

Infor Mongoose Creating and Customizing Reports

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About This Guide

This document describes how Infor Mongoose-based applications handle reports. It includes a description of the reporting system architecture, specifics of creating reports, how to link custom reports into an application, specifics of using the Infor Framework TaskMan and RunReport executables, and how to troubleshoot problems with reports.

Note: By "Infor Mongoose-based applications," we mean any application that is built on the Infor Mongoose framework. This includes programs such as SyteLine, Service Management, and other applications that have been built or modified to use the Infor Mongoose framework. Where there are specific points in this guide that apply to a particular application, we indicate that clearly throughout.

Related documents

You can find the documents in the product documentation section of the Infor Xtreme Support portal, as described in "Contacting Infor" on page 5.

Additional information about reports, background processing, and customization can be found in the following documents.

- The Task Manager chapter in the system administration guide for your system
- Infor Mongoose online help files (Customizing Forms...)
- The modifications guide for your system (the chapter on "Architectural Guidelines for Customers Modifying [your application]")

For the most up-to-date list of software and hardware requirements for Infor products, see the Infor *Guide to Technology*. This document also lists typical system administration tasks you should be familiar with before attempting to install and administer Infor products.

Contacting Infor

If you have questions about Infor products, go to the Infor Xtreme Support portal at http://www.infor.com/inforxtreme.

If we update this document after the product release, we will post the new version on this Web site. We recommend that you check this Web site periodically for updated documentation.

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This chapter explains how to set up reports for previewing and printing and then, first from a user's point of view, how a report is processed for previewing or for printing, and the forms that are used to process it. The sections following explain what is happening behind the scenes during the print or preview.

Setting up the Report

Before a report can be previewed or printed, it must exist and be set up so that the system can process it correctly.

Report-related Terminology

For the purposes of this guide, here are some report-related terms that you should be aware of:

- Report definition file The parameters that determine how a report looks and what data it can
 contain when it is output are contained within an XML file known as a report definition file. For
 SQL Server Reporting Service (SSRS) reports, this file must have an .rdl extension.
 - **Note:** For legacy Crystal Reports, these are contained in .rpt files, which are no longer distributed with SyteLine, as of version 8.03.10, or Service Management, as of version 4.10.
 - Several template RDL files are included with Mongoose-based applications. These report templates are installed as part of the base software installation and, if the default installation locations are used, they can be found at:
 - Drive:\ProgramDirectory\Infor\Mongoose-based application\Report\Reports\Templates

 If you do not have these templates, you can obtain them from the Infor Xtreme Support site (see "Contacting Infor" on page 5). They are contained in a zip file named

 SSRS_Report_Templates.zip. To find the file, you can search on "SSRS Report Templates."

 For a description of the report templates, see Appendix C, "Reference."
- Report form The most direct and easiest way for a report to be generated and processed is with the use of a report form. These are specialized forms from which you can specify what exact data,

- such as record numbers or ranges of dates, are to be included in the report output. You can also create your own custom report forms.
- Report output The end result of a request to process and generate a report in some form usable
 to the end user is the report output. Your Mongoose-based application includes several formats in
 which report outputs can be previewed and generated, including PDF, HTML, DOC (Word),
 MHTML, CSV, XLS (Excel), printer, and others.

Creating or Modifying a Report

Depending on your Mongoose-based application, the system comes with either a basic or comprehensive set of reports defined. SyteLine, for example, includes a comprehensive set of reports; the basic Infor Mongoose application includes only a basic set of reports. You can customize or modify any of these predefined reports to meet your specific needs, assuming you have the license rights. If the system does not have a report definition that you can modify to meet your needs, you can also create your own custom reports.

For information and procedures to create new reports, see Chapter 2, "Creating Reports." For information and procedures to modify existing reports, see Chapter 5, "Modifying Reports."

Specific System Configuration with Respect to Reports

The Infor Framework Task Manager, commonly referred to as TaskMan, is a Windows service that is responsible for the oversight and management of a wide variety of application-driven tasks. Among these tasks, it is responsible for handling the stored procedures and processing of reports. Before TaskMan can accomplish these tasks, it must be installed and configured to handle them.

In addition, certain other system settings must be made to enable report preview, processing, and generation.

For detailed information and procedures to set up TaskMan to handle reports, see Chapter 3, "Configuring TaskMan to Process and Generate Reports."

Linking the Report to a Form

For users to be able to access, preview, and print a report, the report must be linked to a form that is used to predefine the parameters to be used in processing the report.

For detailed information and procedures to create and modify these forms, see Chapter 4, "Creating a Form to Run the Report."

Using RunReport.exe to Process Reports

Mongoose-based applications use the RunReport.exe application to process requests to preview or print reports. Normally, this application is launched automatically from within the Mongoose-based application. It can, however, be run as a standalone application using a command line interface (CLI).

For detailed information about RunReport.exe and its CLI options, see Appendix B, "Using RunReport.exe."

Previewing a Report

For many reports, we recommend or require that the report be previewed before committing to print.

User View

Setting Options for Previewing the Report

To preview a report, open the report form and select the report parameters. Often, this includes options like setting a date range, limiting the output to reports that deal with a single customer or vendor, or filtering out other unwanted information that could potentially be included in the report. The details of setting these parameters differ from one report to another.

When all the appropriate options have been set, click **Preview**.

Processing and Displaying the Report Preview

When you click **Preview**, the system attempts to add the preview task to the ActiveBGTasks table. But, before the preview can be added to the ActiveBGTasks table, the system must first check for excluded tasks and other options for displaying the report preview.

Checking for Excluded Tasks

Before adding a task to the ActiveBGTasks table, the system first checks the list of excluded tasks for this report, as set up on the **Excluded Tasks** form. This form lists any other tasks that cannot be active when this report task runs. If there are any excluded tasks listed for this report, the system checks to see whether any of the task exclusions is currently in the ActiveBGTasks table. If so, the system displays the message: "This task cannot be submitted at this time. Please check the Excluded Tasks table."

Checking for Other Preview Settings

If the report is to be previewed in a language other than English, TaskMan searches the Forms database specified in the **Sites** form for the Strings table associated with the current session. It then uses that Strings table to translate the strings used for the report labels.

Note: In some applications, the Sites form is known as the Sites/Entities form.

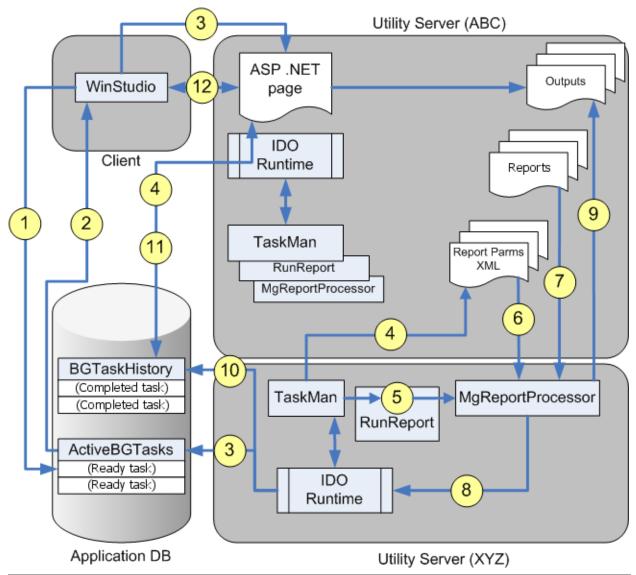
TaskMan also searches to see what the output format is for the report preview. The output format for report previews is defined on the **Intranets** form. The default preview format is PDF. For more information about the **Intranets** form and preview formats, see the online help.

Displaying the Report Preview

Once TaskMan is finished checking for exclusions and other options, it builds the actual report preview file. After the report preview file is built, TaskMan places a notice that the file exists on the Active Background Tasks queue, always with a status of READY. The PrintPreview application polls the queue and, when it sees the notice, finds the report preview file and displays it.

System View

This diagram represents a high-level view of what happens inside the system when a user submits a request to preview a report.



Step	Description
1	WinStudio submits a report preview task through BGTaskSubmitSp, which inserts a task request record into the ActiveBGTasks table.
2	BGTaskSubmitSp returns the BGTaskHistory.RowPointer value to WinStudio.
3	WinStudio directs users to an ASP .NET page, which monitors the BGTaskHistory table through the IDO service session. It can query the specific task history record, using the RowPointer value, returned by BGTaskSubmitSp.

Step	Description
4	While processing the requested report task, TaskMan creates an XML file for the task parameters.
5	After creating a parameter XML file, TaskMan executes RunReport.
6	RunReport causes MGReportProcessor to load the specified parameter XML file.
7	MGReportProcessor loads the requested report definition file.
	This is a report specific to the current configuration. If not found, then it returns an error.
8	MGReportProcessor uses the IDO runtime service to process the report and export it to a designated output location.
9	MGReportProcessor uses the IDO runtime service to query string objects and update BGTaskHistory.ReportOutputPath.
	The default report output path is:
	\\ <utilityserver>\Report\OutputFiles\<userid>\<reportfilename>_<site>_ <tasknumber>.<fileextension></fileextension></tasknumber></site></reportfilename></userid></utilityserver>
	For more information, see "Determining the Output Path" on page 45.
10	After successfully exporting the requested report, MGReportProcessor updates BGTaskHistory with the actual output file path (BGTaskHistory.ReportOutputPath).
11	The IDO runtime service delivers the report output to a predetermined ASP .NET page.
12	WinStudio directs the user to the ASP .NET page for viewing.

Printing a Report

When you are confident that the report output is what you want, then you can instruct the system to process and print the report.

User View

Checking Report Options and Starting the Report

To run a report, open the report form and verify that the report parameters are set as desired. We recommend that you then generate a report preview (see "Previewing a Report" on page 9). Typically, a printed report uses the same parameters and options as a preview, so the preview is a good way to get the report looking the way you want without committing to a published output.

When you are confident that the parameters and options are set correctly, click Print.

Preparing to Process the Report

When you click **Print**, an event attempts to add the task to the ActiveBGTasks table, which is essentially the task queue. But, before it can actually place the request on the queue, it must first check for exclusions and other report printing options.

Alternatively, you can schedule the report to run at a specific time or a specific interval by selecting **Actions > Background** from the report form, to display the **Background Queue** form. After checking for exclusions and other report printing options, the scheduled task is then placed in the ActiveBGTasks table with a status of **Waiting**. When the specified time/interval is reached, the status changes to **Ready** and the task can be processed.

Checking for Excluded Tasks

Before adding a task to the ActiveBGTasks table, the system first checks the list of excluded tasks for this report, set up on the **Excluded Tasks** form. This form lists any other tasks that cannot be active when this report task runs. If there are any excluded tasks listed for this report, the system checks whether any of the listed tasks is currently in the ActiveBGTasks table. If so, the system displays the message: "This task cannot be submitted at this time. Please check the Excluded Tasks table."

Other Options for Printing the Report

If the report is to print in a language other than English, TaskMan searches the forms database specified in the **Sites** form for the Strings table associated with the current session. It uses that Strings table to translate the strings used for the report labels.

Note: In some applications, the Sites form is known as the Sites/Entities form.

TaskMan then controls the printing, using either the default system print settings or the settings specified for a certain user/report combination through the **Report Options** form. (If the **Output Format** field is set to **Printer**, the user can enter the name of any network printer; otherwise output goes to the TaskMan server's default printer.)

The printing process might also take into consideration fonts, language, and document profiles, as described in Appendix C, "Reference."

Processing the Report

TaskMan polls the ActiveBGTasks table, looking for **Ready** tasks. When TaskMan finds them, it then executes the tasks when resources are available.

In this case, TaskMan determines that a task is a report by looking at the task's type in the ActiveBGTasks table. After determining the task is for printing a report, it launches RunReport.exe to process the task. Once the task processing is started, TaskMan resets the task's status in ActiveBGTasks to **Running**. It also updates the task information in the BGTaskHistory table, which can be viewed through the **Background Task History** form. You can view information there about active tasks as well as completed ones.

RunReport.exe processes the report, by calling a SQL Server stored procedure in the application database to retrieve the data needed for the report or by launching an IDO-based query. The data is then formatted according to the settings in the report definition file.

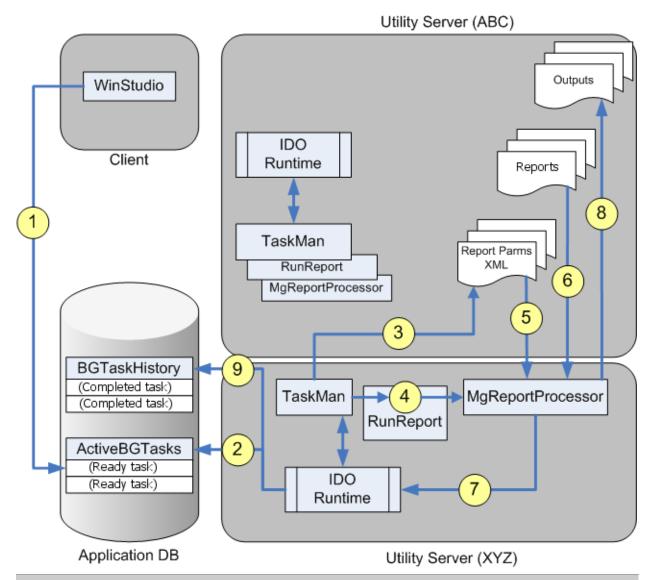
After the Report Is Processed

When the task finishes processing the report, TaskMan deletes the record from the ActiveBGTasks table and updates this information in the BGTaskHistory table and **Background Task History** form:

- Task parameters passed to TaskMan, set when the report was submitted
- Start time, set when TaskMan started the report
- Stop time, set when the report finished processing
- Success/Failure indicator, set when the task finished
- · Return codes, set when the task finished

A return status of **0** indicates that the process completed successfully. Other return status indicators generate error messages, which are routed to the appropriate logs.

System View



Step	Description
1	WinStudio submits a report print task through BGTaskSubmitSp, which inserts a task request record into the ActiveBGTasks table.
2	TaskMan service's polling thread monitors the ActiveBGTasks table through the IDO runtime engine, looking for records with a status of Ready , which tells TaskMan to pick up and process the record.
3	While processing the requested report task, TaskMan creates an XML file containing the report parameters.
4	After creating the parameters XML file, TaskMan executes RunReport.
5	RunReport causes MGReportProcessor to load the specified parameter XML file.

Step	Description
6	MGReportProcessor loads the requested report definition file.
	This is a report specific to the current configuration. If not found, then it loads a default report definition file.
7	MGReportProcessor uses the IDO runtime service to query string objects and update BGTaskHistory.ReportOutputPath after successfully processing the report.
8	MGReportProcessor uses the output path to export the processed report file to a specified location.
	The default report output path is:
	\\ <utilityserver>\Report\OutputFiles\<userid>\<reportfilename>_<site>_ <tasknumber>.<fileextension></fileextension></tasknumber></site></reportfilename></userid></utilityserver>
	For more information, see "Determining the Output Path" on page 45.
9	After successfully exporting the requested report, MGReportProcessor updates BGTaskHistory with the actual output file path (BGTaskHistory.ReportOutputPath).

Using Email with Reports

Email can be used with reports in two ways. With both methods, you must set the email preferences on the **Intranets** form before any emails can be sent.

Sending Email to Yourself

The **Report Options** form has an option that allows you to send yourself email notification when a report you submitted is complete. You can also specify that a copy of the report should be attached to your email notification.

