

FIT1013 Digital Futures: IT for Business Week 8: Forms and Dialogue Boxes

On completion of your study this week, you should aim to:

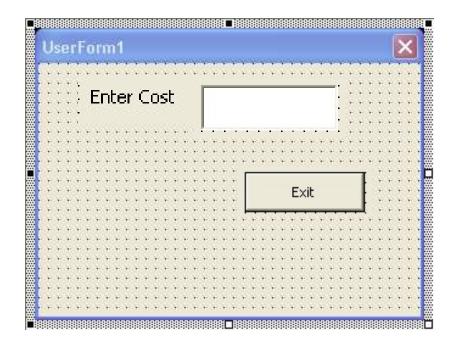
- Create a user form
- Add controls to a form
- Explain the use of text box, label, and command button controls
- Set the tab order for controls
- Provide keyboard access to controls using accelerator keys
- Add new and existing forms to a project
- Display and remove a user form
- Code a user form





Creating Custom Dialog Boxes (User forms)

- You first add a form the foundation of a dialog box, to the project, and then you add objects, called controls, to the form
- This form and its controls are what constitute a user form or dialog box

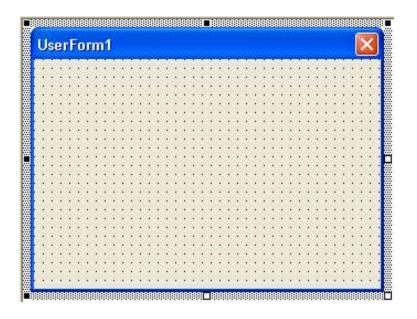




Design Standards for Dialog Boxes

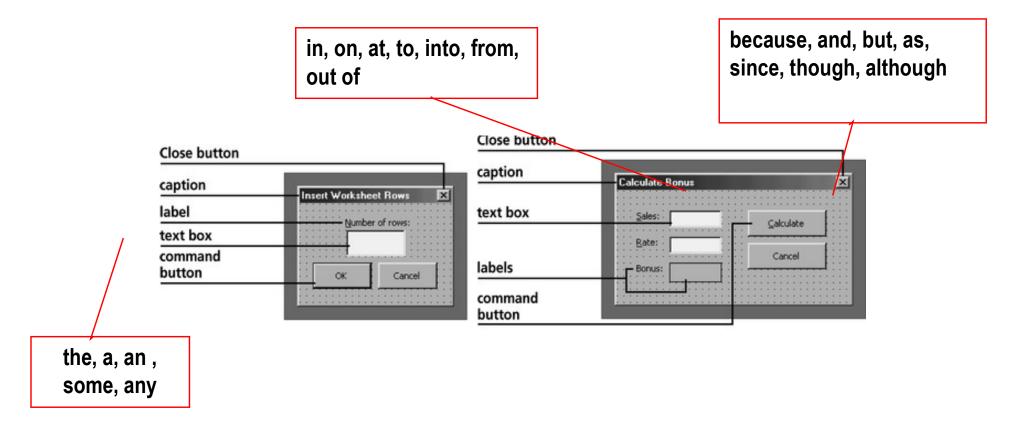
Before creating a custom dialog box, we will look at the Windows standards for dialog boxes:

- When positioning the controls, be sure to maintain a consistent margin from the edge of the form; a margin of two or three dots is recommended
- Because a dialog box is a window, it has a title bar and borders





Design Standards for Dialog Boxes



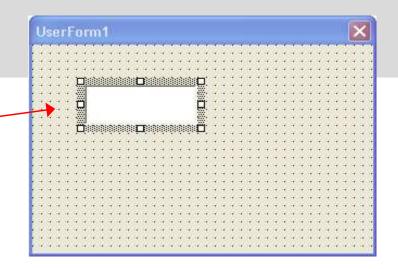
Caption:

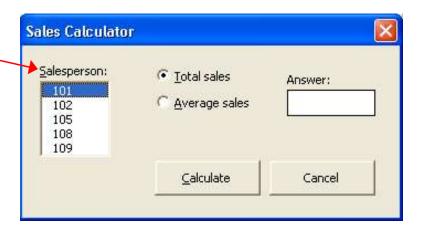
- The dialog box's caption should be entered using book title capitalisation, which
 means you capitalise the first letter in each word, except for articles, conjunctions, and
 prepositions that do not occur at either the beginning or the end of the caption
- Examples: "a", "an", "the" and "and".

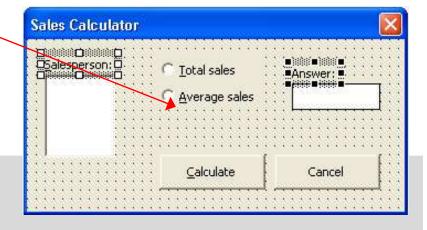


Dialog Box Controls

- You use a **text box control** to provide an area in the dialog box where data can be entered, edited, and displayed
- You use a label control to display text that you don't want the user to modify, such as text that identifies another control in the dialog box or text that represents the result of a calculation
- If a label control is used as an identifier for another control, its caption should be no more than three words in length and entered using sentence capitalisation, which means that you capitalise only the first letter in the first word and in any words that are customarily capitalised.









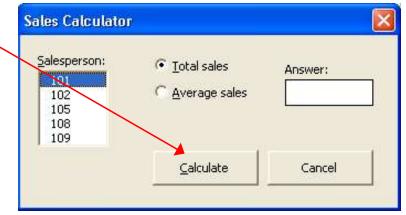
Dialog Box Controls

 You use a command button control to process one or more instructions when the user clicks the button

 A command button's caption should be no more than three words in length and entered using book title capitalisation

Command buttons should be positioned either at the **bottom** or on the

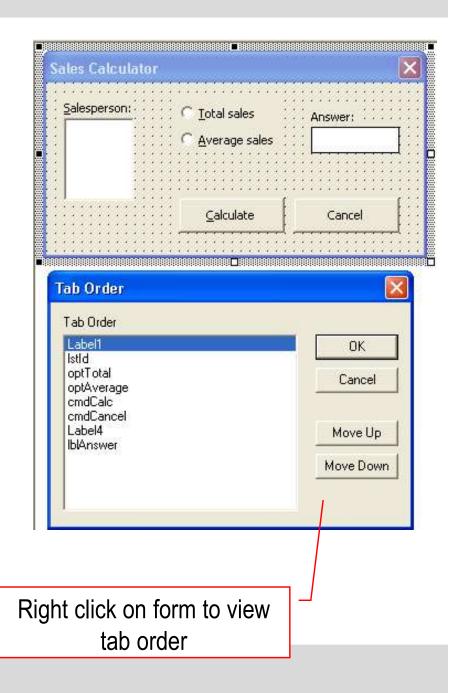
right side of the dialog box





Setting the Tab Order

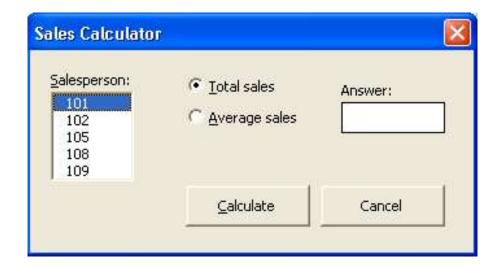
- An essential control is one that can receive input from the user
 - E.g. text box, option button.
- The tab order is the order in which the focus moves from one essential control in a dialog box to the next essential control as you press the Tab key
- The first essential control in the tab order is typically located in the upperleft area of the dialog box





