

VAX DOCUMENT

Electronic Publishing Software for the VMS Environment

digital



VAX DOCUMENT Streamlines Technical Publishing

The creation of technical documentation is an integral part of most product development projects. Too often, however, documentation becomes a major bottleneck in the product development effort. The documentation process involves many people, each responsible for a part of the job: engineers, writers, editors, and final production specialists. Coordination of their efforts requires a complex review and revision cycle, which is costly, difficult to control, and often the cause of delays.

VAX DOCUMENT streamlines the entire technical publishing process, eliminating redundant steps and increasing document integrity while reducing the overall length of the documentation cycle.

VAX DOCUMENT is a comprehensive electronic publishing solution designed to handle the entire technical publishing process: from the first entry of written material to the final output of printed, formatted pages. VAX DOCUMENT provides tools for text creation, a standard markup language, text and graphics integration, revision control, sophisticated document formatting, and output to either line or laser printers. It is designed to support project teams producing technical documentation and other types of large, complex documents requiring format consistency.

VAX DOCUMENT supports document production in a cost-effective manner in the VAX/VMS computing environment. Running on a wide range of VAX configurations, including VAXclusters, VAX DOCUMENT can be used from any of Digital's standard terminals and outputs to any Digital lineprinter and to a range of Digital laser printers. In addition, VAX DOCUMENT has been integrated with the VMS Development Environment so that you can develop documentation with the same tools that were used to develop an application.

Highlights

VAX DOCUMENT offers

- An easy-to-use generic markup language, which lets you focus on the content, not the formatting, of your work.
- A library of book designs applicable to all the manuals in a document set, which ensures format consistency for your documents. In addition to a standard milspec design and a standard Digital design for technical manuals, VAX DOCUMENT provides a variety of single- and double-column formats for multiple document types. All document designs are customizable.
- Sophisticated formatting capability and a powerful composition and pagination package designed specifically for use with computer-generated and mathematical text files, giving you fully automated production.
- High-quality output on a range of Digital laser printers. Serif and sans serif fonts are available for all of these printers in a variety of point sizes and weights, including italic, boldface, medium, and bold italic. Thus, your pages look typeset.
- Merging of text and graphics in the laser printer output file. VAX DOCUMENT can include sixel graphics files in documents printed on Digital's LN03 or LN03-Plus laser printers, POSTSCRIPT graphics files in documents printed on Digital's LN03R ScriptPrinter or LPS40 laser printer.
- Integration with the VMS environment. VAX DOCUMENT is integrated with the VAX Language-Sensitive Editor (LSE), and works well with the VAX DEC/CMS (Code Management System) providing ease of use and document management and control.

Generic Markup Language Leaves Writer Free to Write

VAX DOCUMENT's user interface is an easy-to-use markup language for identifying the text elements in an ASCII file. Using any VMS editor, you create a file, enter the text, and insert markup instructions identifying each text element—for example, a subhead, a list, a paragraph of body copy. These markup instructions are generic; that is, they are tied neither to a specific format or design information nor to any specific output device.

A Range of Book Designs

VAX DOCUMENT has complete specifications for various designs. Among the book designs supported is one used for Digital's VMS technical documentation. In addition, DOCUMENT has a design supporting DOD Standard-2167 and its respective DIDs. Templates are provided for the full repertoire of DIDs.

When you decide to process your file, you select a design from VAX DOCUMENT's library. VAX DOCUMENT does the rest, translating the markup instructions in the text file into the format required by the selected design. Your involvement with formatting is limited to selecting one of VAX DOCUMENT's designs and, of course, inserting markup instructions in the file as you write. You are free to concentrate on the content of your work, not on its formatting.

VAX DOCUMENT's designs ensure format consistency within a book or among the books in your document set. The range of book designs offered by DOCUMENT is extensive. Should you need to, you can modify these designs.

