PTReportCom User Manual

Version 1.6

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Chapter 1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

PTReportCom is a solution that generates reports using Microsoft PowerPoint. Using Microsoft PowerPoint and PTReportCom, you can create all kinds of reports quickly and easily. PTReportCom includes an ActiveX DLL and an executable file that can be used to develop your applications. It will significantly accelerate your application development.

PTReportCom is a template-based solution. To create a report, you need to create a report template file first. The report template file is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation that defines the layouts and formats of a report. PTReportCom retrieves data from data source and fills data into PowerPoint presentation.

1.2 Features

PTReportCom includes the following features:

- Using Microsoft PowerPoint as your reporting tool

 Just use Microsoft PowerPoint as your reporting tool. You design reports like layouts, formats and styles directly using Microsoft PowerPoint. And you will get reports in Microsoft PowerPoint spreadsheet format as a result. Microsoft PowerPoint is powerful, flexible and familiar. You do not need to buy and learn extra reporting tools.
- Making report template directly using Microsoft PowerPoint

 The main advantage of using PTReportCom is based on the fact that all formatting is done directly in Microsoft PowerPoint. You can take full advantage of Microsoft PowerPoint including text formatting, tables, charts,

pictures and graphics, drawing, headers and footers, preview and printing, VBA, macros, and more.

Accessing to databases using SQL

PTReportCom executes SQL statements to extract data from database.

Supports all type SQL: DML, DDL and DCL. Multiple SQL statements can be executed in one report building process. You can perform queries on databases, insert data into databases, and create database objects like tables. The power of SQL can be harnessed for maximum efficiency in reporting.

- Using ADO to access and manipulate data sources

 Using ADO, PTReportCom can access and manipulate a wide variety of data sources such as Oracle, DB2, Sybase, Informix, Microsoft SQL Server,

 Teradata, MySQL, Microsoft Access, dBase.
- Integrating Microsoft PowerPoint into your application

 PTReportCom includes an ActiveX DLL for building application. Developers can save time and meet their users' needs by integrating the report processing power of PTReportCom into their applications.
- Command line program

PTReportCom includes a command line program PPTReport.exe. You can use the program to create reports too. It does not require programming. It is enough if you know how to use Microsoft PowerPoint and how to write SQL.

Various reporting capabilities

PTReportCom provides various reporting capabilities including sorting data, grouping data, subreports, totaling and summarizing data, formatting, charting and pictures. It is easy to create simple reports, and, you can create complex reports.

Chapter 2 Installation and Startup

2.1 Software Requirements

Microsoft Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT, Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows 2003, Windows Vista or later.

Microsoft Office 97/98, Office 2000, Office XP, Office 2003 or later.

2.2 Installing PTReportCom

Run the installation program, and follow the instructions to complete PTReportCom installation. For Windows Vista, the data folder should be different from the application folder.

If you don't have Microsoft Office installed, please install it first.

If your environment is Windows 95/98 and Office 97, and you don't have VB6.0 run-time files installed, please install it. For Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows 2003 and Office 2000 or later, you do not need to install VB6.0 run-time files because they are included in OS and Office. To install VB6.0 run-time files, just run vbrun60sp5.exe, and follow the instructions.

If you don't have ODBC Driver installed for the database you want to access, please install it.

If your OS is Windows 95/98 and you don't have Microsoft Data Access Components 2.0 (MDAC_TYP) or later installed, please install it. For Windows 2000, Windows XP and Windows 2003, you do not need to install MDAC_TYP because it is preinstalled in OS. To install MDAC_TYP, just run mdac_typ.exe, and follow the instructions.

2.3 Uninstalling PTReportCom

1. Double-click the **Add/Remove Programs** icon in the Windows Control

Panel.

- 2. Do one of the following:
- For Windows 2000, Windows XP and Windows 2003 Edition:

Click **PTReportCom** in the **Currently installed programs** box, and then click the **Change/Remove** button.

For Windows 98 and Windows NT 4.0:

Click **PTReportCom** on the **Install/Uninstall** tab, and then click the **Add/Remove** button.

3. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete uninstalling the program.

