HEWLETT-PACKARD

MS-DOS®

Multiple Character Set
Utilities User's Guide

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Multiple Character Set (MCS) Utilities
User's Guide

HEWLETT PACKARD

Contents

Multiple Character Set (MCS) Basics

Do You Need MCS?

MCS translates **character sets.** MCS cannot translate **languages.**

A character set is a group of coded characters. Each character has a different combination of bits that represent letters and numbers to a computer.

Why do character sets need translation? Translation is needed because various computer models and printers use different character sets. For instance:

Your HP Vectra computer uses the PC-8 character set.

Some HP printers, the HP 150, and the HP 3000 computers use the Roman8 character set, and not PC-8. HP printers using the Roman8 (and not PC-8) character set include the QuietJet and ThinkJet families, PaintJet, and some LaserJet and Daisywheel models which are listed later in this chapter.

```
              PC-8      ROMAN 8

   ú          163        199

   È          N/A        163

   Ö          148        206
```

Figure 1-1. Characters Have Different ASCII Values

An ASCII value may have different meanings in different character sets. For example, the character ú has an ASCII value of 163 in your computer's PC-8 character set. In the HP Printer's Roman8 set, 163 is an accented E. So, the HP printer prints the accented E character instead of ú.

The MCS Utilities understand these character set differences. When properly configured, MCS converts your computer's ASCII value of ú (163 in PC-8) to the HP printer's ASCII value of ú (199 in Roman8). So, when your computer types a ú, the printer prints a ú.

You need to install MCS if you want to:

1. Print files containing **extended** characters on HP PCL or Daisywheel printers which do not support the PC-8 character set. Extended characters are international (é, ö), math, and line drawing characters. **HP PCL printer** refers to HP printers that understand Printer Control Language. PCL printers that require MCS and are used with the Print Translate Utility include:

- ThinkJet family
- LaserJet, LaserJet PLUS, and LaserJet 500 (MCS is not needed for LaserJet Series II, Series IID, LaserJet 2000 and all later LaserJet models)
- QuietJet family
- PaintJet
- 2601, 2602, and 2603 Daisywheel

Note	All DeskJet and RuggedWriter models and other HP printer families not mentioned above do not require MCS.

2. Print files containing extended characters on a printer (which does not support the PC-8 character set) connected to an HP OfficeShare Network.

3. Translate the extended characters in ASCII (unformatted) files. For example, MCS allows you to use your Vectra ASCII files containing extended characters on an HP 150, or an HP 3000 ASCII file with extended characters on your Vectra.

Before using MCS, you must be familiar with your computer and the MS-DOS commands.

MCS Utilities

MCS consists of two utilities. When you install MCS, you decide which utility you need for your computer.

File Translate Utility

The File Translate Utility is like the MS-DOS COPY command in that it copies a file from one disk or directory to another. While File Translate copies the file, it also translates the file's character set according to your specifications. This utility can be used on a stand-alone computer or on a network.

For example, the File Translate Utility allows you to use an HP 150 or HP 3000 ASCII file containing extended characters on your Vectra computer. You

can also use your Vectra computer files containing these characters on an HP
150 or HP 3000. Your ASCII file **must not** contain formatting or control codes.
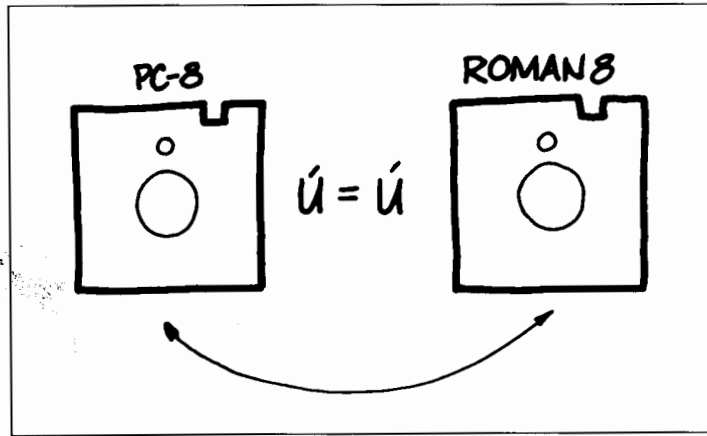
Figure 1-2. File Translate Utility Translates Characters in Files

Figure 1-2 describes the operation of the File Translate Utility. For example, you have an HP 150 ASCII file with characters such as ú or ö that you want to use on your computer. The File Translate Utility translates ú and ö from the HP 150's Roman8 character set to your computer's PC-8 character set. Now the file can be used on your computer.

When you translate a file, you must also provide a way to transfer the file between your computer and the HP 150 or HP 3000. Some ways to transfer files are:

- Use the HP OfficeShare Family of Networking Products
- Use AdvanceLink on the HP 3000
- Use media transfer

Print Translate Utility

The Print Translate Utility configures your computer to automatically translate text from the character set of your computer to the character set of your printer. Your printer can be a local printer (connected directly to your computer) or a printer connected to one of the HP OfficeShare Family of Networking Products (version B.00.02).

You can use the Print Translate Utility to configure a maximum of four local and network printers combined. Each printer must be an HP PCL printer or an HP Daisywheel printer.

The Print Translate Utility operates the same way with either a local printer or a network printer. For example, if you want to print a report from your computer (PC-8 Character Set) on a ThinkJet printer (Roman8 Character Set), and the report contains the characters ú, ø, and ß, the Print Translate

Utility will translate the characters as it prints your report. The characters ú, ø, and ß will be printed correctly.
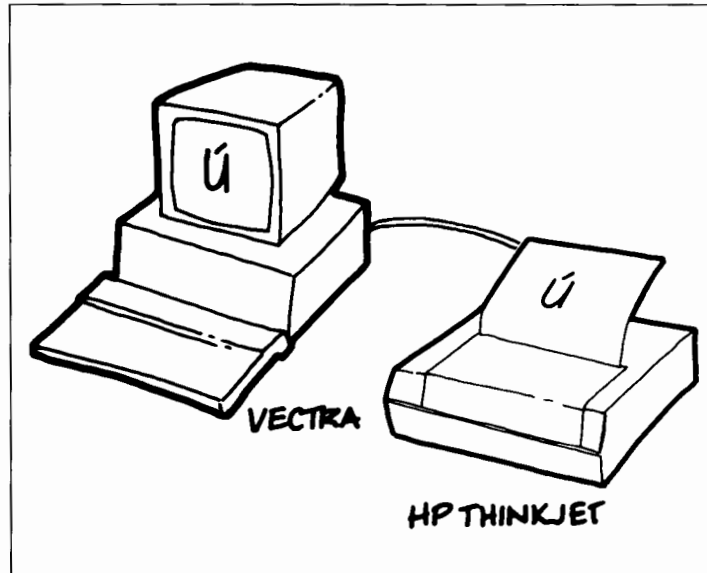
Figure 1-3. Print Translate Utility with a Local Printer

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Installing MCS Utilities

In this chapter you learn how to use the INSTALL procedure.