CHAP

ALASKA: AN

Alaska occupies the extreme northwestern part of the continent and comprises the following territory:

- All that part of the continent west of the 141st meridian
- The eastern Diomedes island in Bering Strait
- All islands in the Bering Sea and the Aleutian chain to pass midway between Copper Island, off the tip of Alaska, and the Panhandle
- A narrow strip of coast and adjacent islands North of 54 degrees and 40 feet North, East and North

This overview concentrates on the geophysical and climatic features.

1.1 Physical Features

Alaska consists of a compact central mass and two long, narrow peninsulas at the southwest and southeast corners, and sweeping in a vast arc along the north and west coasts. These three parts will be referred to here as the central mass, the Panhandle, and the Panhandle. The total area is about 663,300 square miles; including the islands, the coastline is about 4750 miles; and including the islands, the length is about 26,000 miles in length.

The entire southern coast is very irregular in outline, with many bays, inlets, and peninsulas. A great submarine platform extends along the western and northern coasts are regular in outline, and the seas that wash them. On the Arctic Ocean the coast is very irregular.

For details on the important islands of Alaska, see Table 2.

Table 2: The Important Islands of Alaska

Group Name	Principal Islands
Alexander Archipelago	Baranof, Kuiu, Prince of Wales
Kodiak	Kodiak, Semidi, Sannak
Aleutians	Unalaska, Unimak
Pribilof	St. Paul, St. George
—	Nunivak, St. Lawrence

TER 1
OVERVIEW

North America and the adjacent islands. It com-
t meridian of West longitude from Greenwich

chain lying East of a line drawn from the Diomedes
Kamchatka, and Attu Island of the Aleutians
North of a line drawn from Cape Muzon, in latitude
up Portland Canal to its head

and demographic aspects of the subcontinent.

stragglng appendages running from its southwest
rc over 16 degrees of latitude and 58 degrees of
eafter respectively as Continental Alaska, Aleutian
586,400 square miles. The general ocean coastline
ys, inlets, and rivers to the head of tide water, is

ne; it is precipitous, with only very slight stretches
nds throughout a large part of the Bering Sea. The
with long straight beaches; shallows are common
here is a broad coastal plain.

Table 1.

	Location
es	At S.E. tip, close inland S. and S.W. of mainland Stretch 1200 m. W.S.W. from end of Peninsula 500 m. S. of Cape Prince of Wales Freestanding in Bering Sea

MENT and a laser printer.

High-quality Output

In addition to being easy to use, VAX DOCUMENT's markup language reduces the document production cycle to a few minutes of batch file processing and then immediate output of fully composed and made-up pages. If the pages are printed on Digital's LN03, LN03-Plus, LN03R ScriptPrinter, or LPS40 laser printers, they almost look typeset.

With VAX DOCUMENT and one of these laser printers, the traditional document production cycle essentially disappears, while near-typeset quality is maintained.

Eliminates Production Lead Time

Behind VAX DOCUMENT's easy-to-use, concise markup language is its powerful composition engine, which provides

- Full hyphenation and justification.
- Pagination, with control of orphans and widows.
- Placement of running heads and feet.
- Footnote placement.
- Composition of complex math.
- Multicolumn output.
- Revision (change) bars and update pages.
- Automatic numbering of parts, chapters, and section heads, as well as tables and figures.
- Generation of contents pages and index, including master indexes.
- Handling of complex multipage tabular material.
- Automatic cross-referencing between chapters.

With such composition and page makeup power tied directly to the markup language, the need for production lead time is eliminated.

You can add technical details to a document right up until you need to print it.

The Bookbuilding Capability

VAX DOCUMENT's Bookbuilding facility manages the integration of separate text files into a book. This facility makes VAX DOCUMENT especially useful in large, multiauthor projects, where several writers are working on different chapters of a single book. The Bookbuilding facility takes the separate files and integrates them, numbering all chapters and sections (as well as tables and figures) sequentially and then creating contents pages. During the integration process, the Bookbuilding facility verifies all cross-references. Finally, it produces an index of the entire book.

More Than Technical Manuals

VAX DOCUMENT supports not only a variety of book designs for technical manuals but also formats for other technical documents. VAX DOCUMENT provides a format for engineering specifications, project and business plans, and technical articles and monographs. In addition, VAX DOCUMENT lets you create over-heads, letters, and memos.

