

Event Capture System (ECS) Graphical User Interface

Technical Manual

**Software Version 2.0
Patch EC*2.0*148**



July 2020

Document Version 1.1

**Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Office of Information Technology (OI&T)**

Document Revision History

Date	Version	Description	Author
04/13/2020	1.1	Document Update	Liberty IT Solutions
11/21/2018	1.0	Initial Document Release	TeamSMS/Leidos

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1 Introduction

The Event Capture System (ECS) is a Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) Class I workload reporting system supporting operations of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Managerial Cost Accounting Office (MCAO). There are several Veterans Health Administration (VHA) national programs mandating using ECS instead of, or to augment other workload capture information systems. For example, ECS is used when programs cannot report workload in the form of Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes. ECS also allows for more precise workload capture and reporting than otherwise possible through other VistA systems.

1.1 Purpose

The Event Capture Technical Manual serves a dual purpose:

- Provides technical information to aid the Office of Information and Technology (OI&T) staff with implementing and maintaining the software
- Provides security information for Information Security Officers (ISO)

1.2 Product Perspective

ECS captures basic resource utilization data which are reported in VistA and also fed to the Decision Support System (DSS) in the DSS ECS monthly extract. The Event Capture software provides a mechanism to track and account for procedures and delivered services that other VistA packages do not handle. The procedures and services tracked through Event Capture are associated with the following:

- The patient to whom they were delivered
- The provider requesting the service or procedure
- The DSS Unit responsible for delivering the service

Information entered into ECS will then be sent electronically to DSS, Patient Care Encounter (PCE), and billing offices for processing which will in turn facilitate workload analysis, cost analysis and transmission of billing.

DSS Units typically represent the smallest identifiable work unit in a clinical service at a medical center. Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC) define the DSS Units. A DSS Unit can represent any of the following:

- An entire service
- A section of a service
- A small section within a section
- A medical equipment item used in patient procedures

The user must define the following items for every DSS Unit:

- Service: The service associated with the DSS Unit
- Cost Center: The fiscal identifier for the service using the particular DSS Unit
- Medical Specialty: The specialty section associated with the DSS Unit

1.3 Security Keys

Security keys are assigned in VistA using the menu option **Key Management**, and then choosing the submenu **Allocation of Security Keys**.

- ECMGR: Gives a user access to the ECS Management Menu. This key is intended to be used only for Event Capture Managers.
- ECALLU: Gives a user access to all DSS Units (super user). This should be assigned only to those managing the software (i.e., holders of the ECMGR key).
- ECNORPT: Restricts the user from access to the Event Capture Reports.
- ECSPSH: Gives a user access to upload data from a spreadsheet.

1.4 Functions of the Software

Event Capture with all patches installed provides the following functions:

- Allows each VAMC to utilize the software for its own resource/costing needs
- Implements DSS Units
- Assigns user access to the DSS Units
- Allows single and batch data entry for patient procedures
- Generates reports for workload and other statistical tracking
- Provides a Graphical User Interface (GUI) to the ECS application
- Allows the user to upload patient encounter data to Event Capture from a spreadsheet
- Allows the user to switch between Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS) and ECS without having to log back into the ECS GUI application

1.5 Related Documentation

In addition to this technical manual, Event Capture documentation includes the following:

- Event Capture User's Guide
- Event Capture Deployment, Installation, Back-Out, and Rollback Guide
- Event Capture Version Description Document

Documentation and additional information for this product—including background, technical and procurement information—can be found on the [VA Software Documentation Library \(VDL\)](#) intranet site.

2 Implementation and Maintenance

This section contains general information related to implementation and maintenance of the ECS application in the target VA software environment.

2.1 Namespace

The namespace for Event Capture is EC. The excluded namespaces are ECT, ECW, ECX, and EC1.

2.2 Site Configuration

Event Capture does not require site parameters.

2.3 Resource Requirements

There are approximately 250 Event Capture routines that take up approximately 997KB of disk space (including pre-initialization and post-initialization routines).

3 Routines

This section contains relevant information for ECS GUI application software routines and describes the actions to perform in order to obtain a list of routines supporting ECS that are implemented in the back-end Massachusetts General Hospital Utility Multi-Programming System (MUMPS) environment. Event Capture is comprised of a number of MUMPS routines that enable entering, editing, and deleting of data, as well as producing reports. These routines are used to accomplish user-initiated tasks through the ECS GUI component.

