Excel-erator

Version 1 Release 5 Modification 0 Enhancement Summary Program Number 2A55-XL1

Fifth Edition (January 2005)



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Installation Instructions

Restoring the new release

Read the Enhancement Summary to determine if any changes affect your installation. To install Ver 1 Rel 5 Mod 0, sign on as the security officer.

1. Verify that your machine is at OS/400 V5R1M0 or later by running:

DSPDTAARA DTAARA(QGPL/QSS1MRI)

- 2. Mount the distribution media in the appropriate device.
- 3. Submit the Restore Licensed Program (RSTLICPGM) command to batch:

RSTLICPGM LICPGM(2A55XL1) DEV(device-name) LNG(2924)

Note: You may receive inquiry message CPA3DE4 "Directory not registered © G)". If you do, you will receive it three times. In all cases it is safe to take a "G".

4. Enter your permanent authorization code.

Enhancements for Excel-erator Version 1 Release 5 Modification 0

What's In This Section

This section provides information on Excel-erator enhancements for the current release, notes any customer code implications, and describes where to find more information when applicable.

SNDFEXCEL Command Changed

The maximum number of positional parameters allowed on the Send File Excel (SNDFEXCEL) command was accidentally shipped as *NOMAX. The value has been corrected to 3. In the unlikely event that you have compiled CL programs with positionally specified parameters beyond the third, you must recompile them.

Numeric Field Formatting Added

Numeric fields that specify an edit code are now formatted in accordance with the edit code.

Numeric fields without edit codes but with decimal positions are now formatted to preserve trailing zeros. For example a two decimal position field now shows as 1.10 instead of 1.1.

Update To Output BIFF4 (Excel4) Sheets

Previously, spreadsheets were generated in a variant of BIFF2 most closely resembling that generated by Excel 2.1. With this update files are generated as BIFF4 i.e. Excel 4.0. With this change, various Excel based functions are enabled. For example the formatting control buttons bold, italic, underline, currency, percent, and comma now work.

Blank *COLHDG Lines Suppressed

Previously, the *COLHDG special value always generated 3 rows of column heading even if one or more rows were blank for all fields. Entirely blank heading rows are now suppressed.

Added FONT() Parameter

A new font typeface (FONT) parameter was added to both the Copy To Excel (CPYTOEXCEL)

and Send File Excel (SNDFEXCEL) commands. The parameter allows you to specify the font used in the generated spreadsheet.

Additional COLHDG() Special Values

The following special values were added to the column headings (COLHDG) parameter:

*FLDNAMBLD

The file's field names are used as column headings. The column headings are bold.

*ALIASBLD

The file's field aliases are used as column headings. The column headings are bold.

*COLHDGBLD

The file's field column headings are used as column headings. The column headings are bold.

Added COMMENT() Parameter

A new cell comments (COMMENT) parameter was added to both the Copy To Excel (CPYTOEXCEL) and Send File Excel (SNDFEXCEL) commands. The parameter allows you to specify comments for cells in the generated spreadsheet. The parameter is useful for adding freeform text information such as when the original data was generated.

*COLHDG Blank Suppression Corrected

The column headings (COLHDG) parameter's *COLHDG special value was incorrectly suppressing blank lines resulting in incorrect headings in some cases.

Added COLHDGFMT() Parameter

A new column heading format (COLHDGFMT) parameter was added to both the Copy To Excel (CPYTOEXCEL) and Send File Excel (SNDFEXCEL) commands. The parameter allows you to specify formatting applied to the cells containing column headings. Each element corresponds to an Excel setting accessible by selecting Format->Cells. The values that each element accepts have their usual Excel meanings with one exception: "Alignment-Horizontal" accepts a *TYPE special value which is not available in Excel. When *TYPE is specified, the column headings of character fields are given *LEFT horizontal alignment while the column headings of numeric fields are given *RIGHT horizontal alignment. See Excel's help for additional information.

Added PALETTE() Parameter

A new color palette (PALETTE) parameter was added to both the Copy To Excel (CPYTOEXCEL) and Send File Excel (SNDFEXCEL) commands. The parameter allows you to specify replacements for the default colors included in the spreadsheet's palette. The color palette is made up of the specification for sixteen colors, numbered 1 through 16, and assigned names such as *BLACK, *RED, etc. Each color in turn is made up of the specification for the amount of red, green, and blue (RGB) components that make up the color. The amount is a number between 0 and 255. The larger the amount, the more of the component present. You can determine the RGB values for a specific color using Excel's Tools-> Options-> Color-> Custom tab.

You specify a replacement for a default color by specifying its name and the new RGB values to use. If a color is modified then all references to the color's name, used in other parameters, are also modified. For example if color *RED is changed to (255 106 0), color *RED becomes orange and all parameters that specify *RED will produce this orange.

Include object (INCOBJ) Parameter Added

The Send File Excel (SNDFEXCEL) command has been enhanced to allow including additional objects (PC Files) in the generated e-mail. Up to 64 additional objects can be included, either as attachments or in the body of the e-mail. This can, for example, be used to include standard terms and conditions in the generated e-mail.

Authorization Component Corrections And Updates

 Authorization code now enforces requirement that *LPAR license is run on a partitioned machine. If a formally partitioned machine becomes unpartitioned while the software is running under an *LPAR license, a grace period is granted.

Spreadsheet Processor Corrections And Updates

- o New support for BIFF4 required record types added.
- o An incorrect type code in the BOF record prevented XP from opening some spreadsheets. The correct type code is now used.

Integrated File System Component Corrections And Updates

- o The maximum stream file size that can be generated has been increased to 256 Gig from 2 Gig.
- o Functions and parameters to allow the specification of additional object attributes at stream file creation time have been added. These are the attributes of the CHGATR command.
- o Added zero suppressing binary data type processing for path resolution.

Mail Set Up Corrections And Updates

- o When DSPMAILLOG command fails, clean up code was removing wrong message making it hard to diagnose problems.
- The Verify/Set Up Local SMTP (VFYLOCAL) command's Internet Gateway processing has been made optional for the products that include it. This is for backward compatibility. The processing is removed from most products.

Program Distribution Corrections And Updates

 Product installation preserves any product job descriptions when a new release is installed over an old release in order to preserve any customer changes. This caused the CHKPRDOPT command and the Verify that Excel-erator is installed correctly menu option to show a failure. The product exit program has been changed to allow job descriptions from an old release to be honored as "present".

Send Mail Component Corrections And Updates

- An error in the QtmmSendMail() api causes the second and subsequent sends to fail on systems without a QPRTVALS data area. The error has been papered over and PMR49413 submitted to IBM.
- o Add functions and exports to handle editing and adding object lists to mail message.
- o Email address parser was mishandling domains and routes that contain seldom used but legal characters such as the underscore (_).
- o Add "application/pdf" content type processing for attached files.

- o Text files added as a message are now added using "quoted-printable" encoding resolving a problem with text data that contained decimal points in awkward positions confusing some mail clients.
- *OBS special value was added to the Confirmation of delivery (CFMDEL) parameter. With it, confirmation of delivery is requested as with *YES but the obsolete non-standard "Return-Receipt-To" header field is also included in the message. Some mail user/transport agents understand the obsolete field but don't understand the standard "Disposition-Notification-To" supplied by *YES.
- o Date: is now generated with a single space between the year and the time as recommended by RFC-2822. Previously the i5/OS (OS/400) convention of 2 spaces was used.