

INTERACTIVE FLEXIBILITY

Just as no two finger prints are identical, no two programmers work exactly alike. We each have our likes, dislikes, habits, and routines with which we are comfortable. Some programmers always work from a command line while others prefer to use the programmer menu, PDM, or other utility. HAWKEYE kept this important fact in mind when designing the interactive portion of PATHFINDER for the iSeries (AS/400, Power Systems, System i). Whether you are most comfortable working from menus, action bars, command lines, PDM, or another utility, you will find quick and easy access to all PATHFINDER options.

PATHFINDER's menus were designed to help you quickly locate and execute any option. The Main menu allows access to any Secondary menu. Each Secondary menu has the Main menu options replicated on the right side of the screen. This allows access to any other menu, without back-tracking to the Main menu. Every PATHFINDER menu has options "70. What options call", "80. Option directory", and "F10=Actions". "70. What options call" will display the command string executed when the corresponding option is taken. This information can be used to design your own PATHFINDER menus, grouping the options used most often. "80. Option directory" will allow you to locate and execute any option in the package. If you are currently using an attention-key program to access commonly used functions, adding access to PATHFINDER's Option Directory will allow easy access to any PATHFINDER inquiry from this single option. "F10=Actions" activates the Menu action bar. Each of the PATHFINDER menus are available as keywords on the Menu action bar. Each keyword represents a "pull-down" menu on which PATHFINDER options can be accessed. The Menu action bar is also available from any command line, inside or outside of PATHFINDER, by entering the command HAWKEYE/HAWKBAR or calling program HAWKEYE/HAWKBAR.

Generally, when using PATHFINDER, you need only take one option. From within an option, most additional inquiries are provided as subfile options. For example, you might start out with a File Layout inquiry to list all the fields for a file. From this list of fields, you might select subfile option "9=Where used" to see a Field Where Used inquiry for the field, or "6=Field X-ref" to review all files containing a field with the same name. Each PATHFINDER list panel offers subfile options to assist you in further analysis of the items listed. These options can also be entered for the object or field which initiated the inquiry, allowing further analysis. As you branch from inquiry to inquiry, PATHFINDER keeps track of each step you take. "F7=Status" from any panel will display a list of every PATHFINDER panel you have selected, allowing you to return to any previous inquiry. With this ability, you can navigate from inquiry to inquiry, confident in your ability to quickly and easily return to any previous point in your research. Additionally, any subfile or menu option can be prompted using "F4=Prompt".

You can direct requested output to an outfile from the Submit panel. This feature allows you the flexibility to customize the use of information available through PATHFINDER. The

Submit panel is accessible from any PATHFINDER option via the function key “F14=Submit panel”.

If you are most comfortable working from a command line or programmer menu, access to PATHFINDER inquiries is made easy using PATHFINDER commands. Every PATHFINDER option and menu has a corresponding command. Command names will always appear in the upper left corner of any PATHFINDER panel. Command parameters can be prompted from any command line.

It’s easy to include PATHFINDER commands in your own programs. Results of any PATHFINDER inquiry can be directed to outfiles. These outfiles can then be used in your applications for further processing. Additionally, PATHFINDER supports a Retrieve API, allowing X-ref data to be retrieved directly into program variables.

The feature “F20=Save submitting data” from the Submit panel creates a CL source program using the values you have entered for an option. Numerous options can be saved to a single source file. Frequently run options and submitted jobs such as the Build/refresh can be run from inside or outside of PATHFINDER with a simple call to this created CL source program.

For PDM users, a seamless interface between PATHFINDER and PDM has been provided. Because PATHFINDER is a command-driven system, any PATHFINDER inquiry can be accessed directly from PDM subfiles using user-defined options. Included in PATHFINDER is a user-defined option file called USERPDM. Including the options in USERPDM in your PDM user-defined option file is all it takes. For example, if you were working with a list of programs from a Work with Objects Using PDM list, you might want to find out where a particular program is used. Entering the user-defined option code “OU” for the selected program and pressing enter would display a PATHFINDER Object Where Used inquiry for the selected program. It is never necessary to leave PDM in order to access a PATHFINDER inquiry!

User-defined options can be created, maintained, and executed in PATHFINDER. PATHFINDER’s user-defined options function just as PDM’s, allows creation of your own user options, which can be executed for any item on a PATHFINDER list panel. This ability adds an extra level of flexibility to PATHFINDER.

User Default values, available from the Setup Menu or via “F18=Change defaults” (available on any PATHFINDER panel) allow individual users to configure PATHFINDER for their own individual likes and dislikes. Default values control certain interactive functions and allow specification of values determining how batch jobs should be submitted for your profile. This allows PATHFINDER to remember the likes and dislikes of each user.

No matter how you like to work on the iSeries (AS/400, Power Systems, System i), you will find access to PATHFINDER inquiries quick and efficient. The flexibility of PATHFINDER’s interactive design allows each user to fully utilize the package in a method best suited to their individual needs.

For further information, please contact our Technical Services department. We can be reached by email at info.hawkinfo.com or call us Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MST) and Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., VOICE (970) 498-9000 or FAX (970) 498-9096.