3.1 Callable Routines

The Event Capture software uses Integration Agreement 4460 to call the Application Programmer Interface (API) to store and retrieve data for the PROVIDER MULTIPLE field (#42) in the EVENT CAPTURE PATIENT file (#721).

3.2 Routines to Map

There are no specific requirements for routine mapping.

3.3 Routine List

Perform the following steps from the VistA Systems Manager Menu to obtain the MUMPS routines contained in the Event Capture software:

- Step 1. Programmer Options
- Step 2. Routine Tools
- Step 3. First Line Routine Print
- Step 4. All Routines? No => <Enter>
- Step 5. Routine: **EC***
- Step 6. Routine: 'ECT*
- Step 7. Routine: 'ECW*

- Step 8. Routine: 'ECX*
- Step 9. Routine: 'EC1*
- Step 10. Routine: <Enter>
- Step 11. (A)lpha, (D)ate, (P)atched, OR (S)ize ORDER: A//<Enter>
- Step 12. Include line (2), Include lines 2&(3), (N)one: None//<Enter>
- Step 13. DEVICE: HOME// <Enter>SSH VIRTUAL TERMINALRight Margin: 80// <Enter>

Steps 6 through 9 are to exclude those routines from appearing in the list.

4 Files

This section contains information related to files used by the ECS application. It identifies files exported and describes the steps necessary to obtain a list of templates and map the file flow relationships for Event Capture. Event Capture uses a series of FileMan files to store data related to workload entered via the ECS GUI.

4.1 Global Placement

Event Capture with all patches installed creates the following global files: ^EC, ^ECC, ^ECD, ^ECH, ^ECJ, ^ECL, and ^ECR. Global protection and placement should be made on all of them. It is possible that one or more of these global files already exist on your system.

4.2 File List

Table 1 lists the Event Capture files with all exported patches installed. [VA Directive 6402 Modifications to Standardized National Software, 8/28/2013](#) governs these files. Use the List File Attributes option in VA FileMan to print the Data Dictionary (DD).

Table 1: File Export

File Number	File Name
720.1	EVENT CAPTURE LOG
720.3	EC EVENT CODE SCREENS
720.4	EC PROCEDURE REASON
720.5	EC EVENT CODE SCREENS/PROC REASON LINK
721	EVENT CAPTURE PATIENT
722	EVENT CAPTURE PROVIDER
723	MEDICAL SPECIALTY
724	DSS UNIT
725	EC NATIONAL PROCEDURE
726	EVENT CAPTURE CATEGORY

4.3 Templates and File Flow

Table 2 lists the steps from the VistA Systems Manager Menu to obtain the templates and map the file flow relationships for Event Capture with all patches installed.

Table 2: Mapping File Flow

Step	Templates	File Flow (Relationships between Files)
1	VA FileMan	VA FileMan
2	Print File Entries	Data Dictionary Utilities
3	OUTPUT FROM WHAT FILE: Print Template or Sort Template	Map Pointer Relations
4	SORT BY: Name// Name	Select PACKAGE NAME: Event Capture
5	START WITH NAME: FIRST//EC <Enter>	Remove FILE: <Enter>
6	GO TO NAME: ECW// <Enter>	Add FILE: (Enter name or file number for files you want to include in the output. This prompt will repeat until the next step.)
7	WITHIN NAME, SORT BY: <Enter>	Add FILE: <Enter>
8	FIRST PRINT FIELD: Name	Enter Name of file group for optional graph header: EVENT CAPTURE// <Enter>
9	THEN PRINT FIELD: <Enter>	DEVICE: HOME// <Enter> HOME (CRT)
10	Heading (S/C): PRINT TEMPLATE LIST// <Enter>	
11	START AT PAGE: 1 <Enter>	
12	DEVICE: <Enter> HOME (CRT) Right Margin: 80// <Enter>	

5 Exported Options

This section provides an overview of the main and submenus available in the ECS GUI application. The user must hold the appropriate security keys in order to access all options.

