

Introduction

Natural ISPF is Software AG's application development tool and provides a full range of application programming and system programming facilities in any environment that includes Natural.

This documentation is intended for the user of Natural ISPF and contains a full description of the Natural ISPF user interface and features. For a description of additional programming facilities (Macro Facility, Incore Database, Open NSPF, Natural ISPF API), consult the Natural ISPF Programmer's Guide.

This section covers the following topics:

- How to use this Documentation
 - Other Natural ISPF Documentations
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How to use this Documentation

This documentation is subdivided into a number of sections. Below is an overview of their content.

Natural ISPF object types are grouped according to their relevant operating environment: not all of these may be relevant to you, depending on the operating platform and subsystems installed at your site. For example, if the file management system PANVALET is not installed at your site, the section entitled PANVALET Members is not relevant to you.

- **Logging On**
Describes how to log on to and log off from Natural ISPF. Introduces you to the **Main Menu** and explains the structure of the system screens.
- **Command Logic**
Tells you how to control Natural ISPF sessions and how to perform functions on Natural ISPF objects. Command syntax is explained, as well as the features provided to support command input.
- **Useful Features**
Describes a number of special features that make work with Natural ISPF more comfortable. You are advised to read this section before starting work with Natural ISPF.
- **Common Objects**
Describes the objects that are available in all operating environments. These include all Natural objects, Natural views, Natural error messages, Predict descriptions, Con-nect documents, as well as the user workpool and recovery files.
- **OS/390 Objects**
Describes the objects that are available under the OS/390 operating system. These include PDS libraries and members, load modules and CSECTS, sequential datasets, as well as system objects such as active jobs, units, the console, etc.
- **PANVALET Members**
Describes access to and handling of objects stored with the PANVALET data management system.
- **CA-LIBRARIAN Members**
Describes access to and handling of objects stored with the CA-LIBRARIAN data management system. CA-LIBRARIAN versioning is also described in this section.
- **VSE/ESA Objects**
Describes the objects that are available under the VSE/ESA operating system. These include VSE/ESA members, libraries and sublibraries, VSE/ESA jobs, as well as system objects such as active jobs, units and the console.
- **BS2000/OSD Objects**
Describes the objects that are available under the BS2000/OSD operating system. These include BS2000/OSD files, LMS library elements and LMS element versioning, as well as BS2000/OSD jobs and job variables. For use of the console, see the subsection Console Display in Section OS/390 Objects.

- **Profile Maintenance**
Describes maintenance of your user profile: you can change settings for the current session, or permanently change a profile characteristic.
- **The Editor - Overview**
Gives an overview of the Software AG Editor used to maintain Natural ISPF objects, including a short description of Editor commands available in the Natural ISPF environment. A detailed account of command syntax is provided by the Software AG Editor documentation.
- **Command Reference**
Lists all commands available in Natural ISPF alphabetically, grouped according to command type (session commands, function commands, local commands), including examples. Editor commands are described in Section The Editor - Overview.
- **Keyword Parameters**
Contains a list of all keywords and their synonyms that can be used in command parameters as described in Section Command Reference.

Finding Information

Each subsection in the sections that deal with specific object types contains a list of functions available for the object type, including the full syntax and some examples. For example, the subsection Natural Objects gives a list and syntax description of functions you can perform on Natural objects.

An overview of all Natural ISPF functions is provided in Section Command Reference.

For a quick page location of an item, use the index at the back of the documentation.

Examples in this Documentation

This documentation contains a large volume of information, much of which is illustrated by examples. Many examples of commands are contained in the section that describes the various object types (for example LIST), but other examples may appear elsewhere. Please refer to the Index under the entry Example.

Additionally, the Examples Library supplied on the Natural ISPF installation tape contains example programs, macros and command scripts that may be useful to your work. To see an overview of these examples, simply issue the command:

```
HELP EXAMPLES
```

from any Natural ISPF screen.

Note:

Before starting work with Natural ISPF, you are urged to read the first three sections: Logging On, Command Logic and Useful Features.

Other Natural ISPF Documentations

Apart from the present **User's Guide**, the following technical documentation is available for Natural ISPF.

- **Introduction to Natural ISPF**
Contains a brief introduction to the Natural ISPF system and gives an overview of its facilities and features.
- **Natural ISPF Installation Documentation**
This documentation is intended for the system administrator. It contains instructions as to installation procedures in the various environments.
- **Natural ISPF Administration Documentation**
This documentation is intended for the system administrator. It describes user authorization and explains how Natural ISPF can be customized to the requirements of the site, including user definition.

- **Natural ISPF Programmer's Guide**
This documentation explains the use of the advanced programming facilities provided by Natural ISPF. These include the Macro Facility, Incore Database, Open NSPF and the Natural ISPF API.
- **Software AG Editor documentation ***
Gives a detailed account of Editor functionality and command syntax.

* For instructions on how to install the Software AG Editor, see the **Natural Operations Documentation** (Version 2.2.8 or higher).

For information on administrator utilities dealing with the Software AG Editor, see the **Natural Utilities Documentation** (Version 2.2.8 or higher).