VAX DOCUMENT's ease of use makes creation of any of these documents simple and straightforward. And they can be printed on a laser printer or on a lineprinter. The special benefit, however, is this: project documents written by various departments—engineering, programming, marketing, product management—using VAX DOCUMENT can be electronically cut and pasted into other documents without any recoding. Because VAX DOCUMENT's markup instructions are generic, text can be interchanged among these documents without any change in these instructions.

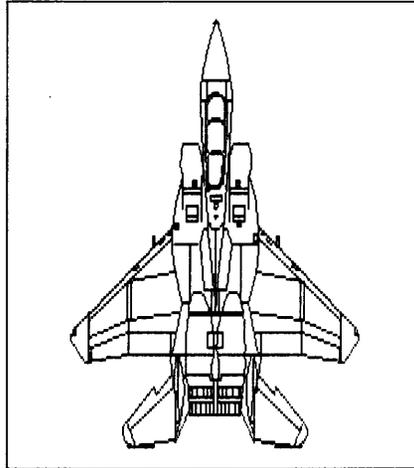
Sections from these document files can also be integrated into the drafts of manuals without any recoding. When VAX DOCUMENT is the markup language used by all the groups involved in a project, documents produced by one group can serve as boilerplate for others. This productivity gain is sure to be reflected in the overall project schedule.

Integrated with Other VMS Tools

VAX DOCUMENT is designed for the VMS technical publishing/programming environment. The product integrates with several of the software tools used in these departments, so that you can use the same tools to develop the documentation that you use to develop an application.

You can use any VMS editor to create VAX DOCUMENT text files. However, use of the VAX Language-Sensitive Editor (LSE) increases VAX DOCUMENT's ease of use and its power.

VAX LSE is a powerful, multiwindow editor that lets you use VAX DOCUMENT in template fashion. When used with VAX DOCUMENT, VAX LSE maintains an on-screen menu of DOCUMENT's markup commands; when you select one of these commands, VAX LSE inserts it, as well as any related commands, into your text file, where it acts as a template. You need only enter the appropriate text. Additionally, VAX LSE lets you debug your file interactively, without ending the editing session. From within VAX LSE, you can process the VAX DOCUMENT file and then review and correct any markup errors immediately. With its multiwindow capability, VAX LSE lets you display the error messages in one window while you correct markup errors in the input file, which is displayed in another window.



Sample of artwork, created on-line, that VAX DOCUMENT can merge with text files, at correct size and position.

VAX DOCUMENT works well with the VAX DEC/CMS (Code Management System), which provides library management of project files. VAX DEC/CMS maintains all project text files in a library. It permits team members to make copies of the files from the library, work on them with any editor, and then return them. VAX DEC/CMS keeps the original version of each file as a master copy and integrates changes into the master copy. At any time, VAX DEC/CMS can reconstruct an earlier version of a project file, because it keeps a record of the changes made with each retrieval and replacement.

Printing Line Art with VAX DOCUMENT

VAX DOCUMENT gives you pages that are completely made up—and, when you output on a laser printer, VAX DOCUMENT merges your art as well, placing figures where you want them, at the proper size for the book design you've selected.

VAX DOCUMENT merges any graphics files compatible with POSTSCRIPT, as well as graphics produced with DECgraph or DECslide, into text files being formatted for laser printer output. VAX DOCUMENT also works with BASEVIEW, which translates IGES, HPGL, and CalComp 960 files into sixel format, usable with DOCUMENT.

VAX DOCUMENT was designed for use in technical publishing. Integrated with other VMS tools, usable with standard VAX hardware, and outputting to either line or laser printer, VAX DOCUMENT is the ideal publishing solution for the VMS technical publishing/programming environment.

Digital Offers a Range of Services

Digital's Software Product Services offer a range of support packages that include the latest technical information and software updates. Software product services also offer you extensive technical support.

Digital also has other optional education and support services that can be tailored to your needs.

For More Information

To order VAX DOCUMENT, contact your local Digital sales office.

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