MANIFEST CREATOR 3
MC3-4JMRI

PREFERENCES FOR MC3-4JMRI

The Preferences Tab may be broken into two separate sub sections. Section 1 has to do with what various parameters (preferences) should be applied to the manifest. Section 2 controls which records, in the CSV file generated by JMRI, are to be used in the creation of the manifest.

SECTION 1 – PREFERENCES TAB

The table below shows Section 1 of the Preferences Tab. This is just a sample, each user's preference settings may not be the same as what is shown below, but all preferences listed are available. These various preferences and their functions are provided below.

	A	B	C	D	E F G H I J K L M N O P
1	Matches				
2	MCIII-V5.2				When finished return to the Welcome Screen using the normal Windows Close Window function
3					(Red 'X' upper right hand corner of the window).
4	Set Debug Flag:	[Y or N]	N		
5	Number of Columns:	[3,4 or 5]	5	Used in MIC	Select 3, 4 or 5 columns for Car information
6	Include Load:	[Y or N]	Y	Used in MIC	Include the Car Load
7	Include Track:	[Y or N]	Y	Used in MIC	Include the Track - Pickup Track for Pickups, Setout Track for Setouts and Both for MOVEs
8	Row between Images:	[Y or N]	Y	Used in MIC	Would you like Spacer Row between one set of Cars and the Next (not required-just set Space Row Height to zero (0)
9	Row between Size:	[nn.nn]	5	Used in MIC	Height of Spacer Row - Set to 0 if no space is desired
10	Image Row Size (x2):	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Rows used for Image - there are 2 Rows, this is the height of just one of the two Rows
11	Car Info Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for RoadName-CarNumber
12	Load Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Load
13	Pickup Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Pickup Track
14	Setout Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Setout Track
15	Comment Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Comments
16	Heading Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Heading
17	Exit Location Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Exit Location
18	Car Destination Location:	[Y or N]	Y	Used in MIC	Include row for Car's destination location
19	Print Preview:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Preview manifest
20	Print HardCopy:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Print manifest to paper(or default printer)
21	Ask To Print HardCopy:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=N	Ask if the manifest should still be printed after being Previewed.
22	Print Cell Borders	[0,1, or 2]	0	Default=0	Print borders around all cells:0=None, 1=Dark Borders, 2=Light Borders
23	Save Manifest to File	[Y or N]	N	Default=N	Save each manifest to it's own file for later use (should we put them in a different directory?)
24	Comment Separator:	n chars	/*/	Default=/*/	Used to split Comments into separate lines
25					
26	Line Length:	nn	100	Def=100	Number of characters that will fit on one row ...
27	LOGO:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=0	Would you like a LOGO. N=NO LOGO Y=LOGO
28	LOGO File Name:	RR-CV.jpg			LOGO Priorities (if included): 1st from LOGO Record, 2nd from Preferences, 3rd default is JMRI LOGO, else blank
29	Show Destination on Pickups:	[Y or N]	N	Default=Y	Y= Destination Track N=Destination Location
30	Show Car Load:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Show Load on Car Detail line
31	Show Car Type:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Show Type on Car Detail line
32	Show Car Color:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Show Color on Car Detail line
33	MC Message:	[0,1,2,3,4]	4	Default=4	Four different locations of MC message 1,2,3,4 - 0 = None - content of message is Line 81 on FORMAT tab
34	SO Track in PU Track Column:	[Y or N]	N	Default=Y	Show Setout Track in Pickup Track location on Car Detail line
35	Print Car Info Headers:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Prints the Headings for the Car Info record information
36	Print Page Headers:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Print Title and Page Number of Top of each page
37	Show Car Counts:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Show Car Counts on last line of Location (Make this 0,1,2,3,4 or just 0,1,2)
38	Use DCC Address Line:	[Y or N]	N	Default=Y	Use special DCC Address line rather than showing beow first PL Record
39	Include PL Comments:	[Y or N]	N	Default=Y	Show comments for Pickup Loco Record - these will show after Loco information
40					
41					
42					
43					
44					
45					
46	Include Images	[Y or N]	Y	Default=N	Show car images on manifest-MICII4JMRI ONLY
47	Image Row Height:	nn	20	Default=20	Set row height if an image is shown-MICII4JMRI ONLY
48	Image Column1:	[A-I]	C	Default=C	Set beginning column for Image placement
49	Image Column2:	[A-I]	D	Default=D	Set ending column for Image placement — Must select two consecutive columns.
50	Latest Changes:				
51					
52					

Explanations of the various preferences in Section 1 follow.

Preferences Revision Level

1	Matches
2	MCIII-V5.2

Is used only as documentation as to what level of MC3-4JMRI this set of Preferences pertains to.

