EXE2BIN
Command

Purpose: Converts .EXE files that have no segment fixup to a form that is compatible with .COM programs. This results in a saving of diskette space and faster program loading.

Format: EXE2BIN [*d:*] [*path*]*filename*[.*ext*]]

[*d:*] [*path*] [*filename*[.*ext*]]

Type: Internal   External
                              ***

Remarks: The file named by *filespec* is the input file. If no extension is specified, it defaults to .EXE. The input file is converted to .COM file format (memory image of the program) and placed in the output file, [*d:*]*filename*[.*ext*]. If you do not specify a drive, the drive of the input file is used. If you do not specify an output filename, the input filename is used. If you do not specify a filename extension in the output filename, the new file is given an extension of .BIN. If you do not specify a path, the current directory is used.

The input must be in valid .EXE format as produced by the linker. The *resident*, or actual code and data, part of the file must be less then 64K. There must be no STACK segment.

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Two kinds of conversions are possible, depending on the specified initial CS:IP:

- If CS:IP is not specified in the program (the .EXE file contains 0:0), a pure binary conversion is assumed. If segment fixups are necessary (the program contains instructions requiring segment relocation), you are prompted for the fixup value. This value is the absolute segment at which the program is to be loaded.

  In this case, the resultant program is usable only when loaded at the absolute memory address specified by a user application. The DOS command processor will not be capable of properly loading the program.

- If CS:IP is specified as 0000:100H, it is assumed that the file is to be run as a COM file, with the location pointer set at 100H by the assembler statement ORG; the first 100H bytes of the file are deleted. No segment fixups are allowed, as COM files must be segment relocatable; that is, they must assume the entry conditions explained in Appendixes B-K. In this case, once the conversion is complete, you may rename the resultant file to a .COM extension. Then, the command processor is capable of loading and executing the program in the same manner as the .COM programs supplied on your DOS diskette.

If CS:IP does not meet one of these criteria, or if it meets the COM file criterion but has segment fixups, the following message is displayed:

File cannot be converted

This message is also displayed if the file is not a valid .EXE file.

To produce standard COM files with the assembler, you must both use the assembler statement ORG to set the location pointer of the file at 100H and specify the first location as the start address. (This is done in the END statement.) Also, the program must not use references that are defined only in other programs. For example, with the IBM Personal Computer MACRO Assembler:

**ORG 100H
START:**
    •
    •
    •
END START

EXE2BIN resides on your DOS Supplemental Program diskette.