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Query/400 Julian Date Conversion

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According to the *Query/400 Use* manual (SC41-5210), a seven-byte character string used with the DATE function is considered to be a Julian date in the format *ccyyddd*. To convert a Julian date in the format *yyddd* or *cyyddd* to a date data type date, you can use an expression such as the following:

```
DATE (SUBSTR (DIGITS (1900000 + JULDAT), 2, 7))
```

Field JULDAT must be defined as numeric for the expression to work.

To demonstrate what actually happens, let's break down the expression into its two parts. First, the DIGITS operation:

```
DIGITS (1900000 + JULDAT)
```

DIGITS returns a character representation of a number. For a JULDAT field with the value 97225 or 097225, the result of this expression is 01997225.

Next, the DATE operation:

```
DATE (SUBSTR (DATE_A, 2, 7))
```

Using the SUBSTR function to "feed" the DATE function a character string exactly seven bytes long activates Query/400's Julian date rule and results in the date 8/13/97 (the date format and separator character depend on your job's DATFMT and DATSEP attributes).

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