Colofon

Rene Jansen

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THE REXX LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION
NetRexx Programming Series
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The NetRexx Programming Series

This book is part of a library, the *NetRexx Programming Series*, documenting the NetRexx programming language and its use and applications. This section lists the other publications in this series, and their roles. These books can be ordered in convenient hardcopy and electronic formats from the Rexx Language Association.

Quick Beginnings Guide	This guide is meant for an audience that has done some programming and wants a quick start. It starts with a quick tour of the language, and a section on installing the NetRexx translator and how to run the reference implementation. It also contains help for troubleshooting if anything in the installation does not work as designed., and states current limits and restrictions of the open source reference implementation.
Programming Guide	The Programming Guide is the one manual that at the same time teaches programming, shows lots of examples as they occur in the real world, and explains about the internals of the translator and how to interface with it.
Language Reference	Referred to as the NRL, this is the formal definition for the language, documenting its syntax and semantics, and prescribing minimal functionality for language implementors. It is the definitive answer to any question on the language, and as such, is subject to approval of the NetRexx Architecture Review Board on any release of the language (including its NRL).
NJPipes Reference	The Data Flow oriented companion to NetRexx, with its CMS Pipes compatible syntax, is documented in this manual. It discusses installing and running Pipes for NetRexx, and has ample examples of defining your own stages in NetRexx.

Typographical conventions

In general, the following conventions have been observed in the NetRexx publications:

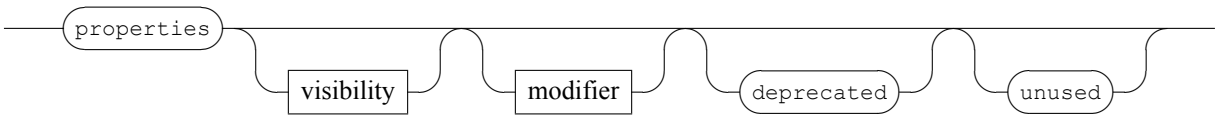
- Body text is in this font
- Examples of language statements are in a **bold** type
- Variables or strings as mentioned in source code, or things that appear on the console, are in a `typewriter` type
- Items that are introduced, or emphasized, are in an *italic* type
- Included program fragments are listed in this fashion:

Listing 1: Example Listing

```
1 -- salute the reader
2 say 'hello reader'
```

- Syntax diagrams take the form of so-called *Railroad Diagrams* to convey structure, mandatory and optional items

Properties



Introduction

This is the meta-book that explains about how to make the books for the NetRexx Programming Series. It uses the same toolchain to produce and build it. The overall approach is to keep this lean, and instead of having side-to side examples, it has a 'use the source' way of working - look at a feature you need or like, then look it up in the .tex sourcefile to find out how it is produced. This at least until we figure out the tag escaping that needs to be done for the side-by-side examples.

Differences with the other book in this series (the *real* publications) include

1. a bogus ISBN (the one from the quickstart guide)

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Structure

1.1 Prerequisites

There arevery few prerequisites for running the book production toolchain, at least in comparison to other toolchains. All executables but one are readily available in compiled form on the net. A few remarks.

1. The toolchain uses the **xelatex** version of Latex, because of its easy integration of platform fonts and its facility to directly produce PDF files. This program is available in the *livetex* distribution, to be found at `http://`.
2. The make utility (in the GNU version) must be available for the platform. All modern platforms have it included, there is a binary for Windows downloadable from `http://`.
3. For the utility that produces railroad diagrams, there are platform versions checked into the NetRexx source repository
4. to view the generated

1.2 The Makefile

The directory ../netrexx/netrexxc/trunk/documentation/ contains a lot of files. There is one subdirectory that contains the main files for this colofon, it is name **colofon**. So in ../netrexx/netrexxc/trunk/documentation/colofon there are files we are concentrating on here. The file to look into to find your starting point is the file **makefile**. In the makefile the rules for the make utility are found. Executing the command

```
make -B
```

causes the book to be rebuilt from its sources. Sources are defined as files ending in .tex, but there are also prerequisites in the form of files that are pregenerated from *.tex files in previous runs. The standard makefile re-runs the commands until it has determined that all prerequisites have been met - this is at least its intention.

The main sourcefile for this book is called colofon.tex . It imports different files from a ../boilerplate directory, which contains materials shared by all books in the series. This is seen in the import and include tags. It includes the file **introduction.tex** to show how files are included, but the text for these chapters the input is in the files colofon.txt itself. How and why to split input text files is up to the author. The User's Guide (Quick Start Guide) for example has a lot if imports/includes, because the original material contained a lot of separate files. The Programmer's Guide has less files, but uses the *listings* package a lot to import NetRexx source files from the examples section.

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Listings

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