July 5, 2018

Data Items used before given a VALUE

Insuring that there is a Numeric VALUE in a DISPLAY field defined as DISPLAY is one of the mentioned issues by IBM to verify in any conversion to COBOL 5 or 6.

IBM generate errors messages like those generated by Control/DCD for NUMERIC DISPLAY fields, to show that no VALUE is present within WORKING-STORAGE initially. These may be looked as a starting step.

It is also possible for PROCEDURE DIVISION activity to initially set fields with literals or non WORKING-STORAGE fields.

Control/DCD has narrative for each field showing all PROCEDURE DIVISION activity for each field. Marble recommends using our older 'Alternate Compile Facility' feature still available in Control/DCD to find and fix these errors*

Go through each field (and record) in the program and quickly review the PROCEDURE DIVISION Narrative for each field looking for possible discrepancies. See Analyzing a COBOL Data Name during maintenance

An example this NARRATIVE is given here:
```
    01  AW-RECORD                        > Move SPACES to # (2043, 3148)
                                           If # not = SPACE (2374)
        05  AW-NUM-ACCT  PIC 9(3)  > Move ZEROS to # (5381, 5933)
                                           If # not numeric (4232)
```

If Control/DCD is not already in-house, contact Marble about possible use during conversion to Cobol 5 or 6.

Want to know more? Contact us today. Call 1-800-252-1400 ext. #4 or send an email to sales@marblecomputer.com