

### **The Redvers Compression Device gives you the ability to reduce memory overheads, carbon emissions and data storage costs without compromising your data assets.**

Redvers Consulting have engineered a compression-decompression algorithm specifically designed to produce optimal compression rates for data held in COBOL format. The algorithm is also designed to use minimal computer resources, especially when decompressing, so that archived information can be retrieved on-line with minimal disruption.

#### **Main features:**

- Reduced machine memory overhead
- Money saved on DASD hardware
- Faster disk I-O
- Time and space saved when archiving
- Reduced carbon footprint
- Compression rates up to 75%
- Runs on any COBOL platform
- Distributed in COBOL source code ([cloaked](#))
- Fast decompression rate for real-time retrieval
- Works with non-COBOL data too
- Supports calls from batch or on-line
- [Free 30 day trial available](#)

As the software is distributed in COBOL source code, it can be run on **IBM mainframe, iSeries, UNIX, HP, CA-Realia, Fujitsu Siemens BS2000, Micro Focus** or any other COBOL platform.

The Redvers Compression Device consists of a pair of simple but efficient COBOL subroutines that compress and decompress data strings as required. These data strings can be single fields, parts of a record, complete records or even a file of concatenated records.

Field level compression can be used to leave record keys uncompressed. This gives applications access to the data without the need to decompress the whole file, disk or tape first.

## How it Works

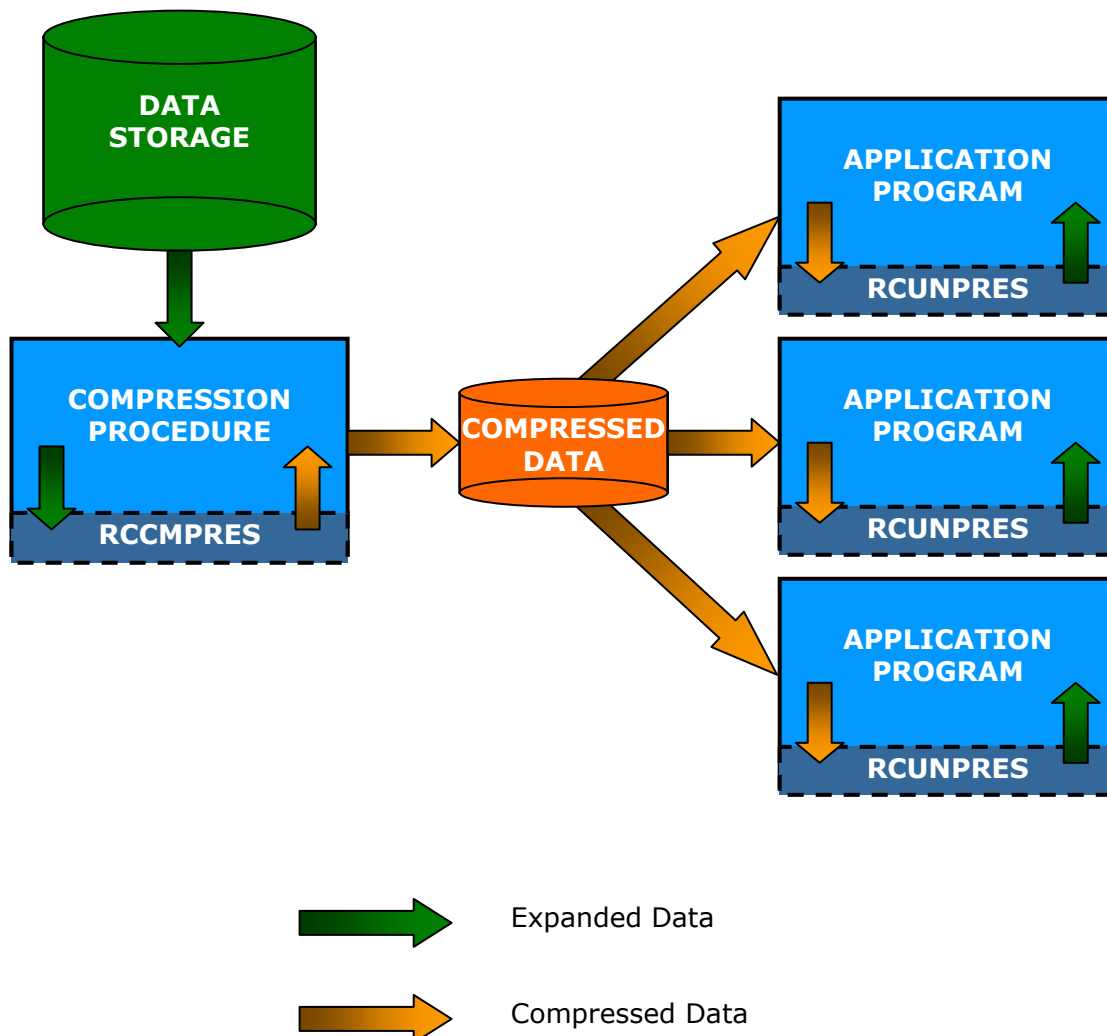
Compression can be performed in a scheduled procedure that selects the data suitable for compression. This data would then be passed to the Redvers compression routine (**RCCMPRES**) which returns the string in its compressed form. The compressed string can then be used for fast access while the original data is removed from on-line storage.

