CA File Master™ Plus for IMS r8.5

CA File Master Plus™ for IMS is a robust z/OS data management product that provides enhanced capabilities for IBM's IMS Database Management System in both an online ISPF-like interface and through batch commands.

Overview

The IBM IMS Database Management System is utilized in many business-critical mainframe applications. In today's enterprise IT organizations, it is typical to find a combination of IMS for z/OS environments across the IT portfolio. These IMS assets are often very complex, requiring a broad set of tools for effective IMS management. CA File Master Plus for IMS provides robust IMS management capabilities that enable you to efficiently and easily manage your IMS data.

Business value

CA File Master Plus for IMS provides you with a set of powerful and easy-to-use tools for manipulating IMS databases, including segment selection filtering and data display and modification using COBOL or PL/I layouts.

Features

Mainframe 2.0

CA File Master Plus for IMS has adopted key Mainframe 2.0 features that are designed to simplify your use of CA File Master Plus for IMS and enable your staff to install, configure and maintain it more effectively and quickly.

- **CA Mainframe Software Manager:** The CA Mainframe Software Manager (CA MSM) automates CA File Master Plus for IMS installation, deployment and maintenance and removes SMP/E complexities.

  - The Software Acquisition Service enables you to easily move product installation packages and maintenance from CA Support Online directly to your mainframe environment and prepare them for installation.

  - The Software Installation Service standardizes CA File Master Plus for IMS installation, which includes a new, streamlined Electronic Software Delivery (ESD) method that allows CA File Master Plus for IMS to be installed using standard utilities. This service also provides standardized SMP/E product installation and maintenance via APARs and PTFs, and simplifies SMP/E processing through an intuitive graphical user interface and an intelligent Installation Wizard.

  - The Software Deployment Service enables you to easily deploy CA File Master Plus for IMS in your mainframe environment.

  - CA MSM Consolidated Software Inventory (CSI) updates and infrastructure improvements add flexibility to CA MSM processing of CSIs and enable CA MSM to more effectively utilize CPU and system memory.

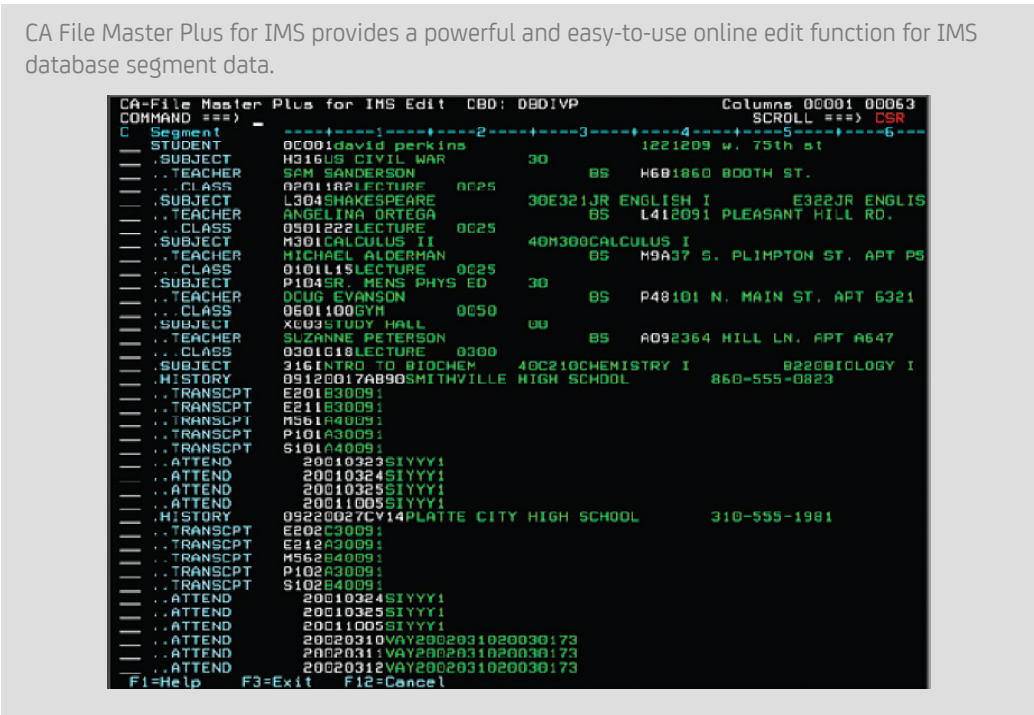- **Installation Verification Program (IVP) and Execution Verification Program (EVP):** As part of qualification for inclusion in the set of CA mainframe products released every May, CA File Master Plus for IMS has passed stringent tests performed through the IVP and EVP to find and resolve interoperability problems prior to release. These programs are an extension of the our ongoing interoperability certification initiative launched in May 2009.

