

z/OS V1R13

z/OS UNIX shells and utilities: Add option on vi to edit ASCII files

Session objectives

- Introduce the features and benefits of the new z/OS UNIX Shells and Utilities support for editing ASCII files.

Overview

▪ Problem atatement

- As a z/OS UNIX shells and utilities user, I want manual control of the text conversion status of files that I edit or browse using the **vi** and **ex** editors.

▪ Solution

- New **-W filecodeset=codeset,pgmcodeset=codeset** option on the **vi** and **ex** editors to enable text conversion
- New **-B** option on the **vi** and **ex** editors to disable automatic text conversion – this is consistent with other commands that already have this override support

▪ Benefits

- More detailed control of text conversion
 - No file tagging required
 - No environment or system setup required
- Easily override the system's automatic text conversion

Usage and invocation

- New **-W option[,option]...** option added to the **vi** and **ex** commands
Specifies z/OS-specific options. The option keywords are case sensitive. Possible options are: **filecodeset=codeset** and **pgmcodeset=codeset**
- New **-B** option added to the **vi** and **ex** commands
Disables the automatic text conversion of tagged files. This option is ignored if the **filecodeset** or **pgmcodeset** options (**-W** option) are specified.
- New **-W filecodeset=codeset** option details
Performs text conversion from one code set to another when reading from or writing to the file. The code set of the file is *codeset*. The **filecodeset** and **pgmcodeset** options can be used on files with any file tag. *codeset* can be a character code set name known to the system or a numeric coded character set identifier (CCSID).
If **pgmcodeset** is specified but **filecodeset** is omitted, then the default file code set is ISO8859-1, even if the file is tagged with a different code set.
Restriction: The only supported values for **filecodeset** are ISO8859-1 and 819.
- New **-W pgmcodeset=codeset** option similar to the **filecodeset=codeset** option except for the following:
 - Represents the editor program's code set
 - Default program code set is IBM-1047
 - Only supported values for **pgmcodeset** are IBM-1047 and 1047
- Note the following precedence rules:
 - The **-W filecodeset=codeset,pgmcodeset=codeset** option overrides the **-B** option and the system's automatic text conversion
 - The **-B** option disables the system's automatic text conversion
 - If the **-W filecodeset=codeset,pgmcodeset=codeset** and **-B** options aren't specified then the system's automatic text conversion rules apply
- The **vi** and **ex -r** option (i.e. recover) must use the same text conversion options to ensure proper file recovery
- Refer to z/OS 1.13 UNIX System Services Command Reference for the full technical specifications
- **Example #1:** To edit or browse a file containing ASCII characters using the **vi** editor, assuming that: (1) the file is untagged and you do not want to tag it or enable automatic text conversion, and (2) you cannot alter the tag (for example, you are browsing an untagged public file or a read-only file) issue:

```
vi -W filecodeset=ISO8859-1,pgmcodeset=IBM-1047 myAsciiFile
```
- **Example #2:** To edit or browse a file containing EBCDIC characters using the **ex** editor, assuming that AUTOCVT has been enabled but the file is incorrectly tagged as ASCII, issue:

```
ex -B myMisTaggedFile
```

Interactions and dependencies

- None

Migration and coexistence considerations

- None

Installation

- None

Session summary

- **vi** and **ex** now provide more detailed control of text conversion to assist z/OS UNIX shells and utilities users when editing ASCII files

Appendix - References

- See z/OS 1.13 UNIX System Services Command Reference for the **vi** and **ex** command updates (SA22-7802)