Lab Note #14: eèéêëēĕėęěɜɛẻếề̂ệ !

Transferring display data from an HP3000 to a PC with MS Windows has been relatively easy, for the American-English customer. Common methods are FTP, email, and file-transfer from within your terminal emulator. The rest of the world that uses a larger alphabet that may, for example, contain the letters áéíóú, may wonder why, after a transfer of data, these letters appear as ÄÅÕÆÇ.

The computer uses numeric values to represent letters. A Character Set is a definition of these values and their associated letters. The HP3000 usually uses the ROMAN-8 character set for these extended-ASCII letters (refer to you Native Language Support Reference Manual (NLS)). Windows usually uses the ISO-Latin1 character set. The value assigned to a character may be different in each set as can be seen in this example.

Character	ROMAN-8	ISO-Latin1
a	65	65
á	196	225
à	200	224

Reflection FTP understands this issue and does the conversion for you. But if you use another method to move data from the HP3000 to Windows, most likely you will need to translate your display data for proper representation.

On the web at www.sambaix.com, you can find the program A2AE, which is a translator program that can run on either the HP3000 (before data transfer) or the PC (after data transfer). This program is written by Friedrich Harasleben and is provided free to the public. Below is a sample run. A2AE supports the following character sets: ROMAN8 CP850 PC8 LATIN1 ANSI.

```
:print test1
aeiou
áéíóú
:run a2aep;info="TEST1 TEST2 ROMAN8 LATIN1"

A2AE - Version 1.04 (c) Harasleben 1993-97
ROMAN8 - CP850 - PC8 - LATIN1 - ANSI conversion
     Converting from ROMAN8 to LATIN1
     characters read    : 12
     characters converted: 5
End Run
:listf test@,2

FILENAME   CODE   ------------LOGICAL RECORD----------- ----SPACE----
                  SIZE  TYP       EOF     LIMIT R/B  SECTORS #X MX

TEST1             80B  FA          2    204522  16       16  1 32
TEST2            256B  FA          2      4095   1      256  1  8

:print test2
aeiou
ÃÕÚµº
```

Feedback and topic suggestions are welcome and can be emailed to mailto:technote@exegesys.com

Lab Notes are hints and technical notes from the "Labyrinth" (the eXegeSys software lab); so named because of our complex mission to assimilate understanding the eRP product suite, it's source code, and our development procedures.
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