DAL: Access to VAX RMS Files

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TOPIC --

Is it true that DAL doesn't support accessing RMS files directly?

I would like to use DAL, but all the data on the VAX is stored under the
RMS system. Could you advise me of the possible alternatives to address
this need?

DISCUSSION --

DAL doesn't support RMS files directly.

If you have an experienced programming staff, they can look into writing a
database extension that can access RMS files. With the DAL database
extension, the database has to be relational and SQL-based. When you write
your own database extension, the program containing the data need not be a
database. For more information, please refer to Chapter 8 of Inside
Macintosh, Volume VI on Data Access Manager.

If you also use Rdb/VMS for database, you might want to look into a product
called DEC RdbAccess for VAX RMS on VMS. It provides direct read/write SQL
access to RMS files and a read-only VAX SQL access gateway to IBM VSAM (and
some non-VSAM) datasets. New applications can query and update the
existing RMS data files with any of the tools that work with Rdb/VMS
software, including VAX Data Distributor, VAX TEAMDATA, DECdecision, RALLY,
and DATATRIEVE products. You can use the same SQL syntax to write to both
Rdb/VMS and RMS files from an application. It's also a key tool if you're
considering converting RMS-based applications to Rdb/VMS applications, as
new applications can use SQL to access current RMS files.

Digital support shared a non-DAL solution: use DEC SQL Services API. You
can write a custom C front-end application in THINK C, or MPW C for the
Macintosh. If you don't want to write your own application, you can use
DECquery, which supports SQL Services API and DAL API.

Techgnosis Support confirmed that SequeLink can't access RMS files directly
either. However, using supplied libraries called SequeLink Engine, users

can write code that will respond to queries and access the RMS files.

To locate a vendor's address and phone numbers, use the vendor name as a
search string.

Keywords: <None>

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