

Franek Computer Systems
Travel Solutions Providers

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Chameleon Travel System

Batch System Maintenance

Version 1.0

Revision Information

Author	Date	Version	Description
JCF	15/02/2006	1.0	New Document

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
BATCH CONTROL.....	3
How batching works.....	3
TRACKING BATCH PROGRESS.....	9
Display Batch Queue.....	9
Removing Items from the Queue	10
Removal of Completed Items.....	10
Removal of Pending Items.....	11
Removal of 'stalled' items	11
Finding Out why a Batch has failed	12
Manipulating an entry in the Batch queue	14

Introduction

Many of Chameleon's reports have been written so that they can be submitted to a queue for processing at a later date / time / recursively.

This is commonly referred to as Chameleon Batch processing, and it is usual for you to place the programs that you wish to use in this way together onto a 'Batch Menu' for ease of use together with the Batch Status Report and the Ghost Maintenance & Control module which enables you to set up and control the background tasks that are active within your system

Batch Control

How batching works

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File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help

SELECTIVE BOOKINGS REPORT Display, Print or Batch : P

Function : Report, Queue Invoice, Letter, Label, Booking Count, Dump
Analysis by : Source, General Code, Nationality, Operator,
Carrier, Hotel, Car Hire, Supplier

Include Branches: Operator Ref : . . .
Exclude Branches: Letter Ref : Clnt/Bkg : .
Booking Numbers : Client Profiles:
Booked Dates : Tour Codes :
Departure Dates : Balance Overdue: .
Itinerary Dates : Invoice Type : . Itinerary Type : .
Agent : . Refs : Accomm Code :
Supplier Refs : Canx Itinerary : . Itin. Values : .
BookingStatus : Opt : . Firm : . Tckts Collected: . Tckts Issued : .
Cnx : . Issued Dates :
Analysis Codes : Seat Class : . Bond Type : .
Source Codes : Supplier Type : . Curr : . Mrk: .
Carriers :
Departing from : Team : . . . Department : . . .
Arriving at : Code :

Batch Setup Mode Selected
AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM

Programs that have been programmed to work in batch, will identify this in the Option string that batch is available e.g. in the Selective Bookings Report above, if you enter "B" as the option, upon submission of this field the program confirms on line 24 that Batch Setup Mode has been selected and switches the Option to "P" (printer required for output), enabling you to continue with the selection criteria entry and through to printer assignment.

You will then receive a batch control screen, where you may specify when you want the job to run and how often.

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File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help

SELECTIVE BOOKINGS REPORT Display, Print or Batch : P

Function : R Report, Queue Invoice, Letter, Label, Booking Count, Dump
Analysis by : Source, General Code, Nationality, Operator,

BATCH PRINTING DETAILS

Incl Batch Start Date : 150206
Excl Batch Start Time : . . . : .
Book Reschedule : . . .
Book Program Reference : APSELB Selective Bookings Report
Depa Sent By User : FCS
Itin Message Type : . : .
Agen User to Snd Msg to : . . .
Supp Selected Printer : FX : .
Book Update Date fields : .
for batch re-run :
Anal No of Iterations : : .
Sour k: .
Carr

Departing from : Team : All Department : All
Arriving at : Code :

Processing Booking :

AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM

A sample Batch Control screen is shown above. The available fields are as follows :

- Start Date** This will default to today's date, but may be overridden to any future date
- Start Time** The time of day when you want the output from the job to be sent. Care should be taken when you specify this to ensure that this will be after the report / file creation time
- Reschedule** There are two control parameters:
- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Time Slice | Valid entries are: (D) aily
(W) eekly
(M) onthly
(L) ast monthly calendar date
(H) ourly
(!) minute |
| Slice Duration | Numeric |

So for example, if you want a report to run every day, you would set the parameters as D 1, or for reports that you want to run on the last day of each month, you would set these parameters to L 1 and so on

Great care should be taken when specifying the parameter ! as this will submit a request at 'n' minute intervals, so if you specify ! 15 , then the job will be re-submitted every 15 minutes

```

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File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help
SELECTIVE BOOKINGS REPORT                                     Display, Print or Batch : P

Function : R      Report, Queue Invoice, Letter, Label, Booking Count, Dump
              Analysis by : Source, General Code, Nationality, Operator,

BATCH PRINTING DETAILS
Incl  Batch Start Date   : 150206
Excl  Batch Start Time   : 0900
Book  Reschedule         : ...
Book  Program Reference  : APSELB Selective Bookings Report
Depa  Sent By User       : FCS
Itin  Message Type       : ...
Agen  User to Snd Msg to : ...
Supp  Selected Printer   : FX
Book  Update Date fields : ...
      for batch re-run   : ...
Anal  No of Iterations   : ...
Sour  Batch Time > Fax Start Time █
Carr

Departing from : ... Team : All Department : All
Arriving at    : ... Code : .....
Processing Booking :

AnzioWin Version 12.6zf NUM
  
```

The program reference and requesting user are automatically loaded by the calling program and cannot be overridden.

