

**OS-9  
TECHNICAL I/O  
MANUAL**

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Many thanks to Warren Brown, Larry Crane, and Peter Dibble for their wisdom, patience, and perseverance.

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**NOTES**

# Introduction

You can use the **OS-9 Technical I/O Manual** as a supplement to the **OS-9 Technical Manual**, which describes in detail how the I/O system operates. The **OS-9 Technical I/O Manual** provides further information to help you create new file managers and device drivers, and supplies examples which you can adapt to your specific system needs. A basic understanding of the **OS-9 Technical Manual** is assumed.

This manual contains the following chapters:

- **Chapter 1 - The OS-9 Input/Output System**  
Explains the relationships between the kernel, device descriptors, path descriptors, and file managers, and how each of these components operates within OS-9.
- **Chapter 2 - Random Block File Manager (RBF)**  
Explains how to use the RBF manager to process I/O service requests to random access devices, and the parameters that drive it.
- **Chapter 3 - Sequential Character File Manager (SCF)**  
Explains how to use the SCF manager to process I/O service requests to devices which operate on a character by character basis, and the I/O editing functions available for line-oriented operations.
- **Chapter 4 - Sequential Block File Manager (SBF)**  
Explains how to use the SBF manager to process I/O service requests to sequential block-oriented mass storage devices

In addition, chapters 2, 3, and 4 each contain a description of how device driver routines for the respective class should operate. These descriptions are based on existing Microware drivers.

If this manual accompanies a media package that contains driver source code (for example, Port Pak, Driver Pak), we recommend that you study the source code in conjunction with this manual.