To install and use the MCS Utilities your Vectra should have:

1. Two flexible disk drives or one flexible and one hard disk drive.

2. At least 256 KB of available memory.

3. MS-DOS version 4.0 or later.

After you finish the INSTALL procedure, MCS is available every time you start your computer.

The section "INSTALL Configuration" at the end of this chapter lists the settings for each utility selected during INSTALL. If you wish to change the default settings, refer to the chapter on each utility.

Before You Start

Read this section before you install the MCS Utilities.

INSTALL Modifies AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS Files

INSTALL modifies your AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files or automatically adds these files to your computer if they did not exist before.

Make sure the work disk where you plan to install MCS has enough room to contain these modified files. If you plan to install MCS on a flexible disk, you will need at least 40,000 bytes (40 KB) of disk space memory.

Printers

If you plan to use MCS with a printer, you need to make sure your printer is operating correctly before you install MCS.

Note	If you are upgrading from MS-DOS version 3.3 to 4.0, use the DOS 4.0 "GRAPHICS" command for screen dumps. The "PSCREEN" command is no longer used.

For Local Printers

You need to know which parallel or serial port your printer(s) are connected to.

For Network Printers

Before you start, make sure the network is currently loaded on your personal computer. If the network is not loaded, talk with your network manager or refer to the individual network's Workstation Installation and Configuration Guide for PCs.

Make sure you know the network shortname(s) used to identify your printer. You also must know the drive identification and path where your OfficeShare Network USER MASTER software is stored.

Note	The INSTALL procedure assumes you are using an HP OfficeShare Family of Networking Products including HP StarLAN, HP SERIAL or HP ThinLAN.

Installing MCS

Follow the procedure for your computer that is described below.

If You Start MS-DOS From a Hard Disk

Follow these steps:

1. Turn on your computer.

2. Make sure that the MS-DOS prompt appears on your screen.

3. Insert Operating2 disk in Drive A:.

4. Change the MS-DOS prompt to Drive A:. To do this, type:

   A:

   Press (Enter).

5. Change to the MCS directory. To do this, type:

   CD \MCS

   Press (Enter).

6. At the prompt **A:\MCS>**, type:

   INSTALL Press (Enter).

7. An introductory message is displayed. After reading it, press (Enter) to continue with the installation.

8. A message on your screen prompts you to enter the drive designator where you plan to install the MCS Utilities.

Follow the instructions on your screen. When you are prompted to select utilities, refer to the section "Explanation of Install Screens" in this chapter to help you decide which utilities to select.

If You Start MS-DOS From a Flexible Disk

Follow these steps:

1. Put your Startup work disk in Drive A: and turn on your computer.

2. Make sure that the MS-DOS prompt appears on your screen.

3. Use the MS-DOS DIR command to check space available on your Startup work disk. You need at least 40,000 bytes free to install MCS on your Startup disk. If you need more space, you can:

   ■ Remove unnecessary files from your Startup disk.

   OR,

   ■ Use the following command on a blank disk to make a new Startup work disk to use with MCS. Replace *drive* with the appropriate drive letter:

   FORMAT *drive:* /S

Note	If you make a new Startup work disk to install MCS, make sure you start your computer from this disk whenever you use MCS. Refer to the *MS-DOS User's Reference* for more information on the FORMAT command.

---

4. Remove the Startup work disk and keep it nearby. Insert Operating2 disk into Drive A:.

5. Insert the Startup disk to be used with MCS in Drive B:. If your computer only has one drive, put the Startup disk in Drive A: when prompted for Drive B: by your computer.

6. Change to the MCS directory. To do this, type **CD \MCS** and press (Enter).

7. At the prompt A:>, type **INSTALL** and press (Enter).

8. An introductory message is displayed. After reading it, press (Enter) to continue with the installation.

9. A message on your screen prompts you to enter the drive designator of the disk where you plan to install the MCS Utilities.

Follow the instructions on your screen. When you are prompted to select utilities, refer to the section "Explanation of Install Screens" in this chapter to help you decide which utilities to select.

Explanation of INSTALL Screens

Follow the instructions on your screens to install the MCS Utilities. If you need further explanation, refer to the information in this section. The information is listed by the screen title.

"Installation Information" Screen

After you've told MCS install the drive and path where you want MCS to be installed, you will be offered either of the following two utilities:

   Utility 1: File Translate

   Utility 2: Print Translate

Press (Enter) to continue with the installation, or (Esc) to abort it.

Note	Some printers provide several character sets and therefore print extended characters correctly. If your printer already prints extended characters correctly, the Print Translate Utility may not be needed.

"Utility 1: File Translate" Screen

A message on your screen asks if you want to install the File Translate Utility. Enter Y or N.

"Utility 2: Print Translate" Screen

A message on your screen asks if you want to install the Print Translate Utility. Enter Y or N.

"Task 1: Instructions" Screen

You see this screen after you select the Print Translate Utility. (If you did not select the Print Translate Utility, follow the messages on your screen to finish the INSTALL program.)

To install the Print Translate Utility, you complete two tasks.

Your first task is to select a small number of translations (working set) from a large list of available translations. The working set contains the character set translations that you want to use on the data you send to your printer(s). These are the translations you want for everyday use.

Determine Character Sets

You need to know a source character set and a destination character set for each translation.

■ The source character set is determined by the computer or application that generated the data you want to translate.

■ The destination character set is determined by a local or network printer in your system.

Table 2-1. Character Sets of Some Computers and Printers

Character Set	Computer or Printer
PC-8	HP Vectra and other IBM PC compatibles
Roman8	HP PCL printers*
	HP Daisywheel printers*
* Character set may differ depending on mode, cartridge or daisy wheel.	

Select Translations

Select all the character set translations that you intend to use frequently on text that you send from your computer to HP printers.

■ Select as many translations as you need. To select or remove a translation, move the highlight to that translation and press the space bar.

■ Select from the translations that lists your printer. If a printer is not listed, select a translation where the destination matches the printer's character set.

For example, you see two sets of translations:

PC-8—> Roman8

PC-8—> LaserJet

If you have a LaserJet, select the translation that says "PC-8—> LaserJet."

The translations you choose are stored in memory and are available when you want to assign a translation to a printer.

"Task 2: Printer Information" Screen

Your second task is to configure the printers in your system. Follow the instructions on your screen. If you need help, refer to the screen titles listed in this chapter.

