TYPE June 1.

>Gene Plantz BBS/1-2-3 Users
>SYSOP
>Company Name
>123 Lotus Lane
>City, ST. ZIP

>RE: 123 Macros & Symphony

>Dear 123 Users:

I've always become frustrated when I try to use 1-2-3 to write short business correspondence. I find it a hassle each time to have to set the range, left and right margins, and headers, footers, and setup string if necessary. After all that half of my letter would print on the print roller and half on the paper. Then I would need a typewriter to address the envelope!

|So I made this short file with a menu and some simple macros to|print my letters and envelopes. I use both a PC with a NEC|Spinwriter (letter quality) and an XT with an MX-80 (dot matrix).|The NEC has a cut-sheet feeder. For some reason beyond me, the NEC|manual instructs me to insert paper with the left margin at one half|the width of the paper (i.e. Paper 8.5" wide would be inserted|at 4.25).

I use 123 Release 1A and my macros make use of the /xc & /xr |commands. If you're using an early version of Lotus, you can |replace the /xc's and /xr's with /xg's and range names you add. |However, you will need three separate menus for choosing the printer |type: one each for pages 1,2, & 3. The /xr's need to be replaced |with /xg's with range names returning macro reading to the cell
|below the /xg it came from. When using subroutine calls (/xc's & |/xr's), a single /xr will return to one of any number of /xc's
|that it may have been called from. This illustrates the advantage
|of using /xc's and /xr's instead of /xg's....(I hope!). The
|subroutines here are very simple and can easily be modified.

I have no real programming experience and would appreciate responseIfrom those who could suggest improvements and comments in generalabout the structuring of macros or any other programming tips.I tend to make things too complicated and end up with "spaghettiIcode". You can modify the macros to suit individual needs oruse the similar ideas in your own worksheets.

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The sub-menu to choose printers may or may not be useful to you, but my main purpose was to show a use for /xc & /xr. A choice of the letter quality printer sets margins according to that halfthe-width-of-the-paper nonsense. (an advantage of which may be printing close to the left edge of the page -- not possible when inserting paper at the far left of the printer, I guess!?)

Choosing the MX-80 sets the print to bold (since some people have trouble reading dot-matrix print especially when it's time for a new ribbon). I use this primarily for internal correspondence. The macros prompt you for headers and footers. You can quickly add, for example, a header with TO: and FROM: info and a footer with the date or something. If you want none, just press ENTER.

With a letter quality printer, the envelope is printed from the name and address data of the first five lines in page 1.

Since those of you who downloaded this use 1-2-3, I thought it would be appropriate to use the rest of this space to summarize some main points of a Symphony review from the June 84 issue of "Personal Computing."

Symphony is based on a spreadsheet and, in my opinion is geared for users with a concentration on numbers with the WP and database functions as frosting on the cake. This is in contrast to Framework which is for the word-oriented user.

|A user can change the nature of Symphony's windows. While writing
|a letter in the word processor you can touch a key and have
|displayed within your letter a spreadsheet with which to insert
|existing cells or formulas. The same is true with the database.
|You can enter a database window from within the WP window and
|extract records from an existing database to be included in your
|letter. Then, return to the word processor and continue typing with
|the spreadsheet or database data enhancing your letter. This data
|will be updated if it is later changed in the corresponding section
|of the spreadsheet or database.

Macros are more sophisticated and are now called the Symphony Command Language (SCL). A Learn mode automatically records your keystrokes for macro development. Lotus promises a utility program to translate macros into the Symphony Command Language.

|F10 brings up the system menu.

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|F9 brings up the "local" menu. (i.e. spreadsheet, if that is your |current window.)

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Page 3

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String-manipulation is allowed and the following "@" functions have been added:

1) @ASCII -- Returns the ASCII value of the first character of a

(2) @CHR -- Returns the ASCII character represented by a number.

- (3) @LENGTH -- Returns the length of a string.
- (4) @LEFT -- Returns specified # of char. starting at the left.
- @MID -- Returns specified # of char. starting at the middle
- @RIGHT-- Returns specified # of char. starting at the right
- |5) @UPPERConverts a string of characters to upper or| @LOWERlower case
- (6) @VALUE -- Converts a label like "7/8" to a numeric value, 0.875

Exploded pie and high-low-open-close charts are available. A graph setting sheet has been added to simplify setup & modification.

The database generates its own left-aligned data entry form from field names and lengths you supply.

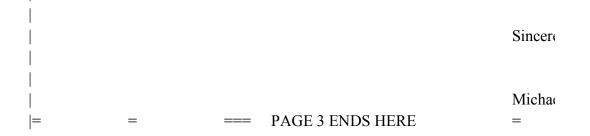
Word processing includes insert/delete, search/replace, move/copy,
line spacing setup, justification, and tabs. Mail merge is possible
lthru a combination of database, spreadsheet, and WP.
Symphony's word processor is easy to use but "it's not Wordstar."
Not available is the ability to count the number of words and/or
lcharacters, hyphenation, foot-noting, index generation, spelling
lchecker, or multiple fonts.

"On the other hand, including a section of a spreadsheet...in the middle of a report with Wordstar takes...some real file-manipulation magic."

Communication includes automatic dial-up, logon, ability to dump downloaded data into a spreadsheet or database, transfer files, and store multiple sets of parameters, etc. for different databases.

The article sums up by stating that the spreadsheet has noticable enhancements over 1-2-3; yet the other applications, when compared against stand-alone word processors or databases, fall short. For the user who needs to easily integrate all types of data, Symphony is "uniquely powerful and compelling" and should suffice for a wide range of users' needs.

Before I forget, the menu in this file is available thru [Alt]-Z. After you print this, you can erase the text by choosing "Erase" from the menu and begin using it for your own correspondence. Also, page 1 is shorter because I use it with letterhead paper.



DATE BELOW , 1984 {home} /xmmenu1~

Type. Begin typing a new document {goto}n/a~ /xq

/xmprinter_menu~

Letter Quality (NEC)			
Insert paper into NEC printer			
/ppoml34~mr104~mt0~			
qq			
/xr			
/xc command above.			
This inturn calls			
up the "printer_menu" allowing the choice of print			
d returns macro execution to the ed it, (whether it be from the prin n Menu1).			

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Print Page 1	Page 2	Page 3	
Choose type of printer and priChoose type of printer and priChoose type of printer and pri			
{goto}page1~{left}	{goto}page2~{left}	{goto}page3~{left}	
/ppcarpage1~q	/ppcarpage2~q	/ppcarpage3~q	
/xcprinter~	/xcprinter~	/xcprinter~	
/ppagpq	/ppagpq	/ppagpq	
{home}	{home}	{home}	
/xmmenu1~	/xmmenu1~	/xmmenu1~	

Dot Matrix (MX-80) Quit Set paper perforation even witReturn to previous menu /ppoml4~mr76~mt2~mb1~ /xmmenu1~ s\027\069~ /xq h{?}~ f{?}~ qq /xr

ters.

e cell below nting of Page 1, EnvelopeErasePrint Envelope...Insert envelojErase current letter/ppcrrn/a~/reerase1~oml65~mr104~mt2~/reerase2~p24~q/reerase3~ll{goto}n/a~agpq/xmmenu1~

Save Save the current letter to disk {home} /fsletter~r /xmmenu1~ Quit Leave this menu