

Introduction to *MVS Dump Reading*

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COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Description:

This course is designed to familiarize the student with basic OS/MVS dumps problem determination. The course will review dump (ABEND) causes and solutions, dump formats, reading dumps, and dumps problem solving. The course will present the dump from the point of view of a COBOL programmer using the IBM OS/VS COBOL compiler or the IBM COBOL II compiler. The course will use the ABENDAID dump format if installed at the course site.

Course Duration:

1 Day - This is a lecture and hands-on format.

Course Prerequisites:

The student should be familiar with OS/MVS JCL and a working knowledge of COBOL coding and problem solving.

Course Materials:

System/370 Reference Summary (IBM GX20-0157-1)
Class notes will be provided.

Course Objectives:

The student will be familiar with most common OS/MVS ABENDS, their causes and possible solutions. The student will be familiar with common ABEND problem solving aids. The student will be familiar with OS/MVS (or ABENDAID) dumps format and be able to trace the cause of the dump, find storage areas in the dump, and relate this information back to the COBOL source.

COURSE OUTLINE

I. Course Overview and Review of Objectives

II. Problem Determination and Analysis

- A. Problem Determination Checklist
- B. Diagnostic Aids
 - 1. State, Flow, Count
 - 2. Exhibit and Display
 - 3. Compiling with "Debugging Mode"
 - 4. Dumps

III. OS/MVS Dumps Concepts and Facilities

- A. COBOL Compiler Output
- B. System 370 Reference Summary
- C. Data Storage Formats
- D. IBM/370 Instruction Formats
- E. Relocatability
- F. Linkage
- G. Program Storage Word (PSW)

IV. Dump Analysis

- A. Dump Format (Abend-Aid)
- B. Determining if the source and load modules match
- C. Finding the abend point
- D. Finding common storage items in a dump
- E. Finding uncommon (INDEXES, etc.) storage locations in a dump
- F. Dumps Exercise

V. Common ABENDS and Their Causes

VI. Review and Questions