

### What's new for RPG in 7.2 Barbara Morris IBM

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Power Systems

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### Agenda

Code free-form in any column

### Free-form H F D and P specs

Other 7.2 enhancements (some available as PTFs for 7.1)





### Agenda

- Code free-form in any column
- Free-form H F D and P specs
- Other 7.2 enhancements (some available as PTFs for 7.1)







- Soon\* it will be possible to code free-form RPG starting in column 1 and going to the end of the line.
- \* With 7.1 TR11 and 7.2 TR3, coming very soon.
- There is no practical limit on the length of a source line.
- CRTSRCPF has a limit of 32766
- IFS files have no limit





### Fully free-form RPG – how long should your lines be?

Various style-guides for other languages recommend a maximum line length of 80, 132, 120 etc.

The "80" comes from IBM punch cards.

Google [maximum length of a code line] to see some of discussions about line length.

If you create your RPG source files with RCDLEN(112), then that gives you 100 characters, which is probably ideal.





### Fully free-form RPG – source must start with \*\*FREE

Any source member that contains fully-free code must have \*\*FREE in column 1 of the first line of the source.

```
**FREE
ctl-opt main(greeting);
dcl-proc greeting;
    dsply 'Hello';
end-proc;
```





### Fully free-form RPG

- All code in a \*\*FREE source member must be free-form. If you need any fixed-form code, you can put it in a /COPY file
- Source lines must not begin with \*\* unless they are the special directives for compile-time data, file-translation, or alternate collating sequence.
- /FREE and /END-FREE are not allowed in a \*\*FREE source member





### Fully free-form RPG – copy files

- Each copy file has its own source mode
- A copy file is always assumed to have column-limited source mode unless it has \*\*FREE in line 1





### Fully free-form RPG – RDI

#### RDI V9.5 already supports fully-free RPG code







### Fully free-form RPG – Embedded SQL

The SQL precompiler will support fully-free RPG code at the same time as the RPG compiler

\*\*FREE

```
dcl-s greeting char(10);
```

```
exec sql set :greeting = 'Hello';
dsply greeting;
return;
```





### 7.1 Free-form H F D P

```
ctl-opt bnddir('ACCRCV');
```

```
dcl-f custfile usage(*update);
dcl-ds custDs likerec(custRec);
dcl-f report printer;
```

```
read custfile custDs;
dow not %eof;
    if dueDate > %date(); // overdue?
        sendOverdueNotice ();
        write reportFmt;
        exec sql insert :name, :duedate into
            mylib/myfile;
    endif;
    read custfile custDs;
enddo;
inlr = '1';
```

dcl-proc sendOverdueNotice; /copy invoices sendInvoice (custDs : IS\_OVERDUE); end-proc;



$N_{\bullet}$ / EDEE / END EDEE
NO / FREE, / END - FREE
All free-form
WIT TIGE TOTW
atatamanta
Statements





### RPG is still not 100% free

There are still some areas where RPG is not yet free

- Free-form code is still restricted to columns 8 80
- Some code still has to use fixed-form specs
- I specs and O specs

•I and O specs are considered deprecated by many RPG programmers in favor of externally-described files

#### Code related to the RPG cycle

Cycle files (primary, secondary, RAF, table)
The cycle is considered deprecated by many RPG programmers in favor of using SQL for scenarios where the cycle formerly shone





### Some general features

Can mix fixed-form and free-form

Defining the TAG for SQL "whenever"

```
exec sql whenever sqlerror goto err;
....
return;
C err tag
ok = *off;
reportSqlError ();
```

Renaming fields on I specs

```
dcl-f custfile disk usage(*update);
Icustrec 01
I XYZ NEWNAME
read custrec;
```





### **Control statements**

CTL-OPT (Control Option) statement

- Start with CTL-OPT
- Zero or more keywords
- End with semicolon

ctl-opt option(\*srcstmt : \*nodebugio)
 dftactgrp(\*no);

Fixed form equivalent:

H option(\*srcstmt : \*nodebugio)
H dftactgrp(\*no)





### File statements

### DCL-F (Declare file) statement

- Start with DCL-F
- File name
- Keywords
- End with semicolon





### File statements

The file name can be longer than 10 in free form

```
dcl-f new_customers
    extdesc('NEWCST')
    extfile(*extdesc);
read new_customers;
```

Fixed form equivalent:

Fnewcustmr IF e disk extdesc('NEWCST')
F extfile(\*extdesc)

read newcustmr;





### File statements – keywords have useful defaults

- Most common device type is DISK
- Most common is externally-described
- The most common usage depends on the device







