IST 256
Assignment 4
THE USED BOOK SELLER
Due May 4, 2:45pm in the iLMS
(Hard copy handed in Exam at that time.)
(Accepted for late credit until May 8.)

Write a program that reads and manipulates book information for a used book seller. The information must be manipulated as records and include the name of the book, author of the book, seller information (including company name, URL and approval rating), shipper information (including company name, URL and approval rating), price, and book quality. A data file is provided for you.

A sample line (which would be all on one line in the file):

Information Science Today, John Doe, Amazon, amazon.com, .98, A1 Books, a1books.com, .95, 20.00, Very Good

The user interface for the Used Book Seller will allow the user to query the book information for:

1. Given the author of a book, print out all the books by that author, displaying the book information.

2. Given a partial value of the book title, print out the book information on all the books that match, (wild card search). When the books are displayed, they must be sorted into increasing order by price.

For each type of query in the user interface, be sure to give directions on how to do the searches. In your user interface, you can have a button that the user clicks first to read the book records from the file OR you may read the file from a Form_Load procedure. Note that you do NOT allow the user to type in the name of the file.

The program will keep the book information from the file in an array of book records. There will be one record for each book. This record must be hierarchical in that there should be a nested record for company name and information (name, URL and rating). This record can be used to represent both the book seller and the book shipper in the main book record.

Each of the buttons will have a search through the array. The first button searches for author name and the second button has a wild card search for part of the book title. You should write a procedure that takes a book information record and assigns a (ByRef) string parameter to format the information in the book record. Each button can call this procedure to get the formatted string to add to its label output.

A suggestion for the second button is that before you search the books, sort the array into increasing order by price.   Then when you search the array, you can add all the titles that match to a display label and they will already be in order by price.

GRADING

The program must have
- a nice user interface design that is clear to use
- a hierarchical record to keep the information on each book
- correct use of files to read the books into the array of records
- correctly working sort for the second button
- correct use of the Like operator to produce a wild card search
- a procedure to produce a formatted string from a book record
- good variable names and documentation in the program