

HTML Character Converter

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Summary

When entering non-ASCII characters in transport messages, the safest way to do this is to use HTML encoding, in the format "&#xnnnn;", where nnnn is the hexadecimal Unicode value for the character. However, looking these up and entering them in the transport details page can be a slow and error-prone process, so we have provided a basic tool to simplify the process.

Prerequisites

This application runs under Windows and requires the Microsoft.Net Framework version 4.5.

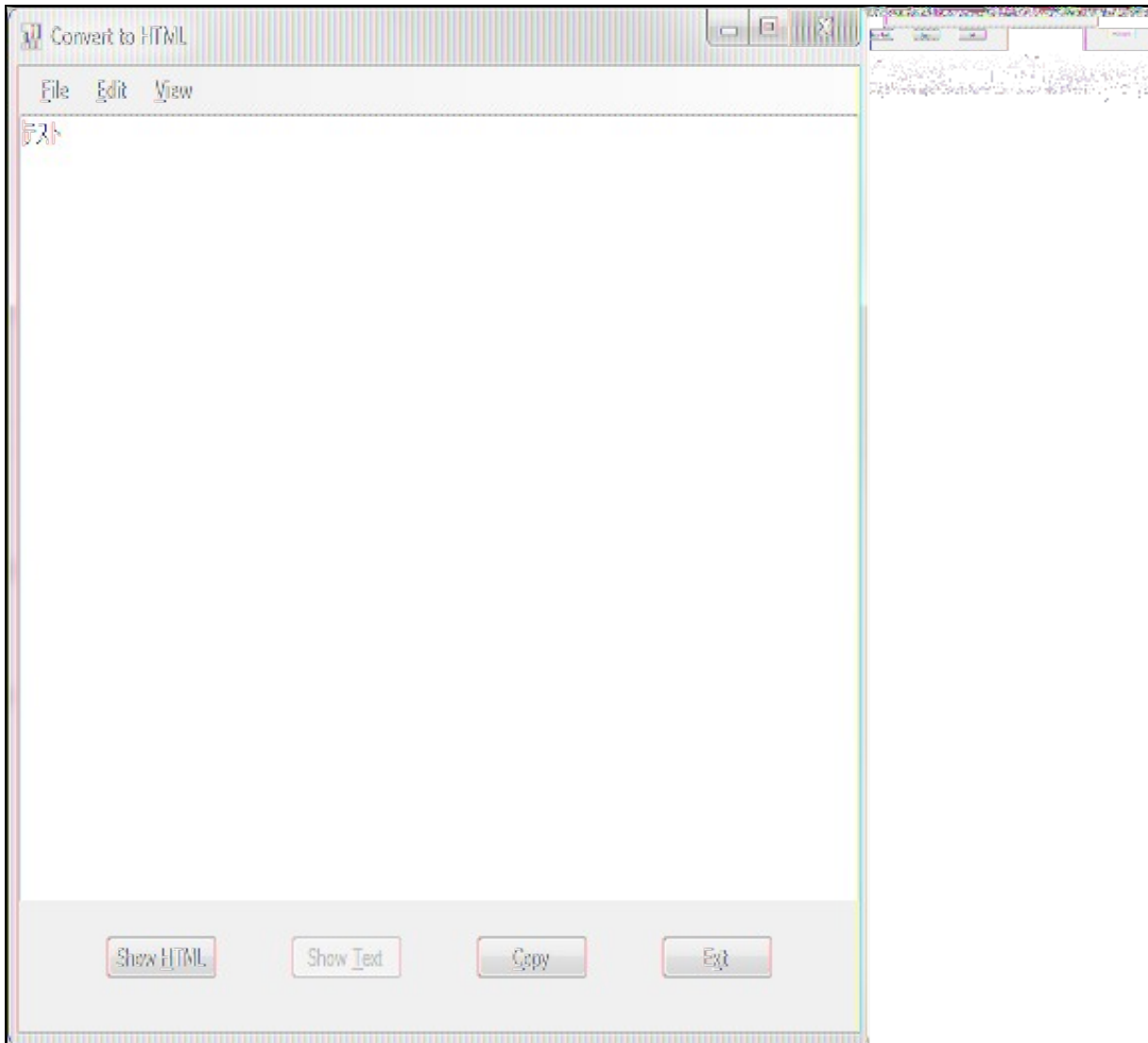
[Download from here.](#)