2.4 PTReportCom.dll

PTReportCom.dll is an ActiveX DLL that provides PTReport object. You can write a program to work with the object. Before you can use the PTReport object, you must create a reference to the object. And you should create references to Microsoft PowerPoint and Microsoft Graph Object Library too.

To create a reference to the PTReport object

- 1. Do one of the following:
- For Visual Basic 6.0

From the **Project** menu, choose **References**.

■ For Microsoft PowerPoint Visual Basic For Application

From the **Tools** menu, choose **References**.

- 2. In the **References** dialog box, select **PTReportCom**.
- 3. You can use the **Browse** button to search for PTReportCom.dll.
- 4. In the **References** dialog box, Select Microsoft PowerPoint and Microsoft Graph Object Library to create their references.
- 5. Declare an object variable of the object's class.

Dim ptrpt As PTReport

6. Assign an object reference to the variable by using the New keyword in a

Set statement.

Set ptrpt = New PTReport

2.5 PPTReport.exe

PPTReport.exe is an executable program that developed using PTReportCom.dll. It likes PTReportGen command line and can read a PTR file to create a PowerPoint report. The syntax of command is:

pptreport <ptr file name> [-D] [-U1 user1] [-P1 pwd1] ... [-U10 user10] [-P10 pwd10] [pa1 pa2 ... pa10]

ptr file name Specifying a PTR (.ptr) file that tells PTReportCom how to get data from data sources and how to put data into a report.

-D Display the generated report with Microsoft PowerPoint.

-U1 user1 ... Specify the user names. user1 is the user name of the first

-U10 user10 data source. user2 is the user name of the second data

source.....

-P1 pwd1 ... Specify the passwords. pwd1 is the password of the first data

-P10 pwd10 source. pwd2 is the password of the second data source......

pa1 ... pa10 The values of the parameters defined in the PTR file. You can

use parameters in SQL statements. PTReportCom will replace

the names of the parameters in a SQL statement with the

actual values before it executes the SQL statement. You can

use no more than 10 parameters in one report.

For example, you have defined two parameters in your PTR file. The first parameter is the sales date, and the second is the category of the product. You can run PPTReport.exe as follows:

pptreport c:\pptreport\myreport.ptr 1996-05-01 "Dairy Products"

2.6 Run-Time Files

You can distribute royalty-free the run-time files of PTReportCom with your applications. The run-time files are files your application must have in order to work correctly after installation. The following are the run-time files you need to distribute:

File	Description
ptreportcom.dll	The PTReportCom ActiveX DLL. It must be registered.
pconv.cfg	The file contains the information of the file format. If you
	are using PPTReport method to convert files, you should
	include it and copy it to the same directory as
	ptreportcom.dll.
scrrun.dll	Microsoft script runtime. PTReportCom used some
	functions in this file. It should be copied to Windows
	System directory, and must be registered.

To register a DLL file, use regsvr32.exe. For example, regsvr32.exe /s "C:\Program Files\LJZsoft\PTReportCom\PTReportCom.dll"

Chapter 3 Quick Start

3.1 Learning how to use PTReportCom

You can teach yourself how to use PTReportCom by choosing from the methods available in this section:

- You can study the samples included with PTReportCom.
- You can use the detailed descriptions and instructions in this document.

3.2 Sample Database

PTReportCom comes with Sample.mdb, a sample database you can use when learning the program. Sample.mdb is a Microsoft Access database. Virtually all of the examples in this manual are based on Sample.mdb data.

The sample reports access the sample database through the ODBC data source name "Report Sample". When you install PTReportCom, you can choose to add the ODBC data source name. And you also can add the ODBC data source name manually.

To create the System DSN "Report Sample", do as follows:

- 1. Click the Windows **Start** button, choose **Settings**, and then click **Control Panel**.
- 2. On computers running Microsoft Windows 2000 or later, double-click Administrative Tools, and then double-click Data Sources (ODBC). The ODBC Data Source Administrator dialog box appears. On computers running previous versions of Microsoft Windows, double-click 32-bit ODBC or ODBC.
- 3. Select the **System DSN** tab, and then press **Add** button.
- 4. Choose Microsoft Access Driver (*.mdb), then press Finish button.
- 5. In the ODBC Microsoft Access Setup dialog box, type Report Sample in

the **Data Source Name** box.

