libDatabaseObjects

What Is It?

libDatabaseObjects is a library of helper handlers that work with libDatabase to allow you to rapidly populate Revolution objects with database results.

libDatabaseObjects looks at certain custom properties of fields and buttons in order to display database results in them. The included stack DBObjectsPalette.rev makes it easy to configure fields and buttons with the appropriate custom property values.

Handlers

For information on parameters for each handler available in libDatabaseObjects please see libDatabaseObjects.html.

dbobj_addRecord - Adds an entry to a database object. This can be used after adding a new record to a currently existing list. If pSelect is not false then the uDBID of the object will be set and accompanying messages will be sent (selectionChanged or menuPick) as long as messages are not locked.

dbobj_build - Creates a button or field from database records. The object can then track the database record id of the object based on the selected line. Pass empty value for pData to reset object.

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Database Objects Palette

The Database Objects palette aids in assigning custom properties to objects that you want to use with libDatabaseObjects dbobj_build handler.

Activating the Palette

The controls on the palette will become active whenever one of the following is selected:
1) An object that has the uDBObj custom property set.
2) A button whose menuMode is not empty
3) A field whose listBehavior and traversalOn properties are true.

Here is an overview of each field in the palette.

Global Button and Field Properties

ID column, Columns, Uses HTML formatting and Format String apply to both fields and buttons.

ID column is the name of the field in the database record set that is the unique identifier.

Columns is a comma delimited list of column names that will be displayed in the button or field. By default, each column listed in Columns will be separated by a tab when inserted into the Database Object. For buttons, Columns may only contain one item unless you have set a Format String.

If Uses HTML formatting is checked then it means the database values of Columns may contain html tags for formatting.

Format String is used for altering the display of Columns in the selected Database Object, which by default are separated by a tab character. For each column listed in Columns, Format String expects to find one instance of %s.

For example, if Columns is "LastName,FirstName,Title" then by default, libDatabaseObjects would output text that looked like "LastName tab FirstName tab Title" into the selected object. The field would need three columns (see tabStops property) in order to display each line. To change the displayed string to "LastName, FirstName tab Title" you would set Format String to "%s,%s\t%s". In this case, the field would only need two columns.

Additional Field Properties
Fields have a couple of additional properties.

Record count field is the name of a field that you would like to display the number of records returned from the database.

No records message is the message to display in the selected field if no records were returned from the database.

One record string is a string the will be passed to the format function when populating the Record count field with a database result that contains one record. If you leave this field empty then the default value of "%s record" is used.

Multiple records string is a string that will be passed to the format function when populating the Record count field with multiple database results. If you leave this field empty then the default value of "%s records" is used.