Providing Keyboard Access to a Control

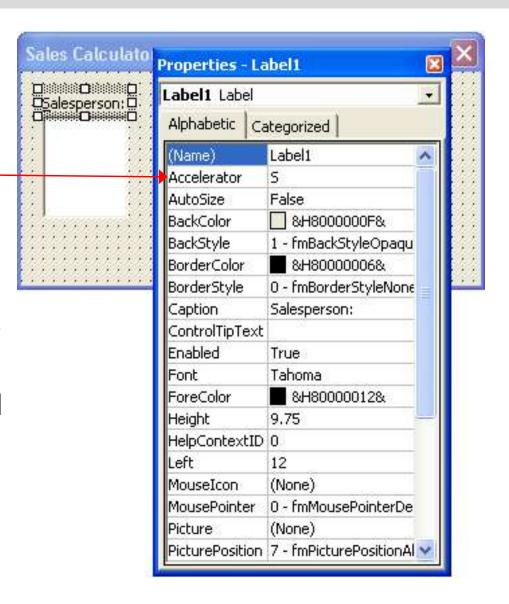
- Providing keyboard access to the controls in a dialog box allows the user to work with the dialog box using the keyboard rather than the mouse
- The user may need to use the keyboard if his or her mouse becomes inoperative
- The user simply may prefer to use the keyboard if he or she is a fast typist





Assigning Accelerator Keys

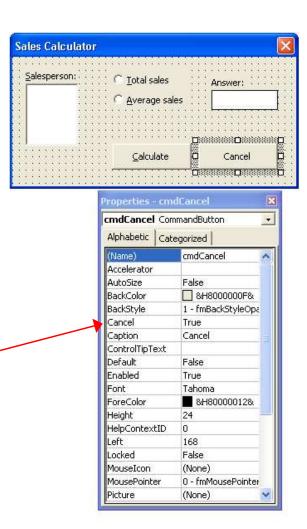
- The underlined letter is called an accelerator key and it is used in combination with the Alt key as a shortcut for selecting a control
- In Excel, you use a control's Accelerator property to assign an accelerator key to the control
- Note: the accelerator key for a label control takes the focus to the next essential control in the tab order
- See Computer Inventory complete.xls in the Resources folder





Using the Default and Cancel Properties

- The default button is the one that is selected automatically when the user presses the Enter key, even when the button does not have the focus
- You make a command button the default button by setting its **Default** property to the **Boolean value True**
- The cancel button is the one that is selected automatically when the user presses the Esc key
- You make a command button the cancel button by setting its Cancel property to the Boolean value True



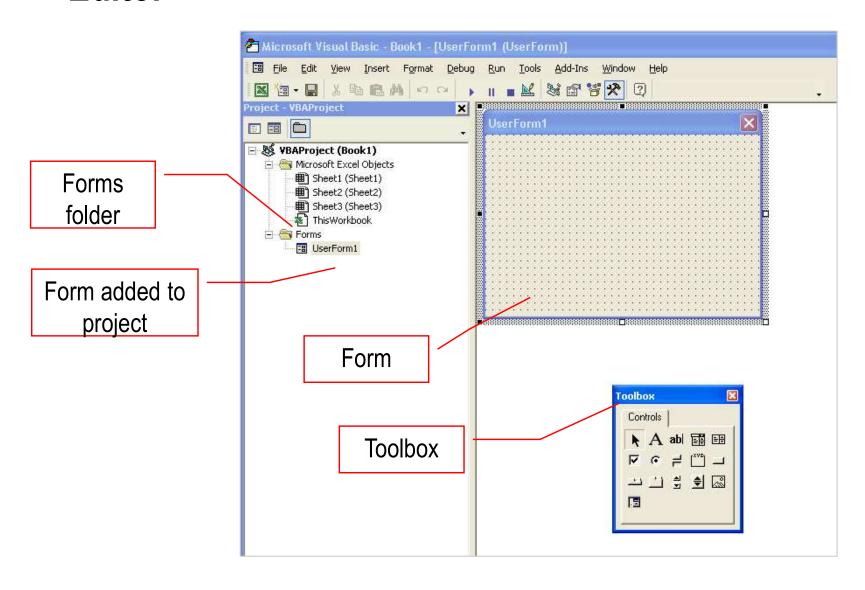


Adding a Form to the Project

- Before you can create a custom dialog box, you first must add a form to the project
- The form will serve as the foundation of the dialog box
- To add a form to your project:
 - Open the VBE
 - Click Insert on the menu bar
 - Click UserForm
 - VBE adds a form to the project and also displays the toolbox



Form and Toolbox Window Shown in the Visual Basic Editor

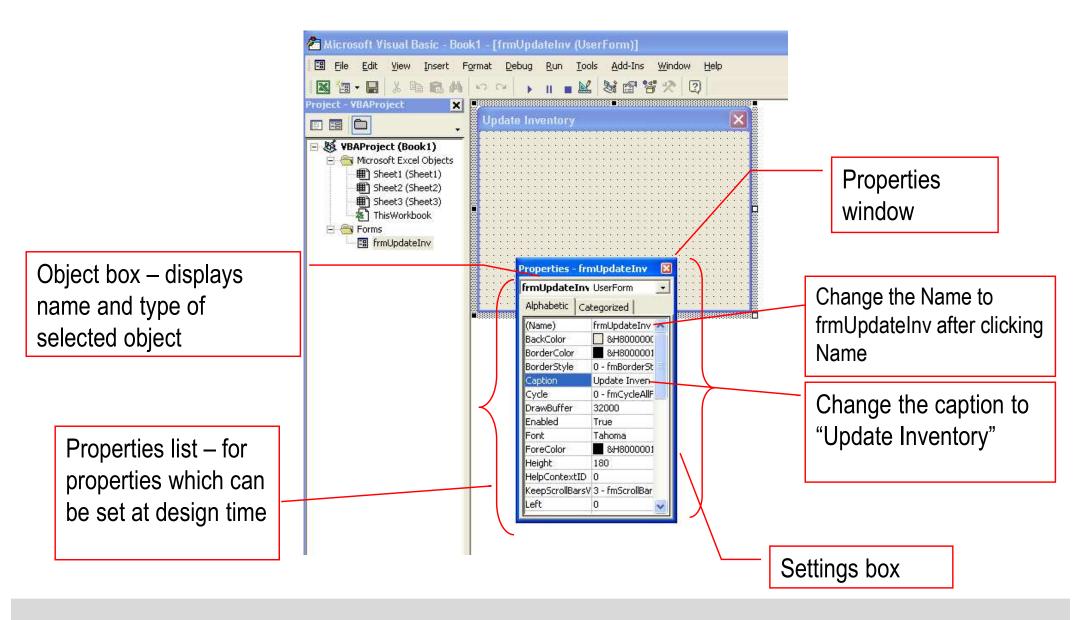


Naming the Form

- Each form in a project must have a unique name
- The rules for naming forms are the same as the rules for naming variables
- The three-character ID used in form names is frm