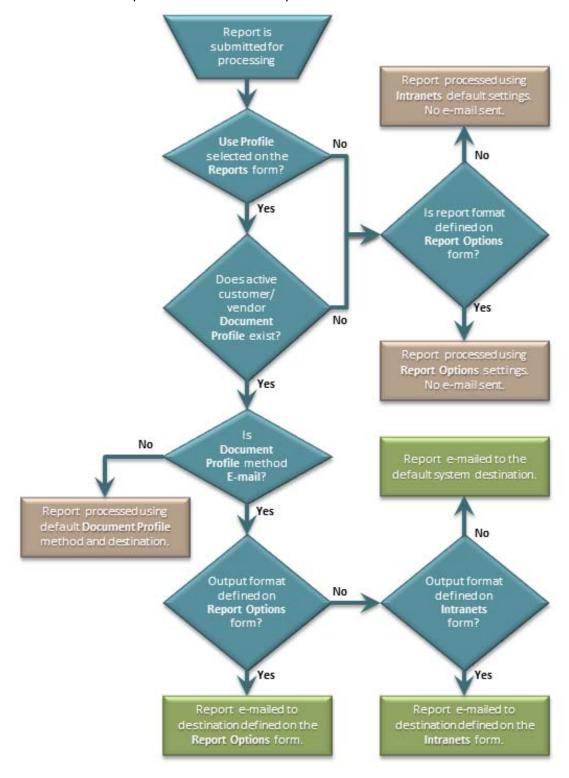
Specify the protocol with which to send the email using the **Intranets** form. For more information about email notifications and attachments, see the section on setting up the utility server to send email notifications in the system administration guide for your system.

Sending Email to Customers and Vendors

In applications (such as SyteLine and Service Management) that have them, the **Customer Document Profile** form and **Vendor Document Profile** form provide options that allow you to send copies of reports to all customers or vendors for whom you have created and activated a document profile.

For more information, see the online help for those forms.

This flowchart shows the process used to email reports to customers or vendors:



This chapter includes information specific to creating a report in an Infor Mongoose application environment. It does not include related information about customizing or modifying existing reports. For information about customizing or modifying existing reports, see Chapter 5, "Modifying Reports."

Report Definition Files

The first phase of creating a report is the creation of the *report definition file*. Report definition files are special XML-based files that contain all the data and formatting specifications for a named report that can be generated. The system uses this file, which must have the extension ".rdl", to generate and render reports when requested.

A report definition and its file can be created using either Visual Studio 2008 or Report Builder 3.0. SQL Server 2008 R2 includes a version of Visual Studio 2008, called SQL Server Business Intelligence Development Studio, that can be used. These tools are nearly identical and can be used interchangeably with one exception: IDO-based reports cannot be created using Report Builder 3.0.

Note: Visual Studio 2010 does not have the options to build reports at this time. You must use Visual Studio 2008.

It is possible to create a report definition from scratch but it is much easier if you begin with one of the report definition templates provided by Infor. These report templates are typically available in this directory:

C:\Program Files (x86)\Infor\Mongoose-based application\Report\Reports\Templates

The report templates can also be obtained from the Infor Xtreme Support site (see "Contacting Infor" on page 5). They are contained in a zip file named **SSRS_Report_Templates.zip**, which you can download and unzip to the directory specified above. To find the zip file, you can search on **SSRS Report Templates**.

This guide discusses only the techniques for creating report definition files using these templates. For more information about these templates, see "Report Definition Templates" in Appendix C, "Reference."

Example: Creating a Report Based on a Stored Procedure

In this example, which you can also use as a short tutorial, we will create a report based on a stored procedure that displays data from the UserTask table. This simple report will be designed to list tasks, grouped by user.

This example assumes that you are using Visual Studio 2008 or SQL Server Business Intelligence Development Studio. Note that the steps would be very similar if you were to use Report Builder 3.0.

Note: Although this example provides the procedural steps for using these tools, this is not to be considered a tutorial on how to use these tools. For information on how best to use these tools, see their respective product documentation.

Creating the Report Project

To create a report project:

- 1 Run Visual Studio 2008 or SQL Server Business Intelligence Development Studio.
- 2 From the File menu select New > Project.
- 3 In the **New Project** dialog box, select:
 - Project types: Business Intelligence Projects
 - Templates: Report Server Project
- 4 For the **Name**, specify **ReportDemo**.
- 5 For the **Location**, specify **C:\Reports**.
- 6 Click OK.

Visual Studio creates the report definition project with a set of default folders.

Creating a Report Definition File without a Template

Note: For our working example, we are going to use and modify one of the report templates Infor provides. The procedure in this topic is included only to provide an example of how to create a report definition file without using a template. If you are using the working example as a tutorial, you need not complete this procedure.

To create a report definition file without a template:

- 1 With the ReportDemo project open, in the Solution Explorer, right-click **Reports** and, from the context menu, select **Add > New Item**.
- 2 In the Add New Item dialog box, Templates field, select Report.
- 3 In the Name field, specify ReportDemo.rdl and then click Add.

Visual Studio creates the RDL file and displays a **Design** workspace in which to design and build your report definition.

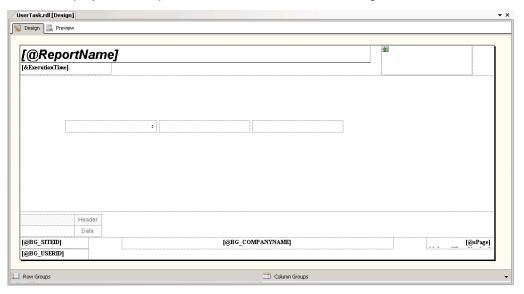
Once the basic report definition file has been created, you can proceed to design the report output with the items, components, and data available in Visual Studio 2008.

Creating a Report Definition File from a Template

To create a new report definition file from a template:

- 1 Locate the template you want to use as the basis for your report.
 - In this example, we will use the Template_Report_Landscape.rdl file.
 - For more information about the Infor-provided templates, see "Report Definition Templates" in Appendix C, "Reference."
- 2 Copy the template file into your **ReportDemo** project folder (if you have been following these steps, it should be **C:\ReportS\ReportDemo**...
- 3 Rename the template file: UserTask.rdl
- 4 In Visual Studio, in the Solution Explorer, right-click Reports.
- 5 From the context menu, select **Add > Existing Item**.
- 6 Select UserTask.rdl and then click Add.
 - Visual Studio adds UserTask.rdl to the list of reports.
- 7 To open UserTask.rdl, double-click its name in the Solution Explorer.

Visual Studio displays a workspace with the UserTask.rdl in Design Mode, similar to this:



Note that the report template already has report headers and footers configured. Many of the entries in the headers and footers are preconfigured to pick up variable values from within the system and need not be modified.

Creating the Stored Procedure

Before creating the report definition, we must create a stored procedure that will be used as the data source for the report. This stored procedure is to be called **Rpt_UserTaskSp**.

Note: When creating stored procedures and other system elements, we recommend strongly that you follow the naming conventions already in place. For example, with this stored procedure, we identify it as a stored procedure to use in conjunction with reports using the prefix **Rpt**. We identify it as a stored procedure with the suffix **Sp**. For more information about naming conventions, see the online help.

To create this stored procedure:

- 1 Open SQL Server Management Studio and connect to your database server.
- 2 Select your application database and click New Query.
 - SQL Server Management Studio displays a blank query window.
- 3 Copy and paste this stored procedure code into the query window.

Note: For an explanation of the structure of this stored procedure and Mongoose stored procedures in general, see "Structure of Report Stored Procedures" in Appendix C, "Reference."

```
-- -----
-- Stored Procedure: Rpt UserTaskSp
-- This is a report stored procedure used by the UserTask report demo.
SET QUOTED IDENTIFIER ON
GO
SET ANSI NULLS ON
GO
IF EXISTS (SELECT * FROM sys.objects WHERE object id =
OBJECT ID(N'[dbo].[Rpt UserTaskSp]') AND type IN (N'P', N'PC'))
DROP PROCEDURE [dbo].[Rpt UserTaskSp]
GO
CREATE PROCEDURE Rpt UserTaskSp
 @UsernameStarting
                          UsernameType
                                         = NULL
                          UsernameType
, @UsernameEnding
                                         = NUTTITI
, @TaskNameStarting
                          MessageSubjectType = NULL
, @TaskNameEnding
                          MessageSubjectType = NULL
```

```
, @RemindDateTimeStarting
                                DateTimeType
                                                    = NULL
, @RemindDateTimeEnding
                                DateTimeType
                                                    = NULL
, @RemindDateTimeStartingOffset DateOffsetType
                                                    = NULL
, @RemindDateTimeEndingOffset
                                DateOffsetType
                                                    = NULL
) AS
-- Transaction management.
BEGIN TRANSACTION
SET XACT ABORT ON
-- Set the isolation level specified for the background task
-- or use the system default.
IF dbo.GetIsolationLevel(N'UserTaskReport') = N'COMMITTED'
   SET TRANSACTION ISOLATION LEVEL READ COMMITTED
ELSE
   SET TRANSACTION ISOLATION LEVEL READ UNCOMMITTED
DECLARE
  @RptSessionID RowPointerType
, @LowDate
                 DateType
, @LowCharacter HighLowCharType
, @HighCharacter HighLowCharType;
-- A session context is created so session variables can be used.
EXEC InitSessionContextSp
  @ContextName = 'Rpt UserTaskSp'
             = @RptSessionID OUTPUT;
, @SessionID
-- Set the low and high values used for defaulting.
SET @LowDate
                   = dbo.LowDate();
SET @LowCharacter = dbo.LowCharacter();
SET @HighCharacter = dbo.HighCharacter();
-- Replace NULL input parameters with Min or Max values.
SET @UsernameStarting = ISNULL(@UsernameStarting, @LowCharacter);
SET @UsernameEnding
                    = ISNULL(@UsernameEnding,
                                                   @HighCharacter);
SET @TaskNameStarting = ISNULL(@TaskNameStarting, @LowCharacter);
SET @TaskNameEnding = ISNULL(@TaskNameEnding,
                                                   @HighCharacter);
-- Apply date offsets.
EXEC ApplyDateOffsetSp @Date = @RemindDateTimeStarting OUTPUT, @Offset
= @RemindDateTimeStartingOffset, @IsEndDate = 0;
EXEC ApplyDateOffsetSp @Date = @RemindDateTimeEnding
                                                       OUTPUT, @Offset
= @RemindDateTimeEndingOffset,
                                 @IsEndDate = 1;
```

```
-- Declare variables used to create the temp table.
DECLARE
  @UserId
                   TokenType
, @Username
                   UsernameType
                   MessageSubjectType
, @TaskName
, @RemindDateTime
                  DateTimeType
, @TaskDescription NoteType
, @RowPointer
                   RowPointerType;
-- Create an empty temp table for the report output.
SELECT
  @UserId
                   AS UserId
, @Username
                   AS Username
                   AS TaskName
, @TaskName
, @RemindDateTime AS RemindDateTime
, @TaskDescription AS TaskDescription
                   AS RowPointer
, @RowPointer
INTO #ReportOutput
WHERE 1=0;
-- Insert data into the temp table.
INSERT INTO #ReportOutput
SELECT
 t.UserId
, n.Username
, t.TaskName
, t.RemindDateTime
, t.TaskDescription
, t.RowPointer
FROM UserTask t
INNER JOIN UserNames n ON t.UserId = n.UserId
WHERE n.Username BETWEEN @UsernameStarting AND @UsernameEnding
      t.TaskName BETWEEN @TaskNameStarting AND @TaskNameEnding
AND
      ISNULL(t.RemindDateTime, @LowDate) BETWEEN
@RemindDateTimeStarting AND @RemindDateTimeEnding;
-- Return the report data.
SELECT
 UserId
, Username
TaskName
, RemindDateTime
```

```
, TaskDescription
, RowPointer
FROM #ReportOutput
ORDER BY Username, RemindDateTime, TaskName;

COMMIT TRANSACTION
EXEC CloseSessionContextSp @SessionID = @RptSessionID;
GO
```

- 4 Click **Execute** and verify that the stored procedure executes successfully.
- 5 Save the stored procedure with the name **Rpt_UserTaskSp.sql**.

Setting Data Source Properties

Before you can produce a report, you must have a source defined for the data to populate the report fields. To set data source properties for the report:

- 1 In Visual Studio, locate the **Data Source** option in the **Report Data** panel.
 - If the Report Data panel is not displayed, you can view it by selecting View menu > Report Data.
- 2 Expand the **Data Source** option and locate or create the data source for your environment.
 - Typically, this data source has the same name as the application. If you see the data source you are looking for, double-click the name of the data source and go on to sub-step c.

If you do not see the data source you are looking for, you must create it, using sub-steps a and b:

- a. In the Report Data panel, right-click Data Sources and select Add Data Source.
- In the **Data Source Properties** dialog box, specify a **Name** for the data source.
 For this example, we will specify **UserTaskDemo**.
- c. In the **Type** field, because this report uses a stored procedure, specify **Microsoft SQL Server**. If this were for an IDO-based report, you would specify **Mongoose IDO**.
 - Below the **Type** field, you should see a field labeled **Connection string**. The default value in that field might be blank or it might be: [@pConnectionString]
- d. Change the default in the **Connection string** field, *temporarily*, to use this format: Data Source=*serverName*;Initial Catalog=*applicationDatabaseName*

Note: You can use the **Edit** button to open a dialog box that simplifies the creation of this string.

You are changing the value of this string only temporarily, until you are done testing your report. Remember to change this string value back when you are done testing!

e. Click OK.

The **Report Data** panel should now display the data source you just specified, if it did not already.

3 Add and assign the dataset:

- a. Right-click the name of your data source and, from the context menu, select Add Dataset.
- b. In the **Dataset Properties** dialog box, **Name** field, specify an appropriate name for your dataset, such as **UserTaskDataset**.
- c. Verify that the **Use a dataset embedded in my report option** is selected.
- d. Verify that the data source defined in Step 2 is specified in the **Data Source** field.
- e. For the Query type option, select Stored Procedure.
- f. In the Select or enter stored procedure name field, specify the name of the stored procedure you created (in this case, Rpt_UserTaskSp).
- g. Click Refresh Fields.

Visual Studio displays a list of automatically created query parameters in the **Define Query Parameters** dialog box.

- h. Verify that all Parameter Value fields specify < Null>.
- i. Click OK.
- j. In the **Dataset Properties** dialog box, click **OK**.

The **Report Data** panel displays the new dataset under the **Datasets** entry.

Note: Verify that the dataset you specified is the only one in the project. If there are others, delete them.

k. In the Properties panel field drop-down list (at the top of the panel), select Tablix 1.

Note: The "Tablix" area is where the data populates the report when generated. For more information about a tablix and other report elements, see the Visual Studio 2008 documentation.

I. In the **General > Dataset Name** field, specify the dataset you just created.

Modifying the Report Parameters

To make sure that the report form that we will create later can make use of the various report parameters correctly, we must make sure that the parameters are defined with the correct data types, properties, and default values (if any).

To modify the report parameters as required for the desired report output:

- 1 In the **Report Data** panel, double-click **Parameters** to expand the list of parameters.
- 2 Double-click each of the parameters specified in the table below and modify the values appropriately, using the **Report Parameter Properties** dialog box for each parameter:

Name	Prompt	Data Type	Allow Null	Default Value
UsernameStarting	User Name Starting	Text	Selected	(Null)
UsernameEnding	User Name Ending	Text	Selected	(Null)
TaskNameStarting	Task Name Starting	Text	Selected	(Null)

Name	Prompt	Data Type	Allow Null	Default Value
TaskNameEnding	Task Name Ending	Text	Selected	(Null)
RemindDateTimeStarting	Reminder Starting	Date/Time	Selected	(Null)
RemindDateTimeEnding	Reminder Ending	Date/Time	Selected	(Null)
RemindDateTimeStartingOffset	Reminder Starting Offset	Integer	Selected	(Null)
RemindDateTimeEndingOffset	Reminder Ending Offset	Integer	Selected	(Null)

Note: For the Default Value, you must select the **Default Values** tab and then select **Specify values**. Click **Add** and then set the **Value** field to **(Null)**.

Setting the Report Title

As it exists at this point, the report title refers to a non-existent report parameter called **ReportName**. We must change this to refer to a parameter that will correctly define the report title we want to use.

Note: Before doing this procedure, it can be a good idea to create the name string (**fUserTaskReport**) for the new report title. This allows you, in the **Expressions Editor**, to select the string from a list. To do this in WinStudio Design Mode, from the **Edit** menu, select **String** and use the **Strings** dialog box to create the string.

To set the report title parameter:

- 1 Change the report title element reference:
 - a. In the **UserTask.rdl [Design]** workspace view, click to select the placeholder element in the upper left corner of the report.
 - This placeholder element is displayed as [@ReportName].
 - b. In the **Properties** sheet for this element, locate the **General > Value**, which should display as: =Parameters!ReportName.Value
 - c. Change this value to: =Parameters!fUserTaskReport.Value

The report title now displays in the Design workspace view as [@fUserTaskReport].