### File statements

# F specs can be mixed with D specs (even in fixed form)

Group related items together

```
dcl-f orders
    usage (*update : *output) keyed;
dcl-ds orders_dsi
    likerec (ordersR:*input);
dcl-ds orders_dso
    likerec (ordersR:*output);
dcl-s num_orders int(10);
```

dcl-f report printer; dcl-ds report\_ds likerec(reportR:\*output);



### Data definition statements

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- Start with DCL-x
- Item name can be \*N if not named
- Data type keyword for fields and parameters CHAR, VARCHAR, INT, DATE, POINTER etc
- Other keywords
- End with semicolon

dcl-s full\_name char(10); // standalone dcl-c MAX\_ELEMS 1000; // constant dcl-ds info qualified; // data structure name varchar (30); // subfield salary packed(7 : 2); end-ds info;





### Procedure

Start with DCL-PROCEnd with END-PROC

```
dcl-proc getNextOrder export;
  dcl-pi *n ind;
    orders likefile(orderFile_t);
    data likerec(orderFile_t.ord);
  end-pi;
```

```
read orders data;
return %eof();
end-proc;
```





### Can use named constants for keywords

Named constants for keywords

- reduce hard-coding
- makes code more self-explanatory

```
dcl-c SYS_NAME_LEN 10;
dcl-ds sys_obj qualified;
    obj char(SYS_NAME_LEN);
    lib char(SYS_NAME_LEN);
end-ds;
```

```
dcl-c YEAR_END_RPT_FILE 'YERPT';
dcl-f year_end_report printer
        extdesc(YEAR_END_RPT_FILE)
        extfile(*extdesc);
dcl-ds report_ds
        extname(YEAR_END_RPT_FILE:*output);
```



### \*DCLCASE for external procedure names

A common bug:

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- EXTPROC is needed for the mixed-case name
- The programmer uses copy-paste and forgets one change



Use \*DCLCASE to avoid retyping the name:

dcl-pr Qc3EncryptData extproc(\*dclcase); dcl-pr Qc3DecryptData extproc(\*dclcase);

- Less error prone when coding
- Easier for code reviewers to see that it's correct



### Agenda

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- Code free-form in any column
- Free-form H F D and P specs

### 7.2 enhancements (some available as 7.1 PTFs)

- Extended ALIAS support
- Easier to use data structures for I/O
- Support for UTF-8 and other alpha CCSIDs
- Avoid unnecessary CCSID conversions for database file I/O
- Date/Time/Timestamp enhancements
- Improved PCML generation

### Support for ALIAS names

Background

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 Fields in externally described files can have a standard name up to 10 characters and an alternate (ALIAS) name up to 128 characters.

•RPG III only allowed 6 characters, so many databases have files with cryptic names like CUSNAM, CUSADR. The files often have alternate names such as CUSTOMER\_NAME and CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS, that can be used in SQL queries.

RPG programmers would like to use the alternate names in their RPG programs.









#### Support for ALIAS names

- 7.1: New ALIAS keyword for RPG
- When ALIAS is specified, RPG will use the alternate name instead of the 10-character standard name.
- Supported on D specs for any externally-described data structure.
- New with 7.1 and 7.2 PTFs: Supported on F specs for all externally-described files
  - Affects program fields and LIKEREC data structures
  - The PTF for 7.1 is SI54502
  - The PTF for 7.2 \*CURRENT is SI54155
  - The PTF for 7.2 \*PRV is SI54521





#### 7.1 & 7.2 PTF: Support for ALIAS names

A K A A A	CUS CUS CUS ID	TNM TAD	25 25 10	A A P 0	ALIAS(CUSTOMER_NAME) ALIAS(CUSTOMER_ADDRESS)
Fmyfi	le	0	e	DISK	ALIAS
cus cus id Wr	stom stom = 12 ite	er_name er_addre 2345; custRec;	= 'Jo ess =	hn Smith' '123 Mock <sup>.</sup>	; ingbird Lane';

When there is no alternate name for a field, the short name is used.





#### 7.1 & 7.2 PTF: Support for ALIAS names – one limitation

### Limitation:

- If you code ALIAS for a file, you can't code I specs or O specs for that file.
- The compiler will still generate I and O specs into the listing. If the name is too long to fit in the generated spec, the name will be listed on the next line.

