

#25 Cloning a complex record

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Method of duplicating an entire 4th Dimension record.

In many data processing tasks it is useful to have a cloning feature. Take the case of an inventory system where an item might contain many components. Each component would be a subrecord in a subfile. It would be convenient to have a way to clone an item (with all of its components) for a part that is very similar (has many of the same components) without having to assign a multitude of variables. Below is an example of how to do this.

- ` This procedure clones a complex record. It opens a document (Clone) sends the
- ` record and then closes it. It then creates a new record, re-opens the document
- ` reads the record and then saves. It finishes by closing the document then
- ` deleting it. This example is the heart of the cloning procedure. It provides no error checking
- ` and does nothing to select the record to be cloned.

```
SET CHANNEL(10;"Clone")
SEND RECORD([Complex])
SET CHANNEL(11)
CREATE RECORD([Complex])
SET CHANNEL(10;"Clone")
RECEIVE RECORD([Complex])
SAVE RECORD([Complex])
SET CHANNEL(11)
DELETE DOCUMENT("Clone")
```

If any of the fields was defined as unique, that field would need to be altered before the SAVE RECORD command could be issued.

