

**# 76            Formatting Alpha Fields**

Written by Dave Dell'Aquila

Published    March 4, 1988

Uppercasing the first letter of each word in a string

**Syntax**        *Caps(strexp)*

*Caps* is a function which accepts a string passed to it and will convert the first letter of each new word to uppercase. It will accept spaces, dashes, and apostrophes as valid word delimiters. For example, if you pass it **dell'aquila**, it will return **Dell'Aquila**, **henkens-mayall** will return **Henkens-Mayall**, and **santa claus** will return **Santa Claus**. It will leave letters imbedded in words alone, so **mckormick** will return **McKormick**. Create a global procedure called *Caps* (you may use any name you like) and place the following code in it.

```

$1:=CheckChar ($1;" ")        `uppercase any character following a space
$1:=CheckChar ($1;"-")        `uppercase any character following a dash
$1:=CheckChar ($1;"'")        `uppercase any character following an apostrophe
                                `you may add characters to check if you wish
$0:=$1

```

The following the procedure *CheckChar* is called by *Caps* for each delimiter you wish to use as a valid word break. It uppercases the first character passed to it and calls itself to uppercase any remaining characters after the delimiter.

```

$pos:=Position($2;$1)
If (($pos>0)&($pos<Length($1))
    $0:=Uppercase(Substring($1;1;1))+Substring($1;2;$pos-1)+ CheckChar (Substring($1;$pos+1;Length($1)-
                                $pos);$2)
Else
    $0:=Uppercase(Substring($1;1;1))+Substring($1;2;Length($1)-1)
End if

```

**Example**        [File1]LastName:=Caps([File1]LastName)

