



What's Up, DOCumentation? 2002 # 7



robelle
solutions technology

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From: [Bob Green](#), President

To: Users of Robelle Software

Re: News of the HP e3000 and Robelle, 2002 #7

If you haven't been visiting the Robelle web site, www.robelle.com, at least once a week, here is what you have been missing. Included are many of the stories posted to the web since the last What's Up DOC newsletter.

If you are reading a PDF or text version of this newsletter, remember that the headline of every story is actually a web link to the full story or more information. If you want to follow a link to get more information, go to the web home of the current newsletter:

<http://www.robelle.com/library/newsletter/latest.html>

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[Qedit for Windows](#)

[Suprtool](#)

[Host-based Qedit](#)

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[Healthcare Solutions](#)

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Table of Contents:

- [News and Upcoming Events](#)
- [HP Tips](#)
- [Qedit for Windows Tips](#)
- [Windows/PC Tips](#)
- [Suprtool Tips](#)
- [HP-UX and Migration Planning](#)
- [Links/Resources](#)
- [Host-Based Qedit Tips](#)
- [Internet Tips](#)

- [Products](#)
- [Qedit for Windows](#)
- [Qedit for e3000](#)
- [Suprtool for e3000](#)
- [Suprtool Training](#)

- [Newsletter](#)
- [Current Issue](#)
- [Subscribe](#)
- [Library](#)

- [About Robelle](#)
- [About the HP e3000](#)
- [About HP-UX](#)

News and Upcoming Events

[Interview With Vladimir Volokh](#)

The [3000 NewsWire](#) interviews the head of VESoft, creators of MPEX, Security/3000 and VEAudit. Recommended reading.

[NewsWire: Blessing Eloquence](#)

A news report from the [3000 NewsWire](#): Eloquence is “an invaluable tool for HP e3000 transition projects for small to mid-range customers,” HP Webcast host George Stachnik said in the most recent registration call for the company’s migration education broadcasts. “HP Eloquence has been evaluated by HP and its SIG Softvend partners, and technically endorsed by SIG IMAGE’s IMAGE/SQL Advisory Committee (ISAC).”

[Minisoft ODBC Supports Eloquence](#)

[Minisoft](#) now support the HP Eloquence database in its ODBC, JDBC and Middleman products.



HP Tips

[MPE: Long Versus Short Numbers](#)

If you have ever been confused by a shortint versus an integer* 2, here is a useful [table](#) of MPE languages and number sizes (from Robelle's [HP Encyclopedia](#)).

[Traceroute on MPE](#)

HP has moved the industry-standard tracert utility into general release for HP 3000 systems.



Qedit for Windows Tips

[Migrating to HP-UX? You Need QWIN!](#)

When you migrate an application to a new platform, you will be doing an unusual amount of text editing! Qedit for Windows provides one standard Windows interface for both HP-UX and MPE files - no need to learn obscure vi commands for HP-UX editing. Click the link above to see all five benefits.



Windows/PC Tips

[Understanding Raid Drives](#)

Since you can now get a raid configuration for your [desktop PC for less than \\$2000](#), with error-correcting memory as well, this is a good time to ensure that you are up-to-date on the technology of redundant disk drives. (the article is from the [Ars Technica](#) news site).

For more Windows/PC tips, visit the [permanent location](#) of these articles.



Suprtool Tips



[Use Tables to Replace Quiz Links](#)

Here is a Suptool tip: you don't need Quiz to do multi-dataset links. You can use Tables (or use Suprlink for even faster performance).

[Suprtool: Sub-totals and Sorting](#)

Did you know that you can sub-total data with Suprtool, as well as determining how many records made up that total? For example, we can total the number of products sold by product and also total the dollars for each product. Click the link above for details.

[Suprtool: Really Long IF Commands](#)

If I have a really complex IF selection criteria, longer than Suprtool's maximum command length of 256 characters, what do I do?

[Robelle Tech: Suprtool Exception Reporting](#)

Suprtool can be very useful in checking the business rules of an application. These rules are usually validated in the data entry programs but sometimes "stuff happens". (From the Robelle Tech column.)



HP-UX and Migration Planning

[Robelle Tech: Transforming TurboIMAGE Data to Oracle](#)

Our [NewsWire](#) column for June is about converting MPE datatypes to Oracle format, and various problems you may run into.

[Doing a Conversion?](#)

"We use Suprtool to migrate data from the HP3000 IMAGE databases to ASCII text files which are then imported into Oracle, Excel, or Access databases on the UNIX and NT server platforms. Using Suprtool to do the data extraction for this conversion is fast and flexible without taking a lot of the HP3000 resources." - Stella Leong, Programmer/Analyst, California Teachers Association

Benefits of Suprtool in a Conversion: Convert data efficiently

- Export to other platforms and applications: UNIX, NT, PC the Internet and Intranet.
- Verify data accuracy quickly. Save hours of time in finding invalid data.
- Quick listing of extracted data complete with counts, totals and headings.
- Merge information from multiple data sets.

"...I am loath to work on an HP3000 that doesn't have Suprtool. The hours, if not weeks and months, Suprtool has saved me over the years makes it a real bargain in my book..." Dave Kalb, Total Bank Technology Solution, Inc.

[HP-UX 11 Rated Tops](#)

... according to researchers DH Brown Associates Inc after a painstaking series of like-for-like functional comparisons.



Links/Resources

[Robelle: How To Debug a Program](#)

From Robelle's [HP Encyclopedia](#), tips on how to debug computer programs.

["2 Tinkerers Say They've Found A Cheap Way To Broadband"](#)

From NY Times via the ACM Tech News: "California software engineers Layne Holt and John Furrier are taking aim at cable and phone companies by using the 802.11b, or Wi-Fi, standard to make consumer broadband access available widely and cheaply."



Host-Based Qedit Tips

[Qedit: List/Search a Fileset](#)

In response to a support question, François Desrochers wrote two command files to list or edit a fileset from within host-based Qedit. The link above explains the list/search command file,



which then links to the description of the edit command file at the end.



Internet Tips

[Top Ten Guidelines for Homepage Usability](#)

Excellent article by [Jakob Nielsen, usability expert.](#)



Newsletter Distribution

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Comments about this issue, as well as ideas for future issues, including news, tips, and suggestions for articles, can be sent to bgreen@robelle.com.

[Previous Issue: June Newsletter](#)

In case you missed the last newsletter, here are some highlights:

- Robelle's top ten support questions
- Syntax coloring in Qedit for Windows
- Some details on how Robelle ported Qedit for HP3000 to HP-UX.
- eXegeSys (ERP) and AMISYS (health care) have selected migration partners to port their respective applications to other platforms.
- A NewsWire TestDrive report: get insights into HP's new Software Inventory Utility (SIU).
- Check out an article from the first issue of the Journal of Object Technology: The Deplorable State of Class Libraries.
- and more...

Click the link above for the latest issue.