- 6. Press the **Select** button, and browse to select **Sample.mdb**.
- 7. Press **OK** button to close the **ODBC Microsoft Access Setup** dialog box.
- 8. Press **OK** button to close the **ODBC Data Source Administrator** dialog box.

3.3 Samples

After PTReportCom is installed, some samples are installed too. Use these samples to learn PTReportCom.

The samples include a sample database, VB sample programs, VBA sample programs and sample reports. They are located in the Application Data\LJZsoft under All Users or your profile folder. PTReportCom was tested with Microsoft Office 2007. Please download the sample reports for Microsoft Office 2007 from our website.

Directory	Description
{data}\Common\SampleDatabase	Contains the sample database
	"Sample.mdb".
{data}\PTReportCom\Samples\PPTReport	Contains the report template files
	(.ppt) and the PTR files (.ptr).
{data}\PTReportCom\Samples\VB	Contains the sample programs
	for VB6.0.
{data}\PTReportCom\Samples\VBA	Contains the sample programs
	for Microsoft PowerPoint VBA.

{data} is the path of the data folder. You can select the data folder when you install PTReportCom. By default, the data folder is the Application Data\LJZsoft folder under All Users. If you install PTReportCom without administrative privileges, the data folder is the Application Data\LJZsoft folder under the current user. The data folder is usually at:

Windows 95/98: C:\windows\All Users\Application Data\LJZsoft

Windows NT: C:\WinNT\Profiles\All Users\Application Data\LJZsoft

Windows 2000/XP: C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application

Data\LJZsoft

Windows Vista: C:\ProgramData\LJZsoft

3.4 Creating a Report Programmatically

1. Create a template

In Microsoft PowerPoint, create a report template file named "custlist.ppt".

Static values and any PowerPoint features included in the template will be included in the generated report. The template file you have created as follows:

Customer List

Customer Name	City	Country	Contact Name

2. Write the code in your application.

Set con = New ADODB.Connection

Set rec = New ADODB.Recordset

con.ConnectionString = "Data Source=Report Sample"

con.Open

strSQL = "SELECT CompanyName, CityName, CountryName,

ContactName FROM Customers, Cities, Countries WHERE

Customers.CityCode = Cities.CityCode AND Customers.CountryCode =

Cities.CountryCode AND Customers.CountryCode = Countries.CountryCode

ORDER BY CompanyName, CityName, CountryName"

rec.Open strSQL, con

ptrpt.VarTableReport Recordset:=rec, Slide:=pptSlide, Table:=1,

CellList:="A2", Reserve:=2, PageBreak:="12" rec.Close

3.5 Creating a Report with PPTReport.exe

1. Create a template

In Microsoft PowerPoint, create a report template file named "custlist.ppt".

Static values and any PowerPoint features included in the template will be included in the generated report. The template file you have created as follows:

Customer List Customer Name City Country Contact Name

2. Create a PTR file

Create a PTR file named "custlist.ptr" using PTReportGen or a text editor. The following is the content of the PTR file.

PPTReport Version 2.0

[Data Source]

Name1=Report Sample

[File]

ReportTemplateFileName=custlist.ppt

ReportFileName=Report\custlist.ppt

LogFileName=Log\custlist.log

[SQL]

@F1=Report(slide=1 cell=A2 pagebreak=12 reserve=2)

SELECT CompanyName

,CityName

,CountryName

,ContactName

FROM Customers, Cities, Countries

WHERE Customers.CityCode = Cities.CityCode

AND Customers.CountryCode = Cities.CountryCode

AND Customers.CountryCode = Countries.CountryCode

ORDER BY CompanyName,CityName,CountryName

3. Run PPTReport.exe

pptreport c:\report\custlist.ptr

Chapter 4 Report Templates

4.1 About Reports

The report generated by PTReportCom is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation. The layouts, formats and styles of the report are defined by a report template, and the data of the report are got from databases such as Oracle, DB2.

