PC-SIG Library on CD ROM Ser's Manual Ser's Manual Shareware for the IBM PC and Compatible Computers

Shareware for the IBM PC and Compatible Computers



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The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM User's Manual

Published by: PC-SIG, Inc. 1030D East Duane Ave. Sunnyvale, CA 94086

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I. Introduction

You are about to enter the largest collection of software ever available to the PC user. The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM is an exciting compilation—all types of applications for virtually every type of user.

Whether you are new to computers or an experienced veteran of DOS, this CD ROM product should prove very valuable. Not only will you find individual programs ideally suited to your needs, but also a well-designed user interface to help you locate and run selected programs. We have provided you with numerous tools to get around in the nearly 500 megabytes of computer information. The computer newcomer will want to use these tools from the completely menu-driven "GO" program, while DOS pros may decide to use these tools directly from DOS. If you are an experienced PC user, much of this manual may not be needed. Start the menu system, and if you get stuck, consult the appropriate section.

This manual will take you through all aspects of the CD ROM: from setting up your CD player to using WordCruncher to find a program. Instructions for operating each individual program are found in text files on the CD ROM disc itself. Once a program is located, these text files can either be viewed on the screen or sent to a printer.

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This tremendous wealth of software is moments away.

▼ System Requirements:

IBM PC/XT/AT, PS/2 or compatible computer

A CD ROM player with Microsoft MS-DOS CD ROM Extensions

(© 1986— 1989 Microsoft Corporation)

256K minimum memory (384K to use WordCruncher)

DOS 3.1 or higher (DOS 4.xx requires MS-DOS CD-ROM Extensions 2.10)

II. Using The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM

Note: To begin this section, you should already have your CD player installed with MS-DOS CD ROM Extensions. If your CD player is not up and running, refer to the installation instructions included with your player.

This product is designed to function on computers with a minimum of 256K memory, though it works best with 512K or greater. If you are running with 384K or less, you should operate this CD ROM product using the steps outlined in section III of this manual.

▼ Organization

The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM is made up of the programs in The PC-SIG Library of shareware.

The entire PC-SIG Library itself is organized into numbered "disks." PC-SIG generally distributes programs on individual disks that are available for purchase. This CD ROM disc has maintained that system of organization for easy use by those already familiar with The PC-SIG Library.

The CD ROM disc itself, therefore, is divided into numbered "disk subdirectories." Each disk subdirectory contains the programs found on that same disk number in The PC-SIG Library. There

will often be more than one program per disk subdirectory.

A. Starting at The Menu System

This CD ROM product has been designed so it can be used as a completely menu-driven system. You will be able to do everything, including using WordCruncher and copying files from the CD ROM disc to a floppy or hard disk, without ever touching DOS. If you prefer DOS, the next section will show you how to use the different programs outside of the menu.

Note: The Menu System uses simple features of DOS to execute different operations. For that reason, the menu system must always be able to find your DOS files. If you are booting with a hard disk, your DOS files are always accessible. If, however, you are booting from a floppy drive, you must make sure that your boot disk remains in A when using the Menu System.

Be sure the CD ROM disc is in your player with the printed side facing up. Once the CD ROM disc is properly in your player and the player is on, you will need to know which drive your player is. If your system has one hard drive configured as drive C, it is likely that your CD player is drive D. If you don't have a hard drive, your CD player is probably configured as C. If you have more than one hard drive or some other forms of hardware, your player may be configured as E, F, G, H, or beyond. In this manual we will assume that the CD player is drive D. If yours is not, please make the substitution.

When you turn on your computer you are greeted with a DOS prompt (either A> for floppy users or C> for hard drive users). From that prompt, change drives to drive D (or wherever your CD player is located) with the command:

D: (press Enter)

You should now be at a D prompt. If not, your CD player may not be installed properly. Type "START" at the prompt and press Enter.

START (press Enter)

You will see a screenful of text describing the CD-ROM and a disclaimer about restrictions on international distribution. Press any key to move on. Hereafter you can go directly to the main menu by typing "GO" at the prompt.



Figure 1, The Main Menu introducing the functions of this menu-driven interface.

You have reached the main menu. From here, every part of this CD ROM disc is accessible. Through this main menu you will move to other menus that look similar and function identically.

Notice the instructions on the top of the center box: "Press A to D" and "Esc to EXIT to DOS." In every menu you will be able to press a letter that corresponds to an action, Escape (Esc) will take you to DOS, and menu choice A in all submenus will return you to

the previous menu.

To try out the menu, press A—View information on PC-SIG and this CD ROM. Nothing else is needed to chain you to a similar submenu where you can choose to read several different text files.

Figure 2, The menu to view more information about PC-SIG, The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM, shareware and copyrights.