12=0		COMPANY	6A CHAR
13=0		*ALIAS	31A CHAR
	MAILING_ADDRESS		
14=0		STATUS	2A CHAR

### The problem:

- RPG was very strict about which data structures could be use for I/O:
- For an input operation, it had to be defined with \*INPUT (the default for LIKEREC)
- For a WRITE operation, it had to be defined with \*OUTPUT
- For an UPDATE operation, it could be defined with either \*INPUT or \*OUTPUT









#### **Before:**

For a file that allowed both READ and WRITE, it could be very awkward to use data structures for I/O to the file.

Fmyfile if a e disk
D inDs ds likerec(myfmt : \*input)
D outDs ds likerec(myfmt : \*output)
read myfmt inDs;
...
eval-corr outDs = inDs; // copy over the fields
write outDs;





#### Now, with new 7.1 and 7.2 PTFs

- Now, if you use LIKEREC with no type parameter for a DISK record, you can use the data structure for any operation.
  - Fmyfile if a e disk
  - D ds ds likerec(myfmt)
    - read myfmt ds; ... write ds;

#### (The same PTFs as the ALIAS PTFs)





You can also use a LIKEREC data structure with no type parameter for a PRINTER file.

Fmyprtf	0	е	printer	
D ds		ds		likerec(myprtfmt)
Wri	te ı	myprtfmt	ds;	





If the data structure is defined with \*ALL (E-DS or LIKEREC), you can use it for any I/O operation.

Fdiskf Fprtf	UF O	Å	4	E E	DISK PRINTER	
D diskDs D prtDs		e o e o	ds ds			<pre>extname(diskf : *all) extname(prtf : *all)</pre>

read diskfmt diskDs;
write diskfmt diskDs;
update diskfmt diskDs;

write prtfmt prtDs;

(\*ALL was already supported in 6.1 for WORKSTN files, including subfile formats)





#### 6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: New XML-INTO options: namespace option

- **Problem:** This XML document uses "namespaces" to qualify the XML tag names. This causes a problem for XML-INTO because the name "employee:type" cannot match an RPG subfield name.

#### Solution: The ns (namespace) option

- **ns=remove:** remove the namespace part of the name for subfield matching. Matches with subfield "type".
- ns=merge: merge the namespace with the rest of the name using
  underscore. Matches with subfield "employee\_type"





6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: New XML-INTO options: ns=remove

```
<emp employee:type="regular" id="13573">
     <standard:name>John Smith</standard:name>
</emp>
```

The RPG code for ns=remove.

D	emp	DS		qualified
D	type		25A	-
D	id		10I O	
D	name		25A	

```
xml-into emp %xml('emp.xml' : 'ns=remove');
// emp.type = 'regular'
// emp.id = 13573
// emp.name = 'John Smith'
```





### 6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: New XML-INTO options: ns=merge

```
<emp employee:type="regular" id="13573">
    <standard:name>John Smith</standard:name>
</emp>
```

The RPG code for ns=merge.

D	emp	DS		qualified
D	employee_type		25A	
D	id		10I O	
D	standard_name		25A	

```
xml-into emp %xml('emp.xml' : 'ns=merge');
// emp.employee_type = 'regular'
// emp.id = 13573
// emp.standard_name = 'John Smith'
```





### 6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: New XML-INTO options: nsprefix

- **Problem:** If the namespace might be different in different XML documents, the ns=remove option must be used. But the RPG programmer may want to know what the namespace was.
- **Solution:** Define subfields to receive the namespace that was removed. nsprefix gives the prefix for the subfield names that will receive the namespace that was removed from the XML tag.

```
<emp>
```

```
<standard:type>manager</standard:type>
</emp>
```

```
D emp DS qualified
D type 25A
D ns_type 25A
xml-into emp %xml('emp.xml'
: 'ns=remove nsprefix=ns_');
// emp.type = 'manager'
// emp.ns_type = 'standard'
```





### 6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: New XML-INTO options: case=convert

New value for the case option lets you tell XML-INTO how to handle characters in the XML name that can't appear in RPG names

```
<Étudiant Pre-nom="Élise" Âge="12">
    <École>Collège Saint-Merri</École>
</Étudiant>
```

With option case=convert, the tag names are converted before being compared to the subfield names:

-Alphabetic characters like 'Â' are mapped to the matching A-Z (using the job's \*LANGIDSHR table).

–Other characters other than 0-9 and underscore are mapped to underscore.

-Then, all underscores are merged to a single underscore.



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### 6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: New XML-INTO options: case=convert

<Étudiant Pre-nom="Élise" Âge="12">
 <École>Collège Saint-Merri</École>
</Étudiant>

D	etudiant	ds	qualified
D	age		3p 0
D	pre_nom		25a varying
D	ecole		50a varying



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6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: Warnings or exceptions for CCSID conversions

Sometimes a CCSID conversion will result in a "substitution" character being placed in the result.  $\int_{61}^{61}$ 

Unicode source data:

The Thai word for "house" is "บ้าน".

