

# Oracle Forms

## Avoid duplicated records in a block

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The purpose is to reject two records that contain duplicated values.

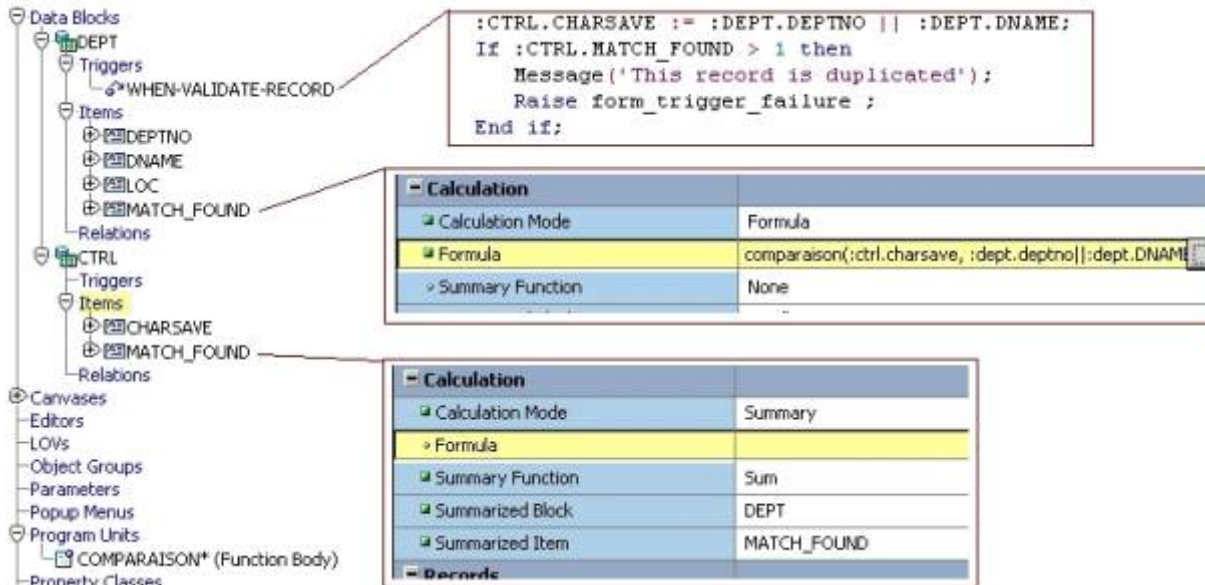
The screenshot shows the Oracle Developer Forms Runtime - Web interface. A table titled 'DEPT table' is displayed with columns 'Deptno', 'Dname', and 'Loc'. The table contains five rows of data, with the fifth row (30, SALES, ) highlighted in blue. A red oval is drawn around the '30' and 'SALES' cells. Below the table, a message box states 'This record is duplicated' and 'Enreg. : 5/5'.

Deptno	Dname	Loc
10	ACCOUNTING	NEW YORK
20	RESEARCH	DALLAS
30	SALES	CHICAGO
40	OPERATIONS	BOSTON
30	SALES	

This record is duplicated  
Enreg. : 5/5

The technique used to solve this problem comes from the [Kevin D Clarke](#)'s calculated item famous solution.

It uses two calculated items, one in the data block and another in a control block.



The first calculated item (:DEPT.MATCH\_FOUND) is added to the DEPT block. It contains the formula as follow:

```
Comparaison(:ctrl.charsave, :dept.deptno||:dept.dname)
```

Notice in this case, that we want to avoid duplicates on both DEPTNO and DNAME values.

```

Function COMPARAISON (val1 varchar2, val2 varchar2)
Return number
Is
  answer number := 0;
Begin
  if val1 = val2 then
    answer := 1;
  end if;
  return(answer);
End;

```

COMPARAISON is a program unit stored in the Forms module.

The two values are compared to each other, then the function returns 1 (a value greatest than 0) if both the values are identical.

The first value (:ctrl.charsave) contains the backup value of the current record.

The **DEPT** block must have the following properties setting:

Query all records	YES
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The **CTRL** block must have the following properties setting:

Query all records	YES
Single record	YES
Database data block	NO

The second calculated item (:CTRL.MATCH\_FOUND) is added to the CTRL block. It summarize the values contained in all the rows of the DEPT block (dept.match\_found). If the total is greater than 1, we have two duplicated data.

The sample dialog

- [Download the DUPLICATES.fmb](#) sample dialog for you to test