"Step 1: Choose a Printer" Screen

Select a **local printer** or a **network printer** to set up. If you have more than one printer in your system, this screen will be repeated later. If you select a network printer, the computer will ask you to ensure that you have updated to the appropriate version of the OfficeShare Network USER MASTER software for your installed operating system.

"Step 2: Printer Ports" Screen (for Local Printers Only)

Enter the parallel or serial port that your printer is connected to. We recommend that you select a parallel or serial port. Selecting OTHER allows you to select from a list of MS-DOS logical devices which are only used in special applications.

"Step 2: Network Printer Name" Screen (for Network Printers Only)

Check with your network manager to determine the shortname used to identify your network printer. Enter the network server and the shortname like this:

\\SERVER\ *shortname*

"Step 3: Select a Translation" Screen

Your working set of translations that you selected earlier appears on your screen. Select the translation that includes your printer.

INSTALL assigns **one** character set translation for each printer in your system. If you want to use **more than one** translation per printer, assign your most frequently used character set translation now. Later, you can temporarily assign another translation using the PRNTRAN command.

"Printer Control Mode" Screen

Usually, the printer control mode is automatically assigned and you will not see this screen. The Printer Control Mode allows MCS to translate text characters without translating the printer escape sequences and control codes.

If you see this screen, follow these instructions:

Select PCL for the following printers:

- ThinkJet family
- LaserJet, LaserJet PLUS, and LaserJet 500 (MCS is not needed for LaserJet Series II, Series IID, LaserJet 2000 and all later LaserJet models)
- QuietJet family
- PaintJet
- 2602 Daisywheel

Select DW for 2601 and 2603 Daisywheel printers.

If you select NONE, MCS translates all the characters including the escape sequences and control codes.

"Step 4: Print Translate ON/OFF" Screen

Select Y for Translation ON if you want character set translation for most of the data you send to this printer. You can still temporarily turn Translation OFF to this printer by using the PRNTRAN command.

Select N for Translation OFF if you rarely need character set translation. You can still temporarily turn Translation ON to this printer by using the PRNTRAN command.

"Step 5: Verify Information" Screen

Determine whether the information is correct or not. If the information is incorrect, you are prompted to go back to Step 1 and change the information.

"Step 6: Another Printer?" Screen

Select whether you want to set up another printer. You can set up a maximum of four printers.

"Update Your System Files" Screen

Do you start MS-DOS from a hard disk?

- If **yes**, press (Enter) now.

- If **no**, make sure your MS-DOS Disk is in Drive B:. Press (Enter) now.

When the updating of your system files is complete, you will see this message:

SYSTEM FILES HAVE BEEN UPDATED

Press (Enter) to continue.

"Network Printers" Screen

You will see this screen only if you did not configure a network printer. Select Y or N.

"Update Your Network Software" Screen

You will see this screen only if you have configured a network printer or answered Y on the Network Printers screen. Enter the drive identification and path where the USER MASTER software is stored.

"Completing MCS Installation" Screen

You see this screen when you are finished with the INSTALL procedure. Remove Operating2 disk and put it in a safe place.

If you do not have a hard disk, put your work disk with the MCS utilities in Drive A:. (Or, if you have a hard disk, make sure Drive A: is empty).

Restart your computer by holding down (Ctrl), and pressing (Alt) and (Del) at the same time. The MCS Utilities you selected are now ready to use.

INSTALL Configuration

Here is a list of the settings assigned to each utility during the INSTALL procedure. If you need to change the settings, refer to the chapter on each utility.

Configuration for File Translate Utility

The File Translate Utility does not contain any default settings. All information is specified directly in the FILETRAN command.

Configuration for the Print Translate Utility

- Translation ON or OFF: Specified by user

- Character Set Translation: Specified by user

- Printer Control Mode: PCL or DW specified by translation

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Using the File Translate Utility

Before you continue, make sure you installed the File Translate Utility. See the chapter "Installing MCS Utilities." To use the File Translate Utility, you must do three tasks. The next sections describe each of the tasks.

Task 1: Convert to an ASCII File

The File Translate Utility only works on ASCII files. Since the File Translate Utility translates all the characters in a file, you must remove all the formatting or control codes from your source file to make an ASCII file. An ASCII file contains only text or data.

For example: To remove the formatting commands from a word processing program, you must remove all the special codes for italics, boldface, margin settings, tabs, etc.

If you do not remove these codes, your translated version may not be the same as the original file.

Many applications provide a function for removing the formatting codes. Refer to the instructions that come with your application.

Note	Some applications cannot remove all the formatting or control codes to produce an ASCII file. The File Translate Utility cannot be used with files produced by these applications.

Task 2: Determine Character Sets

Your second task is to determine the character sets for the translation. When you use the FILETRAN command, you must specify two character sets in the command line:

- The character set of your source file

- The character set you want for your destination file

Determine Source File Character Set

In most cases, your source file's character set will be the same as the **computer that made your file.**

Some character set identities are listed below:

Table 3-1. Character Sets of some Computer Models

Character Set	Computer
PC-8	Vectra
Roman8	HP 150
	HP 3000

Determine Destination File Character Set

Your destination character set is the same as the **computer which uses the destination file.**

See the table above to help you select a destination character set.

Note	The computer you are using to run the File Translate Utility can have a different character set than your source and destination character set.
	For example, you can use your computer (PC-8) to translate a file with an ECMA-94 source character set to a Roman8 destination character set.

Once you determine the character sets, and you convert your source file to an ASCII file, you are ready to translate files using the FILETRAN command.

Task 3: Translate Files

The next section describes the FILETRAN command syntax, and the following section "Select Options" describes two ways to specify character set translations in the FILETRAN command. Review these two sections before you read the section "Translate Files: Examples."

FILETRAN Command

The FILETRAN command translates an ASCII source file from one character set to another. The translated version is saved as the destination file.

The FILETRAN command and the options can be typed in uppercase or lowercase letters. You can use either a comma or a space between file names.

In the command syntax below, words and parameters in CAPS should be typed as shown, parameters in blue are optional, and italics indicates variables.

The syntax for the FILETRAN command is:

   drive:path **FILETRAN** *sfile,dfile* **/T***source:destination* **/N***n* **/F***table* **/L**

Option	Description
drive:	the drive that contains the MCS Utilities
path	the path to the MCS Utilities
sfile	the source file to be translated
dfile	the destination file which is the translated version of the source file
/T	specifies the file translation using the **names** of the source and destination character set
source	the source character set name
destination	the destination character set name
/N*n*	specifies the file translation using the number *n* as displayed by the /L option
/F*table*	specifies an optional external file that contains additional translation tables
/L	lists the Available File Translation Tables to your screen

Display FILETRAN Help Screen

This command displays the FILETRAN command syntax and a brief description of each of the options. Type this command:

    FILETRAN

Press (Enter).

