

## Re: Help with first VB application – Data Entry form

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.vb/2006-08/msg02143.html>

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- *From:* "jeff" <jhersey at allnorth dottt com>
  - *Date:* Wed, 9 Aug 2006 16:47:10 -0700
- 

Scott.

agree...I had assumed a winform application...since the OP stated using Scanning hardware .... I assumed a desktop / winform client application ... and that is why I had given a SELECT script for obtaining a 'date time' stamp from the database machine – control machine ... and for this example, the database machine was the easiest ... unless there is an easier way to obtain a date time value from another machine – that the client machine 'knows' about ?

agree...if a webform / asp.net application ... script executes on server ... problem solved – web server is control system. would not want to pull unnecessary data to the client ...

Jeff.

PS: I do not like using the time-stamp approach with PK's for the simple reason that all database vendors handle dates and times slightly different – and when building a database independent UI / Client – Server application, I find it much easier to code a framework without them ... if this puts me in the minority, I will need to do a bit more research to convince me otherwise.

"Scott M." <s-mar@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
<news:%23b2S7hAvGHA.3428@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

I did just realize though, that you and I have been assuming 2 different fundamental things...

I have been assuming this is an ASP.NET web application, hence my last comment:

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I did suggest this code, but this is server-side code (not client-side JavaScript, for example) and thus, will get the time from the web server, not the client. VB.NET code (or any .NET code for that matter) does not function on the client.

I think you have been commenting from the point of a WinForms application. If that is the case (the OP didn't specify), then you are correct, the code would execute on the client.

"Scott M." <s-mar@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:ebiX1eAvGHA.724@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:ebiX1eAvGHA.724@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

PS... never mentioned time based PK for you to agree with ...  
I do not  
like these and avoid them.

Well, you are in the minority on that one. Having a PK that is, in part, time stamped is the best way to avoid data concurrency issues when doing updates, inserts and deletes.

PPS. you suggested the client get the time stamp ...  
txtDate.Text =  
Now.ToShortDateString

I did suggest this code, but this is server-side code (not client-side JavaScript, for example) and thus, will get the time from the web server, not the client. VB.NET code (or any .NET code for that matter) does not function on the client.

"Scott M." <s-mar@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:%23fifBb\\$uGHA.1296@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:%23fifBb$uGHA.1296@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Yes, but again, I don't think anyone was suggesting the client in the first place.

In my opinion, the database is not the place to put a time stamp of this kind. While I agree that good primary keys are partially time based, this is not what the OP has stated the time would be used for.

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The time is going to become data that is used by the business layer of the applicaiton. Databases should not be in charge of creating business data in this manner.

"jeff" <jhersey at allnorth dottt com> wrote in message  
[news:OvnwS49uGHA.324@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:OvnwS49uGHA.324@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

...exactly... my point.

what if you have multiple clients in different time zones ... multiple web servers in different time zones ... and multiple databases servers in different time zones... with a user from one time zone, connecting to a web server in another and a database in a third ... and the next time the user log-ins ... same CLIENT machine ... he hits a different web server and different database for his next scan transaction ... you need some type of 'control' in the date stamping ... and to me the logical one is the Database Server.

you need to set a base line for time stamping ... and to me, relying on the CLIENT for this, is not good practice...as per you suggestion...

```
Sub Button1_Click()  
Handles Button1.Click  
txtDate.Text =  
Now.ToShortDateString  
End Sub
```

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I simply made a suggestion to use the database as the control date / time 'stamper' (for lack of a better term). If you have different databases in different time zones, when you synchronize your data ... if you are not identifying which server the record was initially created on, you offset your timestamps accordingly during the sync process ... or when you build a consolidated report to include data from other database servers in different timezones, you offset your timestamps based on the database server's 'timezone' ...

relying on the CLIENT is poor practice and has a hard time standing up to an audit ... unless you have a mechanism / policy in place that controls the time on a CLIENT machines.

Just my 2 cents ... just offering a suggestion thats all.

Jeff

"Scott M."

<s-mar@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

[news:eHymO18uGHA.1224@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:eHymO18uGHA.1224@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hold on  
Jeff. What  
if the client,  
web server  
and  
database are

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in  
diffeent  
time zones?  
I don't think  
anyone  
suggested  
using the  
client  
for the date,  
but I think  
the server  
should  
generate  
that, not the  
database.

"jeff"  
<jhersey at  
allnorth  
dottt com>  
wrote in  
message  
[news:ezBzQv6uGHA.4972@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:ezBzQv6uGHA.4972@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Comment...

