



Introducing MineSight®-DART

This article introduces a new utility program called the MineSight®-Data Reformatting Tool or simply, MineSight®-DART. This new tool is a stand alone program that can be used to reformat any ASCII data file.

The program dialog contains four tab pages; by design, they are to be filled out in sequence from left to right. When executed, MineSight®-DART opens on the **Load Options** tab page where you must specify the name and path to the input and output files (Figure 1). The path and filenames can either be typed into the input fields or use the **Browse** button to locate the files.

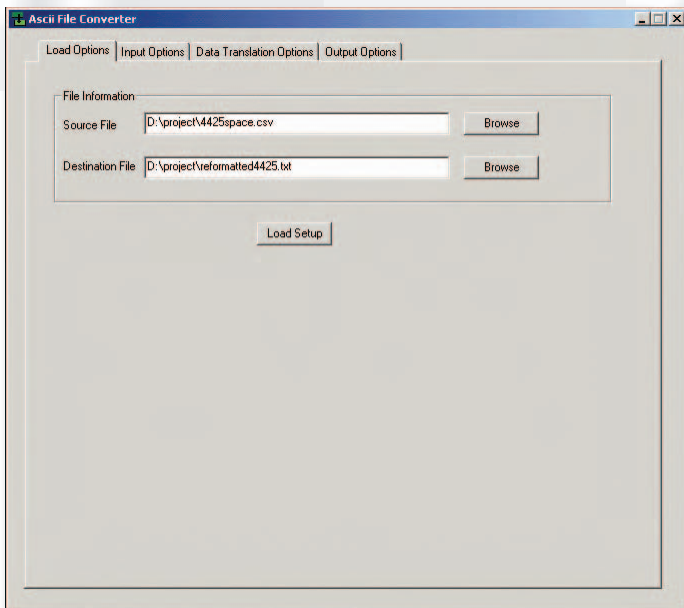


Figure 1. Load Options tab page dialog in MineSight®-DART.

If the program has been run before, and the input parameters were saved to a Setup file (discussed later on in the section about Output Options), then click on **Load Setup** to use previously saved parameters.

Then go to the **Input Options** tab page to specify information about the file to be reformatted (Figure 2). First specify the column delimiter used in the input file (**Comma, Space, Other, Fixed Column**). You can get this information from the **Original File** section of the dialog where the ASCII input (source) file is displayed without having to open the file in a text editor elsewhere.

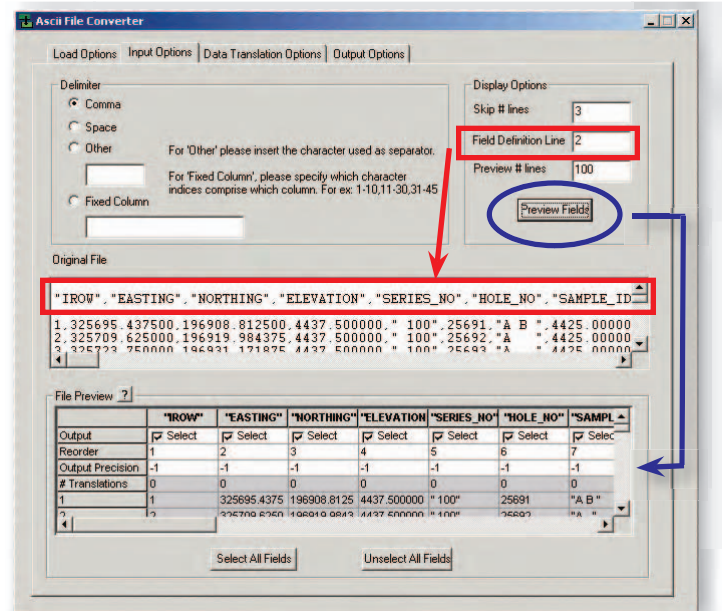


Figure 2. Input Options tab page dialog in MineSight®-DART.

Next, in the **Display Options** section of the dialog (in the upper right), you will need to specify the number of lines to skip over, the location of the **Field Definition Line**, and how many lines you would like to see displayed in the **File Preview** section. The information in the **Field Definition Line** will be used later on in the **Data Translation Options** tab page dialog. By default, the **Preview # lines** is set to 100.


In the example shown in Figure 2, the **Field Definition Line** (“IROW”, “EASTING”, etc.) is located on line 2 in the input source file (as shown outlined in red), and there are blank lines above and below this line, hence there are 3 lines to skip over before the program is to read the data lines.

After the **Display Options** section has been filled out, click on the **Preview Fields** button and the **File Preview** section of the dialog will be populated (as indicated in blue, in Figure 2).