▼ The PC-SIG Browse Window

Whenever there is information to be read from a menu, you will view that information using the PC-SIG Browse Window. All Browse Windows operate the same; only the text you are viewing changes. From the Information on PC-SIG submenu, where you now are, press A—View information about PC-SIG. You should



now be inside the Browse Window. Take a close look at the command line reversed across the bottom of your screen.



Figure 3, The PC-SIG Browse Window

The Up and Down Arrow keys will move the text up or down by a single line. Page Up and Page Down (PgUp/PgDn) allow you to scroll through the text in both directions one screen at a time. Home and End keys will take you to the very beginning or the very end of a text file in a single keystroke.

If you prefer to read a file on paper, you have the option of printing the current file by simply pressing P from within the Browse Window. Before you print, you may want to scroll through a file to see how long

it is. Always be sure your printer is on and you have enough paper. Escape (Esc) will return you to the previous menu. Press Escape (Esc) now to return to the Information on PC-SIG submenu.

All text files will be accessed with this Browse Window. Go ahead and experiment with the different text files. Either now or later, take time to read all this information. It will help you get acquainted with PC-SIG and the shareware concept.

From the Information on PC-SIG submenu, press A to return to the Main Menu. Once at the Main Menu, press C—View all Disk Titles by Category. You will arrive at a menu of categories.

Figure 4, The menu to view disk titles by category.

Each menu choice (other than A) is a category of software. If you select a category, you will find yourself back in the Browse Window. You will be viewing a text file that lists every disk in the chosen category by title and number. There are some disk titles that have not been included in the category listing because of non-author support, outdated usefulness, etc. This section will be useful for looking at all of the supported software titles included on The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM in each listed category. Experiment

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with one of the category listings, Accounting/Financial/Business for example.

Within the Browse Window, you will see a numeric listing of program titles that PC-SIG has classified as Accounting, Financial, or Business. Browsing titles arranged by category is a general way to start looking for a program; usually you will find WordCruncher (discussed next) a more powerful tool for locating the program best suited to your needs.

While browsing a category, if you find a disk title and number you are interested in, you could either use WordCruncher to get more information, or go right to that program on the CD ROM disc. Both of these options are available from the Main Menu. Use Escape (Esc) to return you to the category menu, then press A to return to the Main Menu.

B. WordCruncher

WordCruncher is a text retrieval system from Electronic Text Corporation (ETC). It was designed to index any large body of text which needs to be searched rapidly and efficiently.

WordCruncher has been included on The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM to index the "Directory on Disk," or DOD. The DOD is a complete directory that lists and describes every program included on The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM. Some of these programs will be listed as unsupported because of non-author support, outdated usefulness, etc., but, if a program is on this CD ROM disc, it is documented in the DOD. Since the DOD information is five megabytes of text before compression, WordCruncher is the perfect tool to help you search through all this text in seconds.

Because WordCruncher was not designed specifically for The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM, many

of its features do not apply to our use. This manual will take you through all the aspects of WordCruncher needed to search the DOD. Additional WordCruncher documentation can be found in the WordCruncher Computerized Manual Tutorial on the CD ROM (referenced later).

Whether you access WordCruncher from the Main Menu or from DOS, it will perform equally well at finding programs from the keywords you enter. From within the Menu System, WordCruncher can be started from the Main Menu by pressing B—*Use WordCruncher to find a program or description*. You are then taken to a secondary menu where you tell WordCruncher what type of hardware configuration it will be running on.

Note: WordCruncher requires a brief installation the first time you use it. If you have a floppy-based system or a hard drive at C and your CD player is located at drive C, D, E, F, or G, you simply need to choose A at the second WordCruncher menu—First Use, MUST Install. The next menu will ask you to install for your particular hardware configuration. Notice that choice B is a text file to explain the menu choices in more detail. Read that text file, then make the correct hardware choice at this installation menu. Installation is automatic.

Files will be copied to either your floppy or hard drive where they will be needed by WordCruncher every time you use it. If installing WordCruncher at drive A, it is recommended that you install to your standard boot disk. After you install, you will be returned to the previous menu where you can actually start WordCruncher by telling it what system you have installed for. Those with unusual hardware configurations not supported by these menus will need to see Appendix A for manual installation procedures.

From the secondary WordCruncher menu, either install WordCruncher or tell WordCruncher what hardware you are installed for. You will then proceed to the opening screen of WordCruncher.



Figure 5, The opening screen to WordCruncher.

