Technote:

Reporting Unique Values in a Field

For many **TECHBASE** operations, such as defining MEASURED fields or checking for spelling consistency, you need a list of the unique text values from a particular field. Creating that list becomes complicated when a field contains many values. The following method describes a quick way to use the *REPORT* program to print out only the unique values in a field, as well as to determine the number of times that each value appears in the field.

Procedure:

In the following example, you will create a simple list of all the unique values in a single field. You want to know which rock types have been entered as values in a TEXT, ACTUAL field called **lithology**.

Go to *REPORT* and in *Setup*, enter your report name in the *Report file* option. In *Page layout*, take all of the defaults, except to set the *Field values displayed* to NO. In the *Fields* menu, type the following:

lithology (b*) (ns)

The **b** puts a break between the field values. The asterisk (*****) denotes that the field value should be reported only when it changes, along with any requested subcounts, subtotals, and subaverages.

Note: If you wanted to skip lines between the values, you can use the notation **(b*,n)**, where **n** is an integer representing the number of lines you wish to skip.

The **(ns)** option will report a subcount for each value and a total count of all values at the end of the report. Because you have set *Field values displayed* to NO, you will have only the unique values and their subtotals reported, without the record-by-record detail.

Finally, like rock types must be grouped together for an accurate subcount, so you must run a *sOrt* on the field **lithology**. To run your report, *eXit* the *Setup* menu and select *Report*. A message will tell you how many records were reported and from which table. In *View file*, the resulting report will look similar to the following:

```
rocktype

shale        13
graywacke    46
siltstone    54
dolostone    33
mudstone     15
slate        35

COUNTS:
             202
```

For more information the *REPORT* program, see **"Report - Report database records" on page 1tb-47**.

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