

WHAT'S NEW AT ROBELLE

APRIL 2022 ISSUE

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We hope this newsletter finds everyone well during these challenging times. Years ago, Robelle took steps to be a virtual company. So regardless of whether we are self isolating or isolate due to various governments. Robelle will be able to do all our business and support operations from any location. To be clear Tammy, Bob and Neil are working as normal. We wish everyone well and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions 604-501-2001 or 289-480-1060 or tammy@robelle.com or neil@robelle.com

Allegro Changes

For the past 30 years, Robelle and Allegro have been linked to the point where we share infrastructure, servers, technology, and a laugh or two. Below are a couple of articles that explain why you may have thought Steve Cooper retired to Poland to start their version of Walmart.

We will miss Steve in his retirement. We are happy to work with Donna on a daily bases as Allegro manages and hosts our Servers, MPE, HP-UX, and Linux. So if you want worry-free system support go to <https://www.allegrosupport.com>.

Cooper announces his retirement

Steve writes: "On February 1, 2022, Allegro Consultants, Inc. will celebrate its 38th birthday and the beginning of a new era. I'll be stepping aside and beginning my retirement. I am pleased to announce that Donna Hofmeister will be taking over as President and I have complete confidence in Donna's ability to lead the company and provide the support and customer service that you have come to expect from us. It has been a pleasure working with all of our clients and employees through the years, and I encourage everyone to stay in touch."

We're becoming AllegroSupport.com

We're changing our Domain Name. Please start using our new domain name, AllegroSupport.com, instead of allegro.com, for all things Allegro from this point on. For example, to reach support, please send e-mail to support@allegrosupport.com. And, our website can be reached at <https://allegrosupport.com>.

Forgotten Commands and Features ~ Suprtool

For the past year I have been tracking some of the features that I am asked about or solutions to problems that customers have forgotten or never new existed.

Heading Fieldnames

While not a Suprtool command, it is a feature that is forgotten about inside STexport. Heading Fieldnames, puts the fieldnames in the first record of an Stexport task and is added by simply putting :

```
HEADING FIELDNAMES
```

In the Stexport task. STexport then takes the fieldnames formats them and writes them as the first record in the output file.

DUP NONE KEYS <DEPTH>

There is an option to specify the depth level of keys to look at in dup none keys.:

```
Get invoices
Sort cust-no
Sort invoice-date,desc
Dup none keys 1
```

This allows you to the latest entry for a given customer to be at the top of the list and is therefore the record that isn't thrown away during a dup none keys process.

String Addition

When writing scripts, I sometimes forget about this feature myself and must remind myself that it exists:

```
Get dataset
Def Poandline,1,10
Ext poandline = po# + line#
```

Forgotten Commands and Features ~ Qedit

For Qedit,

Delete Blank Lines

I think the is one of the top questions that I have been asked how to do in many years of tech support.

```
/delete "~" (pattern)
```

Deletes all blank lines.

TEXT Unnumbered

Pretty certain that this is the most asked question I have answered in my time at Robelle and can be done in two ways. Sometimes, it wasn't specifically an asked question, more along the lines of, I have these pesky numbers in my job stream. Regardless the solution was always, to Text Unnumbered.

```
TQ FILENAME
T FILENAME,UNN
```

Append

The Append command, is often forgotten and in combination of some other commands, gives Qedit the capability to do a lot of things:

Add blank lines to a file

```
Append "~" @
Divide "~"
CQ "~" @
```

Summarize a Report

One common manipulation is to stick the contents of one line onto the end of another based on a value in the first line. The commands to do this are simple:

```
Append "~" "Transaction"
Glue "~"
ch "~" " @
```

Here is the data:

```
qux/lq all
Transaction Date: 20160908
Balance: 1245.85
Transaction Date: 20151213
Balance: 908.54
Transaction Date: 20121221
Balance 125.44
```

Here is the code in action:

```
qux/append "~" "Transaction"
1 Transaction Date: 20160908~
3 Transaction Date: 20151213~
5 Transaction Date: 20121221~
3 lines appended to
qux/glue "~"
1 Transaction Date: 20160908~Balance: 1245.85
3 Transaction Date: 20151213~Balance: 908.54
5 Transaction Date: 20121221~Balance 125.44
3 lines Glue-updated
```

```
qux/ch "~" " @"
1 Transaction Date: 20160908 Balance: 1245.85
3 Transaction Date: 20151213 Balance: 908.54
5 Transaction Date: 20121221 Balance 125.44
3 lines changed
```

The Append command sticks a Tilde on the end of the line, and the glue command, glues the line after the Transaction line onto the end. Tilde is used since it isn't often in normal files, you can look to ensure that the tilde is not in the file with a simple: `ch "~"~" @`, to see if there are any occurrences.

