1. Use the 'locale' command to list the current locale settings for the session. For example:

%>locale
LANG=en_US.UTF-8
LC_CTYPE=en_US.UTF-8
LC_NUMERIC=en_US.UTF-8
LC_COLLATE=en_US.UTF-8
LC_MONETARY=en_US.UTF-8
LC_MESSAGES=en_US.UTF-8
LC_ALL=en_US.UTF-8

The variables returned describe the following:

 \approx LANG: specifies the locale to use for all purposes except as overridden by the variables below. \approx LC_CTYPE: determines the effect of character handling functions.

¤ LC_NUMERIC: determines the decimal point character and thousands separator character.

¤ LC_TIME: determines the date/time format.

¤ LC_COLLATE: determines the order in which the output is sorted.

¤ LC_MONETARY: determines the format for monetary symbols.

¤ LC_MESSAGES: determines the format of standard operating system messages.

¤ LC_ALL: used to set a single locale for all purposes, overrides all variables listed above.

2. Install additional locales using the upgrade option and specific directions for each respective system. Note that the 'locale -a' command will list all installed locales on the system. See related Sun and IBM links.

3. Log on as root and change/add the appropriate variables in the /etc/default/init file (Solaris) or /etc/environment file (AIX). See variables listed above. Be sure to set the variables for a locale available on the system.

4. Change the default font for the locale. This must be done as root.

To Change the Default Language

When the user logs in to the desktop from the login screen, the user session is run under the locale selected from the Language submenu of the Options menu. If the user does not select a language, the login server default language is used. You can control the value of the default language by setting the Dtlogin*language resource in Xconfig. For example:

Dtlogin*language: Ja_JP

Check your system documentation to determine the languages installed on your system.

To Change the Content of the Login Screen Language Menu

By default the login server creates the login screen Language menu containing a list of all locales installed on the system. When the user selects a locale from the login screen language list, the login server will redisplay the login screen in the selected locale. When the user subsequently logs in, the login server will start a desktop session for the user in that locale.

You can specify your own list of languages by modifying the Dtlogin*languageList resource in Xconfig:

Dtlogin*languageList: En_US De_DE

The login server now displays only En_US and De_DE in the login screen Language menu.