

# Updating Speedbase C-ISAM files

If a Speedbase database has its data held as C-ISAM files then these files can be accessed by programs using C-ISAM or Informix SQL, subject to some restrictions.

For reading data there are no restrictions on access.

If you wish to update the files the recommended method is to use one of the batch posting interfaces available. If none of these are suitable a Speedbase program can be written to do the updates.

It is however possible to do the updates directly using C-ISAM or Informix subject to a number of restrictions:

- records can only be updated, not added or deleted;
- no changes may be made to fields that are part of any Speedbase index;
- no changes may be made to any GVF, i.e. to a field which is accumulated into a GVA;
- no changes may be made to any of the fields maintained by speedbase, i.e. a GVA or one of the \$ fields;
- no updates may be done while the database is also being updated by Speedbase programs, i.e. the program should get exclusive access.

For bulk data loading or updating, it is possible to create or amend the files using C-ISAM and then use the Speedbase data rebuild utility to construct all the indexes, inter-record linkages and GVA values.

To repeat, we recommend using a Speedbase program to update the data since it avoids all the above restrictions.