HP3000 Delivering Reports

My career on the HP3000, is entering it's fourth decade and I still always like to find out new ways of doing things. Recently on our own HP 3000, I was asked to provide the mail list for the e-mailing of this newsletter, which is specifically a CSV file, of an extract from our customer database. I had been doing this manually for the last couple of years and decided to automate this and have the file mailed to me directly. Previously we would have used our own Xpress e-mail infrastructure, or worse I would have done manually. However, I had remembered the mail program originally from Telamon, which I had used to deliver our HowMessy reports in the article, Remote DBA. [Remote DBA: We Can Automate Anything \(robelle.com\)](#) Using a combination, of Vesoftware Security/3000, STREAMX, our own software, and the Mail program, I was able to deliver a report to whoever streamed the job. Below is the code in the job stream that allows for the job to send me the attached file.

```
!JOB JLSTMAIL,MGR.MISS;OUTCLASS=LP,1
!COMMENT
!COMMENT ** EMAIL List of Newsletter Users
!COMMENT
!:SETVAR DELIVERTO "{USER_EMAIL}"
!SETVAR DELIVERTO "{DELIVERTO}"
!SUPRTOOL
.
.
.
!MAILTO.CMD EMAILIST,CSV
!EOJ
```

Security/3000 Piece and E-mail Address Storage

Back in the late 80s, I was fortunate to work with Gilles Schipper, who was a Canadian dealer for Vesoftware. I was lucky to learn a lot from Gilles and some other mentors. Using the \$USER-FIELD feature inside Vesoftware, specifically in the SECURECON.DATA.VESOFTWARE file. Specifically, the lines:

```
$USER-FIELD EMAIL "Email:"
$LOGON-EXECUTE "SVARSET ('USER_EMAIL',UF ('EMAIL'))" @.@
```

Once you add these lines you can sign in again and add the EMAIL to the given user.

```
run logon.pub.vesoft,change

SECURITY/CHANGE 30N10511 (c) VESOFT Inc, 1981 03:05060 For help type '?'

Enter user id: @
Enter account: @
Enter session name: neil

R: Redisplay this menu
U: User info (user, account, session)
N: User's real name (now Neil Armstrong)
T: Permitted terminal numbers (now ALL)
D: Permitted logon days of week (now ALL)
H: Permitted logon time of day (now ALL)
M: Menu file name (now NONE [unless a $MENU-FILE is in effect])
EMAIL: Email: (now)
A: Ask SECURITY/3000 passwords? (now Y = YES)
@: Change all SECURITY/3000 passwords (last changed 22/01/18)
1: ENTER PASSWORD:
Which item do you want to change? EMAIL
Email:neil@robelle.com
```

Now, once this is set from here on in every time, the given user logs on to the HP3000, the variable USER_EMAIL is available in the users session. Then, you just need to use streamx, from Vesoft syntax, to take that users variable of USER_EMAIL and make it available to the Jobstream.

To make it explicit, I set the variable using the following two lines. I set the variable using the STREAMX syntax to set the streamx variable of DELIVERTO to the users e-mail, then I use the MPE setvar command to set the DELIVERTO (MPE) variable to the value that Streamx knows.

```
::SETVAR DELIVERTO "{USER_EMAIL}"
!SETVAR DELIVERTO "{DELIVERTO}"
```

If I streamx the job above using this code, the MPE variable will have my address of neil@robelle.com, in the MPE variable DELIVERTO.

Mail Program

Now, the next step was to figure out how to use the Mail program to send the attached file as a CSV file. Unfortunately, I could only get the A.02.25, version of the mail program to send as a .TXT file. This doesn't make it easier for users to click on the attached file and get Excel to start and all the user to manipulate the list.

Luckily, I knew who had the source code and have access to that machine, so after a bit of reading of the source, I realized I was able to allow for .CSV files and .PDF files to be attached and made the changes.

Mail Command Files

The MAILTO command file looks like this:

```

PARM afl="" type="CSV"
SETVAR MAILSMTPHOST "MAIL.EMAILDOMAIN.COM"
SETVAR MAILFROM "HP3000@EMAILDOMAIN.COM"
SETVAR MAILTO "!DELIVERTO"
SETVAR MAILSUBJECT "Report from Job Stream !HPJOBNAME"
SETVAR TZ,'PST8PDT'
IF "!type" = "CSV" then
    SETVAR MOPTIONS "-ac"
ENDIF
IF "!type" = "TXT" then
    SETVAR MOPTIONS "-ao"
ENDIF
purge qeditscr,temp >>$NULL
RUN QEDIT.PUB.ROBHOME;PARAM=8;INFO="UQ PREPTEMP.CMD.ROBOPS" >>$NULL
SETVAR MAILOPTIONS "!MOPTIONS !afl -m MAILMSG"
RUN MAIL228.PUB.ALLEGRO;INFO="!MAILOPTIONS"

