Malcolm Kayser Computer Training Limited

Introduction to COBOL Programming
Detailed Course contents

Introduction to COBOL

Development of COBOL. Program translation: compilation, linkage editor. Common compilation errors, compiler options. Divisions of COBOL, COBOL syntax and format, COBOL character set, program source structure.

COBOL statement structure

COBOL words, format of statements.

Identification Division

Entries.

Environment Division

Entries.

Data Division

Entries.

File Section

File description (FD), record descriptions, hierarchy and level numbers, description-string entry.

Working-Storage Section

Literals, figurative constants, redefines clause, data representation, the Usage clause, synchronization, sign clause.

The Procedure Division

File status codes; file statements: Open, Read, Write, Close, Stop, Goback; Accept and Display; Move statement, Justified clause, qualification of data names, Reference Modification.

Perform statement

Out-of-line, With test ... Until, ... Times, in-line statement; Go to statement.

Program design

Describes program design techniques, design considerations, procedure names, program structure.

Printing

Printed output, Write statement with the advancing option, editing characters; Initialize statement.

Environment Division clauses

Other entries.

Condition testing

Conditional statements: IF statement, class condition, sign condition, relation condition, condition-name conditionals (88 levels), Set statement for condition-names, nested If statements, compound conditions, logical operator - OR with AND.
Evaluate statement, Continue statement.

Arithmetic

Arithmetic statements: Rounded option, On Size Error option, Add statement, Subtract statement, Multiply statement, Divide statement, Compute statement.

Non-sequential files

File access modes, Select for Indexed files. Select for Relative files.

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Accessing Indexed and Relative files

Open statement, Close statement, creating a file - Sequential access, Write statement, Reading a file - Sequential access, Read statement, Invalid key clause, Reading a file - Random and Dynamic access, Writing to a file - Random access, Updating a file - Random access, Rewrite statement, Delete statement, Start statement, Reading a file - Dynamic access.

Declarative routines

Clauses.

Using Subroutines

Call statement, Using clause - calling program, Using clause - called program, Linkage Section, returning control from a called program.

Table handling

Subscripted tables: Single dimensional tables, Perform and single dimensional tables, variable length tables.
Indexed tables: Set statement, storing an index, using an index, Perform example using a two-dimensional table; Search statement.

Internal Sort

Sort statement, Input keyword, Output keyword, Release statement, Return statement.