

***ITScript* Net-Omni^ä**

Version 1.2

**Create Powerful Data Collection
Solutions - Simply and Easily**

**Migrating from *ITScript* Net-BATCH^ä or
ITScript Net-BATCH Plus^ä To *ITScript* Net-Omni^ä**



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Migrating from Batch or Plus to Omni

This guide will help you make the transition from **ITScript Net-Batch** or **ITScript Net-Plus** to **ITScript Net-Omni**. The new features of Omni will be presented along with the way they differ from similar features in Batch and Plus.

Basic Concepts

ITScript Net-Omni is an extension of **ITScript Net-Batch** and Plus. Every feature of these two levels is present in Omni. Many existing features in Batch and Plus have been extended to work over an RF link. There are also new features in Omni that were not in any previous level.

The new features of **ITScript Net-Omni** fall into three basic categories.

1. Extensions of existing features

Validation File lookups have been extended to allow performing lookups against an ODBC data source over the RF link. This includes the **LookupValidation** function, Picklists, and Must Be Found validations.

RF and Serial printers (including Bluetooth printers using Virtual COM ports) are supported in addition to IrDA.

2. Saving collected data

Collected data can now be saved to the terminal in batch mode, or sent immediately over the RF link. You can choose whether the RF link is required, or if data can be accumulated on the terminal until an RF connection can be made.

3. New Features

These include executing SQL Statements or VBScript code remotely over the RF link. There are also several new communication modes that can be used from uploading programs to the terminal, or downloading collected data to the PC.

The Omni Server

RF communications between the terminal and the PC is handled by the **ITScript Net-Omni** Communications Server running on the PC and the **ITScript Net-Omni** client running on the terminal. The communications server is configured with the ITB programs you have designed. When the terminals need to lookup data from a database or save collected records, the client connects to the Omni server over the RF link and the two programs work together to perform the operation.

Batch, RF and Hybrid Modes

ITScript Net-Omni supports database lookups and saving collected data in Batch, RF, or Hybrid modes.

Batch

Batch mode is the same as ITScriptNet Batch or Plus. All validation file lookups are against a local copy of the validation file which is stored on the terminal, and all collected data is saved on the terminal to be downloaded later. All of these features work exactly the same way in Omni. However, you can upload or download programs and data over the RF link while keeping the rest of the program Batch.

RF

You can require that the terminal establish an RF link when saving collected data or when performing a database lookup. In this case, if the RF link is unavailable, data collection can not continue. This mode would generally be used when you need access to live data on a database server and can not use potentially out-of-date data that was uploaded earlier.

Hybrid

This mode attempts to make an RF connection when saving collected data, but if a connection can not be established the program will accumulate collected data on the terminal. The terminal will automatically attempt to download periodically, and if an RF connection can be established, the data will be sent to the PC.

Licensing

ITScript Net-Omni uses a communications server for RF communications. This server requires an **ITScript Net-Omni** runtime license. Each terminal connecting to the Omni server also requires an individual terminal license. Licenses are available in multi-terminal packs. Uploading and Downloading with the Program Designer, Upload Utility, Download Utility, and Autodownload utility still only require a PC license (designer or runtime).

New Script functions

- **LookupValidationRecord.** This function is also available in Batch and Plus. Instead of looking up one field from a validation file, you can use this function to lookup an entire record. You can then use **LookupParseValidationField** to extract the individual fields. This reduces the number of round trips that must be made over the RF link and improves performance.
- **LookupParseValidationField.** This function is used to extract a field from the entire record returned by **LookupValidationRecord**.
- **CreateValidationRemote.** This function generates the validation file from the ODBC data source and uploads it to the terminal. You can specify match fields to create a filtered file.
- **RemoteScript / RemoteScriptFile.** These functions execute a VBScript on the Omni Server. You can specify the function and parameters to be passed.
- **RemoteSQL.** This function executes a SQL statement against an ODBC data source. The resulting record, if any, is returned.
- **SendCollectedData.** This function causes the terminal to send any collected records to the Omni Server for processing.

Remote Validation Files

The ODBC Validation File screen has been modified to allow **REMOTE** as a selection for the autogeneration mode. This mode is effective under the following circumstances:

1. Calling **LookupValidation** or **LookupValidationRecord** against a validation file which is configured as **REMOTE** causes a remote lookup. Any other option causes a local lookup.
2. Using a **Picklist, Must Be Found, Must Not Be Found, or Lookup Only** validation with a validation file configured as **REMOTE** causes the validation file to be generated remotely and uploaded to the terminal. The rest of the operations run locally (i.e. picklist scripts, etc).

Variable substitution in SQL criteria expressions.

When specifying a criteria expression on the ODBC Validation File screen in either the criteria box or in the direct SQL editor, you can use {xxx} variables to substitute variable data at run-time. For example, you can use the criteria expression:

```
FIELD = '{FieldVal}'
```

You can then call LookupValidation like this:

```
@Var@ = LookupValidation( "file.txt", "Lookupfield", "FieldVal", "1234" )
```

This will substitute the value "1234" for {FieldVal} in the criteria expression. Note that the parameter name in brackets does not have to be a field in the validation file, except on the 7200.

CreateValidationFileRemote

You can use the **CreateValidationFileRemote** function on any ODBC Validation File as long as the lookup mode is **Autogenerate**, **Manual**, or **Remote**. This pulls a filtered version of the file up to the terminal. If the file is configured as **Autogenerate** or **Manual**, you can then use the standard **LookupValidation** functions on the local copy of the file. This allows a hybrid mode of validation files, as you can periodically create an updated validation file on the terminal and then access it locally. Although you can pull a validation file with the lookup mode set to **Remote**, you will not be able to access the local copy since all calls to **LookupValidation** or **LookupValidationRecord** will make a remote lookup.

Collected Data

The Collected Data options screen controls how collected data is processed.

If you select **RF**, the terminal will attempt to send the collected data to the host after every record. The data must be processed to the host or an error will result. If the operator gets the error, he can retry or cancel. If cancel is selected, the collected data will be lost. If a utility password has been set, the terminal will prompt for it before allowing the operator to cancel.

If you select **Hybrid**, the terminal will attempt to send the collected data to the host after every record. If a connection can not be made, the terminal will accumulate the collected data and allow the data collection to continue. Any time a successful connection is made, all accumulated records will be processed. In addition, on the Windows CE or PocketPC terminals, an attempt will be made every 30 seconds to connect and send any accumulated data.

If you select **Batch**, the terminal operates like Batch or Plus. However, you can still call the SendCollectedData function to process the data to the remote host.