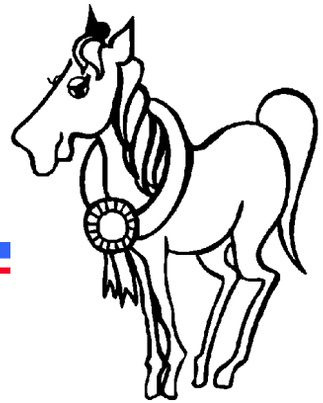
Qedit Master Class



- **A Robelle Tutorial**
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Qedit and data files

- Edit enormous files, including spool files
- Maximum 1000 characters per line
- Display non-printing characters
- Edit non-printing characters
- Edit binary data values
- Edit PH subfiles with /TEXT xxx,LABELS

Master Class Project

- Challenge: convert comma-delimited file to fixed columns

- Input:

  Bob,25,1,False
  Susan,500,0,True

- Output:

Bob	25	1	False
Susan	500	0	True

Convert comma-delimited format to fixed columns

- Hints:
  - You can look for commas with a string (e.g., ",")
  - Most commands can contain a string
  - DIVIDE and GLUE take lines apart and combine them
- Strategy:
  - Divide a line into multiple lines at the commas
  - Reassemble them into a single line at fixed columns

Basic tactics for solving the project

- How to divide at a comma
- How to move ahead to the next line
- How to remove the comma from the line
- How to reassemble at columns 20, 40 and 60
- How to repeat the procedure for the entire file

Tactics for packaging the command file

- How to ensure that you start at the first line?
- How to ensure that lines do not overflow when you use GLUE command?
- How to make the command file quieter (e.g., less verbose)?
- How to check for too many commas in a line?
- What input data would cause this solution to fail?

Part 1 of command file solution

```
option nowarn
setjcw cierror 0
/set language text
/set length 256
/lq first > $null                    {go to top of file}
while cierror = 0 do                 {do until EOF}
  /divideq "," *                     {split line at comma}
  /lq *+1 > $null                    {move to second part of line}
  /cq ","(1/1)""                     {remove comma in column one}
  /divideq "," *                     {repeat for second comma}
  /lq *+1 > $null
  /cq ","(1/1)""
  /divideq "," *                     {repeat for third comma}
```

Part 2 of command file solution

```
  /lq *+1 > $null
  /cq ","(1/1)""
  /glueq (20,40,60) *-3          {combine lines back together}
  setjcw qeditcount 0
  /cq ","","                     {check for extra commas!}
  if qeditcount <> 0
    /appq "<<sick puppy!" *      {mark for manual editing}
  endif
  continue
  /lq *+1 > $null
endwhile
echo Done! Manually edit records marked "sick puppy"
```

A secret way to use MPE variables in Qedit commands

- For compatibility, Qedit does not parse !Variable
- MPE commands do support !Variable substitution
- Leading colon (:) indicates an MPE command
- Leading slash (/) in MPE command escapes to a Qedit command
- Therefore, use ":/" to allow !Variable in a Qedit command

```
:/change "!oldstr"!newstr" all
```

Results of the 1994 Qedit User Survey

- How you spent your $100 on Qedit enhancements:

RANK

1. Graphic MS Windows interface
2. Automatic renum when lines exhausted
3. Edit multiple files at once
4. Multiple moves/copies/replicates
5. Split screen in /Visual block mode
6. Search a group of files for a string

Automatic renumbering has already been added to Qedit 4.4

- Visual mode
  - CC, MM, AH
  - Renumbers from current screen forward

- Line mode

```
Add 5 = 1000/2000
Add 5 < 1000/2000
Add 5 = extnfile
```

- Renumbers as many lines as necessary to make room

Editing multiple files

- OPEN filename, BROWSE
- Deferred write access
- OPEN *-2
- Multiple scratch files

Summary of Qedit Master Class

- The Master Project: Massaging comma-delimited data
- A Master Tip: MPE variables in Qedit commands
- User feedback from the 1994 Robelle Survey
- Enhancements:
  - Automatic renumbering
  - Editing multiple files

Results of the 1994 Qedit User Survey For Overseas Customers

- How you spent your $100 on Qedit enhancements:

RANK

1. Graphic MS Windows interface
2. Edit multiple files at once
3. Automatic renumber when lines exhausted
4. Multiple moves/copies/replicates on one pass
5. Find/show PowerHouse errors for interactive edit
6. Split screen in /Visual block mode