In 1995, Midrange Computing published the first edition of *Complete CL*. Ernie Malaga did a marvelous job presenting the AS/400 Control Language in such a way that a programmer who had never used CL could easily learn it from his book. In the past five years, *Complete CL* has been a tremendous help to thousands of AS/400 programmers.

The CL language itself has changed little since that time. Indeed, it has changed little since it was first introduced on the S/38. There still are no structured op codes—such as DO WHILE and DO UNTIL—and still no support for subroutines, for example. Nevertheless, the environment in which CL lives has changed a good bit. ILE has become more accepted over time. The AS/400 has moved to the Web and proved itself an able server in a networked world.

But much has not changed. CL is still of great importance in AS/400 application development. Now that many AS/400s are open to the world, the need for robust, secure CL programs is more important than ever.
It has been my pleasure to collaborate with Ernie Malaga on the third edition of this classic book. I hope you will find it helpful to you as you strive to develop dependable, effective applications.

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