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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