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PARIS DEFINE



## PARIS Define

Designed for new applications, where data exists as a database and not as print files. PARIS Define is ideal for preparing CSV or fixed length database records into PARIS-ready text files to enable the maximum flexibility in document design. The power to combine multiple data files, of various types, from different locations is now made possible.

While it is still very common for computer systems to output plain "Line Printer" text for standard applications such as invoices and statements the same may not be said for newer CSV applications. Quite often the process of generating line printer output for new applications may be prohibitive in time and cost. The optional PARIS Define module allows users to work directly with data in the common CSV (flat file) format, thereby not requiring an interim line printer conversion. The module consists of three parts.

### How It Works (3 Parts)

#### Input File Definition

The Input File Definition allows a user to define the structure of the database. PARIS Define supports any field delimiter, as well text qualifiers (either single or double quotes) as well as support fixed length field formats. The module also supports files where the first record contains field names, this is particularly useful during the Output File Definition process as it saves having to specify field names.

#### Output File Definition

File Definition. The Output File Definition determines the format of the data as it will appear to the PARIS Spooler and allows you to simply map the input, onto the output.

During the mapping process, the user can see the data that is being selected and mapped. Some of the options available are:

- Click and drag from the input database to the required position in the output file
- Search and replace on characters or entire fields
- Insert new text
- Convert EBCDIC to ASCII
- Building lines from multiple input records, missing fields are compensated
- Addition of literal character strings
- Insertion of vertical control characters (PCC Bytes)
- Vertical justification of lines so that blank lines are eliminated
- Strip values from the file
- Upper / Lower case conversion
- Removal of unwanted spaces
- Absolute placement

The result is an optimized file, easily integrated into PARIS Designer and PARIS Spooler.

#### Runtime

The input and output definitions may then be used in two ways.

- Standalone
- Document Output Pre-process

In both cases, a file will be created automatically corresponding to the associated input and output definitions.

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