In the **File Preview** section, you can select which columns to output, reorder them for output (put what was in column 1 in the source file into a different column in the output file) and change the precision. All of the fields are initially chosen by default for output when you click on **Preview Fields**. A

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precision of “-1” will use the same precision as in the source file. The **# Translations** and subsequent data lines are read-only. For information and help with the **File Preview** section, click on  and a helpful information dialog will be displayed (Figure 3).

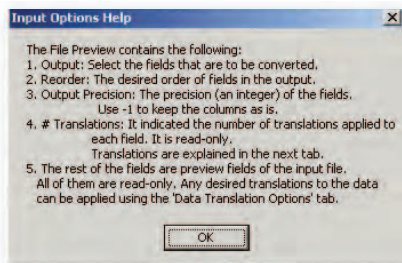


Figure 3. File Preview information dialog.

The next tab page dialog is the **Data Translation Options** (Figure 4). Any manipulation of the data can be done on this page (Figure 4).

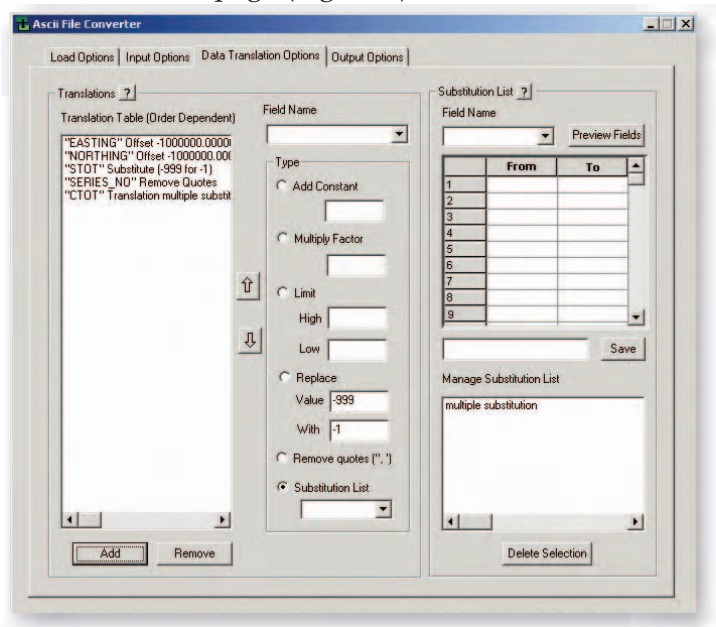



Figure 4. Data Translation Options tab page dialog in MineSight®-DART.

If you want to manipulate the data, start by finding the field to be changed by selecting the **Field Name** button. The **Field Name** list is taken from the **Field Definition Line** (from the previous tab page dialog), but is comprised of only those fields that were selected to be output on the **Input Options** tab page.

Types of Manipulations available are:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Add a Constant | Adds or subtracts (if negative to the field by the value entered). |
| Multiply Factor | Multiplies the field by the value entered. |
| Limit | Limits the values in the selected field by the specified range. |
| Replace | Replaces a particular value in a field with another value. |
| Remove Quotes | If the data in a field contains “ ”, this option will remove them. |
| Substitute List | Substitutes different values for multiple values in a field. |

The Substitution List section of this dialog is activated only after that **Type** has been selected.

For more information about **Translations** and how to use this function, click on  and a helpful dialog will be displayed (Figure 5).

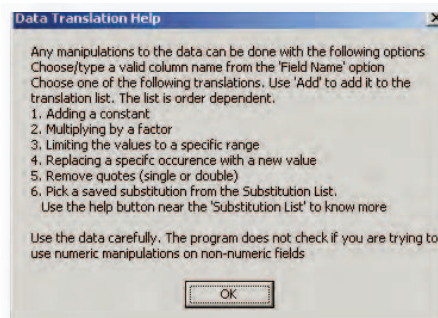



Figure 5. Translations help dialog.

For more information about **Substitutions** and how to use this function, click on  and a dialog will be displayed (Figure 6).

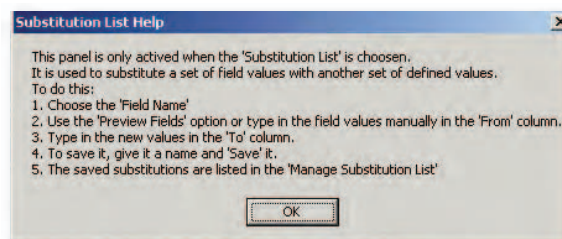


Figure 6. Substitution List help dialog.

Once you are satisfied with the specified data translations, go to the **Output Options** tab page (Figure 7). This dialog is where you specify the delimiters to use in the output file; **Comma**, **Space**, **Other** (you specify), and **Fixed Format**.