Debug Flag

Set Debug Flag:	[Y or N]	N

Is used only by the developer when working on new code or when an issue with the code is exposed. Knowledge with Office VBA coding is required if this preference is set to 'Y'. When set to 'Y' there are breakpoints at various points in the VBA code so that the developer or VBA experienced user may look at what is transpiring while processing a CSV file and creating a manifest.

MC3-4JMRI Unused Options

Number of Columns:	[3,4 or 5]	5	Used in MIC	Select 3, 4 or 5 columns for Car information
Include Load:	[Y or N]	Y	Used in MIC	Include the Car Load
Include Track:	[Y or N]	Y	Used in MIC	Include the Track - Pickup Track for Pickups, Setout Track for Setouts and Both for MOVEs
Row between Images:	[Y or N]	Y	Used in MIC	Would you like Spacer Row between one set of Cars and the Next (not required-just set Space Row Height to zero
Row between Size:	[nn.nn]	5	Used in MIC	Height of Spacer Row - Set to 0 if no space is desired
Image Row Size (x2):	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Rows used for Image - there are 2 Rows, this is the height of just one of the two Rows
Car Info Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for RoadName-CarNumber
Load Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Load
Pickup Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Pickup Track
Setout Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Setout Track
Comment Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Comments
Heading Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Heading
Exit Location Row Size:	[nn.nn]	15	Used in MIC	Size of Row for Exit Location

These preferences are used by another Manifest Creator format but are not used with MC3-4JMRI
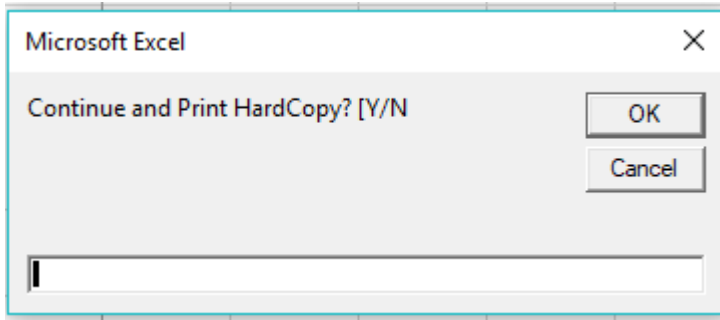
Lines 19,20,21 Hard copy output

Print Preview:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Preview manifest
Print HardCopy	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Print manifest to paper(or default printer)
Ask To Print HardCopy:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=N	Ask if the manifest should still be printed after being Previewed.

are used to determine hard copy output. These three preferences are used in conjunction with one another. 'Print Preview' provides a preview of the manifest before it is printed. **NOTE: The Print Button should <u>NOT BE USED</u> from Print Preview but rather close Print Preview and use the settings of the other two print related Preferences to manage the actual output.** 'Print HardCopy' determines if any hard copy printed output will be generated. 'Ask to Print HardCopy' is an additional adjustment to 'Print HardCopy'. It is primarily used when first establishing the look of manifests. When first establishing the format of the manifest, it is good practice to set both 'Print Preview' and 'Ask to Print HardCopy' to 'Y'. If 'Ask to Print HardCopy' is set to Y, MC3-4JMRI will prompt if printing is still wanted before creating the hard copy printed output. 'Print Preview' may be set to 'Y' and 'Print Hardcopy' set to 'N'. With these settings, the 'Ask to Print HardCopy' preference is ignored. The concept behind these preferences is to reduce the amount of paper that is used when first establishing the manifest format. What follows is a 'table' of the various settings and how they function.

1. 'Print Preview', 'Print HardCopy', 'Ask to Print Hardcopy' all set to yes. (YYY)

A preview of the manifest, with current settings will be displayed. When the Print Preview window is closed, the following prompt will be displayed.

If the response is 'Y', a hard copy report will be generated. If the response is 'N', no hard copy printed output will be generated. This allows a review the output in Print Preview and then, if the output is not as desired, actual hard copy printed output may be eliminated. If the response is 'Y' then hard copy printed output will be generated.