- 2 Create the report parameter to associate with the reference:
 - a. In the Report Data panel, right-click Parameters and then select Add Parameter.
 - b. In the Report Parameter Properties dialog box, set the general properties like this:
 - Name: fUserTaskReport
 - Prompt: fUserTaskReport_

Note: The trailing underscore (_) is required for translatable string parameters.

- Data type: Leave as Text
- c. On the **Default Values** tab, select **Specify values**.

- d. Click Add.
- e. In the Value field, specify fUserTaskReport.
- f. Click OK.

Visual Studio adds fUserTaskReport to the list of available Parameters.

Testing the Report Configuration

At this point, we should be able to test the report configuration, to make sure that the output is going to have the layout configuration we want. We will not yet be able to test the data, only the configuration.

To test the report configuration:

- 1 In Visual Studio, inside the workspace area, click the **Preview** tab for the report.
- 2 If prompted for the database login credentials, supply the user ID and password.

Visual Studio renders a preview of the report without any data populating the various fields similar to this.

At this point, the variable elements, such as the report name still appear as variables.

Populating the Report with Data

Previewing the report at this point confirms only that it is configured to process correctly. But we still have not populated it with any data. To populate the report with data at the time of report generation, we can check to verify that the data is being properly queried.

To verify that the report query is correct:

- 1 In the **Report Data** panel, double-click the dataset you created earlier.
- 2 In the Dataset Properties dialog box, click Query Designer.
- 3 In the **Query Designer** dialog box, click the exclamation mark icon to query the data from the database.
- 4 In the **Define Query Parameters** dialog box, if the **Parameter Values** column displays **<Blank>** for any or all parameters, change them to **<Null>**.
- 5 Click OK.
- 6 Verify that the query returned the expected data from the UserTask table.

Note: If you have not yet created any user tasks, there is no data with which to populate this display. If this is the case, the query simply returns a row containing the column headers. To see actual data displayed, first create some data using the **Task List** form and then run this query again.

7 Click **OK** repeatedly to exit all dialog boxes.

Example: Creating a Report Based on an IDO

The report example we have been looking at is based on a stored procedure for the output. However, we can base a report on an IDO rather than a stored procedure. The primary advantage of an IDO-based report is that you can easily augment it with new properties.

For example, if you have an IDO-based report called **UserTasks** and decide that you want to add a **Task Priority** field, you could just add the new property as normal. It would then be automatically available to be used on the report. If, however, the **UserTasks** report was stored procedure-based, then you would need to modify the stored procedure before the new field would be available on the report.

In this example, we will build a report that does the same thing as the report we built in the previous example. The difference is that this report will be based on an IDO, rather than a stored procedure. Many of the steps are similar, if not identical.

Creating the Report Project

To create a report project:

- 1 Run Visual Studio 2008 or SQL Server Business Intelligence Development Studio.
- 2 From the File menu select New > Project.
- 3 In the **New Project** dialog box, select:
 - Project types: Business Intelligence Projects
 - Templates: Report Server Project
- 4 For the **Name**, specify **IDOReportDemo**.
- 5 For the **Location**, specify **C:\Reports**.
- 6 Click OK.

Visual Studio creates the report definition project with a set of default folders.

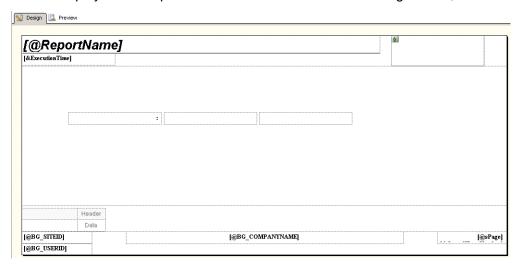
Creating a Report Definition File from a Template

To create an IDO-based report definition file from a template:

- 1 Locate the template you want to use as the basis for your report.
 - In this example, we will use the **Template_Report_Landscape_IDO.rdl** file.
 - For more information about the Infor-provided templates, see "Report Definition Templates" in Appendix C, "Reference."
- 2 Copy the template file into your **ReportDemo** project folder (if you have been following these steps, it should be **C:\ReportS\ReportDemo**...

- 3 Rename the template file: UserTaskIDO.rdl
- 4 In Visual Studio, in the Solution Explorer, right-click **Reports**.
- 5 From the context menu, select **Add > Existing Item**.
- 6 Select **UserTaskIDO.rdI** and then click **Add**.
 - Visual Studio adds UserTaskIDO.rdl to the list of reports.
- 7 To open UserTaskIDO.rdl, double-click its name in the Solution Explorer.

Visual Studio displays a workspace with the UserTaskIDO.rdl in Design Mode, similar to this:



Note that the report template already has report headers and footers configured. Many of the entries in the headers and footers are preconfigured to pick up variable values from within the system and need not be modified.

Creating a Connection String Parameter

Before we can connect properly to a data source, we must have an appropriate "Connection String" parameter defined. This parameter should be defined as a "hidden" parameter.

To define this connection string parameter:

- 1 Still in Visual Studio 2008, in the **Report Data** panel, right-click **Parameters** and select **Add Parameter**.
- 2 In the **Report Parameter Properties** dialog box, specify these values:
 - Name: pConnectionStringIDO
 - Prompt: pConnectionStringIDO
 - Allow null values: Cleared
 - Select parameter visibility: Hidden
 - Default Values tab, Specify values: Add a default connection string using this format: ConfigServerURL;ConfigName

where:

- ConfigServerURL is the standard URL formatted path to the configuration server's default page; for example: http://MyServer/IDORequestService/ConfigServer.aspx
- ConfigName is the name of the configuration to which you want to connect; for example:
 Mongoose701

Note: Take special notice of the semi-colon between the URL and the configuration name.

Setting Data Source Properties

Before you can produce a report, you must have a source defined for the data to populate the report fields. To set data source properties for the report:

- 1 In Visual Studio, locate the **Data Source** option in the **Report Data** panel.
 - If the Report Data panel is not displayed, you can view it by selecting View menu > Report Data.
- 2 Expand the Data Source option and locate or create the data source for your environment.
 - If you started with the IDO report template, this data source should already exist as "MongooseIDO." If you see this data source, double-click the name of the data source and go on to sub-step c.

If you do not see this data source you are looking for, you must create it, using sub-steps a and b:

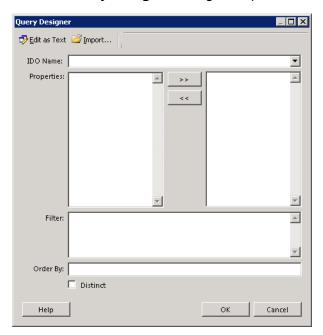
- a. In the Report Data panel, right-click Data Sources and select Add Data Source.
- In the **Data Source Properties** dialog box, specify a **Name** for the data source.
 For this example, we will specify **MongooseIDO**.
- c. In the **Type** field, because this report uses a stored procedure, specify **Mongoose IDO**.
 Below the **Type** field, you should see a field labeled **Connection string**. The default value in that field should be blank.
- d. Specify your connection string in the **Connection string** field, *temporarily*, to use this format (see "Creating a Connection String Parameter" on page 30).
 - Later, we will change this to reference to the **pConnectionStringIDO** parameter we created earlier, so that it will work in WinStudio. For now, we will hard-code it here for testing and development purposes.
- e. (Optional, but recommended) On the Credentials tab, specify user login credentials for your application database in the Use this user name and password option. Make sure you enter your Mongoose login credentials and not the SQL Server login credentials, because this is for an IDO-based report.
 - This allows you to preview report layouts without having to enter login credentials every time. Later, we will change this.
- f. Click OK.

The **Report Data** panel should now display the data source you just specified, if it did not already.

- 3 Add and assign the dataset:
 - a. Right-click the name of your data source and, from the context menu, select Add Dataset.

- In the **Dataset Properties** dialog box, **Name** field, specify an appropriate name for your dataset, such as **UserTaskDataset**.
- c. Verify that the **Use a dataset embedded in my report option** is selected.
- d. Verify that the data source defined in Step 2 is specified in the **Data Source** field.
- e. For the Query type option, select Text.
- f. Click Query Designer.

When the Query Designer dialog box opens, it should look like this:



If it does not, click the **Edit as Text** option to toggle to this view.

- g. In the IDO Name drop-down field, specify UserTasks.
- h. From the **Properties** list, select these properties:
 - UserID
 - Username
 - TaskName
 - RemindDateTime
 - TaskDescription
 - RowPointer
- i. In the **Filter** field, specify this code:

```
Username BETWEEN ISNULL(@UsernameStarting,Username) AND
ISNULL(@UsernameEnding, Username)
```

AND TaskName BETWEEN ISNULL(@TaskNameStarting,TaskName) AND ISNULL(@TaskNameEnding,TaskName)

AND ISNULL(RemindDateTime, '1753-01-01') BETWEEN ISNULL(@RemindDateTimeStarting,'1753-01-01') AND ISNULL(@RemindDateTimeEnding,'9999-12-31')

j. In the OrderBy field, specify this:

- Username, RemindDateTime, TaskName
- k. Click the **Edit as Text** option to view your query in text mode.
- To execute and verify the query, click the Run (!) button.
 Visual Studio displays a list of the selected query parameters in the **Define Query Parameters** dialog box.
- m. Verify that all **Parameter Value** fields specify **<Null>**, changing them if necessary.
- n. Click OK.
- o. In the Query Designer dialog box, click OK.
- p. In the **Dataset Properties** dialog box, click **OK**.

The **Report Data** panel displays the new dataset under the **Datasets** entry.

Note: Verify that the dataset you specified is the only one in the project. If there are others, delete them.

q. In the Properties panel field drop-down list (at the top of the panel), select Tablix 1.

Note: The "Tablix" area is where the data populates the report when generated. For more information about a tablix and other report elements, see the Visual Studio 2008 documentation.

- r. In the **General > Dataset Name** field, specify the dataset you just created.
- s. Save the project.

Setting the Report Title

As it exists at this point, the report title refers to a non-existent report parameter called **ReportName**. We must change this to refer to a parameter that will correctly define the report title we want to use.

Note: Before doing this procedure, it can be a good idea to create the name string (fUserTaskReport) for the new report title. This allows you, in the Expressions Editor, to select the string from a list. To do this in WinStudio Design Mode, from the **Edit** menu, select **String** and use the **Strings** dialog box to create the string.

To set the report title parameter:

- 1 Change the report title element reference:
 - a. In the **UserTaskIDO.rdl [Design]** workspace view, click to select the placeholder element in the upper left corner of the report.
 - This placeholder element is displayed as [@ReportName].
 - b. In the **Properties** sheet for this element, locate the **General > Value**, which should display as: =Parameters!ReportName.Value
 - c. Change this value to: =Parameters!fUserTaskIDOReport.Value

The report title now displays in the Design workspace view as [@fUserTaskIDOReport].

- 2 Create the report parameter to associate with the reference:
 - a. In the Report Data panel, right-click Parameters and then select Add Parameter.

- b. In the **Report Parameter Properties** dialog box, set the general properties like this:
 - Name: fUserTaskIDOReport
 - Prompt: fUserTaskIDOReport_

Note: The trailing underscore (_) is required for translatable string parameters.

- Data type: Leave as Text
- c. On the **Default Values** tab, select **Specify values**.
- d. Click Add.
- e. In the Value field, specify fUserTaskIDOReport.
- f. Click OK.

Visual Studio adds **fUserTaskIDOReport** to the list of available **Parameters**.

Note: Before deploying and testing the report, you must define the fUserTaskIDOReport string. To do that, go into Design Mode in your Mongoose-based application and select **Edit** menu > **String** to create the string. Be aware that you must use **fUserTaskIDOReport** as the string name, but you can set it to display as "User Task Report".

Modifying the Report Parameters

To make sure that the report form that we will create later can make use of the various report parameters correctly, we must make sure that the parameters are defined with the correct data types, properties, and default values (if any).

To modify the report parameters as required for the desired report output:

- 1 In the **Report Data** panel, double-click **Parameters** to expand the list of parameters.
- 2 Double-click each of the parameters specified in the table below and modify the values appropriately, using the **Report Parameter Properties** dialog box for each parameter:

Name	Prompt	Data Type	Allow Null	Default Value
UsernameStarting	User Name Starting	Text	Selected	(Null)
UsernameEnding	User Name Ending	Text	Selected	(Null)
TaskNameStarting	Task Name Starting	Text	Selected	(Null)
TaskNameEnding	Task Name Ending	Text	Selected	(Null)
RemindDateTimeStarting	Reminder Starting	Date/Time	Selected	(Null)
RemindDateTimeEnding	Reminder Ending	Date/Time	Selected	(Null)
RemindDateTimeStartingOffset	Reminder Starting Offset	Integer	Selected	(Null)
RemindDateTimeEndingOffset	Reminder Ending Offset	Integer	Selected	(Null)

Note: For the Default Value, you must select the **Default Values** tab and then select **Specify values**. Click **Add** and then set the **Value** field to **(Null)**.

If the last two do not yet exist in your project, create them now.

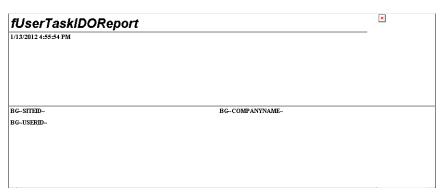
Testing the Report Configuration

At this point, we should be able to test the report configuration, to make sure that the output is going to have the layout configuration we want. We will not yet be able to test the data, only the configuration.

To test the report configuration:

- 1 In Visual Studio, inside the workspace area, click the **Preview** tab for the report.
- 2 If prompted for the database login credentials, supply the user ID and password.

Visual Studio renders a preview of the report without any data populating the various fields similar to this:



At this point, the variable elements, such as the report name still appear as variables.

Configuring the Report Layout

About Report Layout Elements

Before configuring the report layout, a few words of explanation are warranted.

Reports are typically made up of different sections. Most have these elements:

- Page header
- Report header
- Data section

Page footer

Some reports have additional features, such as notes, and some, such as label reports, contain only data.

SSRS has four container classes. Three of these are subclasses of the Tablix class: Lists, Tables, and Matrices. The fourth container class is the Rectangle. Data stored in a Tablix object can be filtered, sorted, and grouped. Tablix objects also change their size and shape to best fit the space provided by a particular output format. Rectangles are used to contain other objects, like tablix objects, textboxes, images, and so on. Rectangles are useful to restrain the movement of objects, such as tables, as they grow. This is especially important for reports like "label reports," where precise control of object positioning is required.

In general, most reports use a rectangle for the report header, page header, page footer, and one or more tables for detail data. In some instances, where there is a parent child relationship to data, a list format can be used for the parent data, and one or more tables for the child data.

Laying Out the Report

The report we are building is fairly simple, consisting basically of a list of tasks grouped by user. Most of the basic elements, such as report header, page header and footer, and basic data section, have already been built in to the template we started out with. Basically, all that is left is to modify the data fields for our purposes and apply any formatting changes we might want.

To add the fields to the report:

- 1 In the body section of the report, locate the tablix component named **Tablix1**.
 - This tablix component currently has two columns.
- 2 Right-click the tablix component and, from the context menu, select **Insert Column > Right**.
- 3 Select the column data sources and header row labels:
 - a. In the first body row cell (not the header row), click the data selection icon (1).
 - b. From the drop-down list, select **TaskName**.
 - c. In the second cell, do the same thing and select **TaskDescription**.
 - d. In the third cell, do the same thing and select **RemindDateTime**.

Note that, as you make these selections, Visual Studio automatically adds correctly formatted header row labels.

- 4 Add the group by which returned data is to be grouped and sorted:
 - a. In the Row Groups section (just below the main workspace area), click the drop-down arrow.
 - b. From the context menu, select **Add Group > Parent Group**.
 - c. In the Tablix group dialog box, Group by field, specify [Username].
 - d. Click OK.

Visual Studio creates a new column, on the left side of the Tablix table, labeled **Username**.

5 (Optional) Select the Preview tab and view the results of your changes.

Notice that the preview now displays the returned data, the tasks are grouped together, and they are sorted by user name.

TIP: To preview the report header page, in **Preview** mode, clear the **NULL** check box for the **Display Header** parameter, and in the field, specify 1. Then click **View Report**.