Message Type

You can ask the batch processor to let you know when the job has Completed using Chameleon's onboard messaging system. Valid delivery types are:

'A' lert	Delivered to the screen in real time
'M' essage	Delivered to your mailbox as a message
'R'eminder	Delivered to your mailbox as a reminder

User to Message

3 character user-id who is the message recipient

Printer for Output

You will have specified the output path in the printer window – this is shown here, but you may not override it, but have the opportunity to <F4> out of batch entry and abort the submission

Update Date fields (For Batch Re-run)

Valid entries are 'Y' / 'N'. Where the program you are running contains date fields in the selection criteria, it is possible to get Chameleon to automatically increment these dates by the re-submission period when the program is put back in the queue. e.g. if you have entered a run date of 070206 in your program and have specified W 01 in the reschedule period, then if "Y" has been entered in this parameter, Chameleon will access your selection criteria form and increment any date that has been 'flagged' for update by one week (seven days).

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File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help

SELECTIVE BOOKINGS REPORT Display, Print or Batch : P

Function : R Report, Queue Invoice, Letter, Label, Booking Count, Dump
Analysis by : Source, General Code, Nationality, Operator,

BATCH PRINTING DETAILS

Incl Batch Start Date : 150206
Excl Batch Start Time : 0900 : .
Book Reschedule : D 01 Daily
Book Program Reference : APSELB Selective Bookings Report
Depa Sent By User : FCS
Itin Message Type : . None : .
Agen Usr to Snd Msg to : ...
Supp Selected Printer : FX : .
Book Update Date fields : Y : .
for batch re-run : Y
Anal No of Iterations : 05 : .
Sour OK to Store Batch k: .
Carr

Departing from : ... Team : ... Department : ...
Arriving at : ... Code : ...
Processing Booking :

AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM

Nos of Iterations This field controls how many times you want the system to perform the Task, so in the example above, the system would run the report at 0900 every day for five days and then would not submit another job into the queue

If you have entered "Y" in the date field update parameter, the on OK to Store Batch, you may be presented with a further screen.

If the program you are submitting into batch has any date fields in the selection criteria AND you have entered a date into said field, then the system will re-present you with the data entry screen which will not show you any of your selection criteria, but will have a Yes / No entry field against any date field that you have entered. You must identify to the system which of the dates (if any) you want to be incremented by the 'reschedule period' prior to filing the job back in the queue.

If for instance we were to enter something in the From Booked Date and To Booked date fields prior to entering "Y" in the date update field, we would received the following screen:

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File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help

SELECTIVE BOOKINGS REPORT Display, Print or Batch :

Function : Report, Queue Invoice, Letter, Label, Booking Count, Dump
Analysis by : Source, General Code, Nationality, Operator,
Carrier, Hotel, Car Hire, Supplier

Include Branches: Operator Ref :
Exclude Branches: Letter Ref : Clnt/Bkg :
Booking Numbers : Client Profiles:
Booked Dates : Y Y Tour Codes :
Departure Dates : Balance Overdue:
Itinerary Dates : Invoice Type : Itinerary Type :
Agent : Refs : Accom Code :
Supplier Refs : Canx Itinerary : Itin. Values :
BookingStatus : Opt : Firm : Tckts Collected: Tckts Issued :
Cnx : Issued Dates :
Analysis Codes : Seat Class : Bond Type :
Source Codes : Supplier Type : Curr : ... Mrk: .
Carriers :
Departing from : Team : Department :
Arriving at : Code :

OK to Process

AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM

In the above example, because we have entered From/To Booked dates in our original screen, we now get a screen back with Y/N input fields alongside these two fields ONLY and if we enter "Y" into these, then after the job has been run for the first time, the system will re-submit it back into the queue for tomorrow (assuming we have entered D 1 as our reschedule period), and it will also add one day to the dates we specified in the From/To Booked Date fields.

After each submission, the overall iteration count held on the batch record is reduced by 1 until there are no further submissions to make.

