

OpenCOBOL 1.1

[06FEB2009 Version]

Programmer's Guide

1st Edition, 17 September 2010

Gary Cutler

CutlerGL@gmail.com

OpenCOBOL Copyright © 2001-2010 Keisuke Nishida / Roger While
Under the terms of the GNU General Public License

Document Copyright © 2009,2010 Gary Cutler

Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License [FDL], Version 1.3 or any later version published by the Free Software Foundation; with Invariant Section "What is OpenCOBOL?", no Front-Cover Texts, and no Back-Cover Texts.

A copy of the FDL is included in the section entitled "GNU Free Documentation License".

OpenCOBOL is an evolving tool.

While all reasonable attempts will be made to maintain the currency of the information in this document, neither the author of this document nor the authors of the OpenCOBOL software, extend any warranties of any kind by this document or for the information contained therein.

Summary of Changes

Edition	Date	Change Description
1 st [06FEB2009]	17 September 2010	Introduced documentation for the hitherto undiscovered "COBCPY" environment variable (section 7.1.7 and 7.1.8). Corrected "section 0" broken hyperlinks in the document.
	1 April 2010	Documented a work-around for a potential 06FEB2009 compiler parsing problem with the " <i>expression-1</i> CHARACTERS" clause on the ALLOCATE verb (section 6.6). The parsing problem will be corrected in a future OpenCOBOL 1.1 tarball, at which time the "work-around" documentation will be removed. Elaborated on the use of the GLOBAL clause in data item definitions (section 5.3).
	24 March 2010	Corrected a problem with bogus footnote references in Figure 4-8
	23 January 2010	OFFICIAL FIRST RELEASE Corrected an error with the description of reference modifiers lacking a <i>length</i> specification.
Pre-publication review July-September 2009		Initial version – documents the 06 Feb 2009 build of OpenCOBOL 1.1

Table of Contents

FIGURES	6
1. INTRODUCTION	1-1
1.1. What is OpenCOBOL?	1-1
1.2. Additional References and Documents	1-1
1.3. Introducing COBOL	1-1
1.3.1. "I Heard COBOL is a Dead Language!"	1-2
1.3.2. Programmer Productivity – The "Holy Grail"	1-3
1.3.3. Notable COBOL/OpenCOBOL Features	1-4
1.3.3.1. Basic Program Readability	1-4
1.3.3.2. COBOL Program Structure	1-5
1.3.3.3. Copybooks	1-5
1.3.3.4. Structured Data	1-5
1.3.3.5. Files	1-5
1.3.3.6. Table Handling	1-8
1.3.3.7. Sorting and Merging Data	1-8
1.3.3.8. String Manipulation	1-8
1.3.3.9. Textual-User Interface (TUI) Features	1-10
1.4. Syntax Description Conventions	1-10
1.5. Source Program Format	1-11
1.6. Use of Commas and Semicolons	1-11
1.7. Using COPY	1-12
1.8. Use of Literals	1-12
1.8.1. Numeric Literals	1-12
1.8.2. Alphanumeric Literals	1-13
1.9. Use of Figurative Constants	1-13
1.10. User-Defined Names	1-14
1.11. Use of LENGTH OF	1-14
2. GENERAL OPENCOBOL PROGRAM FORMAT	2-1
2.1. General Format for Nested Source Programs	2-2
2.2. General Format for Nested Source Functions	2-2
3. IDENTIFICATION DIVISION	3-1
4. ENVIRONMENT DIVISION	4-1
4.1. CONFIGURATION SECTION	4-1
4.1.1. SOURCE-COMPUTER Paragraph	4-1
4.1.2. OBJECT-COMPUTER Paragraph	4-1
4.1.3. REPOSITORY Paragraph	4-2
4.1.4. SPECIAL-NAMES Paragraph	4-3
4.2. INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION	4-5
4.2.1. FILE-CONTROL Paragraph	4-6
4.2.1.1. ORGANIZATION SEQUENTIAL Files	4-8
4.2.1.2. ORGANIZATION RELATIVE Files	4-8
4.2.1.3. ORGANIZATION INDEXED Files	4-9
4.2.2. I-O-CONTROL Paragraph	4-10
5. DATA DIVISION	5-1
5.1. FD - File Description	5-2
5.2. SD - SORT Description	5-3
5.3. General Format for Data Descriptions	5-4
5.4. Condition Names	5-15
5.5. Constant Descriptions	5-16

End of ebook preview

Download the full PDF tutorial from the link below :

[Click Here](#)