Modifying Column Labels to Support Localization

For column labels to support localization, we must set them using report parameters. To modify the column labels, create new parameters for each column using the values below.

For each column in the table:

- 1 In the Report Data panel, right-click Parameters and then select Add Parameter.
- 2 In the Report Parameter Properties dialog box, set the properties like this:

Name	Prompt	Data Type	Allow Null	Visibility	Default Value
sUsername	sUsername_	Text	False	Visible	sUsername
sTaskName	sTaskName_	Text	False	Visible	sTaskName
sTaskDescription	sTaskDescription_	Text	False	Visible	sTaskDescription
sReminder	sReminder_	Text	False	Visible	sReminder

- 3 Click OK.
- 4 Update the column header to reference the appropriate parameter:
 - a. Right-click inside the header cell and, from the context menu, select **Text Box > Expression**.
 - b. In the Expression dialog box, Set expression for: Value field, specify the expression using this pattern: =Parameters!ParameterName.Value where ParameterName is the specified parameter name, such as sUsername.
 Notice that each header cell changes to something like this: [@ParameterName]

Making Formatting Changes

Virtually any element or component of a report can be formatted independently of the others. In our example, we want the header row for the returned data to be gray with white letters. We also want to reformat our columns, mostly to make extra room for the **Task Description** column, which typically requires more space.

To change the header row formatting:

1 To select the entire header row, click the far left box.

- 2 In the Properties sheet, set the Fill > BackgroundColor to gray.
- 3 In the **Properties** sheet, set the **Font > Color** to white.

Notice that the Design display changes to reflect these settings.

To change the widths of columns:

- 1 Position the mouse cursor over the right-side border line of the setup row just above the header row until the cursor changes to a horizontal double-headed arrow.
- 2 Click and drag the line left or right to the position you want.

Challenge: Specifically, see if you can widen the **Task Description** column and line up the right side of the **Reminder** column with the right-most element in the report.

Feel free to experiment and make other layout and formatting changes to suit your taste.

Laying Out the Report Header Page

The report header page is typically used to display general information that applies to the entire report. Whether the report header page is visible or hidden depends on the value of a parameter, in this case, the **DisplayHeader** report parameter.

In this report the report header is contained in a Rectangle immediately below the page header. For this report, the report header is to display the report filter criteria that is passed in from the report parameters. Our template provides a starting point for entering the filter criteria, identified by three field boxes, the first of which has a right-justified colon (:), like this:



Our filter criteria is to correspond with the criteria specified on the **User Task Report** form, which we have not yet created. For information on creating report forms and the example to create this one, see Chapter 4, "Creating a Form to Run the Report."

For this example, we need four rows to display the filter criteria in our report header: One row is the header row. The other three rows are to be used to display the filter criteria; specifically in this case, the user name of the user to whom tasks are assigned, the names of the tasks assigned to the user, and the reminder date for each task.

To create the extra rows:

- 1 Select and copy the existing set of text box components from the report header section.
- 2 Paste three copies of these text boxes into the report header section.
- 3 Move and align the three new sets of text boxes with the original set, aligning them vertically below each other.

Your entire set of text boxes should now look something like this:

:	
:	
:	
:	

4 Fill in the criteria for these text boxes with labels and values that are to be passed in as report parameters from the **User Task Report** form.

Your final set of text boxes should look like this:

	[@sStarting]	[@sEnding]
[@sUsername]:	[@UsernameStarting]	[@UsernameEnding]
[@sTaskName]:	[@TaskNameStarting]	[@TaskNameEnding]
[@sReminder]:	[@RemindDateTimeStarting]	[@RemindDateTimeEnding]

Note: When filling in your text boxes take note of the following:

- The first (most upper left) box has been deleted, because we are not using it.
- Top-row and left-most fields are formatted using a boldface font, because they reference string labels. The other, non-bolded boxes reference filtered values from the report form.
- The **sStarting** and **sEnding** string parameters in this example have not yet been created. Before doing this step, you might want to create those string parameters using the procedures you have already learned. You can then select the new parameters in the expression editor when assigning the value.
- When filling in these values, the most reliable method is to right-click inside the box and, from the context menu, select Create Placeholder or Text Box Properties (depending on what box or field you are in). In the Placeholder Properties or Text Box Properties dialog box, then, use the expression editor for the Value to assign the correct value. You can also use this dialog box to set other attributes, such as the font family (Arial, for instance) and font weight (Bold).

Deploying the Report

At this point, the report should be almost ready to run. If you want, you can preview the report again, but the labels and other parameters that are based on expressions will not display properly until you see the final actual output. Before the report can actually be run, however, there are still two matters to attend to: Resetting the data source connection string and deploying the report to the report server.

Resetting the Data Source Connection String

If you remember, back in the section "Setting Data Source Properties" on page 25, we changed the "connection string" for the data source to a hard-coded value for testing purposes. Before we can run the report successfully, though, we must reset the connection string back to its original value.

To reset the data source connection string:

- 1 In Visual Studio, locate and double-click the name of your data source.
- 2 In the **Data Source Properties** dialog box, **General** tab, change the hard-coded value in the **Connection string** field to:
 - [@pConnectionString] for a report based on a stored procedure
 - [@pConnectionStringIDO] for a report based on an IDO

You can use the expression editor to do this.

- 3 Select the **Credentials** tab and then select the **Prompt for credentials** option.
- 4 In the **Enter prompt text** field, enter some text to use as a prompt.

Note: This text never really displays anywhere in our system, but without something in this field, Visual Studio does not let you save your changes to the data source.

Deploying the Report to the Report Server

The final step is to deploy the report definition file you have created to the report server from which it is to be called and run. To do this:

- 1 Verify that your project is set up to use the correct deployment settings:
 - a. In the Solution Explorer, right-click the name of your project. (Note that this is *not* the RDL file, but rather the top-level project entry.)
 - b. From the context menu, select **Properties**.
 - c. In the *Project* Property Pages dialog box, verify that you are using the correct settings. If necessary, change those that are not set correctly.

The fields that you are particularly concerned with are:

- **TargetReportFolder** Set this to the name of the report folder on your report server in which report definition files are deployed.
- TargetServerURL Using a standard HTTP path, specify the name and location of the report server to which reports are deployed. Typically, this follows the format: http:// serverName/ReportServer, where serverName is the DNS or IP address of your report server
- TargerServerVersion Verify that this is SQL Server 2008 R2. Other versions do not work.
- 2 Deploy the report definition file:
 - a. Right-click the name of your RDL file.
 - b. From the context menu, select **Deploy**.

Running the Report

Assuming you have not yet created the form from which to launch this report, before you can actually run and process the report, you must create a background task definition, and you must create the form. For information and the procedures to create:

- The background task definition for your report, see Chapter 3, "Configuring TaskMan to Process and Generate Reports"
- The report form for this example, see Chapter 4, "Creating a Form to Run the Report."

Creating Reports		

Chapter 3: Configuring TaskMan to Process and Generate Reports

Infor Task Manager, commonly known as TaskMan, is the Infor Windows service that is responsible for processing and generating reports, among other things. There are several ways and places that TaskMan settings can be made. This chapter covers settings that must be made in conjunction with TaskMan to preview and print reports. Most of these settings were probably made during initial system installation and configuration.

Additional information about TaskMan can be found in the system administration guide for your system.

Note: Infor Task Manager is not the same as the Windows Task Manager.

TaskMan Installation and Configuration with Respect to Reports

The installation and configuration of Infor Task Manager is covered in detail in the installation guide and the system administration guide for your system. The information presented here is extra TaskMan information specific to report processing and generation.

Report Developer Installation

Developers who are creating many custom reports might want to set up a separate, nonstandard test environment. If you do this, be sure these requirements are met:

On the Intranets form, the TaskMan Path field should be set to the directory where TaskMan.exe
and RunReport.exe are both installed. If this is blank, or filled in incorrectly, reports cannot be
previewed. For additional information, see the description of the error "Missing RPT File" on page
75.

• On the **Sites** form, the **Forms Database Name** field should contain the name of the forms database. If this is filled in incorrectly, the report can be previewed, but the labels remain untranslated. For more information, see the description of the error "Labels Not Being Replaced with Strings Table Values" on page 74.

Note: In some applications, the Sites form is known as the Sites/Entities form.

The System Parameters form should display the site ID. This site ID is used to select the
appropriate Sites record. The Sites form should contain the intranet name, which is used to
select the intranets record. If any of these links is incorrect, the report cannot be previewed.

Note: In some Mongoose-based applications, the **System Parameters** form is known as the **General Parameters** form.

- If you are developing Crystal reports, after you install TaskMan, you must separately install
 Crystal Reports. For information on how to install and use Crystal Reports, see the previous
 version of this document and the documentation for your version of Crystal Reports.
- If you are using Crystal Reports, the Crystal Reports DLLs must be on the same machine as MGCore.dll.

Specifying Report Options On the Process Defaults Form

You can use the **Sites/Entities** form to enable several TaskMan options without having to restart the Infor Task Manager service. For more information about the **Sites/Entities** form, see the online help for that form.

Process Default	Description
Report Output Obfuscation	Use this option when you want to expose the report output directory over the Web, for instance, without indexing the folder, making illegitimate access to the reports of users more difficult.
	When this option is set to 1, report output is directed into this path:
	\\ <i>TaskMan_Path</i> \Output Files\ReportName_GUID.FileExtension
	All report files reside in the Output Files folder and are distinguished by the session ID appended to the report name.
	If this option is set to 0 (the default), report output is directed into the following paths, unless a Report Output Directory is specified in the Report Options form or a Report Output Folder is specified on the Sites/Entities form:
	\\TaskMan_Path\Output Files\UserID\ReportName_Site_TaskNumber.FileExtension
	\\TaskMan_Path\Output Files\UserID\Preview\ReportName_Site_TaskNumber.FileExt ension (for preview)

Process Default	Description
TaskMan Options	debug - Runs the current TaskMan thread in debug mode. For more information, see the section on running TaskMan in debug mode in the system administration guide for your system.
	debugrep - Creates a text file containing a log of messages generated during the running of a report.
	eventlog - When debugging background tasks (with the debug option above), TaskMan directs its debug logs to the toolset messaging systems, which can be viewed using the IDO Runtime Host or Log Monitor utilities. If you want to direct TaskMan debug logs to the Windows event system so you can view and debug them through the Windows Event Viewer, use this option.
	taskmsg - If this is specified, TaskMan inserts some task-specific messages while processing requested tasks, allowing you to review the status/process of tasks. These messages can be viewed in the Task Messages area on the Background Task History form.
	 UsernameFilter - user01, user02, etc.
	 TasknameFilter - taskname01, taskname02, etc.

Determining the Output Path

There are several ways to define the report output path. Whatever the output directory ends up being, TaskMan looks for a user-specific subfolder at that location. If the subfolder is not found, TaskMan appends that subfolder to the output path, except in the case of **Report Output Obfuscation**.

For more information about these options, see the online help.

Setting Default Report Output Paths

Intranet Defaults

The primary default path for report outputs is the path as specified on the **Intranets** form, **TaskMan Path** field. This is the path the system uses for report outputs if no report output path is specified either on the **Sites/Entities** form or the **Report Options** form.

Site Defaults

The **Report Output Folder** on the **Sites/Entities** form allows you to define a global file system/UNC path (for example C:\\servername\\ReportOutputs) to which all report outputs are directed. This folder overrides the **TaskMan Path** field on the **Intranets** form. However, any user/task specific output directory defined on the **Report Options** form overrides this default setting.

Within this directory, TaskMan looks for a user-specific subfolder. If not found, TaskMan creates the subfolder and directs report output into it. User-specific subfolders are used only if the Report Output Obfuscation process default (described above) is set to 0.

You can specify the following TaskMan keywords within the output path, which are substituted accordingly:

BG~TMHOMEDIR~ - TaskMan home directory

BG~TASKID~ - Task ID/number

BG~TASKNAME~ - Task name

BG~CONFIG~ - Configuration name

BG~REQUSER~ - User requesting the task

BG~SITEID~ - ID of the site

Note: If you have overridden the **TaskMan Path** by specifying a **Report Output Folder** on the **Sites/ Entities** form, then use the **Report Preview URL** field on the **Intranets** form to specify the URL path to that directory for report *previews*.

Process Defaults

The **Report Output Obfuscation** process default on the **Process Defaults** form appends the session ID to the report name, rather than appending a user subfolder name. This option is useful if you want to expose the report output directory over the Web without indexing the folder, which makes illegitimate access to the reports of users more difficult.

Report Options

TaskMan looks first for a report output designation in the **Output Directory** field of the **Report Options** form. The **Report Options** form allows you to specify a different output location for each user/report task combination. You can specify a valid system path/file, and report outputs are generated and exported to that location. Entering an output directory here overrides any path defined on the **Intranets** form or the **Sites/Entities** form.

Checking the Status of Active Tasks

Information about the task queue is stored in the ActiveBGTasks table and can be viewed using the **Active Background Tasks** form. Tasks are marked as WAITING (on hold until a scheduled time), READY (waiting for resources), or RUNNING (currently being processed).

A history record for the task is also created in the BGTaskHistory table (see below) when the task is added to ActiveBGTasks.

Note: Sometimes, tasks are processed so quickly and active so briefly that they do not appear on the **Active Background Tasks** form. The more reliable way to verify that the task ran successfully is with the **Background Task History** form.

Adding Background Tasks for Reports

Before a report can be previewed or printed, the report must be predefined as a *task* using the **Background Task Definitions** form. If you know what the actual name of your report is going to be, you can create this task even before creating the report definition file itself (though, of course, you cannot actually test the task until the report definition file has been created).

To create a background task definition for a report:

- 1 Open the **Background Task Definitions** form.
- 2 Add a new task (record) on this form with these settings:
 - Task Name Specifies the name by which the system recognizes the report task.
 - **TIP:** For simplicity, you can use the same name as the Executable Name with "Report" appended; for example, UserTaskReport or UserTaskIDOReport.
 - Task Description Enter an optional description or leave blank.
 - Executable Name Specify the name of the report file, without the file extension.
 Continuing our example from the previous chapter, this name would be either UserTask or UserTaskIDO.
 - Executable Type Select RPT.
 - Report Type Specifies whether the report is a SQL Server Reporting Service (SSRS) or Crystal report (CR). For most reports, this should be SSRS. If you leave this field blank, the default is SSRS.

Note: Use the **CR** report type option only for legacy Crystal Reports that have not been converted to SSRS.

 Max Concurrent - Specifies the maximum number of instances of this report that can be processing at one time.

Note: The default **Max Concurrent** limit of 20 (which is required for Crystal reports) does not necessarily apply to SSRS reports. However, for system performance reasons, we recommend that you do not set this field to a number greater than 20.

Also, be aware that this field controls, separately and simultaneously, the number of report preview tasks and report printing tasks that can be processing at the same time.

- Isolation Level The setting Read Uncommitted allows faster query performance. For more
 information about the effects of Read Uncommitted versus Read Committed, see the online
 help for this form and the Process Defaults form.
- 3 Save the definition.

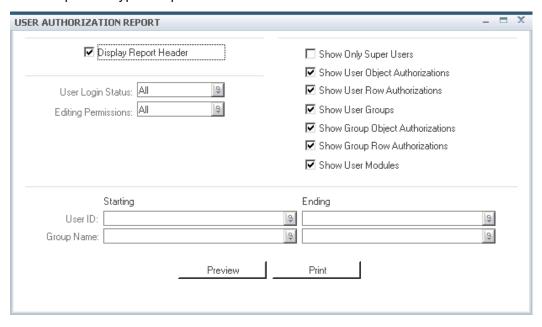
Chapter 4: Creating a Form to Run the Report

Once you have the report definition file and the background task created for your report, you must make the report available to users before they can actually use it. To do this, you must create or modify a form. This chapter describes the steps needed to do that. The steps are organized so that they continue setting up the example report used in the previous two chapters.

Most reports are launched from "criteria" forms. Criteria forms typically have several editable fields for the report's parameters. These fields can include criteria such as date ranges, selection of customers or vendors, and selection of particular criteria either to include or not include in the report output.

Criteria forms also typically have two buttons: a **Preview** button that allows you to preview the report output before committing it to a more permanent output; and a **Print** button that actually sends the command to generate the report using the designated print options.

