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eyeln: HTML Eye-line Formatter Version 1

CML00075-01

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## 1 Introduction

The Code Magus tool `cmleyeln` takes a text file and wraps it in HTML markup which when displayed gives the look of print on eye-line paper. The program, if given a page-length option, will will introduce page breaks which will be implemented if the HTML is printed from a browser that supports this feature.

## 2 Command line parameters

Usage: `cmleyeln [OPTION...]`

<code>-i, --input-file=&lt;file path&gt; -</code>	path to text file, '-' to use stdin
<code>-l, --lines-per-page=&lt;positive integer&gt;</code>	No of lines per page
<code>-c, --chars-per-line=&lt;positive integer&gt;</code>	No of characters per line
<code>-o, --output-file=&lt;file path&gt; -</code>	path to output file, '-' to use stdout
<code>-s, --style-file=&lt;file path&gt;</code>	style information to be inserted into the document
<code>-x, --exclude-style</code>	no style will be placed in document

Help options:

<code>?, --help</code>	Show this help message
<code>--usage</code>	Display brief usage message

where :

- `-i, --input-file=<file path>|-`

This required parameter specifies the path to the input file or - which indicates that the input will be taken from stdin.

- `-c, --chars-per-line=<positive integer>`

This parameter indicates a minimum no of characters per line. If the line in the input file contains less characters than this number, the line will be padded to the right with blanks.

- `-o, --output-file=<file path>|-`

This required parameter specifies the path to the output file or - which indicates that the output will be written to stdout.

- `-s, --style-file=<file path>`

This optional parameter specifies the path of a file which contains style information which will be embedded in the HTML output. This information will be used instead of the default style information.

- `-x, --exclude-style`

The optional parameter specifies that no style information (either default or that specified by the `-s` or `-style-file` option) will be embedded in the HTML output.

## 3 Processing

### 3.1 Style

`cmleyeln` allows the background of alternate lines to be different, thus imitating the effect of eye-line printout by wrapping each line in a HTML `<SPAN>` element. Alternate lines have a class of `eye-line`. This allows an associated style sheet to change the background colour of this alternate line. The user has three options when specifying style:

- allow the program to embed its default style.
- specify the path to a file which contains style information to be embedded.
- prevent any style from being embedded.

```
<STYLE type="text/css">
  @media screen { SPAN.eyeline {
    background-color: #e6e6e6 } }
  @media print  { SPAN.eyeline {
    background-color: #e6e6e6 } }
</STYLE>
```