

**Ärende/Subject**

ZGENHELP – Utility to generate HELP for DSPF

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Handläggare/Prepared by

Åke H Olsson

Senast ändrat/Change date2020-03-13

What this is and why

Enabling help functions for 5250 displays is a really good idea but at the same time this can be a lot of work.

You will need:

- A panel group source that contains various help section and also the help text. This has to be formatted in a special way with a few UIM keywords.
- Changes in the source for the DSPF that enable the help key and links the record formats and fields to the help sections in the panel group.

This function helps with creating the foundations for this.

ZGENHELP creates the source for the panel group where you only will need to fill in the texts that you want to display for the user.

It also creates a copy of the DDS source with the additional keywords for the help functions added.

Installing the function

- Download the ZGENHELP.SAVF file to your desktop.
- Create a savefile named ZGENHELP in a library of your choice.
- FTP the ZGENHELP.SAVF to the ZGENHELP save file you created.
- Restore the library ZGENHELP from the save file.

Now you are ready to go!

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Using the function

These are the parameters:

 Generate UIM help text (ZGENHELP)

Label:		
Display file name:	DSPF	
Display file library:	DSPFLIB	*LIBL
Display file srcmbr:	DSPFSRC	*DSPF
DSPF Source file - original:	DSPFSRCF	QDDSSRC
DSPF source lib:	DSPFSRCL	*LIBL
UIM Panel Source name:	UIMSRC	*DSPF
Help panel source file:	UIMSRCF	QPNSLRC
Help panel library:	UIMSRCL	*LIBL
New DDS member:	NEWDDSMBR	*DSPF
New DDS source file:	NEWDDSF	QDDSSRC
New DDS source lib:	NEWDDSL	*LIBL

Parameters:

- DSPF name of display file object (used to retrieve field data from object)
- DSPFLIB library name for DSPF object
- DSPFSRC source member name used to create DSPF
- DSPFSRCF source file name
- DSPFSRCL source library
- UIMSRC name for generated panel group source
- UIMSRCF source file name for panel group source
- UIMSRCL library for panel group source
- NEWDDSMBR member name for generated DDS source for DSPF
- NEWDDSF source file name for generated DDS source for DSPF
- NEWDDSL library for generated DDS source

Where it says *DSPF the value is replaced by the DSPF name (first parameter).

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Example

Imagine a very simple display file DDS like this:

```
A                                     DSPSIZ(24 80 *DS3)
A           R FLTER
A           4  2 'CUSTOMER '
A           5  2 'FROM '
A           5 13 'TO '
A           CUS_FROM          6  B  6  3
A           CUS_TO           6  B  6 13
A           9  2 'ORDER DATE '
A           10 2 'FROM '
A           10 13 'TO '
A           DATE_FROM        6  B 11  2
A           DATE_TO          6  B 11 13
```

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After running the ZGENHELP command this is what the DDS source ended up like:

```
A ALTHELP
A DSPSIZ(24 80 *DS3)
A R FLTER
A HELP
A HLPTITLE('Your title here')
A H HLPPNLGRP('FLTER' DEMOFM2)
A HLPARA(*NONE)
A H HLPPNLGRP('FLTER/CUS_FROM' DEMOFM2)
A HLPARA(*FLD CUS_FROM)
A H HLPPNLGRP('FLTER/CUS_TO' DEMOFM2)
A HLPARA(*FLD CUS_TO)
A H HLPPNLGRP('FLTER/DATE_FROM' DEMOFM2)
A HLPARA(*FLD DATE_FROM)
A H HLPPNLGRP('FLTER/DATE_TO' DEMOFM2)
A HLPARA(*FLD DATE_TO)
A 4 2 'CUSTOMER'
A 5 2 'FROM'
A 5 13 'TO'
A CUS_FROM 6 B 6 3
A CUS_TO 6 B 6 13
A 9 2 'ORDER DATE'
A 10 2 'FROM'
A 10 13 'TO'
A DATE_FROM 6 B 11 2
A DATE_TO 6 B 11 13
```

- ALTHELP is added on the file level
- Right after the record format name (“FLTER” in this case) the HELP, HLPTITLE, HLPPNLGRP and HLPARA sections are added.

Note:

- Any record level keywords that existed before will need to be moved to right after the record format name. This is because the HLPPNLGRP and HLPARA are considered to be field level information.

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The panel group source that is created looks like this:

```
:PNLGRP.  
:help name='FLTER'.  
FLTER.  
:h1.FLTER.  
:p.First paragraph  
:ehelp.  
:help name='FLTER/CUS_FROM'.  
:h1.FLTER/CUS_FROM.  
:p.First field paragraph for CUS_FROM.  
:ehelp.  
:help name='FLTER/CUS_TO'.  
:h1.FLTER/CUS_TO.  
:p.First field paragraph for CUS_TO.  
:ehelp.  
:help name='FLTER/DATE_FROM'.  
:h1.FLTER/DATE_FROM.  
:p.First field paragraph for DATE_FROM.  
:ehelp.  
:help name='FLTER/DATE_TO'.  
:h1.FLTER/DATE_TO.  
:p.First field paragraph for DATE_TO.  
:ehelp.  
:epnlgrp.
```

The panel group source always begins with :PNLGRP and ends with :EPNLGRP.

The section for each piece of help information is indicated with “:HELP name=” followed by some text data that uniquely identifies the section.

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This is generated as:

- Record format name for record level help text.
- Record format name “/” and field name for field level help text.

:H1 is a header

:P is paragraph text. Replace whatever is generated with what you want the user to see.

Continue paragraph text on more lines as needed.

AND add whatever second level headers and lists as needed.

:EHELP ends the definitions for a help section.

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This is what a help source could look like after some more text has been added manually:

```
:PNLGRP.  
:help name='FLTER'.  
FLTER.  
:h1.FLTER screen.  
:p.This screen allows the user to select what data  
is displayed on the detail screens  
:ehelp.  
:help name='FLTER/CUS_FROM'.  
:h1.FLTER/CUS_FROM beginning customer numnber.  
:p.The selected data begins with the customer where the  
customer number is the next following data entered in this field.  
:ehelp.  
:help name='FLTER/CUS_TO'.  
:h1.FLTER/CUS_TO - ending customer number.  
:p.The highes customer number to display.  
:ehelp.  
:help name='FLTER/DATE_FROM'.  
:h1.FLTER/DATE_FROM beginning order date.  
:p.Data for selected customers where order date is greater or  
equal to this date will be displayed.  
:ehelp.  
:help name='FLTER/DATE_TO'.  
:h1.FLTER/DATE_TO ending order date.  
:p.Data for selected customers where order date is less than or  
equal to this date will be displayed.  
:ehelp.  
:epnlgrp.
```



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When running the program

The screen looks like this (It IS a very simple screen...)

```
CUSTOMER
FROM      TO
_____  -

ORDER DATE
FROM      TO
_____  _____
```

The cursor is in the customer “TO” field.

The F1 key calls up the help text for this field:

```
CUSTOMER
FROM      TO
_____  -

ORDER DATE
FROM      TO
_____  _____
```

Help

FLTER/CUS_TO - ending customer number.

The highest customer number to display.

Bottom

F2=Extended help F3=Exit help F10=Move to top
F12=Cancel F13=Information Assistant F14=Print help