About The Edition Manager   General information on sharing and updating data

You can use the **Edition Manager** to allow your users to share and automatically update data from numerous documents and applications.

The **Edition Manager** is available only in System 7.0 or later. It can be used by many different applications located on a single disk or throughout a network of Macintosh computers. To test for the existence of the **Edition Manager**, use the **Gestalt** function, described in the section entitled **Compatibility Guidelines**.

Use the **Edition Manager** if you want your application's documents to share and automatically update data, or if you want to share and automatically update data with documents created by other applications that support the **Edition Manager**.

For example, a user might want to capture sales figures and totals from within a spreadsheet and then include this information in a word-processing document that summarizes sales for a given month. The **Edition Manager** establishes a connection between these two documents. When a user modifies the spreadsheet, the information in the word-processing document can be automatically updated to contain the latest changes. To accomplish this, both the spreadsheet application and the word-processing application must support the features of the **Edition Manager**.

To use the **Edition Manager**, you should be familiar with sending and receiving high-level events, described in the **Event Manager**. Your application must also support Apple events to receive Apple events from the **Edition Manager**.

The **Edition Manager** provides you with the ability to

- capture data within a document and integrate it into another document

- modify information in a document and automatically update any document that shares its data

- share information between applications on the same computer or across a network of Macintosh computers

Building the capabilities of the **Edition Manager** into your program is similar to building cut-and-paste features into your program. Text, graphics, spreadsheet cells, database reports--any data that you can select, you can make accessible to other applications that support the **Edition Manager**.

This text first defines the main elements of the **Edition Manager** and then discusses how to save, open, read, and write a document that shares data. In addition, this text describes how to:

- make data accessible to other applications

- integrate data into numerous documents

- set update options

- implement borders

- modify shared data

- customize dialog boxes

This discussion also describes an advanced feature that allows applications to share data directly from a file.