```

Preptemp.cmd Command File

The PREPTEMP.CMD.ROBOPS file is a series of commands that take a text file template and puts in useful information in the e-mail message with the attached file. You can customize this however, you want to get the information that you need. We just have placeholders in the Template file that you change with variables available for the job that is being streamed.

```

SET VARSUB ON
PURGE MAILMSG,TEMP
TQ TEMPLATE.CMD.ROBOPS
CH "MAILTO"!MAILTO" @
CH "DATE"!HPYYYYMMDD" @
CH "TIME"!HPTIMEF" @
CH "JOBNAME"!HPJOBNAME" @
CH "USER"!HPUSER" @
CH "ACCOUNT"!HPACCOUNT" @
CH "GROUP"!HPGROUP" @
CH "STREAMEDBY"!HPSTREAMEDBY" @
KQ MAILMSG,TEMP
EXIT

```

Template File

Template File is just a text file and mine looks like this. You can make it look like anything you wish, you just have to make the Template items you want to display in the order that you want, and the PREPTEMP.CMD command file, changes to the values accordingly.

Robelle Email Report

From: HP3000@MYEMAILDOMAIN.COM
 To : MAILTO
 Date: DATE TIME

Jobname : JOBNAME,USER.ACCOUNT,GROUP
 Streamedby : STREAMEDBY

Robelle Book Club

As you are aware we Robellians like to read, especially during these challenging times. We also enjoy a good TV show and movies.

[Download ebooks for Free by Bob Green:](#)

The most famous site for free out-of-copyright ebooks is Gutenberg.org. I prefer the Canadian website FadedPage.com, and it's easier to use! The home page shows ALL new additions and the most recent user downloads. I have downloaded 54 books and read about twenty ebooks, including The Thin Man, The Maltese Falcon, The Importance of Being Ernest, Poirot Investigates. I download the ebooks in EPUB format. Read the ebooks on my Kindle with the MREADER app or on my android phone with the Readera app.

So far, my favorite book is "The African Queen" by CS Forester. I loved the 1951 movie with Humphrey Bogart and Katherine Hepburn, so I finally read the book. After the Germans destroy her mission in Africa and kill her brother, a spinster missionary escapes in a broken-down river steamer with its dissolute captain, adventure and heroism ensue. A highly recommended read.

Non-Fiction books by Tammy Roscoe

My preferred choice of books is usually fiction. To my great surprise, recently, I have been reading non-fiction/biographies. New style of biographies is short story chapters that are not in chronological order. I enjoyed Born a Crime by Trevor Noah, The Story Teller: Tales of the Life and Music by Dave Grohl, and for foodies Taste: My Life through Food by Stanley Tucci. Researching online book recommendations Open Book by Jessica Simpson was often listed. I borrowed an audiobook from the library out of curiosity as I'm not a fan of Jessica. I was pleasantly surprised by how interesting the book is and how honest she was about her struggles.

Here are two Fiction books I have enjoyed: Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger; this quiet book has lots of layers of two brothers who grew up over a summer in 1961 due to deaths: accident, nature, suicide & murder. The Sister's Tale by Beth Powning, the story of Ship Captain widow and English pauper children, takes place in 1887 to 1880 in New Brunswick. Important history events weaved into the story. I enjoyed learning Canadian history that I had no idea existed

Slaying the Badger by Richard Moore (Review by Neil Armstrong)

Slaying the Badger, is the story of the epic battle between two diametrically opposed team mates battling for the 1986 Tour de France. The young non-traditional extremely talented American Greg Lemond vs the Patron of the Peleton and five time Tour de France winner, Bernard Hinault.

In 1985, Lemond had helped and sacrificed his chances and played a super domestique role in helping Hinault win his record tying, fifth Tour de France, who also had a broken nose sustained in a crash in Stage 14.

On the notion of a public promise made in 1985, Lemond was expecting Hinault to help him to win his first Tour de France in the 1986 edition. The book unravels, the in's and out of the drama behind the scenes of the powerful French cycling team La Vie Claire owned by Bernard Tapie, who is a character in his own right.

The book was written by the late Richard Moore, who sadly passed on March 28th, 2022. I decided to pull it off my shelf again and read it again in honour of Richard this past month. I highly recommend this book to anyone, even if you aren't a rabid cycling fan like myself.

Richard Moore, has several other sport oriented books, including a biography of Usain Bolt and a book on the 1988 Olympic 100m final, which are easy and intriguing reads.

We are always looking for book or TV shows or movie recommendations. Send your recommendations to tammy@robelle.com

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