It should be noted that if you enter 0 (zero) into the number of re-iterations on the batch input screen, and then you are indicating to the system that you wish it to continue submitting the job ad infinitum.

To ensure that the job is run only once, either leave the iterations field BLANK (default) or enter a 1 into it.

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File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help

SELECTIVE BOOKINGS REPORT Display, Print or Batch : P

Function : R Report, Queue Invoice, Letter, Label, Booking Count, Dump
Analysis by : Source, General Code, Nationality, Operator,

BATCH PRINTING DETAILS

Incl	Batch Start Date	: 150206	
Excl	Batch Start Time	: 0900	: .
Book	Reschedule	: D 01 Daily	
Book	Program Reference	: APSELB Selective Bookings Report	
Depa	Sent By User	: FCS	
Itin	Message Type	: . None	: .
Agen	Usr to Snd Msg to	: ...	
Supp	Selected Printer	: FX	: .
Book	Update Date fields		: .
	for batch re-run	: Y	
Anal	No of Iterations	: 05	: .
Sour	Batch Record Stored - Press a Key		k: .
Carr			

Departing from : ... Team : ... Department : ...
Arriving at : ... Code : ...
Processing Booking :

AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM

On completion of the Batch Printing Details page, the batch will be stored away in the queue, and control will be passed back to the program where you entered the batch procedure.

Tracking Batch Progress

Once a job has been submitted into the batch queue, you may review it's progress via the Batch Status Report.

Display Batch Queue

```

AnzioWin - 85.118.6.2
File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help
BATCH STATUS REPORT                                Display, Print, Edit or Remove : D

Start : First Start : Frst Program : All           User : All
Date  : Last  Time  : Last Status  : A

      Batch Program
Start Date Time Faxing Details User Printer Status
10Feb06 09:00 APINSS Alternate Unraised Itin Report 2FM X1 Completed
10Feb06 10:30 APINSS Alternate Unraised Itin Report FCS X1 Completed
10Feb06 10:45 APINSS Alternate Unraised Itin Report FCS X1 Completed
10Feb06 11:00 APINSS Alternate Unraised Itin Report FCS X1 Completed
15Feb06 09:00 APSELB Selective Bookings Report FCS FX Pending
      15Feb06 09:30
01Mar06 00:01 FSOUTF File Outload Routine FCS NU Pending
01Mar06 00:01 FSOUTF File Outload Routine FCS NU Pending
01Mar06 00:01 FSOUTF File Outload Routine FCS NU Pending
01Mar06 00:01 FSOUTF File Outload Routine FCS NU Pending
01Mar06 00:01 FSOUTF File Outload Routine FCS NU Pending
01Mar06 00:01 FSOUTF File Outload Routine FCS NU Pending
01Mar06 00:01 FSOUTF File Outload Routine FCS NU Pending
01Mar06 00:02 FSOUTF File Outload Routine FCS NU Pending
01Mar06 00:02 FSOUTF File Outload Routine FCS NU Pending
More? (Y/N)
AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM

```

The program allows the following entry criteria :

