      BINARY-LONG.
01 WS-TABLE.
   05 WS-TABLE-ENTRY OCCURS 20 TIMES INDEXED BY WS-TABLE-IDX PIC X.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
000-Main SECTION.
E1. MOVE 'A' TO WS-TABLE-ENTRY(17)
    .
E2. MOVE 17  TO WS-TABLE-SUB
    MOVE 'A' TO WS-TABLE-ENTRY(WS-TABLE-SUB)
    .
```

```
E3. SET WS-TABLE-IDX TO 17
    MOVE 'A' TO WS-TABLE-ENTRY(WS-TABLE-SUB)
    .
```

Compile this program as follows (the assumption is made that you are executing the `cobc` command from the directory in which the above program source code (subvsindex.cbl) exists.

```
cobc -C -save-temps subvsindex.cbl\
```

After this command is executed, the file `subvsindex.c` will contain the procedure division C code and `subvsindex.c.1.h` will contain the working-storage C code. Compare the generated C code for each of the three `MOVE` statements.

13.4 Copybook Naming Conventions and Usage

Since the intent of a copybook is to introduce COBOL code into a particular spot in a program via the `COPY` statement (see COPY), it is always a good idea to prefix copybook names with a character sequence that identifies where in a program its contents are intended to be `COPY`ed.

For example:

`IDxxxxxxxx`
: Copybooks containing code intended for the identification division. These will be rare as you almost never encounter copied code in the identification division.

`EDxxxxxxxx`
: Copybooks containing code intended for use in the environment division. These copybooks are generally used for predefined `SPECIAL-NAMES` (see SPECIAL-NAMES) or `FILE-CONTROL` (see INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION) syntax,

`DDxxxxxxxx`
: Copybooks that contain data definitions.

`PDxxxxxxxx`
: Copybooks that contain executable instructions.

13.5 PROCEDURE DIVISION Sections Versus Paragraphs

The issue of whether to use section and/or paragraph names (collectively referred to as procedure names) within the procedure division is one of near religious significance with many COBOL programmers.

COBOL programming standards used by many organizations that use the language generally call for procedure names to:

1. Contain a leading numeric component (for example: `2000-Update-Customer`), AND...
2. Be defined in the procedure division in non-decreasing sequence of that numeric component.

When you are looking at or editing any large COBOL program that has been created with programming standards that include these two rules, it is always a simple thing to know whether a reference to a procedure is being made to code that exists before or after your current location in the program, simply by comparing the numeric component of the current procedure's name with the one in question.

Technically, GnuCOBOL does not require ANY procedure names be defined unless:

1. You are using the `ALTER` statement (see ALTER) (the use of which should be avoided at all costs)
2. You are using a procedural `PERFORM` statement (see Procedural PERFORM)
3. You are using a `GO TO` statement (see GO TO)
4. You are using a `MERGE` statement (see MERGE) with an `OUTPUT PROCEDURE`
5. You are using a `SORT` statement (see SORT) with either (or both) an `INPUT PROCEDURE` or `OUTPUT PROCEDURE`
6. You are using `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES)

Since it is difficult to write any non-trivial COBOL program that uses none of the above, lets assume you will be including at least one section or paragraph in your GnuCOBOL programs.

I like to use procedure division paragraphs and sections as follows:

1. The very first procedure defined in the procedure division of my programs, assuming no `DECLARATIVES` (see DECLARATIVES) are defined, will be a section named `000-Main`. The declaration of this procedure will immediately follow the procedure division header (or `END DECLARATIVES` if `DECLARATIVES` are used).
2. Any procedures referenced by `MERGE`, `PERFORM`, or `SORT` statements will be defined as sections.
3. Any procedures referenced by `GO TO` statements will be defined as paragraphs, and those paragraphs will be defined in the same section as the `GO TO` statements that reference them. In other words, `GO TO` statements may not be used to transfer control to a point in a different section. This is *not* a GnuCOBOL rule — this is my own personal programming practice intended to improve the readability and maintainability of my programs.
4. I always include a numeric prefix to all procedure names I define, for the reasons stated earlier.

5. I do not use `THRU` on any `MERGE`, `PERFORM` or `SORT` statement unless the programming standards of the shop in which I am working require it. My reasoning for this is that it is too easy to accidentally introduce a new procedure into the scope of a `THRU`.

13.6 COMPUTE Versus ADD-SUBTRACT-MULTIPLY-DIVIDE

Over the years, there has been much debate over the efficiency and arithmetic accuracy of using the `COMPUTE` statement (see COMPUTE) rather than the four basic arithmetic operation statements.

Here are the facts — draw your own conclusions as to which approach is more appropriate under which circumstances.

1. The `COMPUTE` statement supports exponentiation (via the '`**`' operator) — there is no equivalent basic arithmetic statement. Although you could simulate integral exponentiation (raising a value to the third power, for example) using `MULTIPLY` statements, and you may use the `SQRT` intrinsic function (see SQRT) to find a square root, there's just no (easy) way to find the cube-root of a value without using the `COMPUTE` statement.
2. For non-trivial computations, `COMPUTE` statements "read" better. Take this, for example:

   ```
   COMPUTE R = (A + B * C) / D
   ```

   As compared to:

   ```
   MULTIPLY B BY C GIVING TEMP
   ADD A TO TEMP
   DIVIDE TEMP BY D GIVING R
   ```

   For non-trivial computations, `COMPUTE` statements may execute faster than the equivalent chain of basic arithmetic statements. For example, the COMPUTE statement shown above executes about 25% faster on my computer using GnuCOBOL than does the MULTIPLY-ADD-DIVIDE sequence.
3. For trivial computations, on the other hand, I prefer the inherent readability of a statement such as this:

   ```
   ADD 1 TO WSS-Input-Trans-QTY
   ```

   to this:

   ```
   COMPUTE WS-Input-Trans-QTY = WS-Input-Trans-QTY + 1
   ```

14 Programming for XFD

This chapter deals with the initial support for ODBC and OCI as file-handlers (so far PostgrSQL, MySQL, SQLite, MSSQL) and OCI, along with new directory COB_SCHEMA_DIR containing the necessary internal schema files to match the file definition to the database table all though usage of $XDF.

14.1 GnuCobol use SQL for files

The ACUCOBOL compiler has a defined syntax for describing records that can be stored in SQL tables. This is referred to as XFD (extended file descriptor). The various XFD directives are intermixed in the record description of a data file as either $XFD (similar to $SET) or as comments *((XFD ...)). Each directive precedes the data item it is affecting. When a program is compiled that has these directives and the compiler is directed by a compile option, then the record layout is written out to a text file which is later used at run-time to process the data records. i.e., facilitate mapping the COBOL data fields to/from SQL columns.

The goal of this project is for GnuCOBOL to accept directives similar in syntax to the ACUCOBOL XFD syntax1 (plus a few additions as required) and develop run-time modules to handle all of the COBOL I/O verbs while the data is stored in a SQL table.

The purpose for doing this is to allow legacy COBOL to have data stored in SQL tables without rewriting the COBOL code. If a COBOL based application is already using EXEC SQL this feature of having INDEXED files stored in SQL tables is really not of any use. Once the data is in SQL tables it may be accessed by other SQL tools. To get access to more advanced SQL features, the COBOL code will need to be recoded to use EXEC SQL, but this can be done at points which provide the most advantage.

At present both INDEXED and RELATIVE files are supported using either an ODBC or OCI (Oracle Call Interface) interface. RELATIVE files are supported by adding a special column that gets a unique number as the RELATIVE KEY. The intention is that you could store the data for the ‘master data files’ of an application in an SQL database. Often COBOL based applications have intermediate data files and it would be a waste of time to place these into the database. Also keep in mind that the performance of ISAM will be much better than using an SQL database. However, SQL provides the opportunity to use ‘ad hoc inquiry’ and other third party tools to process your data.

When directed by the XFD directives, the GnuCOBOL compiler will write out the CREATE TABLE statements that could be used to represent the file. The GnuCOBOL compiler will also write out a data description file which is read at runtime and used to manage the conversion of data between the COBOL record view and the SQL column view. The format of this data

description file is not exactly the same as what ACUCOBOL had used since the file is easily regenerated. The more important feature is to accept similar XFD directives intermixed in the record description.

XFD Directives

The following directives are accepted intermixed in the COBOL record description. The KEY IS clauses from SELECT statements will be used to generate SQL INDEX statements.

$XFD Name	XFD Directive Descriptions
ALL	Indicates this is a special module defining all files in an application system so all files in this module should be defined for use via SQL
FILE	Name to be used for SQL table, filename.ddl and filename.xd instead of guessing from the SELECT/ASSIGN. If FILE is not provided then if ASSIGN “filename” is used that is taken, other wise the SELECT name is used for the table name and the .ddl and .xd files.
ALPHA	Next field is handled as a single CHAR type. If a group item the entire group is a single CHAR column. May optionally have alternate name.
BINARY	Next field handled as BINARY (RAW) so arbitrary hex data is stored. If a group item the entire group becomes a single BINARY column. May optionally have alternate name
CHAR	Next field is handled as a single CHAR type. If a group item the entire group is a single CHAR column. May optionally have alternate name.
DATE	Next field is a date in the defined format M - month (01 – 12), Y - year (2 or 4 digit), D - day of month (01-31) H - hour (00 −23), N – minute, S – second, T - hundredths of a second J - Julian day, E - day of year YY%nn – ‘nn’ is the pivot year YYY+nnnn – ‘nnnn’ is added to YYY to compute the actual year
GROUP type	The next field or group item is taken as a single SQL column of the declared type
NAME	Name to be used for the next SQL column

$XFD Name	XFD Directive Descriptions
NUMERIC	Next field is handled as NUMERIC, may optionally have alternate name
USE type	The word ‘USE’ is essentially ignore and the next word defines the field type
VARCHAR	Emit next field as VARCHAR instead of CHAR
VAR-LENGTH	Emit next field as VARCHAR instead of CHAR
WHEN fld op val	‘fld’ is some previous field in the record, ‘val’ is a numeric value of alpha value in quotes, op is one of =, !=, >, >=, <, <=. ‘val’ may be ‘other’ to indicate other cases. If the condition is true then the following field/group format is used.
AND fld op val	A continuation of the previous WHEN logically connect as an AND condition
OR fld op val	A continuation of the previous WHEN logically connect as an OR condition

Name	GnuCOBOL Compile time Option Descriptions
-fsqldb=name	‘name’ indicates which database is to be used. Choose one of ODBC, MySQL, MSSQL, OCI, Oracle10, Oracle11, Oracle12.
-fsqlschema=name	‘name’ is sub-directory into which the filename.ddl holding CREATE TABLE is written as well as the filename.xd holding the data mapping information. If omitted then the ddl/xd files are written to the base ‘schema_dir’ directory.

