4th Dimension Technical Note

#37   External procedure documentation

Written by Todd Carper   December 14, 1987
Modified   January 20, 1988

This document describes how to use the following External procedures located in the file December.EXT:

> *DataBaseName*
> *GetNumFiles*
> *GetNumFields*
> *GetFile*
> *GetField*
> *PostKey*
> *AddSubrecord*
> *CancelDialog*
> *CancelEntry*
> *ValidateDialog*
> *ValidateEntry*
> *AreaButton*
> *GetButton*
> *ChangeMenuItem*
> *4DInfos*

You may also find this information by selecting the procedure and choosing Get Info from within 4D External Mover.

Variable name	Type
IntVar	Integer
StrVar	String

DataBaseName(*StrVar*)   Returns into *StrVar* the name of the DataBase.

GetNumFiles(*IntVar*)   Returns into *IntVar* the number of files in the DataBase.

GetNumFields(*IntVar1*;*IntVar2*)   Returns into *IntVar2* the number of fields in the file specified by *IntVar1*.

GetFile(*IntVar*;*StrVar*)   Returns into *StrVar* the name of the file specified by *ntVar*.

GetField(*IntVar1*;*IntVar2*;*StrVar1*;*IntVar3*)   Returns into *StrVar1* the name of the field and in *IntVar3* the type of field* as specified by *IntVar1*, (the file), and *IntVar2*, (the field).

*The values returned into *IntVar3* by the **GetField** external are defined as follows:

Value	Field Type
0	Alpha
1	Real
2	Text
3	Picture
4	Date
5	*Reserved*
6	*Reserved*
7	Subfile
8	Integer
9	LongInteger

PostKey(*IntVar1*;*IntVar2*)   Posts the key sequence as specified by *IntVar1* and *ntVar2*. *IntVar1* contains the ASCII key code and *IntVar2* contains the modifier code.

AddSubrecord   Posts a new subrecord key sequence. Simulates a CMD-TAB by default.

CancelDialog   Posts a cancel key sequence for a Dialog. Simulates a CMD-Period by default.

CancelEntry   Posts a cancel key sequence for an Entry layout. Simulates a CMD-Period by default.

ValidateDialog   Posts an Accept key sequence for a Dialog. Simulates an Enter key by default.

ValidateEntry   Posts an Accept key sequence for an Entry Layout. Simulates an Enter key by default.

AreaButton

This external is to be used as an External Area and is used to define an invisible button.

It is used with **GetButton**.

Define a variable in the layout. Specify it as an External Area, and enter the name AreaButton in the Not Used portion of the variable format screen.

GetButton(*LIntVar*;*IntVar*)

LIntVar is the handle to the external area defined by **AreaButton**.

IntVar will return the status of the area. Zero (0) if the area was not clicked in. One (1) if the area was clicked in.

ChangeMenuItem(*IntVar1*;*IntVar2*;*StrVar*)

This external is used to change the title of any menu item.

IntVar1 contains the Menu which is to be changed and *IntVar2* contains the item in the Menu *IntVar1* which is to be changed.

For example:
ChangeMenuItem(1;3;"MyTitle")
would change the third item in the first menu to "MyTitle".

4DInfos(*StrVar*;*IntVar1*;*IntVar2*;*IntVar3*;*IntVar4*)

This external returns information about 4D which can be used to determine compatibility and correct configuration.

StrVar returns the version number of 4D being run.

IntVar1 returns what environment the product is in. One (1) means the product is in User environment. Zero (0) means the product is in Custom environment.

IntVar2 returns what mode the product is in. Zero (0) means the product is in Single User mode. One (1) means the product is in Multi-User mode.

IntVar3 returns information regarding the type of network being used. Zero (0) means SymbTalk™, One (1) means Omninet™, Five (5) means AFP™ (Apple Filling Protocol)

IntVar4 returns information regarding the type of server being used. Zero (0) means block server. One (1) means file server.