2. 'Print Preview', 'Print Hardcopy' set to 'Y', 'Ask to Print HardCopy' set to 'N'. (YYN)

A preview of the manifest, with current setting will be displayed. When the Print Preview window is closed, hard copy printed output will be generated. There is no opportunity to stop the hard copy printed output once the Print Preview window is closed. **Remember: The PRINT button should NOT BE USED from Print Preview but rather close the Print Preview window and use the settings of the other two print related preferences manage the actual output.**

3. 'Print Preview' set to 'Y', 'Print HardCopy' set to 'N', 'Ask to Print HardCopy' set to 'Y' (YNY)
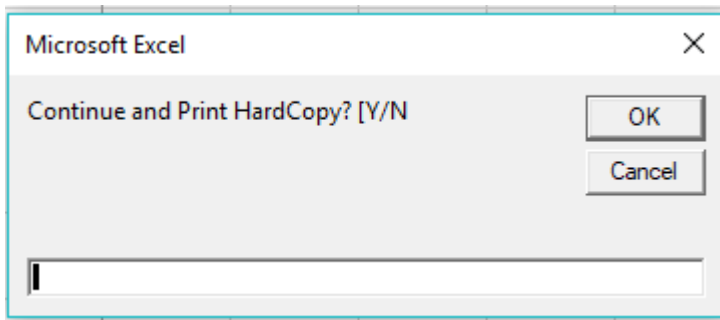
A preview of the manifest will be displayed. Since 'Print Hardcopy' is set to 'N', the 'Ask to Print HardCopy' is superfluous and is ignored. This combination would be used often to check the manifest output. It would also be used if no hard copy printed output is desired and the 'Save Manifest to File' preference is set to 'Y'. See 'Save Manifest to File' preference explained below.

4. 'Print Preview' set to 'Y', 'Print HardCopy', 'Ask to Print HardCopy' set to 'N' (YNN)

A preview of the manifest, with current setting will be displayed. No hard copy printed output will be generated. These settings function just as 3. (YNY) above.

5. 'Print Preview' set to 'N, 'Print HardCopy', 'Ask to Print Hardcopy' set to 'Y'. (NYY)

A preview of the manifest will not be displayed. The following prompt will be displayed.

If the response is 'Y' then a hard copy printed output will be generated. If the response is 'N' then no hard copy printed output will be generated. This combination would rarely if ever be used.

6. 'Print Preview' set to 'N, 'Print HardCopy' set to 'Y, 'Ask to Print Hardcopy' set to 'N'. (NYN)

A preview of the manifest will not be displayed. Hard copy printed output will be generated. These are rather common settings. With these settings, MC3-4JMRI will generate and print a manifest without any user interaction

7. 'Print Preview', 'Print HardCopy' set to 'N, 'Ask to Print Hardcopy' set to 'Y'. (NNY)

   A preview of the manifest will not be displayed. Since 'Print Hardcopy' is set to 'N', the 'Ask to Print HardCopy' is superfluous and is ignored. This combination could be used if no hard copy printed output is desired and the 'Save Manifest to File' preference is set to 'Y'. See 'Save Manifest to File' preference explained below.

8. 'Print Preview', 'Print HardCopy' set to 'N, 'Ask to Print Hardcopy' set to 'Y'. (NNN)

   A preview of the manifest will not be displayed. No hard copy printed output will be generated. No 'Ask to Print HardCopy' prompt will be displayed. These settings function just as 7. (NNY) above.

NOTE: One should NOT USE THE PRINT button from Print Preview but rather close Print Preview and use the settings of the other two print related Preferences to manage to actual output. This is very important as MC3-4JMRI can at times become confused if hard copy printed output is generated from the Print Preview window.

NOTE: Another good way to reduce the use of paper is to set up a PDF printer. This way the hard copy printed output can be sent to a file rather than paper and can be reviewed with any of the many free PDF Readers available from the Internet.

Line 22 Print Cell Borders

Print Cell Borders	[0,1, or 2]	0	Default=0	Print borders around all cells:0=None, 1=Dark Borders, 2=Light Borders

Is used to determine if Excel cell borders are included in the hard copy printed output. There are three (3) settings for this preference.

1. '0' (zero) turns off the printing of cell borders.
2. '1' (one) turns on the printing of cell borders and sets the border line to bold. This can be a bit overwhelming.
3. '2' (two) turns on the printed of cell borders and sets the border line to thin.

NOTE: It has been suggested that an option be provided to only print cell borders for the Car/Loco information lines. This is on the Wish List.

Line 23 Save Manifest to File

Save Manifest to File	[Y or N]	N	Default=N	Save each manifest to it's own file for later use

Is used to save the Excel file manifest that is created as part of the Create Manifest process. This would be used if modifications are to be made to the manifest or if building several manifest and printed output will be done later. This option is useful in combination with several of the settings of the Hard Copy Output settings (see above).

Line 24 Comment Separator

Comment Separator:	n chars	/*/	Default=/*/	Used to split Comments into separate lines

Is used to create multiple lines from a single JMRI Comment. Any character set is allowed but should be at lease three (3) characters in length just so it is not confused with other content in the actual JMRI comment. Place this character set anywhere in the actual JMRI comment, in JMRI. The character set must match what is put in the Comment Separator value in the preferences.

Example:

Comment coming from JMRI – "Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country."