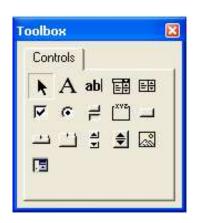
The Properties Window





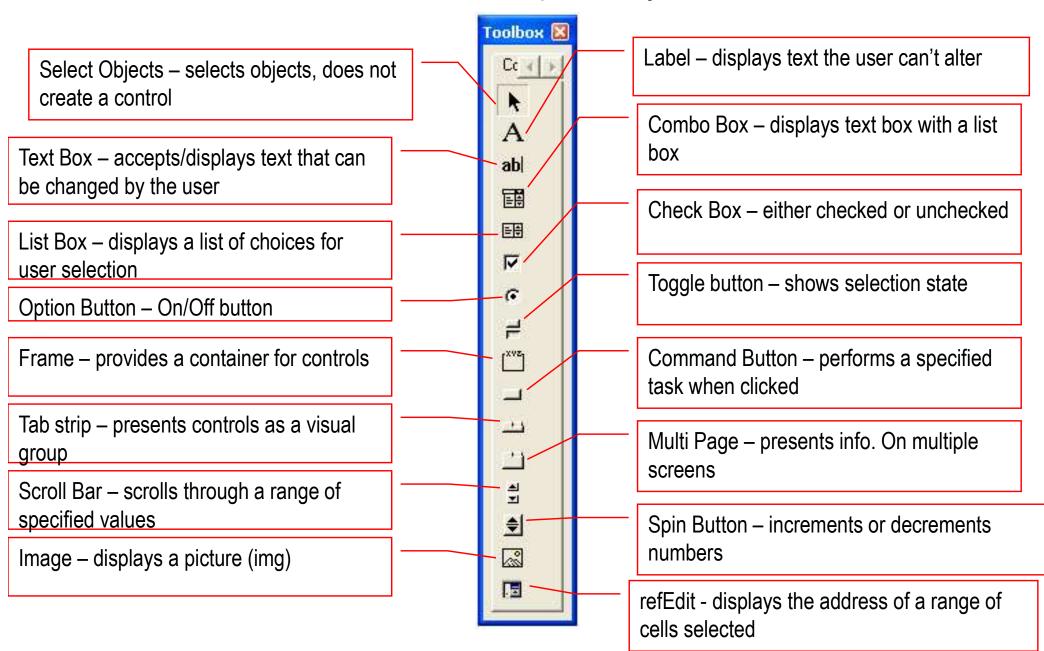
Using the Toolbox Window to Add a Control to the Form

- The Toolbox window, also referred to simply as the toolbox, contains the set of tools you use to place objects, called controls, on the form
- You can add a control to a form simply by dragging the appropriate tool to the desired location on the form



Toolbox Window

Toolbox – the set of tools used to place objects on a form



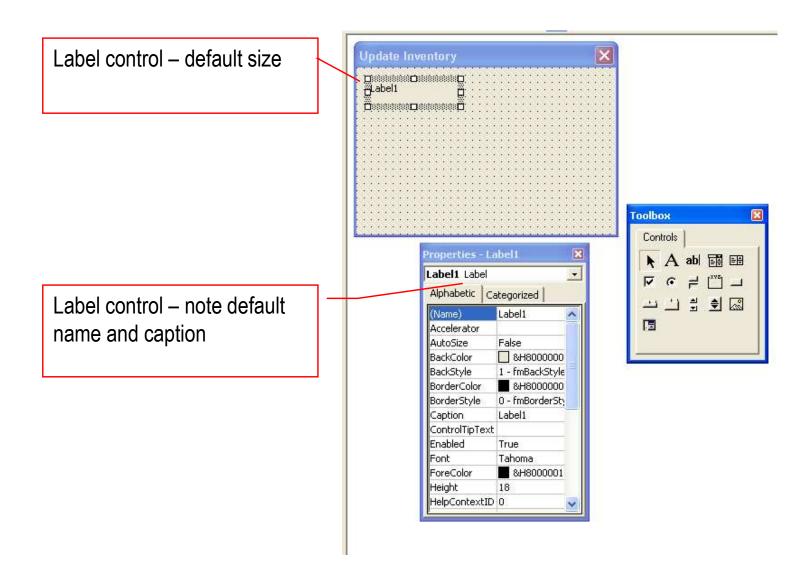
Basic Tools Included in the Toolbox

Tool	Name	Purpose	Control ID
V	Check Box	Displays a box that is either checked or unchecked	chk
	Combo Box	Combines and displays a text box with a list box	cbo
	Command Button	Performs instructions when clicked	cmd
	Frame	Provides a visual and functional container for controls	fra
	Image	Displays a picture	img
A	Label	Displays text that the user cannot change	lbl
	List Box	Displays a list of choices from which a user can select	Ist
	Multi Page	Presents multiple screens of information as a single set	mpg
•	Option Button	Displays a button that can be either on or off	opt
A 22	Scroll Bar	Displays a scroll bar containing a range of values	scr
k	Select Objects	Selects objects; this tool does not create a control	
•	Spin Button	Increments and decrements numbers	spn
-	Tab Strip	Presents a set of related controls as a visual group	tab
abi	Text Box	Accepts or displays text that the user can change	txt
=	Toggle Button	Shows the selection state of an item	tog