The target is an alphanumeric variable with CCSID 37: The Thai word for "house" is "■■■".

CCSID 37 uses the "Latin" character set, and there are no matching characters for the Thai characters that are in the Unicode variable. Substitution characters are placed in the alphanumeric result.

The original Thai characters are all converted to the same substitution characters, so their value is lost.





6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: Warnings or exceptions for CCSID conversions

Non-error RPG status code 50 is set when the conversion has to use substitution characters.

You have to add code to check whether %status = 50
alphaText = unicodeText;
if %status() = 50;
... there was loss of data

#### **Two problems:**

It's too awkward to check for status code 50 after every statement with a CCSID conversion

It's not always easy to tell which statements have CCSID conversions





6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: Get an exception when substitution occurs

## CCSIDCVT(\*EXCP)

Code new H spec keyword CCSIDCVT(\*EXCP) to get an exception when a CCSID conversion results in a substitution character.

New status code 00452

In 6.1 and 7.1, you will need to add messages RNX0452 and RNQ0452 to your message file. The cover letter of the PTF for the RPG runtime has CLP code for adding the messages.





### 6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: Get an list of CCSID conversions

## CCSIDCVT(\*LIST)

Code new H spec keyword CCSIDCVT(\*LIST) to get a list of all the CCSID conversions in the module.

For each conversion, it shows
The source statements using that conversion
Whether the conversion might result in substitution characters

If you want both options, code CCSIDCVT(\*EXCP:\*LIST) or CCSIDCVT(\*LIST:\*EXCP)





### 6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: Sample CCSIDCVT summary

	CCSI	ID Conve	rsio	on s		
	From CCSID	TO CCSID	Referer	ices		
RNF7361	834	*JOBRUN	15	25		
RNF7357	1200	*JOBRUN	27	921	1073	
	*JOBRUN	1200	28	12	321	426
			552	631		
RNF7359	835	834	41	302	302	
rnf7360	*JOBRUN	834	242	304	305	
* * * *	END OF	CCSID C	ONVE	ERSI	0 N S	* * * *

RNF7357 Conversion from UCS-2 to Alpha might not convert all data.
RNF7358 Conversion from UCS-2 to DBCS might not convert all data.
RNF7359 Conversion from DBCS to DBCS might not convert all data.
RNF7360 Conversion from Alpha to DBCS might not convert all data.
RNF7361 Conversion from DBCS to Alpha might not convert all data.





### 6.1 & 7.1 PTFs: How to use the CCSIDCVT summary

You can use this information for two purposes:

You can improve performance: Reduce the number of conversions by changing the data types of some of your variables.

You can improve the reliability of your program by eliminating some of the conversions that have the potential to result in substitution characters. For example, if you have conversion from UCS-2 to an alphanumeric variable, and that alphanumeric data is later converted back to UCS-2, you may be able to change the type of the alphanumeric variable to UCS-2, to avoid the potential data loss.





7.2 Support for other CCSIDs for character data

Starting in 7.2, you can code the CCSID keyword for character fields:

- •All EBCDIC CCSIDs
- ASCII CCSIDs
- •The Unicode CCSID UTF-8 (1208, or \*UTF8)





7.2 Support for other CCSIDs for character data

Assume that the getData procedure returns UTF-8 data (CCSID 1208).

Prior to 7.2, you would call an API to convert the data to UCS-2:

D	stringA	S	10000A			
D	stringC	S	10000C	VARYING		
D	getData	PR	10000A	VARYING		
	stringA = stringC =	getData convert	(); (stringA:	%len(stringA):	1208:	13488);

Remember <u>not</u> to use the data for ordinary RPG statements because RPG thinks the data is in the job CCSID.

if stringA = \*blanks; // BUG!





### 7.2 Support for other CCSIDs for character data

In 7.2, you can say that the data is UTF-8.

D stringA S 10000A CCSID(\*UTF8) D getData PR 10000A VARYING CCSID(\*UTF8)

```
stringA = getData ();
```

You can use the data in ordinary RPG statements because RPG knows that it is UTF-8 data.

```
if stringA = *blanks; // OK!
```





### 7.2 Avoid CCSID conversions for database files

- By default, for a database file
- When you read a record, database converts the alphanumeric data from the field CCSID to the job CCSID
- When you write or update a record, database converts the alphanumeric data from the job CCSID to the field CCSID
- Use DATA(\*NOCVT) for a file to open the file so these conversions do not happen at the database level. Any CCSID conversions will be performed in the RPG program if necessary.
- Use H spec OPENOPT(\*NOCVTDATA) to default this behaviour for all database files.