5.1 Menu Outline

The Event Capture software contains the Data Entry, Spreadsheet, Reports, and Management Menu options that are fixed and not subject to modification, except by the software developer(s). Figure 1 shows these major menu options as they appear in the ECS GUI.

Figure 1: Main Menu for Event Capture

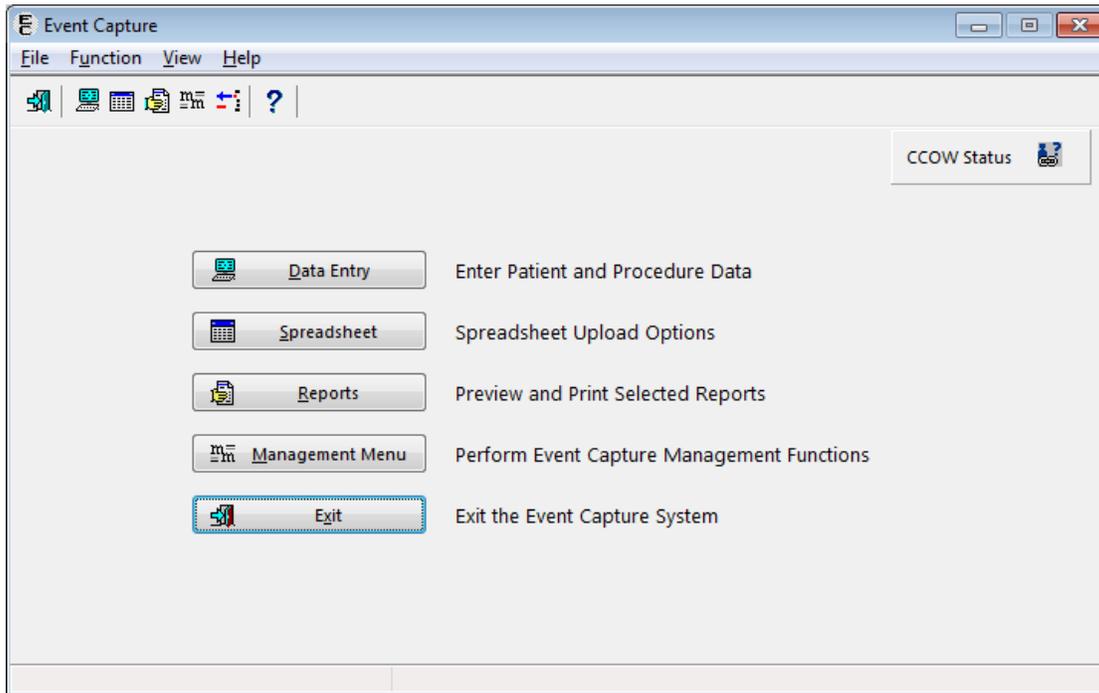


Figure 4 shows the submenu items that are available when the Reports option is selected from the Main Menu and the user does not hold the ECMGR security key.

