

THE CONCEPT OF APPLICATION DEVICES. GENERAL PURPOSE APPLICATION SOFTWARE

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Abstract: The capabilities of a modern PC are so great that an increasing number of people are using it in their work, study, and everyday life. The computer itself prompts the user what to do in a given situation, this is possible thanks to the computer software. The article discusses the need to use application devices

Keywords: Application, software, application devices, program

Software (SW) is a set of software tools and accompanying documentation that allow solving various tasks on a computer in economic, managerial and other areas of activity, as well as ensuring the functioning of computer hardware. Under the facility means the program or logically associated set of programs that are on the machine storage media and provided with documentation. Under the program understand the sequence of commands (operators, instructions) of the computer, the execution of which leads to the receipt of the result of solving the problem. Software tools can be classified according to various criteria. The most common is the classification, in which the fundamental feature is the area of use of software products:

- Hardware part of computers and computer networks;
- Software development technology;
- Functional tasks of various subject areas.
- Based on this, there are three classes of software products (Fig. 1):
- System software;
- Programming technology toolkit;
- Application packages.

Software designed for the effective development and implementation of specific, usually complex systems user tasks called application software (application software). It runs under the control of an operating system and consists of branded software packages and user applications. Application software is created in organizations specializing in the creation of software products and their sale in sales markets. It is developed by specialists - system analysts and programmers. Application software is a set of programs on machine media and related documentation, primarily user manuals, containing information on the correct operation of specific programs that are used to solve problems in a specific problem area.

The main part of the applied software is made up of *application software packages* (APP). An *application package* is a complex of programs designed to solve a certain class of problems on a certain topic. The packages are designed in such a way as to simplify the use of a computer by specialists of different professions as much as possible, freeing them from the need to study programming and other areas of knowledge related to the computer. This is achieved through the so-called user-friendly interface. In this case, the user performs in the mode of communication with the computer a set of actions determined by the input language of the package (keyboard input, execution of commands, viewing information, etc.) or follows the instructions of the built-in tool (software module) for step-by-step achievement of the result, called the wizard.

Currently, there is a huge number of PPPs, covering almost all aspects of human activity. The whole set of RFPs can be divided into two large classes: general-purpose packages and specialized packages.

PPP general purpose - universal software products designed to automate the development and operation of functional tasks of the user.

This class of RFP includes:

1. Editors: text (Word, WordPad) and graphic (CorelDraw, PhotoShop);
2. spreadsheets (Excel, Lotus 1-2-3);

3. database management systems (Access, Oracle);
4. tools for preparing presentations (PowerPoint);
5. integrated RFP;
6. design automation systems (AutoCad);
7. shells of expert systems and artificial intelligence systems , etc.

In the class of general-purpose packages, a special place is occupied by integrated application packages. They are a multifunctional set of programs in which the capabilities of various general-purpose functional packages are combined into one whole. The idea of unification is, on the one hand, the functional completeness of complementary programs with the same user interface , and, on the other hand, the ability to perform the entire technological cycle of data processing at one workstation.

This class of software is the most diverse, which is primarily due to the widespread use of computer technology in all spheres of human activity, the creation of automated information systems in various subject areas.

Problem-based RFP

Software products of this class can be classified according to different criteria:

1. types of subject areas;
2. types of information systems;
3. functions and complexes of tasks implemented by software , etc.

For some subject areas, typification of control functions, data structures and processing algorithms is possible. This caused the development of a significant number of RFPs of the same functional purpose and, thus, created a market for software products:

1. automated accounting;
2. financial activities;
3. personnel management (personnel records);
4. inventory management;
5. production management;
6. banking information systems, etc.

The main trends in the development of problem-oriented software tools:

1. creation of software systems in the form of automated workstations (APM) for management personnel;
2. Creation of integrated systems for managing the subject area based on computer networks that unite AWP into a single software package with a "client-server" architecture;
3. data organization of large information systems in the form of a distributed database in a computer network;
4. availability of simple language tools of the end user for database queries;
5. creation of software that allows customizing the functions of data processing by end users (without the participation of programmers);
6. protection of programs and data from unauthorized access (password protection at the level of functions, operating modes, data).

For this class of programs, the requirements for the efficiency of data processing are high (for example, the throughput for banking systems should be several hundred transactions per second). The volumes of stored information are large, which leads to increased requirements for the DB data administration tools (updating, copying, ensuring the performance of data processing). The most important thing for this class of software products is the creation of a friendly interface for end users. PPP computer-aided design

Programs of this class are designed to support the work of designers and technologists involved in the construction of drawings, diagrams, diagrams, graphic modulation and design, the creation of a library of standard drawing elements and their repeated use, the creation of demonstration illustrations and cartoons. Distinctive features of this class of software products are high requirements for the technical part of the data processing system, the presence of libraries of built-in functions, objects, interfaces with graphic systems and databases. General purpose RFP. This class contains a wide range of software products that support primarily information technology end users. In addition to end users, these software products, thanks to the built-in programming technology, can also be used by programmers to create sophisticated data processing programs.

Due to the huge variety of software applications, there are a huge number of different classifications of it. The most common classification is that application software is divided into three main classes: General purpose application software. General purpose software includes programs designed to solve general universal tasks. Such programs are used by most PC users.

Text editors are used to create and edit text without applying any decoration. The most famous text editors are Notepad (included in the standard Windows operating system), TextPad.

- images - ACDSee, FastStone Image Viewer, etc.
- HTML pages - web browsers Internet Explorer , Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome , Opera, etc .;
- media content (players, players):
- audio players AIMP, Spider player, Media Monkey, etc .;
- multimedia centers Windows Media Player (WMP, included in the standard MS Windows operating system), QuickTime Player (included in the standard Mac OS), Winamp, VLC Media Player, Media Player Classic, etc .;
- flash-content, which are used to play video and audio files on websites, for online games - Flash-player Adobe Flash Player , etc.;
- pdf files for viewing and printing pdf files - Adobe Reader.

Database management systems (DBMS), which include desktop databases for creating and managing databases , including MS Access, Paradox. The functions of the DBMS include the description of data, access to data, search and selection of data according to certain criteria.

Translator programs: electronic dictionaries for translating individual words - ABBYY Lingvo, MultiLex; programs for translation for translation large texts - PROMTS

Application software for special purposes. Application software for special purposes is a set of programs for solving narrower problems in various subject areas. Expert systems have become a further development of the DBMS and are intended for analyzing data stored in knowledge bases (they replace a specialist-expert). DBMS perform data manipulation operations, and expert systems carry out logical data analysis and are equipped with self-learning functions. The most famous are: MYCIN (medicine), ACES (military), ACE (electronics), CODES (computer science), DENDRAL (chemistry), PROSPECTOR (geology), REMORAMA (trade). Expert systems are mainly used by workers who are involved in diagnostics, design, planning and management.

Desktop publishing systems that are used for electronic layout of printed materials (newspapers, magazines, books, brochures). Used by employees of printing houses, editorial offices of magazines and newspapers, publishing houses, as well as employees of advertising agencies. Among the programs QuarkXPress, Adobe InDesign, Adobe FrameMaker, Corel Ventura, MS Publisher (often used as a general-purpose program). Electronic encyclopedias, textbooks, dictionaries, reference books are used by schoolchildren, students, researchers, specialists in various fields to gain knowledge in a particular area.

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