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ORACLE®
The Relational Database Management System

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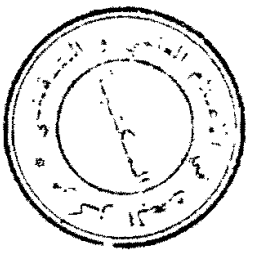

SQL*REPORT USER'S GUIDE

July 3rd, 1986

ORACLE Part No. 3603-V1.0

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PREFACE

PURPOSE

This guide describes how to use SQL*Report, a versatile report generation program which includes two ORACLE utilities:

RPF The ORACLE Report Text Formatter enables you to control the final format of reports.

RPT The ORACLE Report Generator enables you to include information from ORACLE databases in your letters and reports.

This manual is designed to serve two purposes. As a user's guide, it explains how RPF and RPT work, and demonstrates their use. As a detailed reference manual, it provides descriptions of RPF and RPT syntax and commands. Examples of the files created or used are shown, as well as diagrams illustrating the processes involved.

Version 5.1 changes are outlined in the chapters "Overview of RPF" and "Overview of RPT."

AUDIENCE

This guide is written for users of the ORACLE Relational Database Management System who need a simple text formatter, as well as those who wish to embed in their documents information drawn from ORACLE databases.

Very little background is required to use the ORACLE Text Formatter (RPF). You need only know how to use the editor for your particular computer system. The ORACLE Report Generator (RPT) requires familiarity with SQL and the ORACLE RDBMS. Although programming

skills are not required, they would prove helpful if you wish to make full use of this product.

HOW THIS MANUAL IS ORGANIZED

This manual contains three parts and an appendix, as described below:

PART I: INTRODUCTION TO SQL*REPORT

Chapter 1 introduces you to SQL*Report and explains the relationship between RPF and RPT, its two components.

PART II: REPORT TEXT FORMATTER - RPF

Chapter 2 provides an overview of RPF.

Chapter 3 demonstrates the use of RPF in formatting a simple letter and a tabular report.

Chapter 4 provides a complete description of RPF syntax and commands.

PART III: REPORT GENERATOR - RPT

Chapter 5 provides an overview of RPT.

Chapter 6 demonstrates the use of RPT in preparing tabular reports, nested reports, and letters, with database information embedded in the text.

Chapter 7 gives a complete description of RPT syntax and statements.

APPENDIX

The Appendix provides five additional examples of RPF and RPT use.

HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL

If you are new to SQL*Report, you should follow this manual in sequence in order to master RPF before going on to RPT. Users already familiar

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with the material can locate specific statements or commands in the index and proceed directly to the section needed.

Version 5.1 changes are outlined in the chapters "Overview of RPF" and "Overview of RPT."

CONVENTIONS USED IN THIS MANUAL

The following conventions are observed in this manual:

Filenames
Filenames appear in capital letters, as in INIT.ORA. Portions of the filenames which may vary appear in lower case, as in SGADEFx.ORA.

Reserved words and keywords
These words also appear in capital letters in examples and in text, to indicate that they are to be entered as is, and that they have reserved meanings within ORACLE.

Key names
Key names appear in capital letters, and are enclosed in square brackets as in [RETURN].

Command syntax

Commands
This font is used to identify text which must be entered exactly as shown:

```
SELECT * FROM
```

Variables
Variables appear in italics. Users must substitute an appropriate value.

arg1

Variables may also appear within angle brackets, as in:

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```
<arg1>
```

Alternative items
Alternative choices are always separated by vertical bars. The se of alternative choices is enclosed by curly braces if one of the item is required, or by square brackets if the item is an optional alternative. (See below for the notation convention for required or optional items.)

Required items
Required items are enclosed in curly braces. Users must choose one of the alternatives.

```
.DEFINE { <macro1> | <macro2> }
```

Optional items
Optional items are enclosed in square brackets.

```
.FPRINT [spacing] <variable>
```

Repetitive items
An ellipsis represents an arbitrary number of similar items.

```
.FPRINT [spacing] <variable> [[spacing] [<variable>]] ...
```

New or revised material
Newly added or revised material is highlighted with a bar in the margin, as demonstrated by this paragraph.

The following symbols should always be entered as they appear in the command format:

period	.
comma	,
hyphen	-
semicolon	;
colon	:
equal sign	=
backslash	\
single quote	'
double quote	"
pound sign	#
parentheses[2]	()

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RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Along with this guide, you may want to refer to the following documents published by Oracle Corporation. You will automatically receive titles which relate to products you have purchased; you will not necessarily need nor receive all documents. The release notes are updated frequently to reflect recent changes in the products.

Documentation parts for the ORACLE RDBMS are:

- *ORACLE RDBMS Release Notes* ORACLE Part No. 3001
- *ORACLE Overview and Introduction to SQL* ORACLE Part No. 3801
- *The ORACLE Database Administrator's Guide* ORACLE Part No. 3601
- *ORACLE Utilities User's Guide* ORACLE Part No. 3602
- *ORACLE Error Messages and Codes* ORACLE Part No. 3605

Documentation parts for SQL*Report are:

- *SQL*Report Release Notes* ORACLE Part No. 3012

For every operating system on which ORACLE is supported, an installation and user's guide is also provided, as in:

- *ORACLE for DEC VAX/VMS Installation and User's Guide* ORACLE Part No. 1001
- *ORACLE for IBM VM/SP Installation and User's Guide* ORACLE Part No. 1003

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YOUR COMMENTS ARE WELCOME

We value and appreciate your comments as an ORACLE user and reader of the manuals. As we write, revise, and evaluate, your opinions are the most important input we receive. At the back of this manual is a Reader's Comment Form which we encourage you to use to tell us both what you like and dislike about this (or other) ORACLE manuals. If the form is gone, or you would like to contact us, please use the following address, or call us at (415) 598-8000.

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