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Command:  GETDLTRCD - Get Deleted Records
Version:  1.0 - April 2014
          No changes from beta version 0.9
Language:  English
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Get Deleted Records (GETDLTRCD)

The Get Deleted Records (GETDLTRCD) command allows to retrieve the records deleted from a physical file-even when the file contains variable-length, nullable or date-time fields-and store them in an output file.

The fields retrieved for the deleted records are the fixed-length fields, the variable-length fields that are stored in the fixed part of the file and, if parameter VARLEN is equal to *YES, the variable-length fields that are stored in the variable part of the file. The command prints a list of the variable-length fields of the file and the part of the file where they are stored.

Note: As of V7R3, variable-length fields stored in the variable part of the file cannot be retrieved.

The command also generates the file DLTRCDB. This file contains additional information about the deleted records such as the relative record number of the deleted record in the original file (field RELRCD) and whether any field of the record was stored in the variable part of the file or not (field VARPART).

Important notice

In order to be able to retrieve the records deleted from a member of a file, it is necessary that file parameter REUSEDLT (reuse deleted records) is equal to *NO and that the member has not been cleared (CLRPFM) or reorganized (RGZPFM) after the records were deleted.

In addition, there are some limitations concerning the variable-length fields that are stored in the variable part of the file. Each insert or update performed in the file after the records were deleted may cause that, for one of the deleted records, the data of these fields cannot be retrieved or the data retrieved for these fields is incorrect.

For example, let's perform the following operations in a file with a variable-length field VAR that is 30 characters long:

- add three records with field VAR equal to 'ONE', 'TWO', and 'THREE', respectively,
- update field VAR of the second record to the value 'CHANGED',
- delete the three records, and
- add two records with field VAR equal to 'FOUR', and 'FIVE', respectively.

When we retrieve the deleted records (with parameter VARLEN equal to *YES), we will see that fields VAR are equal to 'ONE' (correct), 'TWO' (incorrect, should have been 'CHANGED'), and '' or 'NIL' (could not be retrieved).

A more complete description of the limitations of the retrieval of

variable-length fields for deleted records can be found in the article "What you should know about the format of records saved to a save file" published in mcpresonline.com.

From file (FROMFILE)

Name and library of the file whose deleted records are to be retrieved.

To file (TOFILE)

Name and library of the file where the retrieved records are to be stored.

From member (FROMMBR)

Member of the file whose deleted records are to be retrieved.

Null values (NULL)

Specifies whether the null values of the fields should be retrieved or not.

***YES**

***NO**

Variable-length fields (VARLEN)

Specifies whether the data of the variable-length fields stored in the variable part of the file should be retrieved or not.

***YES**

***NO**

Initialize varlen fields (INZVARLEN)

Specifies whether the variable-length fields that are stored in the variable part of the file should be initialized in the retrieved records with the value 'NIL' or not.

This way, we will be able to identify the variable-length fields whose data has been retrieved (their value will be different from 'NIL') and those for which no data has been retrieved (they will keep the value 'NIL').

The value 'NIL' (X'D5C9D3') is coded as X'004E0049004C' for fields of type G and as X'0E42D542C942D30F' for those of type J.

***YES**

The variable-length fields that are stored in the variable part of the file are initialized to the value 'NIL'.

***NO**

The variable-length fields that are stored in the variable part of the file are initialized to the value '' (empty string).