

RE: VBA question: How to extract cell values in different language

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Excel/microsoft.public.excel.programming/2008-05/msg02309.html>

- *From:* Joel <Joel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 12 May 2008 20:31:00 -0700
-

You haven't confused me. I completely understand the problem. Your comment about having binary data and not unicode data confirms my suspicions.

Let me explain what is happening. You are have 256 binary characters. Depending on the language settings the characters are displayed differently, the data doesn't change. How the charactes are displayed i'm calling a font.

If you use Notepad which only displays binary data (ascii) and not the Unicode data on the same file with two different language setting gives you different result; then the data hasn't changed. Only the way the data is displayed has changed. This is a change of a Font.

Go to word a open the Insert – Symbol window. You will see most of the character (look at bottom of window) are characters from 0000–00FF. These are the ascii characters. When the value of a character is greater than FF then these are the unicodes.

You will see that when you change Fonts the you will see the same numerical values for differrent characters. This is what happens when you change your laqnage setting. You don't change the data, the way the data displays changes.

"Christopher" wrote:

I'm sorry, I may have confused you when I mentioned "visually".
I don't care about font.

I just need the correct text data to appear in the output.

When I check the binary data on the Japanese file, I see that it basically forced the unicode data into single byte characters.

I'm used to C++ where I can just treat the text data binary files and run the data through functions to convert to UTF-8 and other encodings.

When I walk through the VBA code, it looks like the data is corrupted as

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soon as the data is accessed through the Cells function.

"Joel" wrote

You are writing text data which has 256 different characters. Each Byte is 8 bits (referred to as Ascii) of data (2 raised to the 8th). There is no font with text data. Depending on your language setting the text displays with the font as specified by the language setting.

If you import the text into Word which has multiple fonts you can change the font to any language you want without changing the language setting.

There is no problem with your excel program. The easiest thing to do is to open the text file and copy the data. then paste the data into a word document and select the proper Font for the language. Then save the word document. Word will preserve the correct font which a text file cannot do.

"Christopher" wrote:

Hi,

I was hoping if someone could help me with a language problem I'm facing.

The code below is suppose to extract strings from a worksheet and create string table files that will be fed into a resource file. I am using Excel 2007 currently.

The style of the worksheet:

First column has the string IDs

First row contains the name of the file to create (excluding column 1, which is skipped)

Each column (file) has a different language (english, french, german, italian, portuguese, spanish, and japanese)

The style of the output file:

Has header "STRINGTABLE" and "BEGIN"

Each row of text has a string ID and string value

Has footer "END"

I'm not an experienced VB programmer, so I am basically depending on Excel

to be smart enough to understand what I want. It "sort of" works, but it's

very annoying that I have to keep switching languages to get the correct

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output.

The problem:

If I set my OS language settings to English, the non-Japanese languages are extracted properly, but Japanese gets corrupted. If I set my OS language to Japanese, languages like French loses all accents on characters.

What I'm aiming for:

To get what is exactly (visually) displayed by the excel spreadsheet to be outputted to a file regardless of the OS language setting. I don't necessarily care about what format it's in (except not in Unicode) as long as it's consistent. Granted the work around is to switch the OS language settings, but I might have to add more languages later on and the work around itself makes me cringe.

- Japanese is using Shift-JIS
- Other languages are using ANSI (extended latin) or UTF-8

I was hoping there is a way to change the language setting of the application (on-the-fly) to something that is compatible with the language of the strings (column) I am currently extracting.

I searched the forum, but couldn't find a similar issue posted. Sorry if this issue has already been addressed.

Any help will be greatly appreciated.

The code:

```
Sub Export()
```

```
Dim TblName As String  
Dim CurDir As String  
Dim Text As String  
Dim SID As String  
Dim WriteBuf As String  
Dim cCount As Integer  
Dim rCount As Integer  
Dim rowMax As Integer
```

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```
'get directory base for tbl files
CurDir = GetCurDir

'get maximum number of rows
Dim wkst As Worksheet
Set wkst = Worksheets("StringTables")
rowMax = wkst.UsedRange.Rows.Count

'get first tbl column and initialize row and column count
TblName = CurDir + wkst.Cells(1, 2).Text
rCount = 2
cCount = 2

'keep looping as long as a tbl name exists
Do While TblName <> CurDir
Open TblName For Output As #1
'print string table headers
Print #1, "STRINGTABLE"
Print #1, "BEGIN"

'get first string ID number and string value
SID = wkst.Cells(rCount, 1)
Text = wkst.Cells(rCount, cCount)
Do While rCount <= rowMax

'skip this row if ID or value is missing
If SID <> "" And Text <> "" Then
'Chr(9) = tab Chr(34) = double quote
WriteBuf = Chr(9) + SID + Chr(9) + Chr(34) + Text +
Chr(34)
Print #1, WriteBuf
End If

'increment row count
rCount = rCount + 1
'get next pair of string ID and value
SID = wkst.Cells(rCount, 1)
Text = wkst.Cells(rCount, cCount)
Loop

'print table footer
Print #1, "END"
Close #1

'reset row count
rCount = 2
'increment column count (new language)
cCount = cCount + 1
'setup for new tbl file
TblName = CurDir + wkst.Cells(1, cCount).Text
Loop
```

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End Sub