Figure 4: Reports Menu Screen without ECMGR Options

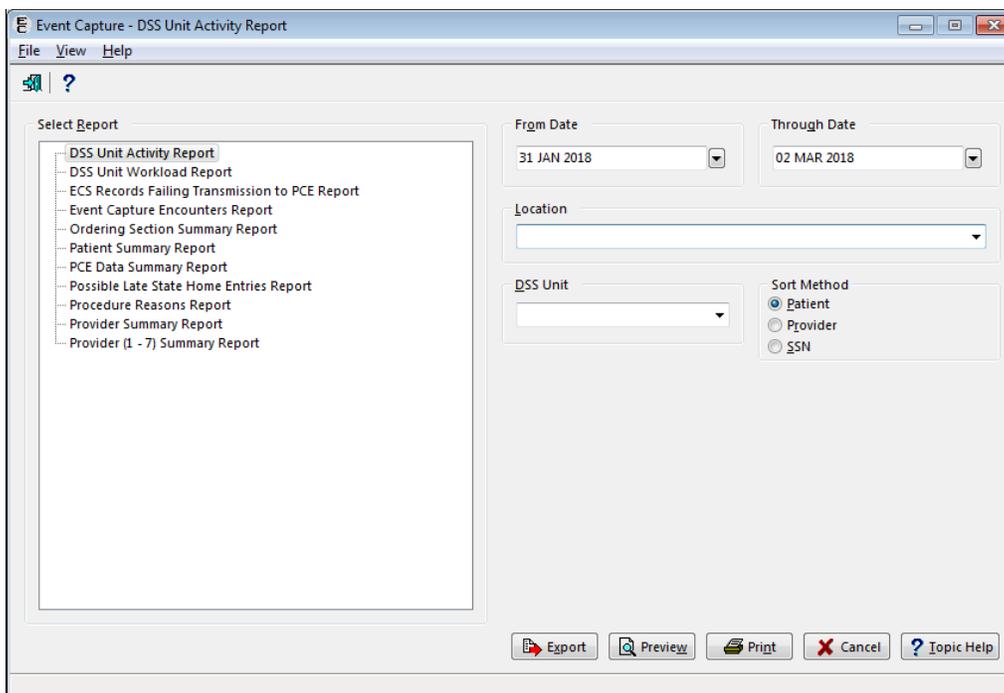


Figure 5 shows the submenu items that are available when the Reports option is selected from the Main Menu and the user holds the ECMGR security key.

Figure 5: Reports Menu Screen with ECMGR Options

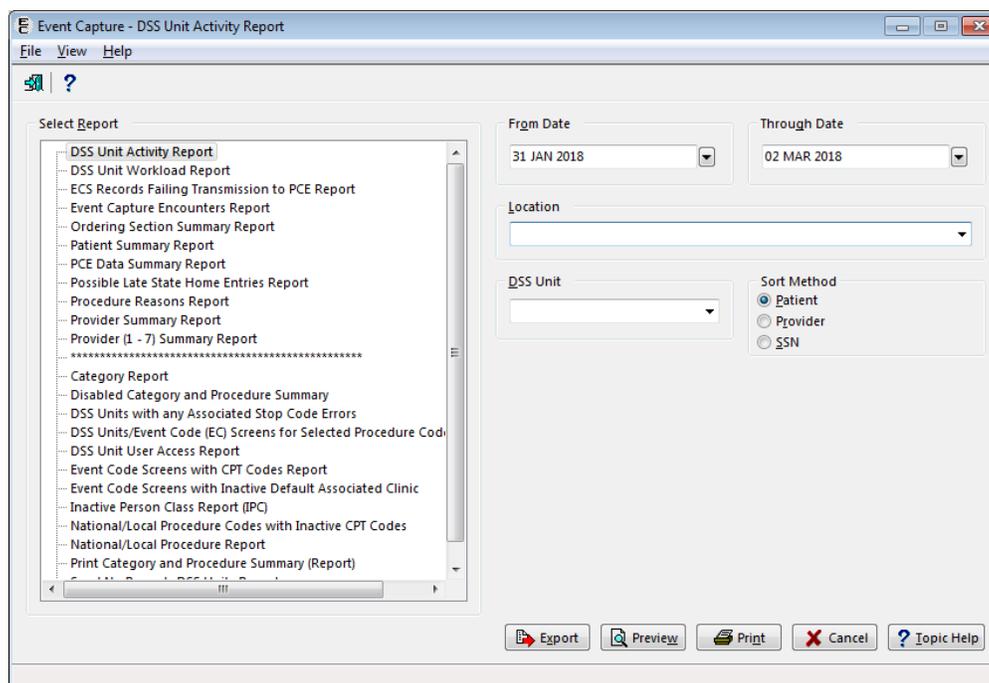
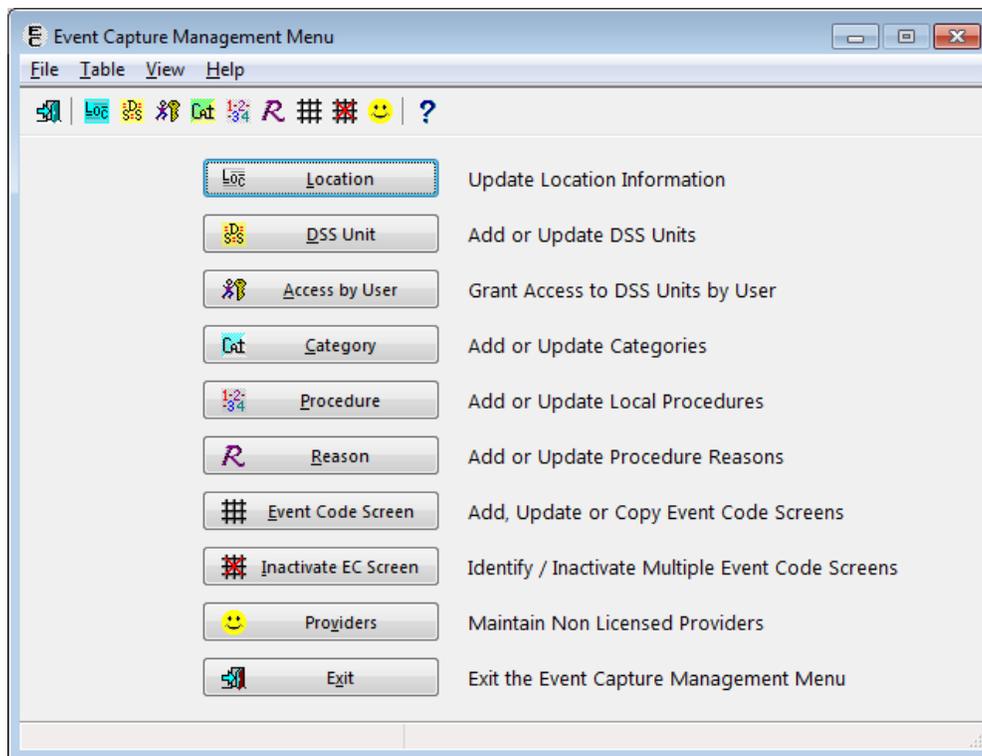