```
Environment
Variable         runtime.cfg  GnuCOBOL Run time Option Descriptions

COB_SCHEMA_DIR   schema_dir   Define location where the filename.xd files are
                              stored. Default: $COB_CONFIG_DIR/schema
COB_SCHEMA_NAME  schema_name  Database schema name
COB_SCHEMA_UID   schema_uid   Database User-id for connecting to the database
COB_SCHEMA_PWD   schema_pwd   Password for database User-Id
COB_SCHEMA_DSN   schema_dsn   DSN name for database
COB_DEBUG_LOG                 Parameters for GnuCOBOL logging feature.
                              Module type is ‘db’
```

To support $XFD directives changes were made to pplex.l, ppparse.y and scanner.l. Also codegen.c and field.c will need changes.

Additional flags may have to be added to cb_field to retain the XFD directive information.

In codegen.c (output_file_initialization) depending on use of XFD and compile options is the location to emit the CREATE TABLE and the data description file. The cob_file will get some new flags for io_routine to indicate the file is really handled by ODBC/OCI.

A new fileio routine (fodbc.c and later foci.c) were developed following the recently developed interface for multiple I/O handlers. The cob_load_xfd routine loads the data description file into internal structures. Multiple schemas could have the same table name/ structure for development, QA, production, etc. This could be indicated via runtime.cfg options and/or environment variables. IO_asgname may have format=odbc or format=oci to indicate which method is used to access the SQL table for the file. You may also specify table=sql_table_name to override the default SQL table.

At run-time when the file is opened the file description is loaded into memory for fast access and conversion of the data between COBOL data type and SQL column data. Since SQL tables are usually collected under a database schema we'll need a compile option to generate the external file description under either a default directory or under a given 'schema' name. At run-time an environment variable and/or runtime.cfg option could be used to define which database schema is to be used along with the database user-id and password. Often a database user-id has a default schema associated with it.

The module fsqlxfd.c contains routines common to both fodbc.c and foci.c such as loading of the filename.xd information and conversion of the data between SQL and COBOL data types. When the file is OPENed and the table is found to not exist, then cob_load_ddl loads the filename.ddl into memory for the OCI/ODBC routine to submit the CREATE TABLE/INDEX statements as required. As the table is loaded, if it contains column types not supported by the current database then there is a translation done during the load process.

Format of filename.xd

GnuCOBOL has its own format instead of using what ACUCOBOL had. The first character on each line indicates what the line is. Lines starting with # or * are comments. Each field is separated by a comma.

Name	Header Line Description
H	Is a header
1	Version number
table	SQL table name

Name	Header Line Description
‘,’	For character used as decimal, default ‘,’
‘.’	For character used as comma, default ‘.’
Hex	Indicate how numeric signs are handled
num	File type, 3 for INDEXED, 2 for RELATIVE

Name	Label Description
L	Is a Label
Num	Numeric label, may be referenced by ‘goto’ or ‘condition’

Name	Goto Description
G	Is a Goto
Num	Numeric label to transfer to

Name	Condition Description
C	Is a Condition to be tested (Appear in postfix sequence) Complex WHEN clauses become multiple Condition tests
Label	If condition test is true, then goto this label, 0 indicates more coming, non-zero indicates end of the WHEN condition to be tested
Opcode	>=, >, <=, <, =, !=, &&, ||, !
Operand	Usually the data field
Value	String in quotes or numeric value

Name	Date Format Description
D	Date format definition
num	Unique number for this format
‘date’	Date format string
num	Total number of digits in this date field
num	1 if DATE present else 0
num	1 if TIME present else 0
yy rule	1. means add yyAdj to YY, % defines pivot point
num	Value for adjusting the Year
P:L	Year Position and Length within field

Name	Date Format Description
P:L	Month Position and Length within field
P:L	Day Position and Length within field
P:L	Hours Position and Length within field
P:L	Minutes Position and Length within field
P:L	Seconds Position and Length within field
P:L	Century date Position and Length within field

You may define how your application stores DATE information. The database will always expect dates to be in a full YYYYMMDD format and date/time to be in YYYYMMDDHHMISS format. Date fields could be defined like the following:

```
$XFD  DATE "YYYYMMDD"
$XFD  DATE "YY%60MMDD"
$XFD  DATE "YYY+1800MMDD"
$XFD  DATE "YYMMDDCC"
```

The Y is a place holder for YEAR, MM for month, DD for day, HH hour, MI minutes, SS seconds, CC for century. If the Ys are followed by '%' then the digits after the '%' defines a pivot year used to map the YY value into a 4 digit year. In the above example if the YY value is below 60 then it is 19YY else 20YY

If the Y's are followed by '+' then the digits after the '+' are added to the Y value. In above example, the year is 1800 + YYY value. There is a limit of 16 different DATE formats per record.

If the day is defined like DDD (3 Ds) then it is taken to be the day of the year. For example:

```
$XFD DATE "YYYYDDD"
```

Name	Data Description
F	Define data Field
num	Offset from record to start of COBOL data field
num	Bytes occupied by COBOL data field
num	Type of data field
	1 Arbitrary Binary Data
	2 PIC S9 COMP-5
	3 PIC 9 COMP-5

Name	Data Description
	4 PIC 9 COMP-6
	5 PIC S9 BINARY/COMP/COMP-4
	6 PIC 9 BINARY/COMP/COMP-4
	7 PIC x COMP-X
	8 COMP-1/COMP-2
	9 PIC S9 COMP-3/PACKED DECIMAL
	10 PIC 9 COMP-3/PACKED DECIMAL
	11 PIC S9 SIGN LEADING
	12 PIC S9 SIGN LEADING SEPARATE
	13 PIC S9
	14 PIC 9 SIGN TRAILING
	15 PIC 9 SIGN TRAILING SEPARATE
	16 PIC 9
	17 PIC A
	18 PIC X National characters
	19 PIC X Wide characters
	20 PIC X
	21 PIC X - VARCHAR
num	Bytes needed to store as SQL data
num	Digits in numeric field
num	Scale (or decimal places)
num	Unique id of date format (see D)
num	COBOL level number
name	SQL Column name used for data field

Name	Key Definitions Description
K	Define an index
num	Index number (1 – 16)
dup	Y if duplicates allowed, else N
sup	Y if key may be suppressed, else N

Name	Key Definitions Description
char	Suppress character either as ‘c’ or 0xHH or “string”
columns	Comma separate list of column names in order that make up the index

```
Example Records to Table With the following:

           SELECT OPTIONAL TSPFILE
           ASSIGN TO "testsql"
           ORGANIZATION INDEXED ACCESS DYNAMIC
           RECORD KEY IS PRIME-KEY
           SOURCE IS CM-CUST-NUM

           ALTERNATE RECORD KEY IS SPLIT-KEY2
           SOURCE IS CM-TELEPHONE,CM-MACHINE WITH DUPLICATES
                SUPPRESS WHEN "900"

           ALTERNATE RECORD KEY IS SPLIT-KEY3
           SOURCE IS CM-DISK,CM-DP-MGR,CM-MACHINE WITH DUPLICATES
                SUPPRESS WHEN ALL "*"
           FILE STATUS IS CUST-STAT
           .

           SELECT FLATFILE ASSIGN "relfile"
           ORGANIZATION RELATIVE
           ACCESS IS RANDOM RELATIVE KEY IS REC-NUM
           FILE STATUS IS CUST-STAT.

           SELECT FLATSEQ ASSIGN "relfile"
           ORGANIZATION RELATIVE
           ACCESS IS SEQUENTIAL RELATIVE KEY IS REC-NUM
           FILE STATUS IS CUST-STAT.

Note that FLATFILE and FLATSEQ are the same file called “relfile” with a different
ACCESS. Given the following record description:

      $XFD ALL
       FD  FLATFILE
           BLOCK CONTAINS 5 RECORDS.
```

```
 01  FLAT-RECORD.
     10  RL-CUST-NUM                    PICTURE X(8).
     10  RL-COMPANY                     PICTURE X(25).
     10  RL-TRAILER                     PICTURE X(16).

 FD  FLATSEQ
     BLOCK CONTAINS 5 RECORDS.

 01  RS-RECORD.
     10  RS-CUST-NUM                    PICTURE X(8).
     10  RS-COMPANY                     PICTURE X(25).
     10  RS-TRAILER                     PICTURE X(16).

 FD  TSPFILE
     BLOCK CONTAINS 5 RECORDS.

$XFD NAME=tspfilex
 01  TSPFL-RECORD.
     05  TSPFL-REC.
$XFD USE GROUP CUSTNUM
     10  CM-CUST-NUM.
       15  CM-CUST-PRE                  PICTURE X(3).
       15  CM-CUST-NNN                  PICTURE X(5).
     10  CM-STATUS                      PICTURE X.
     10  CM-COMPANY                     PICTURE X(25).
$XFD USE GROUP VAR_LENGTH custaddr
     10  CM-ADDRESS.
       15  CM-ADDRESS-1                 PICTURE X(25).
       15  CM-ADDRESS-2                 PICTURE X(25).
       15  CM-ADDRESS-3                 PICTURE X(25).
     10  CM-TELEPHONE                   PICTURE 9(10).
     10  CM-DP-MGR                      PICTURE X(25).
     10  CM-MACHINE                     PICTURE X(8).
     10  CM-MEMORY                      PICTURE X(4).
$XFD WHEN (CM-STATUS = 'A' && CM-TELEPHONE > 100)
$XFD AND CM-MACHINE = 'B' || CM-COMPANY = ' '
     10  CM-MEMORYX REDEFINES CM-MEMORY.
       15  CM-MEMSZ                     PICTURE 9(2).
       15  CM-MEMUNIT                   PICTURE X(2).
     10  CM-DISK                        PICTURE X(8).
     10  CM-TAPE                        PICTURE X(8).
```

```
      $XFD WHEN CM-STATUS = 'X'
           10  CM-TAPEX REDEFINES CM-TAPE      PICTURE 9(8).
      $XFD WHEN CM-STATUS = 'Y'
           10  CM-TAPEY REDEFINES CM-TAPE      PICTURE 9(6)V99.
           10  CM-NO-TERMINALS                 PICTURE 9(5) BINARY.
           10  CM-COMPX                        PICTURE XXX COMP-X.
           10  CM-COMP5                        PICTURE 9(7) COMP-5.
           10  CM-COMP1                        COMP-1.
           10  CM-COMP2                        COMP-2.
           10  CM-PRICE                        PICTURE 9(3)V99 COMP-3.
           10  CM-PRICES                       PICTURE S9(5)V99.
      $XFD DATE "MMDDYYYY"
           10  CM-DATE                        PICTURE 9(8) COMP-3.
      $XFD DATE "YYMMDDCC"
           10  CM-DATE2                        PICTURE 9(8) COMP-3.

And  the resulting SQL table(s) would look like:

tspfilex.ddl --

CREATE TABLE tspfilex (
   custnum                                  CHAR(8) NOT NULL,
   status                                   CHAR(1),
   company                                  CHAR(25),
   custaddr                                 VARCHAR(75),
   telephone                                DECIMAL(10) NOT NULL,
   dp_mgr                                   CHAR(25) NOT NULL,
   machine                                  CHAR(8) NOT NULL,
   memory                                   CHAR(4),
   memsz                                    DECIMAL(2),
   memunit                                  CHAR(2),
   disk                                     CHAR(8) NOT NULL,
   tape                                     CHAR(8),
   tapex                                    DECIMAL(8),
   tapey                                    DECIMAL(8,2),
   no_terminals                             DECIMAL(5),
   compx                                    DECIMAL(8),
   comp5                                    DECIMAL(7),
   comp1                                    FLOAT(23),
   comp2                                    FLOAT(53),
   price                                    DECIMAL(5,2),
```

```
   prices                                  DECIMAL(7,2),
   date_x                                  DATE,
   date2                                   DATE
);
CREATE UNIQUE INDEX pk_tspfilex ON tspfilex (custnum);
CREATE INDEX k1_tspfilex ON tspfilex (telephone,machine);
CREATE INDEX k2_tspfilex ON tspfilex (disk,dp_mgr,machine);

relfile.ddl --

CREATE TABLE relfile (
   cust_num                                CHAR(8),
   company                                 CHAR(25),
   trailer                                 CHAR(16),
   rid_relfile                             BIGINT PRIMARY KEY
);

The tspfilex.xd description for this follows:

H,1,tspfilex,2,',','.',0,3
D,1,'MMDDYYYY',8,1,0,,0,4:4,0:2,2:2,0:0,0:0,0:0,0:0
D,2,'YYMMDDCC',8,1,0,,0,0:2,2:2,4:2,0:0,0:0,0:0,6:2
F,0000,0008,20,0009,0,0,,10,custnum
F,0008,0001,20,0002,0,0,,10,status
F,0009,0025,20,0026,0,0,,10,company
F,0034,0075,21,0076,0,0,,10,custaddr
F,0109,0010,16,0013,10,0,,10,telephone
F,0119,0025,20,0026,0,0,,10,dp_mgr
F,0144,0008,20,0009,0,0,,10,machine
C,0,=,status,'A'
C,0,>,telephone,100
C,0,&&
C,0,=,machine,'B'
C,0,=,company,' '
C,0,||
C,2,&&
F,0152,0004,20,0005,0,0,,10,memory
G,3
L,2
F,0152,0002,16,0005,2,0,,15,memsz
F,0154,0002,20,0003,0,0,,15,memunit
```