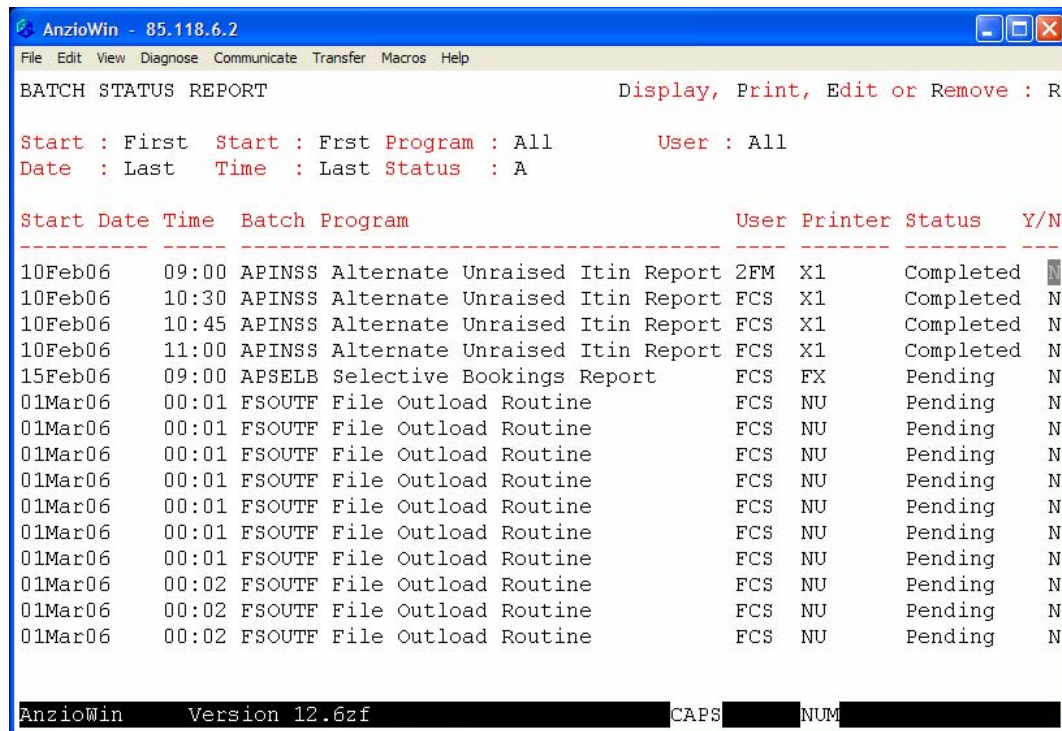
<i>Start Date</i>	From To	Default First Default Last	
<i>Start Time</i>	From To	Default First Default Last	
<i>Program</i>	>specify<	Default ALL	
<i>Job Status</i>	>specify<	Default ALL Valid entries are:	(P) ending (R) unning (C) ompleted (F) ailed (A) ll
<i>User</i>	>specify<	Default ALL	User who submitted the job

The program will display a list of all jobs in the queue which match your selection criteria, This queue is held in Date / Time sequence of the job to be run.

It should be noted that where the output printer is FX (output to fax / email) it is possible to specify an 'onwards transmission time' and this shows in the display format above (see the Selective Bookings entry) which details the job will run at 09:00 and output to FX at 09:30.

Please note that in the sequence of input, you get to detail the print time PRIOR to the job runtime, so you need to ensure that you remember to make this a few minutes after the run time you are about to enter of the following screen, or the system will complain about sequencing ! (see example above – Batch Time > Start Fax time)

Removing Items from the Queue



File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help

BATCH STATUS REPORT Display, Print, Edit or Remove : R

Start : First Start : Frst Program : All User : All
Date : Last Time : Last Status : A

Start Date	Time	Batch	Program	User	Printer	Status	Y/N
10Feb06	09:00	APINSS	Alternate Unraised Itin Report	2FM	X1	Completed	
10Feb06	10:30	APINSS	Alternate Unraised Itin Report	FCS	X1	Completed	N
10Feb06	10:45	APINSS	Alternate Unraised Itin Report	FCS	X1	Completed	N
10Feb06	11:00	APINSS	Alternate Unraised Itin Report	FCS	X1	Completed	N
15Feb06	09:00	APSELB	Selective Bookings Report	FCS	FX	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF	File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N

AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM

There are several reason why you may wish to remove items from the queue:

- ☀ Items are completed
- ☀ You become aware that the selection criteria you have stored against the job are invalid / incorrect
- ☀ The batch stream has stalled and you wish to restart it

Removal of Completed Items

In normal operation, it should not be necessary to remove items from the batch report queue, as these are automatically purged on entry into the program once they have been displayed and are over seven days old.

You may get a list of completed items at any stage by entering "C" in the job status filed. It should be noted that once the items have been removed from the queue, there is no record kept of the jobs that have been run.

Removal of Pending Items

If you have submitted jobs on an 'ad infinitum' basis, and simply do not want to run the program in batch any more, then you may safely remove the items from the queue by entering "P" in the selection criteria when in the remove option, and then identifying the items for removal by entering "Y" against them in the Remove (Y/N) column.

On OK to Process, the system will remove any items that have been thus identified from the batch queue.

Removal of 'stalled' items

If an item has been showing as 'Running' for a considerable period of time, then it is likely that this process has stalled / failed in an un-controlled manner. Usually if a program aborts in the batch stream in a controlled manner, then it will cleanly finish and be flagged as 'F'ailed in the batch stream which will be visible within the reporter.

There will be instances when a program meets an exception and stops, or the system administrator halts the batch stream 'mid-job', which will leave it showing as 'Running' in the control program, but in fact the job is no longer active. Under these circumstances, it will be necessary to remove the job from the queue and re-submit it.