This is an example of a typical report criteria form:



Creating the Report Criteria Form

To create a criteria form from which users can launch a new report:

- 1 In your WinStudio application, go into Design Mode.
- 2 From the **Form** menu, select **Definition > New**.
- 3 In the **Specify Form Name and Type** dialog box, **Name** field, specify a form name.
 - This should be the report name with "Report" appended onto the end (continuing our examples from Chapter 2, "Creating Reports," it would be **UserTaskReport** or **UserTaskIDOReport**).
- 4 From the **Form Type** drop-down list, select **Build From Scratch**.
 - You need not select a data source for this form, since it is simply a report options form that passes parameters to the stored procedure.
- 5 Click **Next** and then **Finish**.
- 6 In the **Form** properties sheet, **Caption** field, specify a form caption and click the ellipses (...) button to create it.
 - **Note:** The caption should be a string that begins with the letter "f". In the string that follows, each capital letter causes the system to start a new word in the title/caption display of the form. For example, **fUserTaskReport**, when saved as a string, appears as **User Task Report** in the title bar of the form.
- 7 When the system queries whether you want to create a new string, click **Yes**.
- 8 In the String Properties dialog box, verify that the String Value is correct, and then click OK.
- 9 Save the form.
- 10 If you are using a source control system, check the form in to your source system and then check it out again immediately.

Creating the Report Input Fields and Parameters

So far, all we have is a basic, blank form. Obviously, to do anything, it must be populated with fields that do things. In the case of a criteria form, this means creating fields to determine what data is to be returned and processed with the report.

Adding Fields with Drop-Down Lists for the Report Input Parameters

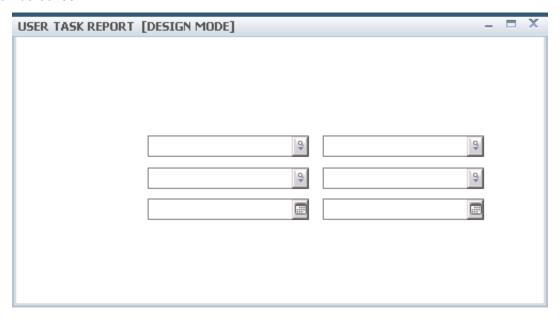
1 In the new form, still in Design Mode, from the **Toolbox > Controls** list, select **ComboBox**.

- 2 Use the mouse to draw a rectangle on the form, or just click in the form to create the component, and resize it later.
- In the **Component** properties sheet, the **Name** field, specify a name for the component, (for our example, **UsernameStarting**).
- In the **Data Source** section of the **Component** properties sheet, create a variable with the name **UsernameStarting**:
 - a Click **Binding** and then click the associated ellipses (...) button.
 - b In the Edit Component Data Binding dialog box, in the Type field, specify Variable.
 - c Click Edit.
 - d In the **Edit Variable Binding** dialog box, **Variable** field, specify **UsernameStarting** as the name of the variable.
 - e Click **OK** repeatedly until you return to the form.
 - The **Binding** field should now display: variables. UsernameStarting
- 5 In the Component properties sheet, the Inheritance > Component Class field, specify UserName.
- 6 Repeat Steps 1 through 5 to create three more components. Name the components and their associated variables:
 - UsernameEnding, with component class UserName.
 - TaskNameStarting, with component class TaskNameVar.
 - TaskNameEnding, with component class TaskNameVar.
- 7 Repeat Steps 1 through 5, using DateCombo component types, to create date-range fields. Name the components and their associated variables:
 - RemindDateTimeStarting, with component class DateVar.
 - RemindDateTimeEnding, with component class DateVar.
- 8 Save the form.

At this point, your form should look something like this, where:

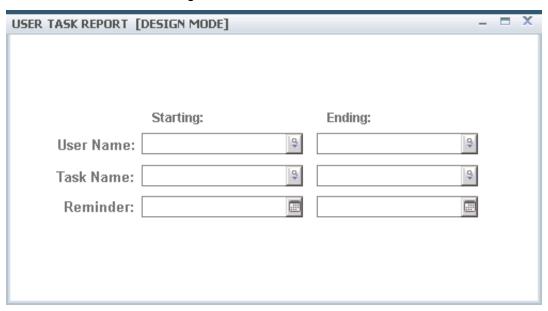
- The top two fields are the **UsernameStarting** and **UsernameEnding** combo boxes.
- The middle two fields are the TaskNameStarting and TaskNameEnding combo boxes.

 The bottom two fields are the RemindDateTimeStarting and RemindDateTimeEnding date combo boxes.



- 9 Add Static field labels:
 - Above the first set of fields, add a field with the caption sStarting.
 - Above the second set of fields, add a field with the caption **sEnding**.
 - Left of the Username set of fields, add a field with the caption **sUserName**.
 - Left of the Task Name set of fields, add a field with the caption sTaskName.
 - Left of the Reminder set of fields, add a field with the caption **sReminder**.

Your form should now look something like this:



Adding an Increment Date Field

Reports are often designed to be run periodically (and automatically). For reports like these, there is an option to automatically increment the dates on each successive report run. The amount by which the dates are incremented is set on the **Background Queue** form.

To add an **Increment Date** field with the correct properties:

- 1 Add a check box component and:
 - Name it *DateField*Increment, where *DateField* is the base name of your date fields.
 For example, if the base name of the date fields is **RemindDateTime**, with associated **RemindDateTimeStarting** and **RemindDateTimeEnding** components, then the name of this check box field should be **RemindDateTimeIncrement**.
 - Use the component class DateIncrementVar.
 - Bind it to a variable with the same name as the component; in this case,
 RemindDateTimeIncrement. Give this variable an initial value of 0 (zero).

Notice that, when you save the form, the Increment Date check box label displays automatically.

- 2 For each date field, create a hidden Edit field:
 - Name it *DateField*Offset, where *DateField* is the name of the date field.
 For example, for the RemindDateTimeStarting date combo box, this field should be named RemindDateTimeStartingOffset.
 - Set the **Behavior** > **Hidden** property to **True**.
 - Bind it to a variable with the same name as the component; for example,
 RemindDateTimeStartingOffset (no initial value).
 - Use the component class DateOffsetVar.
 Note that if your system does not have the DateOffsetVar component class, you can instead set the Data Type > Underlying Type to CHAR and the Length to 50.

Remember to do this step for both the **RemindDateTimeStarting** and **RemindDateTimeEnding** fields.

Adding an Option to Display the Report Header Page

Most report criteria forms provide the user with an option to either display or hide the report header page of a report. We are going to include that option on our example report.

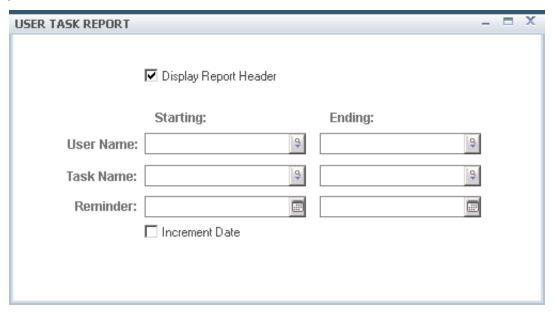
To add the option to display the report header page:

- 1 Add a check box to the form with these properties:
 - Name the check box **DisplayHeader**.
 - Bind it to a variable with the same name as the check box component (DisplayHeader).
 Assign this variable an Initial Value of: V(Parm DisplayReportHeaders)
 - Use the component class **DisplayHeaderVar**.

Notice that, as with the **Increment Date** check box, setting this component class automatically creates and displays the check box label.

2 Save the form.

At this point, the form should look similar to this:



Adding a Button to Run (Print) the Report

For the report to actually run (process and print), we must provide a mechanism to launch the RunReport.exe process for our report. We will use a button and associated event handlers for this purpose.

To add the button to run the report:

- 1 In the new form, still in Design Mode, from the **Toolbox > Controls** list, select **Button**.
- 2 Use the mouse to draw a rectangle on the form, or just click in the form to create the component, and resize it later.
- 3 Name the button **PrintButton**.
- 4 Set the Caption to sPrint.
- 5 Use the component class **Button**.
- On the **Events** tab of the **Component** property sheet, specify **GenerateReport** as the primary event. To create this event:
 - a Click the Events button (appears as a yellow lightning bolt on the **Component** properties sheet).
 - b Click **Primary**, and then click the associated ellipses (...) button.

- c In the Event Handlers dialog box, click New.
- d In the Event Handler Properties dialog box, Event field, specify GenerateReport.
- e For the type, specify Run Script.
- f Click **Parms** and then the associated ellipses (...) button.
- g In the Event Handler Parms dialog box, click Type Specific Parameters.
- h In the **Script Name and Parameters** dialog box, specify these values:
 - Name: SetDateOffset
 - Parameters: Date field name, Offset field name, Increment field name
 If there is more than one set of date fields, specify all the date fields in this order. For our example:

RemindDateTimeStarting, RemindDateTimeStartingOffset, RemindDateTimeIncrement, RemindDateTimeEnding, RemindDateTimeEndingOffset, RemindDateTimeIncrement

- i Click **OK** repeatedly until you return to the **Event Handlers** dialog box.
- 7 Add a second event handler to the **GenerateReport** event.
 - a In the **Event Handlers** dialog box, click **New**.
 - b In the **Event Handler Properties** dialog box, **Event** field, specify **GenerateReport**.
 - c For the Type, specify Run Background Task.
 - d Click **Parms** and then the associated ellipses (...) button.
 - e In the **Event Handler Parms** dialog box, in the **Error Message** field, specify **mBackEndMessage**.
 - f In the Event Handler Parms dialog box, click Type Specific Parameters.
 - g In the Edit Background Task Name and Parms dialog box:
 - In the Task Name field, specify V(BGTaskName).
 - In the Task Parms field, specify V(BGTaskParms).
 - h Click **OK** until you return to the form, and verify that the new **GenerateReport** event is specified in the **Primary** field.

Note: For the report to be able to run through the background queue, the task name must be in a variable called **BGTaskName** and the parameters must be in a variable called **BGTaskParms**. If these variables do not yet exist on your system, you must create them as form-based, persistent variables.

If the parameter list is too long to fit into a single variable, break it into two or more variables and set the value of **BGTaskParms** to those variables. For example, set the value of BGTaskParms to V(BGTaskParms1)V(BGTaskParms2), with BGTaskParms1 and BGTaskParms2 containing the actual report parameters. The actual report parameters can include the TaskMan keywords described in the system administration guide for your system.

8 Select and assign values to the BGTaskName and BGTaskParms variables:

- a From the Edit menu, select Variable.
- b From the Variables dialog box, select the variable BGTaskName, and then click Edit.
- c In the Variable Properties dialog box:
 - In the Value field, specify UserTaskReport

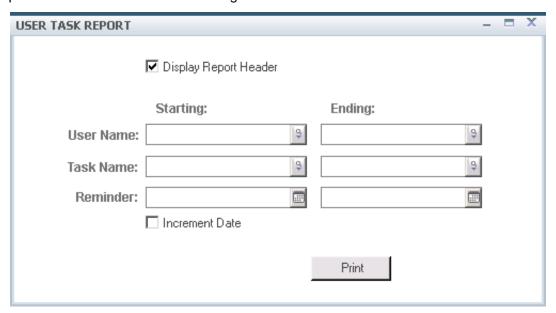
Note: This must be the **Task Name** as defined on the **Background Task Definitions** form. So, to print the IDO-based version of the report, specify **UserTaskIDOReport**.

- Set the Persistent field to True.
- Click OK.
- d From the Variables dialog box, select the variable BGTaskParms, and then click Edit.
- e In the Variable Properties dialog box:
 - In the Value field, specify:
 V(DisplayHeader), V(UsernameStarting), V(UsernameEnding),
 V(TaskNameStarting), V(TaskNameEnding), V(RemindDateTimeStartingOffset),
 V(RemindDateTimeEndingOffset), V(DateNullVar), V(DateNullVar)

Note: These parameters *must* be passed to the system in the same order they are defined in the report definition file. If not, errors result when you try to run the report. If necessary, check the order of the report parameters in your report definition file and then make sure these are in the same order.

- Set the **Persistent** field to **True**.
- Click OK.
- 9 Add a third event handler to the GenerateReport event:
 - a In the Event Handlers dialog box, click New.
 - b In the Event Handler Properties dialog box, Event field, specify GenerateReport.
 - c For the Type, specify Run Script.
 - d Click **Parms** and then the associated ellipses (...) button.
 - e In the Event Handler Parms dialog box, click Type Specific Parameters.
 - f In the **Script Name and Parameters** dialog box:
 - In the Name field, specify ReportSubmitted.
 - Leave the Parameters field blank.
- 10 Click **OK** until you return to the form, and verify that the **GenerateReport** event is specified in the **Primary** field.
- 11 Save the form.

At this point the form should look something like this:



Testing the Report

To check whether your report is working at this stage, try running it and checking the results:

- 1 Open the **Background Task History** form and the **Active Background Tasks** form to monitor the progress of your report.
- 2 To run the report, select some dates and click the **Print** button.
- 3 Monitor the progress in the Background Task History form and the Active Background Tasks form.

Note: Sometimes, tasks are processed so quickly and active so briefly that they do not appear on the **Active Background Tasks** form. The more reliable way to verify that the task ran successfully is with the **Background Task History** form.

Adding the Report Preview to the Form

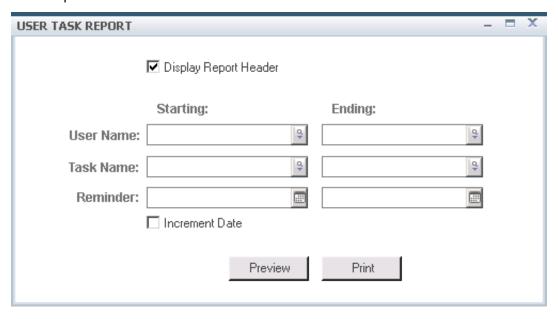
If you are not using a standard application installation (for example, if you installed multiple pieces on a single machine), you must make sure that TaskMan is set up so that report previews will work on your computer. For more information, see "Report Developer Installation" on page 43.

To add report preview functionality to your form:

1 Add a button to the form and specify the caption **sPreview**.

- 2 Add a "PreviewReport" event:
 - a Click the Events button (appears as a yellow lightning bolt on the **Component** properties sheet).
 - b Click **Primary**, and then click the associated ellipses (...) button.
 - c In the Event Handlers dialog box, click New.
 - d In the Event Handler Properties dialog box, specify these values:
 - Event: PreviewReport
 - Description: Enter an optional description or leave blank.
 - Type: Print Preview
 - e For the parameters:
 - Click **Parms** and then the ellipses (...) button.
 - In the Event Handler Parms dialog box, click Type Specific Parameters.
 - For the Task Name, specify V(BGTaskName).
 - For the Task Parameters (Parms), specify V(BGTaskParms).
 - Click OK.
 - In the Error Message field, specify mPrintPreviewError.
- 3 Click **OK** repeatedly until you return to the form.
- 4 Verify that **PreviewReport** is specified as the **Primary** event.
- 5 Save the form and test it.

Your finished report form should look similar to this:



Designing a Report to Allow Scheduling

Many reports are designed to run on a regular basis, according to a set schedule. To actually set this for a report, the report must first be designed to be able to submit tasks to the background queue, and then it must be scheduled to run using the **Background Queue** form.

Modifying the Form to Submit Tasks to the Background Queue

Before a report can submit tasks to the Background Queue, it must be set up to do so. This is done by adding a hidden component to the form that allows it to activate a **Background** option on the **Actions** and right-click (context) menus.