When you are ready to leave WordCruncher, you can break out from anywhere in the program by pressing the F7 key (Shift F10 on the Ninth Edition and beyond), then Enter. This first Word-Cruncher screen is called the BookShelf, this screen is where you select what "book"—or in our case, what DOD (Directory on Disk)—you wish to work with. You will notice that a Word-Cruncher Manual, WCVDOC, is accessible through Word-Cruncher. It can be used in the same way as the DOD.

This DOD is the directory on disk for the entire PC-SIG Library of shareware. All programs and program files included on this CD ROM disc are listed and described in this DOD. Since The PC-SIG Library is considered the most complete shareware collection in the world, you will find this expanded DOD a useful guide to shareware in general, in addition to the complete directory to The PC-SIG

Library on CD ROM.

From the opening WordCruncher screen, you can use the Up and Down arrow keys to select the DOD or the WordCruncher Manual. Notice as you move the highlighted bar to the desired file, the text in the lower box also changes to describe the corresponding file. For this example, move the highlighted bar to the DOD and press Enter.

The second screen gives you different options for working with text. The nature of the DOD assures that only the first option, Words, will ever be needed. Since the cursor is flashing at 1, you can either press Enter or press 1 to go to the next WordCruncher screen, where you will actually enter a word to search for.

Figure 6, Searching for a word within WordCruncher.

▼ Single Word Searches

WordCruncher has indexed every word in the DOD. At this word-entry screen, some of the indexed words are listed in the upper right portion of this screen, with one word highlighted in the middle. From this screen you can begin to type a keyword you wish to search for—any word that would be used in the description of the kind of program you're looking for.

[Enter]: See this word disk-space disk-s	14

For example, begin typing the keyword "biorhythm." Notice how the highlighted bar travels to a different point on the list of indexed words as you type. If you make a mistake, press backspace to back up one character. The Up and Down Arrow keys are also active to move through the keyword list. If you hear a tone after pressing a key, either you pressed the wrong key, or the word does not occur in the DOD and you should search for another. When "biorhythm" is the highlighted word, press Enter and a list of references will show you where the word biorhythm appears in the DOD.

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Figure 7, A list of references for the keyword "biorhythm."

The screen above shows you a list of references for the word biorhythm. A reference is a small portion of text from inside the DOD which contains the keyword. Each reference includes the lines before and after the line where the keyword was used; this will make it easy for you to decide if you want to "expand the window" and get more information about that disk.

Up to six references will appear on the screen simultaneously. If there are more references than will fit on one screen, you can see

those additional references by using the Page Up and Page Down keys to change screens. Home and End keys will take you to the first or last reference for that keyword.

One of the references will always be highlighted. The Up and Down Arrow keys will move the highlighting to other references. The highlighted reference can be "expanded," meaning you will jump right to the part of the DOD where that reference is located. Move the highlighting to a reference you are interested in and press Enter. This expands the highlighted reference into a full description.



Figure 8, Expanding a reference to read an entire disk description.

You are now at the full description of the disk that interested you by its reference. The original keyword is highlighted. You can read all about this disk by using the Page Up, Page Down keys in much the same way they have been used previously. The Home and End keys are also functional, but they will take you to the beginning or end of the entire DOD.

The Escape key (Esc) will operate from any screen in Word-

Cruncher; its function is to return you to the previous screen. Press Escape to return to the list of references. Experiment with the reference list and expanding different references. When you feel comfortable with this, use the Escape key to get out of the reference list and back to the word-entry screen.

▼ Multiple Word Searches

From this word-entry screen, you also have the option of looking for a program with more than one keyword. Exact phrases, partial phrases, words in the same proximity, related words, and even different forms of a word can be searched. All of these search techniques are covered in the WordCruncher Manual (see WCVDOC above), if you wish to use them.

One of these methods of searching for multiple words is very useful with the DOD. If you have either a disk number or exact disk title in mind, you can enter multiple keywords that will take you right to the beginning of the disk description. To search for a disk by title, you will create a short list of words to search for simultaneously. With the first keyword, you tell WordCruncher you are doing a title search by typing the keyword "DISK-TITLE", with a dash, and then press the Space Bar. Next, type in the first word of the disk title, also followed by the Space Bar. Continue typing each word in the title followed by the Space Bar. You will notice that "DISK-TITLE" and all other words in the title have been added to a list at the bottom of the screen. If you hear a tone, you may have incorrectly typed in a word or a combination of words that is not in the DOD, meaning the title you are searching for is not on this CD ROM disc. When all parts of the title are part of the list, press Enter to begin the search.



Figure 9, Searching for a word by disk title.

WordCruncher will be looking for places in the DOD where all these keywords appear close to each other. For that reason, it is not necessary for you to know every word in the title in order to locate a program. For example, if you remember that the program you are looking for had the word "DOS" as part of its name, but you are not sure of the exact title, you could enter just two keywords—"DISK-TITLE" and "DOS"—to your list of words to search for. All titles containing the word "DOS" would be brought to a list of

references. Select the exact program from among this list.