### 7.2 More support for CCSIDs for character data

There are several other CCSID-related enhancements in 7.2 for RPG, such as defining a data structure to pick up the CCSIDs from the file.

I won't discuss them here, but if you are interested in CCSIDs you can read about them in the What's New section of the ILE RPG Reference.

<u>http://www-</u> 01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/ssw\_ibm\_i\_72/rzasd/rpgrelv7r2.htm





### 7.2 Control the length for %SUBDT

By default, %SUBDT returns an integer value. This makes it inconvenient if you want to edit it into a string.

```
s = %editc(%subdt(t : *hours) : 'X')
+ ':'
+ %editc(%subdt(t : *minutes) : 'X');
```

```
// s = '000000013:00000047'
```

Use the third parameter of %SUBDT to specify the number of digits

```
s = %editc(%subdt(t : *hours : 2) : 'X')
+ ':'
+ %editc(%subdt(t : *minutes : 2) : 'X');
```

// s = '13:47'





### 7.2 Timestamps with 0 – 12 fractional seconds

Starting in 7.2, timestamps can have zero to twelve fractional seconds.

They still default to 6 (microseconds).

RPG still only sets milliseconds with %TIMESTAMP.

```
Free-form syntax:
    dcl-s datetime timestamp(0);
    dcl-s max timestamp(12);
```

Fixed-form syntax:

D	datetime	S	Z 0
D	max	S	Z12





### 7.2 Handle seconds and microseconds together

You can get the difference between timestamps as a number of seconds with decimal places by specifying the number of decimal places you want.

```
elapsed = %diff(finish : start : *SECONDS : 3);
// elapsed = 1922.483
```

You can add or subtract seconds and microseconds together with %SECONDS by specifying a value with decimals

```
start = %timestamp();
target = start + %seconds(1.5);
// start = '2014-01-15-14.25.03.123000'
// target = '2014-01-15-14.25.0<u>4.6</u>23000'
```





## 7.1 & 72 PTF: PCML with mixed-case names

By default, the RPG compiler generates PCML with the names in uppercase.

An RPG procedure:

```
dcl-proc placeOrder export;
    dcl-pi *n;
    qty packed(15) const;
    itemName car(30) const; ...
```

The generated PCML:

```
Anything using the PCML must also use the uppercase names:

pcd.setValue ("PLACEORDER.QTY", ... );

pcd.setValue ("PLACEORDER.ITEMNAME", ... );

pcd.callProgram ("PLACEORDER");
```





### 7.1 & 72 PTF: PCML with mixed-case names

**New**: Specify PGMINFO(\*DCLCASE) in the H spec to have the PCML generated with the same case as the RPG source

The generated PCML:

```
<pcml version="4.0">
   order entrypoint="PLACEORDER">
  <data name="forder" entrypoint="PLACEORDER">
  </data name="forder" type="forder" length="15" ... />
  </data name="forder" type="char" length="30" ... /> ...
```

The Java code using the PCML can use the same mixed-case names:
 pcd.setValue ("placeOrder.qty ", ... );
 pcd.setValue ("placeOrder.itemName", ... );
 pcd.callProgram ("placeOrder);





### 7.1 & 72 PTF: More granular PCML

By default, the RPG compiler generates PCML for all exported procedures.

Some procedures have parameter or return value types that make it impossible to generate PCML.

This causes the compile to fail.





### 7.1 & 72 PTF: More granular PCML

**New**: P-spec keyword PGMINFO(\*YES | \*NO)

Either

Specify PGMINFO(\*YES) for all the procedures that should have PCML generated

Or

 Specify PGMINFO(\*NO) for all the procedures that should not have PCML generated

These PGMINFO keywords are ignored if PCML is not being generated.



### Where to find out about PTF enhancements for RPG

- Subscribe to the blog in the RPG Cafe
  - Whenever we provide an enhancement through PTFs, we post a blog entry in the Cafe blog
  - The blog entry will usually point to a new page in the Cafe wiki
- Regularly check the "welcome" page in the RPG Cafe wiki. There is a section for "Enhancements delivered through PTFs", and the "Announcement" section at the top will have information about the most recent enhancement.
- Regularly check the "What's New Since ..." section in the ILE RPG Reference
  - Starting in 7.2, the ILE RPG manuals are updated with enhancements delivered through PTFs. If there are PTFs for earlier releases, the 7.2 documentation for that feature applies to earlier releases too.





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