

[print](#) | [close](#)

Additional Validation of New Passwords

[System iNetwork Systems Management Newsletter](#)

[Carsten Flensburg](#)

Carsten Flensburg

Wed, 05/09/2007 (All day)

The system's password system values let you specify the minimum and maximum password length, whether the password must contain a digit, and how often a password can be reused. But what if you want to enable additional checking, such as ensuring that the password is not a dictionary word? In that case, you need to have a Password Validation program. A password validation program is simply a program written in any language that accepts an assigned set of parameters as defined by IBM.

Let's look at an example of a simple password validation program.

After proper registration of this program as a password validation exit program (see below), this program is called whenever the Change Password (CHGPWD) command or the Change Password (QSYCHGPW) API are executed. Please note that the program is not called when the CRTUSRPRF or CHGUSRPRF commands are used.

More than one program can be registered to the password validation exit point. The validation programs will be called in turn until all programs have been called or a reject return code is received.

The objective of the password validation process in this program is to prevent users from entering a default password as the new password. A default password describes the situation where the password and the user profile name are the same. While this function can be useful, you can modify the program as desired to ensure, for example, that the password is not a dictionary word by checking against a file containing prohibited words, or that the password contains a combination of letters, numbers, and special characters.

[See IBM's Exit Point documentation.](#)

To register the exit program, execute the following commands:

```
AddExitPgm ExitPnt( QIBM_QSY_VLD_PASSWRD )
                  Format( VLDP0100 )
                  PgmNbr( 1 )
                  Pgm( /CBX706 )
                  Text( 'Password validation exit program' )

ChgSysVal  SysVal( QPWDVLDPGM )
                  Value( *REGFAC )
```

The password validation program is an RPGLE program named CBX706.

Find compilation instructions in the source header.

Download a zip file containing all the source code [here](#).

Note: As with all new programs, test these routines thoroughly before placing them into a production environment. No warranty is expressed or implied.

Source URL: <http://iprodeveloper.com/security/additional-validation-new-passwords>