```
L,3
F,0156,0008,20,0009,0,0,,10,disk
C,5,=,status,'X'
C,6,=,status,'Y'
F,0164,0008,20,0009,0,0,,10,tape
G,7
L,5
F,0164,0008,16,0011,8,0,,10,tapex
G,7
L,6
F,0164,0008,16,0011,8,2,,10,tapey
L,7
F,0172,0004,06,0013,5,0,,10,no_terminals
F,0176,0003,07,0011,8,0,,10,compx
F,0179,0004,03,0013,7,0,,10,comp5
F,0183,0004,08,0036,15,8,,10,comp1
F,0187,0008,08,0036,34,17,,10,comp2
F,0195,0003,10,0008,5,2,,10,price
F,0198,0007,13,0010,7,2,,10,prices
F,0205,0005,10,0032,8,0,1,10,date_x
F,0210,0005,10,0032,8,0,2,10,date2
K,0,N,N,,custnum
K,1,Y,Y,"900",telephone,machine
K,2,Y,Y,0x2A,disk,dp_mgr,machine

The relfile.xd description for this follows:

H,1,relfile,0,',','.',0,2
F,0000,0008,20,0009,0,0,,10,cust_num
F,0008,0025,20,0026,0,0,,10,company
F,0033,0016,20,0017,0,0,,10,trailer
F,0049,0004,03,0015,12,0,,00,rid_relfile
K,0,N,N,,rid_relfile
```

Application Schema

Sometimes COBOL programs will have local views of the data by copying a record to some other group item which redefines the data differently. In some cases these “hidden” redefines will cause problems for SQL columns. For example, if a field is defined as PIC 9(x) but sometimes the same location in the record contains non-numeric data, then SQL will reject the storing of such data as it violates the strict data typing. By using the $XFD WHEN you are

able to define which a portion of the record has one view other another. The I/O logic will then only copy the valid column of data.

It may therefore be a good idea to collect all of the file definitions into a single module, verify that all possible redefines are identified. The $XFD ALL directives indicates that such a module is being compiled. Think of this module as defining all of the master data files in an application which will be migrated into SQL tables.

Check the DDL

It is a good idea to check the DDL generated by the GnuCOBOL compiler and make sure it suits your local database guidelines. You may also need to add local directives such as a STORAGE clause for Oracle. You should then use the appropriate tool (eg. Mysql or sqlplus) and manually create all of the tables to be used by an application. There may also be considerations for what database user-id has permission to create tables, read/write tables etc.

Automatic Table Creation

At OPEN time, the filename.xd is processed and if not present that is considered a serious error (30) is returned.

At OPEN time, a check is done to see if the table exists and if not, the run-time code then reads the filename.ddl and submits it to the database to create the table and indexes. If the filename.ddl is not present then OPEN is given an error (30). If runtime.cfg option create_table is ‘true’ then the runtime will attempt to recreate filename.ddl from the information in filename.xd.

Taken from Development Notes by Ron Norman February 2020.

15 Glossary of Terms

Alphabetic Data Item
: A data item whose `PICTURE` clause allows it to contain only upper- and/or lower-case letters. See PICTURE.

Alphanumeric Data Item
: A data item whose `PICTURE` clause allows it to contain absolutely any character whatsoever. See PICTURE. Group items (see Structured Data) are also implicitly considered to be alphanumeric data items.

Alphanumeric Literal
: A string of characters enclosed within a pair of quotation marks (‘`"`’) or apostrophes (‘`'`’). See Alphanumeric Literals.

Called Program
: Another way to refer to a subprogram. Note that a called program may also be a calling program.

Calling Program
: A program that executes a subprogram. Note that a calling program may also be a called program.

Collating Sequence
: The sequence in which the characters that are acceptable to a computer are ordered for purposes of all types of sorting, merging, comparing, and processing. GnuCOBOL programs may utilize standard character-set collating sequences (such as that defined by the ASCII or EBCDIC character sets) or programmer-defined custom sequences as specified in the OBJECT-COMPUTER paragraph (section 4.1.2) and defined in the SPECIAL-NAMES paragraph (section 4.1.4).

Compilation Group
: The collection of all compilation units being compiled by a single execution of the GnuCOBOL compiler.

Compilation Unit
: A single source file being compiled by the GnuCOBOL compiler. A compilation unit may contain one or more programs.

Control Break

An event that is triggered when a control field on an RWCS-generated report changes value. It is these events that trigger the generation of control heading and control footing groups.

Control Field

A field of data being presented within a detail group; as the various detail groups that comprise the report are presented, they are presumed to appear in sorted sequence of the control fields contained within them. As an example, a department-by-department sales report for a chain of stores would probably be sorted by store number and – within like store numbers – be further sorted by department number. The store number will undoubtedly serve as a control field for the report, allowing control heading groups to be presented before each sequence of detail groups for the same store and control footing groups to be presented after each such sequence.

Control Footing

A report group that appears immediately after one or more detail groups of an RWCS-generated report. Such are produced automatically as a result of a control break. This type of group typically serves as a summary of the detail group(s) that precede it, as might be the case on a sales report for a chain of stores, where the detail groups documenting sales for each department (one department per detail group) from the same store might be followed by a control footing that provides a summation of the department-by-department sales for that store.

Control Heading

A report group that appears immediately before one or more detail groups of an RWCS-generated report. Such are produced automatically as a result of a control break. This type of group typically serves as an introduction to the detail group(s) that follow, as might be the case on a sales report for a chain of stores, where the detail groups documenting sales for each department (one department per detail group) from the same store might be preceded by a control heading that states the full name and location of the store.

Control Hierarchy

The natural hierarchy of control breaks within a RWCS-controlled report based upon the manner in which the data the report is being generated from is sorted.

Copybook

A segment of program code that may be utilized by multiple programs simply by having that program use the `COPY` statement to import that code into the program. Although similar to the "include" facility present in many other programming languages, the COBOL copybook mechanism is actually considerably more powerful. See Copybooks, for a general discussion. See COPY, for the specifics of the `COPY` statement.

Data Item

A contiguous area of storage within the memory space of a program that may be referenced, by name, in a COBOL program. Other programming languages use the term variable, property or attribute to describe the same concept. See Structured Data.

Detail Group

A report group that contains the detailed data being presented for the report.

Detail Report

An RWCS-generated report to which at least one type of detail group is presented.

Division

A collection of zero, one, or more sections of paragraphs, called the division body, that are formed and combined in accordance with a specific set of rules. Each division consists of the division header and the related division body. There are four divisions in a GnuCOBOL program: Identification, Environment, Data, and Procedure (coded in that sequence). See Program Structure.

Dynamic Subprogram

A subprogram whose executable object code is contained in a different executable file as its calling program. Dynamic subprograms are therefore loaded into memory as needed.

Elementary Item

A data item that isn't itself comprised of other data items. See Structured Data.

Entry-point

A spot in the procedure division where a program may begin execution when it is executed from the operating system, invoked as a user-defined function or called by another program.

Every program has at least one entry-point — known as the primary entry-point — which corresponds to the first executable statement in the procedure division following the declaratives area, if any.

Additional entry-points may be defined via the `ENTRY` statement (see ENTRY).

Entry-point Name

Every entry-point has a name. That name must be unique for all programs that comprise an executable program. Entry-point names are defined using a subroutine's `PROGRAM-ID` paragraph, a user-defined function's `FUNCTION-ID` paragraph or via `ENTRY` (see ENTRY) statements coded in a subprogram's procedure division.

Executable File

The GnuCOBOL compiler can create operating-system appropriate files that may be executed directly from the operating system environment. On Windows systems, these will be `.exe` files whereas on UNIX systems they will have no specific extensions. The compiler's `-x` switch is used to create executable files. Only main programs should be compiled in this manner.

Execution Thread

The complete set of executable code that is run during the execution of a program. This includes the main program as well as all executed subprograms, including those that are both dynamically and statically loaded.

Figurative Constants

GnuCOBOL, like other COBOL implementations, supports a number of reserved words that may be used to represent a specific literal value. These are known as figurative constants. See Figurative Constants, for more information.

Fixed Format Mode