The command syntax and descriptions of the options appear on your screen.

Select Options

The options of the File Translate Utility allow you to:

1. List all the available translations to your screen with the /L option.

2. Select between two options to specify a translation. You can either:

   ■ Use the /N option to specify the Set# of the translation from the Available File Translation Tables.

   OR

   ■ Use the /T option to specify the translation by the names of the source and destination character set.

   You CANNOT use both the /N and the /T option in the same FILETRAN command. The following sections describe these options.

3. Specify translations from an external table (if you are supplied with an external table). The section "Specify Translations from an External Table with the /F Option" describes this option.

/L Option: List Available File Translation Tables

The /L Option lists all the available translations from the Available File Translation Tables.

You must specify translations from this table in the FILETRAN command line.

To list the Available File Translation Tables to your screen, type this command and press (Enter):

```
FILETRAN /L
```

The Available File Translation Tables appears on your screen. This is an example of what you might see:

```
            Available File Translation Tables

  Set#      Source                  Destination

   1        PC-8          -->       ROMAN8
   2        ROMAN8        -->       PC-8
```

/N Option: Specify Translation by Number

You can also specify the translation by entering /N and the translation Set# from the Available File Translation Tables. Use the /L option to list the Available File Translation Tables.

To use the /N option, follow these steps:

1. Select a translation from the Available File Translation Tables (see the example of the table in the "/L Option" section).

2. Enter the Set# for the translation after the /N option in the FILETRAN command, like this:

    FILETRAN *sfile,dfile* **/N2**

In this example, the File Translate Utility uses translation #2, so the translation specified is Roman8 to PC-8.

/T Option: Specify Translation by Character Set Name

You can specify the translation by entering /T and the name of the source and destination character set from the Available File Translation Tables. Use the /L option to list the Available File Translation Tables.

This is an example of the FILETRAN command using the /T option to specify the character set translation by name:

    FILETRAN *sfile,dfile* **/**TRoman8:PC-8

Translate Files: Examples

Now that you reviewed the FILETRAN command and its options, let's look at some examples of how to translate a file. All the examples have an HP 150 file with the file name "Report" that contains the characters ñ and é. You want to rename the file "Report2" and use it on your computer. Therefore, you will use the translation Roman8:PC-8 (Set #2).

Notes on Translating Files

The following notes apply to the examples which follow:

1. When you type the FILETRAN command as shown in the following examples, make sure you type the drive and/or path so that FILETRAN can be found.

2. If you do not specify a drive designator for the source and destination file, FILETRAN will look on the active drive for the file.

3. If you have a computer with two flexible disk drives, the Operating2 disk must remain in the drive while you run the FILETRAN command.

Example 1

A coworker has given you an HP 150 PC ASCII file. You need to translate the file so you can use it on your HP Vectra PC. The following steps describe how to translate a file from a flexible disk onto a hard disk using the example file Report.

1. Convert Report to an ASCII file.

2. Insert the disk containing Report in Drive A:.

3. Enter the FILETRAN command using either the /N or /T option to specify the translation:

   `FILETRAN A:Report,C:Report2 /TRoman8:PC-8`

   OR

   `FILETRAN A:Report,C:Report2 /N2`

FILETRAN now translates the characters, including ñ and é from the Roman8 character set of the HP 150 to the PC-8 character set of your computer. Your hard disk now contains the translated file Report2.

Example 2

This example shows how to translate a file from a hard disk onto a flexible disk. If the source file, Report, is located in the DOC subdirectory on your hard disk, type this command and press (Enter):

```
FILETRAN C:\DOC\Report A:Report2 /N2
```

Example 3

If you want to use the same file name for both the source and destination file, you need to **type the file name twice.** Just typing the drive designator for the destination file will not work. Type this command and press (Enter):

```
FILETRAN A:Report,C:Report /N2
```

Example 4

If you want the destination file to go on the same disk as the source file, enter a command with the same format as this example:

```
FILETRAN A:Report,A:Report2 /N2
```

Now you have the same text in two different character sets on the same disk.

Caution	If you specify the same file name on the same disk for both the source and destination file, make sure you do not need your source file. MCS will replace the source file with the translated version, so the contents in your original source file will be lost.

Translating Files With Unique Characters

All character sets contain some unique characters that cannot be found in other character sets. Sometimes, a character in your source character set may not exist in the destination character set. In Figure 3-1, File Translate selects a character from the destination set (Roman8) that resembles the character from the source character set (PC-8).

If you reverse the process, and translate the Roman8 set back to PC-8, File Translate will again select the character from the PC-8 set that resembles the Roman8 character. Note that this new PC-8 character can be different from your original PC-8 character.
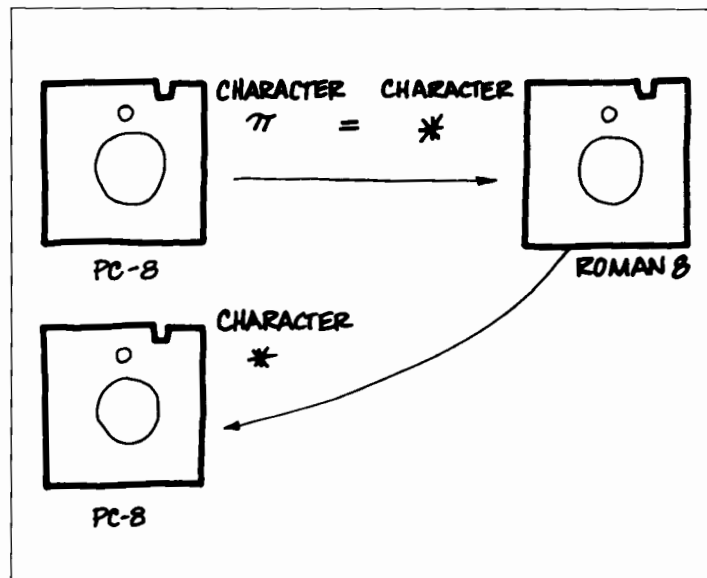

Figure 3-1. Unique Characters Cannot be Reversed

/F Option: Specify Translations From External Table

If you have a disk containing additional translation tables (external tables), specify translations following these steps:

Note	You cannot specify translations from the built-in MCS files PTRANALL.TBL or PRNTRAN.TBL. These files are configured for the Print Translate Utility.

1. We recommend that you copy the external tables to the same directory where you installed MCS. Make sure the active drive points to the directory containing the MCS Utilities.

2. Type this command and press (Enter):

   FILETRAN /F*table* /L

   The translations from the external table *table* appear on your screen as the first part of the Available File Translation Tables. Note that only Set# 1 is from the external table.

