* **Cut and paste** - The user can move blocks of text from one position to another.

* **Searches** - The user can search for the next or preceding occurence of a particular string of characters.

EDT logs changes and replays them on demand should a failure occur during an editing session.

Finaly, the general user has access to any facilities that the applications programming user makes available through application systems built on top of VAX/VMS. Programming users, for example, might construct an inventory system that permits general users to query and update indexed files that hold the inventory data.

Program Development

VAX/VMS provides a comprehensive set of tools for developing programs including editors (such as EDT for producing and editing source programs), a file differences utility, programming languages, a linker, a librarian, a symbolic debugger, and a patch utility. The assembly-level VAX MACRO language is supplied with all systems.

The file differences utility contrasts two files by automatically aligning matching text and optionally ignoring comments, empty records, trailing blanks, and multiple blanks. Output can consist of a side-by-side display of differences, a file-by-file list of differences, an interleaved list of differences, a list with change bars, or an input file for the batch editor.

The linker binds programs written in the various languages into executable and shareable images. Shareable programs permit the storage of code and data used by many executable images as a single disk file and permit this code and data to be shared in physical memory at image run time. The linker encourages the modular development of application systems by permitting images to be written as small modules and then bound into a large image, and by binding programs written in different languages. (Programs written in all native-mode languages can call one another.) The large per-process address space provided by the system removes any requirement for program overlays.

The VAX Common Run-Time Procedure Library provides geneal string manipulation, I/O and I/O conversion, terminal independent screen handling, date/time, mathematics, G_ and H_ floating point emulation, resource allocation, signaling and condition handling, syntax analysis routines and cross reference procedures that can be called from programes written in VAX MACRO or any optional, native-mode high-level languages.