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## Progress 10.1C 4GL Encode Function

Does anyone know which algorithm **Progress 10.1C** uses in the **Encode** Function?

I found this: <http://knowledgebase.progress.com/articles/Article/21685>

The *Progress 4GL ENCODE* function uses a **CRC-16** algorithm to generate its encoded output.

Progress 4GL:

```
ENCODE("Test").
```

gives as output "LkwidblanjsipkJC"

But for example on <http://www.nitrxgen.net/hashgen/> with Password "Test", I **never** get the Result as from Progress..

Any Ideas? :)

[cryptography](#) [progress-4gl](#) [openedge](#) [crc16](#)

edited Aug 1 '12 at 12:28

asked Jul 31 '12 at 14:21

 [RaphaelH](#)  
506 7 22

What are you looking for? – [Tim Kuehn](#) Jul 31 '12 at 14:47

Looking for the right algorithm, to get the same Result as in Progress.. Authentication stuff... :) – [RaphaelH](#)  
Aug 1 '12 at 7:47

Yeah, I see what you're saying now. Good luck with that - guess you'll have to reverse engineer it or call out to some standalone Progress executable to generate it. – [Abe Voelker](#) Aug 2 '12 at 16:46

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### 4 Answers

I've made the algorithm available on <https://github.com/pvginkel/ProgressEncode>.

answered Aug 3 '13 at 5:51

 [Pieter van Ginkel](#)  
17.2k 3 26 57

Seems to be working. Thank you!! – [RaphaelH](#) Aug 7 '13 at 7:24

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There are several implementations of CRC-16. Progress Software (deliberately) does not document which variant is used.

For what purpose are you looking for this?

answered Jul 31 '12 at 16:02

 [lavinio](#)  
12.7k 3 30 52

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We have a Progress Database in which are User and Passwords are stored, I'm trying to use this Database as Authentication for another Application. – RaphaelH Aug 1 '12 at 7:46

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The way how the ENCODE function only works one way. Progress has never disclosed the algorithm behind it. Plus they have never built in a function to decode.

As with OE 10.0B Progress has implemented cryptography within the ABL. Have a look at the ENCRYPT and DECRYPT function.

edited Aug 2 '12 at 10:52

answered Aug 1 '12 at 11:14



I do NOT want to decode anything. It's just for authentication purpose. So I want to do the same Encoding just in another Application – RaphaelH Aug 1 '12 at 12:25

If you are tied to the ENCODE function with the Progress database then I am afraid you won't have much luck because you won't find any official source for the algorithm Progress uses. – RealHeavyDude Aug 2 '12 at 14:20

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Rather than trying to use "encode" I'd recommend studying OE's cryptography functionality. I'm not sure what 10.1C supports, the 11.0 docs I have says OE supports:

- DES – Data Encryption Standard
- DES3 – Triple DES
- AES – Advanced Encryption Standard
- RC4 – Also known as ARC4

The OE PDF docs are available here: <http://communities.progress.com/pcom/docs/DOC-16074>

answered Aug 2 '12 at 20:30



I do not want to change anything. It's just for authentication purpose.. – RaphaelH Aug 3 '12 at 6:49

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