

User Guide for VVencode/VVdecode

1 Guide to using VVcode

- general introduction

1.1 VVencode command options

- described in a generic manner with operating system specifics at the end of the section

The general syntax of the VVencode command line is:

```
vvencode [options] input-file [options] [output-file] [options]
```

There are two *parameters* and many optional *qualifiers*. The parameters are:

input-file

output-file

The command qualifiers modify the behaviour of VVcode and are all optional. Qualifiers may appear before, between or after the parameters. The qualifiers acceptable to VVencode are:

debug Write copious debugging output to the standard error device or to the log file if the `+log` qualifier was specified. This qualifier would normally only be used when trying to report a VVencode problem and may indeed have been disabled for the version that you are using.

encoding_table file-spec

Read the encoding table to be used from the file `'file-spec'`. The file must contain the 64 characters to be used by VVencode. If this qualifier is not specified, the default VVencode encoding table will be used.

format file-format

Explicitly specify the file format that should be assumed by VVencode when it is reading the input file. The `file-format` value must be one of `'fixed'`, `'stream'` and `'variable'`. This qualifier would only be used if it was necessary to override the value determined automatically by VVencode.

header_filespec file-spec

help VVencode will display a usage message on the standard error device and exit.

log file-spec

mode file-mode

Explicitly specify the file mode that should be assumed by VVencode when it is reading the input file. The `file-format` value must be one of `'binary'` and `'text'`. This qualifier would only be used if it was necessary to override the value determined automatically by VVencode.

overwrite

record_length

split_size

timestamp time

translation_file file-spec

1.2 VVdecode command options

The general syntax of the VVdecode command line is:

```
vvdecode [options] input-file [options] [output-file] [options]
```

1.3 Operating system specific considerations

1.3.1 MS-DOS

- qualifiers introduced with '/' or '-' and must be separated from each other by whitespace
- values separated from qualifier by '=' or ':'
- optional values supported
- VVcode will act as a filter when '-' is specified as the input or output file
- optional file specification for 'log' qualifier
- examples of VVencode usage

1.3.2 OS/2

- qualifiers introduced with '/' or '-' and must be separated from each other by whitespace
- values separated from qualifier by '=' or ':'
- optional values supported
- VVcode will act as a filter when '-' is specified as the input or output file
- optional file specification for 'log' qualifier
- GCC 2.1 implementation does not support file timestamping
- HPFS file names supported
- OS/2 extended attributes not supported yet
- examples of VVencode usage

1.3.3 Unix

- qualifiers introduced with '-' or '+' and must be separated from each other by whitespace
- values separated from qualifier by whitespace
- optional values not supported
- VVcode will act as a filter when '-' is specified as the input or output file
- examples of VVencode usage

1.3.4 VAX/VMS

- qualifiers introduced with '/'
- values separated from qualifier by '='
- standard VMS CLD conventions
- optional values supported
- VVcode will act as a filter when '-' is specified as the input or output file though meaningless on VMS
- optional file specification for 'log' qualifier
- examples of VVencode usage

1.3.5 VM/CMS

- qualifiers introduced with '(' and must be separated from each other by whitespace
- values separated from qualifier by '=' or ':'
- command line driven through REXX EXEC
- optional values supported
- VVcode does not support input or output from/to standard I/O
- optional file specification for 'log' qualifier
- examples of VVencode usage

1.4 Transferring files between systems

- file type and format
- character set
- electronic mail
- timestamping

1.5 Unusual applications of VVcode

- character set conversion
- file type conversion
- VMS file format conversion vs. CONVERT

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