A mode of the GnuCOBOL compiler's operation where source statements are constrained to meeting the pre-2002 standard of limiting COBOL statements to 80 columns, with various columns having limitations as to what sort of COBOL syntax could be specified in them. See Format of Program Source Lines, for more information.

Free Format Mode

A mode of the GnuCOBOL compiler's operation where source statements are allowed to be as long as 255 characters, with no restrictions or requirements as to in which columns various syntax elements must appear. See Format of Program Source Lines, for more information.

Group Item

A hierarchical data structure where the group item — itself a data item — actually consists of two or more other contiguously allocated data items. For example, `Employee-Name` could be a 35-character data item consisting of a 20-character `Last-Name` data item followed by a 14-character `First-Name` and a 1-character `Middle-Initial`. See Structured Data.

Hexadecimal Alphanumeric Literal

These are alphanumeric literals whose character sequence is specified by hexadecimal value. These literals are formed by a quote- or apostrophe-delimited sequence of an even number of hexadecimal digits (upper- or lower-case), prefixed with the letter 'X' (also upper- or lower-case). For example, the character string "Demo" could be specified as the hexadecimal alphanumeric literal `X'44656D6F'`, assuming the ASCII character set. See Alphanumeric Literals.

Hexadecimal Numeric Literal

A numeric literal whose value is specified by hexadecimal value. These literals are formed by a quote- or apostrophe-delimited sequence of from 1 to 16 hexadecimal digits (upper- or lower-case), prefixed with the letter 'H' (also upper- or lower-case). For example, the number 123456 could be specified as the hexadecimal numeric literal `H'01E240'`. See Numeric Literals.

Identifiers

These are data items a COBOL program will be working with. The vast majority of identifiers are defined by the user (programmer) while a few are pre-defined by the GnuCOBOL compiler. Identifiers pre-defined by the compiler are referred to as special registers. Other programming languages generally refer to identifiers as "variables".

Imperative Statement

Either a statement that begins with a non decision-making verb and specifies an unconditional action to be taken or a conditional verb such as `IF` or `EVALUATE`, delimited by its explicit scope terminator (such as `END-IF` or `END-EVALUATE`). An imperative statement can consist of a sequence of imperative statements.

Intrinsic Function

A built-in routine that accepts arguments and returns a value; syntactically, these may be used most places where GnuCOBOL identifiers are valid. See List of Intrinsic Functions, for documentation on all the GnuCOBOL intrinsic functions.

Level Number

A 1- or 2-digit number that indicates the hierarchical position of a data item in a group item or the special properties of a data description entry.

Level numbers in the range 1 through 49 indicate the position of a data item in the hierarchical structure of a logical record. Level numbers in the range 1 through 9 can be written either as a single digit or as a zero followed by the significant digit.

Level numbers 66, 77, 78 and 88 identify special properties of a data description entry.

Literal

A generic term used for a constant value coded in a program that may be either a numeric literal or an alphanumeric literal.

Main program

A program that is executed directly from an operating system or shell event. Main programs are not executed from other programs (i.e. they are not called programs).

National Character set

A character set that supports symbols using other than the traditional Roman alphabet symbols used by the ASCII character set. Typically, such a character set uses a UTF-16 (i.e. 16 bits-per-character) encoding of the Unicode character set.

Support for national character sets in GnuCOBOL is currently only partially implemented, and the compile- and run-time effect of using the `N` symbol in a `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) clause to define a field as containing national characters is the same as if `X(2)` had been coded, with the additional effect that such a field will qualify as a `NATIONAL` or `NATIONAL-EDITED` field on an `INITIALIZE` (see INITIALIZE) statement.

Numeric Data Item

A data item whose `PICTURE` clause allows it to contain only the numeric digit characters `0-9` (signed or unsigned), or a data item whose `PICTURE`/`USAGE` combination allow it to contain actual binary numbers in integer, fixed-point, floating-point or packed-decimal format. Numeric data items are the only ones that may be used as table subscripts or as source arguments on arithmetic statements. `PICTURE` (see PICTURE), or `USAGE` (see USAGE).

Numeric Edited Data Item

An otherwise numeric data item whose `PICTURE` (see PICTURE) clause also contains any of the editing symbols '`$`', '`*`', '`+`', '`,`', '`-`', '`.`', '`/`', '`0`' (zero), '`B`', '`CR`', '`DB`' or '`Z`'. Numeric edited data items are not eligible to serve as table subscripts or source arguments on arithmetic statements.

Numeric Literal

A numeric constant. See Numeric Literals.

Page Footing

A report group that appears at the bottom of every page of an RWCS-generated report. Information typically found within such a report group might be:

- The date the report was generated
- The current page number of the report

Page Heading

A report group that appears at the top of every page of an RWCS-generated report. Information typically found within such a report group might be:

- A title for the report
- The date the report was generated
- The current page number of the report
- Column headings describing the fields within the detail group(s)

Primary Entry-Point
: See entry-point.

Procedure
: All executable code statements within a single procedure division paragraph or section.

Procedure name
: A programmer-defined section or paragraph name in the procedure division assigned to a procedure. Procedure names serve as a means by which a statement may refer to the statements that follow the procedure name.

Program
: A GnuCOBOL main program or subprogram.

Qualification
: The process of establishing a unique reference to a data item whose name is duplicated in a program. This takes the form of using the duplicated data name and the name of any of its parent data items, connected by `OF` or `IN` such that the combination of those two data names is unique within the program.

Record
: A group item that is not part of a higher-level group item. See Data Definition Principles. An elementary item with a level number of 01 can also be referred to as a record if its definition occurs in the file section, provided that its definition does not include the `CONSTANT` attribute. See FILE-SECTION-Data-Item.

Report Footing
: A report group that occurs only once in an RWCS-generated report — as the very last presented report group of the report. These typically serve as a visual indication that the report is finished.

Report Group
: One or more consecutive lines on a report that serve a common informational purpose or function. For example, lines of text that are displayed at the top or bottom of every printed page of a report.

Report Heading
: A report group that occurs only once in an RWCS-generated report — as the very first presented report group of the report. These typically serve as an introduction to the report.

Reserved Word

A word coded in a GnuCOBOL program without any quote or apostrophe characters around it (which would have transformed that sequence of characters into a literal string) which has a very specific meaning to the compiler. See Language Reserved Words, for a general discussion of the concept. Appendix C for a complete list of GnuCOBOL reserved words.

Sentence

An arbitrarily long sequence of statements terminated by a period.

Special Registers

Special data items that are automatically defined for your use by the GnuCOBOL compiler. See Special Registers, for a complete list.

Statement

A single executable COBOL instruction. All statements start with a verb (`DISPLAY`, `IF`, `MOVE`, ...) which is followed by the operands and additional syntax elements that describe the actions to be performed.

Static Subprogram

A subprogram whose executable object code is part of the same executable file as its calling program. Static subprograms are therefore loaded into memory at the same time as their caller.

Subprogram

A program invoked directly by another program in such a manner that it may return control back to the other program, directly back to the point where the subprogram was invoked.

Subroutine

A subprogram executed from another via a GnuCOBOL `CALL` (see CALL) statement (or the equivalent in whatever programming language that other program was written in).

Summary Report

An RWCS-generated report to which no detail groups are presented.

User-Defined Function

A subprogram written in GnuCOBOL that is executed in a syntactically-similar manner to that by which the various built-in intrinsic functions are executed.

User-Defined Names

Either the name of an identifier or a procedure in the program. GnuCOBOL limits user-defined names to a maximum of 31 characters taken from the set of numeric digits, upper- and lower-case letters, hyphens and underscores. A user-defined name may neither begin nor end with a hyphen or underscore. User-defined names used as file names may additionally not begin with a digit although - unlike many other programming languages - user-defined names used as identifiers or procedure names may. A vendor specific feature has been introduced into gnucobol to allow extending the 31 character limit to 63 when using -std=default. It may be added also to other conf files if required. NOTE: This feature will prevent you ever migrating source code compiled for gnucobol to work with other Cobol compilers (unless they also have such a feature) without a lot of changes to all such names.

