NOTIS Mark/Send Downloading of LUIS Records

General Information:

The NOTIS Mark and Send commands have been implemented on DALNET's LUIS mainframe computer. This allows downloading of LUIS records from the mainframe to PCs connected via SNA, a direct Internet connection (campus ethernet network), or a PPP/SLIP dial-in Internet connection. Mark/Send works in public mode only; staff mode downloading (of full bibliographic or authority records) is not supported.

The file transfer protocol is a widely-used (but old) IBM product called IND$FILE. For the process to work it is necessary to have communications software which supports IND$FILE on the PC. IBM's PC3270 terminal emulation software will be supported for SNA-connected PCs; McGill University's TCP3270 will be supported for PCs connected via a direct Internet connection or a PPP dial-in Internet connection. (At the current time only IBM-compatibles are supported; there is a new version of TCP3270 for Macintosh that we might support in the future).

Here's a rundown on the two configurations currently supported:
a) TCP3270 (McGill University), for Windows 3.1 or above; 386 or above IBM-compatible PC with a direct Internet connection or a PPP dial-in Internet connection. This is what I am recommending/supporting for users.

b) PC3270 (IBM), for IBM-compatibles running DOS, connected to LUIS via SNA. This is intended for staff who have older, SNA-connected PCs in their offices; there may be some of these machines in public areas as well.

Other communications software packages will work if they support the IND$FILE file transfer protocol. I've looked at Extra for Windows with SNA and it should work but I have not written instructions for it yet. Check your documentation to find out how to issue the receive command (that is that part of the procedure that is software-dependent).

The Mark/Send commands can be enabled by terminal ID, so that selected workstations may be configured to allow or not allow downloading. The initial implementation will enable Mark/Send for the remote access terminal pools (dial-in and Internet access), and the building ethernet terminal pools at WSU, including the Oakland Center. We will enable PCs in public service areas and staff offices on request.

The mark/send downloading procedure involves three steps: marking NOTIS records, issuing a send command on the mainframe, then issuing a receive command on the PC. The first two steps are the same for all users; the format of the receive command (the third step) differs depending on the communcations software running on the PC.

1. Mark the LUIS records to be downloaded:

a) Mark LUIS records by typing the **MARk** command while the desired record is displayed. Each record marked is placed in a storage area called the **mark stack** on the mainframe. (MARk will appear as a command choice at the bottom of the screen on workstations for which downloading capability has been enabled.)

b) LUIS records may also be marked from any index screen. Example formats:

MARk n	Marks record n on the index
MARk x-z	Marks records x through z.
MARk n p t-x z	Marks records n, p, z, and t through x.
MARk all	Marks all records on the index screen.

Note: You can't use these parameters from an individual record display (you will get an error message: "Parameter only allowed with MARK and PRINT on index screen); they only work from an index screen.

c) The message "Mark command successfully processed" will appear each time the mark command is issued.

d) Records are appended to the mark stack in the order in which they are marked. Records that are marked more than once will appear only once in the file that is downloaded to the PC.

e) The maximum number of records which may be marked and downloaded at one time is 100. The message "maximum number allowed has been exceeded" will appear if the records specified in a mark command would cause the mark stack to be larger than 100 (and this last mark command is not executed).

2. Send command (send the mark stack from the mainframe to your PC):

a) Type **SENd** on the command line to send the mark stack from the mainframe to your PC. Issuing the send command clears the mark stack. (SENd does NOT appear as a command option on the bottom of the screen).

b) The message, "Switch to your PC session now and RECEIVE your file using * as the name," will appear.

c) The default send format is **brief**. This will send the information from the brief record display to your PC. You may change the send format to **long** to send the information from the long record display to your PC. To do this, type **set send long** on the command line.

3. Receive the mark stack as a file on the PC (Using TCP3270):

a) Pull down the **Transfer** menu from the top of the screen.

b) Select **Receive (download)**. A dialog box, titled "Download a File," will appear. Be sure these boxes under "General Options" are checked: ASCII, CRLF. (These are the default settings and usually will not need to be changed). Under "Host System," CICS should be selected. (The default is CMS; it seems to work OK either way).

c) Type an asterisk (*) in the "Host File Name" box.

d) Type the name you want the file containing the LUIS records in the mark stack to have on your PC. This must be a valid filename under the operating system you are using.

e) The "Directories" box will display the directory where the file will be placed (the default directory). Use your mouse to select a different directory, or specify a complete drive\path\filename, to place the file somewhere other than the default directory.

f) Click the OK button. The file will be downloaded to your PC. A "File Transfer Monitor" dialog box will appear in the screen.

g) When downloading is completed, a "File Transfer Complete" message will appear on the screen. Click the dialog box's "Exit" button to return to LUIS. You will see this message: "Send command successfully processed. Please hit ENTER to continue."

h) Press **Enter** to continue searching LUIS. The mark stack is cleared when the send command is issued.

3. Receive the mark stack as a file on the PC (Using PC3270):

a) Press <Alt><Esc> to switch from the mainframe session to the PC. You should now be at the DOS command prompt.

b) Type **receive filename.ext *.*** and press <Enter>. "Filename.ext" should be replaced with the name you want the file containing the LUIS records in the mark stack to have on your PC. You may specify a complete DOS drive\path\filename to place the file somewhere other than PC3270's default directory.

   NOTE: You MUST use *.* even though the screen message ("Switch to your PC session now and RECEIVE your file using *) says to use * as the host file name.

   NOTE: Use your regular PC <Enter> key, which is usually different than the LUIS <Enter> key with PC3270).

c) After a series of messages ending with "File transfer complete," you will be returned to the DOS command prompt.

d) Press <Alt><Esc> to return to your LUIS mainframe session. You will see this message: "Send command successfully processed. Please hit ENTER to continue."

e) Press **Enter** to continue searching LUIS. The mark stack is cleared when the send command is issued.

Notes:
In DCAT the call number, location, and other holdings information is NOT downloaded. Downloading works for all databases, including REMOTE and INDEXES.

Configuring TCP3270 for LUIS Downloading:
If downloading consistently fails, TCP3270 may not be configured to receive files using the IND$FILE protocol. To do this:

a) Choose **session** or **session profile** from the **Options** menu.

b) Scroll down using the scroll bar on the left side of the screen and select **File Transfer**.

c) Initial action should be **No Action**; the host system should be **CICS**; and file transfer block size should be **4088**.

d) Enter **IND$FILE** for the file transfer program name.

by Jim Green

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