

Index Notation for Multiple-Value Fields and Periodic Groups

This chapter describes how you can use the index notation ($n:n$) to specify how many values of a multiple-value field or how many occurrences of a periodic group are to be output.

The following topics are covered:

- Use of Index Notation
 - Example of Index Notation in DISPLAY Statement
 - Example of Index Notation in WRITE Statement
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Use of Index Notation

With the index notation ($n:n$) you can specify how many values of a multiple-value field or how many occurrences of a periodic group are to be output.

For example, the field INCOME in the DDM EMPLOYEES is a periodic group which keeps a record of the annual incomes of an employee for each year he/she has been with the company.

These annual incomes are maintained in chronological order. The income of the most recent year is in occurrence 1.

If you wanted to have the annual incomes of an employee for the last three years displayed - that is, occurrences 1 to 3 - you would specify the notation (1:3) after the field name in a DISPLAY or WRITE statement (as shown in the following example program).

Example of Index Notation in DISPLAY Statement

```
** Example 'DISPLX07': DISPLAY (with index notation)
*****
DEFINE DATA LOCAL
1 VIEWEMP VIEW OF EMPLOYEES
  2 PERSONNEL-ID
  2 NAME
  2 BIRTH
  2 INCOME (1:3)
    3 CURR-CODE
    3 SALARY
    3 BONUS (1:1)
END-DEFINE
*
READ (3) VIEWEMP BY BIRTH
  DISPLAY PERSONNEL-ID NAME INCOME (1:3)
SKIP 1
END-READ
END
```

Output of Program DISPLX07:

Note that a DISPLAY statement outputs multiple values of a multiple-value field underneath one another:

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PERSONNEL ID	NAME	INCOME		
		CURRENCY CODE	ANNUAL SALARY	BONUS
30020013	GARRET	UKL	4200	0
		UKL	4150	0
			0	0
30016112	TAILOR	UKL	7450	0
		UKL	7350	0
		UKL	6700	0
20017600	PIETSCH	USD	22000	0
		USD	20200	0
		USD	18700	0

As a WRITE statement displays multiple values horizontally instead of vertically, this may cause a line overflow and a - possibly undesired - line advance.

If you use only a single field within a periodic group (for example, SALARY) instead of the entire periodic group, and if you also insert a slash (/) to cause a line advance (as shown in the following example between NAME and JOB-TITLE), the report format becomes manageable.

Example of Index Notation in WRITE Statement

```
** Example 'WRITEX03': WRITE (with index notation)
*****
DEFINE DATA LOCAL
1 VIEWEMP VIEW OF EMPLOYEES
  2 PERSONNEL-ID
  2 NAME
  2 BIRTH
  2 JOB-TITLE
  2 SALARY (1:3)
END-DEFINE
*
READ (3) VIEWEMP BY BIRTH
  WRITE PERSONNEL-ID NAME / JOB-TITLE SALARY (1:3)
  SKIP 1
END-READ
END
```

Output of Program WRITEX03:

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30020013 GARRET TYPIST	4200	4150	0
30016112 TAILOR WAREHOUSEMAN	7450	7350	6700
20017600 PIETSCH SECRETARY	22000	20200	18700