

BREXX/370 V2R2M0 Software and Migration Notices

Document Version 1.0 created on 15. September 2019

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Content

This document covers the amendments and changes in the new version of BREXX/370 V2R2M0. For changed functionality, it contains the migration instruction to upgrade from the previous release(s). The installation process is separately described in the BREXX/370 Installation document. New features or functions are described in details in BREXX/370 User's Guide:

BREXX370_Users_Guide_V2R2M0.pdf or

a separately mentioned document.

All documents are contained in the installation zip file

Upgrade from a previous BREXX/370 Version

Before upgrading to BREXX/370 V2R2M0 backup your system. The easiest way is creating a copy of your TK4- directory containing all of your settings and the DASD volumes. In the case of errors or unwanted behaviour, you can easily recover to the backup version.

I. Important Changes

If you migrate from an early Version of BREXX/370 then additionally take a look into the Migration Notices of V2R1M0, which is contained in the installation zip file

1. Software Changes requiring actions

OPEN Function

In the **OPEN(ds-name,, 'DSN')** Function the third parameter DSN has been removed to achieve closer compatibility to z/OS REXX.

Change Required:

Replace `OPEN(ds-name,, 'DSN')` by

OPEN('ds-name',) putting the ds-name in quotes or double-quotes signals BREXX that an open for a ds-name instead of a dd-name

If you use a BREXX variable instead of a fixed ds-name the quotes must be coded like this:

```
file='BREXX.RXLIB'  
OPEN("`"file"")
```

QUALIFY Function

The **QUALIFY(ds-name)** function added in TSO environments the user-prefix. This function has been removed as its functionality has been integrated into the OPEN function.

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BSTORAGE Function

The BSTORAGE function has been removed as it was a temporary solution for users of the very first BREXX/370 version. If you plan to keep it, take a copy from the previous RXLIB library.

2. Reduction of Console Messages

In previous releases, console messages have been displayed during the search of a called REXX script in the BREXX search path. It reported the library name if it was not located in the specific library. This messaging has been significantly brought down. These messages only appear if the called member could not found anywhere in the search path.

3. Known Problems

3.1. Reading Lines from sequential Dataset

Reading lines of sequential datasets always truncate trailing spaces. This may be an unwanted behaviour for fixed-length datasets. To circumvent this problem you can use the following method:

If the dataset is allocated via a DD statement:

```
X=LISTDSI('INFILE FILE')
fhandle=OPEN(infile,'RB')
Record=READ(fhandle,SYSLRECL)
```

If the dataset is used directly:

```
dsn='HERC01.TEMP'
X=LISTDSI('"'dsn"'")
fhandle=OPEN('"'dsn"'",'RB')
Record=READ(fhandle,SYSLRECL)
```

LISTDSI returns the necessary DCB information (SYSLRECL). The OPEN must be performed with OPTION 'RB' which means READ, BINARY. Read uses the record length to create the record.

3.2. BREXX FORMAT Function

The BREXX FORMAT function differs from the standard behaviour of REXX FORMAT:

*FORMAT rounds and formats number with **before** integer digits and **after** decimal places. **expp** accepts the values 1 or 2 (**WARNING Totally different from the Ansi-REXX spec**) where 1 means to use the "G" (General) format of C, and 2 the "E" exponential format of C. Where the place of the total width specifier in C is replaced by **before+after+1**. (**expt** is ignored!)*

After determining the code we discovered that a complete re-write would be necessary. As the effort does not stand in proportion to the benefit, we decided to leave it as it is.

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II. New Functionality

1. BREXX functions

Support of Formatted Screens

There is a separate BREXX Formatted Screen document:

BREXX370_Formatted_Screens_V2R2M0.pdf

for details on functions and usage please take a look into it.

Integration of VSAM I/O

There is a separate BREXX VSAMIO document:

BREXX370_VSAM_V2R2M0.pdf

for details on functions and usage please take a look into it.

EXECIO Command

Allows accessing sequential datasets either fully or line by line. For details refer to the BREXX/370 User's Guide:

BREXX370_Users_Guide_V2R2M0.pdf

2. BREXX functions coded in REXX

For details of these functions refer to the BREXX/370 User's Guide:

BREXX370_Users_Guide_V2R2M0.pdf

CLRSCRN Function

Clears the TSO screen by removing all lines from the TSO Buffer.

CEIL Function

Returns the smallest integer greater or equal then the decimal number

FLOOR Function

Returns the greatest Integer less or equal then the decimal number

DCL Function

Enables definition of copybook like definitions of REXX Variables, including conversion from and to decimal packed fields.

P2D

Converts Decimal Packed Field into REXX Numeric value.

D2P

Converts REXX Numeric value into Decimal Packed Field.