**Highlight Words from a Word List**

Paul has a document that he needs to check against a word list contained in another document. If the document being checked contains one of the words in the list, then the word in the document (not in the word list) needs to be highlighted by being made bold. The word list is large, on the order of 20,000 words, and Paul is wondering what the best way to do this is.

The macro below will do the comparisons for you. If you put the words you want checked into a document named "checklist.doc" in the C: drive, then the following macro can be used. Be sure to include words with the capitalization you want to find. *Word* will find only words that starts with a capital and *word* will find only lower case words. The words can be listed in a column or written in paragraph form. I find it best to put the capital and lower case word together on one line. That way I don’t miss a form of the words that I want to find:

Sub CompareWordList()

Dim sCheckDoc As String

Dim docRef As Document

Dim docCurrent As Document

Dim wrdRef As Object

sCheckDoc = "c:\checklist.docx"

Set docCurrent = Selection.Document

Set docRef = Documents.Open(sCheckDoc)

docCurrent.Activate

With Selection.Find

.ClearFormatting

.Replacement.ClearFormatting

.Replacement.Font.Bold = True

.Replacement.Text = "^&"

.Forward = True

.Format = True

.MatchWholeWord = True

.MatchCase = True

.MatchWildcards = False

End With

For Each wrdRef In docRef.Words

If Asc(Left(wrdRef, 1)) > 32 Then

With Selection.Find

.Wrap = wdFindContinue

.Text = wrdRef

.Execute Replace:=wdReplaceAll

End With

End If

Next wrdRef

docRef.Close

docCurrent.Activate

End Sub

All you need to do is have the document open that you want checked, and then run the macro. If the document containing the words to check is named differently or in a different location, just change the line that sets sCheckDoc so that it has a different full path name for the document.

Basically, the macro grabs each word from the word list and then does a Find and Replace operation using that word in the document. If you have many, many words in the word list, then the macro can take quite a while to run—20,000 Find and Replace operations is quite a few!