4.2 About Report Templates

To make a report using PTReportCom, you should create a report template first. The report template is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation that defines the layouts, formats and styles of the report. In the Microsoft PowerPoint report template, you can input static content such as titles, descriptions, comments, a cover, a company logo, format the static content, and define the format of the data you will get from databases.

PTReportCom will generate the report based on the report template file. All static contents and the layouts, formats and styles defined in the report template file will be brought to the final report file.

4.3 PowerPoint Basic Concepts

If you have known these concepts of Microsoft PowerPoint, please skip this section. For more detail information about Microsoft PowerPoint, refer to *Microsoft PowerPoint Help*.

4.3.1 Presentations

A presentation is a Microsoft PowerPoint file with extension .ppt. You can open

and save it using Microsoft PowerPoint. The presentation is made up of a series of slides.

4.3.2 Slides

A slide is a frame in a presentation. A presentation contains one or more slides. Slide is the primary component that contains content.

4.3.3 Layout

Layout refers to the way things are arranged on a slide. A layout contains placeholders, which in turn hold text such as titles and bulleted lists and slide content such as tables, charts, pictures, shapes, and clip art. Each time you add a new slide, you can choose a layout for it. You can also choose a blank layout.

4.3.4 Headers and Footers

Headers and footers consist of the header and footer text, slide or page number, and date you want at the top or bottom of your slides or notes and handouts.

You can use headers and footers on single slides or all slides. For notes and handouts, when you apply a header or footer, it applies to all notes and handouts. Headers and footers that you create for handouts also apply to printed outlines.

4.3.5 Formatting

You can use these formatting features of Microsoft PowerPoint to effectively display your data.

Characters formatting

To make text stand out, you can format the text in selected characters. You

can change the font, color, size of text, bold and italic formats.

Paragraphs formatting

You can align, center or justify a paragraph, change indent and tab settings, and change the line spacing of a paragraph.

Bulleted and numbered lists

Bulleted and numbered lists in Microsoft PowerPoint are easy to create. You can quickly add bullets or numbers to existing lines of text, or Microsoft PowerPoint can automatically create lists as you type.

Automatic formatting

Microsoft PowerPoint, by default, automatically formats certain types of text as you type. Automatic paragraph formatting includes automatic bulleted and numbered lists and resizing of text in text placeholders if the text doesn't fit at its current font size.

4.3.6 Shapes

Shapes can be resized, rotated, flipped, colored, and combined to make more complex shapes. Many have an adjustment handle that you can use to change the most prominent feature of a shape — for example, you can change the size of the point on an arrow. The AutoShapes include several categories of shapes: lines, connectors, basic shapes, flowchart elements, stars and banners, and callouts. You can add text to shapes (except lines, connectors, and freeforms). The text you add becomes part of the shape.

Text boxes can be treated as shapes. They are formatted in many of the same ways shapes are formatted, including adding colors, fills, and borders.

4.3.7 Pictures

There are two types of pictures: bitmaps or drawn pictures.

Bitmap pictures are made from a series of small dots, much like a piece of

graph paper with specific squares filled in to form an image. Bitmaps are created with and edited in paint programs, such as Microsoft Paint. All scanned graphics and photographs are bitmaps. Bitmap pictures are often saved with a .bmp, .png, .jpg, or .gif extension.

Drawn pictures are created from lines, curves, rectangles, and other objects. The individual lines can be edited, moved, and rearranged. When a drawn picture is resized, the computer redraws the lines and shapes so that they retain their original definition and perspective. AutoShapes are drawn pictures. Drawn pictures are saved in the format of the application that created them. For example, Microsoft Windows Metafiles are saved with a .wmf extension.

4.3.8 Tables

A table is made up of rows and columns of cells that you can fill with text and graphics. Tables are often used to organize and present information. You can create tables in PowerPoint, or you can add a table from another program. When you use PowerPoint, you can create a simple table with little formatting, or one with more complex formatting. You can include fills and border colors from the presentation's color scheme.

4.3.9 Charts

Charts are visually appealing and make it easy for users to see comparisons, patterns, and trends in data. You can create a chart in a slide using Microsoft Graph or Microsoft Excel. When you create a new chart in PowerPoint, Microsoft Graph or Microsoft Excel opens and a chart is displayed with its associated data in a data sheet or worksheet.

