

Chapter
1

INTRODUCTION

*Get on the
Fast Track!*



TM

**SYS-ED/
COMPUTER
EDUCATION
TECHNIQUES, INC.**

Objectives

You will learn:

- C Features and benefits of using Easytrieve.
- C Easytrieve environments.
- C Features of file access.
- C Information about logic process.
- C Types of report output.
- C Debugging capabilities.



1 Introduction and Environment

Introduction

EASYTRIEVE PLUS is an information retrieval and data management system designed to simplify computer programming.

English-like language and simple declarative statements provide the user with tools to produce comprehensive reports with ease.

Enhanced facilities provide the experienced data processor with the capabilities to perform programming tasks.

Environment

EASYTRIEVE PLUS operates on the IBM compatible processors in the VSE/SP, VSE/ESA, MVS/SP, MVS/XA, MVS/ESA, or VM/CMS environments.

Under TSO, CMS, and ICCF, EASYTRIEVE PLUS can run interactively for data inquiry, analysis, and reporting.

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

2 File Access

EASYTRIEVE PLUS file access features include the following:

- C Accepts up to 890 files.
- C Synchronizes file processing (based on keys) of an unlimited number of files, including matched conditions and duplicate checking.
- C Tests for file availability and current record count.
- C Prints statistics on files used.
- C Provides in-core binary search.
- C Prints file status and error analysis report.
- C Establishes temporary work files without special job control or file allocation statements.

3 Field Definition

EASYTRIEVE PLUS methods of defining all types of record structures and field formats are consistent and easy to use, including:

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

4 Logic Process

EASYTRIEVE PLUS provides logic processing including:

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

5 File Output

File maintenance is faster and simpler because of EASYTRIEVE PLUS, which includes the following:

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

6 Report Output

The reports include the following features:

- C Create reports from a single pass of the data.
- C Mailing labels of any size.
- C Control breaks on any number of keys.
- C Creates a summary file containing subtotals.
- C Process only those fields that are required.
- C Generates reports to separated logical printers.
- C Control break level access for special logic processing.
- C Explicit positioning of print layout for pre-printed forms.

7 Virtual File Manager

The Virtual File Manager (VFM) provides an easy method for establishing temporary work files without special job control of file allocation statements.

By using VFM, it is possible to establish your own extract or temporary files using only EASYTRIEVE PLUS keywords.

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

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

8 Debugging Capabilities

EASYTRIEVE PLUS debugging aids include:

- C Providing an error analysis report which pinpoints most errors immediately.
- C Memory layouts and cross reference lists.
- C Trapping invalid file references during execution to prevent a system dump.