- **Best Practices guide:** This guide provides information on CA File Master Plus for IMS installation, initial configuration and deployment to shorten the learning curve for staff responsible for the installation and management of this product.

Other key features

- **Common functionality with CA File Master Plus:** CA File Master Plus for IMS is part of the CA Application Quality and Testing Tools suite, which includes solutions for mainframe application debugging, abend diagnostics, file and data management, automated testing, code optimization and application performance monitoring. The product is compatible with CA File Master Plus, which supports VSAM and sequential files. Since both products share a similar architecture and a large number of design elements, you benefit from a short learning curve, straightforward installation and maintenance and integration with other products in the CA Application Quality and Testing Tools suite.

- **Robust IMS segment data selection and filtering:** CA File Master Plus for IMS provides a wide variety of online and batch data selection criteria for browsing, editing, extracting, reloading, reading, updating and printing data sets. The selection criteria support both simple and compound conditions that compare segment field values to other segment field values or literals. These conditions can be specified using segment names or segment positions. Segment selection criteria can also be predefined, saved and reused in multiple functions, or dynamically specified on the main ISPF screen for all supported online functions. Selection criteria can be based on:
  — Specific segments
  — Segments with contents matching a specified selection condition
  — A specified number of segments
  — A specified number of root segments and all associated child segments
  — Root and all subordinate segments related to a segment that matches a selection condition

- **Database initialization:** With IMS online and batch database initialization functions, you can initialize newly created IMS databases so they can be updated by other CA File Master Plus for IMS functions or your own applications.

- **Online Browse and Edit:** CA File Master Plus for IMS provides online browsing and editing of IMS databases by segment (see Figure A). You can dynamically specify viewing all segments or selected segments. This feature provides expand and collapse capabilities via + or – line commands for individual segments or IMS records. Prior to the start of a browse or edit session, comprehensive segment selection filtering enables you to limit segments to be viewed or acted upon during the session. In addition, you can simply toggle between views to display segment data in character, hexadecimal and in single or multiple record formats based on either standard or custom COBOL or PL/I record layouts. Finally, a significant set of the IBM standard ISPF browse/edit commands, such as deleting, replicating or inserting several blocks of data, and easily scrolling backward and forward through the database segments using PF keys or commands, is also supported.

- **Extract and Reload:** The online and batch extract features will extract an entire IMS database or selected segments within an IMS database. Reload provides the ability to update or load an existing or newly defined database with the segments that were removed using the extract command.

- **Read and Update:** The IMS database batch read and update functions enable you to read and update IMS database segments using the same type of commands and syntax available for VSAM and sequential file updates in CA File Master Plus.
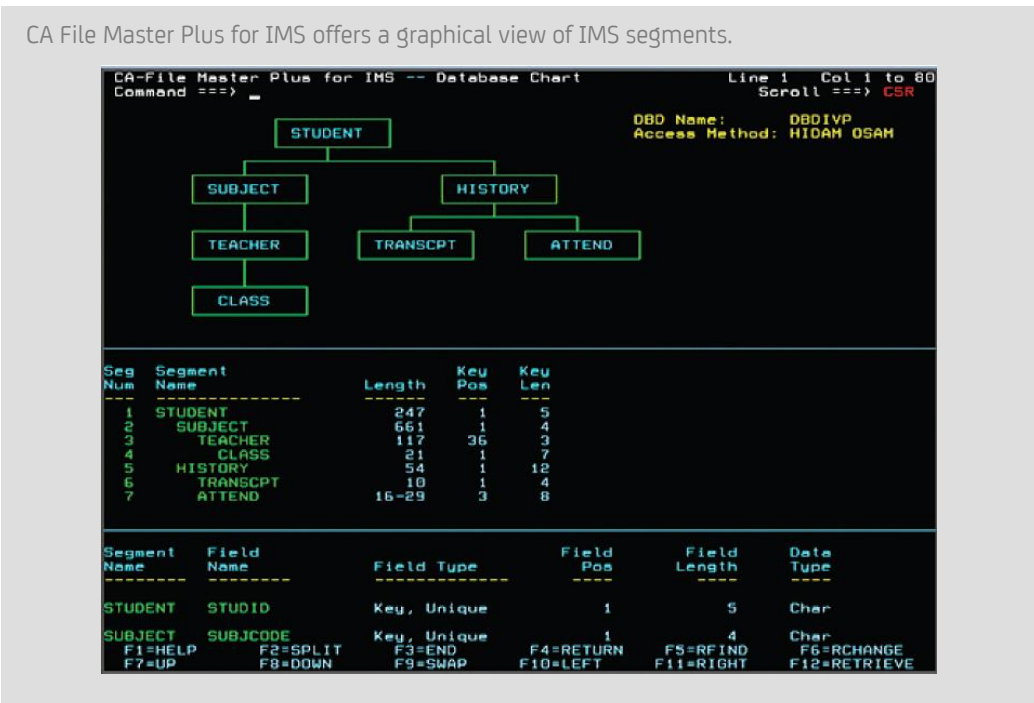
FIGURE A.

