Automated Field Resizing

Reduce risk, cost and effort with X-Resize, a solution that automates the approach to field resizing in IBM i databases and related RPG application environments.

A description of Fresche’s field resizing solution, X-Resize. The solution automatically resizes database fields and all fields in affected RPG programs. X-Resize also provides highly detailed, customizable reports that analyze and document the impact of any resizing effort on IBM i. X-Resize greatly reduces the cost, effort and risk involved in re-sizing projects.
Automated Field Resizing on IBM i

Automated Resizing: Database Field Expansion and Impact Report

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Field Resizing Solution Features

- Automated field expansion conversion
- Decimal position conversion
- Detailed impact analysis for all instances: fields, variables, programs, displays, and reports, including aliases.
- Integrated project control documentation
- Automated source conversion for many object/source types
- Automated bulk recompiling
- Automated data conversions
- Exception reports for overlays and other problems
- Optional Unicode conversion features (additional cost)

Automation Makes the Task Manageable

As companies expand, they often outgrow the current size of fields in their databases. To accommodate further growth of the business, these fields must be expanded. Field expansion causes numerous cascading changes throughout an application. It affects fields in many files and cascades through variables across numerous programs. There are many exceptions and code-related problems that affect the scope of the work that needs to be done. Once all exceptions have been resolved, the X-Resize solution can mass apply all the changes and recompile the file and program objects affected. Attempting to perform field expansion manually for anything but the smallest databases is next to impossible. X-Resize provides all of the tools necessary to identify and help resolve issues at all stages of the resizing project. With a solution such as X-Resize, you can easily set up a highly automated resizing project.

Resizing projects include the following highly manageable phases:

- Analysis – To load the application into the tool, create the re-size project, run the analysis, and resolve all the variables that affect the scope of the effort.
- Coding – To mass apply all the changes via X-Resize, and apply any manual coding changes required before the programs are sent for testing.
Automated Field Resizing on IBM i

Automated Resizing: Impact Report

The Setup screen lets you specify exactly what you want to see in the Impact Analysis report.

Benefits of Using X-Resize, An Automated Re-Sizing Solution

X-Resize helps you carry out any resize project by assisting with the following:

- Accurately defining the scope for the field resize project.
- Resolving all exceptions that can affect the scope of the resize project.
- Identifying all manual program changes required so that they can be scheduled for implementation.
- Developing a project plan, including timeline and resourcing requirements for the Implementation phase of the project.
- Automatically resizing the fields in the project in all affected files and programs.

The Impact of Changing a Field

The impact of changing a field of a physical file has repercussions on many components: programs, logical files, displays, menus and related data files may be affected by such a change. Furthermore, program variables used to store values from any modified fields are likewise affected. Consequently, implementing such a change requires the labor intensive tasks of identifying the impact on the current system and modifying any affected components. X-Resize simplifies this task by providing a comprehensive suite of reports and drill-down inquiries that identify any system components that may be affected by changing a field definition. In addition, the tool provides exception reports for instances where, for example, the conversion of the display files cannot be completed automatically because of overlapping fields or screen size restrictions. X-Resize has sophisticated search criteria including aliases, exclusion words, and predefined sets which make the tasks of identifying and reporting the impact of any changes accurate and efficient. Once identified, the tool automatically converts each field and file that it finds, including all inferred references drilling down through programs, variable names and prefix renames, while marking all auto-changes and all changes for manual user intervention that may cause problems.
At a Glance...

X-Resize Solution Provides Wealth of Automated Functionality

X-Resize is Fresche's IBM i solution for automatic resizing of database fields and all fields in affected RPG programs. The menu screen presented here gives you an idea of all the automated functionality that can help you accurately carry out complex resizing projects.

The most important benefit of X-Resize’s automated functionality is risk reduction. Trying to identify and resolve every impact of a re-sizing project is almost impossible to do manually. X-Resize effectively eliminates the guess work and handles all aspects of the resizing task.

One of X-Resize’s strongest features is its detailed impact analysis for all instances of the resized object: fields, variables, programs, displays, and reports, including aliases.

Automated Field Expansion - Summary

- Decimal position conversion
- Detailed impact analysis for all instances: fields, variables, programs, displays, and reports, including aliases.
- Integrated project control documentation
- Automated source conversion for many object/source types
- Automated bulk recompiling
- Automated data conversions
- Exception reports for overlays and other problems
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Ready to Learn More?

X-Analysis products are available in a variety of configurations. At Fresche Solutions, we work closely with you to assess your needs and recommend the best solutions. To get started, contact us using the information below:

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1.800.361.6782 (Worldwide)

X-Analysis Advisor is the main offering in the X-Analysis suite, which includes productivity and modernization tools for your IBM i applications and databases. Following is a brief description of the solutions in the suite:

**Understanding and Impact Analysis:** An IBM i analysis tool that provides automated online documentation and powerful impact analysis.

**Business Process Mapping and Metrics:** A complete IBM i analysis tool, providing automated documentation, impact analysis, business rule extraction and code quality metrics.

**Data and Test Management:** Analysis of data quality; data archiving, data subsetting and data anonymization. Test data automation and management.

**Field Resizing:** Automated resizing of all occurrences of a field throughout your entire application environment; includes detailed problem analysis.

**CA 2E Analysis:** Everything required to analyze and document CA 2E applications. Includes business rule extraction and code quality auditing.

**Application Modernization:** RPG, COBOL and CA 2E (Synon) automatically converted to Java.

**Database Modernization:** Automated conversion of DDS to DDL, including creation of constraints, long field names and views.

**Open Systems Analysis:** Cross-referencing and documentation of Java, PHP, and other languages.

About Fresche Solutions

Fresche is the leading provider of automated digital transformation enablement for companies who rely on IBM i systems. Through its transformation framework (tools, processes and methodologies), Fresche delivers high quality application modernization as a service (MaaS) in addition to a wide range of optimization solutions.

With over 400 digitally connected colleagues around the world and an extensive network of over 200 business partners, Fresche collectively brings clients the best solutions to drive innovation and IT success. For more information about our company, visit us on the Web at www.freschesolutions.com