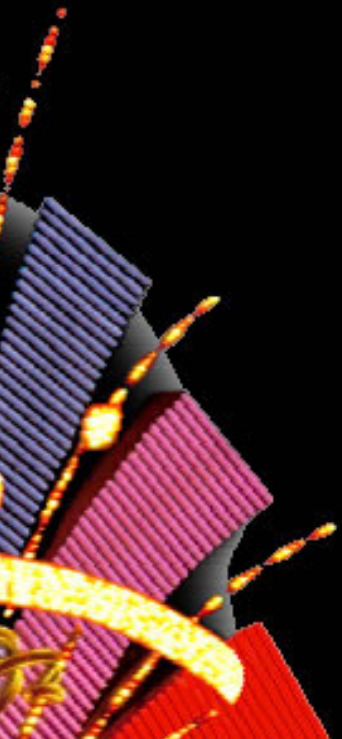


DOC1 Designer Tips and Tricks

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Changing the Sample Data File Associated with a Data Format

Changing the Sample Data File Associated with a Publication

Inserting a Field Definition in Records with Variable Length Fields

Casting a String Field as a Date

Accessing a Return Value from Business Logic

Changing the Default Header Size in the Page Setup

5.4 Enhancements Worth Noting

Providing Additional Resources to PCE in 5.3

with a Data Format

Steps required:

1. Open the Data Format
2. Select from the pulldown menus: Tasks/Change Sample D
3. Select either “My Resources” (Repository) or “My Computer” (hard drive etc.)
4. Navigate and select the desired sample data file
5. Hit the Open Button

Important Note: When you select a sample data file from “My Computer” the file is imported into the Repository without creating a new Data Format. This is the best method for importing a new sample data file for an existing Data Format.

with a Publication

Steps required:

1. Open the Publication
2. View the Publication Logic: Right click in the Logic Map and Select View/Publication from the popup menu
3. Double click on the Publication object to open the Publication dialog
4. Single click on the Folder to the right of the Sample Data
5. Select either “My Resources” (Repository) or “My Computer” (hard drive)
6. Navigate and select the desired sample data file
7. Hit the Open Button
8. Hit the OK Button

Important Note: When you select a sample data file from “My Computer” to be imported into the Repository without creating a new Data Format. This is the preferred method for importing a new sample data file for an existing Data Format.

Variable Length Fields

It is possible to insert a new field definition in the middle of variable length fields that are already defined on a record.

This is an important technique because fields already defined on the record remain unchanged. (No changes will be required to existing Publication Information.)

Steps:

1. Open the Data Format against the Sample Data file that has the new field that needs to be defined.
2. In the Formatted Data area, right click on the field just before where the new field will be added and select "Add Field" from the popup menu.
3. Enter the required field settings (label, type, etc.).
4. You must manually enter the correct "From" and "To" positions for the new field including the delimiter.
5. You must select the options "Position relative to previous field" and "Variable size field" with the correct "Number of characters in field terminator".
6. Hit the Define button.
7. Save and Issue the Data Format.
8. Update the Data Map and Data Dictionary.

It is possible to change a string field so that it is interpreted as a

- Set a Variable of type Date equal to the string field.
- The string field must be in the short date format of the current locale referenced by the Publication.
- Note: The default short date format for the locale “English (United States of America)” is mm/dd/yyyy.
- You will be able to format the date variable wherever it is referenced:
 - Printed on a Document page
 - In a Journal
 - In an arithmetic function performing date math
 - Etc.

One method of accessing a Business Logic Return Value is to set a Variable equal to it:

- Insert a Set Variable object in the logic.
- Give the variable an appropriate name and make sure the type matches the type of the Return Value declared in the Business Logic.
- Set the variable equal to Functions/Business Logic.
- Select the required Business Logic
- Resolve all parameters (if parameters are used)
- Hit the Create button (Business Logic)
- Hit the Create button (Set Variable)

The Variable containing the Return Value can be used in a Condition or printed on a page etc.

in the Page Setup

Many document designs require pages with different header sizes. It is possible to change the header size on a page by page basis.

Steps:

1. Open a Publication.
2. Right click in the Logic and select “View Page Setup” from the popup menu.
3. Add the required conditional logic to the “Default Header” section.
4. On each conditional branch of logic insert a “Default Header Size” object:
 - Mark the Insertion Point and select “Insert/Presentation Objects/Headers and Footers/Default Header Size” from the pulldown menu.
 - Create the object as required.
5. Design each header as required.

Note: A similar technique is available for the Default Footer Size.

Dynamic Positioning of Fixed Anchor Objects

Example: It is now possible to use variables to indicate the X and Y position of an Editor Text Box.

Using Multiple Repositories:

- Setup using the Repository Configuration Tool.
- Each Repository must use the same SQL Server.
- Only one Repository may be opened in the Designer at a time.
- Note: It is not possible to copy and paste between Repositories.

A Page Break object may be placed within Table logic.

Note: This dramatically expands the control available within Transaction Tables.

Additional font and image resources can be added to a HIP that are not referenced by the Publication being published. Additional resources are specified as part of the Production Job used for the Publish process.

Note: This is extremely useful for making fonts and images available to Publications, especially when barcodes are applied to document pages within PCE.

In Versions 5.3 and earlier the best method for making fonts and images, referenced by a Publication, available to PCE is by creating a Dummy Publication/HIP.

This is particularly useful for making barcode fonts available to PCE.

Steps:

1. Create a Publication – Do not associate a Data Map or Sample Data to the Publication.
2. In the Document logic manually place on the page one occurrence of font and image that needs to be available to PCE. Use Constants to make Barcode objects.
3. Save, Issue, and Publish the Publication being certain to select the appropriate Output Device(s).
4. Reference the Dummy HIP and all other required HIPs in the PCE INI file in the section and keyword(s):
 <Files>
 HIP=* .HIP ;wildcards may be used to specify the filename
5. Execute the following statement in the PCE script before any page is read from an input file:

GET RESOURCES FROM HIP;

Questions and Answers