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HyperCard: Using Field-to-Message Feature (7/92)

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TOPIC ---

There is a feature in HyperCard that allows you to pick up text and
transfer it to the message box. Holding the Command key down while the
cursor is in a field (locked or unlocked) will change the cursor to a hand
and draw a one-pixel selection box around the text. The selection box will
grow, one word at a time, as you drag through the text. When you release
the mouse button, the selected text will be placed in the message box.

DISCUSSION --

This feature is hard-coded into HyperCard and can't be bypassed through
HyperTalk. First of all, in an unlocked field you will never be able to
retain the I-beam pointer (insertion point) when the Command key is down,
because some idle message will slip through to HyperCard creating a
blinking hand to I-beam cursor.

And you can't trap the mousedown in an unlocked field. However, even if you
try to trap the mousedown in a locked field and exit to HyperCard after
your defined action, the text will still be picked up and placed in the
message box.

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