Figure 6 shows the submenu items that are available when the Management Menu option is selected from the Main Menu. The user must hold the ECMGR security key in order to access this menu.

Figure 6: Management Menu Screen



6 Archiving and Purging

The Event Capture software does not provide for the archiving or purging of its data.

7 Package-Wide Variables

There are no package-wide variables in this version of the Event Capture software.

8 External / Internal Relations

This section identifies external and internal VistA dependencies of the ECS application. It also identifies the steps necessary to obtain a list of Database Integration Agreements (DBIAs) in place for interfacing with required VistA products. Event Capture is part of a larger integrated medical records system and relies on data from other packages to perform its functions.

8.1 External Relations

Table 3 lists the VistA software products that must be installed before installing Event Capture.

Table 3: Required VistA Software Products

Product Name	Minimum Version
CPT/Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes	6.0
Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) Grouper	18
Kernel	8.0
MailMan	8.0
Patient Care Encounter (PCE)	1.0
Patient Information Management Service (PIMS)	5.3
Registration	5.2
Remote Procedure Call (RPC) Broker	XWB*1.1*65
ToolKit	7.3
VA FileMan	22.2

8.2 Database Integration Agreements

Table 4 lists the steps in FORUM from the Software Services Primary Menu.

Table 4: FORUM Steps

Step	Custodial Package	Subscriber Package
1	DBA MENU	DBA MENU
2	INTEGRATION CONTROL REGISTRATIONS	INTEGRATION CONTROL REGISTRATIONS
3	Custodial Package Menu	Subscriber Package Menu
4	ACTIVE ICRs by Custodial Package	Print ACTIVE by Subscribing Package
5	Select PACKAGE NAME: EC	START WITH SUBSCRIBING PACKAGE: RA// EVENT CAPTURE
6	DEVICE HOME// <Enter>	GO TO SUBSCRIBING PACKAGE: LAST// EVENT CAPTURE
7	This step blank on purpose	DEVICE: <Enter>

8.3 Internal Relations

All of the Event Capture options are designed to stand alone. Each option can be independently invoked.

8.4 External Interfaces

The Event Capture software does not interface with systems outside of VistA. For ECS interfaces to other applications within VistA, see the External Relations section.

9 Security

This section identifies security measures that must be in place for normal operation of the ECS application. Event Capture security is maintained through the use of security keys, file protection, and option assignment in addition to standard VistA logon security.

9.1 Security Management

The Event Capture software does not impose any additional legal requirements on the user nor does it relieve the user of any legal requirements.

