DYALOG

The tool of thought for software solutions

User Commands
Release Notes

User Commands Version 2.3

Dyalog Limited

Minchens Court, Minchens Lane
Bramley, Hampshire
RG26 5BH
United Kingdom

tel: +44 1256 830030
fax: +44 1256 830031
email: support@dyalog.com
http://www.dyalog.com

Dyalog is a trademark of Dyalog Limited
Copyright © 1982-2018

Contents

1   About This Document

This document describes the changes and new features in user commands version 2.3 (released with the first release of Dyalog version 17.0) compared with user commands version 2.2 (released with the first release of Dyalog version 16.0).

1.1   Compatibility with Dyalog Versions

The user command framework version 2.3 is compatible with Dyalog version 17.0 only.

2   Functional Changes

This chapter details the changes made to user commands for version 2.3.

2.1   General Changes

2.1.1   Dynamic Output of Help Text

The user command framework's help syntax has been changed to improve consistency within Dyalog commands. The syntax revisions also enable auto-completion of user command names (this does not apply when running in command-line mode).

The syntax is detailed in Table *1*.

Table 1. **User Command Framework's Help Syntax**

Previous syntax	New Syntax	Description
`]??`	`]`	Display general help information
`]?`	`] -?`	List the names of all user commands in their groups
`]?+`	`] -??`	List and describe all user commands in their groups
`]?<group>`	`]<group> -?`	List and describe all user commands in the specified group
`]?<cmd>`	`]<cmd> -?`	Display brief information for the specified user command
`]??<cmd>`	`]<cmd> -??`	Display detailed information for the specified user command
`]???<cmd>`	`]<cmd> -???`	Display additional information for the specified user command
	`]Settings <settingname> -?`	Describes the purpose of the specified setting
`]?X*YZ*`	`]X*YZ* -?`	List all user commands or groups that match the specified pattern (`*` is a wildcard)
`]?/A/B/C`	`]/A/B/C -?`	List all user commands in directory **/A/B/C**

The previous syntax has been deprecated.

2.1.2   Error Messages

Prior to this release, error messages generated by user commands were prefixed by "⎕UCS 8". This prefix is no longer included.

2.1.3   Toolbar Button

This only applies to Dyalog on the Microsoft Windows operating system.

A new button, ⬚, has been added to the toolbar (**Session** operations). Clicking this button toggles the]Boxing user command on/off. When a Session is saved, the status of this button is preserved.

2.1.4   Detection of New User Commands

Setting]Settings newcmd auto (the default) enables automatic detection of new user commands. This has been extended so that the help for a new user command can be accessed without needing to use the]UReset user command first.

In addition, new user commands that are created using the]UNew user command or that are placed in the **MyUCMDs** directory are now automatically active without needing to specify]Settings cmddir -permanent.

On the Linux operating system, the **MyUCMDs** directory is located directly under the **$HOME** directory.

On the macOS operating system, the **MyUCMDs** directory is located directly under the **$HOME** directory.

On the Microsoft Windows operating system, the **MyUCMDs** directory is located directly under the **%USERPROFILE%\Documents** directory.

2.1.5   Source Code Location

Prior to this release, the location of the script containing the source code for a user command was included in the information returned when requesting help on that user command. This information has now been removed by default, and is only displayed when]UDebug is on.

The location is also returned by the new]UVersion <usercommand> user command or when loading a user command's source code with the]ULoad user command.

2.2   Changes – Groups

2.2.1   Renamed Groups

One group has been renamed. This is detailed in Table *2*.

Table 2. New Groups

Old Group Name	New Group Name
EXPERIMENTAL	DEVOPS

2.2.2   Changed Groups

One user command has been moved into a different group. This is detailed in Table *3*.

Table 3. Changed Groups

Old GROUP.Command name	New GROUP.Command name
MSWIN.Open	FILE.Open

2.3   Changes – User Commands

2.3.1   New User Commands

Some new user commands have been added. This is detailed in Table *4*.

Table 4. New User Commands

Group	User Command	Description
DEVOPS	Link	Links a namespace and a directory, synchronising changes. For more information, see https://github.com/Dyalog/link/blob/master/README.md.
SALT	Set	Synonym for the]Settings user command.
TOOLS	Help	Opens Dyalog's online documentation on (or provides URL for) any APL concept
UCMD	UVersion	Reports the framework version number, full name, source file location, version number, revision number and last commit information for a specified user command.

2.3.2   Changed User Commands

Some user commands have been changed. These are detailed in Table *5*.

Table 5. Changed User Commands

Group	User Command	Change
FILE	Open	Prior to this release, the]Open user command only worked on the Microsoft Windows operating system, it now also works on Linux and macOS. It has, therefore, been moved from the MSWIN group to the FILE group.
SALT	Settings	Information on individual parameter options and usage can now be displayed by entering]settings <settingname> -?

TOOLS	Demo	The specified text file can now be a **.demo** file as well as a **.dyalog** file or a **.txt** file. The file can be located in the current directory or any of the directories specified by the `]Settings workdir` parameter.
UCMD	ULoad	If a user command is specified that exists in different groups (for example, `]ULoad Compare`), all the possibilities are now loaded into the current namespace.
UCMD	UNew	Prior to this release, the `]UNew` user command only worked on the Microsoft Windows operating system, it now also works on Linux and macOS (the **New User Command Wizard** is only available on Windows). If a user command created with `]UNew` is saved in a location that is not included within the list of directories specified in `]Settings cmddir`, that list is now permanently updated to include the new location.

2.3.3   Deleted User Commands

Superfluous user commands have been deleted. These are detailed in Table *6*.

***Table 6*. Changed User Commands**

Group	Deleted User Command
MSWIN	ToHTML

2.4   Changes – Modifiers

2.4.1   New User Command Modifiers

New modifiers have been added to some user command to enhance their functionality. This is detailed in Table *6*.

***Table 6*. New User Command Modifiers**

Group	User Command	New Modifier	Description
UCMD	UNew	-nogui	This modifier only applies on the Microsoft Windows operating system. Opens a template in the **Edit** window rather than the **New User Command Wizard**.

2.4.2   Renamed User Command Modifiers

Some user command modifiers have been renamed to better describe their purpose. This is detailed in Table *7*.

***Table 7*. Renamed User Command Modifiers**

Group	User Command	Old Modifier Name	New Modifier Name
FN	Calls	-isolate	-ns

2.4.3   Deleted User Command Modifiers

Superfluous user command modifiers have been deleted. These are detailed in Table *8*.

Table 8. **Renamed User Command Modifiers**

Group	User Command	Modifier Name
FN	Defs	-columns