

## Technical Bulletin

### ISS45 Q-EMPTY — Use the Correct Parameters

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You can avoid corrupting V7 and V8 QDX files on both V7 and V8 systems by making sure you use the Q-EMPTY command properly.

New features added to ISS45 are using QDX file areas that have never been employed previously. However, when a person Q-EMPTYs a file, the system writes data into that QDX file, and the Q-EMPTY command will write different data to the file depending upon the parameters used with the Q-EMPTY command.

*It is critical that you use the right parameters to avoid corrupting system functions!*

For example, here is the output of the Q-EMPTY and Q-EMPT32 executables when no parameters are provided:

Q-EMPTY V5.00 (Win32) - Empty Quickdex file.

Usage:           Q-EMPTY /Enn       = empty file number nn (fill with C0H )  
                  Q-EMPTY nn       = empty file number nn (fill with C0H )  
                  Q-EMPTY /Znn     = empty file number nn (fill with ZERO)

Note that the file will either be filled by Hex C0s or all zeroes depending on which parameter you use.

If the file is filled with Hex C0s, the system may exhibit problems when a new feature using that QDX file is added to the system:

- A once-unused portion of a QDX file will now have bits turned on; i.e. Hex C0s.
- Such turned-on bits may cue the new feature to perform unintended tasks or operations.
- The new feature may not be coded to handle the turned-on bit, leading to unpredictable system behavior or results.
- Keep in mind – it could be that the Q-EMPTY was run against the QDX file a very long time ago, but a new feature only now is looking at that QDX file.

*The bottom line is that the Q-EMPTY /Znn command should be the only one used to empty any QDX file.*

As an example, you can see on the following page a “corrupt” POSConf.qdx file – from a site that upgraded from 8.1.2.0 to 8.1.5.0. In this case the C0 record prevented enhanced member promotions from awarding any discounts.

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C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe - fred
|-----|
| ADDR      +0 +1 +2 +3 +4 +5 |HEX| +6 +7 +8 +9 +A +B +C +D +E +F |
|-----|
000400  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
000410  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
000420  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
000430  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
000440  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
000450  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 77 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000460  00 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
000470  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
000480  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
000490  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
0004A0  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 24-2D 2E 2C 20 26 46 20 24
0004B0  20 20 20 20 20 20 20 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
0004C0  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
0004D0  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
0004E0  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
0004F0  C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0-C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0
|-----|
|-----|ASCII|
0123456789ABCDEF
.....
.....
.....
.....w.....
.....
.....
.....$-,&F$
.....
.....
.....
|-----|
|-----|GENERAL INFO|
"POSCONF.QDX" - 205824 bytes, reclen = 256 (100h)
Record 5 (5h) of 804
VIEW MODE
<F1> gives help, <ALT>E to enter EDIT MODE

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