

Re: Fastest way to read data to populate combo controls?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VB/microsoft.public.vb.general.discussion/2008-09/msg00704.html>

- *From:* Ed from AZ <prof_ofwhat@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 19 Sep 2008 13:56:39 -0700 (PDT)
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If the OP were use ADO, he would be better off to treat the original Excel as a store, and skip the intermediate 'text' file. The only real reason to keep the intermediate is because the 'business logic' is already written.

So there is a way I can read a closed Excel file directly into the combo contols of my form at load?

Ed

On Sep 19, 1:04 pm, "Ralph" <nt_consultin...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

"That Guy" <i_pow...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

<news:69af684f-d6d8-46fd-9085-05c46e40587c@xx>

On Sep 15, 12:40 pm, Ed from AZ <prof_ofw...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

When my VB6 app opens, the Form.Load code opens a document, reads the info into six arrays, and then uses these arrays to populate six combobox controls. The info in question are "attributes" assigned to a folder of Word documents; through the combos, I select an attribute and the VB app opens that document.

At the moment I'm using a Word document to hold the info, because I have the info in separate tables and I can iterate through the

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Tables

collection to make sure the info gets into the correct array. I close the doc, but keep the Word app object because I will use it later.

The Word doc is actually built using a macro in an Excel file. I thought about just reading the Excel file on open and skipping the Word doc, but I don't know if it would save any time when I open the VB app (the Excel file and Word list doc are maintained during times the VB app is not in use). I would save myself the extra step of building the Word list file, but since it's a macro there's not real time lost.

Another possibility would be to write the attributes to each Word doc as CustomVariables, and iterate through the files reading these variables into the arrays.

It doesn't take forever to open the app now, but there is a noticeable pause between launch and form open. If using the Excel file or Custom Variables would reduce the pause, I'd like that.

Ed

I agree with the others in saying that you should utilize a .csv file. I do not agree however on parsing the file as text. I think you can use a .csv file in conjunction with an ADO record set. You would have to implement active x data objects to do this but it would be better in the long run. The you can use the resultant data set that is opened and just data bind the combo boxes. You may have to make some sub data sets out of the original big one that results in the opening of

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the .csv file but that shouldn't be too hard. see this link:

[http://www.exceltip.com/st/Import_data_from_a_text_file_\(ADO\)_using_V...](http://www.exceltip.com/st/Import_data_from_a_text_file_(ADO)_using_V...)

it has the macro for excel to open the record set but the code should mostly translate into VB6.

This would be the fastest method even if you had to break the record set up into smaller ones because the ADO object does all the parsing and populating for you. You would never have to open a third party app. I love data objects and I think this is a good scenario for their strengths.

If the OP were to use ADO, he would be better off to treat the original Excel as a store, and skip the intermediate 'text' file. The only real reason to keep the intermediate is because the 'business logic' is already written.

–ralph– Hide quoted text –

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