

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Visio/microsoft.public.visio.general/2006-07/msg00009.html>

- *From:* "Al Edlund" <edlund@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 2 Jul 2006 14:36:05 -0500
-

It's not an odbc issue, it's the orgchart application..
al

"merlin" <merlin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:1151867636.93405.0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I'm very disappointed. I wish all the help files on ODBC pointed out that you can't use this function for refreshing an org chart. It would have saves us all a lot of time. I guess the ODBC function is avaiable on the org chart wizard to allow connection to other databases. There doesn't seem to be any point in importing an org chart via ODBCdata – might as well just use the excel file!

I would try 2007 but as I can't use it at work it's of no help to me.

Unless anyone can tell me there's still a chance that an org chart can be linked to excel for refreshing then I'm sadly going to have to give up on this.

"Al Edlund" <edlund@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:ewwtrkdnGHA.4636@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Since orgcharts are just another form flowcharts, it's not a stretch for those with an interest in programming to take the example in the visio sdk and build their own. The orgchart is essentially an addon to visio and as such tends to change from version to version. Visio 2007 (and the rest of the office stuff) is being released later this year and has a lot of new data driven functionality (including I suspect a revised orgchart to play with).

al

"merlin" <merlin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:1151826623.61213.0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

There are definitely mentions of using ODBC to keep org chart shapes updated with changes. If it's not done through the wizard then where do

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

I need to look?

As the org chart wizard isn't very tidy and doesn't allow pre-formatting as such, I'd have to say this is a nearly useless facility without a refresh of some kind.

"Al Edlund" <edlund@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:%23pkbfJWnGHA.1480@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

the org chart wizard does not have a refresh, it starts new every time – so any customization gets lost...
al

"merlin" <merlin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:1151772292.26373.0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thanks for that – it should help my IT guys.

At home I've just managed to import from excel via odbc and create a visio drawing (not an org chart) by following the MS knowledge base article. One of the things I was doing wrong was not to define a table of data in my excel sheets. I've also been able to update it but I had to go back through the wizard because I couldn't find a refresh option that worked.

Now I need to achieve the same with an org chart, however, the way the data is linked to the chart seems to be different and whereas there are various refresh options in some drawing types, I can't find any for org chart.

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

You've been very helpful up to now – I hope you still have the patience to see this through with me!

"Al Edlund"
<edlund@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in message
news:OChqfHRnGHA.764@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Try this for
a start
definition
<http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/library/en-us/odbc>

odbc (open
database
connectivity)
are
programming
interfaces to
allow
access to
different
data
sources.
They are a
form of
'driver' and
come in
different
version
depending
on the
vendors that
supply them
for their
products
(ms generic,
excel,
access,
oracle, db2,
etc.).

for other
than ms
products

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

support
odbc drivers
often come
with the
product.. ms
usually
ships some
basic ones
with the
operating
systems
and office
products.
You can
also check
ms
downloads
for updates.

when
network
sharing data
the two
primary
security
groups are
the
networking
group
(firewalling
of
application
required
flows) and
data
center (user
rights on
servers).
For this you
will have to
check in
your own
organization

"merlin"
<merlin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in
message
news:1151744299.2584.0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

OK.
I'm
crawling
closer
to
cracking
this.

I
think
I
understand
now
that
ODBC
is
a
common
interface
that
I
have
to
set
up
between
two
programs
–
in
this
case
Visio
and
Excel.
The
actual
process
of
setting
it
up
is
eluding
me.

1)
is
ODBC
an
actual

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

file
or
is
it
something
you
do
to
the
excel
and/or
visio
file?

2)
if
it's
a
file
then
where
does
it
have
to
go.
Can
I
choose
or
is
there
a
special
location
for
it?

3)
When
I
crack
this
I'll
be
doing
it
at
work
(practising
on

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

my
laptop
at
home
at
the
mo)
so
can
this
file
be
on
a
network
drive
or
does
it
have
to
be
local
to
my
pc
on
the
hard
drive
(I
try
to
avaiod
that).
My
choice
of
network
drives
are
a
'global'
shared
drive
and
a
'home'
personal
drive.

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

4)
will
I
need
administrator
rights
to
achieve
this?

Sorry
for
the
volume
of
questions.
This
has
turned
out
to
be
more
complex
than
expected
but
I
not
going
to
give
up
on
it!

"Al
Edlund"
<edlund@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
message
news:O1KXVmqmGHA.4836@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

two
things.
a.)
what
you

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

saw
with
layout
using
the
orgchart
wizard
is
normal
b.)
consider
changing
the
name
of
excel
file
in
your
odbc
setup
to
point
to
the
file
that
you
just
created
and
see
if
that
file
works.
al

"merlin"

<merlin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote

in

message

news:1151442560.25195.0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

OK

I

tried

that.

It

worked

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

fine
exporting
and
importing
(except
the
subordinate
shapes
imported
and
displayed
in
a
different
order,
how
annoying
is
that).
The
excel
file
looks
similar
to
mine.

This
isn't
a
great
surprise
because
I
haven't
had
trouble
importing
data
from
an
excel
file,
it's
the
ODBC
compliant
import
function
that's
causing

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

an
error.

"Al
Edlund"
<edlund@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote
in

message

news:ey85UdimGHA.2112@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Consider

trying

this.

Create

an

orgchart

with

visio

and

then

export

it

as

excel.

Compare

what

Visio

saves

to

what

you

are

trying

to

give

it....

Then

see

if

Visio

can

import

the

file

that

you

just

saved.

al

"merlin"
<merlin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
message
news:1151436639.20509.0@xxxxxxxx

OK
-
I'm
a
bit
closer.
The
encryption
error
was
indeed
the
file
protection
(could
have
taken
forever
to
find
that
out).
I'm
now
getting
the
error
'There
are
no
tables
or
views
in
the
data
source'.

I
created
a
test
excel

sheet
with
a
list
of
data
on
sheet
1
with
a
heading
at
the
top
of
each
column
in
the
top
row.
I
saved
that
and
closed
it.
Then
I
went
in
to
Visio
(it
was
already
open
and
on
a
blank
sheet)
Org
Chart>Import
Org
Chart
Data>Info
That's
already
stored>ODBC

compliant
data
source>
browse
to
my
testfile
and
select.
Then
I
get
the
error.

Help!

"Bill
Morein
[MSFT]"
<wmorein@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
wrote
in
message
<news:AA3C3144-06F8-452>

Is
your
Excel
file
password
protected?
The
ODBC
drivers
do
not
support
encrypted
files.

You
can
also
try
importing
the
Excel

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

data
in
Excel
using
ODBC.
Kind
of
a
strange
use,
but
it
works
and
you
don't
need
to
mess
around
with
Access.

--
Bill
Morein
<http://blogs.msdn.com>
Visio
Microsoft
Corporation

"merlin"
<merlin@xxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
message
<news:1151268793.70>

Although
I'm
quite
proficient
with
excel,
I've
never
had
to
use
Access

so
I
would
be
well
out
of
my
depth
there.

Are
there
any
common
set-up
mistakes
I
might
look
at?

"Al
Edlund"
<edlund@xx
wrote
in
message
<news:%23Cj>

when
play
with
odbc
setup
is
often
one
of
the
first
miss
I
like
to
use
Acc
to
test
my
odbc

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

setup
by
havi
it
impe
usin
the
odbc
poin
(not
the
exce
impe
Whe
it
get's
the
table
corre
I
can
then
mov
on.
al

"me
<me
wrot
in
mess
new

Re: ODBC with Excel in 2003

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