**The C Language**

The chosen excerpt introduces the reader to the many benefits and rare downsides of the C language. By the time the magazine where this article was published the C language was celebrating its tenth anniversary. This language was already being held at a high regard by the programming community and this excerpt came only to elevate it even higher.

The C language was created so that programs could be more portable, fast and compact. It filled a gap that existed between high-level programming languages at the time (such as BASIC, COBOL and Pascal) and low-level assembly languages that were tightly intertwined with specific processors.

At the time, the C language was mostly used for writing operating systems, utilities, languages and applications. In fact, C was even used to create the graphics sequences in *Star Trek II* and in computer-aided animation in *Star Wars:* *Return of the Jedi*.