Note: 3 character ID used to name the controls

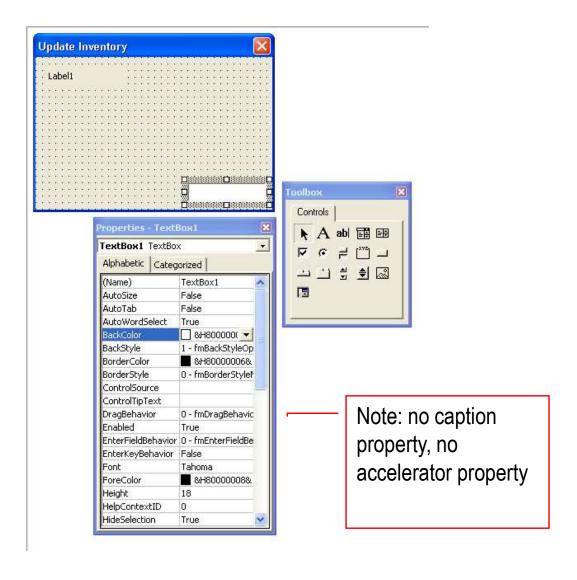
Basic tools included in the toolbox

Label Control



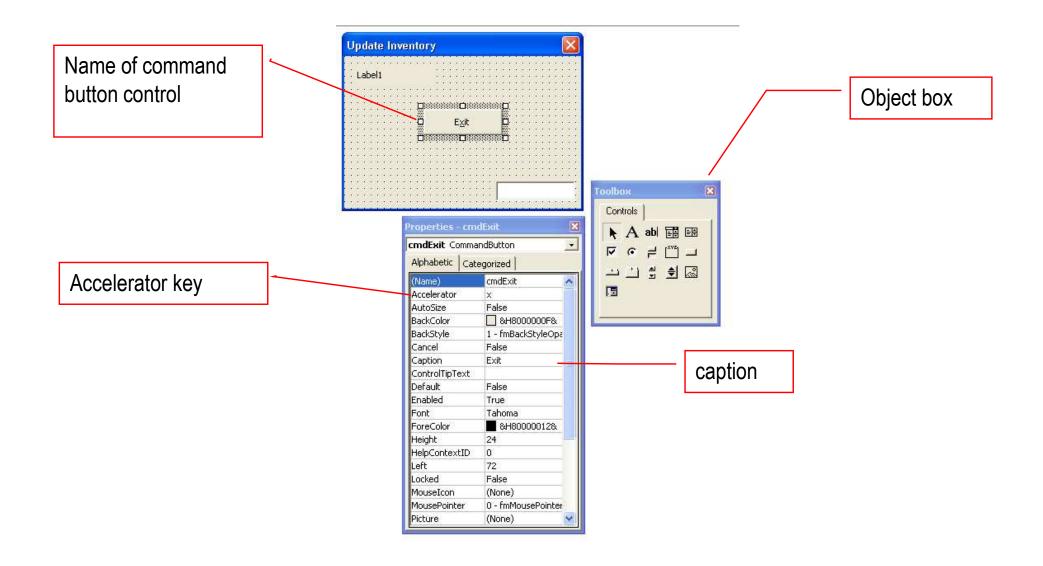


Default-size Text box Control





Adding Command button control





Displaying and Removing a User Form

You use the form's **Show method** to bring the custom dialog box into the computer's memory and then display it on the screen, and you use the **Unload** statement to remove the dialog box from both the screen and memory

The workbook open event:

Private Sub Workbook_Open() frmUpdateInv.Show
End Sub

The workbook close event:

Private Sub Workbook_BeforeClose(Cancel As Boolean)
Unload frmUpdateInv
End Sub

See Computer Inventory complete.xls in the Resources folder (select ThisWorkbook)



Coding a User Form

- Actions performed by the user—such as clicking, double-clicking, and scrolling—are called events
- You tell an object how to respond to an event by writing an event procedure
- Event procedures are blocks of instructions that perform a task
- Event procedures run in response to an event rather than in response to running a macro
- Every form has its own set of event procedures (e.g. Activate, Click, Double Click)
- Every object on a form also has its own set of event procedures (e.g. Click, Double Click....)



Example: Updating the Inventory Worksheet

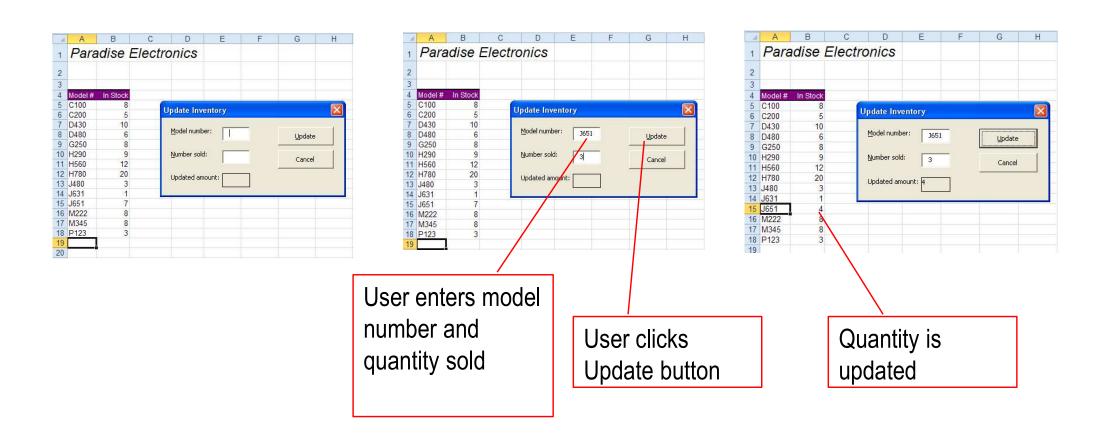
This exercise involves creating a macro that uses a custom dialog box to **update the inventory amounts** (by subtracting the numbers sold from the number in stock)

	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	
1	Para	idise I	Electro	nics				
2								
3	- 2							
4	Model#	In Stock						
5	C100	10					2	
6	C200	5						
7	D430	10					15	
8	D480	6						
9	G250	8					12	
10	H290	9						
11	H560	15			8			
12	H780	20		10			10	
13	J480	3					2	
14	J631	5						
15	J651	7					0	
16	M222	8						
17	M345	8			12		13	
18	P123	4					(8)	
19				i i	S .		Š.	
20	20						10	
21								



Example: Command button click event procedure

Paradise Electronics:



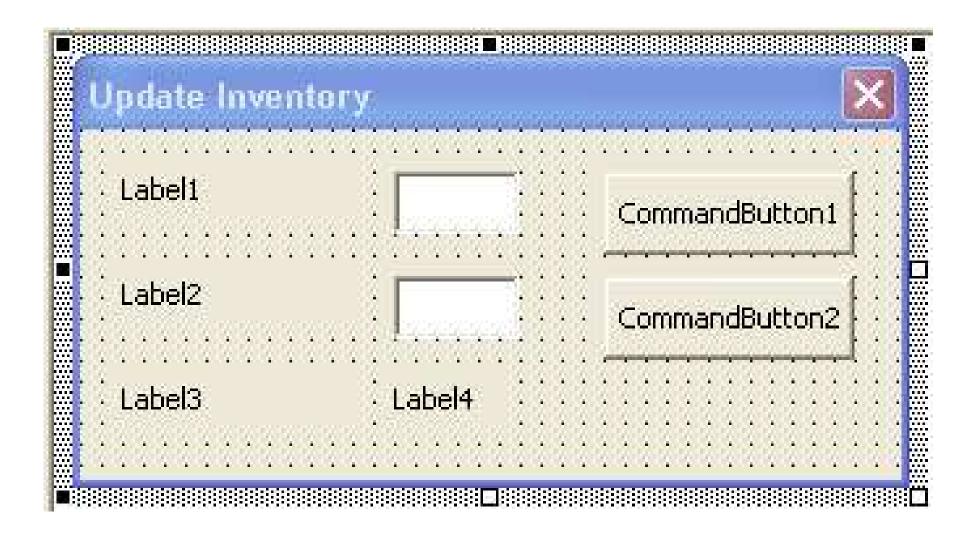


Sketch of the Custom Dialog Box

Update Inventory	
<u>M</u> odel number:	<u>U</u> pdate
<u>N</u> umber sold:	Cancel
Updated amount:	