By pressing Enter after a multiple word search, you move to a list of references in the same way you would with a single word search. In that list of references, one reference will be highlighted just as before, and Enter will expand the window and read the entire description. Escape (Esc) will take you be not screen at a time until you return to the select-word screen where you may want to try a few multiple word searches by disk title or number.

Searching for a disk by number is very similar. First, tell WordCruncher you are doing a numeric search by typing in the keyword "DISK-NUMBER," then press the Space Bar. Next, type in the number of the desired disk also followed by the Space Bar. The number entered must be four digits long, so number 78 must be entered as "0078" and number 212 must be entered as "0212." "DISK-NUMBER" and the actual number being searched for will appear in the bottom portion of the screen. If the number is correct, press Enter to bring up the reference for that disk-number. (If you need more help, this kind of multiple word searching is covered in the WordCruncher Manual.)

▼ Printing a Description from WordCruncher

You have the option of printing individual references or portions of text inside the expanded window. To print a reference, move the highlighting to the reference you want to print and press the Print Screen key (PrtSc). You will be asked if you want to add a message to be printed along with the reference. You can type in a message or simply press Enter for no message. You will be asked if you wish to advance your paper (press Home for no, or Page Up for yes). Answer the question as desired and the highlighted text will be printed.

Printing from inside the expanded window of text is very similar. Move the cursor to the beginning of the text you want printed and press 1. Then move the cursor to the end of the text you want printed. As the cursor moves, the text between the beginning of the portion of text you want printed and the cursor will be highlighted for printing. If you decide not to print the block, press Escape (Esc) or 1 to remove highlighting. Otherwise, press Print Screen (PrtSc) to begin printing. Again you will be prompted for a comment and asked if you wish to advance your paper. In the end, the highlighted text

will be sent to the printer. If you press Print Screen (PrtSc) without highlighting a specific portion of text, the entire screen of text will be printed.

When you are ready to exit WordCruncher, press the F7 key, then Enter.

C. The PC-SIG Copy-Access Program

When you come out of WordCruncher you will find yourself at the first screen of The PC-SIG Copy-Access Program. This program can also be accessed directly from the Main Menu by selecting D—Go to or copy a specific disk.

Once you have decided on a disk you wish to work with, the Copy-Access program will allow you to either go directly to that disk subdirectory on the CD ROM disc, or copy every file in that disk subdirectory to a floppy or hard disk.



Figure 10, The opening screen of the Copy-Access Program.

The first screen of the Copy-Access program gives you three choices. Choice A, "Exit the Copy-Access Program," can be used if you want to return to the Main Menu. (If you started the program from DOS, press A to return to DOS.) Otherwise, you can choose between B, "Go to a disk on the CD ROM," and C, "Copy a disk from the CD ROM for use." Option B will allow you to go directly to a particular disk subdirectory on the CD ROM disc. Option C

will copy the entire contents of a disk subdirectory to a floppy or hard disk.

▼ Accessing a Disk Subdirectory

Go to the first screen of the Copy-Access program and press B—Go to a disk on the CD ROM. You will be prompted for the disk number you want to go to. Simply type in that number and away you go. If you change your mind about going to a disk, press Escape (Esc) to abort and return to the previous screen. If the disk number you entered is not part of The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM, you will get an error message and the opportunity to try another number. Type in number 694.

Since 694 is a valid disk number on this CD ROM disc, you will find yourself at a DOS prompt in the disk subdirectory where all the files associated with this disk reside. The brief message before the DOS prompt can help you return to the Main Menu when you wish to do so. List the directory by typing "DIR" at the DOS prompt and you see all the files in this disk subdirectory. Section IV of this manual will give you some general hints about the use of all PC-SIG Shareware programs. These hints will tell you what files you may wish to read and how to start most programs.

Note: While many of the programs on this disk can be run right from the CD ROM disc, others need to be run from a source that can be written to by the program. Since a CD ROM disc is a read-only device, you will have to copy some programs onto another disk to operate them. No harm is done to the CD ROM disc or player by attempting to run any program—you will simply get a disk error if a "read/write" disk is needed (a disk that is both readable and writable such as a floppy or a hard drive) is needed.

For now, follow the instructions to return to the Main Menu. At the DOS prompt type "CD\" (use a backslash, not a slash). You are back at the root directory of the CD ROM disc, where you can type "GO" to restart the menu system.