Below is an example of where the batch job has failed 'cleanly' and has re-submitted itself for the following day :

Start Date	Time	Batch Program	User	Printer	Status
15Feb06	09:10	APSELB Selective Bookings Report	FCS	FX	Failed
16Feb06	09:10	APSELB Selective Bookings Report	FCS	FX	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending

Under these circumstances, you do not have to remove the item from the queue, and the follow on report has already been scheduled, however, you may need to investigate why the program has failed in operation.

In order to ascertain this, you need to look at the General Error Log, to see if there are any clues here that will tell us why it has failed.

In our example above, if we then inspect the error log for the appropriate date, we can see that one of the ghost tasks (G3 which happens to be the Batch Stream) has had a controlled failure at 09:10, and the FSSFLO reference tells us that the batch stream has been unable to Open and Lock the report file that it created.

It is always worth in the first instance picking the item up in Batch Status Report and editing the failed item to re-submit the same report back into the stream to see if it is subsequently successful.

Finding Out why a Batch has failed

The screen below shows the message in the Error Log against G3 :

```
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File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help
GENERAL ERROR LOG          Display, Print or Clear down : Display

From Date : 150206 &Time : Any      Terminal      : All      Program : All
To   Date : 150206 & Time : Any      User Initials : All

Date      Time Term User Program Line  Err Rev.  Other
-----
15Feb06 0910 G3   ???  FSSFLO 10910 014 1.37  FILE/DEVICE USAGE
15Feb06 0910 G3   ???  APBTGH 00000 000 APSEL
15Feb06 0932 T1   9SY  APDIAP 30130 014 1.69  FILE/DEVICE USAGE
15Feb06 0933 T1   9SY  APDIAP 30130 014 1.69  FILE/DEVICE USAGE
15Feb06 0934 T1   9SY  APDIAP 30130 014 1.69  FILE/DEVICE USAGE
15Feb06 1029 TO   QNG  APHELP 11300 046 First STRING SIZE
15Feb06 1158 Tt   9KM  APHELP 11300 046 First STRING SIZE

End of File
AnzioWin Version 12.6zf NUM
```

If a job fails in batch, you should first try and run it in foreground to see if it will run interactively. Often a program will display to you a more meaningful reason for failure to the screen (if this is failing in a controlled / by design way).

If the program will still not run, then you should email the Chameleon support team on support@franek.co.uk who will be happy to investigate the failure further for you.

Manipulating an entry in the Batch queue

This is done using the 'E'dit function built into the Batch Status Report.

It should be noted that it is not possible to review the selection criteria entered into the report itself – within the edit phase, you may simple re-submit fresh instructions for the output / timing of the batch job.

File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help

BATCH STATUS REPORT Display, Print, Edit or Remove : E

Start : First Start : Frst Program : All User : All
Date : Last Time : Last Status : A

Start Date	Time	Batch Program	User	Printer	Status	Y/N
15Feb06	09:00	APSELB Selective Bookings Report	FCS	FX	Pending	Y
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending	N

OK to Edit Marked Items

AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM

When the list of available items is displayed to you (in the example above, we have requested pending items only, but as we have seen above, we may want to pick up a 'F'ailed item in order to resubmit it back into the queue to check if it will now run), you should select the item/s which you wish to change by entering 'Y' in the Y/N column.

For each item that you have thus identified, the system will take you back though new batch printing / FX entry screens as appropriate and then re-schedule the job accordingly back into the queue (as Pending). These jobs will then be picked up by the Batch Processor in the normal way.

Firstly, you will be invited to re-enter the printer details:

AnzioWin - 85.118.6.2

File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help

BATCH STATUS REPORT Display, Print, Edit or Remove : E

Start : First Start : Frst Program : All User : All
Date : Last Time : Last Status : A

Start Date Time Batch Program User Printer Status Y/N

Printer Name [P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, A1, A3, Y1, Y2, H1, M1, C1, FX, X1, X2, NU, TT :]

Processing Item : 01Mar06 0002 FSOUTF 000003

Please enter new batch printer and details

AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM

If the designated output is to FX, then you would get the fax/email screen for input/verification

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File Edit View Diagnose Communicate Transfer Macros Help

BATCH STATUS REPORT Display, Print, Edit or Remove : E

Start : First Start : Frst Program : All User : All
Date : Last Time : Last Status : A

Start Date	Time	Batch Program	User	Printer	Status
15Feb06	09:10	APSELB Selective Bookings Report	FCS	FX	Pending
15Feb06 09:15					
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:01	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending
01Mar06	00:02	FSOUTF File Outload Routine	FCS	NU	Pending

AnzioWin Version 12.6zf CAPS NUM