FMESS$ – Return Formatted Windows Error Message

The FMESS$ routine can be used to convert a Windows error number into a formatted, verbose error message.

1. Invocation

To convert a Windows error number into a formatted message code:

```
CALL FMESS$ USING number length area
```

where number is a PIC 9(9) COMP field containing the Windows error number (normally returned in the $$CRES System Variable); area is a PIC X(n) data area to hold the returned error message and length is a PIC 9(4) COMP field containing the size of the data area.

2. STOP Codes and Exception Conditions

No STOP codes are generated by FMESS$.

The following exception conditions may be returned by FMESS$:

EXIT code	$$COND	Description
10501	01	Windows returned an error condition when attempting to format the error code.

3. Programming Notes

FMESS$ is normally used to obtain a descriptive error message from a numeric Windows error code returned in the $$CRES System Variable by a variety of sub-routines; or in the DSRES32 field by an SVC-61 call. FMESS$ is only supported on GSM (Windows) configurations. The message area is set to SPACES if FMESS$ is used on a GSM (Unix) configuration.

Important Note: The length parameter is updated by the routine to return the **actual length** of the text message returned. Consequently, this field must be a data-item (i.e. not a literal) and must be reset to the actual length of the data-area each time FMESS$ is called by an application. For example:

```
DATA DIVISION
77    X-100        PIC X(100)
PROCEDURE DIVISION
CALL FMESS$ USING $$CRES 100 X-100        * Wrong. Self-modifying code !!!

DATA DIVISION
77    X-100        PIC X(100)
77    Z-LENG       PIC 9(4) COMP
      VALUE 100
PROCEDURE DIVISION
CALL FMESS$ USING $$CRES Z-LENG X-100     * Wrong. Z-LENG is altered

DATA DIVISION
77    X-100        PIC X(100)
77    Z-LENG       PIC 9(4) COMP
PROCEDURE DIVISION
MOVE 100 to Z-LENG
CALL FMESS$ USING $$CRES Z-LENG X-100     * Correct
```

4. Examples
None.

5. Copy-Books
None.

6. See Also
FMESO$ Return Formatted Windows Error Message