

SUMMARY OF 86-DOS 1.0 ENHANCEMENTS

- * Each file in the disk directory has a date which is displayed with the DIR command. This date represents the last time the file was written to.
- * The system may execute batch jobs: Any number of commands can be strung together in a file, which can then be executed in sequence when desired. At the time execution of the file of commands is started, parameters may be included to alter the exact effect.
- * The console, printer, and auxiliary I/O device may be referenced with file names. This provides a natural extension for commands and programs that do file I/O, allowing them to communicate through the I/O devices.
- * Files may now be manipulated on a byte-by-byte basis. For example, after editing a file with EDLIN, its size as displayed by the DIR command is correct to the exact byte.
- * The I/O system now allows disk sector sizes other than 128 bytes without any additional programming effort. As a result, the larger sector sizes normally associated with hard disks or double density floppy disks (256 to 1024 bytes) is supported directly.
- * Full double density operation is now supported with the Tarbell DD disk controller. Using 1K sectors and double-sided drives gives 1.2 Mbyte per drive.
- * DEBUG has been substantially upgraded to include the following features: All addresses now use a segment:offset format; disassembly is now provided; HEX files are loaded with automatic binary conversion; areas of memory can be compared for equality; the Go and Trace commands can set CS and IP to any desired value before executing the program under test.
- * EDLIN can now edit files too large to fit into memory, and it can be aborted without saving changes if desired.
- * The assembler is much faster and provides a new, complete handling of the ESC code for generating 8087 opcodes.
- * HEX2BIN allows a load offset to be specified.
- * RDCPM will now accept the "wild card" characters ("?" and "*") to copy multiple files in one command. It can also be used to list the directory of the CP/M disk.