Verb

The first reserved word of a COBOL statement.

Zero-Delimited Alphanumeric Literals

An alphanumeric literal prefixed with an upper- or lower-case ‘`Z`’ character — for example, `Z'ABC'`. These literals are one character longer than the value within apostrophes or quotes would make them appear. The extra character (the last character) will be a null character (comprised entirely of zero bits). These literals are ideal when defining or assigning values to alphanumeric data items that will be passed as arguments to a C subroutine. See Alphanumeric Literals.

16 Grouped Word Lists by feature and function

The following is the complete list of ALL reserved words in the 2 October 2026 at 14:10 GMT. build of GnuCOBOL 3.2 - Final. Even though the functionality behind some of these words may not be implemented in this version of GnuCOBOL, none may be used as any user-defined name. This list includes ALL reserved, intrinsics, mnemonics and system and shows some 1100+ words in total. In addition there are the arithmetic and relational symbols as well as extra words that can be added and existing words removed by the use of the –std file content see the specific one used for each sub-set.

The following list of reserved words was extracted from `cobc --list-reserved` and shows the reserved words, an implementation

Please notice: This list is highly specific to the option `-std=dialect` and reserved word options (`-freserved=word`, `-fno-reserved=word`) in effect. You can get the list for a given <dialect> by calling `cobc -std=dialect --list-reserved`.

16.1 Common reserved words

Note: (C/S) stands for Context-sensitive words (words reserved only depending on a specific contexts)

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
3-D	Yes (C/S)	
ABSENT	Yes	
ACCEPT	Yes	
ACCESS	Yes	
ACTION	Yes (C/S)	
ACTIVATING	No (C/S)	
ACTIVE-CLASS	No	
ACTIVE-X	Yes (C/S)	
ACTUAL	Yes (C/S)	
ADD	Yes	
ADDRESS	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
ADJUSTABLE-COLUMNS	Yes (C/S)	
ADVANCING	Yes	
AFTER	Yes	
ALIGNED	No	
ALIGNMENT	Yes (C/S)	
ALL	Yes	
ALLOCATE	Yes	
ALLOWING	Yes (C/S)	
ALPHABET	Yes	
ALPHABETIC	Yes	
ALPHABETIC-LOWER	Yes	
ALPHABETIC-UPPER	Yes	
ALPHANUMERIC	Yes	
ALPHANUMERIC-EDITED	Yes	
ALSO	Yes	
ALTER	Yes	
ALTERNATE	Yes	
AND	Yes	
ANUM	No (C/S)	
ANY	Yes	
ANYCASE	No	
APPLY	Yes (C/S)	
ARE	Yes	
AREA	Yes	AREAS
AREAS	Yes	AREA
ARGUMENT-NUMBER	Yes	
ARGUMENT-VALUE	Yes	
ARITHMETIC	Yes (C/S)	
AS	Yes	
ASCENDING	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
ASCII	Yes (C/S)	
ASSIGN	Yes	
AT	Yes	
ATTRIBUTE	Yes (C/S)	
ATTRIBUTES	Yes (C/S)	
AUTHOR	Yes (C/S)	
AUTO	Yes (C/S)	AUTO-SKIP, AUTOTERMINATE
AUTO-DECIMAL	Yes (C/S)	
AUTO-SKIP	Yes	AUTO, AUTOTERMINATE
AUTO-SPIN	Yes (C/S)	
AUTOMATIC	Yes	
AUTOTERMINATE	Yes	AUTO, AUTO-SKIP
AWAY-FROM-ZERO	Yes (C/S)	
B-AND	Yes	
B-NOT	Yes	
B-OR	Yes	
B-SHIFT-L	Yes	
B-SHIFT-LC	Yes	
B-SHIFT-R	Yes	
B-SHIFT-RC	Yes	
B-XOR	Yes	
BACKGROUND-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	BACKGROUND-COLOUR
BACKGROUND-COLOUR	Yes	BACKGROUND-COLOR
BACKGROUND-HIGH	Yes	
BACKGROUND-LOW	Yes	
BACKGROUND-STANDARD	Yes	
BACKWARD	Yes (C/S)	
BAR	Yes (C/S)	
BASED	Yes	
BEEP	Yes	BELL

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
BEFORE	Yes	
BELL	Yes (C/S)	BEEP
BINARY	Yes	
BINARY-C-LONG	Yes	
BINARY-CHAR	Yes	
BINARY-DOUBLE	Yes	BINARY-LONG-LONG
BINARY-INT	Yes	BINARY-LONG
BINARY-LONG	Yes	BINARY-INT
BINARY-LONG-LONG	Yes	BINARY-DOUBLE
BINARY-SEQUENTIAL	Yes (C/S)	
BINARY-SHORT	Yes	
BIT	Yes	
BITMAP	Yes (C/S)	
BITMAP-END	Yes (C/S)	
BITMAP-HANDLE	Yes (C/S)	
BITMAP-NUMBER	Yes (C/S)	
BITMAP-START	Yes (C/S)	
BITMAP-TIMER	Yes (C/S)	
BITMAP-TRAILING	Yes (C/S)	
BITMAP-TRANSPARENT-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
BITMAP-WIDTH	Yes (C/S)	
BLANK	Yes	
BLINK	Yes (C/S)	
BLOCK	Yes	
BOOLEAN	No	
BOTTOM	Yes	
BOX	Yes (C/S)	
BOXED	Yes (C/S)	
BULK-ADDITION	Yes (C/S)	
BUSY	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
BUTTONS	Yes (C/S)	
BY	Yes	
BYTE-LENGTH	Yes (C/S)	
C	Yes (C/S)	
CALENDAR-FONT	Yes (C/S)	
CALL	Yes	
CANCEL	Yes	
CANCEL-BUTTON	Yes (C/S)	
CAPACITY	Yes (C/S)	
CARD-PUNCH	Yes (C/S)	
CARD-READER	Yes (C/S)	
CASSETTE	Yes (C/S)	
CCOL	Yes (C/S)	
CD	Yes	
CELL	Yes (C/S)	CELLS
CELL-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
CELL-DATA	Yes (C/S)	
CELL-FONT	Yes (C/S)	
CELL-PROTECTION	Yes (C/S)	
CELLS	Yes	CELL
CENTER	Yes (C/S)	
CENTERED	Yes (C/S)	
CENTERED-HEADINGS	Yes (C/S)	
CENTURY-DATE	Yes (C/S)	
CF	Yes	
CH	Yes	
CHAIN	No	
CHAINING	Yes	
CHANGED	Yes (C/S)	
CHARACTER	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
CHARACTERS	Yes	
CHECK-BOX	Yes (C/S)	
CLASS	Yes	
CLASS-ID	No	
CLASSIFICATION	Yes (C/S)	
CLEAR-SELECTION	Yes (C/S)	
CLINE	Yes (C/S)	
CLINES	Yes (C/S)	
CLOSE	Yes	
COBOL	Yes (C/S)	
CODE	Yes	
CODE-SET	Yes	
COL	Yes	
COLLATING	Yes	
COLOR	Yes	
COLORS	Yes (C/S)	COLOURS
COLOURS	Yes	COLORS
COLS	Yes	
COLUMN	Yes	
COLUMN-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
COLUMN-DIVIDERS	Yes (C/S)	
COLUMN-FONT	Yes (C/S)	
COLUMN-HEADINGS	Yes (C/S)	
COLUMN-PROTECTION	Yes (C/S)	
COLUMNS	Yes	
COMBO-BOX	Yes (C/S)	
COMMA	Yes	
COMMAND-LINE	Yes	
COMMIT	Yes	
COMMON	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
COMMUNICATION	Yes	
COMP	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL
COMP-0	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL-0
COMP-1	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL-1
COMP-10	Yes	COMP-10, DOUBLE, FLOAT-LONG
COMP-15	Yes	COMP-15, DOUBLE, FLOAT-LONG
COMP-2	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL-2
COMP-3	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL-3
COMP-4	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL-4
COMP-5	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL-5
COMP-6	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL-6
COMP-9	Yes	FLOAT, FLOAT-SHORT
COMP-N	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL-N
COMP-X	Yes	COMPUTATIONAL-X
COMPUTATIONAL	Yes	COMP
COMPUTATIONAL-0	Yes	COMP-0
COMPUTATIONAL-1	Yes	COMP-1
COMPUTATIONAL-2	Yes	COMP-2
COMPUTATIONAL-3	Yes	COMP-3
COMPUTATIONAL-4	Yes	COMP-4
COMPUTATIONAL-5	Yes	COMP-5
COMPUTATIONAL-6	Yes	COMP-6
COMPUTATIONAL-N	Yes	COMP-N
COMPUTATIONAL-X	Yes	COMP-X
COMPUTE	Yes	
CONDITION	Yes	
CONFIGURATION	Yes	
CONSTANT	Yes	
CONTAINS	Yes	
CONTENT	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
CONTINUE	Yes	
CONTROL	Yes	
CONTROLS	Yes	
CONVERSION	Yes (C/S)	
CONVERTING	Yes	
COPY	Yes	
COPY-SELECTION	Yes (C/S)	
CORE-INDEX	Yes (C/S)	
CORR	Yes	CORRESPONDING
CORRESPONDING	Yes	CORR
COUNT	Yes	
CRT	Yes	
CRT-UNDER	Yes	
CSIZE	Yes (C/S)	
CURRENCY	Yes	
CURRENT	No	
CURSOR	Yes	
CURSOR-COL	Yes (C/S)	
CURSOR-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
CURSOR-FRAME-WIDTH	Yes (C/S)	
CURSOR-ROW	Yes (C/S)	
CURSOR-X	Yes (C/S)	
CURSOR-Y	Yes (C/S)	
CUSTOM-PRINT-TEMPLATE	Yes (C/S)	
CYCLE	Yes (C/S)	
CYL-INDEX	Yes (C/S)	
CYL-OVERFLOW	Yes (C/S)	
DASHED	Yes (C/S)	
DATA	Yes	
DATA-COLUMNS	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
DATA-POINTER	No	
DATA-TYPES	Yes (C/S)	
DATE	Yes	
DATE-COMPILED	Yes (C/S)	
DATE-ENTRY	Yes (C/S)	
DATE-MODIFIED	Yes (C/S)	
DATE-WRITTEN	Yes (C/S)	
DAY	Yes	
DAY-OF-WEEK	Yes	
DE	Yes	
DEBUGGING	Yes	
DECIMAL-POINT	Yes	
DECLARATIVES	Yes	
DEFAULT	Yes	
DEFAULT-BUTTON	Yes (C/S)	
DEFAULT-FONT	Yes	
DELETE	Yes	
DELIMITED	Yes	
DELIMITER	Yes	
DEPENDING	Yes	
DESCENDING	Yes	
DESTINATION	Yes	
DESTROY	Yes	
DETAIL	Yes	
DISABLE	Yes	
DISC	Yes (C/S)	
DISK	Yes (C/S)	
DISP	Yes (C/S)	
DISPLAY	Yes	
DISPLAY-COLUMNS	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
DISPLAY-FORMAT	Yes (C/S)	
DIVIDE	Yes	
DIVIDER-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
DIVIDERS	Yes (C/S)	
DIVISION	Yes	
DOTDASH	Yes (C/S)	
DOTTED	Yes (C/S)	
DOUBLE	Yes	FLOAT-LONG
DOWN	Yes	
DRAG-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
DROP-DOWN	Yes (C/S)	
DROP-LIST	Yes (C/S)	
DUPLICATES	Yes	
DYNAMIC	Yes	
EBCDIC	Yes (C/S)	
EC	Yes	
ECHO	Yes	
EDITING	No	
EGI	Yes	
ELEMENT	Yes (C/S)	
ELSE	Yes	
EMI	Yes	
EMPTY-CHECK	Yes	REQUIRED
ENABLE	Yes	
ENCODING	Yes (C/S)	
ENCRYPTION	Yes (C/S)	
END	Yes	
END-ACCEPT	Yes	
END-ADD	Yes	
END-CALL	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
END-CHAIN	No	
END-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
END-COMPUTE	Yes	
END-DELETE	Yes	
END-DISPLAY	Yes	
END-DIVIDE	Yes	
END-EVALUATE	Yes	
END-IF	Yes	
END-JSON	Yes	
END-MODIFY	Yes (C/S)	
END-MULTIPLY	Yes	
END-OF-PAGE	Yes	EOP
END-PERFORM	Yes	
END-READ	Yes	
END-RECEIVE	Yes	
END-RETURN	Yes	
END-REWRITE	Yes	
END-SEARCH	Yes	
END-SEND	Yes	
END-START	Yes	
END-STRING	Yes	
END-SUBTRACT	Yes	
END-UNSTRING	Yes	
END-WRITE	Yes	
END-XML	Yes	
ENGRAVED	Yes (C/S)	
ENSURE-VISIBLE	Yes (C/S)	
ENTRY	Yes	
ENTRY-CONVENTION	Yes (C/S)	
ENTRY-FIELD	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
ENTRY-REASON	Yes (C/S)	
ENVIRONMENT	Yes	
ENVIRONMENT-NAME	Yes	
ENVIRONMENT-VALUE	Yes	
EO	No	
EOL	Yes (C/S)	
EOP	Yes	END-OF-PAGE
EOS	Yes (C/S)	
EQUAL	Yes	EQUALS
EQUALS	Yes	EQUAL
ERASE	Yes (C/S)	
ERROR	Yes	
ESCAPE	Yes	
ESCAPE-BUTTON	Yes (C/S)	
ESI	Yes	
EVALUATE	Yes	
EVENT	Yes	
EVENT-LIST	Yes (C/S)	
EVERY	Yes (C/S)	
EXCEPTION	Yes	
EXCEPTION-OBJECT	No	
EXCEPTION-VALUE	Yes (C/S)	
EXCLUSIVE	Yes	
EXCLUSIVE-OR	No	
EXHIBIT	Yes	
EXIT	Yes	
EXPAND	Yes (C/S)	
EXPANDS	No (C/S)	
EXTEND	Yes	
EXTENDED-SEARCH	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
EXTERN	Yes (C/S)	
EXTERNAL	Yes	
EXTERNAL-FORM	Yes	
F	Yes (C/S)	
FACTORY	No	
FALSE	Yes	
FD	Yes	
FH--FCD	Yes (C/S)	
FH--KEYDEF	Yes (C/S)	
FILE	Yes	
FILE-CONTROL	Yes	
FILE-ID	Yes	
FILE-LIMIT	Yes (C/S)	
FILE-LIMITS	Yes (C/S)	
FILE-NAME	Yes (C/S)	
FILE-POS	Yes (C/S)	
FILL-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
FILL-COLOR2	Yes (C/S)	
FILL-PERCENT	Yes (C/S)	
FILLER	Yes	
FINAL	Yes	
FINALLY	No	
FINISH-REASON	Yes (C/S)	
FIRST	Yes	
FIXED	Yes	
FIXED-FONT	Yes	
FIXED-WIDTH	Yes (C/S)	
FLAT	Yes (C/S)	
FLAT-BUTTONS	Yes (C/S)	
FLOAT	Yes	FLOAT-SHORT

