

Interactive COBOL/400 Programming Workshop (CB25)

5 Days (40% Lecture, 60% Workshop)

This course provides a comprehensive treatment of writing interactive programs in the COBOL/400 language used on the IBM System i (AS/400). Students will learn how to create, debug and maintain interactive applications, starting with very simple displays, and continuing through such advanced topics as Display Windows and Subfiles. This class is intended for the COBOL/400 Programmer who needs a better understanding of interactive programming in COBOL/400.

Prerequisites: A working knowledge of COBOL/400 programming on the IBM System i (AS/400).

Course Outline

Introduction

The System i (AS/400) Interactive Model
The Display File and SDA

SDA (Screen Design Aid)

Using SDA
Creating Interactive Menus
Creating Interactive Help Text
Using text display attributes
Using color on the display
Total control with SDA commands

Using COBOL/400 as the Screen Driver

Designing screens for COBOL/400
Add and manipulate data fields
Using a file reference to easily build a screen
The DDS Language for Display Files
Processing display files in COBOL/400

Types of Displays

Using Output only Displays
Using Input/Output Displays

Working with Screen Indicators

Numbered indicators
Using a separate indicator area
Manipulating indicators in COBOL/400
Conditioning Display attributes
Conditioning Fields
Overlapping Fields
Naming indicators using COPY/Replacing

COBOL/400 Specifics

Select/Assign for display files
Using the IO Feedback Area
READ Verb
WRITE Verb

Screen Control

Using multiple screen record formats
Editing Numeric Fields for output
Add and Process Function Keys
Cursor Positioning

Message Handling in screens

Using ERRMSG (Error Message) Keyword
Using ERRSFL (Error Subfile) Keyword
Using Message Subfiles for optimum control
Understanding Program message queues
Using the IBM Messaging APIs
Creating a message file and adding messages

Develop, Code, Test and Debug Programs

Display fields and literals for output only
Display Fields for both input and output
Handling Complex displays
Using SDA test utility
Using the COBOL/400 Debugger

Handling Errors and Anomalies

Screen I/O Errors
Avoiding Record Lock contentions
Using Commitment Control for integrity

Windows

Using Windows in your displays
Window borders
Creating Help Text in a Window

Subfiles (Scrollable Lists)

Using SDA to create Subfiles
Processing Subfiles in COBOL/400
Output only Subfiles
Input/Output Subfiles
Creating an F4=Prompt result window

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