From the Main Menu select option D—Go to or copy a Specific disk. This restarts the Copy-Access program. At the first screen again select B—Go to a disk on the CD ROM. This time enter the number 212. Once at the DOS prompt in that disk subdirectory, list the directory. You will notice there is a file, DISK0212.ZIP. Whenever a file of this format is listed in a disk subdirectory, it indicates that part of this program has been "zipped" (also called archived). In other words, one or more files that are supposed to be in this disk subdirectory had to be packed into this single file. Technical considerations (explained in section III-C of this manual) mandated that some program files be packed in this fashion.

But don't worry; you don't have to know why or how these files are packed, or even how to unpack them. Instead, all you have to do is use the Copy portion of the Copy-Access program explained next. It automatically spots files that were packed for the CD ROM disc and unpacks them as they are copied

to your floppy or hard drive.

▼ Copying with the PC-SIG CD ROM Copy-Access Program

Return once again to the Main Menu. (From the DOS prompt type CD\ and then GO.) When there, select D to restart the Copy-Access program. At the first screen press C—Copy a disk from the CD ROM disc for use. You will be prompted for the disk number you wish to copy. You can enter any disk number you are interested in. If you make a mistake or the disk number you choose is not on this CD ROM disc, you will get an error message and be given another chance to enter a disk number. Try copying disk 212.

Next, you will be asked which drive and path you wish to copy files. All the files from any disk subdirectory will fit on a standard 360K floppy. However, you have the option of copying these files to any disk drive and any path you want. If you are working with a floppy system just type the letter of one of your floppy drives followed by a colon (A:), place a blank formatted disk in that drive, and press Enter.

If you are sending your files to something other than a 360K floppy, such as a hard disk system or high density floppies, you can enter any path for that drive. If the path does not currently exist the Copy-Access program will give you the option of creating it. Assuming your hard disk is drive C, try

the example path, "C:\PC-SIG," If this subdirectory does not exist, you will be asked if you would like to create it. Respond Y for yes. If you respond no, you will be given another chance to enter the desired drive and path.



Figure 11, Copying disk 212 from the CD ROM disc.

Assuming you have entered a valid directory for file transfer. the program will now start working away on your files. The Copy-Access program automatically unpacks any files that were packed for the CD ROM disc. The end result is the exact set of files found on that PC-SIG Shareware disk, transferred onto your floppy or hard drive. Copying programs from the CD ROM disc is usually the preferred way to work with programs; it insures that you are working from a read/write source and that any packed files

have been unpacked.

If you try to copy a disk from the CD ROM disc and the destination disk has less than 360K bytes of free space, the Copy-Access program will tell you just how much free space is available. You will then be asked if you want to continue with your copy. It is recommended that you answer "No" to stop your copying until you have more free disk space.

Once the Copy-Access program has accessed, copied, and in some cases unpacked, you are returned to the first screen of the Copy-Access program and given the opportunity to copy another disk. For now, get out of the menu and go see that your files have actually been copied to the directory specified. Press A to return to the Main Menu. From the Main Menu, Escape (Esc) will get you out to DOS. (If you entered the Copy-Access program from DOS you would not need to go to the Main Menu to exit.)

If your files were copied to a floppy, change drives and view a directory of your floppy disk. (These are simple DOS operations; if you are not familiar with them, see your DOS manual.) If you specified C:\PC-SIG as your destination directory, change to the root of drive C, then type "CD\PC-SIG" to enter the newly created PC-SIG subdirectory. Listing the directory will reveal files for disk 212.

III. Using The Library from DOS

This section is for those who might prefer running The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM from DOS rather than the menu system, or those running this CD ROM disc on a computer with less than 512K memory.

If you are running on a machine with 384K, all the programs provided for easy operation of this CD ROM disc are available to you. The only difference is that you may not have enough memory to call WordCruncher from within the Menu System. You can still use the Menu System itself as described

in section II-A, but to start WordCruncher you may have to exit the menu and begin as described below. If your machine has 256K RAM, you can still use the Menu System and the Copy-Access program, but instead of WordCruncher, you should use the DFIND program described in part B of this section.

A. WordCruncher and the Copy-Access Program

Operation of both these programs is fully covered in section II. If you need to—or choose to—use these programs from DOS rather than from within the Menu System, their operation will be identical except for these different startup instructions.

To start WordCruncher from DOS, go into the WCS subdirectory where it is located. To change directories, enter the command "CD\WCS" from the root directory of the CD ROM disc.

Note: The first time you use WordCruncher it requires a brief installation. Installation can be done from the Menu System, or manually, as explained in Appendix A. If you have a floopy-based system or you have a hard drive at C, and your CD player is located at drive C, D, E, or G, it is recommended that you install using the automatic installation of the Menu System. Start the Menu System, go to WordCruncher, and choose A at the second WordCruncher menu—First Use, MUST Install. The next menu will ask you about your hardware configuration. Notice that choice B is a text file to explain the menu choices in more detail. Read that text file, then make the correct hardware choice at this installation menu. Installation is automatic.