The Available File Translation Tables will look something like the following:

```
            Available File Translation Tables

    Set#        Source                  Destination

    1           PC-8        -->         ISO7-F
    2           PC-8        -->         ROMAN8
    3           ROMAN8      -->         PC-8
```

Select a translation and enter the translation in the command line. If you specify a translation #1 from the external table, you need to specify /F*table* in the command, like this:

   FILETRAN *sfile,dfile* /TPC-8:ISO7F /F*table*

We recommend that you specify translations from an external table with the /T option, not the /N option.

FILETRAN translates the characters in your file, using the character sets from the external file that you specified in the command line.

Note	You must specify the /F*table* option
	■ Every time you specify translations from a file containing the external tables.
	■ Every time you want to use /L to list the translations available from the external tables.

Redirecting the Input and Output of FILETRAN

You can redirect the input or output of the FILETRAN command by not specifying the source file or the destination file.

If you do not specify a source file, the source file defaults to the standard input device. Make sure you type a comma (,) before the destination file.

```
FILETRAN ,Report2 /N2
```

In this example, you must now supply input from the keyboard. Your input will be translated and put into the file, Report2.

If you do not specify a destination file, the destination file defaults to the standard output device. Make sure you type a comma (,) after the source file.

```
FILETRAN Report, /N1
```

In this example, the translated version of Report is output to the screen.

If you are an advanced user, you can redirect the input and output of FILETRAN to other commands. Refer to the *MS-DOS User's Reference* for more information on redirecting input and output.

If Something Goes Wrong

If you used FILETRAN and the translated version of your file is not satisfactory, check the following causes:

- Unique characters are in the file. These unique characters only exist in the source character set. You must manually insert a substitute for these characters in the translated version.

- Wrong translation was chosen. You must select another translation and re-run the FILETRAN command.

- Structured data is in the file. You must manually remove the structured data from the translated version.

4

Using the Print Translate Utility

Before you continue, make sure you installed the Print Translate Utility. See the chapter entitled "Installing MCS Utilities."

The Print Translate Utility configures your computer to automatically translate characters as text is sent to a printer. (This utility does not print text by itself. You send text to the printer in your usual manner.) You already configured your computer for a particular character set translation when you installed MCS.

If you specified the Utility setting at ON for a particular printer, the Print Translate Utility runs automatically. The characters in the text are translated every time you send text through a configured device to that printer. (A device can be a parallel or serial port, a network shortname, or an MS-DOS logical device.)

If you want to temporarily change the installed configuration, use the PRNTRAN command with the options described in the section "Select Options."

PRNTRAN Command

Use the PRNTRAN command to temporarily change the configuration of the Print Translate Utility. The PRNTRAN command and its options can be typed in uppercase or lowercase letters.

In the command syntax below, words and parameters in CAPS should be typed as shown, parameters in blue are optional, italics indicate variables, and the vertical line | indicates that you need to choose between parameters.

This is the PRNTRAN command syntax:

drive:path **PRNTRAN** *device* /UON|/UOFF /T*source:destination* /R
/MPCL|/MDW|/MDEFAULT /L

Option	Description
drive:	the drive that contains the MCS Utilities
path	the path to the MCS Utilities
device	a serial port (i.e. SER1 or SER2)
	a parallel port (i.e. PAR1, PAR2, or PAR3)
	a network shortname
	an MS-DOS logical device name such as COM1 or LPT1
/U	enables or disables the translation of data to a specific device. Specify ON or OFF.
/T	selects a new translation from the Print Translation Table. Specifies source and destination character set.
source	the source character set
destination	the destination character set
/R	removes the configuration and disables the translation for a particular device
/M	specifies the printer control mode. Specify PCL, DW, or DEFAULT.
/L	lists on your screen the current configuration for each device and also lists the Available Print Translation Tables.

These commands are explained in detail in the section entitled "Select Options."

Note	We recommend using a port (For example, PAR1 or SER2) as the device for a local printer. If print translation does not occur when using a port as the device, refer to the section "Changing a Port to an MS-DOS Logical Device" in the chapter entitled "Advanced MCS."
	Use the network shortname as the device for a network printer.

Display **PRNTRAN** Help Screen

This command displays the PRNTRAN command syntax and a brief description of each of the optional commands. Type this command and press (Enter):

```
PRNTRAN
```

The PRNTRAN syntax and description of the commands appear on your screen. If you need a more detailed description, refer to the next section "Select Options."

Select Options

When you use the Print Translate Utility with different applications, you may need to **temporarily** change the option's default setting to use MCS with the application. Or, you may sometimes need to temporarily add a printer. Temporary settings will return to the installed settings when you restart your computer.

If you want to permanently (1) keep new settings, or (2) add translation to a new printer, you must repeat the INSTALL procedure or edit the MS-DOS commands placed in your AUTOEXEC.BAT file by INSTALL. To do this, refer to the section "Change MCS Options Permanently" in the chapter entitled "Advanced MCS."

The following options apply when using the Print Translate Utility with both local and network printers.

/L Option: List Configuration

To see the current Print Translation configuration, type in this command and press (Enter).

```
PRNTRAN /L
```

Your screen lists the current configuration for each device. The configuration includes the translation you chose for each device, the printer control mode, and whether the Print Translate Utility is ON or OFF for that device.

The /L option also lists the Working Set of Print Translation Tables.

```
        SAMPLE PRINT TRANSLATE CONFIGURATION

   PAR1

   TRANSLATION ON/OFF     ON
   TRANSLATION TABLE      PC-8  -->  LASERJET
   PRINTER CONTROL MODE   PCL
```

/U Option: Print Translate ON/OFF

Some applications do not need character set translation. The /U option allows you to turn off the Print Translate Utility when it is not needed.

The /U option enables or disables character set translation for a particular device (port or network shortname). The default setting is ON.

- Some applications translate character sets. If the characters do not print correctly when using this application, turn Print Translate OFF.

  For example, you want to use /U to turn off character set translation in text sent to the network printer with the shortname \\SERVER\LASER.

  Type this command and press (Enter).

  PRNTRAN \\SERVER\LASER /UOFF

- To return to the default setting of Print Translate ON, type this command and press (Enter):

  PRNTRAN \\SERVER\LASER /UON

/T Option: Change Character Set Translation

When you installed the Print Translate Utility, you specified one character set translation for each device. Use the /T command to change the character set translation. Use the /L option to list the Working Set of Print Translation Tables to the screen. Make sure you select a translation from the Working Set.

For example: You want to change the character set translation assigned to Parallel Port 1. PC-8 is the new source character set, ThinkJet is the new destination character set.

Type this command and press (Enter). You must include the *device* in the command line.