4.3.10 Sound, Music, Video, and Voice

You can add music and sounds from files on your computer, a network, the

Internet, or Microsoft Clip Organizer. You can also record your own sounds to add to a presentation, or use music from a CD.

You can add movies and animated GIFs to slides from files on your computer, the Microsoft Clip Organizer, a network or intranet, or the Internet. "Movies" are desktop video files with formats such as AVI, QuickTime, and MPEG, and file extensions such as .avi, .mov, .qt, .mpg, and .mpeg. An animated GIF file includes motion and has a .gif file extension. Though not technically movies, animated GIFs contain multiple images which stream to create an animation effect.

4.4 Table Reports

4.4.1 About Table Reports

A table is made up of rows and columns of cells that you can fill with text and graphics. Tables are often used to make reports, and organize and present information.

PTReportCom supports two types of table reports: fixed table report, variable table report.

Fixed table report: The number of rows and columns in the table is fixed. When PTReportCom executes a SQL statement, directly puts the result data into cells in the table.

Variable table report: The number of rows or columns in the table is unfixed, and it is variable as the number of result records. When PTReportCom executes a SQL statement, it repeats the table rows or columns for each record or group, and then puts data into cells of the table.

4.4.2 Creating a Table for a Fixed Table Report

For a fixed table report, you need to create a table in the report template file according to the report. The format of the table is the same as the format in the report, but cells that should be filled data into are blank. When PTReportCom executes a SQL statement, the data values from data source will be filled into these cells.

	Α	В
1		
2		
3		



	Α	В
1	14	3.4
2	20	5.2
3	8	2.7

The fixed table defined in the report template file

The fixed table filled data by rows in the report file

4.4.3 Creating a Table for a Variable Table Report

For a variable table report, you also need to create a table in the report template file according to the report. But you just need to reserve some rows/columns in the table for one or two records. PTReportCom will add some rows/columns according to the number of the records returned from data source.

Date	Item Id	Sales



Date	Item Id	Sales
1998-01-01	3	150
1998-01-02	3	200
1998-01-03	3	250
1998-01-05	3	350
1998-01-10	3	550
1998-01-21	3	150
1998-01-25	3	200
1998-01-31	3	100

The variable-rows table defined in the report template file

The variable-rows table filled data by rows in the report file

The format of the last row/column border can be different from the others. For example, the outside borders used double lines, and the inside borders used single lines. To do this, you should reserve the blank rows/columns for 2 records. When PTReportCom inserts some blank rows/columns, the new rows/columns will inherit the format of the first row/column in the reserved rows/columns.

One record from data source can be put into two or more rows/columns. To do this, you need to reserve the blank rows/columns for all records that you want to put them into one slide. For example, there are 91 records returned from a database, and you want to put 5 records per slide and 3 rows per record. You must prepare one slide that contain one table and reserve 15 blank rows in the table. If 1 rows per record, you just need to reserve 1 or 2 blank rows in the table. PTReportCom can insert rows, delete rows, copy slides with tables, but can not copy rows in one slide.

4.4.4 Formatting Cells

To format cells that contain static contents, use "Format" menu in Microsoft

PowerPoint. For more detail information, refer to *Microsoft PowerPoint Help*. For cells in which data are got from database, you can set font, color, alignment using Microsoft PowerPoint. But to display values in formatting string, you should use other way.

You should write formatting expressions into data cells in the report template file. PTReportCom will get the text of the cell as a format expression before it puts a value into a cell, and output the value using the format expression. In fact, PTReportCom calls the format function in Visual Basic. The text got from a cell is used as the format expression in format function. For a variable table report, PTReportCom will use the format expressions in the reserved rows/columns. For more information about format expression, refer to "Format Expressions".

Date	Quantity	Amount
yyyy-mm-dd	#,##0	#,##0.00
yyyy-mm-dd	#,##0	#,##0.00
yyyy-mm-dd	#,##0	#,##0.00

Date	Quantity	Amount
1999-02-18	560	827.79
1999-06-14	890	1,113.05
2000-01-21	1,240	1,552.25

The table defined in the report template file

The table generated in the report file

A format expression for numbers can have from one to four sections separated by semicolons. You can define the different formats and colors for positive values, negative values and zeros.

