

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

*Get on the
Fast Track!*



TM

**SYS-ED/
Computer
Education
Techniques, Inc.**

Objectives

You will learn:

- Different types of file access available to the programmer.
- How to define fields in a program.
- The flow of the data thru the logic and reporting sections.
- The temporary work file facilities available in CA-Easytrieve.
- Virtual File Manager.
- Debugging capabilities.

1 Featureset and Environment

Easytrieve Plus is an information retrieval and data management system designed to simplify computer programming. An English-like language and declarative statements provide the user with tools to produce comprehensive reports.

Enhanced facilities provide information technology and savvy business professionals with the capability to perform programming tasks.

Easytrieve Plus operates on the IBM compatible processors in the z/OS, z/VM, and z/VSE environments.

Under TSO, CMS, and ICCF, Easytrieve plus can run be interactively for data inquiry, analysis, and reporting.

The output can be returned back to a terminal screen or routed to a printer.

2 File Access

Easytrieve Plus file access features include:

- Accepting up to 890 files.
- Synchronizing file processing based on keys of an unlimited number of files, including matched conditions and duplicate checking.
- Testing for file availability and current record count.
- Printing statistics on files used.
- Providing in-core binary search.
- Printing file status and error analysis reports.
- Establishing temporary work files without special job control or file allocation statements.

3 Field Definition

Easytrieve Plus methods for defining record structures and field formats are consistent:

- Defining all field formats.
- Supporting alphanumeric field types containing both EBCDIC and DBCS format.
- Provides flexible edit masks.
- Establishes initial values for working storage fields.
- Providing default report headings to enhance standards.

4 Logic Process

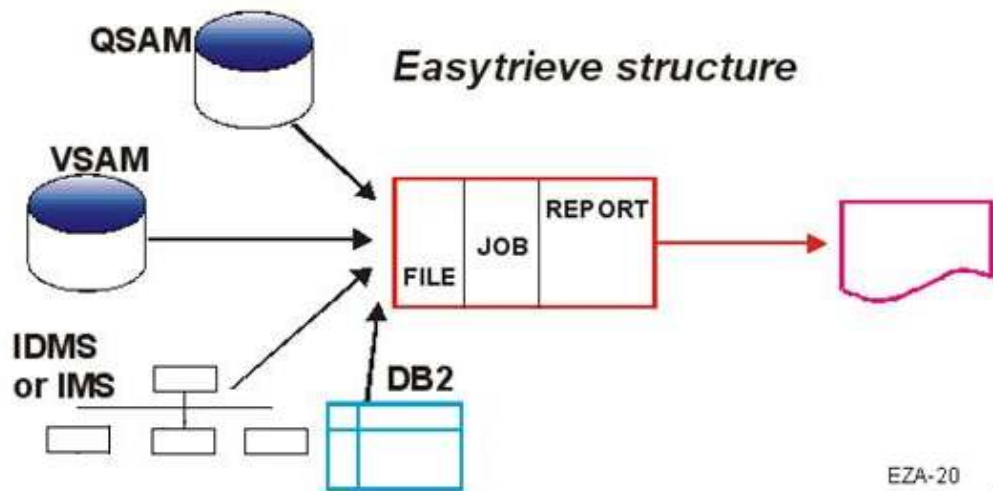
Easytrieve Plus provides logic processing structures and functions:

- Nested IF's, DO WHILE, and PERFORM statements.
- Calculation capabilities, including bit manipulation.
- Edit tests including alphabetic, numeric, spaces, zero, and test under mask.
- String manipulation.
- Move for like named fields.
- Start of processing and finish of processing routines.
- Sorts on any number of keys.

5 File Output

Easytrieve Plus makes file maintenance faster and simpler:

- Loading and updating files, including VSAM, IMS DL/1, CA-IDMS, and SQL.
- Saving report extract work files for subsequent use.
- Providing a selective hexadecimal dump of a file or specific field.



6 Report Output

The reports include these features:

- Creating reports from a single pass of the data.
- Mailing labels of any size.
- Control breaks on any number of keys.
- Creation of a summary file containing subtotals.
- Selective processing of required fields.
- Generating reports to separated logical printers.
- Control break level access for special logic processing.
- Explicit positioning of print layout for pre-printed forms.

7 Virtual File Manager

The VFM: Virtual File Manager provides a straightforward method for establishing temporary work files without special job control of file allocation statements.

VFM can be used to establish an extract or temporary files with Easytrieve Plus keywords.

VFM's data management facilities ensure its operating standards, including:

- Maintaining more information in memory.
- Defining only one physical file.
- Determining the best blocking factor.
- Releasing and recovering occupied space.
- Automatically spooling files.

8 Debugging Capabilities

Easytrieve Plus debugging aids include:

- An error analysis report which identifies errors.
- Memory layouts and cross reference lists.
- Trapping invalid file references during execution to prevent a system dump.