XEDIT prefix macros for entry of structured code

Shmuel (Seymour J.) Metz <smetz3@gmu.edu>
http://mason.gmu.edu/~smetz3

- Background
- What it does
- Demo of revised version
- How it works

XEDIT prefix macros for entry of structured code

Background

- Large document dissemination system
- Front end ran under CMS in VM/SP HPO
- Written in
    - Assembler H with PROC macros
    - PL/I
    - Several scripting languages
- Documentation in DCF GML SS
- Home grown IDE
- No syntax oriented editor
- The prefix macros were an extension to the IDE

XEDIT prefix macros for entry of structured code

What it does

- Inserts templates for control structures, with empty lines for additional input
- Automatically indents
- Sets cursor appropriately for indentation structure
- Includes some utility commands, e.g., UC
- Commands support repetition counts and other parameters, although seriously limited by the size of the prefix field

XEDIT prefix macros for entry of structured code

Demo of revised version

XEDIT prefix macros for entry of structured code

How it works

- Requires a **SET PREFIX SYNONYM** for each command
  - Typically done in profile
- Makes heavy use of **SET PENDING**
- Defines and make heavy use of
  - **..**
  - **RI**
  - **RIC**
- Common housekeeping to, e.g., extract an optional count parameter