USING PROFESSIONAL OS-9®

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Microware Systems Corporation • 1900 N.W. 114th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50325-7077 • Phone: 515/224-1929

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Preface

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OS-9® is a powerful and versatile operating system that can help you fully use your 68000 system's capabilities. OS-9 offers a wide selection of functions because it was designed to serve the needs of a broad audience. Whether you are a casual user or a professional programmer, you will find many useful features in OS-9.

Professional OS-9 is designed to provide a friendly software interface for personal computers, educational systems, and the professional programmer. The Professional OS-9 package includes over 70 utility programs.

Using Professional OS-9 has been designed for use as a reference and learning guide. It is divided into three distinct parts. Chapters 1-4 discuss the file structure and utilities available for using OS-9. Chapter 5, 6, and 7 discuss some of the advanced utilities in detail. Chapter 8 discusses topics of interest to system managers.

This manual is the basic user reference manual for OS-9. The ***OS-9 Technical Manual*** is a companion manual for advanced programmers who wish to learn about the internal operation and function of the system.

At first glance, the OS-9 manual set, especially the ***OS-9 Technical Manual***, may seem overwhelming. Fortunately, you only need to know a fairly small percentage of the material presented in this manual to

use OS-9 effectively. You will find that it is easy to learn about OS-9 as you continue to work and experiment with it.

The secret to getting up to speed quickly with OS-9 is to first identify and learn only the basic, everyday functions necessary to run applications programs and programming languages.

This manual contains eight chapters:

Chapter 1 is a general introduction to OS-9. It introduces the concept of an operating system and explains some of OS-9's basic features.

Chapter 2 describes how to get OS-9 up and running. This includes formatting and backup procedures.

Chapter 3 helps you get started using the operating system. The more frequently used system commands are discussed. These are utilities that every user should be familiar with.

Chapter 4 is a detailed explanation of the tree-structured file and directory system of OS-9. This includes:

- Directories
- Types of files
- File security
- Movement around the file/directory system

Chapter 5 contains a detailed description of the shell, the OS-9 user interface.

Chapter 6 explains the make utility in detail. This utility is used to maintain and regenerate software from a group of files.

Chapter 7 explains the concept of incremental backups. The OS-9 utilities to create the backups are detailed here. This chapter also offers two different strategies for making backups.

Chapter 8 contains information of interest to system managers. Some of the topics covered include setting up your system defaults, making a startup file, and installing OS-9 on a hard disk.

Detailed descriptions of all OS-9 commands are located in the ***OS-9 Utilities*** section.