The Partially Completed frmUpdateInv Form





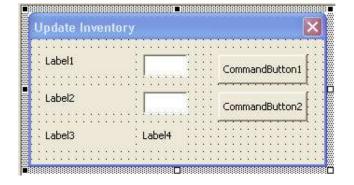
Setting the Name Property

- The form and any controls that will be either coded or referred to in code should have their default name changed to a more meaningful one
- The form's name has been changed from UserForm1 to frmUpdateInv; you now need to change the appropriate control names
- You will **not need** to change the names of the three identifying labels (Label1, Label2, and Label3), because those controls will not be coded or referred to in code



Controls Included in the Update Inventory Dialog

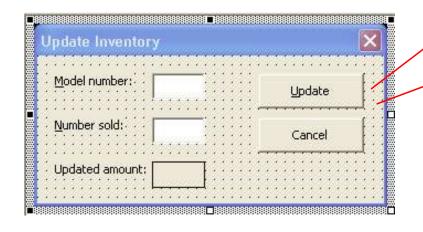
Box

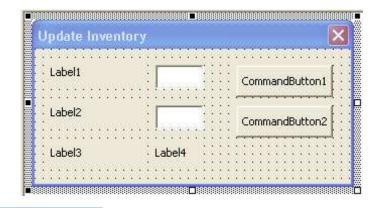


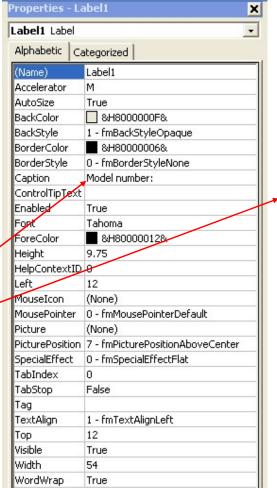
Default Name	Status	New Name
CommandButton1	Coded	cmdUpdate
CommandButton2	Coded	cmdCancel
Label1	Not coded or referred to in code	
Label2	Not coded or referred to in code	
Label3	Not coded or referred to in code	
Label4	Referred to in code	IbIUpdated
TextBox1	Referred to in code	txtModel
TextBox2	Referred to in code	txtNumSold

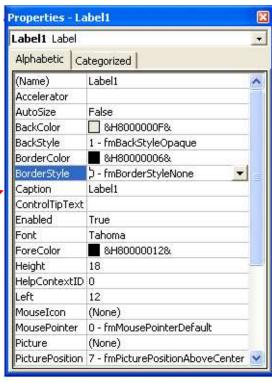
Setting the Caption Property

- Label controls and command buttons have a Caption property that controls the text appearing inside the control
- When a label or command button is added to the form, its default name is assigned to the Caption property. These require updating.



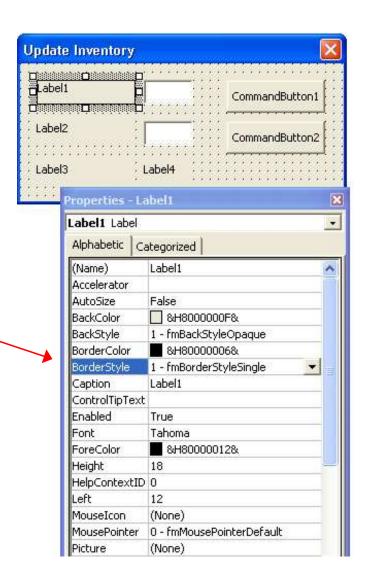






Setting the BorderStyle Property

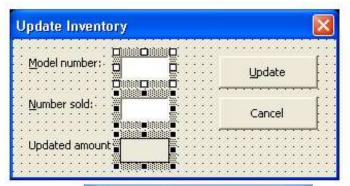
- Many objects have a BorderStyle property that determines the style of the object's border
- Label controls, for example, have a BorderStyle property that can be set to either 0 (fmBorderStyleNone) or 1 (fmBorderStyleSingle)
- The 0 fmBorderStyleNone setting displays the label control without a border, while the 1 (fmBorderStyleSingle) setting displays the label control with a thin line around its border
- Many controls also have an AutoSize property, which does just what its name implies

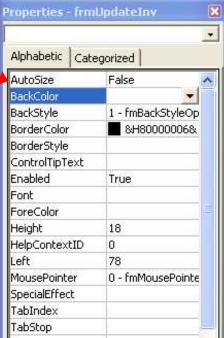




Changing the AutoSize Property for More Than One Control at a Time

- You can set the AutoSize property for the three identifying labels individually, or you can change the property for the three controls at the same time
- Before you can change a property for a group of controls, you need to select the controls

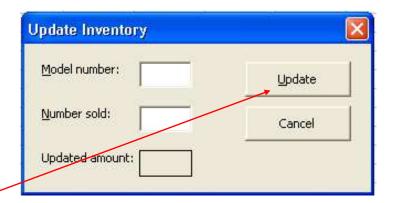






Providing Keyboard Access to Essential Controls

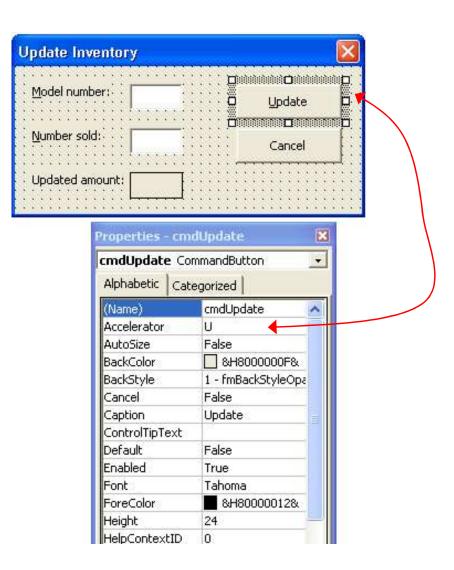
- You should provide keyboard access to each essential control on the form
- Use accelerator keys to provide keyboard access to the text boxes and to the Update command button