Getting  
the  
Date  
/  
Time  
from  
the  
'client'  
machine  
can  
lead  
to  
'false'  
date  
/  
time  
stamping...ie  
the  
user  
has  
messed

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with  
the  
system  
clock  
and  
so  
on  
...  
If  
this  
time  
will  
be  
used  
for  
control  
/  
report  
purposes,  
I  
would  
recommend  
either  
...

a.  
Have  
the  
database  
fill  
the  
datetime  
stamp  
with  
a  
default  
obtained  
from  
the  
server  
...

b.  
Create  
a  
function  
to  
get  
the  
current  
date

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/  
time  
from  
the  
server  
or  
a  
common  
source.

Question

–  
What  
do  
you  
considered  
the  
'Time  
Stamp'  
for  
the  
scan  
...  
when  
item  
is  
scanned  
or  
when  
the  
record  
is  
saved  
...  
if  
scanned,  
you  
will  
need  
to  
get  
the  
date  
from  
a  
common  
source  
...  
if  
saved,  
set

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the  
default  
value  
in  
the  
data  
table  
to  
get  
the  
current  
date  
time  
on  
the  
server  
and  
only  
issue  
an  
insert  
with  
the  
text  
field...  
and  
let  
the  
server  
fill  
the  
date/time  
stamp.

Jeff.

PS:

b:  
–  
Get  
a  
data  
from  
a  
common  
place...

Assuming  
MSSQL  
Server

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```
Database...  
SELECT  
GetDate();  
using  
a  
ExecuteScaler  
on  
an  
OLEDBConnection  
...
```

```
Using  
MSAccess...  
SELECT  
Now();  
using  
a  
ExecuteScaler  
on  
an  
OLEDBConnection.
```

<Timothy.Rybak@xxxxxxxx>

wrote

in

message

[news:1155061620.089944.269190@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:1155061620.089944.269190@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hello  
all,

This  
is  
my  
first  
attempt  
at  
an  
application,  
so  
kid  
gloves  
are  
appreciated.

I  
need  
to

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make  
a  
very  
simple  
form  
that  
only  
has  
a  
few  
elements.  
One  
is  
TraceCode  
–  
a  
text  
field  
that  
is  
populated  
when  
a  
user  
scans  
a  
label.  
The  
other  
is  
ScanDate  
–  
a  
date/time  
field  
that  
should  
equal  
the  
date/time  
of  
the  
scan  
(e.g.  
7/31/2006  
5:00:00  
AM).  
  
When  
a  
button

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is  
clicked,  
or  
Enter  
is  
pressed  
on  
the  
keyboard  
(or  
as  
the  
last  
character  
of  
the  
scan),  
the  
data  
should  
be  
transmitted  
to  
a  
SQL  
table,  
and  
the  
two  
text  
field  
should  
be  
cleared  
and  
ready  
for  
the  
next  
scan.

Currently,  
I  
have  
a  
simple  
form,  
but  
you  
have  
to

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manually  
type  
the  
ScanDate.  
Also,  
the  
fields  
don't  
clear  
after  
the  
update  
is  
successful.

Ideally,  
there  
would  
only  
be  
one  
textbox  
available  
to  
the  
user,  
and  
when  
they  
scan  
the  
TraceCode,  
the  
ScanDate  
is  
automatically  
populated,  
the  
data  
is  
transacted  
to  
the  
SQL  
table,  
and  
the  
fields  
clear,  
ready  
for

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the  
next  
scan.

Here  
is  
the  
only  
code  
I  
have,  
and  
it  
is  
for  
the  
"GO"  
button":

```
Private  
Sub  
Button1_Click(ByVal  
sender  
As  
System.Object,  
ByVal  
e  
As  
System.EventArgs)  
Handles  
Button1.Click  
Dim  
objConnection  
As  
New  
SqlClient.SqlConnection
```

–

```
("server=.;database=SafetyStock;trusted_connection=  
Dim  
objCommand  
As  
New  
SqlClient.SqlCommand("",  
objconnection)  
Dim  
objTransaction  
As  
SqlClient.SqlTransaction,  
strSQL  
As
```

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String

Try

```
objConnection.Open()  
objTransaction  
=  
objConnection.BeginTransaction
```

```
objCommand.Transaction  
=  
objTransaction
```

```
strSQL  
=  
"INSERT  
INTO  
ActiveSafetyStock(ScanDate,  
TraceCode)  
"  
&  
  
"VALUES("  
&  
txtDatetime.Text  
&  
",  
"  
&  
txtTraceCode.Text  
&  
")"  
objCommand.CommandText  
=  
strSQL  
objCommand.ExecuteNonQuery()
```

```
objTransaction.Commit()  
objConnection.Close()
```

Catch

Button1.Text

=

"Failed"

```
objTransaction.Rollback()  
objConnection.Close()
```

End

Try

End

Sub

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End  
Class

Please  
HELP!  
:)