To set up the form to submit tasks to the background queue:

- 1 Add a component of type **MenuItem** (**ObjMenuItem**) to the form.
- 2 Name the menu item component **BackgroundQueueTask**.
- 3 In the Caption field, specify s&Background.
- 4 Add a "RunBackgroundQueue" event:
 - a Click the Events button (appears as a yellow lightning bolt on the **Component** properties sheet).
 - b Click **Primary**, and then click the associated ellipses (...) button.
 - c In the Event Handlers dialog box, click New.
 - d In the **Event Handler Properties** dialog box, set these values:
 - Event: RunBackgroundQueue
 - **Description:** Enter an optional description or leave blank.
 - Type: Run Form As Modal Child
 - e For the parameters:
 - Click **Parms** and then the ellipses (...) button.
 - In the Event Handler Parms dialog box, click Type Specific Parameters.
 - For the Form, specify BackgroundQueue.
 - Click Set Variables.
 - In the Edit Set Variable Values dialog box, click New.
 - In the Edit Set Variable Value Pair dialog box, define a variable with the Target of BGTaskName and a Value of V(BGTaskName), and then click OK.
 - Create a second variable with the value pair of Target: RunTaskEvent and Value:
 GenerateReport.

Note: "GenerateReport" is the name of the Run Background Task event that we want to schedule and be placed on the background queue.

5 Click **OK** repeatedly until you return to the form.

- 6 Verify that RunBackgroundQueue is specified as the Primary event.
- 7 (Optional) Add these parameters to the end of the parameter string for the Run Background Task event that submits the task (for a report and in our example, this event is defined with the **Print** button):

TASKSTATUS (V(BGTaskStatus)) TASKNUMBER (BGTaskNumber)

where:

- TASKSTATUS is an optional input parameter to BGTaskSubmit. If the TASKSTATUS keyword
 is omitted, or if its value is anything other than WAITING, the task is inserted into the
 ActiveBGTasks table with status READY and will be run by TaskMan. If TASKSTATUS is set
 to WAITING, the task is entered in the ActiveBGTasks table with status WAITING. TaskMan
 ignores any records in this table with status other than READY or RUNNING.
- TASKNUMBER is an optional keyword that specifies a variable name to hold the TaskNumber generated when a record is inserted into the ActiveBGTasks table. If this keyword is used, Mongoose creates the variable and sets its value.

Note: These two optional parameters (TASKSTATUS and TASKNUMBER) are also available in the MGCore IDO and in the BGTaskSubmitSp stored procedure.

- You can also include substitution keywords that are replaced by appropriate values after the
 task is submitted to TaskMan. For a list of the keywords, see the section on Infor Framework
 TaskMan substitution keywords in the system administration guide for your system.
- 8 Save and close the form, and clear the metadata cache.

Testing a Form Designed to Submit Tasks to the Background Queue

Before you assign a regular schedule to a form, you should test the form to verify that it can in fact submit tasks to the Background Queue and that the Background Queue is able to subsequently process the tasks.

To submit and test a report task on the Background Queue:

- 1 Open a form that can submit a background task to TaskMan.
 - In the case of our running example, this is the report form we just created and added the RunBackgroundQueue event handler to in the previous sections.
- 2 Select Actions > Background.
- 3 Fill in the scheduling information on the **Background Queue** modal form. To test this feature:
 - On the **Daily** tab, select the option **Occurs > Once**.
 - Set the task for a few minutes from the current time.
- 4 Click OK.

This adds the task to the Background Queue and sets the BGTaskStatus variable on the parent form to WAITING. When the scheduled time arrives, TaskMan automatically sends the command to print the scheduled report.

5 When the scheduled time arrives, verify that the report generated correctly.

Scheduling a Report to Be Generated on a Recurring Basis

Once you have verified that the report can be added to the Background Queue and processed correctly, you can go ahead and use the same basic procedure (from the previous section) to schedule the report to run on a recurring basis.

Checking the Status of a Report

After you add a report task to the background queue, check the **Active Background Tasks** form to be sure the task is listed with a status of WAITING. After the time when the report is scheduled to run, check the **Background Task History** form to be sure the task is listed there. Verify its status, return codes, and parameters.

To check the task's scheduling information:

- 1 Open SQL Server Management Studio and connect to the appropriate server.
- 2 In the Object Explorer, select SQL Server Agent > Jobs.
 Your scheduled task should appear in the list, in the format: TaskName_TaskID_DatabaseName.
- 3 Right-click on the task and select **Properties**.
- 4 To display the scheduling information, select the Schedules tab and click Edit.

Creating a Form to Run the Report		

This chapter includes only information specific to modifying an existing report in an Infor Mongoose-based application application environment. It does not include everything you might need to know to modify a report.

Note: For the procedures to create a new report—that is, a report not based on an already existing report definition—see Chapter 2, "Creating Reports."

Customization vs. Modification of Existing Reports

Changes to existing reports can combine customizations and modifications. (The differences between customization and modification, and the guidelines for both, are defined in the "Architectural Guidelines for Customers" chapter of the modifications guide for your system.) One component of a report is its front-end linking form, which can be *customized* like other forms, using standard Mongoose techniques.

Changes to the other report components—the report definition file, the SQL Server stored procedure, or the IDO that the report is based on, and the background task definition stored in the application database BGTaskDefinitions table—are considered *modifications*. When a base report needs to be modified, each of these elements should be copied and renamed, and the modifications applied to the copies.

If you must produce multiple variations of a base report, consider building a version of the report that presents users with all the options they might need as components on the report form, corresponding to parameters passed to the report and the stored procedure or IDO, much like a template.

Modifying a Report Definition File

A report definition and its file can be modified using either Visual Studio 2008 or Report Builder 3.0. SQL Server 2008 R2 includes a version of Visual Studio 2008, called SQL Server Business Intelligence Development Studio, that can be used. These tools are nearly identical and can be used interchangeably with one exception: You cannot modify IDO-based reports using Report Builder 3.0.

Note: Visual Studio 2010 does not have the options to build reports at this time. You must use Visual Studio 2008.

Changing Report Logos

Each report contains a graphics logo in the upper right corner. If you want to replace that logo with one of your choosing, ensure that it adheres to the following rules:

- The format must be bitmap (.bmp).
- The size must be 2.00 inches wide by 0.65 inches high to preserve proper report formatting.
- If you're changing the logo for all reports, the file must be named SLHeaderLogo.bmp.
- The file must be placed on the utility server (wherever TaskMan is installed), in a configuration folder inside the ..\Report\Reports directory.

Follow these steps to change the logo on all reports. You must be logged in as an administrative user for this procedure to work.

- On the utility server (or wherever your Mongoose-based application is installed), browse to: ..\ProgramFiles(x86)\Infor\Mongoose-based application\Report\Reports
- 2 In the **Reports** folder, create a new folder and give it the same name as your Mongoose-based application configuration name, which is selected on the **Sign In** screen and then displayed in the top left corner when you are signed in to your Mongoose-based application.
 - If you have more than one configuration and you need to use a different logo for each configuration, you should create a separate folder for each configuration. If you are a single site and have only one configuration when logging in, then make only one new folder.
- 3 Edit the original SLHeaderLogo.bmp file in the **Reports** folder by inserting your image; or create your own new SLHeaderLogo.bmp, following the guidelines above for format, size, and name.
- 4 Save the new file to the appropriate configuration folder.
- 5 On the database server (or wherever SSRS is installed), choose **Start > Programs > Microsoft SQL Server 2008 R2 > Configuration Tools > Reporting Services Configuration Manager**.
- 6 Click Connect and then, in the left panel, click Report Manager URL.
- 7 In the center panel, click the hyperlink to access SSRS Report Manager. The link should be similar to: http://ServerName:80/Reports. A new Internet Explorer browser titled Report Manager opens.

Note: You must use Internet Explorer to work with SSRS Report Manager. Other browsers do not provide all of the necessary functionality.

- 8 Click the Reports folder for your Mongoose-based application.
- 9 Click New Folder to create a new folder inside the Reports folder. Again, give the new folder the same name as your configuration name. Make a new folder for each configuration that needs a different logo.

- 10 Click the new folder and once inside that folder, click Upload File. Browse to the new logo file that you created in step 3: \ServerName\Mongoose-based application\Report\Reports\configuration folder\SLHeaderLogo.bmp. If you have done this more than once, make sure to select the Overwrite item if it exists check box.
- 11 Click **OK**. This uploads the new graphic to the SSRS report server. You should not have to restart the TM server or the SSRS server for this to take effect. When you print reports for the selected configuration, the new logo displays.
- 12 If you have multiple configurations with different logos, repeat steps 9 and 10 for each configuration folder.

Adding Barcodes to a Report

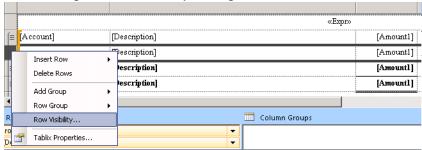
The system implements barcoding by loading the barcodes as fonts on the report server, and then setting a report field to use the barcode font.

To add a barcode field to a report:

- 1 Create a text field.
- 2 Set this field to display the element from the dataset that is to be presented as barcode.
- 3 Set the font of the text field to be the desired barcode font (for example, Code39QuarterInch).
- 4 Set the font size.

Making Other Report Modifications

Using Visual Studio 2008 or Report Builder 3.0, you can make many modifications to your reports using the options provided in those tools. For example, you can control which lines print on a financial statement using the Row Visibility setting shown here:



For information about using the settings in Visual Studio 2008 or Report Builder 3.0, refer to the documentation provided those applications.

Modifying Reports		

Appendix A: Troubleshooting



This chapter describes how to troubleshoot problems with printing reports, previewing reports, or using TaskMan in conjunction with reports. The information here is presented for developers, with solutions that might include fixing stored procedures or performing SQL queries. Some of the same troubleshooting information is also presented, without the developer-related sections, in the system administration guide for your system.

The list of problems is organized according to general area. You might find it easier to locate a specific problem or error by using the Acrobat Reader "Find" feature with this online document.

Where to Find Error Message Information

You might find error messages or additional information about an error in the following places:

Background Task History Form

Error messages for reports and previews are placed in the **Error Message** field on the **Background Task History** form.

Error Log

If the SQL Server Reporting Service (SSRS) generated an error message, see the error log for additional information. The error log is located in the **\Reports\Errors\userID** subdirectory, in the base installation directory on the server where TaskMan resides.

Event Viewer

TaskMan runs as a service under Windows and generates event messages that you can view in the Microsoft Event Viewer. Some common event messages are listed in the system administration guide for your system. If you are having problems with a background task, you can run TaskMan in debug

mode, which generates additional messages. (See the section on running Infor Framework TaskMan in debug mode in the system administration guide for your system.)

Report Problems

Several common problems can occur when users try to preview or print a report.

Reports Do Not Print

Symptoms

Run-time users cannot print reports.

Possible Solutions

- Make sure the Infor Mongoose TaskMan service is started on the utility server.
- Verify that TaskMan is set up as a Windows service that logs on as with a user account created to access printers.
- Verify that the user account configured as the owner of the Infor Mongoose TaskMan service has print privileges under Windows for the default printer, plus all printers listed on the **Report** Options form.
- Verify that a default printer has been configured for the server on which TaskMan resides.
- If the report being printed requires a printer other than the default printer on TaskMan's server, verify that the correct printer is defined for the report on the **Report Options** form.
- Verify that the user account that was used to run the Infor Mongoose TaskMan service is the same user account that was used to map the printers on the TaskMan machine.
- Verify that the printer was mapped using the printer name, not the share name.
- Use SQL Profiler to verify that only one instance of TaskMan is monitoring the application database. For more information, see the section on using SQL Profiler to trace TaskMan instances in the system administration guide for your system.

Scheduled Reports Do Not Run as Scheduled

Symptoms

Tasks that have been scheduled to run as background tasks using the **Background Queue** form are submitted but do not get processed when scheduled. The report task status remains WAITING.

Possible Solution

Verify that the SQL Server Agent service is running on the report server. If necessary, reset the properties of the SQL Service Agent service to start automatically.

Report Outputs Do Not Pick Up Header/Footer Variable Values

Symptoms

The report output for predefined reports or reports based on a supplied template do not display the name of the company in the footer. Instead, they display the name of the variable **BG~COMPANYNAME~** or the space is blank.

Possible Solutions

The system looks for the value to replace this variable from a field on **System Parameters** form. If this field is null or missing, there is no value to pick up.

Note: In some Mongoose-based applications, the **System Parameters** form is known as the **General Parameters** form.

- If your application has a System Parameters form, check and verify that there is a Company or Company Name field and that it has a value specified. If the field is there, but there is no value, specify a value for the field. If the field is missing, perform these procedures:
 - a. Use the **Sql Columns** form to add a column to the "parms" table.
 - This column must be named **company**, set to the nvarchar data type, be 40 characters in length, and be nullable.
 - b. Starting with the IDOs form, create a new IDO to extend and replace the "Parms" IDO.
 - c. Create a new property for the IDO you just created.
 - This property must be bound to the "par.company" column you created earlier.
 - d. Modify the **System Parameters** form by adding an Edit field component bound to the "company" property.

Make sure you also add a field label (Static component).

- e. After saving the **System Parameters** form and exiting Design Mode, enter a value into the new field and save it.
- f. Make sure your system is set to unload IDO metadata with global objects. Then clear the metadata cache and restart the report form.
- If your application has a General Parameters form, check and verify that there is a value specified in the Company field on the Address tab.

Report Output Does Not Display the Company Logo Correctly

Symptoms

With some report output types—notably HTML and MHTML—the company logo in the upper right corner does not display at all or it displays incorrectly (at the wrong size, for instance).

Possible Solutions

This is caused by known bugs and, at this time, we have not been able determine a resolution to the problems. Our best recommendation is to use the Acrobat Output (PDF) format until a resolution has been found.

If, however, you determine that you really want or need to use HTML or MHTML outputs, then you can use Visual Studio 2008 or Report Designer to actually embed the logo graphic in the report definition file.

Truncated Data in Text Output

Symptoms

Field contents for reports is being truncated.

Possible Solutions

This problem is specific to Crystal Reports. For information and solutions, see the earlier documentation that came with your system and/or the Crystal Reports documentation.

File Not Found - Occurs for Certain (But Not All) Reports

Symptoms

Some reports (but not all) generate a "File not found" error message.

Possible Solutions

This error message usually indicates an error in the programming of the report. Check for messages generated when the task ran in the **Background Task History** form, or check the reports error log (*TaskMan_Path*\Report\Errors\user_directory). Either of these might give more information about the problem.

There are a number of things that can cause this error:

- The report's stored procedure was changed, but the report definition file was not resynchronized with the stored procedure.
 - For Crystal-specific solutions to this problem, see the earlier documentation that came with your system and/or the Crystal Reports documentation.
- A Transact-SQL error occurred in the stored procedure.
 - To get a more meaningful error message for a T-SQL error, run the report stored procedure through the SQL Server Management Studio. The easiest way to do this is to print the report and copy the report parameters from the **Background Task History** form. Paste these in as the parameters for the report stored procedure in SQL Server Management Studio, making these changes:
 - Enclose character and date parameters in single quotes.
 - Replace empty parameters with NULL.

If there is a T-SQL error, this will give a line number and error description. The most common SQL errors in report stored procedures are data truncation errors. Many report stored procedures use temporary tables created using SQL data types. These tables are often populated from variables declared with user-defined data types. The lengths of many of these UDFs have been increased (for example, address fields for an internationalized site ID). This can cause a SQL exception by executing INSERT or UPDATE statements against the temporary tables using these variables, or applying the CONVERT function to them.

- The parameters passed by the report form are in the wrong order or are of the wrong data type, which can produce a T-SQL error.
 - For example, if a string or date parameter is plugged into an integer parameter, SQL generates an exception. Following the remedial steps in the preceding item catches these errors as well.
- You should also check the Background Task History form to make sure there are no uninterpreted V(...) or P(...) keywords in the parameters.
 - Finally, subreports are linked to the main report by parameters on the subreport. When Notes subreports are linked in, the **ShowInternal**, **ShowExternal**, **Rowpointer**, and **pConnectionString** subreport parameters must be linked back to the appropriate main report fields (typically, two main report parameters). In addition to these four parameters, any other

parameters used in the subreport must also be linked in the properties. Finally, the parameters linked in the properties should allow Null values or have Null as their default values.

If this is not done, the system expects these values to be passed from the originating form. If the wrong types of values are passed, the system generates an error. If no values are passed, the report usually "hangs" when run through TaskMan, while the report engine tries to prompt for these values on the TaskMan machine.

The stored procedure makes a call to RaiseErrorSp or raiserrorsp.
 RaiseErrorSp and raiserrorsp are used to generate a SQL exception with a user-specified error message. Neither of these two stored procedures should be used in report stored procedures.