Files will be copied to either your floppy or hard drive where they will be needed by WordCruncher every time you use it. If installing WordCruncher at drive A, it is recommended that you install to your standard boot disk. After you install, you will be returned to the previous menu where you can actually start WordCruncher by telling it what system you have installed for. Those with unusual hardware configurations not supported by these menus will need to see Appendix B for manual installation procedures.

To start WordCruncher from the DOS prompt in the WCS subdirectory of your CD ROM disc, enter the command "WCVM CD=x:\WCS" where "x" is the drive you told WordCruncher it could write to during the installation process. (The Ninth Edition CD-ROM uses the command WCV rather than WCVM). This "x" is NOT your CD player, but your read/write disk. For example, if you are running from a floppy-based system, you installed WordCruncher to drive A, so the command would be "WCVM CD=A:\". Or if you installed WordCruncher to your hard drive at C, then the command would be "WCVM CD=C:\WCS" etc.

To start the Copy-Access program, go into the WCS subdirectory of the CD ROM disc. List the directory and you will notice a "UTILS" subdirectory inside the WCS subdirectory. UTILS is where the Copy-Access program is located. The command to change directories from the root to the UTILS

subdirectory is "CD\WCS\UTILS."

From within this subdirectory, type the command "CA" at the DOS prompt. The program will begin. See section II-C for Copy-Access Program instructions.

B. Using DFIND to Search the Directory on Disk (DOD)

DFIND can help you locate information similar to that found with WordCruncher, but you will find all program descriptions also have file listings while the WordCruncher DOD does not. DFIND also works without all the memory-hungry features that make WordCruncher so fast and powerful. This is the same DFIND used as the standard DOD search program on earlier PC-SIG Library CD ROM discs.

The DFIND program is located in the DOD subdirectory. To change the DOD subdirectory from the root drive of the CD ROM disk, type the command "CD\DOD." To start the program, type "DFIND" at the DOS prompt in the DOD subdirectory. Instructions will greet you.

Please enter the string you wish to search for in uppercase letters and press Enter.

Using DFIND will allow you to search through the DOD for a keyword, specific disk number, program title, or anything you might be interested in. This DOD contains descriptions and file listings for all programs on The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM. There are a few things to remember when searching:

1. Anything you search for MUST be entered in UPPERCASE. The Directory on Disk is formatted in uppercase so that you will be able to find keywords easily, without having to worry about whether the first letter in the word is capitalized or not.

2. Whatever you are looking for CANNOT have a space in it.

After entering your keyword, DFIND will begin to search through the entire DOD. Be patient, this can take a while. Whenever DFIND finds the word you are looking for, it brings up the entire line of text. That line should let you know if you want to read more about that disk number.

If you do want more information, make a note of the disk number found at the beginning of the line. Next, do a DFIND search for that number instead of a word. This time all lines that begin with that number will be found and brought to your screen. All lines with that number form a complete description of what is on that disk.

Some features of DOS that work well with DFIND:

1. [CTRL][S]—If you press these two keys simultaneously while text is scrolling to your screen, your screen will freeze, giving you a chance to read it. Pressing any other key will unfreeze your screen.

2. [CTRL][C]—If you press these two keys simultaneously, the operation you are currently running

will be terminated. If you get stuck in a lengthy DFIND search, this will break you out.

3. If you do a [CTRL][PRTSC] before you enter your keyword for a directory search, results of your search will be sent to both your printer and your screen. Remember to do another [CTRL][PRTSC] after the search, or everything that comes up on your screen will continue to be printed.

C. Accessing Disks Without the Menu

Once installed, MS-DOS CD ROM Extensions allow you to use standard MS-DOS commands to access the CD ROM disc. To begin, switch drives to the CD ROM disc and list the directory.

To provide organization to this great number of subdirectories, you will notice we have created thirteen range directories. These range directories, titled 001_100, 101_200, etc., each contain disk subdirectories of the disks numbered in that range. Each disk subdirectory is titled with its corresponding disk number. In each of these disk subdirectories are the actual programs.

Again, each disk subdirectory is named after the disk it represents in the Library with the prefix of "DISK." For example, Library disk 825 would be in disk subdirectory DISK0825. The number part of the subdirectory name always uses four digits. So disk 78 is DISK0078, disk 325 is DISK0325, and disk 1000 is DISK1000.