Data manipulation made easy

CA File Master Plus for IMS provides a powerful and easy-to-use online edit function for IMS database segment data.

- **Database Print:** The IMS online and batch database print command facilitates the printing of database segments in character, hexadecimal or single record layout formats based on a COBOL or PL/I segment layout.

- **DLI and BMP environment support:** CA File Master Plus for IMS supports DLI, allowing you to edit databases in an offline local environment, as well as BMP, so you can easily update IMS databases through a common IMS control region.

- **Data Set Name (DSN) lists:** The support of DSN lists enables you to create and maintain custom lists of DSNs of IMS data sets, and access control block (ACB) and database description (DBD) libraries, IMS execution or resident libraries or any other type of data set used by CA File Master Plus for IMS in its online functions.

- **Standard and custom record layout:** Both standard and custom record layouts are provided for product functions in which segment field-level processing is required. This includes such functions as browsing and editing data sets using a formatted view to display the data for individual segment fields. Other functions include formatted printing of IMS data segment fields and specification of selection criteria or filters using conditions that evaluate segment field values.

- **Database hierarchy display and print:** CA File Master Plus for IMS provides a graphical display of the segments within an IMS database (see Figure B). This capability is available in both online and batch modes, as well as through a primary command in the online browse and edit function.

FIGURE A.

Graphical display of IMS segments

CA File Master Plus for IMS offers a graphical view of IMS segments.

- **Program Specification Block (PSB), DBD and MVS Dynamic Allocation (MDA) source generation:** With CA File Master Plus for IMS, you can create PSB, DBD and MDA source statements from existing ACB, PSB or DBD library members. This is especially beneficial in the event of lost or misplaced DBDGEN, PSBGEN or DFSMDA source members.

- **Change Log feature:** CA File Master Plus for IMS offers a powerful Change Log feature that allows you to keep track of your changes in a database and print a report showing these changes in various easy-to-read formats. The Change Log feature tracks changes to segments of an IMS database that result from using the editor when the log feature is active. This Change Log file may then be processed by a specific PRINT utility in batch mode.

Delivery approach

CA Services provides a portfolio of mainframe services delivered through CA Technologies internal staff and a network of established partners chosen to help you achieve a successful deployment and get the desired business results as quickly as possible. Our standard service offerings are designed to help speed deployment and accelerate the learning curve for your staff. Field-proven mainframe best practices and training from CA Technologies can help you lower risk, improve use/adoption and ultimately align the product configuration to your business requirements.

Benefits

With CA File Master Plus for IMS, you can accomplish data manipulation online or in batch. Powerful, carefully engineered extraction, browsing, editing and updating capabilities increase your productivity across numerous IMS environments. With the robust functionality of CA File Master Plus for IMS, you can quickly review data accuracy and define data modifications for individual records or for record sets that meet specific criteria.

The creation of data subsets, often necessary to take a data sampling without impacting the entire data set, is an easy task using CA File Master Plus for IMS. Integrated utility functions enable you to use menus and shortcuts, making the job of managing and maintaining data more streamlined, accurate and easy.

The CA Technologies advantage

CA Technologies has 30 years of recognized expertise in robust, reliable, scalable, and secure enterprise-class IT management software. CA File Master Plus for IMS is a key component of the Mainframe 2.0 initiative from CA Technologies to change the way the mainframe is managed forever by helping you maximize the value of CA Technologies mainframe products and by providing a simplified experience and innovative solutions that deliver value quickly and flexibly.