    PRNTRAN PAR1 /TPC-8:ThinkJet

PC-8:ThinkJet is the new character set translation assigned to Parallel Port 1.

/R Option: Remove Port

The /R option removes the configuration assigned to a particular port. It also stops character set translation on text sent through that particular port to the printer.

Note	The /U command stops character set translation **without** removing the configuration. The /R command stops character set translation **and** removes the configuration.

Use the /R option only in the following circumstances:

- If you remove the printer connected to the device. For example: You remove a ThinkJet from Parallel Port 2. Type **PRNTRAN PAR2 /R** and press (Enter).

- If you want to remove a device so that you can replace it with another device.

/M Option: Change Printer Control Mode

The printer control mode is the specific set of escape sequences and control codes used by a printer. In most cases, your correct printer control mode was automatically set by the Print Translation table.

This automatic mode setting should work in most applications. Use the /M option to change the printer control mode **only** when your printed output is not correct. For more information, refer to the section "Change Printer Control Mode" in the chapter entitled "Advanced MCS."

Add Printer

If you have less than four printers configured for the Print Translate Utility, you can temporarily configure an additional printer using the PRNTRAN command. To do this, use the PRNTRAN options to specify the device, the translation, and whether you want translation ON or OFF. Enter a command with the same format as the examples:

To temporarily add a local printer, enter:

```
PRNTRAN SER2 /TPC-8:LaserJet /UON
```

To temporarily add a network printer, enter:

```
PRNTRAN \\SERVER\LASER /TPC-8:LaserJet /UON
```

Change Working Set

When you installed the Print Translate Utility, you selected a working set of character set translations. This file contains the translations that you use on a regular basis.

If you want to change the working set, do one of the following procedures. Both procedures remove the previous working set, and replace it with translations you select.

PROCEDURE 1. Run the INSTALL program as described in the chapter "Installing MCS Utilities."

OR

PROCEDURE 2. Use the PICKTBL command to change the working set. Follow these steps:

1. Copy the following files from Operating2 Disk to the MCS work disk:

   PICKTBL.EXE
   PTRANALL.TBL

2. Change the active drive to the drive containing the MCS work disk.

3. Type the PICKTBL command with the same format as this example:

```
PICKTBL PTRANALL.TBL PRNTRAN.TBL
```

4. Follow the messages on your screen to change the working set of
   translations. If you want to keep the translations you selected during
   INSTALL, make sure you select those translations now.

5

Advanced MCS

This chapter contains information to provide the best possible use of MCS. Most of the procedures described in this chapter are for advanced users, or users who are willing to experiment with the MCS options. You should be familiar with the ASCII table and advanced MS-DOS commands.

This chapter explains how to:

■ Correct printing problems that could occur with the Print Translate Utility

■ Edit the AUTOEXEC.BAT file to permanently change MCS options and permanently add a device to the Print Translate Utility

■ Use MCS on a device with an installable device driver

■ Make a batch file to configure the MCS options to a specific application

■ Change Print Translate Utility from a port to an MS-DOS logical device on a local printer.

■ Change the Printer Control Mode for the Print Translate Utility

Correcting Printing Problems for the Print Translate Utility

In most cases, the installed options will provide the best printed output. If your output is not satisfactory, use the following procedure to identify and correct problems.

To correct many of the problems identified in the steps below, you need to adjust the options of the Print Translate Utility. To temporarily adjust the options, or add a device, use the PRNTRAN command as described in the chapter entitled "Using the Print Translate Utility." To permanently change the options or add a device, you can:

- Re-run the INSTALL program

- Refer to "Change MCS Options Permanently" in this chapter

Follow these steps using the same printer. When you are asked to print a file, use the MS-DOS PRINT command to send data to a local printer. Use the NET-PRINT command to send data to a network printer.

1. Print the file called ASCII.TXT. This file is located on your master copy of Operating2 disk. Does this file print correctly?

   - If **no**, check your printer controls and configuration. The problem is not MCS.

   - If **yes**, go on to the next step.

2. Run the MCS Test Translation. To do this, refer to the chapter entitled "Using the Print Translate Utility" to change the working set of translations and select the translation called `Test --> Tran`.

3. To specify the test translation for your printer, enter a PRNTRAN command with the same format as this example. Specify PCL or DW for the /M option (Printer Control Mode) like this example below:

   `PRNTRAN PAR1 /TTest:Tran /MPCL`

4. Print the file ASCII.TXT. Do all the characters appear as asterisks (*******)?

   - If **no**, print translation did not occur. Use the /L option to list the Print Translate Utility's configuration to the screen.

     Is the device you use to print shown in the configuration?

     If yes, print translation to this particular device may be turned OFF, use the /UON option to turn it ON.

     If no, add the device to the Print Translate Utility.

   - If **yes**, the test translation printed correctly. Go on to the next step.

5. Use the /T option to change back to your previous translation. Print the file PC8.TXT from your master Operating2 disk. Did the characters print correctly?

   - If **no**, the problem is the wrong translation. Note the following:

Make sure the translation you picked is for the exact version of your printer (LaserJet-Y instead of LaserJet). If the exact translation does not work, try a translation with the printer's character set such as PC-8—> Roman8. Most HP Printers have the Roman8 character set.

MCS may not support the specific cartridge or daisy wheel that your printer is using.

■ If **yes,** the problem is your printer control mode. Try this:

If you have a ThinkJet or a QuietJet, make sure it operates in HP Mode.

Change printer control mode with the /M option.

6. Use an application to send data to the printer. Do the characters print correctly?

■ If **no,** then this application may perform its own character set translation. Use the /U option to turn MCS OFF to your device when using this application.

■ If **yes,** then this application works well with MCS.

Try all of these suggestions until you reach the correct printed output.

If you do not reach the desired printed output after following these instructions, please contact your local HP Sales Office.

Changing MCS Options Permanently

This section describes how to permanently change the options of the Print Translate Utility or how to add a device to the Print Translate Utility.

When you change an option such as /U or /M using the PRNTRAN command, these changes last until you restart your computer. When you restart your computer, the option returns to the default setting or the setting you selected during INSTALL.

You can permanently change the default or installed setting of the option using either of two methods:

- You can run the INSTALL program again.

- You can edit your AUTOEXEC.BAT file to include the option settings you want.

  Here are some examples of how you would edit your AUTOEXEC.BAT file.

  □ If you want to permanently change the Print Translate Utility translation to PC-8—>ThinkJet, edit the PRNTRAN line to appear like this:

  `PRNTRAN PAR1 /TPC-8:ThinkJet /UON`

  □ If you want to add a device to the Print Translate Utility, add a line to your AUTOEXEC.BAT file with the same format as this example:

  `PRNTRAN PAR2 /TPC-8:LaserJet /UON`

Restart your computer to activate the option changes.