As this comes from JMRI it would be placed on a single line in the manifest, except for overflow (see below). If the Comment Separator were added in various position in the comment shown above, the output could be changed to:

Comment coming from JMRI with Comment Separator characters added at specific points– "Now is the time/*/for all good men/*/to come to the aid/*/of their country."

As it comes from JMRI, this comment would be split in to four (4) separate lines on the manifest.

> Now is the time
> for all good men
> to come to the aid
> of their country.

There are many comments within JMRI. The Comment Separator may be used in all JMRI comments. The default of /*/ has proven to cause some issues with certain CSV files. I believe a better choice might be *\ or some other character string. There is no limit to the number of times the Comment Separator can be used within a comment.

Remember: The Comment Separator is added to the comments created within JMRI. MC3-4JMRI simply searches each comment for the Comment Separator as entered in the preferences and begins a new line on the manifest with the characters following the Comment Separator.

NOTE: Do not put the Comment Separator at the end of a comment.

Line 26 Line Length

Line Length:	nn	100	Def=100	Number of characters that will fit on one row …

is used to break lines at a certain number of characters. This can be used in conjunction with or by itself to shorten JMRI comments and other manifest data that might be too long to fit on one line of the manifest. This could be useful if font size is increased for comments. What might have fit in a smaller font could spill over with the increased font size. The best way to set this value is to run several manifests with the same CSV file and changing this value each time until it is determined what works best.

Line 27 LOGO:

LOGO:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=0	Would you like a LOGO. N=NO LOGO Y=LOGO

is used to determine if a Logo will or will not be included on the manifest. This preference is rather involved as there are several options for a Logo. First and foremost, if a Logo is to be included on the manifest, the LOGO Record type must be set to Y. This is found in the Second section of the Preferences Tab (see below). If the Record type is set to Y and LOGO is set to Y, MC3-4JMRI will attempt to print a Logo on the manifest. However which Logo will print is base on several things. A Logo filename may be included in the Logo record coming from JMRI. If it exists, it will take priority over all other possible Logo settings. A Logo file name may also be included within the preferences. This is explained in Line 28 (see below). If none of these files are specified or if they cannot be found, MC3-4JMRI will attempt to print the default JMRI Logo. If this Logo file cannot be found, then no Logo will be printed but the blank space reserved for the Logo will remain on the manifest.

NOTE: The default JMRI Logo file may be downloaded from the Manifest Creator.Weebly.com website.

If no Logo is desired, set this preference to N and then regardless of any other settings, a Logo will not be printed on the manifest.

Line 28 – LOGO File Name:

LOGO File Name:	RR-CV.jpg

LOGO Priorities (if included): 1st from LOGO Record, 2nd from Preferences, 3rd default is JMRI LOGO, else blank

Is used to provide a file name to use as the Logo for the manifest. It is always best to fully qualify the file so that MC# can easily find it within the system. If the Logo file is in the same folder as MCIII, then just the file name as shown in this example will work. But to be safe, the fully qualified name should be included. For the file above this would be:

C:\Users\Dan\JMRI\operations\csvManifests\RR-CV.jpg.

When the file is fully qualified, it may reside in any folder on the system without any issues.

As stated above, there is a priority as to how MC3-4JMRI will treat the various Logo file names. The top priority is given to the file name that would be present in a LOGO record from JMRI. If there is no Logo record of if there is not file included in the Logo record or if the Logo file can not be found, then the file name given here in the preferences will be used. If this file can not be found, then the default JMRI Logo will be used. If it can not be found, then no Logo will be included but the space reserved for the Logo will remain. For the JMRI default Logo to be used in must be in the same directory as MC3-4JMRI. Normally this would be csvManifests or fully qualified would be C:\User*username*\operations\csvManifests.

Line 29 – Show Destination on Pickups:

Show Destination on Pickups:	[Y or N]	N	Default=Y	Y= Destination Track N=Destination Location

Line 30 – Show Car Load:
Line 31 – Show Car Type:
Line 32 – Show Car Color:

Show Car Load:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Show Load on Car Detail line
Show Car Type:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Show Type on Car Detail line
Show Car Color:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y	Show Color on Car Detail line

Line 33 – MC Message:

MC Message:	[0,1,2,3,4]	4	Default=4

Four different locations of MC message 1,2,3,4 - 0 = None - content of message is Line 81 on FORMAT tab

Line 34 – SO Track in PU Track Column:

SO Track in PU Track Column:	[Y or N]	N	Default=Y

Show Setout Track in Pickup Track location on Car Detail line

Line 35 – Print Car Info Headers:

Print Car Info Headers:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y

Prints the Headings for the Car Info record information

Print Page Headers:	[Y or N]	Y	Default=Y