

Re: Picture property for Access 2K forms

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.devtoolkits/2004-05/0136.html>

From: Chuck (*chuck_at_serverking.net*)

Date: 05/24/04

Date: Mon, 24 May 2004 23:23:37 GMT

Thanks, Chris

You're right – the form picture property doesn't "stick", probably because I'm using an instance of a form, not the form itself. The real issue is that these Office filter (.flt) apps from Microsoft uselessly generate a progress indicator on the Access workspace as they import the image – that's what I'm trying to eliminate. Any ideas on that (probably not possible, but I thought I'd ask...)

Thanks in advance.

Chuck

"Chris Mills" <phad_nospam@clearnet.nz> wrote in message
news:ei8IEcTQEHA.2404@TK2MSFTNGP12.phx.gbl...

> > *My app has the option to dynamically change the picture property for a
form*

> > *(using a file selection dialog to select an image (.JPG) file from
anywhere*

> > *on disk. I need to use .JPG files (.BMPs are too large).*

>

> *I think you will have more "issues" than that.*

>

> *1) JPG files are not necessarily smaller than BMP's, whether embedded or
even*

> *LINKED by in-built methods. This is because, Access insists on storing a
bmp*

> *image of any image file anyway. I presume Access does this for efficiency
or*

> *speed, and it works great...until you look at the database size involved.*

>

> *2) Depending on how you do it, dynamically changing an image may or may
not*

> *"stick", however this is a red herring and I don't have details to hand
merely*

> *a bad experience.*

>

> *A realistic Imaging approach, involves avoiding Access in-built imaging. I*

> *guess there are several approaches:*

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- > –Search for posts mentioning *www.lebans.com*, an acknowledged expert on
- > *imaging*.
- > –Here's a reprint of a post I've used with some success.
- >
- > *I used this after a client grew to maximum size within weeks :-)*
- > *Chris*
- >
- >
- > ----- Original Message -----
- > *From: "Frank Miller" <Frank-NoSpam-Miller@microsoft.com>*
- > *Newsgroups: microsoft.public.access.developers.toolkitode*
- > *Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2001 11:04 AM*
- > *Subject: RE: Catalog Application – Picture Handling*
- >
- > *Hi Beau,*
- >
- > *My name is Frank Miller. Thank you for using the Microsoft Access*
- > *Newsgroups.*
- >
- > *There are primary two ways to get images onto an Access 97 form or report,*
- > *either we embed the images in the database or we create links in the*
- > *database to the image files.*
- >
- > *The embed method is easier to distribute but creates a much larger*
- > *database*
- > *file.*
- >
- > *The link method saves considerable space in the database but requires that*
- > *the path is valid at the time the image is displayed.*
- >
- > *Thumbnail images can also be utilized by including a second, smaller*
- > *version of each image, or by simply scaling down the image display in the*
- > *form or report.*
- >
- > *In the following example, a form is used to load and display images, a*
- > *report is used that will print both the embedded and linked images, and a*
- > *database table is created that contains both embedded and a linked JPG*
- > *images. Although JPG images were used in this example, other image types*
- > *can also be used.*
- >
- > *On a Windows 98 platform, the database table uses a Text field to store*
- > *the*
- > *image link and an OLE Object field to store the embedded image.*
- >
- > *First we create a database that contains, as a minimum, a text field which*
- > *is the source for the image link and a OLE Object field which is where the*
- > *embedded image is stored.*
- >
- > *Next, we create a Form that will both link, embed, and display both types*
- > *of the selected image file. On the form we need a Common Dialog ActiveX*
- > *control (named ActiveXCtl3 in the example below) to get the image path, a*

- > *Command Button (named Load New Image) to get new images, a Text box (named*
- > *Text2) to display the image file path, an Image box (named Image4) to*
- > *display the linked image, and a Bound Object Frame (named OLEBound10),*
- that
- > *is bound to the embedded image in the database.*
- > *Sample code:*
- >
- > *The routine below is good for loading OLE objects, such as .gif, .jpg,*
- > *doc, .xls, or .bmp files that are associated with an OLE Server, into a*
- > *Microsoft Access database. We can set the Image control's Picture Property*
- > *to any .bmp, .ico, .wmf, .dib, or .emf file on your hard disk. If you have*
- > *installed graphics filters for other programs, you can use any file*
- > *supported by those filters (such as TIF files).*
- >
- > *NOTE: To associate a graphic file with an OLE Server, open it with an OLE*
- > *Server package, such as Microsoft Imager or Microsoft Paint, and save the*
- > *file.*
- >
- > *If you receive an error opening the image, please see article:*
- >
- > *Q294255 – ACC2000: Err Msg When You Attempt to Display Images on a Form*
- >
- > *<http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q294/2/55.asp>*
- >
- > *The following subroutine loads the linked image to the form when the form*
- > *opens and when the user selects a new record in the database. The On Error*
- > *Resume Next is used to avoid an error message when there is no link or*
- when
- > *the link does not point to a valid image file.*
- >
- > *Private Sub Form_Current()*
- > *On Error Resume Next*
- > *Me.Image4.Picture = Me.Text2*
- > *End Sub*
- >
- > *This subroutine runs when the Load New Image button is clicked. It*
- > *displays the Open File dialog box so that the user can select a new image*
- > *file, links the file, displays the image, and embeds the image in to the*
- > *database.*
- >
- > *Private Sub Command1_Click()*
- > *Me.ActiveXCtl3.ShowOpen*
- > *'Linked Image Code*
- > *Me.Text2 = ActiveXCtl3.FileName*
- > *Me.Image4.Picture = Me.Text2*
- > *'Embedded Image Code*
- > *Me.OLEBound.OLETypeAllowed = acOLEEmbedded*
- > *Me.OLEBound.SourceDoc = ActiveXCtl3.FileName*
- > *Me.OLEBound.Action = acOLECreateEmbed*
- > *Me.Refresh*
- > *End Sub*