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
FLOAT-BINARY-128	No	
FLOAT-BINARY-32	No	
FLOAT-BINARY-64	No	
FLOAT-DECIMAL-16	Yes	
FLOAT-DECIMAL-34	Yes	
FLOAT-EXTENDED	No	
FLOAT-INFINITY	No	
FLOAT-LONG	Yes	DOUBLE
FLOAT-NOT-A-NUMBER	No (C/S)	
FLOAT-SHORT	Yes	FLOAT
FLOATING	Yes	
FONT	Yes	
FOOTING	Yes	
FOR	Yes	
FOREGROUND-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	FOREGROUND-COLOUR
FOREGROUND-COLOUR	Yes	FOREGROUND-COLOR
FOREVER	Yes (C/S)	
FORMAT	No	
FRAME	Yes (C/S)	
FRAMED	Yes (C/S)	
FREE	Yes	
FROM	Yes	
FULL	Yes (C/S)	LENGTH-CHECK
FULL-HEIGHT	Yes (C/S)	
FUNCTION	Yes	
FUNCTION-ID	Yes	
FUNCTION-POINTER	No	
GENERATE	Yes	
GET	No	
GIVING	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
GLOBAL	Yes	
GO	Yes	
GO-BACK	Yes (C/S)	
GO-FORWARD	Yes (C/S)	
GO-HOME	Yes (C/S)	
GO-SEARCH	Yes (C/S)	
GOBACK	Yes	
GRAPHICAL	Yes (C/S)	
GREATER	Yes	
GRID	Yes (C/S)	
GROUP	Yes	
GROUP-USAGE	No	
GROUP-VALUE	Yes (C/S)	
HANDLE	Yes	
HAS-CHILDREN	Yes (C/S)	
HEADING	Yes	
HEADING-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
HEADING-DIVIDER-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
HEADING-FONT	Yes (C/S)	
HEAVY	Yes (C/S)	
HEIGHT-IN-CELLS	Yes (C/S)	
HEX	No (C/S)	
HIDDEN-DATA	Yes (C/S)	
HIGH-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
HIGH-VALUE	Yes	HIGH-VALUES
HIGH-VALUES	Yes	HIGH-VALUE
HIGHLIGHT	Yes (C/S)	
HOT-TRACK	Yes (C/S)	
HSCROLL	Yes (C/S)	
HSCROLL-POS	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
I-O	Yes	
I-O-CONTROL	Yes	
ICON	Yes (C/S)	
ID	Yes	
IDENTIFICATION	Yes	
IDENTIFIED	Yes	
IF	Yes	
IGNORE	Yes	
IGNORING	Yes (C/S)	
IMPLEMENTS	No (C/S)	
IN	Yes	
INDEPENDENT	Yes (C/S)	
INDEX	Yes	
INDEXED	Yes	
INDICATE	Yes	
INHERITS	No	
INITIAL	Yes	
INITIALISE	Yes	INITIALIZE
INITIALISED	Yes	INITIALIZED
INITIALIZE	Yes	INITIALISE
INITIALIZED	Yes (C/S)	INITIALISED
INITIATE	Yes	
INPUT	Yes	
INPUT-OUTPUT	Yes	
INQUIRE	Yes	
INSERT-ROWS	Yes (C/S)	
INSERTION-INDEX	Yes (C/S)	
INSPECT	Yes	
INSTALLATION	Yes (C/S)	
INTERFACE	No	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
INTERFACE-ID	No	
INTERMEDIATE	Yes (C/S)	
INTO	Yes	
INTRINSIC	Yes (C/S)	
INVALID	Yes	
INVOKE	No	
IS	Yes	
ITEM	Yes (C/S)	
ITEM-TEXT	Yes (C/S)	
ITEM-TO-ADD	Yes (C/S)	
ITEM-TO-DELETE	Yes (C/S)	
ITEM-TO-EMPTY	Yes (C/S)	
ITEM-VALUE	Yes (C/S)	
JSON	Yes	
JUST	Yes	JUSTIFIED
JUSTIFIED	Yes	JUST
KEPT	Yes	
KEY	Yes	
KEYBOARD	Yes (C/S)	
LABEL	Yes	
LABEL-OFFSET	Yes (C/S)	
LARGE-FONT	Yes	
LARGE-OFFSET	Yes (C/S)	
LAST	Yes	
LAST-ROW	Yes (C/S)	
LAYOUT-DATA	Yes (C/S)	
LAYOUT-MANAGER	Yes	
LC_ALL	No (C/S)	
LC_COLLATE	No (C/S)	
LC_CTYPE	No (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
LC_MESSAGES	No (C/S)	
LC_MONETARY	No (C/S)	
LC_NUMERIC	No (C/S)	
LC_TIME	No (C/S)	
LEADING	Yes	
LEADING-SHIFT	Yes (C/S)	
LEAVE	Yes (C/S)	
LEFT	Yes	
LEFT-JUSTIFY	No	
LEFT-TEXT	Yes (C/S)	
LEFTLINE	Yes	
LENGTH	Yes	
LENGTH-CHECK	Yes	FULL
LESS	Yes	
LIKE	Yes	
LIMIT	Yes	
LIMITS	Yes	
LINAGE	Yes	
LINAGE-COUNTER	Yes	
LINE	Yes	
LINE-COUNTER	Yes	
LINE-SEQUENTIAL	Yes (C/S)	
LINES	Yes	
LINES-AT-ROOT	Yes (C/S)	
LINKAGE	Yes	
LIST-BOX	Yes (C/S)	
LM-RESIZE	Yes	
LOC	Yes (C/S)	
LOCAL-STORAGE	Yes	
LOCALE	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
LOCATION	No	
LOCK	Yes	
LOCK-HOLDING	Yes (C/S)	
LONG-DATE	Yes (C/S)	
LOW-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
LOW-VALUE	Yes	LOW-VALUES
LOW-VALUES	Yes	LOW-VALUE
LOWER	Yes (C/S)	
LOWERED	Yes (C/S)	
LOWLIGHT	Yes (C/S)	
MAGNETIC-TAPE	Yes (C/S)	
MANUAL	Yes	
MASS-UPDATE	Yes (C/S)	
MASTER-INDEX	Yes (C/S)	
MAX-LINES	Yes (C/S)	
MAX-PROGRESS	Yes (C/S)	
MAX-TEXT	Yes (C/S)	
MAX-VAL	Yes (C/S)	
MEDIUM-FONT	Yes	
MEMORY	Yes (C/S)	
MENU	Yes	
MERGE	Yes	
MESSAGE	Yes	
MESSAGE-TAG	No	
METHOD	No	
METHOD-ID	No	
MIN-VAL	Yes (C/S)	
MINUS	Yes	
MODE	Yes	
MODIFY	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
MODULES	Yes (C/S)	
MOVE	Yes	
MULTILINE	Yes (C/S)	
MULTIPLE	Yes	
MULTIPLY	Yes	
NAME	Yes (C/S)	
NAMED	Yes (C/S)	
NAMESPACE	Yes (C/S)	
NAMESPACE-PREFIX	Yes (C/S)	
NAT	No	
NATIONAL	Yes	
NATIONAL-EDITED	Yes	
NATIVE	Yes	
NAVIGATE-URL	Yes (C/S)	
NEAREST-AWAY-FROM-ZERO	Yes (C/S)	
NEAREST-EVEN	Yes (C/S)	
NEAREST-TOWARD-ZERO	Yes (C/S)	
NEGATIVE	Yes	
NESTED	Yes	
NEW	Yes	
NEXT	Yes	
NEXT-ITEM	Yes (C/S)	
NO	Yes	
NO-AUTO-DEFAULT	Yes (C/S)	
NO-AUTOSEL	Yes (C/S)	
NO-BOX	Yes (C/S)	
NO-DIVIDERS	Yes (C/S)	
NO-ECHO	Yes	
NO-F4	Yes (C/S)	
NO-FOCUS	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
NO-GROUP-TAB	Yes (C/S)	
NO-KEY-LETTER	Yes (C/S)	
NO-SEARCH	Yes (C/S)	
NO-UPDOWN	Yes (C/S)	
NOMINAL	Yes (C/S)	
NONE	No (C/S)	
NONNUMERIC	Yes (C/S)	
NORMAL	Yes (C/S)	
NOT	Yes	
NOTAB	Yes (C/S)	
NOTHING	Yes	
NOTIFY	Yes (C/S)	
NOTIFY-CHANGE	Yes (C/S)	
NOTIFY-DBLCLICK	Yes (C/S)	
NOTIFY-SELCHANGE	Yes (C/S)	
NULL	Yes	NULLS
NULLS	Yes	NULL
NUM-COL-HEADINGS	Yes (C/S)	
NUM-ROWS	Yes (C/S)	
NUMBER	Yes	
NUMBERS	Yes	
NUMERIC	Yes	
NUMERIC-EDITED	Yes	
OBJECT	Yes	
OBJECT-COMPUTER	Yes	
OBJECT-REFERENCE	No	
OCCURS	Yes	
OF	Yes	
OFF	Yes	
OK-BUTTON	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
OMITTED	Yes	
ON	Yes	
ONLY	Yes	
OPEN	Yes	
OPTIONAL	Yes	
OPTIONS	Yes	
OR	Yes	
ORDER	Yes	
ORGANISATION	Yes	ORGANIZATION
ORGANIZATION	Yes	ORGANISATION
OTHER	Yes	
OTHERS	Yes (C/S)	
OUTPUT	Yes	
OVERFLOW	Yes	
OVERLAP-LEFT	Yes (C/S)	OVERLAP-TOP
OVERLAP-TOP	Yes (C/S)	OVERLAP-LEFT
OVERLINE	Yes	
OVERRIDE	No	
PACKED-DECIMAL	Yes	
PADDING	Yes	
PAGE	Yes	
PAGE-COUNTER	Yes	
PAGE-SETUP	Yes (C/S)	
PAGED	Yes (C/S)	
PARAGRAPH	Yes (C/S)	
PARENT	Yes (C/S)	
PARSE	Yes (C/S)	
PASCAL	Yes (C/S)	
PASSWORD	Yes (C/S)	
PERFORM	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
PERMANENT	Yes (C/S)	
PF	Yes	
PH	Yes	
PHYSICAL	Yes	
PIC	Yes	PICTURE
PICTURE	Yes	PIC
PIXEL	Yes (C/S)	PIXELS
PIXELS	Yes	PIXEL
PLACEMENT	Yes (C/S)	
PLUS	Yes	
POINTER	Yes	
POP-UP	Yes (C/S)	
POS	Yes	
POSITION	Yes	
POSITION-SHIFT	Yes (C/S)	
POSITIVE	Yes	
PREFIXED	No (C/S)	
PRESENT	Yes	
PREVIOUS	Yes (C/S)	
PRINT	Yes (C/S)	
PRINT-NO-PROMPT	Yes (C/S)	
PRINT-PREVIEW	Yes (C/S)	
PRINTER	Yes (C/S)	
PRINTER-1	Yes (C/S)	
PRINTING	Yes	
PRIORITY	Yes	
PROCEDURE	Yes	
PROCEDURE-POINTER	Yes	PROGRAM-POINTER
PROCEDURES	Yes	
PROCEED	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
PROCESSING	Yes (C/S)	
PROGRAM	Yes	
PROGRAM-ID	Yes	
PROGRAM-POINTER	Yes	PROCEDURE-POINTER
PROGRESS	Yes (C/S)	
PROHIBITED	Yes (C/S)	
PROMPT	Yes	
PROPERTIES	Yes (C/S)	
PROPERTY	Yes	
PROTECTED	Yes (C/S)	
PROTOTYPE	No	
PURGE	Yes	
PUSH-BUTTON	Yes (C/S)	
QUERY-INDEX	Yes (C/S)	
QUEUE	Yes	
QUOTE	Yes	QUOTES
QUOTES	Yes	QUOTE
RADIO-BUTTON	Yes (C/S)	
RAISE	Yes	
RAISED	Yes (C/S)	
RAISING	No	
RANDOM	Yes	
RD	Yes	
READ	Yes	
READ-ONLY	Yes (C/S)	
READERS	Yes (C/S)	
RECEIVE	Yes	
RECEIVED	Yes	
RECORD	Yes	
RECORD-DATA	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
RECORD-OVERFLOW	Yes (C/S)	
RECORD-TO-ADD	Yes (C/S)	
RECORD-TO-DELETE	Yes (C/S)	
RECORDING	Yes	
RECORDS	Yes	
RECURSIVE	Yes (C/S)	
REDEFINES	Yes	
REEL	Yes	
REFERENCE	Yes	
REFERENCES	Yes	
REFRESH	Yes (C/S)	
REGION-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
RELATION	No (C/S)	
RELATIVE	Yes	
RELEASE	Yes	
REMAINDER	Yes	
REMARKS	Yes (C/S)	
REMOVAL	Yes	
RENAMES	Yes	
REORG-CRITERIA	Yes (C/S)	
REPEATED	Yes	
REPLACE	Yes	
REPLACING	Yes	
REPORT	Yes	
REPORTING	Yes	
REPORTS	Yes	
REPOSITORY	Yes	
REQUIRED	Yes (C/S)	EMPTY-CHECK
REREAD	Yes (C/S)	
RERUN	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
RESERVE	Yes	
RESET	Yes	
RESET-GRID	Yes (C/S)	
RESET-LIST	Yes (C/S)	
RESET-TABS	Yes (C/S)	
RESUME	No	
RETRY	Yes	
RETURN	Yes	
RETURNING	Yes	
REVERSE	Yes	
REVERSE-VIDEO	Yes (C/S)	
REVERSED	Yes	
REWIND	Yes	
REWRITE	Yes	
RF	Yes	
RH	Yes	
RIGHT	Yes	
RIGHT-ALIGN	Yes (C/S)	
RIGHT-JUSTIFY	No	
RIMMED	Yes (C/S)	
ROLLBACK	Yes	
ROUNDED	Yes	
ROUNDING	Yes (C/S)	
ROW-COLOR	Yes (C/S)	
ROW-COLOR-PATTERN	Yes (C/S)	
ROW-DIVIDERS	Yes (C/S)	
ROW-FONT	Yes (C/S)	
ROW-HEADINGS	Yes (C/S)	
ROW-PROTECTION	Yes (C/S)	
RUN	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
S	Yes (C/S)	
SAME	Yes	
SAVE-AS	Yes (C/S)	
SAVE-AS-NO-PROMPT	Yes (C/S)	
SCREEN	Yes	
SCROLL	Yes (C/S)	
SCROLL-BAR	Yes (C/S)	
SD	Yes	
SEARCH	Yes	
SEARCH-OPTIONS	Yes (C/S)	
SEARCH-TEXT	Yes (C/S)	
SECONDS	Yes (C/S)	
SECTION	Yes	
SECURE	Yes (C/S)	
SECURITY	Yes (C/S)	
SEGMENT	Yes	
SEGMENT-LIMIT	Yes	
SELECT	Yes	
SELECT-ALL	Yes (C/S)	
SELECTION-INDEX	Yes (C/S)	
SELECTION-TEXT	Yes (C/S)	
SELF	No	
SELF-ACT	Yes (C/S)	
SEND	Yes	
SENTENCE	Yes	
SEPARATE	Yes	
SEPARATION	Yes (C/S)	
SEQUENCE	Yes	
SEQUENTIAL	Yes	
SET	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
SHADING	Yes (C/S)	
SHADOW	Yes (C/S)	
SHARING	Yes	
SHORT-DATE	Yes (C/S)	
SHOW-LINES	Yes (C/S)	
SHOW-NONE	Yes (C/S)	
SHOW-SEL-ALWAYS	Yes (C/S)	
SIGN	Yes	
SIGNED	Yes	
SIGNED-INT	Yes	
SIGNED-LONG	Yes	
SIGNED-SHORT	Yes	
SIZE	Yes	
SMALL-FONT	Yes	
SORT	Yes	
SORT-MERGE	Yes	
SORT-ORDER	Yes (C/S)	
SOURCE	Yes	
SOURCE-COMPUTER	Yes	
SOURCES	No	
SPACE	Yes	SPACES
SPACE-FILL	No	
SPACES	Yes	SPACE
SPECIAL-NAMES	Yes	
SPINNER	Yes (C/S)	
SQUARE	Yes (C/S)	
STACK	No (C/S)	
STANDARD	Yes	
STANDARD-1	Yes	
STANDARD-2	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
STANDARD-BINARY	Yes (C/S)	
STANDARD-DECIMAL	Yes (C/S)	
START	Yes	
START-X	Yes (C/S)	
START-Y	Yes (C/S)	
STATEMENT	No (C/S)	
STATIC	Yes (C/S)	
STATIC-LIST	Yes (C/S)	
STATUS	Yes	
STATUS-BAR	Yes (C/S)	
STATUS-TEXT	Yes (C/S)	
STDCALL	Yes (C/S)	
STEP	Yes (C/S)	
STOP	Yes	
STRING	Yes	
STRONG	No (C/S)	
STYLE	Yes (C/S)	
SUB-QUEUE-1	Yes	
SUB-QUEUE-2	Yes	
SUB-QUEUE-3	Yes	
SUBTRACT	Yes	
SUBWINDOW	Yes	
SUM	Yes	
SUPER	No	
SUPPRESS	Yes	
SYMBOL	No (C/S)	
SYMBOLIC	Yes	
SYNC	Yes	SYNCHRONISED, SYNCHRONIZED
SYNCHRONISED	Yes	SYNC, SYNCHRONIZED
SYNCHRONIZED	Yes	SYNC, SYNCHRONISED

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
SYSTEM-DEFAULT	Yes	
SYSTEM-INFO	Yes (C/S)	
SYSTEM-OFFSET	Yes	
TAB	Yes (C/S)	
TAB-TO-ADD	Yes (C/S)	
TAB-TO-DELETE	Yes (C/S)	
TABLE	Yes	
TALLYING	Yes	
TAPE	Yes (C/S)	
TEMPORARY	Yes (C/S)	
TERMINAL-INFO	Yes (C/S)	
TERMINATE	Yes	
TERMINATION-VALUE	Yes (C/S)	
TEST	Yes	
TEXT	Yes	
THAN	Yes	
THEN	Yes	
THREAD	Yes	
THREADS	Yes	
THROUGH	Yes	THRU
THRU	Yes	THROUGH
THUMB-POSITION	Yes (C/S)	