The Update button and Text box keyboard access

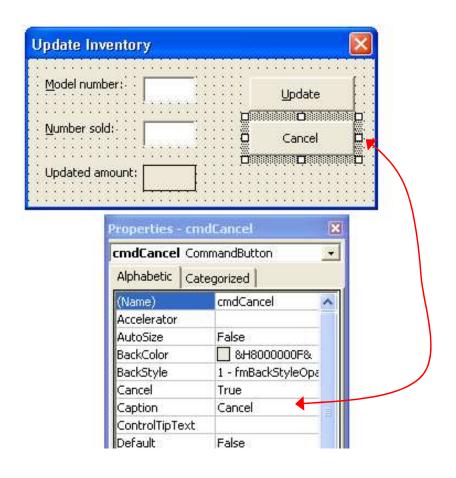
- Give the Update button an accelerator button of U
- Ditto for other essential controls....
- NB: text boxes don't have an accelerator key or a caption property
- To provide keyboard access for text boxes
 - Assign an accelerator key to the identifying label
 - Give the label control a TabIndex property immediately before the text box TabIndex property





The Cancel button

 Designate the Cancel button as the cancel button:



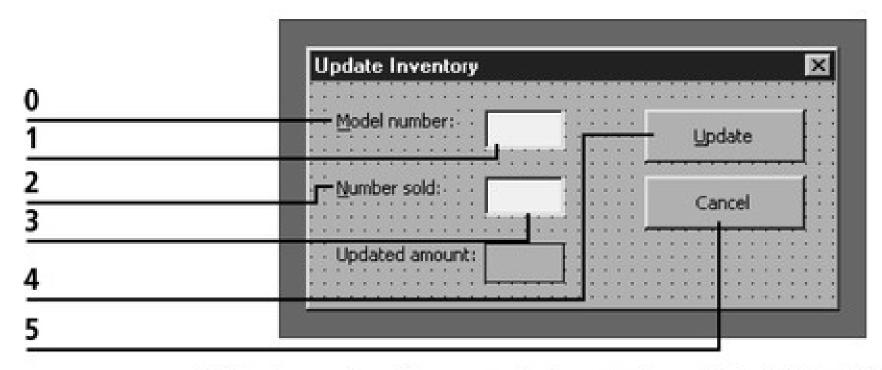


Setting the Tab Order

- The tab order is determined by the TabIndex property of the controls included in the dialog box
- When you add a control to a form, the control's **TabIndex** property is set to a number that represents the order in which the control was added to the form
- The control whose **TabIndex** value is 0 will receive the focus first, because it is the first control in the tab order
- Before you can set the **TabIndex** property of the controls, you need to determine where each essential control should fall in the tab order



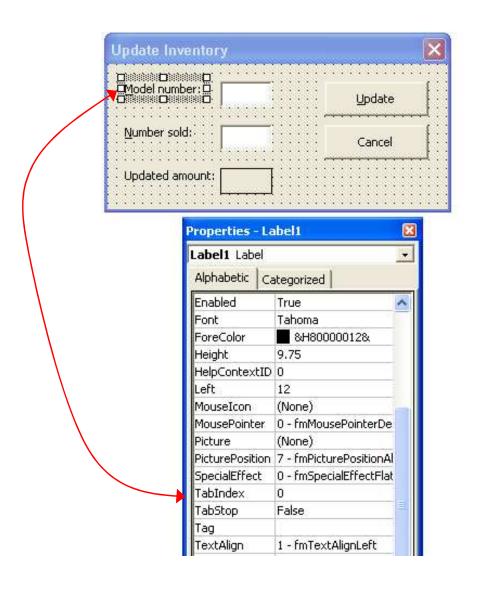
Tablndex Values for Essential Controls and Their Identifying Labels



TabIndex values for essential controls and their identifying labels



TabIndex Values for Model Number





Coding the Controls in the Update Inventory Dialog Box

- The first control to code is the **Cancel button**, which should remove the form from both the screen and the computer's memory when the user selects the button
- The next control to code is the Update command button, which the user can select either by clicking it or by pressing the Enter key when the button has the focus



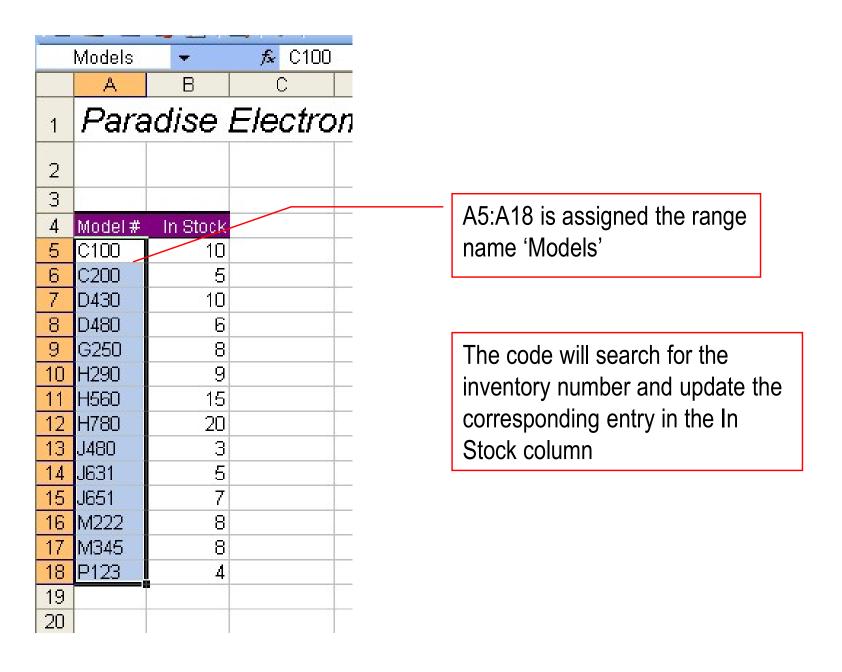
Code for the Cancel button

- Code (same as previously):
- The syntax of the Unload statement is
 Unload formName

Private Sub cmdCancel_Click()
Unload frmUpdateInv
End Sub

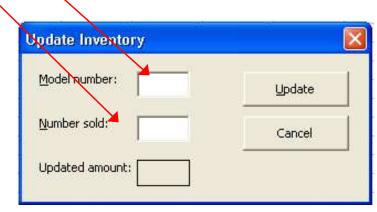


The Inventory Worksheet in the Computer Inventory Workbook – code for Update button



