

Software Product Description

PRODUCT NAME: OS/8 Extension Kit, Version 3C

SPD 4.5.5

DESCRIPTION:

The OS/8 Extension Kit is comprised of OS/8 BATCH, BASIC and TECO. The following is a general description of each program.

OS/8 BATCH processing is used to monitor and execute frequently run production jobs, large and long-running programs, and programs that require little or no interaction with the user. BATCH permits the user to prepare a job on punched cards, high-speed paper tape or the OS/8 system device, and leave it for the computer operator to start and run. Output is returned to the user in the form of a line printer and/or console terminal listing that includes program output as well as a summary of all action taken by the user program, the monitor system and the computer operator.

BATCH optionally provides output file spooling to slow devices. This feature increases throughput on any system, and is particularly valuable when a line printer is not available. BATCH also performs command analysis and error diagnosis. BATCH interacts with the operator to initialize the system and establish system parameters.

Almost any program that runs interactively under OS/8 can also be run under BATCH. With a few exceptions, BATCH uses the standard OS/8 command set. Since BATCH is initiated from the keyboard in the same manner as any other system program, interactive users can use BATCH to execute multiple utility routines, even when continuous batch processing is not desired.

OS/8 BASIC is a BASIC language compiler and run-time system. It can be used to create programs interactively, or compile, load and execute ASCII input files in response to a single monitor command. Alternatively, a program and data files can be prepared under the interactive monitor for subsequent stand-alone processing under BATCH. The run-time system permits dynamic file management and program chaining. I/O device independence is maintained through the OS/8 Operating System. OS/8 BASIC permits interfacing with functions written in assembly language.

Features include: the creation of source programs with the BASIC editor (i.e., NEW or OLD) or any of the OS/8 editors (i.e., EDIT or TECO); support for up to 32K words of memory; support for increased speed of execution (using KE8-E extended arithmetic).

A set of 12 LAB-8/E functions for OS/8 BASIC is also included in this kit. These functions enable the user to solve a range of real-time and pseudo-real-time problems using BASIC. The following LAB-8/E peripherals are supported: the 10-bit A/D converter, the VC8-E display control, the DK8-LA real-time programmable clock, and up to three DR8-EC Digital I/O units (12 bits).

TECO: A selected subset of TECO commands (less than 20) are easily-learned mnemonics which provide full editing capabilities to the novice programmer after only a few hours of instruction. The commands are very similar to corresponding Symbolic Editor commands. The I/O device independence of OS/8 system programs permits TECO to create or modify ASCII files on any medium. Other TECO capabilities and features include: character string search and replacement; 36 variable-length temporary storage buffers with associated integer counters; match control characters; choice of decimal or octal radix; and a number of versatile I/O techniques.

TECO commands can be combined in sophisticated command strings which are essentially editing "programs." Once a command string has been written to perform a specified editing task, it can be saved on any convenient medium for subsequent execution whenever the same editing job is required. Advanced TECO commands provide capabilities for conditional execution, branching, program control and multi-file processing. A macro programming feature is included, along with commands that facilitate the creation, maintenance and use of a TECO macro library. The full TECO command set is a highly sophisticated programming language which is suited to generalized format conversion, text processing and file management.

NOTE: OS/8 is functionally equivalent to OS/12, the operating system for the PDP-12.

MINIMUM HARDWARE REQUIRED:

- Any valid OS/8 operating system configuration
- A system total of at least 12K words of memory are required for BATCH

OPTIONAL HARDWARE SUPPORTED:

Any mass storage, unit record or terminal device supported by OS/8 with the exceptions of magnetic tape or low-speed paper tape reader/punch, and with the addition of the KE8-E Extended Arithmetic Element.

In addition, BASIC supports:

AD8-EA 10-bit A/D Converter
 DK8-ES Real-time Programmable Clock
 VC8-E Point Plot Display
 DR8-EC Digital I/O Display

PREREQUISITE SOFTWARE:

OS/8 Operating System, Version 3 or later

OPTIONAL SOFTWARE SUPPORTED:

None

TRAINING CREDITS:

None

SUPPORT CATEGORY:

B, Software Support will be provided as listed in the Software Support Categories Addendum to this SPD.

UPDATE POLICY:

During the first year, Update Policy shall be in accordance with the Software Support Categories Addendum to this SPD. After the first year, updates, if any, will be made available according to then prevailing DIGITAL policies.

ORDERING INFORMATION:

This software is furnished under a license for use on a single CPU and can be copied and modified (with inclusion of DIGITAL's copyright notice) only for use on such CPU, except as may otherwise be provided in writing by DIGITAL.

Source and/or listing options are only available after the purchase of at least one supported binary license and after a source license agreement is in effect.

The following key (A, B, C, E, N, R, Y) represents the distribution media for the product and must be specified at the end of the "Q" number, i.e., QF006-AC = binaries on DECTape.

A = Linc Tape
 B = Paper Tape
 C = DECTape
 E = RK Disk (DECpack)
 N = Cassette (TU60)
 Y = Floppy Disk

Standard Options

QF006 -A- Single-use license, binaries, documentation, support services (media: B, C, N, Y)

QK006 -A- Single-use license, binaries, documentation, support services (media: A)

Source/Listing Options

QK006 -E- All sources (media: A)

QF006 -E- All sources (media: C, E, Y)

QF006 -F- Listings (media: R)

Update Options

Users of OS/8 Extension Kit Version 3 or later whose Standard Binary Program Update Service has expired, may purchase the following. The update distributed in binary form on the appropriate medium includes no installation or other services unless specifically stated otherwise.

QF006 -H- Binaries, documentation, no support services (media: B, C, N, Y)

QK006 -H- Binaries, documentation, no support services (media: A)

QF006 -N- Source update (media: C, E, Y)

QK006 -N- Source update (media: A)

ADDITIONAL SERVICES:

None

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