Access to a particular disk can be accomplished with standard MS-DOS commands. For example, if you want to access disk number 78:

D>CD\001_100 (press Enter) [switches to correct range directory]

D>CD\DISK0078 (press Enter) [switches range directory to disk subdirectory]

or with a single command:

D>CD\001 100\DISK0078 (press Enter)

You are now at a DOS prompt in the directory where the program files actually reside—the same place you are sent if you use the access portion of the Copy-Access program. From here, standard DOS commands can be used to manipulate files. You can type documentation to the screen, copy all files to another disk for operation, or (in some cases) run a program right from the CD ROM disc, all from this prompt.

A file may appear in a disk subdirectory of the form DISKxxxx.ZIP (where xxxx is the disk number you are accessing). This is a "zipped" or "archived" file. Zipping is a process that combines a number of files into one smaller file. It contains program files that are on this particular disk.

This zipping was necessary because the High Sierra Format and MS-DOS Extensions allow only the characters A through Z, 0 through 9, and _ (underscore) in filenames. Some of our nearly 30,000

files include other characters, so rather than change the original filename given by the author, we elected to zip those files and give the newly created zipped files allowable filenames. (Every disks' files were zipped on the Ninth Edition in order to fit, as we had approached the maximum for a CD on the Eighth Edition.)

The Copy-Access program will automatically handle any unzipping that needs to be done. However, if you are interested in manually unzipping these programs, the subdirectory "DISK1364" contains PKUNZIP.EXE, which is used for unzipping these files. Running this program will give you more instructions on its operation.

IV. General Hints to Run PC-SIG Shareware

All PC-SIG Shareware programs are the same in many ways. This brief section will give you a few general hints on running programs and reading documentation files.

After you have accessed a disk subdirectory or copied all the files to another disk, you are ready to start working with a program. However, all you have in front of you is a list of files. No problem; there are some standard features of PC-SIG Shareware programs that will make them easy to operate.

The first step is always to type "GO" at the appropriate DOS prompt (the DOS prompt of the directory where the program files are located). Almost every PC-SIG Shareware program has been equipped with a small program called GO that gives you information on how to start the program and how to view and/or print documentation. We recommend that you print out the documentation before starting most programs. The documentation will answer many of your questions about program operation.

In the rare instance that a disk has not been fitted with a GO program, you can still find the documentation without any difficulty. At the appropriate DOS prompt, list the directory. You should use the command "DIR/P" to prevent a long directory from scrolling off the screen.

Documentation files are in the form of ASCII text files which can be read or printed by any computer. Such files are usually titled in one of these formats: MANUAL, MANUAL.DOC, README, READ.ME, README.DOC, README.MAN, or they simply end with the extension .DOC or .TXT. Find the file or files that match this format and you have found information about the program.

On nearly every PC-SIG disk you will find a short text file titled FILExxxx.TXT where xxxx represents the disk number. This is also a documentation file, but it was written by PC-SIG and provides information about this disk. The FILExxxx.TXT will also give you a listing of files and their individual functions so you can quickly figure out the purpose of each file on the disk.

Documentation files can be viewed on your screen or sent to your printer using standard DOS commands. To send a file to your printer, type the following at the DOS prompt:

d> COPY filename.ext PRN

Where "d" is the drive and path where the program files are located and "filename.ext" is the correct filename with extension of the file you want to print. This command is the normal copy command you are familiar with, but instead of copying to another disk you are copying to the printer, PRN. Make

sure your printer is on and has plenty of paper, and press Enter.

The documentation will usually tell you everything you need to know about starting the program. However, if you're like most people, you like to start the program before you read the instructions. For this approach, you should list the directory as before, but be looking for filenames that end in .EXE, .COM, or .BAT. These files are EXEcutable, COMmand, and BATch files—all files that "start" something. Often there are more than one of these files per disk so it is important to identify the correct one to start the program. Use the GO program and the listing in the FILExxxx.TXT to decide which one starts the main program.

▼ How to run a BASIC program

Files that end with the three-letter extension .BAS have been written using the programming language BASIC. These files contain the instructions to tell the computer what the program wants to do and how to do it, but not the necessary instructions that allow the program to speak directly to the computer. You will need your BASIC interpreter that came with DOS to run these programs.

The two major BASIC interpreters that you are likely to have are IBM's BASICA and Microsoft's GW-BASIC. Both of these programs will allow you to run and/or create programs using the BASIC programming language. The major difference between the two are that BASICA will only run on IBM brand name computers (which means on an official IBM). GW-BASIC will run on any IBM-compatible system, including an IBM.

BASIC on a one floppy drive system:

The easiest way to run a BASIC program on a system with one floppy drive is to copy the BASIC interpreter and the program you wish to run onto a blank formatted disk. Please consult your computer systems manual for specific instructions on how to use the FORMAT and COPY commands. Once this is done, start the program using BASICA, by typing:

A>BASICA filename (press Enter)

To start a program using GW-BASIC, you would type in:

A>GWBASIC filename (press Enter)

Please note that you would replace "filename" with the name of the BASIC program you wish to run. The extension is not needed.