Application programs that require the compressed information, pass the compressed string to the decompression routine (**RCUNPRES**) which returns the data string in its standard form. No other files or parameters are required.

If the application needs to update compressed information, the updated details can be passed through **RCCMPRES** and the output rewritten to the compressed data store.

Disk space in databases and indexed files can be saved by rewriting records with key information unchanged but with the majority of the data in its compressed state.

The diagram below shows how a compression / decompression procedure might be used in a typical application environment.



## Technical Information

The Redvers Compression Device 2.1 uses a “lossless” compression algorithm designed and developed by Redvers Consulting. This algorithm provides optimum compression rates for COBOL application type data, using minimal computer resources. The algorithm can also be used to compress data not in COBOL format.

The algorithm is not “Huffman” or “arithmetic” based and doesn’t require the overhead of building a probability tree and adding it to the compressed string. However, it does use a standard “sliding window” technique for data deduplication.

The size of the “sliding window” can be adjusted by the application to respond to different system priorities: a large window will produce better compression ratios but require more CPU time; a small window will result in poorer compression ratios but require less CPU time.

As **RCCMPRES** and **RCUNPRES** are standard COBOL programs, compiled at the customer’s site, any limit on the length of data strings passed, are defined by the limitations of the compiler used.

### Compression techniques include:

- Deduplication of repeated characters such as spaces or zeroes.
- Application data deduplication (within the “sliding window”).
- The breaking down of commonly used characters into shorter bit patterns.
- Preserving random bit patterns caused by the presence of binary data fields.

Input data can be in the **ASCII** or **EBCDIC** character sets and it can be encoded using single or double byte characters.

Actual compression rates range from approximately **35%** to **75%** depending on the length of the input data string and the length of the “sliding window”.

Compression time is **0.3 megabytes per CPU second** (using a “sliding window” of 400 bytes) and decompression is more than **14 megabytes per CPU second**. All benchmark timings were performed on an IBM zSeries mainframe running z/OS 1.10.

## The Product Package

A perpetual license for the Redvers Compression Device costs **4,000 US dollars** or equivalent currency. Alternatively, the software can be leased on an annual basis for just **800 US dollars** per year.

### Your purchase includes:

- Product source code ([cloaked](#))
- Sample COBOL calling program
- User Guide
- Corporate level software license
- Two year warranty
- Product upgrades and support via email\*

### Additional options:

- 24 x 7 telephone hotline support
- Software escrow agreement with Software Escrow Solutions

Software and documents are shipped in the form of email attachments unless otherwise requested. Installation is performed by copying the source code text into your COBOL source code library and running your standard site compiler.

Further details can be found at:

[www.redversconsulting.com/data\\_compression.php](http://www.redversconsulting.com/data_compression.php)

\* Free for the first two years followed by an annual fee of 800 US dollars.

## About Redvers Consulting

**Redvers Consulting have been providing top quality products and services for COBOL applications since 1988. Our clients are primarily large financial institutions in Europe and North America, although we also have customers in many other business and geographical areas.**

Our ability to deliver software in COBOL source code form, gives customers reliable, efficient and perfectly integrated solutions to business needs. Source code distribution also means our software will run on all hardware platforms and operating systems: *EBCDIC, ASCII, big endian or little endian*.

We are business partners with **IBM, HP, WRQ** and **Fujitsu Siemens**, and our development team are members of the **Professional Contractors Group**. In 2009 we won the Thames Gateway **Best use of Technology Award**.

### Our client list includes:

Affiliated Computer Services (USA)  
Bank One / JP Morgan (USA)  
Barclays Life Assurance (UK)  
Canada Life Assurance (UK)  
Citibank NA (USA & UK)  
CUNA Mutual Life Insurance (USA)  
Deutsche Bank (USA)  
Deutsche Rentenversicherung Bund (DE)  
Dun & Bradstreet (UK)  
FirstBank (USA)  
Fegro Selgros (DE)  
GMAC Insurance (USA)  
John Deere (USA)  
Lehman Brothers (USA & UK)  
Oppenheimer (USA)  
Railtrack / Network Rail (UK)  
Sasktel (Canada)  
Standard Life Assurance (UK)  
Suncorp (AUS)  
WorldCom / MCI (USA)  
Zurich Insurance (UK & SUI)

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