- >
- > *We can now create a report to display the embedded image in a bound*
- > *object frame and the linked images with the following code:*
- >
- > *Private Sub Detail_Print(Cancel As Integer, PrintCount As Integer)*
- > *On Error Resume Next*
- > *Me.Image9.Picture = Me.MyImage*
- > *End Sub*
- >
- > *This example could be further modified to display only the desired file*
- > *types in the Open File dialog. For additional information, please see the*
- > *CommonDialog Control's Filter Property in the help file. If the*
- application
- > *is to be distributed to other machines I would favor using VBA code,*
- rather
- > *than the Common Dialog Control to select the images. See article Q161286 –*
- > *HOWTO: Use a Common Dialog File Open Dialog with Win32 API*
- >
- > *Image Quality:*
- > *When we both Link and Embed the same file at the same time, we should not*
- > *see any difference in the image quality.*
- >
- > *When we Embed the image in an OLE Object, we "wrap" the image with the OLE*
- > *Server information so it will display even after we have removed the OLE*
- > *Server (such as Photo Editor) from the computer.*
- >
- > *When we Link the image file we use whatever OLE Server is installed to*
- > *display the image, or, if there is no OLE Server installed, then we use*
- the
- > *Graphics Filters that are installed with Office.*
- >
- > *For example, if we try to Link to a TIF file and there are no OLE Server*
- > *applications installed that would display a TIF file, the TIF file won't*
- > *display linked in Access because Office does not install the TIF graphics*
- > *filter by default.*
- >
- > *If we did the same thing using a BMP file, it would display because we*
- > *install the BMP, JPG and several other graphics filters by default.*
- >
- > *In Office Setup, Add/Remove Features, Converters and Filters, Graphic*
- > *Filters, you can see and change which graphics filters are installed.*
- >
- > *To see which OLE Server is currently being used by the operating system*
- for
- > *a file type, double click on an image file with the same extension as the*
- > *one you are linking to (EG: BMP, JPG), and see what application it opens*
- in.
- >
- > *When we double-click a JPG file, it will often display in Internet*
- > *Explorer(IE). IE is not an OLE Server so it is the default JPG graphics*
- > *filter that is enabling the JPG file to be displayed as linked in Access.*

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- > *By the same token, we can't embed a JPG file even though it can be*
- > *displayed in both Access as a linked file and in IE.*
- >
- > *To embed and display a JPG file, we would still need an OLE Server. Even*
- > *if an OLE Server that supported JPG files was subsequently installed, the*
- > *"wrapper" in the Access OLE Object field would be incorrect until we*
- > *removed the image from the database and reinstalled the image with a valid*
- > *OLE Server available.*
- >
- > *For additional information please see article Q158941: How to Load OLE*
- > *Objects from a Folder into a Table, available from the internet at:*
- >
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q158/9/41.asp>
- >
- > *For Access 2000, see the following articles:*
- >
- > *Q198466 ACC2000: How to Load OLE Objects from a Folder into a Table at:*
- >
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q198/4/66.asp>
- >
- > *Q114214: How to Programmatically Embed or Link an Object in a Form,*
- > *available from the internet at:*
- >
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q114/2/14.asp>
- >
- > *Q210100 – ACC2000: How to Display an Image from a Folder in a Form*
- >
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q210/1/00.asp>
- >
- > *Because Word install most of the Office Graphics Filters, the following*
- > *articles may also be of interest:*
- >
- > *Q210396 – OFF2000: Descriptions, Limitations of Shipped Graphics Filters*
- >
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q210/3/96.asp>
- >
- > *Q212271 – WD2000: Graphics Filters Installed in an "Install Now" Setup*
- >
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q212/2/71.asp>
- >
- > *Q212265 – WD: Additional Converters/Filters Available in Converter Pack*
- >
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q212/2/65.asp>
- >
- > *Q235928 – WD2000: Supported File and Graphics Formats*
- >
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q235/9/28.asp>
- >
- > *I hope this helps! If you have additional questions on this topic, please*
- > *reply to this posting.*
- >

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> *Regards, Frank Miller*

> *Microsoft Support*

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