
Question

[Norman W. Freeman](#) · Oct 1, 2020

Is there a built-in method to escape special characters in a string, in a similar way to what is done by Portal with global data ?

If a global node contains special characters, (eg : a line returns), it will be displayed like this in Portal ("System > Globals > View Global Data" panel) :

```
^A(1) = "this is"_$c(13,10)_"a test"
```

I would like to export global data to a txt file using a similar format.

I already wrote the main code (that loops on all nodes and dump them to file), the problem is how to handle special characters.

For the moment I replace them manually one by one. It works, but it's far from perfect :

```
set text = ... //get global data
set text = $replace(text,"","") //double the quotes
set text = $replace(text,$c(13),"_"$c(13)_"")
set text = $replace(text,$c(10),"_"$c(10)_"")
...
```

Is there a built-in function in cache that handle special characters in a string by splitting it into smaller strings (with concatenation in between), something similar what Portal does ?

Or even better : a built-in function that can export a global to a txt file directly, in a format similar to Portal.

[#Globals](#) [#Cache](#)

Source

URL:<https://community.intersystems.com/post/there-built-method-escape-special-characters-string-similar-way-what-done-portal-global-data>