Installation

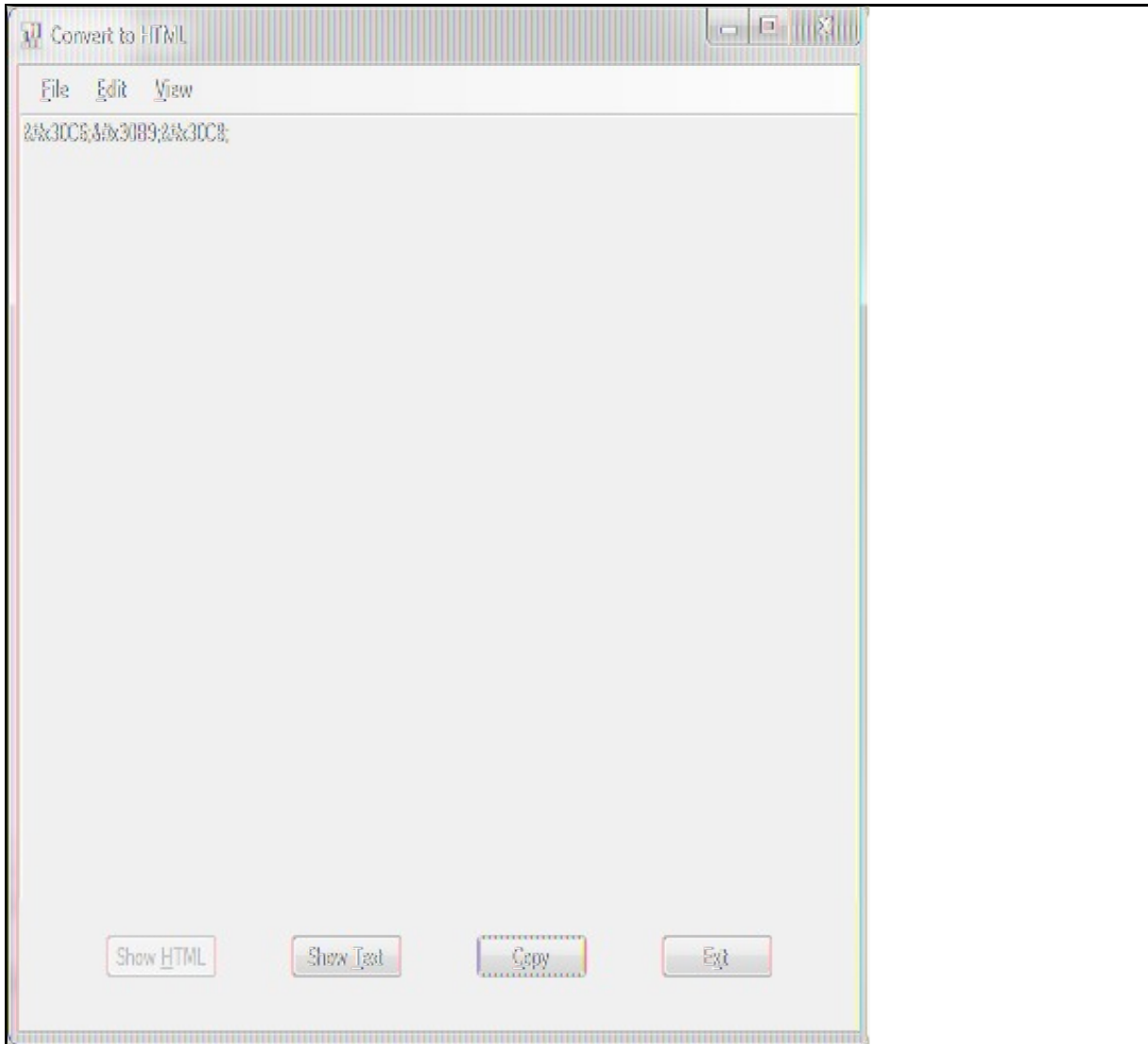
The application is provided as a single program, and has no installation process. Simply unzip the application from the download and place it in a suitable location.

Using the program

When you run the application, you will see a text box with 4 buttons under it:



Simply type the desired text in the box. Click the **Show HTML** button to show the text with non-ASCII characters converted to HTML entity codes:



Note that in this mode, you cannot enter further text: click **Show Text** to return to the raw text display to enter more text.

The **Copy** button will copy the HTML-encoded text to the Windows clipboard, ready to be pasted into the appropriate transport message. It will also select the HTML preview if you have not already done so.

The **Exit** button closes the program.

Additional Features

As well as the functions available from the buttons, there is a menu which provides the following functionality:

- **File** menu
 - ◆ **Open** - opens a text file in the text edit box. The file must be UTF-8 or UTF-16 encoded for this to work correctly. Any existing text will be overwritten.
 - ◆ **Exit** - closes the program.
- **Edit** menu
 - ◆ **Copy** - same as the **Copy** button.
 - ◆ **Paste** - pastes the current contents of the clipboard into the edit box as raw text.
- **View** menu
 - ◆ **Raw Text** - same as the **Show Text** button
 - ◆ **HTML** - same as the **Show HTML** button

Note that as well as converting non-ASCII characters, the program also converts certain other characters. For example, line breaks are converted to HTML `
`, and the characters `&`, `"`, `'`, `<` and `>` are converted to the appropriate HTML entities.