
p_cir_32 / patron scrubbing questions

- **Article Type:** General
 - **Product:** Aleph
 - **Product Version:** 20
-

Description:

We're looking at running p_cir_32 for the first time to scrub patron data (our records in Z35 date back to 2003, 3.7 million entries) and have a few questions.

- 1) Will we still be able to circulate books while the job is running?
- 2) We have found about 600,000 entries in the table that are code 82 - return of nonloaned items. Can we safely delete these entries?
- 3) The "Number of days to retain" option is limited to 3 characters in the GUI. If we were to run that job from the job daemon could we have more than 3 characters?
- 4) Could we scrub the user data ourselves using SQL directly on the database for Z35?
- 5) Can we just completely blow away all of the contents of Z35? Would the system miss it?

Resolution:

- 1) Will we still be able to circulate books while the job is running?

<<js KB 8192-7033 describes how to tell if a job locks the library. p_cir_32 does not lock the library.

- 2) We have found about 600,000 entries in the table that are code 82 - return of nonloaned items. Can we safely delete these entries?

<<js I assume that the "table" you refer is the z35.... See #5 below.

- 3) The "Number of days to retain" option is limited to 3 characters in the GUI. If we were to run that job from the job daemon could we have more than 3 characters?

<<js Since, in #5, you are talking about "blowing away" the contents of the z35, I don't understand why you would need a "Number of days to retain" greater than 999 ... 999 means that you would be leaving the patron ID's in 2.5 years-worth of z35's.

- 4) Could we scrub the user data ourselves using SQL directly on the database for Z35?

<js This is possible. It used to be done with SQL, before p_cir_32. But I don't see what the advantage would be. If you go this route, you should study the options in the p_cir_32 Help to make sure that you are accounting for them properly.

- 5) Can we just completely blow away all of the contents of Z35? Would the system miss it?

<<js As described in KB 16384-18578, the z35 is used to produce circulation statistics. if you were to completely blow away the z35 you would be unable to produce statistics ... even for last week.

- **Article last edited:** 10/8/2013