TILED-HEADINGS	Yes (C/S)	
TIME	Yes	
TIME-OUT	Yes (C/S)	TIMEOUT
TIMEOUT	Yes	TIME-OUT
TIMES	Yes	
TITLE	Yes (C/S)	
TITLE-POSITION	Yes (C/S)	
TO	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
TOP	Yes	
TOP-LEVEL	No (C/S)	
TOWARD-GREATER	Yes (C/S)	
TOWARD-LESSER	Yes (C/S)	
TRACK	Yes (C/S)	
TRACK-AREA	Yes (C/S)	
TRACK-LIMIT	Yes (C/S)	
TRACKS	Yes (C/S)	
TRADITIONAL-FONT	Yes	
TRAILING	Yes	
TRAILING-SHIFT	Yes (C/S)	
TRAILING-SIGN	No	
TRANSFORM	Yes	
TRANSPARENT	Yes (C/S)	
TREE-VIEW	Yes (C/S)	
TRUE	Yes	
TRUNCATION	Yes (C/S)	
TYPE	Yes	
TYPEDEF	Yes	
U	Yes (C/S)	
UCS-4	Yes (C/S)	
UNBOUNDED	Yes (C/S)	
UNDERLINE	Yes (C/S)	
UNFRAMED	Yes (C/S)	
UNIT	Yes	
UNIVERSAL	No	
UNLOCK	Yes	
UNSIGNED	Yes	
UNSIGNED-INT	Yes	
UNSIGNED-LONG	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
UNSIGNED-SHORT	Yes	
UNSORTED	Yes (C/S)	
UNSTRING	Yes	
UNTIL	Yes	
UP	Yes	
UPDATE	Yes	
UPDATERS	Yes (C/S)	
UPON	Yes	
UPPER	Yes (C/S)	
USAGE	Yes	
USE	Yes	
USE-ALT	Yes (C/S)	
USE-RETURN	Yes (C/S)	
USE-TAB	Yes (C/S)	
USER	Yes (C/S)	
USER-DEFAULT	Yes	
USING	Yes	
UTF-16	Yes (C/S)	
UTF-8	Yes (C/S)	
V	Yes (C/S)	
VAL-STATUS	No	
VALID	No	
VALIDATE	Yes	
VALIDATE-STATUS	No	
VALIDATING	Yes (C/S)	
VALUE	Yes	VALUES
VALUE-FORMAT	Yes (C/S)	
VALUES	Yes	VALUE
VARIABLE	Yes (C/S)	
VARIANT	Yes	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
VARYING	Yes	
VERTICAL	Yes (C/S)	
VERY-HEAVY	Yes (C/S)	
VIRTUAL-WIDTH	Yes (C/S)	
VOLATILE	Yes	
VPADDING	Yes (C/S)	
VSCROLL	Yes (C/S)	
VSCROLL-BAR	Yes (C/S)	
VSCROLL-POS	Yes (C/S)	
VTOP	Yes (C/S)	
WAIT	Yes	
WEB-BROWSER	Yes (C/S)	
WHEN	Yes	
WIDTH	Yes (C/S)	
WIDTH-IN-CELLS	Yes (C/S)	
WINDOW	Yes	
WITH	Yes	
WORDS	Yes	
WORKING-STORAGE	Yes	
WRAP	Yes (C/S)	
WRITE	Yes	
WRITE-ONLY	Yes (C/S)	
WRITE-VERIFY	Yes (C/S)	
WRITERS	Yes (C/S)	
X	Yes (C/S)	
XML	Yes	
XML-DECLARATION	Yes (C/S)	
XML-SCHEMA	Yes (C/S)	
XOR	No	
Y	Yes (C/S)	

Reserved word	Implemented	Aliases
YYYYDDD	Yes (C/S)	
YYYYMMDD	Yes (C/S)	
ZERO	Yes	ZEROES, ZEROS
ZERO-FILL	No (C/S)	
ZEROES	Yes	ZERO, ZEROS
ZEROS	Yes	ZERO, ZEROES

16.2 Extra (obsolete) context sensitive words

AUTHOR, DATE-COMPILED, DATE-MODIFIED, DATE-WRITTEN, INSTALLATION, REMARKS, SECURITY

16.3 Internal registers

Register	Imple-mented	Definition
'ADDRESS OF' phrase	Yes	USAGE POINTER
COB-CRT-STATUS	Yes	PICTURE 9(4) USAGE DISPLAY VALUE ZERO
DEBUG-ITEM	Yes	PICTURE X(n) USAGE DISPLAY
'LENGTH OF' phrase	Yes	CONSTANT USAGE BINARY-LONG
NUMBER-OF-CALL-PARAMETERS	Yes	USAGE BINARY-LONG
RETURN-CODE	Yes	GLOBAL USAGE BINARY-LONG VALUE ZERO
SORT-RETURN	Yes	GLOBAL USAGE BINARY-LONG VALUE ZERO
TALLY	Yes	GLOBAL PICTURE 9(5) USAGE BINARY VALUE ZERO
WHEN-COMPILED	Yes	CONSTANT PICTURE X(16) USAGE DISPLAY
XML-CODE	Yes	GLOBAL PICTURE S9(9) USAGE BINARY VALUE 0
XML-EVENT	Yes	GLOBAL USAGE DISPLAY PICTURE X(30) VALUE SPACE
XML-INFORMATION	Yes	GLOBAL PICTURE S9(9) USAGE BINARY VALUE 0
XML-NAMESPACE	Yes	GLOBAL PIC X ANY LENGTH
XML-NAMESPACE-PREFIX	Yes	GLOBAL PIC X ANY LENGTH
XML-NNAMESPACE	Yes	GLOBAL PIC N ANY LENGTH
XML-NNAMESPACE-PREFIX	Yes	GLOBAL PIC N ANY LENGTH
XML-NTEXT	Yes	GLOBAL PIC N ANY LENGTH

Register	Imple-mented	Definition
`XML-TEXT`	Yes	`GLOBAL PIC X ANY LENGTH`
`JSON-CODE`	Yes	`GLOBAL PICTURE S9(9) USAGE BINARY VALUE 0`
`JSON-STATUS`	Yes	`GLOBAL PICTURE S9(9) USAGE BINARY VALUE 0`

17 List of Intrinsic Functions

The following list of intrinsic functions was extracted from `cobc --list-intrinsics` and shows the names of the available functions, an implementation note and the number of parameters.

Intrinsic Function	Implemented	Parameters
`ABS`	Yes	1
`ACOS`	Yes	1
`ANNUITY`	Yes	2
`ASIN`	Yes	1
`ATAN`	Yes	1
`BASECONVERT`	No	3
`BIT-OF`	Yes	1
`BIT-TO-CHAR`	Yes	1
`BOOLEAN-OF-INTEGER`	No	2
`BYTE-LENGTH`	Yes	1 - 2
`CHAR`	Yes	1
`CHAR-NATIONAL`	No	1
`COMBINED-DATETIME`	Yes	2
`CONCAT`	Yes	Unlimited
`CONCATENATE`	Yes	Unlimited
`CONTENT-LENGTH`	Yes	1
`CONTENT-OF`	Yes	1 - 2
`CONVERT`	No	3
`COS`	Yes	1
`CURRENCY-SYMBOL`	Yes	0
`CURRENT-DATE`	Yes	0
`DATE-OF-INTEGER`	Yes	1
`DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD`	Yes	1 - 3
`DAY-OF-INTEGER`	Yes	1

Intrinsic Function	Implemented	Parameters
DAY-TO-YYYYDDD	Yes	1 - 3
DISPLAY-OF	No	1 - 2
E	Yes	0
EXCEPTION-FILE	Yes	0
EXCEPTION-FILE-N	No	0
EXCEPTION-LOCATION	Yes	0
EXCEPTION-LOCATION-N	No	0
EXCEPTION-STATEMENT	Yes	0
EXCEPTION-STATUS	Yes	0
EXP	Yes	1
EXP10	Yes	1
FACTORIAL	Yes	1
FIND-STRING	No	7 - 2
FORMATTED-CURRENT-DATE	Yes	1
FORMATTED-DATE	Yes	2
FORMATTED-DATETIME	Yes	4 - 5
FORMATTED-TIME	Yes	3 - 4
FRACTION-PART	Yes	1
HEX-OF	Yes	1
HEX-TO-CHAR	Yes	1
HIGHEST-ALGEBRAIC	Yes	1
INTEGER	Yes	1
INTEGER-OF-BOOLEAN	No	1
INTEGER-OF-DATE	Yes	1
INTEGER-OF-DAY	Yes	1
INTEGER-OF-FORMATTED-DATE	Yes	2
INTEGER-PART	Yes	1
LENGTH	Yes	1 - 2
LENGTH-AN	Yes	1
LOCALE-COMPARE Yes 2 - 3		

Intrinsic Function	Implemented	Parameters
LOCALE-DATE	Yes	1 - 2
LOCALE-TIME	Yes	1 - 2
LOCALE-TIME-FROM-SECONDS	Yes	1 - 2
LOG	Yes	1
LOG10	Yes	1
LOWER-CASE	Yes	1
LOWEST-ALGEBRAIC	Yes	1
MAX	Yes	Unlimited
MEAN	Yes	Unlimited
MEDIAN	Yes	Unlimited
MIDRANGE	Yes	Unlimited
MIN	Yes	Unlimited
MOD	Yes	2
MODULE-CALLER-ID	Yes	0
MODULE-DATE	Yes	0
MODULE-FORMATTED-DATE	Yes	0
MODULE-ID	Yes	0
MODULE-NAME	No	1
MODULE-PATH	Yes	0
MODULE-SOURCE	Yes	0
MODULE-TIME	Yes	0
MONETARY-DECIMAL-POINT	Yes	0
MONETARY-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR	Yes	0
NATIONAL-OF	No	1 - 2
NUMERIC-DECIMAL-POINT	Yes	0
NUMERIC-THOUSANDS-SEPARATOR	Yes	0
NUMVAL	Yes	1
NUMVAL-C	Yes	2
NUMVAL-F	Yes	1
ORD	Yes	1

Intrinsic Function	Implemented	Parameters
ORD-MAX	Yes	Unlimited
ORD-MIN	Yes	Unlimited
PI	Yes	0
PRESENT-VALUE	Yes	Unlimited
RANDOM	Yes	0 - 1
RANGE	Yes	Unlimited
REM	Yes	2
REVERSE	Yes	1
SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME	Yes	2
SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT	Yes	0
SIGN	Yes	1
SIN	Yes	1
SQRT	Yes	1
STANDARD-COMPARE	No	2 - 4
STANDARD-DEVIATION	Yes	Unlimited
STORED-CHAR-LENGTH	Yes	1
SUBSTITUTE	Yes	Unlimited
SUBSTITUTE-CASE	Yes	Unlimited
SUM	Yes	Unlimited
TAN	Yes	1
TEST-DATE-YYYYMMDD	Yes	1
TEST-DAY-YYYYDDD	Yes	1
TEST-FORMATTED-DATETIME	Yes	2
TEST-NUMVAL	Yes	1
TEST-NUMVAL-C	Yes	2
TEST-NUMVAL-F	Yes	1
TRIM	Yes	1 - 2
UPPER-CASE	Yes	1
VARIANCE	Yes	Unlimited
WHEN-COMPILED	Yes	0

Intrinsic Function	Implemented	Parameters
YEAR-TO-YYYY	Yes	1 - 3

18 System routines

The following list of system routines was extracted from `cobc --list-system` and shows the names of the available system routines along with the number of parameters.

System routine	Parameters
C$CALLEDBY	1
C$CHDIR	2
C$COPY	3
C$DELETE	2
C$FILEINFO	2
C$GETPID	0
C$JUSTIFY	1 - 2
C$MAKEDIR	1
C$NARG	1
C$PARAMSIZE	1
C$PRINTABLE	1 - 2
C$SLEEP	1
C$TOLOWER	2
C$TOUPPER	2
CBL_ACCEPT_NUMERIC	2
CBL_ALARM_SOUND	0
CBL_AND	3
CBL_BELL_SOUND	0
CBL_CHANGE_DIR	1
CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST	2
CBL_CLOSE_FILE	1
CBL_COPY_FILE	2
CBL_CREATE_DIR	1
CBL_CREATE_FILE	5
CBL_DELETE_DIR	1

System routine	Parameters
CBL_DELETE_FILE	1
CBL_EQ	3
CBL_ERROR_PROC	2
CBL_EXIT_PROC	2
CBL_FLUSH_FILE	1
CBL_GC_FORK	0
CBL_GC_GETOPT	6
CBL_GC_HOSTED	2
CBL_GC_NANOSLEEP	1
CBL_GC_PRINTABLE	1 - 2
CBL_GC_SET_SCR_SIZE	2
CBL_GC_WAITPID	1
CBL_GET_CSR_POS	1
CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR	3
CBL_GET_SCR_SIZE	2
CBL_IMP	3
CBL_NIMP	3
CBL_NOR	3
CBL_NOT	2
CBL_OC_GETOPT	6
CBL_OC_HOSTED	2
CBL_OC_NANOSLEEP	1
CBL_OPEN_FILE	5
CBL_OR	3
CBL_READ_FILE	5
CBL_READ_KBD_CHAR	1
CBL_RENAME_FILE	2
CBL_RUNTIME_ERROR	2
CBL_SET_CSR_POS	1
CBL_TOLOWER	2

System routine	Parameters
CBL_TOUPPER	2
CBL_WRITE_FILE	5
CBL_XOR	3
EXTFH	2
SYSTEM	1
X"91"	3
X"E4"	0
X"E5"	0
X"F4"	2
X"F5"	2

19 System names

The following list of system names was extracted from `cobc --list-mnemonics` and shows the system names categorized by their type.

19.1 System names: device

SYSIN, SYSIPT, STDIN, SYSOUT, SYSLIST, SYSLST, SYSPCH, SYSPUNCH, STDOUT, PRINT, PRINTER, PRINTER-1, SYSERR, STDERR, CONSOLE, ALTERNATE-CONSOLE, ALTERNATE CONSOLE

19.2 System names: feature

C01, C02, C03, C04, C05, C06, C07, C08, C09, C10, C11, C12, S01, S02, S03, S04, S05, CSP, FORMFEED, TOP, CALL-CONVENTION

19.3 System names: switch

SWITCH-0, SWITCH-1, SWITCH-2, SWITCH-3, SWITCH-4, SWITCH-5, SWITCH-6, SWITCH-7, SWITCH-8, SWITCH-9, SWITCH-10, SWITCH-11, SWITCH-12, SWITCH-13, SWITCH-14, SWITCH-15, SWITCH-16, SWITCH-17, SWITCH-18, SWITCH-19, SWITCH-20, SWITCH-21, SWITCH-22, SWITCH-23, SWITCH-24, SWITCH-25, SWITCH-26, SWITCH-27, SWITCH-28, SWITCH-29, SWITCH-30, SWITCH-31, SWITCH-32, SWITCH-33, SWITCH-34, SWITCH-35, SWITCH-36

20 Exceptions

The following list of exceptions names was extracted from `cobc --list-exceptions` and shows the names by type and if those are fatal (leads to a program abort)..

EC Hierarchy and Levels.

Exception Conditions follow a hierarchical structure that allows errors to be handled at 3 different levels from the most general to the most detailed:

Level 1: EC-ALL (The Root Node)

This is the highest level. By triggering or handling EC-ALL, all possible exceptions definable in the language are included.

Level 2: Exception Categories (e.g., EC-I-O, EC-DATA)

They represent logical groups of errors. For example: EC-I-O: All file-related errors (open, read, write).

EC-DATA: Data errors, such as format incompatibility.

EC-BOUND: Bounds violation errors (e.g., array index out of range).

Level 3: Specific Exceptions (e.g., EC-I-O-FILE-NOT-FOUND)

This is the most detailed level. It allows you to handle a specific error without affecting other errors in the same category.

Example: EC-I-O-AT-END only detects the end of file, while EC-I-O would also detect hardware or permission errors.

Level Control Syntax. You can decide which levels to monitor in your program using the >>TURN directive: Selectively enabled: use EC-OVERFLOW to activates monitoring only for overflows. Specifically disabled: use EC-I-O-AT-END to ignore the end-of-file condition while keeping other I/O exceptions active.

All of those can be activated and deactivated, both directly and at group level, also using -fec.

