

Replace Filter

Introduction

This filter is used to modify FormTrap input or output. Data to change is recognised by a character string, with optional replacement of that character string. To delete, use "" as the empty replace string.

Components

There are two components to the filter:

1. **replace.exe** – the executable program
2. **replace.ini** – stores character sequences to be identified and replaced and must be in the same directory as the program.

Both are normally in the same %ftinst% folder.

Format of replace.ini

replace.ini is built in sections. Sections are set up in the following format:

```
[section]
"old_string" "new_string" <all/first>
```

Where

- **section** is a name to identify this operation;
- **"old string"** is the string to be replaced;
- **"new string"** is the replacement; and
- **<all/first>** defines whether the replacement should occur on only the first instance or all instances of the string in the file.

For example, a section to insert output bin 2 is shown below. This inserts the command prior to the "@PJL COMMENT" line:

```
[OutputBin2Normal]
"@PJL COMMENT" "@PJL SET OUTBIN=OPTIONALOUTBIN2\0D\0A@PJL SET
FINISH=NONE\0D\0A@PJL COMMENT" First (all on one line)
```

Special Characters:

Unprintable characters (eg. escape, form feed) are represented by using a backslash "\" character followed by the ASCII representation of the character in hexadecimal format. For example, the escape character is represented as "\1b" – any case for characters a-f (A-F).

Multiple "old string" "new string" "all/first" lines may be provided and are inspected in the order given. Already processed replacement string are NOT reinspected.

Usage – Command Line

Command line is the norm for Unix and may be used for Windows outside of the normal Spooler procedure (you can use "replace" on any file). The filter takes three parameters:

input file
output file
section name.

For example:

```
replace "c:\files\input.pcl" "c:\formtrap\output.pcl" short
```

Installation within Spooler V7 via Setup

This is the norm for the replace filter, where each Section is a different filter within Setup, as either an External Input or Post Formatting filter. Please see the manual from FTClient by selecting FormTrap Spooler, **Setup, Filters**, then press F1 for details.

[Note: This software is supplied with three month warranty, with no ongoing support or charges. It is designed for single-byte encoding systems only.](#)

Version 7/8 Spooler Installation, SBE and Enterprise:

Copy **replace.exe** and **replace.ini** to the %ftinst folder (you can get the location from Spooler, **Setup, Core Components**).

Define each different required Section in Setup, Filters (see the manual page via F1 and below) and invoke using the Data Folders, Filters tab in one of the four places provided.

This is the Setup Filters screen for the filter to output to Bin 2, Normal for the HP 9040 with HP Q5693A 8-bin mailbox attached. Note that the file parameters are replaced with hyphen.

