**Creating HTML email based on existing aspx forms**

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A new function created:

buildHTMLEmail(byVal theHTMLFile as string, byVal Prefix as string, byval checkBoxStyleFound, byval checkBoxStyleNotFound) as string

Sample calls:

Dim htmlEmail As String = buildHtmlEmail("testhtmlEmail.html", "ctl00$ContentPlaceHolder1 "visibility:visible", "visibility:hidden;display:none;")

Dim html as string

Html = buildHTMLEmail("frGift1.html","")

theHTMLFile - a file residing where the aspx file is

Prefix - when using a form with a master file get the prefix by running the form and then view source.

Note: a control place holder :|control1|: can be used as many time as needed

**How to prepare the html file**

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The function looks for :|<input name>|:. When it finds one it will replace it with the current submitted value of Request(prefix+inputname) if one exists.

**Text boxes**

Replace:

<input .... id="txtSomething" /> with :|txtSomething|:

TextArea (asp:TextBox ... id="txtMessage" TextMode="MultiLine" ..> with the :|txtMessage|: the same as for regular text input. The function replaces LineFeed+CR with <br />

**Dropdown list**

Replace the select and all the option lines with :|DropDownList1|:

*For example <select name="ctl00$ContentPlaceHolder1$DropDownList1" id="ctl00\_ContentPlaceHolder1\_DropDownList1"> <option selected="selected" value="First option">First option</option> <option value="Second Option">Second Option</option></select>*

*With: Option select :|DropDownList1|:*

**Check box**

Check boxes are diffent. The request("checkBoxName") returns "on" or nothing. Therefore you need to prepare for that. One option

Replace

<input id="ctl00\_ContentPlaceHolder1\_CheckBox1" type="checkbox" name="ctl00$ContentPlaceHolder1$CheckBox1" /><label for="ctl00\_ContentPlaceHolder1\_CheckBox1">text of a check box</label>

With

[<span style=":|CheckBox1|:">X</span>] the text box choice

If the checkBox is checked it will replace style=":|CheckBox1|:"> with style="visibility:visible;display:none;">

Note: This version expects the id of the control to have in it "checkbox" (case insensitive).

**Check box List**

Same as above for each of the check boxes

Replace

<table id="ctl00\_ContentPlaceHolder1\_CheckBoxList1" border="0"> <tr> <td><input id="ctl00\_ContentPlaceHolder1\_CheckBoxList1\_0" type="checkbox" name="ctl00$ContentPlaceHolder1$CheckBoxList1$0" checked="checked" /> <label for="ctl00\_ContentPlaceHolder1\_CheckBoxList1\_0">Check box 1</label></td> </tr><tr> <td><input id="ctl00\_ContentPlaceHolder1\_CheckBoxList1\_1" type="checkbox" name="ctl00$ContentPlaceHolder1$CheckBoxList1$1" /><label for="ctl00\_ContentPlaceHolder1\_CheckBoxList1\_1">Chcek box 2</label></td> </tr></table>

With

<table>

<tr>

<td>[<span style=":|CheckBoxList1$0|:">X</span>] Check box 1

</td>

</tr>

<tr>

<td>[<span style=":|CheckBoxList1$0|:">X</span>] Check box 2

</td>

</tr>

</table>

**Radio button list**

Replace this

<asp:RadioButtonList ID="RadioButtonList1" runat="server">

<asp:ListItem value="first value">First ListItem</asp:ListItem>

<asp:ListItem value="second value">Second ListItem</asp:ListItem>

</asp:RadioButtonList>

With

Then a Radio button list

<table border="0">

<tr>

<td> You have selected:

[.] <span>:|RadioButtonList1|:</span>

<br />

From the following options

First Value, Second Value

</td>

</tr>

</table>

**Radio button group with individual radio button:**

Radio button list does not allow for long description. If flexibiligy and long descriptions are needed for radio buttons, individual radio buttons should be used. Individual radio buttons become a group by specifiying the same groupName.

Naming conventions:

Asp.net For the utility to pick up on the radio button controls all ids and group name need to start with "radiobutton".

Example:

<p><asp:RadioButton ID="radiobuttonPlayerSpot1" groupname="radiobuttonPlayerSpot" runat="server" /> <strong>Executive Foursome</strong> includes breakfast, lunch, cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, dinner and VIP Gift Package - 5700</p>

<p><asp:RadioButton ID="radiobuttonPlayerSpot2" groupname="radiobuttonPlayerSpot" runat="server" /> <strong>Executive Twosome</strong> includes breakfast, lunch, cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, dinner and VIP Gift Package - 2850</p>

HTML:

All place holders has to start with "radionbutton".

Use similar code as for check boxes. For example:

<span style=":|radiobuttonPlayerSpot8|:"><strong>None</strong> - $0</span>  
How does the component buildHTML works with the radio buttons:

Background: When a rendered HTML page with radio button group are submitted only one form element is submitted. Its name is the radio button group name. For example: radiobuttonPlayerSpot. The value of this submitted element is id of the selected radio button. For example: radiobuttonPlayerSpot7. The component takes the place hold string and search in the list of the form elements. For radio button it will not find it as mentioned above the element name is the group and not the individual control. So when a place holder is not found, the componment checks if it starts with "radiobutton". If it does, it extracts the group name by striping the trailing number. Then it get the element value which will be the id of the individual control. Then it compares the current place holder with this id. If there is match, it will replace the place holder with the string specifyed in checkBoxStyleFound

**List box**

Replace this

<asp:ListBox ID="ListBox1" runat="server">

<asp:ListItem>List box line 1</asp:ListItem>

<asp:ListItem>List nox line 2</asp:ListItem>

</asp:ListBox>

With

<span>:|ListBox1|:</span>