NORTH PLAINS SYSTEMS INC.

TeleScope Design Documentation

Editorial Info File Format

Revision 1.0

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1.   Overview

This document describes a data format used in two places in the TeleScope system:

1) Within the "•Editorial Info" files used by the TeleScope Engine in monitored folders, where the data described in this document is stored in the data fork of the file

2) Within the *jobs* table in the TeleScope database, where the data described in this document is stored in the *job_data* column.

The purpose of this data format is to describe, in a simple, text-only format, the contents of the editorial information which can be stored with a document imported into the TeleScope database. The TeleScope Engine uses this data from the "•Editorial Info" file in folders it is monitoring to provide constant information for files it will import from the folder. Other TeleScope software uses this data in the *jobs* table of the TeleScope database to simplify data entry in editorial dialogs by providing a popup menu of named "job" information from which the user can select to pre-fill the fields in the dialog.

2. Data Format

The editorial info format is a simple text stream consisting of 15 text fields, with each field being terminated by a field terminator character (ascii 0x03). Each of the text fields represents the contents of one of the fields in the editorial information dialog. The fields are in the following order:

Field	Max. Length	Notes
country	31	
state	31	
city	31	
transmission name	31	
transmission service	31	
paper clip	8	The text in this field will be a numeric string, and must be converted into a number before being shown in the dialog, or stored in the TeleScope database.
category	9	
sub-categories	255	
short description	255	
user notes	255	
keywords	255	The text in this field will be a list of words separated by spaces, with each word representing a keyword to be assigned to the document.
creator	255	
file version	6	The text in this field will be a numeric string, and must be converted into a number before being shown in the dialog, or stored in the TeleScope database.
long description	255	Even though the long description field in the TeleScope database can hold up to 2048 characters, this field in the editorial info format is limited to 255 characters.

date created	31	This field will contain text which represents a date & time stamp, in the following format: YYYY/MM/DD hh:mm:ss. This text must be parsed out into a date formate before being displayed in the dialog, or stored in the TeleScope database

All fields, including the last, are terminated by the field terminator character (ascii 0x03).