VCHAR$ - Validate String for Valid Windows Characters

The VCHAR$ routine can be used to validate a string for characters that are valid in a Windows filename.

1.   Invocation

To validate a string code:

```
CALL VCHAR$ USING string length
```

where *filename* is a PIC X(n) field containing the string, *length* is the length of the passed string.

2.   STOP Codes and Exception Conditions

No STOP are generated by VCHAR$.

No EXIT codes are returned by VCHAR$.

3.   Programming Notes

VCHAR$ is only available with GSM SP-39, or later.

VCHAR$ scans every character in the string replacing each occurrence of any of the following illegal characters by an underscore character:

```
<
>
:
"
/
\
!
*
?
```

The replacement is performed "silently". Potentially VCHAR$ could be extended to return an exception if any illegal characters are replaced by "_".

For example, calling VCHAR$ will convert the string "TRANS/1234\567" to "TRANS_1234_567".

VCHAR$ doesn't perform any validation on the *length* parameter. An invalid length (e.g. 0) will produce very unpredictable results. Potentially VCHAR$ could be extended to signal a STOP CODE if the length is not in a sensible range (e.g. between 1 and 256).

4.   Examples

[EXAMPLE REQUIRED]

5.   Copy-Books

None.

6.   See Also

None.