

A LEGACY MODERNIZATION UPDATE

Marble Computer, Inc.

October, 2015

Control/SE

Managing a Legacy Modernization Project on Mainframe Applications has become a difficult task. The shortage of experienced mainframe talent has left organizations with little choice but to offshore or farm out the maintenance of Legacy Application code to programmers who probably have little knowledge of the application's logic or its business rules.

This creates new problems in the remediation of the code, the predominance of which is COBOL although Assembler and PL/1 as well as Java are routinely found on today's Mainframes.

Legacy Modernization Projects thrive on COBOL talent whether in the U.S. or offshore. The shortage of Mainframe z/OS talent becomes a serious threat to those organizations heavily invested in the Mainframe who are planning to rejuvenate code or move it to another platform.

There is an alternative way of addressing this problem.

- Implement an Intelligent COBOL Code Analyzer into the Legacy Modernization Process.

Marble Computer, Inc. has developed Control/SE for that purpose. By expanding the capabilities of ISPF's FIND Command, Marble Computer has created a set of Macro Commands that intelligently analyze a COBOL program making it easier and safer for a programmer to remediate the code.

Rather than creating a new user interface for these intelligent Macros we used the tried and true TSO/ISPF Editor. ISPF is still the preferred platform for developing and maintaining mainframe code. ISPF has been used by generations of programmers from the earliest days of mainframe computing. It is part of the mainframe developers DNA and is not going away any time soon.

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IBM estimates that there is now around 350 billion lines of COBOL code being maintained throughout the world. These are mainframe production applications that store and serve as much as 70% of the world's Enterprise Data (e-Week 5/30/14). With a dwindling supply of expertise and a retiring workforce what will happen to these Mainframe based applications?

Did you know.....

Marble Computer has been in business since 1983.

Our widely used product DCD IV helps major corporations manage their mission critical applications 24x7.



Marble Computer's Control/SE Improves Programmer Productivity

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Why Control/SE

Until now, no mainframe software company has figured out how to provide a code remediation/maintenance tool using Artificial Intelligence. COBOL coding is still mostly a tedious manual effort.

Control/SE for COBOL, is an alternative methodology for coding COBOL, by using the Mainframe as if it was a COBOL Programmer.

Control/SE is Intelligent Analysis within ISPF.

Since ISPF is widely used as THE mainframe editor, the learning curve is minimal. And, most IDE products allow for the use of ISPF even if they reside on a non-mainframe platform.

Control/SE provides a 25-35 percent productivity increase over using current IDE products on or off the mainframe.

Control/SE creates a new powerful way to use the ISPF editor that makes it simple for the COBOL programmer to quickly understand the flow of the program as to data and process. Business rules are easily interpreted, data analysis is made simple, dead code is found and can be eliminated.

As for security, coding source on the mainframe is still the safest environment. Proprietary business logic, pricing and other key competitive information is best kept off the PC environment. ISPF works with mainframe security software that has been in use for generations of mainframe coders.

Control/SE

The new way to manage the mainframe source code environment.

With over 38 years of mainframe experience Marble Computer is taking the legacy of it's DCD product line and utilizing the most advanced techniques for programmers to document and understand a programs logic and business rules.

Program modifications are made quickly, easily and accurately.

For more information:

Call (800) 252-1400 to arrange for a demo.



Marble Computer is an IBM Business Partner for z/OS Software.

How Control/SE Works:

Control/SE creates a new powerful way to use the ISPF editor that makes it simple for the COBOL programmer to quickly understand the flow of the program as to data and process. Business rules are easily interpreted, data analysis is made simple, dead code is found and can be eliminated.

By utilizing Control/SE's simple command structure and operational command words programmers can issue an ISPF FIND for Macro functions.

CSE's command structure:

Find &(Operand)

Some **OPERAND** Examples:

FIELD-NAME

CALL

COPY

CODE-NOT-USED

ERRORS

FORWARD-TRACING

HELP

OPEN

PERFORM-ANALYSIS

PERFORMED-ROUTINES



The Find &(Operand) Command Is Simple And Easy To Use

By utilizing Control/SE's simple command structure and operational command words programmers can issue a Find for Macro functions like Code-Not-Used or Forward-Tracing.

Documenting the complete flow of a single data field is available with one simple FIND command to show the complete flow (*and more*) on that data field.

Forward tracing show the flow of the program logic through the Procedure Division.

Follow the use of nested performs through their looping functions.

Flag errors such as differences in Reserved Words, all the way back to COBOL 68 or COBOL 74. Now your programmers can bring the code up to COBOL Version 5 without the fear of introducing errors.

Deliver well documented COBOL programs for beta and systems testing knowing that the code does not re-introduce old or create new Job Failure possibilities.

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Control/SE's Benefits

Adds an Intelligent COBOL Analytical capability to your Legacy Modernization Project.

A simple command structure, with the addition of one character (An & character) added to the Find Command that works with a program's data names, paragraph names, and more. So the adoption rate is fast and efficient.

Control/SE requires very little training.

By using the **&**, as in 'Find **&**Operand' the programmer is now in control of the code from the Working Storage Section to Procedure Division including all Record formats as well as all Copybooks.

No compile is necessary prior to using Control/SE. Control/SE produces an alternative compile listing (ACL) that makes the COBOL compiler listing obsolete and the ISPF Control/SE output is viewed under the ISPF editor, thus saving CPU cycles.

Productivity is dramatically increased from the time the code is opened for remediation until it's ready for Alpha and Beta Testing.

Management statistics are produced so that the final code changes can be analyzed as to the quality of the program as well as the programmer. Project management is now able to deliver projects on time and under budget.

Better code means less Job Failures which creates better utilization of the production environment, makes life easier for Job Schedulers and those that support Job Scheduling systems.

Marble Computer software products are z/13 compliant, support z/OS V2.2 and COBOL Version 5.2.



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