

# The dtSearch WPCCHARS Utility

The dtSearch WPCCHARS utility enables you to customize the handling of extended characters in WordPerfect documents. WordPerfect uses 14 "character sets" to provide support for symbols and non-English alphabets. Each character set contains up to 256 characters.

When dtSearch displays a WordPerfect document containing these characters, it needs to be able to translate from the WordPerfect character set into the characters that your system displays, the Ansi character set. dtSearch uses a table called wpchars.dat to tell it which Ansi character corresponds to each of the characters in the 14 WordPerfect character sets. The wpchars.dat file supplied with dtSearch 4.0 is designed to work with the US English Windows character set.

## To see how dtSearch handles each of the WordPerfect characters,

1. Choose **View File** from the File menu in dtSearch
2. Look in your WordPerfect program directory for a file called charactr.doc, which is a document containing all of the WordPerfect special characters. View this file in dtSearch.

## To change the way dtSearch handles a few specific characters

1. From the DOS prompt, in the dtSearch directory, enter the following command:

```
wpchars d wpchars.dat charlist.txt
```

This will generate a text file called charlist.txt that will contain a table listing all of the WordPerfect characters and how dtSearch displays each one. Each line of the table looks like this:

```
0,65 A
```

The first number is the WordPerfect character set, the second number is the character number within the set, and the letter following the two numbers is the Ansi character dtSearch uses to represent the WordPerfect character. In the above example, character number 65 in character set 0 is represented by the letter "A".

2. Edit the table in charlist.txt using Windows' notepad editor.  
Note: Because the characters must be in the Ansi character set, you cannot use a DOS-based editor to edit charlist.txt.
3. From the DOS prompt, in the dtSearch directory, enter the following command:

```
wpchars b charlist.txt wpchars.dat
```

This will build a new wpchars.dat file from charlist.txt.

## To generate a new wpchars.dat

If your system uses a non-English version of Windows, you may need a substantially different wpchars.dat table to translate WordPerfect characters into the character set that your system uses. To determine whether you need to do this, view the WordPerfect document charactr.doc (it will be in your WordPerfect program directory) in dtSearch and see whether the characters displayed are correct.

To generate a new wpchars.dat for your system

1. Get into WordPerfect for Windows.
2. Open charactr.doc
3. In WordPerfect for Windows, choose **Save As** from the File menu.
4. At the bottom of the Save As dialog box will be a box labelled **Save File As Type**. Choose "**ANSI (Windows) Text**" from the list in this box.
5. Save the file in your dtSearch directory as chars.txt. Example: c:\dtsearch\chars.txt
6. From the DOS prompt, in the dtSearch directory, enter the following command:

```
wpchars b chars.txt wpchars.dat
```

The wpchars utility will build a new wpchars.dat from the chars.txt file.