9.2 Security Keys

Take the following steps from the VistA Systems Manager Menu to obtain information about the security keys contained in the Event Capture software:

- Step 1. VA FileMan
- Step 2. Print File Entries
- Step 3. OUTPUT FROM WHAT FILE: PRINT TEMPLATE// **Security Key**
- Step 4. SORT BY: NAME// **<Enter>**
- Step 5. START WITH NAME: FIRST// **EC**
- Step 6. GO TO NAME: LAST// **ECX**
- Step 7. WITHIN NAME, SORT BY: **<Enter>**
- Step 8. FIRST PRINT FIELD: **Name**
- Step 9. THEN PRINT FIELD: **Description**
- Step 10. THEN PRINT FIELD: **<Enter>**
- Step 11. Heading (S/C): SECURITY KEY LIST// **<Enter>**
- Step 12. START AT PAGE: 1// **<Enter>**
- Step 13. DEVICE: **<Enter>** HOME (CRT) Right Margin: 80// **<Enter>**

9.3 VA FileMan Access Codes

Table 5 lists the recommended VA FileMan Access Codes for the ECS GUI Software.

Table 5: VA FileMan Access Codes

File Number	File Name	Data Dictionary (DD) Access	Read Access (RD) Access	Write Access (WR) Access	Delete Access (DEL) Access	Learn-As-You-Go (LAYGO) Access
720.1	EVENT CAPTURE LOG	@				
720.3	EC EVENT CODE SCREENS	@				
720.4	EC PROCEDURE REASON	@	@	@	@	@
720.5	EC EVENT CODE SCREENS/ PROC REASON LINK	@	@	@	@	@
721	EVENT CAPTURE PATIENT	@				

File Number	File Name	Data Dictionary (DD) Access	Read Access (RD) Access	Write Access (WR) Access	Delete Access (DEL) Access	Learn-As-You-Go (LAYGO) Access
722	EVENT CAPTURE PROVIDER					
723	MEDICAL SPECIALTY	@				
724	DSS UNIT	@				
725	EC NATIONAL PROCEDURE	@				
726	EVENT CAPTURE CATEGORY	@				

Entries in the MEDICAL SPECIALTY file (#723) are set by the MCAO or its designee. Any additions, deletions, or modifications will be distributed nationally through the release of the Event Capture software.

Entries in the EC NATIONAL PROCEDURE file (#725) are also set by the MCAO or its designee. The Event Capture Management Menu provides the option to add locally recognized procedures to this file. Each entry in a file is assigned an Internal Entry Number (IEN) or record number. When the site adds a local entry, the software forces the IEN to be 90000 or higher.

9.4 Mail Groups and Alerts

The Event Capture software does not require any mail groups, nor does it generate any mail alerts.

9.5 Remote Systems

Event Capture does not send data to any remote system.

9.6 Contingency Planning

Sites should have a backup emergency plan in place in the event the system goes down. Technical users of the ECS software should ensure that a local contingency plan is used in the event of application problems in a live environment. The plan should identify the procedure(s) for maintaining the functionality in the event of a system outage. Field Station ISOs can get assistance from the Regional ISO.

9.7 Interfacing

Event Capture does not require special interfacing.

9.8 Electronic Signatures

Event Capture does not use electronic signatures.

10 How to Generate Online Documentation

This section describes some of the various methods by which users may secure Event Capture technical documentation. Online technical documentation pertaining to the Event Capture software, in addition to documentation found in the help topics, may be generated through utilization of several Kernel options. These include XINDEX and VA FileMan List File Attributes. Further information about other utilities that supply online technical documentation may be found in the Kernel Reference Manual.

10.1 XINDEX

This option analyzes the structure of a routine(s) to determine in part if the routine(s) adheres to VistA Programming Standards. The XINDEX output may include the following components: list of compiling errors and warnings, routine listing, local variables, global variables, naked global references, label references, and external references. By running XINDEX for a specified set of routines, the user is afforded the opportunity to discover any deviations from VistA Programming Standards that exist in the selected routines, and to see how routines interact with one another. That is, which routines call or are called by other routines.

