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HyperCard: Dragging Over Text with Command Key Down

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TOPIC -----

In HyperCard, when I hold down the command key while the pointer is over a text field (it doesn't matter whether the field is locked), the pointer changes from an insertion point to a hand. If I then drag this hand pointer over the field (still holding down the command key), up to one entire line of text is immediately copied into the message box. What is this feature called and what is it for?

DISCUSSION -----

This feature has been a part of HyperCard for some time, but is not documented. Here's one way to take advantage of it:

You can write a handler that builds a find command in the message box, then "types" return to execute the command. For example, here's a handler that finds the next occurrence of whatever text has just been copied into the message box:

```
on mouseUp
  put "find whole"&&quote&message&quote into message
  repeat 2
    -- The first find will be the text you just copied into the message box;
    -- the second find will be the next one, if any.
    type return
  end repeat
end mouseUp
```

Each time you then press the return key (without changing the content of the message box), you'll go to the next occurrence of the same search string.

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