Pseudocode for the Update Button's Click Event Procedure

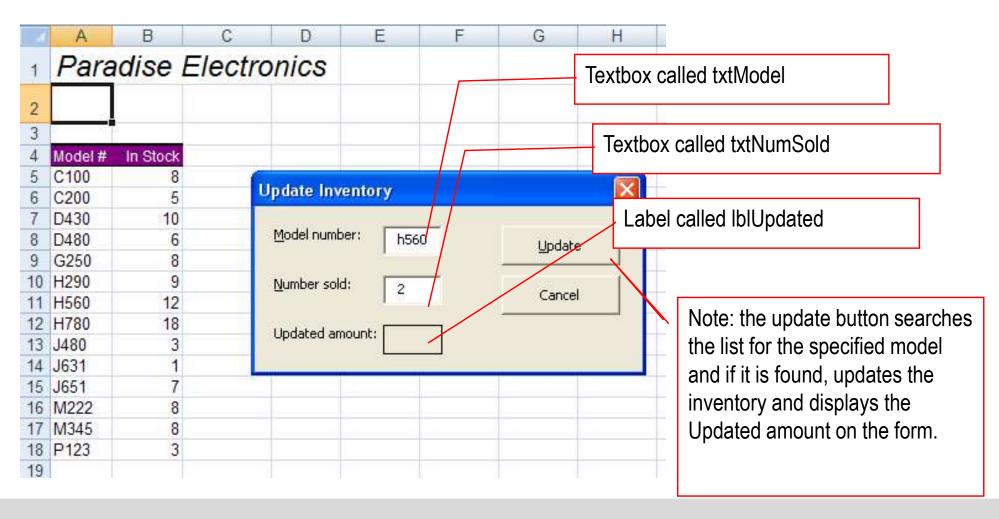
- Assign the contents of the txtModel control, in uppercase letters, to a string variable named strModel
- Assign the contents of the txtNumSold control, treated as a number, to an integer variable intNumSold
- 3. Repeat the following for each cell in the **models** range:
- a. If the model number stored in the current cell is equal to the model number stored in the strModel variable, then
 - 1) Calculate the updated inventory amount by subtracting the contents of the intNumSold variable from the model's current inventory amount, which is contained in the cell located to the immediate right of the current cell in the worksheet. Assign the result to an integer variable named intUpdated.
 - 2) Assign the contents of the intUpdated variable both to the lblUpdated control in the dialog box and to the cell located to the immediate right of the current cell in the worksheet.
 - 3) Exit the loop.





Click event procedure for Update Command button

Form control names





Variables required

Variable	Data type
strModel	String
intNumSold	Integer
intUpdated	Integer
wksInventory	Worksheet
rngCell	range

Variables used by Update button's click event procedure.



Start of Update Button's Click Event Procedure

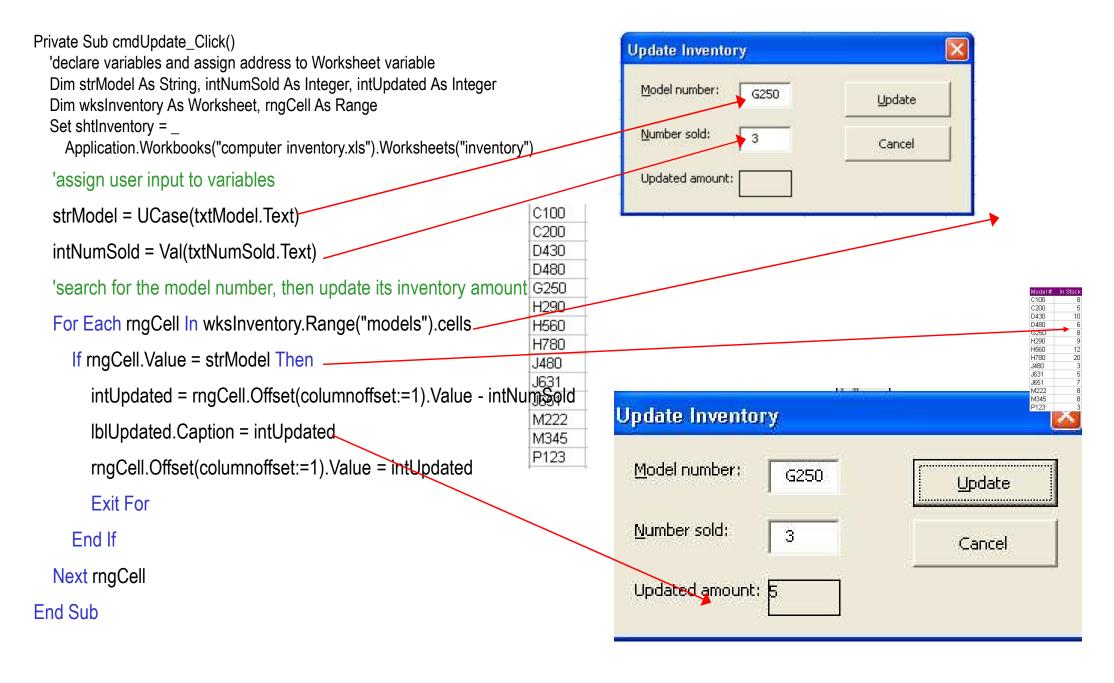
```
Private Sub cmdUpdate_Click()
  'declare variables and assign address to Worksheet variable
  Dim strModel As String, intNumSold As Integer, intUpdated As Integer
  Dim wksInventory As Worksheet,
   Dim rngCell As Range
  Set wksInventory = _
    Application. Workbooks ("computer
  inventory.xls").Worksheets("inventory")
End Sub
```



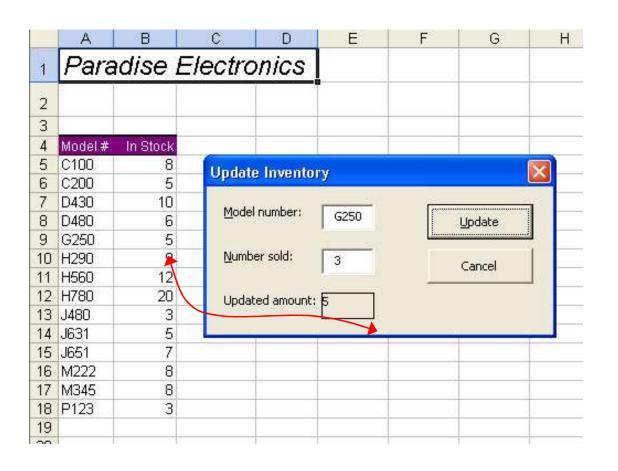
Click event procedure for Update Command button

Example – updating an inventory Private Sub cmdUpdate_Click() 'declare variables and assign address to Worksheet variable Dim strModel As String Dim intNumSold As Integer Declaring and assigning Dim intUpdated As Integer variables Dim wksInventory As Worksheet Set wksInventory = _ Application. Workbooks ("computer inventory complete do loop Capturing user input version.xlsm").Worksheets("inventory") and assigning to variables 'assign user input to variables strModel = UCase(txtModel.Text) intNumSold = Val(txtNumSold.Text) Model number: h560 Number sold:

