

e-CourtReporter Presents:  
**e-Tips Newsletter**

No. 7 – October 16, 2001

**Wil Wilcox: A Win-Win Windows Situation**  
**Keith Vincent: Defining “and a half dollars”, World Currencies Follow-Up**

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Constant innovation is a hallmark of EclipseNT, so there's always something new to learn. It may be an explanation of an amazing new feature or just a faster way to do a familiar task, but Eclipse users have always been eager to help each other. In this spirit, we continue our FREE newsletter to anyone who wishes to receive it. Whether our **e-Tips** are a basic tip for editing efficiency or a challenging macro, we hope you'll find them helpful. Tell your friends to sign up for e-Tips at [www.EclipseNT.com](http://www.EclipseNT.com). We would like to thank all those who overwhelmed us by your positive responses to our first e-Tips newsletter. You will be able to find a complete archive of e-Tips at our website

## **Wil's e-Tip**

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### **A Win-Win Windows Situation**

You will truly win if you have Windows 2000 Professional running on your computer. It is currently my Windows operating system of choice for EclipseNT users. It's approximately 30% faster than Windows 98 or ME and many time more stable and crash resistant as well. Microsoft decided to start from scratch and rewrite Windows from the ground up to make it faster, more stable and secure. Windows 2000 (W2K) is a completely new version of Windows built on the Windows NT foundation and not just an add-on to Windows 98 or ME. W2K is the most reliable Windows to date. What this means to you is that your computer is much less likely to freeze on you and embarrass you in the middle of testimony if your computer is running W2K.

Every few years Microsoft releases a new version of its Windows operating system, and Windows users everywhere who upgrade get a big pain in the neck – just kidding. Seriously, the mere act of upgrading your computer's operating system can mess up your computer for days or weeks, or forever. The question of whether to upgrade is a tough one. It is a good idea to ask your computer advisor about the ins and outs of upgrades before taking the plunge. It may or may not work out well for you. Ask before you upgrade.

It is not my recommendation that you upgrade your current computer to Windows 2000 or the soon to be released Windows XP unless you are currently experiencing problems with it. It's better, if possible, to get W2K on a new computer instead. So if you're in the market for a new computer, ask for Windows 2000. Be aware that there is a rising star on the horizon called Windows XP set for release on October 25<sup>th</sup>. As with any new program, there are bound to be some bugs to get out of Windows XP so you may want to give it a little time to mature, but it has great promise. It's important to realize that a brand new Windows version like Windows XP will have its problems at first just like any other infant program. You should use a little caution when getting a just-released operating system. I am currently evaluating Windows XP. In my next E-tip we will visit Windows XP and I will give you the results of my experience with it. Windows 2000 is your best bet for now. Windows 2000 has proven to be the best Windows yet, a true win-win Windows situation.

## Keith's e-Tip

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### How to define “and a half dollars

How can you define the phrase “and a half dollars” so that it takes advantage of EclipseNT's automatic number conversion? For example, if I write 25/NAF/DLARS, I'd like it to transcribe as \$25 1/2.

Define it as {#N}dollars{~}1/2. In this example, EclipseNT would be instructed to first make sure that 25 appears as a digit, not a word number. It would then convert the number to dollars and add the "1/2." The lockspace symbol {~} just makes sure that EclipseNT keeps the phrase on the same line.

### Further Notes on World Currencies

In my last E-tip, I mentioned an update to the EclipseNT settings file was in progress to support world currencies. I added almost 800 entries to the metadictionary. The poor thing became so stuffed with obscure currency names that it refused to accept far more useful entries.

The solution was to remove those 800 entries and replace them with a single “wildcard” type entry: {C:\*}={"/%/?VMN}

So if you want “1 thousand yen” to translate as ¥1,000, just define your “yen” stroke as {C:yen}. In this case the “C” stands for currency.

## Upcoming 3-day EclipseNT e-POWER Workshops

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**Houston, TX Oct 26-28, 2001 (SOLD OUT)**

**Costa Mesa, CA Nov 9-11, 2001 (Seats filling up fast!)**

**Las Vegas, NV Feb 1-3, 2001**

**For more details: [www.EclipseNT.com](http://www.EclipseNT.com)**

We'd also like to thank the great EclipseNT users who have joined us at one of our many workshops and we hope to see you again soon!

## Who Are We?

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**Wil Wilcox** is a freelance court reporter in Los Angeles, California, and has been a technology consultant for reporters since 1995. Since 1998, he and Robert Denos have been the Advantage Software representatives for Southern California.

**Keith Vincent** is a freelance court reporter in Houston, Texas. He's been an Advantage Software rep, trainer, and tester since 1992. In 1997 he wrote the Hyperkeys tutorial for Eclipse users.

**Robert Denos** is the manager and event coordinator for e-CourtReporter, LLC.

Any questions on seminars or workshops should be directed to Robert at this address:

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## Disclaimer

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