

Why Do My CSV files from Export Use Commas for Decimal Points?

From OpenDSSWiki

Question

The numbers in my CSV files use commas for decimal points. So 0.102 is written 0,102 and is interpreted a two separate numbers 0 and 102 when I process it with another program. How can I get OpenDSS to use the dot (.) for the decimal separator?

Answer

Good Question!! This problem was not brought to our attention previously in the 14 years the program has been in existence, so we at first had no clue. All I could answer was "It works OK on my machine." It turns out that the Delphi Format function, which is used in many of the string formatting tasks, automatically picks up the Locale settings from Windows. So if your locale/language is German or French or maybe some others, the default is to use the comma (,) for the decimal separator. Obviously, this makes a mess out of CSV files so that MATLAB and Excel may have problems interpreting the data.

You could change your locale to US settings if you want to stick with an older version of the program. However, as of this writing, we have added code to Executive.Pas to override the default settings for decimalseparator and thousandseparator. So all output files should now conform to the US number format and CSV files will be interpretable.

This applies to all versions from Sourceforge version 600 on. (Version 600 is an interim 7.4.3 release.)

--Rdugan 18:18, 7 October 2011 (UTC)

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