Using MCS in Batch Files to Configure Specific Applications

When using MCS with different applications, you may need a different MCS configuration for a specific application. To do this, you can create a batch file.

For example, if Application A performs it own character set translations, you want to turn off the Print Translate Utility while using Application A.

To do this, make a batch file to:

1. Turn OFF character set translation to your printer before starting Application A.

2. Run Application A.

3. Turn ON character set translation to your printer after Application A is finished.

You can create as many batch files as you need. For example, when using an application, you may want to use a different print translation to translate character sets.

Refer to the *MS-DOS User's Reference* for more information on batch files.

Changing a Port to an MS-DOS Logical Device

This procedure is for the Print Translate Utility with a local printer.

When you installed the Print Translate Utility, we recommended that you select a parallel or serial port as a device. The device is a connection point between the computer and printer where the Print Translate Utility translates the characters. The device can be a parallel or serial port, a network shortname, an MS-DOS logical device, or a user-defined device.

We recommended that you select a port because most applications route data through the port when sending data to the printer. A few applications bypass the port.

If your printed output is not satisfactory, your application may bypass the port where the characters are translated.

To change the device from a port to an MS-DOS device temporarily, follow these steps. Do these steps only if you are making changes after installing MCS. These changes are temporary and will not be in effect after you restart or reboot your computer. To make them permanent, you have to run the INSTALL program again.

1. Make sure your active drive is at the drive containing the MCS Utilities.

2. Enter this command to see your configuration for the port:

   ```
   PRNTRAN /L
   ```

   Your configuration looks similar to this example:

   ```
   PAR1

   TRANSLATION ON/OFF        ON
   TRANSLATION TABLE         PC-8  -->  LASERJET
   PRINTER CONTROL MODE      PCL
   ```

3. To remove the port, (PAR1 stands for Parallel Port 1 in this example) enter this command:

   ```
   PRNTRAN PAR1 /R
   ```

4. To reconfigure the device with an MS-DOS device instead of a port, enter a command with the same format as this example command:

PRNTRAN *device* /UON /TPC8:LASERJET /MPCL

Where *device* is:

LPT1 for Parallel Port 1, LPT2 for Parallel Port 2, etc.

COM1 for Serial Port 1, COM2 for Serial Port 2, etc.

The Print Translate Utility now translates characters as text is sent through the MS-DOS device on its way to the printer.

5. Run your application. If the printed output is still unsatisfactory, see the section "Correct Printing Problems for the Print Translate Utility" for more suggestions.

Note   Some applications bypass both the port and the MS-DOS logical devices. Print translation will not occur when using these applications.

Change the Printer Control Mode of the Print Translate Utility

The printer control mode is the specific set of escape sequences and control codes used by a printer. In most cases, your correct printer control mode was automatically set by the Print Translation table.

This automatic mode setting should work in most applications. Use the PRNTRAN command with /M option to change the printer control mode **only** when your printed output is not correct.

1. The /MPCL or /MDW Option specifies the printer control mode of your printer. Use one of these options if:

   - The printer control mode is not automatically chosen.

   - You want to change the installed printer control mode.

For a printer such as the

ThinkJet
LaserJet, LaserJet PLUS, LaserJet 500
QuietJet
PaintJet
or 2602 Daisywheel,

type PRNTRAN *device* /MPCL and press (Enter).

For a printer such as the 2601 or 2603 Daisywheel, type PRNTRAN *device*
/MDW and press (Enter).

2. The /MDEFAULT option returns to the default printer control mode. Use
   this option if:

   ■ You changed the printer control mode and want to change back to the
     default mode. Type PRNTRAN *device* /MDEFAULT and press (Enter).
   ■ You changed the translation and want to coordinate the printer
     control mode to the new translation. Type PRNTRAN *device* /T*src:dest*
     /MDEFAULT and press (Enter).

Your printed output should now be correct.

MCS Message Directory

MCS Messages are displayed when MCS encounters an error, needs to inform you of computer status, or needs to prompt you for an action.

Messages are listed in alphabetical order of the first word (the words *The* and *Error* are excluded). Messages containing **/X** are listed first. **/X** represents any appropriate MCS option. Sources for each message are identified in brackets.

`Error - /X option is needed`

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you do not specify an option, such as /T for translation, that is needed to execute the command. Retype the command, specifying the needed option. [FILETRAN]

`Error - /X is an unknown option (parameter)`

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you specify an invalid option in the command line. Retype the command with a valid option. [FILETRAN, PRNTRAN]

`Error - /X option entered more than once`

Explanation: This error message is displayed when the same option is specified more than once in the command line. Retype command with the option specified only once. [FILETRAN, PRNTRAN]

`Error - /X option is incomplete.`

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you do not supply all the information that is needed for this option, but the information you do supply is correct. Retype the command, supplying all the needed information. [FILETRAN, PRNTRAN]

Error - /X option was used incorrectly.

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you type the wrong information following an option. Retype the command with the correct information following the option. [FILETRAN, PRNTRAN]

Error - An incorrect combination of options was entered.

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you type two or more options that cannot be included in the same command. Select which option you want to use and retype the command. [FILETRAN, PRNTRAN]

Are you sure you want to quit? (Y/N)

Explanation: This message is displayed when you press (Esc). Press Y if you want to exit the program; press N if you want to continue the program. [INSTALL, PICKTBL]

Cannot access drive

Explanation: This message is displayed when you entered a drive designator that does not exist. Retype the INSTALL command, using the drive and path (path is optional) where you want to install MCS. [INSTALL]

Cannot copy file *file name*

Explanation: This message is displayed when INSTALL cannot locate the file needed to receive copies of MCS files necessary for installation. Check the drive and path of the file. Re-enter the file name. [INSTALL]

Cannot create directory

Explanation: This message is displayed when you cannot install MCS into the location you specified. Possible causes are: disk is full, root directory is full, drive does not exist, disk drive door is open, disk is bad, disk is write-protected, disk is unformatted, directory is read-only, or a file with the same name as the directory name you specified already exists. Check possible causes. Provide remedy or select a new location to install MCS. Retype the INSTALL command. [INSTALL]

Cannot find file *file name*

Explanation: This message is displayed when the file necessary to complete installing the current utility cannot be found on the drive containing the

Operating2 disk. Make sure the Operating2 disk is properly inserted in the drive. [INSTALL]

Error - Cannot open file: *file name*

Explanation: This message is displayed when the working set of translations cannot be created. Possible causes are: disk is full, root directory is full, drive does not exist, disk drive door is open, disk is bad, disk is write-protected, disk is unformatted. Press (Esc). Check possible causes and provide remedy. Re-run the INSTALL program or retype the PICKTBL Command. [INSTALL, PICKTBL]

Error - The destination disk is full

Explanation: This message is displayed when the destination disk does not have enough room to save the destination file. Erase unneeded files from the destination disk or choose another disk as the destination disk. [FILETRAN]

Error - Destination file name cannot be the same as the source file name.

