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# How to use MS-DOS EDLIN and DR DOS EDITOR   under the PC Emulator

This application note describes how to use the text editors EDLIN (MS-DOS) and EDITOR (DR DOS) under the PC Emulator. These utilities are often used under the emulator for the creation and editing of the CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT files.

| Applicable Hardware : | All   RISC   OS   based platforms. | Related Application Notes: | 215 - Configuring the correct PC keyboard driver. |
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# Contents

Introduction

A brief description of EDLIN and EDITOR

The MS-DOS Text Editor EDLIN

The DR DOS Text Editor EDITOR

Adding lines to text files:

> - ECHO command
> - COPY CON command

# Introduction

This application note describes how to use the text editors EDLIN (for MS-DOS) and EDITOR (for DR DOS) under the PC Emulator. It is applicable to the following versions of MS/DR DOS which have been supplied with various versions of the PC Emulator :

|          |            |
|----------|------------|
| MS-DOS   | 3.21, 3.30 |
| DR DOS   | 3.41, 5.0  |

# A brief description of EDLIN and EDITOR

EDLIN and EDITOR are text editors.  They allow you to create text files and save them on your discs. They also help you to update existing files by deleting, changing, and inserting lines in files. EDLIN is the text editor supplied with MS-DOS. EDITOR is the text editor supplied with DR DOS.

These text editors are an alternative to the DOS commands COPY CON and ECHO used for creating or adding lines to a text file. EDLIN and EDITOR offer more powerful facilities including the editing of existing files.

NOTE: For a more detailed description of these and other DOS utilities you should obtain a complete MS-DOS or DR DOS guide from any good dealer.

# The MS-DOS Text Editor EDLIN

EDLIN is the MS-DOS line editor that you can use to create text files and save them on your discs. EDLIN also allows you to update existing files by deleting, changing and inserting lines in files.

EDLIN divides the text from files into lines, each line containing up to 253 characters. It gives each line a number and always numbers the lines consecutively. When you insert lines of text in a file, the line numbers after the inserted text are automatically adjusted. Similarly, when you delete lines in a file, the line numbers following the deleted text are automatically renumbered.

To start EDLIN, type the following command:

**EDLIN** [*drive*][*path*] *filename*  <RETURN>

where *filename* is the file you want to edit. If you are creating a new file,  *filename* should be the name of the file you want to create. You should also include the path if the file is not in or going to be in the current working directory e.g. if EDLIN is in the directory C:\DOS and you wish to edit C:\BOOT\BATCH.BAT then you must specify the path (in this case C:\BOOT) for EDLIN to find the file.

Once you have typed the command, EDLIN displays the following:

NEW FILE *or* End of input file
*_

The EDLIN prompt is an asterisk (*).

Here is a brief summary of commands that are available (Note: This is not a complete list).

**[*line*] I**                   Insert lines of text

The I (Insert) command allows you to insert text immediately before the specified *line*. If you are creating a new file, you must type the I (insert) command before you can insert a new line of text. Text begins on line 1, and the next line number appears automatically each time you press the RETURN key.

**[*line*],[*line*],[*line*]C**           Copies lines

The C (copy) command copies a range of lines to a specified line number. The first and second line options specify the range of lines that you want to copy. The third line option specifies the line before which EDLIN will place the copied lines.

**[*line*],[*line*]D**            Deletes lines

The D (delete) command deletes a specified range of lines in a file. If you omit the first *line* option, EDLIN defaults to the current line. If you omit the second line option, EDLIN deletes just the first line.

**[*line*]**                    Edits a line or lines

The *line* option allows you to specify the line number of text you want to edit.

**E**                        Ends editing session and saves edited text

**[line],[line]L**              Lists a range of lines

The L (list) command displays a range of lines, including the two lines specified. To list lines 5 through 10 inclusive, type: **5,10L**

**Q**                        Quit editing session without saving the changes

**CTRL C**                   Exit editing/insert mode to return you to the command prompt (*)

# The DR DOS text editor EDITOR

This section describes how to use EDITOR, a full-screen editor which you can use to create and edit text files. EDITOR allows you to scroll/edit a full page of text at a time.

To start EDITOR type the following command:

**EDITOR** [*drive*][*path*] *filename* **<RETURN>**

where *filename* is the name of the file to edit or to create. If EDITOR finds the file, it displays it on the screen. If EDITOR cannot find the file it displays the message:

c:\myfile.txt ...file not found

Create new file (Y/N)?

Type **Y** to create the file, or **N** to go to the EDITOR title screen where you can type in another filename, or press **ESC** to leave EDITOR.

To enter text, type as you would if using a word processor or typewriter except when you reach the end of a line, press **RETURN** to start a new one. This is because in EDITOR there is no "word wrap"; it does not automatically start a new line unless you tell it to.

Many of the quick keyboard shortcuts in EDITOR are similar to WordStar. You can get online help in EDITOR by pressing **F1** or **CTRL J.** To exit from the help screen, press **ESC.**

You can save your file by pressing **CTRL KX**. This will save your work for you and then exit EDITOR. To exit without saving your work, press **CTRL  KQ**.

Other useful keys:

| | |
|---|---|
| **CTRL QR** | Goto start of file |
| **CTRL QC** | Goto end of file |
| **CTRL QS** | Goto start of line |
| **CTRL QD** | Goto end of line |
| **CTRL Y** | Delete current line |
| **Cursor keys** | Use these to move around the file |
| **Page Up** | Move the page up fourteen lines |
| **Page Down** | Move the page down fourteen lines |
| **Insert** or **CTRL V** | Switch between insert/overtype mode |
| **CTRL KB** | Mark start of a block of text |
| **CTRL KK** | Mark end of a block of text |
| **CTRL KV** | Move a marked block of text |
| **CTRL KY** | Delete a marked block of text |
| **CTRL KC** | Copy a marked block of text |

# Adding lines to text files

You can quickly add lines to your CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT files using the ECHO and COPY CON commands:

The ECHO command:

**ECHO  [drive][path]***command/filename*  **>>  [drive][path]***filename*

For example, to add the ANSI.SYS driver to the CONFIG.SYS file:

**ECHO  DEVICE = C:\DOS\ANSI.SYS  >>  C:\CONFIG.SYS**

This will then append the above line to your CONFIG.SYS file in the root directory on the hard disc partition drive C.

The COPY CON command:

This command tells MS-DOS to copy what you type from the keyboard console, into a specified file. For example:

**COPY CON C:\AUTOEXEC.BAT**

will create a new file called AUTOEXEC.BAT into which you could type the following:

**PATH = C:\;C:\DOS**
**PROMPT $P$G**

After the last line entered, press the **F6** key to insert a CTRL Z (end of file marker), and then press **ENTER** to copy these lines into the AUTOEXEC.BAT file.

# Acknowledgements