

Technical Document

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Document Title: Using Message Files to Store OPNQRYF QRYSLT Parameters
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Document Description:

To simplify the building of the OPNQRYF (Open Query File) QRYSLT (Query Select) parameter you can use an entry in a message file using the technique below. Using this technique allows you format the selection criteria without the need to use concatenation:

First, create a message file to be used for storing the QRYSLT parameters using the Create Message File (CRTMSGF) command:

```
CRTMSGF FILE(QGPL/QRYSLT)
```

Then all you need to do is to ensure that your CL program contains the following elements:

First, define a variable to contain the QRYSLT information...

```
DCL VAR(&QRYSLT) TYPE(*CHAR) LEN(2000)
```

...and any variables to be used in the QRYSLT string. Note, in all cases these must be character fields...

```
DCL VAR(&DATE1) TYPE(*CHAR) LEN(6)  
DCL VAR(&DATE2) TYPE(*CHAR) LEN(6)
```

The message description is added temporarily, so it needs to be removed from the message file if it is already there. This allows for repeated use of the program. To use this technique in multiple programs, simply use different message identifiers that are unique to the individual program:

```
RMVMSGD MSGID(SLT0001) MSGF(QRYSLT)  
MOMMSG MSGID(CPF0000)
```

Now add the “template” for the QRYSLT parameter to the message file. Note, that we are using substitution parameters to mark the positions where variable data is to be used:

```
ADDMSGD MSGID(SLT0001) MSGF(QRYSLT) MSG('Active Orders in +  
Range') SECLVL('TYPE ="A" & ORDATE = %RANGE(&1 &2) +  
STATUS ="0"') FMT((*CHAR 6) (*CHAR 6))
```

Now, all that needs to be done is for the formatted QRYSLT parameter to be retrieved from the message file and the OPNQRYF command to be run:

```
RTVMSG          MSGID(SLT0001) MSGF(QRYSLT) MSGDTA(&DATE1 *CAT +  
              &DATE2) SECLVL(&QRYSLT)  
  
OPNQRYF FILE(ORDERS) QRYSLT(&QRYSLT) KEYFLD(*FILE)
```