BacLink

Exporting data from Vitek

WHO Collaborating Centre for
Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance

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BacLink Tutorial – Exporting data from Vitek

This tutorial covers the following areas:

Part 1. WHONET AND VITEK

The purpose of this document is to guide users of the Vitek 1 or VItek 2 identification and susceptibility test instrument through the export of data to WHONET. The VItek 2 Compact does not yet have a simple export utility, but the manufacturer is currently developing this as a new feature.

The instructions are divided into four parts:

1. Downloading and installing WHONET and BacLink
2. Exporting data from Vitek
3. Converting data with BacLink
4. Getting started with WHONET

The frequency of data conversions depends on the local data analysis needs and interests. Many laboratories find that a weekly or monthly download is adequate for their infection control and quality assurance purposes, while less frequent analysis may be adequate if the principal use of the data is in following trends in resistance and guiding treatment recommendations.

PART 2. EXPORTING DATA FROM VITEK

The Vitek system is a UNIX-based system with an interface option which allows the transfer of individual, pending, and final results. The most recent upgrade of the Vitek BioLiaison software ncludes a simple, configurable routine for exporting selected isolates to a DOS-formated diskette.

7.6.1 Vitek export

BASIC
From the bioMérieux – bioLIAISON Main Menu, select Reports, DataTrac, Logbook Report. Enter the selection criteria. Dates, codes, select 'List…' (will appear in Black). Uses the local Vitek date format. "Collection date…"

Select Format, Pick, Click on 'logbook_132.format'. 'OK'

Click on:
Export…
“Export to floppy” screen
“Please choose a delimiter between fields for the exported file:” choose “|”. “Please give the DOS filename of the export file:” File name: _____ . TXT
Insert diskette
Click on “Export”.
When finished “Export succeeded!”. Click on “OK”.
Click on “Quit” to return to the previous screen.
“File”, “Quit”

ADVANCED
Setup, Formatting, Logbook Report Format
“Formatting Logbook Report Format”
“Setup” or “Report format” Include duplicates Yes/No, Include Test results Yes/No
“File” “New” “Open” “Save” “Selected format” (no spaces) “OK”
L = label
C = code
T = text
watch screen width
if more space needed:
-- remove unneeded fields
-- move fields closer together
-- replace ‘text’ fields by ‘code fields’

Part 3. How does BacLink work?

BacLink allows you to take data from a number of different sources and create new data files with the standard WHONET file structure. Detailed instructions for specific systems are provided in other tutorials or in the BacLink manual, but for each the overall process is the same:

Step 1. Create a file compatible with BacLink

If your data file is already compatible with BacLink, for example with simple text files, Access, and a few other formats, there is nothing that you need to do in this step – the data file that you have is already compatible with BacLink.

For most laboratory instruments and information systems, you will first need to export data from your system into a format compatible with BacLink, most frequently a delimited text file. The accompany tutorials and BacLink manual provide instructions on how you can accomplish this.

Step 2. Configure the conversion

You will need to tell BacLink what kind of file you want to import and details about the file: what is the file format (text, Access, Vitek, Cerner, *etc.*), what susceptibility test methods are included, how the data fields are organized, date formats, *etc.*

For propriety data structures, configuration is very easy since BacLink is already programmed with all of the necessary details about the file structure. For generic structures, there are a few additional screens where you provide details about the data file contents and organization. If you have multiple files with the same data format, configuration only needs to be done once.

Step 3. Running the conversion

After configuring the conversion, you are ready to convert your files. BacLink will show you the first three isolates on the screen so that you can check the accuracy of the conversion, and BacLink will also notify you of any problems or unrecognized codes that it encounters. The file created by the BacLink conversion is a valid WHONET data file that you can subsequently analyze with WHONET.

At the present time, most laboratories run BacLink interactively, for example once a week, month or quarter. For a number of systems, it is also possible to schedule BacLink, for example to convert data automatically on a daily basis.

Part 4. What's the next step?

The next steps depend on the type of system that you have.

Standard desktop softwares: If you have data in Microsoft Access, Excel, EpiInfo or dBASE, or other system that can create simple text files, proceed with the tutorial "BacLink and Excel, text files, and other desktop applications".

Laboratory instruments: If you want to transfer data from your laboratory instrument, consult the instructions provided in the main BacLink manual or specific guideline developed for that instrument.

Laboratory information systems: If you have a Meditech Magic or Cerner Classic system, continue with the detailed instructions provided with the accompanying documentation. For ADBakt, MADS, the Oman Hospital Information System, and WinPath, contact us for further details. For any other system, then you should proceed with the tutorial "BacLink and Laboratory information systems".

Our group is currently working on the development of interface options for Meditech Client/Server, Cerner Millennium, and Mysis. If you would like to assist in the development or testing of interfaces for these systems or any other system, please contact John Stelling at jstelling@rics.bwh.harvard.edu.