File Not Found – Occurs for All Reports

Symptoms

All attempts to generate a report result in a "File not found" error message.

Possible Solutions

The computer responsible for running reports probably has not been configured properly.

- This machine must have access to the TaskMan folder (where TaskMan.exe and RunReport.exe
 are installed) on the machine where TaskMan is running, or the TaskMan URL if previewing over
 the internet. The easiest way to check this is to select Run from the Windows Start menu and try
 to run a report.
- In rare cases, this error occurs if the RunReport.exe has become corrupted. If this is the case, running the report through TaskMan produces an error code of -1,073,741,819 and the report fails.

Users Outside Your Network Are Not Receiving Forwarded Reports

Symptoms

Users and customers outside your network are not receiving automatically forwarded reports.

- If only certain users are not receiving the reports, but others are, verify that report options are set correctly for those users, by performing the following actions:
 - a. On the Background Task Definitions form, click Report Options.
 - b. For the report and user you are checking, verify that the **Email Notification** option is set to **Yes**.

If Attach Report is set to Yes, you must also set Email Notification to Yes.

- If no users outside your network are getting the reports, verify that the Exchange Server through which the system routes email is set to relay email, by performing the following actions:
 - a. Open the **Intranets** form, **Reports/TaskMan** tab, and make note of the contents in the following fields:
 - SMTP Server
 - SMTP Server Port
 - SMTP From Email
 - a. Click Start > Run.
 - b. In the **Open** field, specify **cmd**, and then click **OK**.
 - c. The system displays a Windows Command Prompt window.
 - d. At the command prompt, enter the command: telnet
 - At the Microsoft Telnet command prompt, enter the command: set localecho
 - f. At the prompt, enter the command: o SMTPserver SMTPport or open SMTPserver SMTPport

where *SMTPserver* is the name of the SMTP server you collected from the **SMTP Server** field and *SMTPport* is the port number you collected from the **SMTP Port** field in Step a.

g. At the SMTP server prompt, enter the command: hello

On some systems, this command might vary; for instance, you might have to enter the command as **HELO** or some other variation.

The SMTP server responds with a message that ends with **Hello**, followed by the IP address.

h. Enter the command: **mail from:<SMTPfrom>** where *SMTPfrom* is the email address you collected from the **SMTP From Email** field in Step a.

The SMTP server responds with a message ending in ... Sender OK.

- i. Enter the command **rcpt to:**<**recipient_email>** where **recipient_email** is the email address of the user you are trying to relay the reports to.
 - If the SMTP Exchange server is *not* set up to relay email, the server displays a message similar to the following:

550 5.7.1 Unable to relay for recipient_email

If you see this type of message, configure your SMTP Exchange server to relay the email. For the procedure, see your Exchange server documentation.

 If the SMTP Exchange server is set up to relay email, the server displays a message similar to the following:

```
250 2.1.5 recipient email
```

If you see this type of message, continue with the next step.

- j. Enter the command: data
- k. Type a test message to send to the recipient. When you are finished with your message, press the **Enter** key, followed by a period (.), followed by the **Enter** key again. This terminates the message and queues it for sending.
- I. To exit the SMTP server session, enter quit, followed by any other key press.
- m. To exit the Microsoft Telnet session, enter quit.
- n. To exit the command prompt window, enter exit.
- o. Confirm with the recipient that the test message was received.

Note: If you receive the error "Could not open connection to the host, on port [port #]" check the firewall and virus software on the mail server to see if they are blocking the email.

Labels Not Being Replaced with Strings Table Values

Symptoms

Labels on report outputs are not correct or are not being translated correctly.

Possible Solutions

- Verify that the report is configured to use the correct Strings table. It might be that the system has been incorrectly configured and the report cannot find the correct Strings table.
 - To select the correct String table record on the **Sites** form, use the **Site Name** field on the **System Parameters** form. Make sure that, for this site, there is a value in the **Forms Database Name** field of the **Sites** form (in some versions, labeled as the **Strings Table Specification** field). If the forms database is on a different server than the application database, the value for this field should also indicate the linked server name, using this format: server_name.Forms_database

Note: In some applications, the **Sites** form is known as the **Sites/Entities** form, and the **System Parameters** form is known as the **General Parameters** form.

TaskMan then determines the proper Strings table name by searching the specified forms database for the Strings table associated with the current session.

Find the Strings table value using a query.

You can check this using the SQL Server Management Studio. Run the following query against the application database:

```
SELECT i.intranet_name, p.site, i.tm_path , s.strings_table
FROM parms p
   INNER JOIN site s ON s.site = p.site
   INNER JOIN intranet i ON i.intranet name = s.intranet name
```

If this SELECT does not return any rows, then some piece of initialization data required by TaskMan is missing.

Validate the Strings table name using a query.

To test the Strings table name using the SQL Server Management Studio, run the following statement against the application database to return the number of strings in the Strings table:

```
DECLARE
    @StringSQL AS NVARCHAR(255),
    @FormsDB AS NVARCHAR(255),
    @OwnerPos INT

SELECT @FormsDB = s.strings_table
FROM parms p INNER JOIN site s ON s.site = p.site

SELECT @OwnerPos = CHARINDEX( N'.dbo.', @FormsDb)
IF @OwnerPos <= 0 SELECT @OwnerPos = CHARINDEX(N'..', @FormsDb)
IF @OwnerPos > 0 SELECT @FormsDb = LEFT(@FormsDb, @OwnerPos - 1)

SELECT @StringSQL = N'SELECT COUNT(*)FROM ' + @FormsDB + N'.dbo.' +
1.StringTableName
FROM LanguageIDs 1
WHERE 1.LanguageID = 1033

EXEC (@StringSQL)
```

If the Strings table specification is invalid, this SQL code returns something similar to the following:

```
Server: Msg 208, Level 16, State 1, Line 1 Invalid object name 'String_Table_Specification'.
```

Verify that you are using the correct version of TaskMan.

One indicator that you might not be using the correct version of TaskMan is an error message that says "Invalid String Table Name" followed by a number.

Missing RPT File

Note: This symptom applies only to Crystal-based reports.

Symptoms

Attempts to generate a report instead generate a missing RPT file error message, such as "Missing RPT file" or "RPT file missing".

These error messages indicate a problem with a Crystal Reports file. For information and solutions, see the earlier documentation that came with your system and/or the Crystal Reports documentation.

Other Infor Mongoose TaskMan Report-Related Problems

No Report Output

Symptoms

Reports might be marked as **Started** and **Completed** in the **Background Task History** form, but there is no output in the TaskMan\Reports\Output Files folder.

Possible Solutions

There are probably two or more instances of TaskMan monitoring the same database. To verify this, shut down the instance of TaskMan you think should be monitoring the database and resubmit the report. If the **Background Task History** record still gets updated, then there is at least one more instance of TaskMan monitoring the database. To find out if this is the case, launch the SQL Profiler against the database to see what hosts were polling.

Intermittent Errors

Symptoms

The same report is run a number of times, sometimes running successfully, and other times failing with errors. This happens for all reports. Whether it succeeds or fails appears to be random.

This could occur because of the same issues described under the "No Report Output" section. Alternatively, there might be two instances of TaskMan: one has the privileges needed to run reports, but the other does not.

Reports Fail with Error Code

Symptoms

Reports fail to process and return an error code of 1,073,741,819.

Possible Solutions

If you see this return code, an executable might have become corrupt. Try double-clicking on the RunReport.exe file. If it does not open dialog boxes, the EXEs have been corrupted, possibly by a virus. Delete them and copy them again from the installation CD.

Notes Do Not Print on a Report

Symptoms

You print a report, but the notes do not print along with it.

Possible Solutions

Verify that notes are set up correctly to print with the report.

Error 13: Type Mismatch

Symptoms

There is a data type mismatch between either what is passed from the form to the report file, or from the report file to the stored procedure.

This can occur if the form passes the parameters in the wrong order, or a parameter is not defaulted correctly. For example, a form might be passing in a blank for the **Show Header** check box. If you get this error, try selecting the check box and running it again.

If this does not work, try selecting every check box and putting a value in every field.

Finally, try running the stored procedure through the SQL Server Management Studio with the same parameters as those in BGTaskHistory, replacing blank parameters with NULL, and putting single quotes around strings, dates, and guids.

Error 128: Error Running Report

Symptoms

Reports fail with the message:

Error running report. This field name is not known.

Possible Solutions

Verify that the report field was correctly mapped to the appropriate stored procedure field. The solution is similar to the solution for type mismatches. For more information, see "Error 13: Type Mismatch."

Error 534: Error Detected by Database DLL

This is similar to and has the same possible solutions as a "File not found" error. More information, see the suggestions under "File Not Found – Occurs for Certain (But Not All) Reports" on page 71.

This Field Name Is Not Known

Symptoms

Running a report produces the error: "This field name is not known."

Having a report field that was not successfully mapped to a stored procedure field, can sometimes cause this. In these cases, the unmapped stored procedure field will be part of the error message; for example:

This field name is not known: {Rpt_Ap01FRISp;1.TcAmtAmtPaid}

Make sure the report field is in the stored procedure's result set, and set the datasource location as described in the previous bullet.

No Users Are Receiving Email Messages

Symptoms

No users are receiving email messages about background tasks (including reports).

Possible Solutions

- Verify that TaskMan is set up as a Windows service that logs on as a user account. If TaskMan is configured as a Local System Account, email notification cannot be sent.
- Verify that the user account configured for the Infor Mongoose TaskMan service under Windows has email privileges in your mail system.
- On the Intranets form, verify that the Send Email Notification field is selected. TaskMan gets
 the value that is set here for the first database TaskMan is configured to use, and then uses that
 value for all databases to which it connects from the utility server.
 - If you do not know which database is the "first" database, you can select the **Send Email Notification** field for another database; then no email will be sent and no error messages appear in the event logs. You must either determine what the "first" database is and set the flag there, or set the flag in all databases. Conversely, to stop email notifications, either clear the flag in the "first" database or clear the flag in all databases.
- Verify that the recipient's user ID specifies an email address in the Users form.
- The system requires a default email profile, or a profile called "TaskMan," on the server where
 TaskMan resides. To verify this, if Microsoft Outlook is installed, open its properties (right-click on
 the Outlook icon and select **Properties**). Click **Show Profiles**. If there is no TaskMan profile,
 copy one that already exists, copy it, and rename it **TaskMan**.
- If the notification concerns a Crystal Report, verify that email access is set up correctly for the report you are troubleshooting.

Event Messages from Infor Mongoose TaskMan

For event messages generated by Infor Mongoose TaskMan, see the system administration guide for your system.

Infor Mongoose TaskMan Debug Mode Messages

For debug mode messages generated by Infor Mongoose TaskMan, see the system administration guide for your system.

Infor Mongoose TaskMan launches a system process (RunReport.exe) to generate a report. The RunReport application then connects to the application database.

Once connected, RunReport queries any user options for running the report, for example, output format or printer name. Once these options are set, RunReport prints the report.

Generally, RunReport is called from the application; however, you can also run RunReport from a command line, specifying connection options, the report name, and report options. This could be used, for example, to run reports directly from an add-on product, or to run reports immediately from a workflow on a client (without having to put the report on a background queue) and then do something with the report's output in the workflow.

Keep in mind, however, that if you execute RunReport from a command line, you cannot take advantage of TaskMan's task history and management features.

MGReportProcessor

Core report processing is handled by MGReportProcessor, for which RunReport is a wrapper to call methods in MGReportProcessor. This allows you to create your own executable, being processed by TaskMan, which could access report execution functionality using MGReportProcessor.

RunReport from the Command Line

Syntax

The command line syntax is this:

RunReport.exe switches

where *switches* must be preceded by either a minus sign (-) or a forward slash (/). If the **-m** switch is used, it must be the last switch; the order of the other switches does not matter. Any switch that is used must be followed by the appropriate value. All switches, other than **-m**, require their values to be enclosed in parentheses if the value contains blank spaces. The value following **-m** must *not* be enclosed in parentheses.

Switches

These are the switches that can be used in the RunReport.exe command line:

Switch	Description
-h (optional)	TaskMan home directory, where taskman.exe runs. If this parameter is omitted, RunReport uses its own directory.
-t	Task number.
(optional)	For reports run through TaskMan, this is the Task Num field on the Active Background Tasks form, and the Task Number field on the Background Task History form. This number is generated by SQL when a record is inserted into the ActiveBGTasks table.
-r	Report name.
-d	DSN for the ODBC that RunReport uses to connect to the database.
	Use this parameter plus the -db parameter if you are using either ODBC (RDO) or OLE DB (ADO) to connect to an ODBC data source to access the database.
	This parameter is ignored if you are using a direct OLE DB (ADO) connection to the SQL database.
-p (optional)	Password for the ODBC connection, or for the SQL database, if you are using a direct OLE DB (ADO) connection.
	This value defaults to an empty string.
-I (optional)	Login for the SQL database, if you are using a direct OLE DB (ADO) connection. This value defaults to sa .
-u	User ID of the person submitting the report.
(optional)	This refers to the User ID field on the Users form. It is also displayed on the Background Task History form, for tasks submitted to TaskMan.
-db (optional)	Name of the application database. This is used to set the location for the main report and subreport data sources. If omitted, the data sources are left as is.
-g	User group ID.
(optional)	If provided, this is used in a SQL WHERE clause when querying the Strings table. It is used to filter on the ScopeName (the user's group) and the ScopeType (2, for Group).

Switch	Description
-session (optional)	Session identifier, passed when TaskMan calls RunReport, to indicate the session for which variables can be accessed by the report's stored procedure.
- S	Name of the Strings table used to translate report labels.
(optional)	RunReport uses an ODBC connection to the application database to query the Strings table, so the table name must be qualified enough for the query to work.
	If the Strings table is in a forms database on the same server as the application database, then the Strings table name must include that database name (for example, <i>Formsdb.dbo.StringTable</i> .)
	If the Strings table is in a database on a different server, then this server must be a linked server, and the Strings table name must include both the server name and the forms database name (for example, Server.Formsdb.dbo.StringTable).
	If this parameter is omitted, the report runs, but the labels are not translated and display as the literal string name; and a warning message is placed in the error log.
-f	Integer code for the report output format:
(optional)	1 - Crystal Report (RPT)
	2 - Acrobat Format (PDF)
	3 - Comma Separated Values (CSV)
	4 - Excel 8.0 (format used with Excel 97 and Excel 2000)
	5 - Excel 8.0 extended (format used with Excel XP and Excel 2003)
	6 - HTML 4.0
	7 - Printer
	8 - Rich Text Format (RTF)
	9 - Word for Windows (DOC) 10 - XML
	10 - AML 11 - Text
	12 - MHTML
	13 - TIFF
- o (optional)	Output file name.
(=	If this is omitted, RunReport uses the format HomeDir\Report\OutputFiles\UserName\TaskName_Site_TaskNum.Extension
-n (optional)	Number of copies to print, if the report output is sent directly to a printer (output format 7). The default value is set with the printer settings.
-е	Error file name.
(optional)	If a file name without a path is passed in, RunReport prepends to the path: HomeDir\Report\Errors\UserName\
	If this parameter is omitted, RunReport uses the format: HomeDir\Report\Errors\UserName\TaskName_TaskNum.txt
	TaskMan puts the contents of this file in the error message field on the Background Task History form and then deletes the file.

Switch	Description
-font (optional) Crystal- specific	Name of the font to use for the report. The specified font (Arial, Times New Roman, etc.) must be loaded on the machine where RunReport is running. This value defaults to the font used when the report was created. If that font is not on the RunReport machine, Crystal Reports defaults the value to Arial. RunReport loops through all of a report's fields and resets the font. If there are fields where the font should never be reset (for example, barcode fields), then use the field prefix LEAVEFONT or LF
-prt (optional)	Printer name, if the output is sent directly to a printer. If the printer is not local, this value should be the UNC name. If omitted, this value defaults to the default printer of the machine where RunReport is running.
-site (optional)	Site name, from the Sites form. This value is used as part of the output file name. This parameter is used so that, if TaskMan is monitoring multiple databases, the report output from one database does not overwrite that from a different database.
-datefmt (optional) Crystal- specific	Format to use for date fields on the report, taken from the Date Format setting on the Language IDs form. This parameter overrides the default date formats set on the report; however, any date fields with LD_ prefixes are not overridden.
-numfmt (optional) Crystal- specific	Numeric format to use for number fields on the report, taken from the Numeric Format setting on the Language IDs form. This parameter overrides the default numeric formats set on the report; however, any number fields with LN_ prefixes are not overridden.
-config (optional)	Application configuration to which you are connected.
-svr (optional)	SQL Server name.
-debug (optional)	Report debug option.
-papersize (optional)	Report output paper size.
-m (optional)	Indicates that the rest of the command line is a comma-delimited list of report- specific parameters. RunReport parses this list and plugs these values into the report's parameters. This switch must be the last one used in the command line. If any other switches occur after this one, RunReport treats them as report parameters. RunReport
	This switch must be the last one used in the command line. If any other switched occur after this one, RunReport treats them as report parameters. RunReport supports the ~LIT~() keyword.

