

General Information

This section covers the following topics:

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Documentation

All enhancements described in this Planning Guide will be fully documented in the Natural Version 4.1 documentation set.

Availability

Natural Version 4.1 is scheduled to be available in the first quarter of 2003.

Compatibility

Applications that were created with Natural Versions 2.2, 2.3 or 3.1 can be executed with Version 4.1 without any adjustments to the programs or any conversion or migration procedure being required.

Version 4.1 will be the last Natural version to support applications created with Version 2.2.

Natural Version 4.1 on mainframe computers will be syntax-compatible with Version 4.1 of Natural on OpenVMS, UNIX and Windows.

Intended Incompatibility

The following intended incompatibility will be introduced with Natural 4.1:

Translation of System Library Output

With the profile/session parameter `TS=ON` or the compilation option `TSENABL=ON` (set with the `COMPOPT` system command), output from Natural system libraries is translated using a translation table, which may be necessary for locations with non-standard lower-case usage.

With Natural 3.1, this translation is not performed for each field written into the Natural page buffer, but for the entire contents of the page buffer immediately before being sent to the screen. This may in some cases lead to incorrect results: When the contents of the page buffer comes from different programs with different `TS/TSENABL` settings - that is, some parts of the page are to be translated, others are not - the last applicable setting will be used, and the page will be either translated entirely or not at all. It may also occur that the last page is output after the end of the program when the `TS=ON/TSENABL=ON` setting is no longer available to Natural and this last page will then not be translated.

These translation errors will be corrected with Natural 4.1: The translation will be performed individually for each field at the time when it is written into the page buffer, according to the current `TS/TSENABL` setting that applies to each field. Consequently, the resulting output may not be the same as with Version 3.1.

Prerequisites

Natural Version 4.1 will require the following versions of the following operating/teleprocessing systems:

- BS2000/OSD Version 2 (or above),
- OS/390 Version 2.10 (or above),
- Z/OS Version 1.1 (or above),
- VM/ESA Version 2.4 (or above),
- Z/VM Version 4.1 (or above),
- VSE/ESA Version 2.5 (or above),
- CICS/TS Version 1.3 (or above) for OS/390,
- CICS/VSE Version 2.3 for VSE/ESA,
- CICS/TS Version 1.1.1 (or above) for VSE/ESA,
- IMS/TM Version 6.1 (or above),
- TIAM (any version available with BS2000/OSD Version 2),
- UTM Version 4.0 (or above).

Other Software AG Products with Natural 4.1

To use the following Software AG products in conjunction with Natural Version 4.1, the following product versions (or above) are required:

- Adabas 7.1,
- Com-plete 6.1,
- Entire Connection 4.2,
- EntireX 6.1,
- Predict 4.2.

Examples

The example library SYSEXV will provide examples of the new features of Natural Version 4.1.