

Re: EOF location?

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Cobol/comp.lang.cobol/2006-05/msg00580.html>

- *From:* "Pete Dashwood" <dashwood@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 28 May 2006 20:07:43 +1200
-

"Rick Smith" <ricksmith@xxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:127ihv1n0jub63@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

"Pete Dashwood" <dashwood@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:4dsr45F1bi54rU1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

"HeyBub" <heybubNOSPAM@xxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:127hfdman9s836f@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Anyone know where the EOF is supposed to be located on a
PC file?

Er...please sir! please sir!... at the END of the file, sir!

In other words, if Windows reports a file is, say, 100 bytes
long, is

the

EOF (X'1A') supposed to be in the 100th or 101st byte?

I did a quick experiment using a DOS box....

Here's the results... (I have added comments for those who were not born
when the only option was a command line interface...these comments (as

this

is a COBOL forum) are prefixed with *>

===== start of DOS box =====

Re: EOF location?

Microsoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2600]
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*> Create a simple text file with the characters 1 thru 8...

```
C:\Documents and Settings\dashwood>echo 12345678 > testfile.txt
```

*> Make sure that testfile.txt DOES contain the expected characters...

```
C:\Documents and Settings\dashwood>type testfile.txt  
12345678
```

*> Get a directory report on the file...

```
C:\Documents and Settings\dashwood>dir testfile.txt  
Volume in drive C is PetesP4system  
Volume Serial Number is D499–5305
```

```
Directory of C:\Documents and Settings\dashwood
```

```
28/05/2006 17:07 11 testfile.txt  
1 File(s) 11 bytes  
0 Dir(s) 10,042,187,776 bytes free
```

It would appear that there are three more characters than we actually
input.

Windows reports the file as 11 bytes; yet only 8 characters were input...

Looks like a job for Hex Editor...(AXE version 3 ...)

```
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 20 0d 0a
```

Aha! NINE characters were input; I inadvertently entered a space... (x20)

So, the answer to your question:

YES, the two characters which indicate EOF (in the Windows environment)

ARE

included in the file size reported by the Operating System. Your Hex 1F

EOF

is incorrect for a text file (possibly COBOL uses a different EOF, but I doubt it); it is x'0D' x'0A' and both these characters ARE INCLUDED in the

Re: EOF location?

size reported by the OS.

So that settles it?

Try using, copy con: testfile.txt.

After typing the numbers 1 through 8, press F6 then Enter.

On Windows 98SE, I get 8 characters in the file.

Copying a console stream (or an existing file) is NOT the same thing at all. The COPY command will only duplicate EXACTLY what it gets (this can be modified by the various options to the command, but the default is an exact duplication of whatever is in operand 1). If there is no EOF marker then it won't be copied or created on the output. That is why I chose to use ECHO and redirect the output from it.

What does F6 do?

As to it being settled, that is for HeyBub to decide. If he's using Win 98 SE he may be very interested in your results.

Pete.

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