Completed Click Event Procedure for the cmdUpdate Control



Updated Inventory Amount Shown in the Dialog Box and in the Worksheet





Alternate Click event procedure for Update Command button – using a Do Loop

Paradise

Example – updating an inventory "model" refers to Code continued: cell A4 'search for the model number, then update its inventory amount wksInventory.Range("model").Select Runs through the list of Do Until IsEmpty(ActiveCell) models If ActiveCell.Value = strModel Then intUpdated = ActiveCell.Offset(columnoffset:=1).Value - intNumSold IbIUpdated.Caption = intUpdated ActiveCell.Offset(columnoffset:=1).Value = intUpdated Exit Do End If ActiveCell.Offset(1, 0).Select If the model is found, Loop the details are updated End Sub

- To create a user form or custom dialog box:
- Add a form to the project, then add controls to the form:
 - Click Insert on the menu bar, and then click UserForm
 - Align the controls wherever possible to minimize the number of different margins on the form
- To follow the Windows standards for controls:
 - Use a label control to display text that you don't want the user to modify
 - Use a **text box** control to provide an area in the dialog box where data can be entered
 - Use a command button control to process one or more instructions as soon as the button is clicked



- Position the command button either at the bottom or on the right side of the dialog box
- Group related command buttons together by positioning them close to each other in the dialog box
- Provide keyboard access to the essential controls in the dialog box using accelerator keys
- To select an appropriate accelerator key for a control:
 - Use the first letter of the control's caption, unless another letter provides a more meaningful association



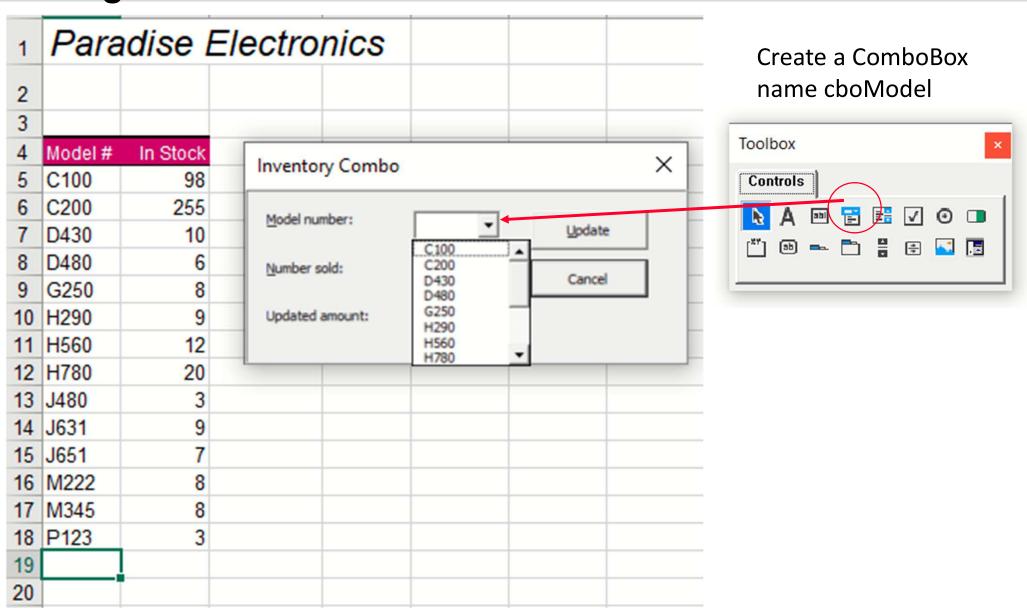
- To specify a command button as the default button:
 - Set the command button's **Default** property to **True**
- To specify a command button as the cancel button:
 - Set the command button's Cancel property to **True**
- Set an appropriate tab order
- To change the properties of an object:
 - Use the Properties window



- To have a procedure display a custom dialog box on the screen:
 - Use the Show method, whose syntax is: formName.Show
- To have a procedure remove a form from both the screen and the computer's memory:
 - Use the Unload statement, whose syntax is Unload formName
- To have an object respond to an event in a particular way:
 - Enter VBA instructions in the appropriate event procedure for the object



Using a ComboBox control





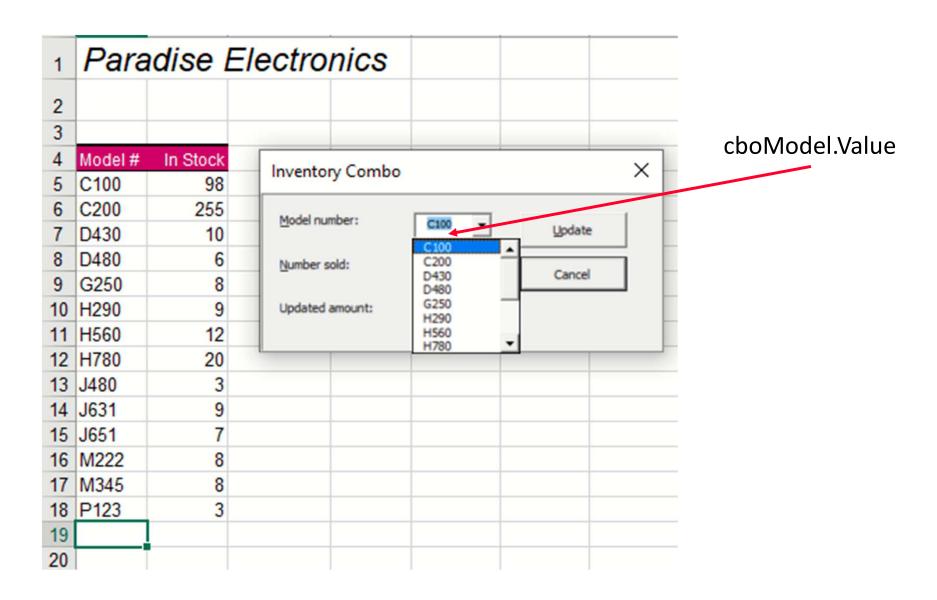
Code to Add Items to the ComboBox (when the form is activated)

```
Private Sub UserForm_Activate()
Dim wksInvCombo As Worksheet
```

```
Set wksInvCombo = Application.Workbooks("Computer Inventory complete.xlsm").Worksheets("Combo") wksInvCombo.Activate
```



Selecting and using the Items in the ComboBox





Example: Using the selected item in the ComboBox

```
Private Sub cmdUpdate Click()
'declare variables and assign address to Worksheet variable
  Dim strModel As String, intNumSold As Integer, intUpdated As Integer
  Dim wksInventory As Worksheet, rngCell As Range
  Set wksInventory =
    Application. Workbooks ("computer inventory
complete.xlsm").Worksheets("Combo")
  'assign user input to variables
  strModel = cboModel.Value
  intNumSold = Val(txtNumSold.Text)
  'search for the model number, then update its inventory amount
  For Each rngCell In wksInventory.Range("models").Cells
    If rngCell.Value = strModel Then
       intUpdated = rngCell.Offset(columnoffset:=1).Value - intNumSold
       IbIUpdated.Caption = intUpdated
       rngCell.Offset(columnoffset:=1).Value = intUpdated
       Exit For
    End If
  Next rngCell
End Sub
```

