

Re: [OpenVMS Alpha V7.3-2] Batch/Print Job Numbering

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- *From:* "AEF" <spamsink2001@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 19 Feb 2006 20:35:03 -0800
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David J Dachtera wrote:

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Peter 'EPLAN' LANGSTOEGER wrote:

In article
<43F6A30C.BCF5B109@xxxxxxxxxxxx>,
David J Dachtera
<djesys.nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxx> writes:

[...]

If you can, try this:

```
$ SUBMIT/qualifier(s) filespec/HOLD
$ JENTRY = F$FAO( "!7ZL", '$ENTRY' )
$ SET ENTRY
'$ENTRY'/LOG=[ddcu:<dir>]filename_'JENTRY'.LOG/NOHOLD
```

That will produce fewer logs to sift through since you can then get a listing of every entry number used for that job in ascending order by entry number.

Personally, though, I agree with Michael: if the job is retained on error, that entry number won't be re-used so long as that queue remains retained.

That's not his problem. Imagine his queue numbers run from 1 to 1000.

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His system runs 3000 jobs one day. Now he has found that entry 442 has been retained on error. Now which of the 3 log files that contain 442 is the one that was retained in the queue??? Even though job 442 may be retained in the queue, that same number may have been used earlier in the day.

How many times has that entry number been re-used?

Well, in this case, 3. But apparently it is too much. I think even a low number is too much because you may have to do it many times. It's like putting your return address on an envelope by hand. A former housemate once made fun of pre-printed address labels as "Gee, how lazy can you be?" Well, he didn't pay many bills himself. If he had to do it a dozen times a month or more I think he'd get the point.

If the job's entry number:

```
$ enbr = F$GETQUI("DISPLAY_JOB","AFTER_TIME","THIS_JOB")
```

...is output to the log file, that will help narrow it down, but not pin-point the target log.

Again, he wants it narrowed down completely.

Interesting thing about /RETAIN: if a job is retained, even when a queue is set /RETAIN=ALWAYS, /DELETE of the log file doesn't take effect until the entry is itself is DELETED.

Well, that's good, no? I'm sure you'd complain if the log file were deleted upon completion!

So, one other possible solution might be to SET the QUEUE /RETAIN=ERROR and specify a "null" queue as the default print destination for batch logs, then SUBMIT the jobs using /NOKEEP explicitly (to override any defaults due to symbols, etc.). That way, the only batch logs that will remain on disk are those where the entry was retained due to the queue's current SETTINGS.

That narrows it down even further. SHOW ENTRY/FULL or the appropriate F\$GETQUI() calls to automate the task for an entry would then be useful to get down even closer to the target log using the completion time of

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the job and the RDTs of the log files on disk.

It would be most helpful, of course, if the queue manager would update the entry with the actual target filespec for the log file. Then again,

Yes, that would indeed be nice, at least for this case.

given that there does not seem to be a way to retrieve that outside of a great deal of VMS "black magic", that may not even be possible right

Well, get the job_pid with f\$getqui, make a temp file from show dev/files, and search the temp file for the pid -- is that a lot of black magic? (It *is* a somewhat roundabout way of doing things, but sometimes you have no choice -- as in calculating the number of combinations of n things taken r at a time. This is described in probability field as follows: If you can't count the sheep, count their legs and divide by four.) The macro that achieves the same result may be, but it's already written and just has to be hunted down in archives of this ng.

now. It would likely require considerable enhancement to LOGINOUT.EXE(?).

Why doesn't he just add some kind of index or timestamp to the log-file name? That seems like the best solution to me.

AEF

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