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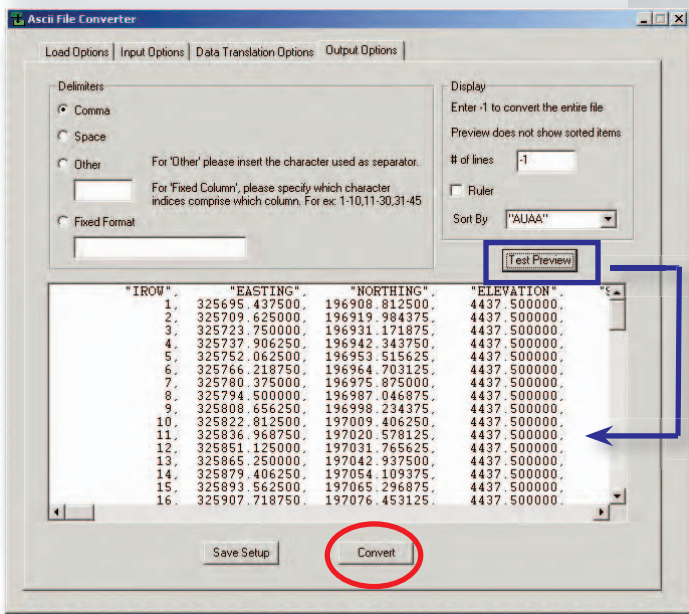


Figure 7. Output Options tab page dialog in MineSight®-DART.

Click on the **Test Preview** button to preview the output, as shown in Figure 7. As it states on the dialog, use “-1” in the **# of lines** field to convert the entire file. Otherwise, specify the number of lines from the file to convert.

To sort the data by one field, choose the field from the drop down list. Numeric values can be sorted, but alphanumeric sorting is currently unavailable. When previewing the output, only unsorted values are displayed. The values are sorted in the output file.

When you are satisfied with the setup and selections, click on the **Convert** button and MineSight®-DART will convert the data and create the output file, as specified on the **Load Options** tab page dialog (Figure 1).

Toggle **ON** the **Ruler** to display a column ruler across the top of the **Preview** screen (it is activated when you click on the **Test Preview** button again) (as shown in Figure 8).

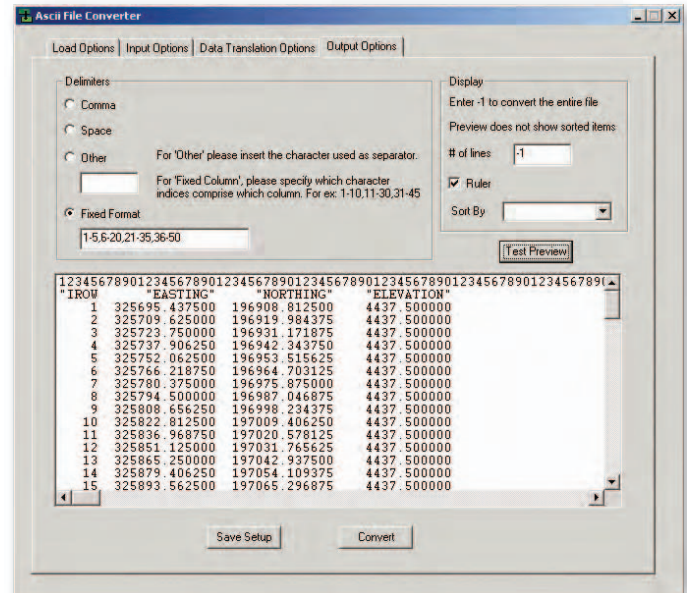


Figure 8 shows the Output Options page using a fixed format for the output and the Ruler option is toggled ON.

If you will be converting multiple files that have the same format and fields in the input files, the same data translations, and the same output format, etc., click on the **Save Setup** button. This creates an ASCII parameter file in the current working directory. Then, to use this setup again, click on **Load Setup** on the **Load Options** tab page (Figure 1).

For more information about MineSight®-DART or to obtain a copy, check our FTP site (ftp.mintec.com), or phone Mintec Technical Support at 520.326.1860.

Correction From August 2005 newsletter, page 3

Regression slope is calculated by the following formula: $(\sigma_b^2 - \sigma_k^2 + LGM) / (\sigma_b^2 - \sigma_k^2 + 2 * LGM)$

where

σ_b^2 is the block variance, σ_k^2 is the kriging variance, and LGM is the Le Grange Multiplier

The correct formula and definition is:

Regression slope is calculated by the following formula: $(\sigma_b^2 - \sigma_k^2 + |LGM|) / (\sigma_b^2 - \sigma_k^2 + 2 * |LGM|)$

where

σ_b^2 is the block variance, σ_k^2 is the kriging variance, and $|LGM|$ is the absolute value of the Le Grange Multiplier.

**Announcing
MineSight® 3-D version 3.50
to be released soon;
loaded with new tools
and functions!**