BASIC on a two floppy drive system:

Running a program on a two floppy drive system is similar to running it on a one floppy drive system. All you need to do is insert the floppy disk which holds your version of BASIC into drive A, and the disk which holds the BASIC program you wish to run into drive B and type:

A>BASICA B:filename (press Enter)

or for GWBASIC

A>GWBASIC B:filename (press Enter)

As with the one floppy drive examples, "filename" should be replaced with the name of the BASIC program you wish to run.

BASIC on a hard drive:

The easiest way to run a BASIC program on a system with a hard drive is to copy the BASIC interpreter and the BASIC program into a subdirectory created specifically for the program you wish to run. Please consult your computer system's manual for specific instructions on how to use the MAKE DIRECTORY and COPY commands. Copy your version of BASIC and the program you wish to run into the sub-directory. You would run the program by going into the sub-directory you created and typing:

C>BASICA filename (press Enter)

or for GWBASIC

C>GWBASIC filename (press Enter)

A. Technical Support

If you need help with any aspect of the CD ROM disc, player, or the programs it contains, call PC-SIG's technical support line at (408)730-9291. Technicians are on duty from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time. This is a toll call to California.

Appendix A: Manual Installation of WordCruncher

WordCruncher keeps track of itself by reading and writing to its "maintenance files." Therefore, WordCruncher needs to have a place where it can store these files and continually update them. Through this installation procedure, you tell WordCruncher where it can store these "maintenance files." Regardless of the letter of your hard drive, if your CD player is configured as any drive C through G, you can set up WordCruncher to use your floppy drive A as the needed read/write storage

area. This can be done from the setup in the Menu System.

Manual installation is necessary if you want to install WordCruncher to store its "maintenance files" on a drive configured as some letter other than A or C, or if your CD player is configured as some letter beyond G. If you install WordCruncher for some drive other than those supported by the Menu System, you will need to exit the Menu System and issue the DOS command from this section to start WordCruncher.

To begin the installation, from the DOS prompt in the root directory of your CD ROM disc, change directories to WCS by typing "CD\WCS" and pressing Enter. From the WCS subdirectory enter the command "WCVM CD=x:\path" where "x:\path" is the drive and path of a read/write disk where WordCruncher can copy needed program files. (The Ninth Edition requires the command "WCV CD=x:\path"). Press Enter and you will be in the first WordCruncher screen called the Bookshelf. This is where you select what "book", or in our case, what DOD you wish to work with.

Currently the Bookshelf is empty. By pressing the Insert key (Ins) you will be able to add a book to the Bookshelf. Insert takes you to a prompt where you type in the directory of where a book currently resides. Type in "y:\WCS" where "y" is the drive letter of your CD player. WordCruncher will find a book called WCVDOC in this subdirectory, it will be brought to the screen and highlighted. Press

Enter to add this book to the Bookshelf.

There is one other book in a different subdirectory that you will want to add to the Bookshelf. To do so, press Insert (Ins) again at the Bookshelf screen and you will be prompted for the drive and path of another book. Enter "y:\DOD" where "y" is the drive letter of your CD player. Once the highlighted

book is brought to the screen, press Enter to add the book to the Bookshelf.

Both books included with WordCruncher have been installed under your hardware configuration. If this configuration changes, you will have to reinstall WordCruncher. If your hardware is not supported within the Menu System, every time you want to start WordCruncher you go to the DOS prompt in the WCS subdirectory of your CD ROM disc and enter the command "WCVM CD=x:\WCS" where "x" is the drive you told WordCruncher it could write to during the installation process. This x is NOT your CD player, but your read/write disk. For example, if you are running from a floppy based system, you installed WordCruncher to drive A, so the command would be "WCVM CD=A:"; or if you installed WordCruncher to your hard drive at D, then the command would be "WCVM CD=D:\WCS", etc.

WordCruncher will now function in the same manner described in section II-B. See that section for more instructions.

Appendix B: Limitations of Use

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Updates and Withdraws:

The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM is produced with the most current versions of shareware programs at the time the CD ROM discs are produced. However, shareware authors frequently update or change the manner in which they distribute their programs.

When the status of a program changes from shareware distribution to other means, we expect users of The PC-SIG Library on CD ROM to respect the wishes of the authors and refrain from further

distribution of the product.

For the most current listing of updates to The PC-SIG Library, check the most current copy of SHAREWARE Magazine, or call PC-SIG (408)730-9291.

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Better yet call (800) 245-6717 or FAX (408) 730-2107 and ask for Operator 2708.

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