```
Exception Name

EC-ALL
  EC-ARGUMENT
    EC-ARGUMENT-FUNCTION (f)
    EC-ARGUMENT-IMP
  EC-BOUND
```

```
    EC-BOUND-FUNC-RET-VALUE
    EC-BOUND-IMP
    EC-BOUND-ODO (f)
    EC-BOUND-OVERFLOW (f)
    EC-BOUND-PTR (f)
    EC-BOUND-REF-MOD (f)
    EC-BOUND-SET (f)
    EC-BOUND-SUBSCRIPT (f)
    EC-BOUND-TABLE-LIMIT (f)
  EC-CONTINUE
    EC-CONTINUE-IMP
    EC-CONTINUE-LESS-THAN-ZERO
  EC-DATA
    EC-DATA-CONVERSION
    EC-DATA-IMP
    EC-DATA-INCOMPATIBLE (f)
    EC-DATA-NOT-FINITE (f)
    EC-DATA-OVERFLOW (f)
    EC-DATA-PTR-NULL (f)
  EC-EXTERNAL
    EC-EXTERNAL-DATA-MISMATCH (f)
    EC-EXTERNAL-FILE-MISMATCH (f)
    EC-EXTERNAL-FORMAT-CONFLICT (f)
    EC-EXTERNAL-IMP
  EC-FLOW
    EC-FLOW-APPLY-COMMIT (f)
    EC-FLOW-COMMIT (f)
    EC-FLOW-GLOBAL-EXIT (f)
    EC-FLOW-GLOBAL-GOBACK (f)
    EC-FLOW-IMP
    EC-FLOW-RELEASE (f)
    EC-FLOW-REPORT (f)
    EC-FLOW-RETURN (f)
    EC-FLOW-ROLLBACK (f)
    EC-FLOW-SEARCH (f)
    EC-FLOW-USE (f)
  EC-FUNCTION
    EC-FUNCTION-ARG-OMITTED (f)
    EC-FUNCTION-IMP
    EC-FUNCTION-NOT-FOUND (f)
    EC-FUNCTION-PTR-INVALID (f)
```

```
    EC-FUNCTION-PTR-NULL (f)
  EC-I-O
    EC-I-O-AT-END
    EC-I-O-EOP
    EC-I-O-EOP-OVERFLOW
    EC-I-O-FILE-SHARING
    EC-I-O-IMP
    EC-I-O-INVALID-KEY
    EC-I-O-LINAGE (f)
    EC-I-O-LOGIC-ERROR (f)
    EC-I-O-PERMANENT-ERROR (f)
    EC-I-O-RECORD-CONTENT (f)
    EC-I-O-RECORD-OPERATION
    EC-I-O-RECORD-WARNING
  EC-IMP
    EC-IMP-ACCEPT
    EC-IMP-DISPLAY
    EC-IMP-UTC-UNKNOWN (f)
    EC-IMP-FEATURE-DISABLED
    EC-IMP-FEATURE-MISSING
  EC-LOCALE
    EC-LOCALE-IMP
    EC-LOCALE-INCOMPATIBLE
    EC-LOCALE-INVALID (f)
    EC-LOCALE-INVALID-PTR (f)
    EC-LOCALE-MISSING (f)
    EC-LOCALE-SIZE (f)
  EC-MCS
    EC-MCS-ABNORMAL-TERMINATION
    EC-MCS-IMP
    EC-MCS-INVALID-TAG
    EC-MCS-MESSAGE-LENGTH
    EC-MCS-NO-REQUESTER
    EC-MCS-NO-SERVER
    EC-MCS-NORMAL-TERMINATION
    EC-MCS-REQUESTOR-FAILED
  EC-OO
    EC-OO-ARG-OMITTED (f)
    EC-OO-CONFORMANCE (f)
    EC-OO-EXCEPTION (f)
    EC-OO-IMP
```

```
    EC-OO-METHOD (f)
    EC-OO-NULL (f)
    EC-OO-RESOURCE (f)
    EC-OO-UNIVERSAL (f)
  EC-ORDER
    EC-ORDER-IMP
    EC-ORDER-NOT-SUPPORTED (f)
  EC-OVERFLOW
    EC-OVERFLOW-IMP
    EC-OVERFLOW-STRING
    EC-OVERFLOW-UNSTRING
  EC-PROGRAM
    EC-PROGRAM-ARG-MISMATCH (f)
    EC-PROGRAM-ARG-OMITTED (f)
    EC-PROGRAM-CANCEL-ACTIVE (f)
    EC-PROGRAM-IMP
    EC-PROGRAM-NOT-FOUND (f)
    EC-PROGRAM-PTR-NULL (f)
    EC-PROGRAM-RECURSIVE-CALL (f)
    EC-PROGRAM-RESOURCES (f)
  EC-RAISING
    EC-RAISING-IMP
    EC-RAISING-NOT-SPECIFIED (f)
  EC-RANGE
    EC-RANGE-IMP
    EC-RANGE-INDEX (f)
    EC-RANGE-INSPECT-SIZE (f)
    EC-RANGE-INVALID
    EC-RANGE-PERFORM-VARYING (f)
    EC-RANGE-PTR (f)
    EC-RANGE-SEARCH-INDEX
    EC-RANGE-SEARCH-NO-MATCH
  EC-REPORT
    EC-REPORT-ACTIVE (f)
    EC-REPORT-COLUMN-OVERLAP (f)
    EC-REPORT-FILE-MODE (f)
    EC-REPORT-IMP
    EC-REPORT-INACTIVE (f)
    EC-REPORT-LINE-OVERLAP
    EC-REPORT-NOT-TERMINATED
    EC-REPORT-PAGE-LIMIT
```

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    EC-REPORT-PAGE-WIDTH
    EC-REPORT-SUM-SIZE (f)
    EC-REPORT-VARYING (f)
  EC-SCREEN
    EC-SCREEN-FIELD-OVERLAP
    EC-SCREEN-IMP
    EC-SCREEN-ITEM-TRUNCATED
    EC-SCREEN-LINE-NUMBER
    EC-SCREEN-STARTING-COLUMN
  EC-SIZE
    EC-SIZE-ADDRESS (f)
    EC-SIZE-EXPONENTIATION (f)
    EC-SIZE-IMP
    EC-SIZE-OVERFLOW (f)
    EC-SIZE-TRUNCATION (f)
    EC-SIZE-UNDERFLOW (f)
    EC-SIZE-ZERO-DIVIDE (f)
  EC-SORT-MERGE
    EC-SORT-MERGE-ACTIVE (f)
    EC-SORT-MERGE-FILE-OPEN (f)
    EC-SORT-MERGE-IMP
    EC-SORT-MERGE-RELEASE (f)
    EC-SORT-MERGE-RETURN (f)
    EC-SORT-MERGE-SEQUENCE (f)
  EC-STORAGE
    EC-STORAGE-IMP
    EC-STORAGE-NOT-ALLOC
    EC-STORAGE-NOT-AVAIL
  EC-USER
  EC-VALIDATE
    EC-VALIDATE-CONTENT
    EC-VALIDATE-FORMAT
    EC-VALIDATE-IMP
    EC-VALIDATE-RELATION
    EC-VALIDATE-VARYING (f)
  EC-XML
    EC-XML-CODESET (f)
    EC-XML-CODESET-CONVERSION (f)
    EC-XML-COUNT (f)
    EC-XML-DOCUMENT-TYPE (f)
    EC-XML-IMPLICIT-CLOSE (f)
```

```
    EC-XML-INVALID (f)
    EC-XML-NAMESPACE (f)
    EC-XML-STACKED-OPEN (f)
    EC-XML-RANGE (f)
    EC-XML-IMP (f)
  EC-JSON
    EC-JSON-IMP (f)
```

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8th Edition on release of v3.2 with some updates for 3.3 & 4.0+. Removed all update notes for 2021 - 25.

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