To run XINDEX for the Event Capture software, specify the following namespace at the "Routine:" prompt: EC*. Event Capture initialization routines that reside in the User Class Identifier (UCI) in which XINDEX is being run, as well as compiled template routines found within the Event Capture namespace, should be omitted at the "Routine:" prompt. To omit routines from selection, preface the namespace with a tick mark (').

10.2 List File Attributes

This VA FileMan option allows the user to generate documentation pertaining to files and file structure. Utilization of this option via the "Standard" format will yield the following data dictionary information for a specified file(s): file name and description, identifiers, cross-references, files pointed to by the file specified, files which point to the file specified, input templates, print templates, and sort templates. In addition, the following applicable data are supplied for each field in the file: field name, number, title, global location, description, help prompt, cross-reference(s), input transform, date last edited, and notes.

Using the "Global Map" format of this option generates output which lists all cross-references for the file selected, global location of each field in the file, input templates, print templates, and sort templates. For a comprehensive listing of Event Capture files, refer to the Files section of this manual.

10.3 Online Help

Throughout the ECS GUI application, click the question mark button (located on the toolbar or at the bottom right corner of the screen) to obtain online information for any screen. To obtain online information for a field, select that field and press <F1>.

Appendix A Acronyms

Table 6 lists the acronyms used throughout the Technical Manual and their appropriate descriptions.

Table 6: Acronyms

Acronym	Description
API	Application Programming Interface
BCMA	Bar Code Medication Administration
CCOW	Clinical Context Object Workgroup
CPRS	Computerized Patient Record System
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology
DBIA	Database Integration Agreement
DCM	Department Cost Manager
DD	Data Dictionary
DEL	Delete Access
DRG	Diagnosis Related Group
DSS	Decision Support System
EC	Event Code
ECS	Event Capture System
GUI	Graphical User Interface
HCPCS	Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System
IEN	Internal Entry Number
IPC	Inactive Person Class
IRM	Information Resources Management
ISO	Information Security Officer
LAYGO	Learn-As-You-Go
MCAO	Managerial Cost Accounting Office
MUMPS	Massachusetts General Hospital Utility Multi-Programming System
PCE	Patient Care Encounter
PIMS	Patient Information Management Service
RD	Read Access
RPC	Remote Procedure Call
SSN	Social Security Number
UCI	User Class Identifier
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs
VAMC	Veterans Affairs Medical Center
VDL	VA Software Documentation Library
VHA	Veterans Health Administration
VistA	Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture
WR	Write Access

Appendix B Glossary

Table 7 lists terms used throughout the Technical Manual.

Table 7: Glossary

Term	Definition
Category	Provides a common level to group associated procedures. Multiple procedures can be defined for each category.
Cost Center	Reveals which service is using the specified DSS Unit. Cost centers are defined in the Fiscal Service cost manuals.
DSS Unit	Defines the lowest level segment used for tracking hospital resources. These units can be a small work unit within a service, or a large division within a service. Management at each facility is responsible for tailoring the DSS Units to fit its resource/cost reporting needs.
DSS Unit Number	Four- to seven-character Department Cost Manager (DCM) department code. MCAO will be providing guidance to VAMCs regarding what they should enter.
Event Capture	Software designed to provide management tools necessary to track procedures not tracked by other VistA software.
Event Code Screen	Unique combination of location, DSS Unit, category and procedure that defines patient procedures.
FileMan	This system implements the VistA database engine and is the basis for several patient safety controls, as well as fiscal integrity controls. It implements security, confidentiality, and privacy controls, and is a critical component in meeting the requirements of Enterprise Architecture.
Kernel	This system implements security, confidentiality, and privacy controls for VistA, including user authentication algorithms. It provides many tools for the safe construction of local software, and it implements many national control files, to include, but not limited to, New Person, Institution, State, etc. This system is a critical component in meeting the requirements of Enterprise Architecture.
Location	Facility or division name as it appears in the INSTITUTION file (#4).
Procedure	A specific function performed on, or service provided to, a patient.
Provider	The person performing the procedure.
Remote Procedure Call (RPC)	This system supports client and/or server messaging used by CPRS, Bar Code Medication Administration (BCMA), and others, to access the MUMPS database through APIs. It provides a development kit for local development, and it implements security, confidentiality, and privacy controls. This system is a critical component in meeting the requirements of Enterprise Architecture.