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**Memo CP-C/260**

**DATE:** December 21, 1999  
**TO:** Distribution  
**FROM:** V. McLane  
**SUBJECT:** EXFOR Manual

I have written a new version of the EXFOR Systems Manual in Word format. In order to convert to Word format, it was necessary to reformat the manual, since the WordPerfect to Word conversion caused many problems. Since I was basically reinserting the text, I decided to try a complete reorganization of the material.

The previous manual, as it evolved over the years, contained much duplication of information and the information was not organized well.

The chapters have been reorganized. The idea for doing that was

- to gather everything on the same topic together;
- to not introduce any terminology before it has been defined;
- to eliminate duplication.

An outline of the Manual follows. I will transmit a draft copy. Please look at it when you have time, and return your comments to me.

**Introduction:** really only an introduction.

- More history has been added,
- Only a brief outline of the format is given,
- The acknowledgements are added.

**Chapter 1:** General Structure of the Exchange Format

- includes general format without going into specifics or using specific terminology.

**Chapter 2:** System identifiers

- only information about system identifiers.

**Chapter 3:** BIB Section

- Gathers together information on BIB section format from previous Chapters 4 and 8.

**Chapter 4:** DATA and COMMON Sections.

- Gathers together all information on DATA and COMMON format only.

**Chapter 5:** Pointers.

- Information on uses of pointer only.

**Chapter 6:** Dictionaries

- Former Chapter 7

**Chapter 7:** Data Specification

- Since this is the key to the data coding, all information on reaction coding is gathered together from former Chapters 8 and 6

**Chapter 8:** Information-identifier keywords and coding rules

- Specific coding rules for keywords.

**Chapter 9:** Updating and Alterations

- Essentially the same.

The appendices are essentially the same.

**Distribution**

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