Examples

When TaskMan and MGCore generate reports, they format and then execute command lines like the ones in these examples.

If TaskMan is run with the debug startup parameter, this command line is printed to the Application Event log. Reports can be tested by putting this command line in a batch file and executing it. The **** -p parameter should be replaced by the appropriate password.

Example Using an ODBC (RDO) or OLE DB (ADO) ODBC Connection

```
RunReport.exe -d MyServerDSN -l sa -p **** -s MyCompany_Forms.dbo.Strings -f 1
-r ItemQuantitiesbyABCCode -t 199 -u sa -e
"D:\TaskMan\Report\Errors\sa\ItemQuantitiesbyABCCodeReport_MI_199.txt" -site
"MI" -db SLMI_App -n 1 -m
~LIT~(A)~LIT~(B)~LIT~(C),~LIT~(M)~LIT~(P)~LIT~(T),~LIT~(M)~LIT~(T)~LIT~(F)~LIT
~(O),~LIT~(1),~LIT~(1),~LIT~(),~LIT~(DIS1),~LIT~(MAIN),~LIT~(AD-
10000),~LIT~(AL-10000),~LIT~(),~LIT~(),~LIT~(0)
```

Example Using an OLE DB (ADO) Direct SQL Connection

```
RunReport.exe -svr MyServer -l sa -p **** -s MyCompany_Forms.dbo.Strings -f 1 -
r ItemQuantitiesbyABCCode -t 199 -u sa -e
"D:\TaskMan\Report\Errors\sa\ItemQuantitiesbyABCCodeReport_MI_199.txt" -site
"MI" -db SLMI_App -n 1 -m
~LIT~(A)~LIT~(B)~LIT~(C),~LIT~(M)~LIT~(P)~LIT~(T),~LIT~(M)~LIT~(T)~LIT~(F)~LIT
~(O),~LIT~(1),~LIT~(1),~LIT~(),~LIT~(DIS1),~LIT~(MAIN),~LIT~(AD-
10000),~LIT~(AL-10000),~LIT~(),~LIT~(),~LIT~(0)
```

Substitution Keywords

RunReport also support several keywords. These keywords are replaced with values if they occur in the text of formulas used in reports.

Keyword	Description
BG~USERID~	User who submitted the report.
BG~UID~	User who submitted the report. This parameter is replaced when passed from a form, as well as being replaced in report formulas.
BG~SITEID	Site field from the parms table.
BG~COMPANYNAME~	Company field from the parms table.

Debug Mode

RunReport can be run in debug mode. To set this up, use TaskMan start parameter **debugrep**. The output from debug mode is explained in the section on running TaskMan in debug mode in the system administration guide for your system.

Appendix C: Reference



This appendix covers miscellaneous reference-type topics related to reports.

Report Definition Templates

Infor provides the following report definition templates, which help ensure uniform report layout when converting or creating reports.

- Template_Report_Landscape.rdl
- Template_Report_Landscape_IDO.rdl
- Template_Report_Portrait.rdl
- Template_Report_Portrait_IDO.rdl
- Template_SubReport_Landscape.rdl
- Template_SubReport_Portrait.rdl

Landscape report width is 10.5 inches and portrait report width is 7.77 inches. IDO report templates are for reports that retrieve data using an IDO, and subreport templates are for reports that are part of main reports. For example, ReportNotes.rdl is a subreport.

Objects Used in Reports

Executables

Executable	Description
Taskman.exe	Runs as a service on the utility server. It monitors the queue of tasks. See Chapter 3, "Configuring TaskMan to Process and Generate Reports." It references MGReportProcessor to generate the task parameter (XML) file, which is passed to RunReport as its command-line input parameter.
RunReport.exe	Used to launch reports. Can also be run from a command line. See Appendix B, "Using RunReport.exe."

DLLs

DLL	Description
TMMsgs.dll	Used by TaskMan
MGCore.dll	Used by report previews
MGReportProcessor.dll	A .NET class library which contains the core reporting logic, which both TaskMan.exe and RunReport.exe reference.

Tables/IDOs/Forms

Table	IDO	Form	Description
ActiveBGTasks	MGCore.ActiveBGTasks	Active Background Tasks	Queue of tasks.
N/A	N/A	Background Queue	Schedules tasks to run later.
BGTaskHistory	MGCore.BGTaskHistories	Background Task History	Is created by a trigger on ActiveBGTasks, updated by TaskMan. Contains a record of when a task was submitted, started and completed, plus any error messages.

Table	IDO	Form	Description
BGTaskDefinitions	MGCore.BGTaskDefinitions	Background Task Definitions	Creates a record that identifies each background task to TaskMan.
ReportOptions	MGCore.ReportOptions	Report Options	Sets the output format for reports, and the UNC printer name if the report is sent directly to a printer.

Stored Procedures/COM Methods

SP/COM Method	Description
BGTaskSubmit	Used with Mongoose to submit reports to TaskMan. It returns the row pointer of BGTaskHistory (@TaskHistoryRowPointer) for a task being created.
SL.SLJobQueues.BackGroundQueueSP	Used with the Background Queue form.
MGCore.ActiveBGTasks.BackGroundQueueDeleteSP	Used with the Background Queue form.
CLM_GetBGTasksToProcessSp	TaskMan calls this at its polling time, querying the ActiveBGTasks table to retrieve background tasks to be processed.
GetTaskOptionsSp	Used to determine the report output directory, based on the Report Output Directory process default on the Process Defaults form or the Output Directory field on the Report Options form.
UpdateActiveBGTaskSp	While processing a requested task, TaskMan is to update the task status using the stored procedure.

Translating Messages from Reports

In most cases, your custom report file should use string formulas for messages, so they will be translated properly. The stored procedure should return an indication that a message is needed, instead of the actual message, and then the report should include selection criteria that determine which message string to display.

However, in some cases it might be appropriate to call MsgAppSp to provide messages. Be aware that, because of the way report stored procedures are initialized, MsgAppSp always uses the session's default language (en-US) for messages displayed by report stored procedures. TaskMan creates a session before generating a report. The session variable MessageLanguage contains the language ID of the user requesting the report. TaskMan then passes the Session ID to RunReport as a command line parameter.

If another language is desired for messages, to work around this, you must get the variable for the proper language:

1. If a report stored procedure calls MsgAppSp, add this parameter to the stored procedure:

```
@BGSessionId nvarchar(255) = NULL
```

When RunReport sees this parameter, it passes the Session ID to the stored procedure.

2. In the stored procedure, immediately after the call to InitSessionContextSp, add this code:

```
-- Copy the session variables referenced by @BGSessionId to the current
-- session created by the call to InitSessionContextSp.

EXEC CopySessionVariablesSp

@SessionId = @BGSessionId
```

This copies the MessageLanguage session variable to the current session context, so when MsgAppSp is called, it uses the correct language ID.

3. Perform a database verification on the associated report after the stored procedure has been updated.

Structure of Report Stored Procedures

Note: The sample code for this section is taken from the stored procedure used in Chapter 2, "Creating Reports."

All report stored procedures have the same basic structure:

There is a set of input parameters typically defaulted to NULL. A NULL input parameter indicates
that the parameter should not be used to restrict the record set returned by the stored procedure.
The stored procedure may have additional parameters for notes and the report header.

```
SET QUOTED_IDENTIFIER ON GO
```

```
SET ANSI NULLS ON
GO
IF EXISTS (SELECT * FROM sys.objects WHERE object id =
OBJECT_ID(N'[dbo].[Rpt_UserTaskSp]') AND type IN (N'P', N'PC'))
DROP PROCEDURE [dbo].[Rpt UserTaskSp]
GO
CREATE PROCEDURE Rpt UserTaskSp
(
  @UsernameStarting
                                UsernameType
                                                    = NULL
, @UsernameEnding
                                UsernameType
                                                    = NULL
, @TaskNameStarting
                                MessageSubjectType = NULL
, @TaskNameEnding
                                MessageSubjectType = NULL
, @RemindDateTimeStarting
                                DateTimeType
                                                    = NULL
, @RemindDateTimeEnding
                                DateTimeType
                                                    = NULL
, @RemindDateTimeStartingOffset DateOffsetType
                                                    = NULL
, @RemindDateTimeEndingOffset
                                DateOffsetType
                                                    = NULL
) AS
```

 There is a block of code setting current session values, starting a transaction, and setting the session.

```
-- Transaction management.
BEGIN TRANSACTION
SET XACT ABORT ON
-- Set the isolation level specified for the background task
-- or use the system default.
IF dbo.GetIsolationLevel(N'UserTaskReport') = N'COMMITTED'
   SET TRANSACTION ISOLATION LEVEL READ COMMITTED
ELSE
   SET TRANSACTION ISOLATION LEVEL READ UNCOMMITTED
DECLARE
  @RptSessionID RowPointerType
, @LowDate
                 DateType
, @LowCharacter HighLowCharType
, @HighCharacter HighLowCharType;
-- A session context is created so session variables can be used.
EXEC InitSessionContextSp
  @ContextName = 'Rpt UserTaskSp'
, @SessionID = @RptSessionID OUTPUT;
```

 NULL input parameters used to specify ranges are set to minimum and maximum values. Use the SQL user-defined functions for this: LowDate, LowInt, LowString, HighDate, HighInt, HighString, and so on. There is also the function ExpandKyByType for parameters of type NUMSORTCHAR.

Example:

```
-- Set the low and high values used for defaulting.

SET @LowDate = dbo.LowDate();

SET @LowCharacter = dbo.LowCharacter();

SET @HighCharacter = dbo.HighCharacter();

-- Replace NULL input parameters with Min or Max values.

SET @UsernameStarting = ISNULL(@UsernameStarting, @LowCharacter);

SET @UsernameEnding = ISNULL(@UsernameEnding, @HighCharacter);

SET @TaskNameStarting = ISNULL(@TaskNameStarting, @LowCharacter);

SET @TaskNameEnding = ISNULL(@TaskNameEnding, @HighCharacter);
```

Date offset parameters are set.

Example:

```
-- Apply date offsets.
EXEC ApplyDateOffsetSp @Date = @RemindDateTimeStarting OUTPUT, @Offset
= @RemindDateTimeStartingOffset, @IsEndDate = 0;
EXEC ApplyDateOffsetSp @Date = @RemindDateTimeEnding OUTPUT, @Offset =
@RemindDateTimeEndingOffset, @IsEndDate = 1;
```

 Many report stored procedures use temp tables for the report's record set. These should be created by selecting variables into a temp table, so that User Defined Types can be used.

```
-- Declare variables used to create the temp table.
DECLARE
  @UserId
                   TokenType
, @Username
                   UsernameType
                   MessageSubjectType
, @TaskName
, @RemindDateTime DateTimeType
, @TaskDescription NoteType
, @RowPointer
                   RowPointerType;
-- Create an empty temp table for the report output.
SELECT
  @UserId
                   AS UserId
, @Username
                   AS Username
, @TaskName
                   AS TaskName
, @RemindDateTime AS RemindDateTime
, @TaskDescription AS TaskDescription
, @RowPointer
                   AS RowPointer
INTO #ReportOutput
```

```
WHERE 1=0;
```

There is a large block of code populating the result set.

Example:

```
-- Insert data into the temp table.
INSERT INTO #ReportOutput
SELECT
  t.UserId
, n.Username
, t.TaskName
, t.RemindDateTime
, t.TaskDescription
, t.RowPointer
FROM UserTask t
INNER JOIN UserNames n ON t.UserId = n.UserId
WHERE n.Username BETWEEN @UsernameStarting AND @UsernameEnding
AND
      t.TaskName BETWEEN @TaskNameStarting AND @TaskNameEnding
      ISNULL(t.RemindDateTime, @LowDate) BETWEEN
@RemindDateTimeStarting AND @RemindDateTimeEnding;
```

 At the end of the stored procedure, the report record set is returned, the transaction is committed, and the session is closed.

```
-- Return the report data.

SELECT
   UserId
, Username
, TaskName
, RemindDateTime
, TaskDescription
, RowPointer
FROM #ReportOutput
ORDER BY Username, RemindDateTime, TaskName;

COMMIT TRANSACTION
EXEC CloseSessionContextSp @SessionID = @RptSessionID;
GO
```

Fonts Used in Reports

Reports print using appropriate fonts as assigned by the application from which the report is being generated.

Note: In previous releases, the use of Crystal Reports to generate reports mandated that font settings be made on the **Language IDs** form. With SSRS, this is no longer the case.

Date and Numeric Formats Used in Reports

Reports print using appropriate date and numeric formats, as assigned by the application from which the report is being generated.

Note: In previous releases, the use of Crystal Reports to generate reports mandated that date and numeric format settings be made on the **Language IDs** form. With SSRS, this is no longer the case.

Languages Used in Reports

In some Mongoose-based applications (such as SyteLine and Service Management), some reports print in a language other than the language currently in use on the client workstation. For example, if a language is specified for a vendor in the **Vendors** form, certain reports, such as the **Purchase Order Report**, print in the language specified for the vendor. The report uses the font associated with that language in the **Language IDs** form.

The following reports print in the vendor's or customer's language, if specified:

- In SyteLine only:
 - Bill of Lading (prints in the site's language)
 - Estimate Response Form Report
 - Order Invoicing Credit Memo
 - Order Verification Report
 - Packing Slip
 - Post Project Invoice Milestones
 - Price Adjustment Invoice
 - Pro Forma Invoice (prints in the site's language)
 - Project Packing Slip
 - Reprint Packing Slip Report
 - Reprint Project Packing Slip Report
 - RMA Credit Memo
- In both SyteLine and Service Management:

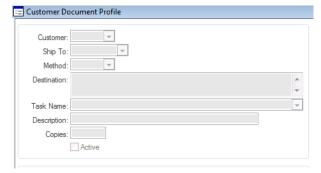
- AR Invoice Credit/Debit Memo Report
- Change Order Report
- Customer Statements Report
- Purchase Order Report

When these reports are printed, TaskMan selects the proper Strings table to use for report labels, based on the language code setting in the **Vendors** form or **Customers** form. If there is no language code setting for the vendor/customer, the user's language code is used to print the report. Special text (for example, the CO text on the order invoice) can be translated using the **Multi Lingual Order Invoice** form (SyteLine only) or **Multi Lingual Purchase Orders** form.

All other reports print in the user's language. The user language is set at login, using the Windows Control Panel setting. After logging in, the user can manually choose a different Strings table by selecting **Settings > Runtime > Behavior > Language**. The currently active Strings table is used to print the report.

Print-preview always displays the report in the user's language.

Document Profiles



In some Mongoose-based applications, the **Customer Document Profile** and **Vendor Document Profile** forms enable you to send certain reports to customers and vendors. When defining the report parameters, select the Use Profile field to trigger use of the document profiles when you print the report (document profiles are ignored when previewing).

The **Customer Document Profile** form and **Vendor Document Profile** form are subject to record collection caps. For example, if your collection cap is set at 100, and you attempt to send a report to 150 customers, only the first 100 will be processed. For more information, see the "About Caps on Collection and Drop-Down Lists" topic in the online help.



The following flowchart shows how report output is sent using the document profile forms.

Splitting Up of Tasks

Destination field.

All reports that use the **Language Code** and/or the **Customer/Vendor Doc Profile** are split up into smaller tasks prior to being submitted to TaskMan. The **Active Background Tasks** form and the **Background Task History** form show multiple entries based upon the split.

Destination field.

Destination field.

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