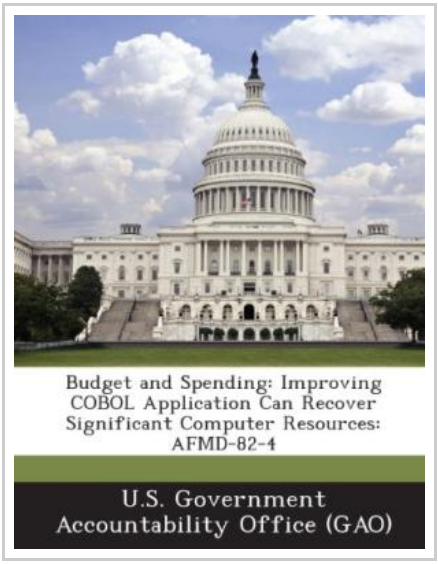

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Budget and Spending: Improving COBOL Application Can Recover Significant Computer Resources: Afmd-82-4

By -

BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 86 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.2in.GAO examined: (1) the management implications and economics of reducing the machine resources consumed by Common Business Oriented Language (COBOL) applications in the federal government; and (2) the applicability of these findings to different brands of computers. Federal use of computers is extensive, with COBOL being the most widely used computer language. Significant benefits have been achieved at some federal installations by modifying COBOL applications to reduce the machine resources consumed. Work can be done to reduce the machine costs of COBOL applications on any brand of computer using COBOL. Despite the potential for improvement, some installations have done little or nothing to examine the machine resource consumption of their COBOL applications. Officials indicated that many programmers are ignorant of techniques, receive little formal training, and have little concern for machine costs. Measurement and verification of benefits can be seen in terms of reduced machine resources and expressed in dollar equivalents. A systematic approach will help efforts to improve COBOL applications. Automated tools can be used to reduce the labor costs involved in reducing COBOL machine costs. Other considerations besides machine...

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