

Re: Range Names convert to Cell References

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I couldn't reproduce this behavior in xl2003 in my simple tests.

You may want to include the version of excel that you're running. And how you defined that named range in Salesdetail.xls—is it a dynamic range or just B29:N29?

If you create another name (SalesSummaryA(?)), does the same thing happen?

This may not help you find the problem, but maybe you'll see something unique about that name:

Get Jan Karel Pieterse's (with Charles Williams and Matthew Henson) Name Manager:

You can find it at:
NameManager.Zip from <http://www.oaltd.co.uk/mvp>

If you find the solution, please post back so that Google will have it for the next person.

AlanC wrote:

For years I've successfully built Excel models that use range names defined in one workbook in formulas in other workbooks. I.E.; the range "SalesSummary" in SalesDetail.xls is used in Income.xls in the formula "Index(SalesDetail.xls!SalesSummary,0,Columns(\$B\$2:B\$2)". The benefits is that you can do virtually anything to the structure of SalesDetail.xls, that doesn't change the dimensions of the named range, and Income.xls will always pull out the right data.

I started a new job at a new company and every time I build an external range name formula, it converts to the R1C1 format. I.E. the formula above becomes "Index([SalesDetail.xls]Sales!B29:N29,0,Columns(\$B\$2:B\$2)" when "Sales Summary" is the range B29:N29 on sheet Sales.

When I enter the formula using the external reference range name, IF the

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"linked to" file is closed the range name remains a part of the formula. But then if either the formula is edited with the "linked to" file open OR, horror of all horrors, if the "linked to" file is already open when the "linked from" file is opened, all external references are redefined to cell references.

I have a personal laptop with some of my original files that DO NOT automatically change range names to cell references on it. Both computers use the same version of Excel and all the options I can think of to check are the same. I've copied the new files onto the old laptop and can open both old and new at the same time... the new files continue to replace the range name with cell references and the old files continue to save the range names.

Any ideas?!

Dave Peterson

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