Explanation: You specified the same name for both the source and the destination file. Retype the PICKTBL command, using a different name for the destination file. [PICKTBL]

Error - The device name entered was not found.

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you entered the wrong device name. The device can be a parallel port, serial port or MS-DOS logical device that your printer is connected to. The device can also be a shortname to access a printer on a network. Retype the PRNTRAN command, entering the parallel port, serial port, network shortname or MS-DOS logical device that you assigned to your printer during INSTALL. (If you can't remember, use the PRNTRAN /L command to list the device your printer is connected to). [PRNTRAN]

Error - Device name option is needed

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you did not include the device in the PRNTRAN command. The device is the parallel port, serial port, or MS-DOS logical device name that your printer is connected to. A device can also be a shortname to access a printer on a network. Retype the PRNTRAN command, including the device. [PRNTRAN]

Error - Device name option was used incorrectly

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you entered the wrong device name in the PRNTRAN command. Use the PRNTRAN /L command to check which device is assigned to your printer. Retype the PRNTRAN command, entering the correct device. [PRNTRAN]

Error in initializing NETTRANS software (NETL317).

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you run the network program USRLOAD if you copied NETTRANS.EXE to the USER MASTER disk and you did not run INSTALL. Quit USRLOAD program. Type INSTALL and press (Enter) to begin the INSTALL program. If you do not want to run INSTALL, you can add this line to your CONFIG.SYS file:

Device \ MCSPTDD.SYS [INSTALL]

Error - FILETRAN is unable to continue

Explanation: This message is displayed when a rare or unspecified error occurs. Check the spelling of the file names, and whether you have the source and destination disk in the proper drives. Retype the FILETRAN command. [FILETRAN]

Error - FILETRAN requires DOS version 2.11, 3.0, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 or 4.0.

Explanation: This message is displayed when an you use an MS-DOS version that is not supported by MCS. Use FILETRAN only on the supported MS-DOS versions. [FILETRAN]

Error - File too large

Explanation: This message is displayed when the destination file is too large to be saved on the destination disk. Remove unneeded files from the destination disk or select another destination disk. FILETRAN

Error - File not Found

Explanation: This message is displayed when FILETRAN cannot find the source file on the specified disk. Use MS-DOS DIR command to check if file is on the specified disk. Retype the command, including a path to the subdirectory, if needed. [FILETRAN]

Invalid file format

Explanation: The master set of translations is invalid, damaged, or too large. Copy the PTRANALL.TBL file from the Operating2 disk to a new work disk. Retype the PICKTBL command, or re-run the INSTALL program. If this message appears again, replace the Operating2 disk. [INSTALL, PICKTBL]

Invalid Drive/Path: *drive/path*

Explanation: This message is displayed when a colon (:) was not entered after the drive, or you entered the wrong syntax. Retype the INSTALL command, entering the drive and path where you plan to install MCS. [INSTALL]

MCS installation may not be complete - MCS must be reinstalled

Explanation: This message is displayed when you quit INSTALL by pressing (Esc) or when another error occurs. Type INSTALL and press (Enter) to begin the INSTALL program. [INSTALL]

MCS was not installed

Explanation: This message is displayed if you did not select any of the MCS Utilities during the INSTALL program. Type INSTALL and press (Enter) to begin the INSTALL program. [INSTALL]

Error - No more print translations can be added

Explanation: This error message is displayed if you try to add another device and the maximum of four devices is already installed. Remove another device using the PRNTRAN /R command. Then you can add this device. [PRNTRAN]

No Room on Disk for Destination File

Explanation: This message is displayed when the disk is full. Remove files from this disk or use another disk. [PICKTBL]

Error - Not enough room to run FILETRAN

Explanation: This message is displayed when there is not enough resident memory to run the FILETRAN command. Remove unnecessary programs from resident memory. [FILETRAN]

Number out of range

Explanation: This message is displayed when you typed a number beyond the number of items listed on the screen. Select a number representing the items listed on the screen. [INSTALL]

Out of memory

Explanation: This message is displayed when there is not enough resident memory to read in the translation tables. Press (Esc) to quit the INSTALL or PICKTBL program. Remove unnecessary programs from resident memory and re-run INSTALL or PICKTBL. [INSTALL, PICKTBL]

Print translation added

Explanation: This informational message is displayed after you add a device to the Print Translate Utility configuration. [PRNTRAN]

Print translation reconfigured

Explanation: This informational message is displayed after you change the configuration of a device, such as changing the printer, the translation or the printer control mode. [PRNTRAN]

Print translation removed

Explanation: This informational message is displayed after you remove a device from the Print Translate Utility using the /R option. [PRNTRAN]

Error - Reading file

Explanation: This message is displayed when FILETRAN cannot read the source file from the specified disk. Check disk. Try to copy the source file to another disk. Insert the new disk in the specified drive and retype the FILETRAN command. [FILETRAN]

Shortname format is incorrect

Explanation: This message is displayed when you entered the wrong syntax for the shortname to access the network. Enter correct network syntax. [INSTALL]

Error - Source file does not exist

Explanation: This error message is displayed when you specified a drive or path that does not contain the master set of translations, PTRANALL.TBL.

Copy PTRANALL.TBL from the Operating2 disk to your working disk. Enter the PICKTBL command, specifying the work disk. [PICKTBL]

Error - Too many open files

Explanation: This message is displayed when an application uses too many files so that FILETRAN cannot run. Run FILETRAN from MS-DOS or edit your CONFIG.SYS file to read **FILES = 30.** [FILETRAN]

Error - The Translation Table entered is not available.

Explanation: This message is displayed when you specified a translation that is not in the Available File Translation Tables. Type **FILETRAN /L** and press (Enter) to list the Available File Translation Tables. Retype the FILETRAN command, specifying a translation from this table. [FILETRAN]

You must run INSTALL from the Operating2 disk

Explanation: This message is usually displayed after the message **Cannot find file:.** MCS cannot locate a file it needs to continue INSTALL. This file should be on the Operating2 master disk. Make sure you have the Operating2 disk in Drive A: before continuing the INSTALL program. [INSTALL]

You must specify a valid drive and path

Explanation: This message is displayed when you specify the wrong drive or path. Specify the correct drive and path (the path is optional). [INSTALL]

Error - Writing File

Explanation: This message is displayed when FILETRAN cannot save the translated destination file on the specified disk. Insert another disk in the specified destination drive. Retype the FILETRAN command. [FILETRAN]

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