

ASCII Import Utility

This note describes the method that other programs can use to add, edit, and delete records to the Names, Cards, LocCard, and UDF tables of the WinDSX software.

1. The DB.EXE program on the comm server PC watches for ^IMP##.TXT files by checking the directory where the shared database is located once every 15 seconds. If a ^IMP##.TXT file exist it is executed and then deleted.

2. Command Rules:

- All commands are single character
- Command characters are case insensitive
- Commands must appear as the 1st non-space character in the line
- Any line whose first non-space character is not a recognized command is ignored
- Any command requiring additional fields must have one space between each field of the command.

3. Commands:

I ID Command.

Contains the data used to identify a particular Names record. The ID command marks the beginning of a new set of records. All table commands following an ID command will be associated with the Names record specified by the ID command. There are 3 fields required to identify the Names record. L# defines the location group number. U# defines the number of the UDF field that will be used to identify the Names record. ^ddd^^ indicates the data that will be found in the UDF field specified. These three items allow the program to establish which names record the following table commands will be related to.

Example: I L1 U2 ^dddddd^^ (L1 = LocGrp 1, U2 = UDF 2, ddd = data)

T Table Command.

Identifies the table that the following field commands will be applied to. Valid tables are Names, UDF, Images, and Cards.

Example: T Names

F Field Command.

Identifies a fieldname and data to be applied to that field. Must be a valid field name of the current table.

Example: F LName ^dddddd^^ Date fields must be formatted with a 4 digit year

W Write Command

Used at the end of table field definitions to commit data to the data base.

D Delete Command

Used at the end of table field definitions to delete from the data base.

Example ^IMP###txt file:

I L5 U3 ^123456789^^^	(Associate records with Name in LocGrp 5 with 123456789 in UDF 3)
T Names	(Following field records are for the Names table)
F FName ^Jennifer^^^	(FName field of the Names table is set to Jennifer)
F LName ^Rose^^^	(LName field of the Names table is set to Rose)
F Company ^DSX Access^^^	(Company is set to "DSX Access" company number)
F Visitor ^0^^^	(Visitor is set to False)
F Trace ^1^^^	(Trace is set to True)
F Notes ^These are notes^^^	(String to be stored in the notes field)
W	(Write Names data)
T UDF	(Following field records are for the UDF table)
F UdfNum ^1^^^	(UdfNum is set to 1)
F UdfText ^Some Text^^^	(Text for UdfNum 1 is "Some Text")
W	(Write UDF 1)
T UDF	(Following field records are for the UDF table)
F UdfNum ^2^^^	(UdfNum is set to 2)
F UdfText ^Some More Text^^^	(Text for UdfNum 2 is "Some More Text")
D	(Delete UDF 2)
T Images	(Following field records are for the Images table)
F ImgType ^1^^^	(Image Type is set to 1)
F FileName ^c:\MyPic.jpg^^^	(Import file at "c:\MyPic.jpg" [System will change the file name])
W	(Write Image data)
T Cards	(Following field records are for the Cards table)
F Code ^6347^^^	(Card code is set to 6347)
F PIN ^1234^^^	(PIN is set to 1234)
F StartDate ^04/17/1998^^^	(Start Date is set to 04/17/1998)
F StopDate ^12/31/9999^^^	(Start Date is set to 12/31/9999)
F NumUses ^9999^^^	(NumUses is set to 9999)
F Loc ^5^^^	(Loc is set to 5)
F ACL ^12^^^	(Access Level is set to 12 for location 5)
F OLL ^3^^^	(Output Linking Level is set to 3 for location 5)
W	(Write Card data)

Anytime data is imported through an ASCII file that needs to be downloaded the system will automatically initiate a parameter download to the appropriate locations.

Multiple ^IMP###txt files may exist at the same time differentiated by the ##. Example: there could be 3 files waiting to be read and they would be named ^IMP1.txt, ^IMP2.txt, and ^IMP3.txt. It is advisable to not append data to an existing file but rather create a new file for each new set of data. The system could be in the middle of reading an existing file at the same time that you were appending it. Multiple records may be updated in the same file but you should not try to add to a file once it is created.

The ^IMP###txt files should be placed in the same directory as the shared database.

Deleting a Names record will cause a cascading delete of all UDF and Card records associated with the Names record. To delete an individual UDF or Card record simply issue the ID command and then use the appropriate Table command to identify the UDF or Card followed by the Delete command instead of the Write command.

Table Structures:

Names:

Field Name	Type	Length	Description
LName	String	30	Last Name (Required)
FName	String	30	First Name (Optional)
Company	Integer		Company Number (Optional)
Visitor	Boolean		1 or 0 to indicate true or false (Optional)
Trace	Boolean		1 or 0 to indicate true or false (Optional)
Notes	String	200	Notes to be stored with Name record (Optional)

UDF:

Field Name	Type	Length	Description
UdfNum	Integer		The UDF number that this data is assigned to
UdfText	String	50	The string to be assigned to this UdfNum

Images:

Field Name	Type	Length	Description
ImgType	Integer		The type of image this file is assigned to
FileName	String	50	Path / name of file to import (must be proper format)

Cards:

Field Name	Type	Length	Description
Code	Double	11	Card number (Must be first field defined)
PIN	Long	7	PIN number
StartDate	Date		Date Card will be activated
StopDate	Date		Date Card will be de-activated
CardNum	String	15	Imprinted card number
GTour	Boolean		Guard Tour card. 1 or 0 to indicate true or false
NumUses	Integer	4	Number of card uses allowed. 9999 = unlimited
Notes	String	200	Notes to be stored with card data
Loc	Long		Loc number for Oll and Acl data.
OLL	Integer		Output Linking Level number. 0 = none
ACL	Integer		Access Level number. 0 = Master Access Level.

Using the Delete command on a card number removes the card records from all locations in the location group. To remove a card from a selected location but retain that card number in other locations in the same location group set Loc to the desired location number and the ACL field to – 1 and use the write command.