POLYMORPHIC SYSTEMS BASIC

PolyMorphic Systems' BASIC is the problem solving tool for the System 88. It provides a wide array of features designed for the System 88, as well as for problem solving in general.

Because it is a product of PolyMorphic Systems, our BASIC is an integral part of the system. So it has built-in support for video graphics (PLOT, DRAW).

For applications developers, BASIC has complete error and escape trapping (ON ESCAPE, ON ERROR, LINE, ERROR) to let you build "bulletproof" programs. Fast CHAIN and LINK let you split up complex programs into modules that can be called easily. Proprietary programs are protected through our SAVEP mode, which encrypts your programs on disk, and effectively makes them an unmodifiable part of the system. Once your application is built, naming it INITIAL on the system disk (or INITIAL1 or INITIAL2 on the TwinSystem) turns the System 88 into a dedicated applications machine, allowing applications to be automatically run when the system disk is loaded into memory.

The file system interface lets you work with up to four files at a time, for both sequential and random record access. Positioning works with both fixed and variable length records, and no pre-allocation is necessary in creating files. "Wild card" lookups are supported from within BASIC, as is access to all disk drives in the system. The printer is handled like any other file channel, so you can debug programs by having them print to the screen. You can even delete files from within a BASIC program.

For debugging and documenting programs, WALK, XREF, and DUMP provide the tools you need. You can step through the program, dumping variables to the screen or printer. You can cross reference programs to the screen, printer, or disk.

Variable precision lets you select the accuracy (and speed) of computation, from 6 to 26 digits. All computation is done in BCD form, which means greater accuracy in accounting programs. All the scientific functions in BASIC maintain accuracy over the entire range of precision, from 6 to 26 digits. The list of scientific functions doesn't stop with the usual list of SIN, COS, TAN, and SQRT; PolyMorphic Systems BASIC also has inverse trig functions (ASIN, ATAN), hyperbolic functions (SINH, COSH, TANH), exponential and log functions (EXP, LOG, LOGT), array functions (MIN, MAX, PROD, SUM, STD), and more. And if you need more speed, our floating point accelerator board can give you up to 30 times improvement in the 8 to 14 digit range.

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