

Clarion Data File Conversion

Occasionally it is necessary to add or change fields in a data file. This can cause an error to be displayed if the data file has not been converted to match the program dictionary. This event is not uncommon and is a normal part of system administration.

A data file mismatch is indicated by an error 47 screen which appears when you have tried to access a file within the MTQ Insurance program.



In the above case, the Agents file does not match the program dictionary and must be converted before it can be accessed. Click Ok on the error window.



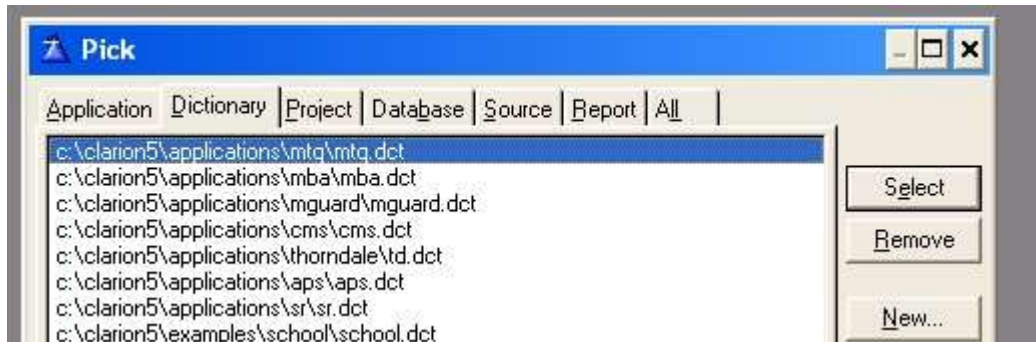
The program will fail and the user will be dropped out to the windows desktop.

To convert the changed file you must ensure that ALL users are out of the MTQ Insurance Program. Be careful of workstations which have left the program running and the user has left the office. Make sure all workstations have closed the program.

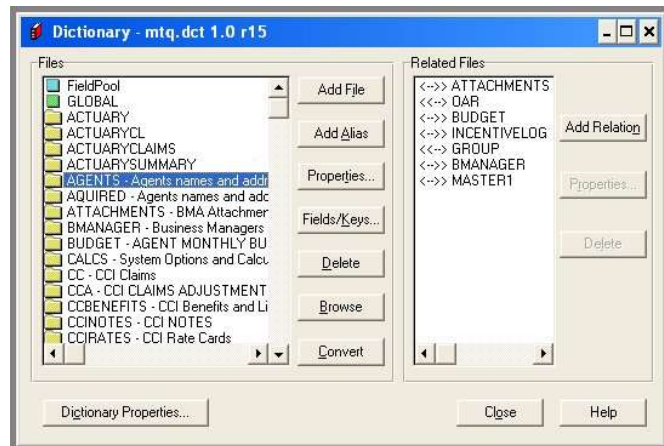
On a workstation with the Clarion5 program installed (Andrew's computer and also Susan's computer) start the Clarion interface by double clicking the Clarion icon on the desktop.



You will be presented with the Clarion Pick window... if not, click on File and select Pick from the menu.



The Pick window display will be different for your system but the important thing is to select the Dictionary Tab (shown above) and it will contain a list of the Clarion Dictionary files it has recently accessed. Make sure that the highlighted dictionary file point to the MTQ.DCT file on the mapped drive on the file server. This will normally be L:MTQ.DCT. Click on Select to display the dictionary window with the files displayed.

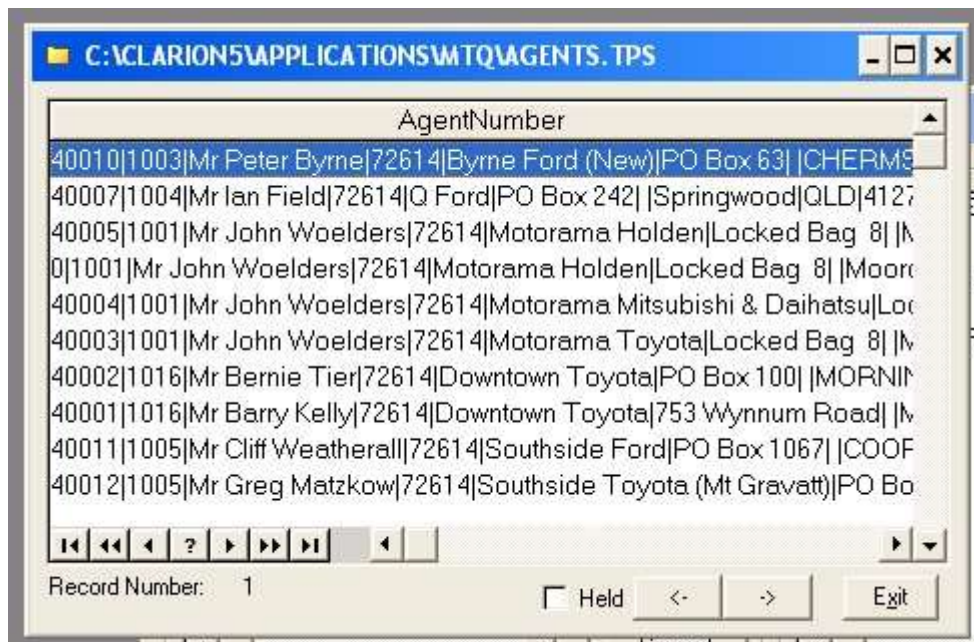


The file that required converting in our example is AGENTS. Highlight the AGENTS file and click on the Convert button. Once the records have been converted you will be advised that the conversion is completed.



Click on Ok to continue.

A window will open showing the raw data in the converted file. You can go ahead and close this window by clicking on Exit and then close the dictionary window.



You have successfully converted the data file and you should be able to access the file in the Insurance program without any problems.