READ_RALLY V2.5

User's Manual

Product description

This document explains how to use the READ_RALLY utility. The application is designed to translate VAX RALLY Report Utility output into a VAX DOCUMENT file.

Revision/Update Information: This is a new document

Operating System and Version: VAX VMS V5.3 minimum

Software Version: READ_RALLY V2.5

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Overview

Introduction

This document describes how to use the READ_RALLY application. It generally describes the purpose and concept of the application, lists the required software and software limitations, and describes the commands needed to use the application. You should be familiar with the VAX RALLY Report Utility, as well as VAX DOCUMENT, before using this application

Purpose

The READ_RALLY application was designed to translate the output from the VAX RALLY Report Utility into a file that can be processed by VAX DOCUMENT. This text file can then be processed with VAX DOCUMENT and then printed on a Postscript

Description

The VAX RALLY report utility documents all the objects, action sites, and procedural code in your RALLY application in great detail. the problem is that humans can't always deal with so many details at once, and often desire an organized overview of the application. READ_RALLY will document each major application object into separate chapters, and it ignores many of the details of the applications. For example, it records very few of the cross-references and action sites.

Required software

While this application only requires VAX VMS V5.3 to run, it is assumed that the user also has the following software:

- VAX RALLY -- minimum version V2.0
- VAX DOCUMENT -- minimum version V1.0

Document output

The user will be interested to know that the following VAX DOCUMENT features are used:

- Index entries are created for all major and minor object types. The major object entries are cross-referenced by object type. When an object is defined, a bold entry is created. When an object is referenced by another object, a non-bold entry is created.
- Objects that are called from within an ADL procedure (e.g. External Links, Parameter Packets and ADL procedures) are indexed.
- Action sites in form/report packets (only) are documented and indexed.

Form/report action sites are **not** documented or indexed.

Limitations

READ_RALLY has the following limitations:

- Only External Links that use the *Standard* parameter passing mechanism are supported.
- Report Utility files with cross-references are **not** supported.
- There is a limitation in the number of form/report objects that are supported. It is currently set at around 600 objects. A minor change to the source code could produce a "big memory model" version that would extend that limitation.
- Form/reports **must** have elements in them; at least a text area.

To Run READ_RALLY

Steps

To run READ_RALLY, you must perform the following steps:

1. Generate the input file using the following RALLY command:

   RALLY REPORT/NOHEADER appl_name/OUTPUT=appl_name

   Substitute the name of your application for 'appl_name'. This will produce a Report Utility file with complete details, but no cross-references. The /NOHEADER qualifier will remove the page breaks. This qualifier is **required**.

2. Process the input file with READ_RALLY, using the following command:

   RUN READ_RALLY

3. Enter the name of the file to process. The default file type is '.DMP', which is also the default for the RALLY Report Utility. READ_RALLY will produce an SDML file suitable for processing with VAX DOCUMENT.

4. Process the output file with VAX DOCUMENT with the following command:

   DOCUMENT appl_name REPORT */INDEX

   This will run DOCUMENT using the REPORT doctype. The asterisk (*) will cause DOCUMENT to list the available output devices on your system (e.g. LN03, PS, Mail, etc.). The /INDEX qualifier will generate a separate index file.

5. Choose the device you want. You can also substitute your favorite output device for the asterisk, so long as it is available.

6. Print the file that DOCUMENT generate on the appropriate printer.

Support

Introduction

Basically, this is an unsupported application. The author and Digital Equipment Corporation disclaim all responsibility for this program or its actions. It is not even intended to be a particularly good example of how to write a program in the VAX SCAN programming language.

Making Your Own Changes

READ_RALLY is written entirely in VAX SCAN. SCAN was chosen because of its ability to efficiently process text strings and match patterns. In order to modify the source code, you will need the VAX SCAN compiler. See your Digital Sales Account Manager for this. (It is one of the least expensive compilers available.)

Source Code

The source code is composed of two files:

- READ_RALLY.SCN — The main program
- INDEX_ADL.SCN — Finds the callable components in the ADL code

Compiling And Linking

Each source file should be compiled separately, and then linked together into the READ_RALLY.EXE executable image.