For example, the format "\$#,##0;(\$#,##0)" has two sections: the first defines the format and color (black) for positive values and zeros; the second section defines the format and color (red) for negative values. It displays "2345.12" as "\$2,345", displays "-5432" as "(\$5,432)".

The format "#,##0.00;;" has three sections: the first defines the format and color (black) for positive values, the second defines the format and color (red) for negative values, the third section defines the format and color (blue) for zeros. Note, the first semicolon ";" is red, the second semicolon ";" is blue. The

negative values and zeros are printed using the format of the positive value. But the color for negative values is red, the color for zeros is blue. It displays "8.9" as "8.90", displays "-123" as "-123.00", and displays "0" as "0.00".

4.4.5 Irregular Tables

Tables don't have to consist of simple grids. Not every row has to have the same number of columns. You can merge and split cells to create irregular tables. An irregular table is the table that contains split cells or merge cells, and it does not have the same number of cells for each row or column. While an irregular table provides for an attractive way to display data, but it does make it harder to process the presentation. You have some difficulty to reference a cell in an irregular table. For example in the following table, for most Office version, cell1 is in column 3 and row 2, cell2 is in column 3 and row 3. But for some lower Office version, cell2 is not in column 3 and row 3. Moreover, an error may occur when you try to work with some rows or columns in an irregular table.

A	В	С
	Cell1	
	Cell2	

Irregular table

To simplify your work and ensure that report function can be executed correctly, you should regularize the irregular tables. Split the merge cells, and remove the border in these cells. For example, the following table is a regularized table, cell 1 is in column 3 and row 2, and cell 2 is in column 3 and row 3.

Α	В	С
	Cell1	
	Cell2	

Regularized table

4.4.6 Referencing Cells

You can reference table cells as A1, A2, B1, B2, and so on, with the letter representing a column and the number representing a row. Cell references in Microsoft PowerPoint are always absolute references and are not shown with dollar signs. You can reference an entire row or column in a calculation in the following ways:

- Use a range that includes only the letter or number that represents it for example, 1:1 to reference the first row in the table. This designation allows the calculation to automatically include all the cells in the row if you decide to add other cells later.
- Use a range that includes the specific cells for example, a1:a3 to reference a column with three rows. This designation allows the calculation to include only those particular cells. If you add other cells later and you want the calculation to include them, you need to edit the calculation.

4.4.7 Referencing Tables

If you want to reference a table, you should reference a slide first. You can reference a slide by an index number. The index number represents the position of the slide in a presentation. The index number starts at 1. If the index number is less than 0, it represents the position from the end of presentation. So slide 1 is the first slide in a presentation, slide 2 is the second slide in a presentation, slide -1 is the last slide in a presentation. You can reference a slide dynamically. "N" means the next slide.

You can reference a table in the slide by an index number. The index number represents the position of the table in the slide. The index number starts at 1. So table 1 is the first table in a slide, table 2 is the second table, and so on.

4.4.8 Formatting Cells for Pictures

To enhance the visual impact of your report, you can insert pictures into your report. PTReportCom supports many popular graphics file formats: bitmap, JPG, GIF, PNG, TIFF and so on. For the graphics file formats PTReportCom supports, refer to *Microsoft PowerPoint Help*.

You should store the path and name of the graphics files in the database, and identify the image fields in the report function. PTReportCom will read the graphics files, and insert them into the cells in the report file.

To specify the size, you should write a formatting expression into the cell in the report template file. PTReportCom will get the text of the cell, and insert a picture into the cell according to the instruction in the format expression. The format expression for pictures as follows:

[size]

The **size** specifies the size of a picture. Possible values are STRETCH, Wnnn or / and Hnnn. "STRETCH" means that the picture is resized to fit within the cell. "W100" means that the width of the picture is set to 100 points. "H50" means that the height of the picture is set to 50 points. The default means the original size. If you just specify the width or height of the picture, not both, PTReportCom will retain the original proportions of the picture when PTReportCom resize it.

Example

w120 h90

Remarks

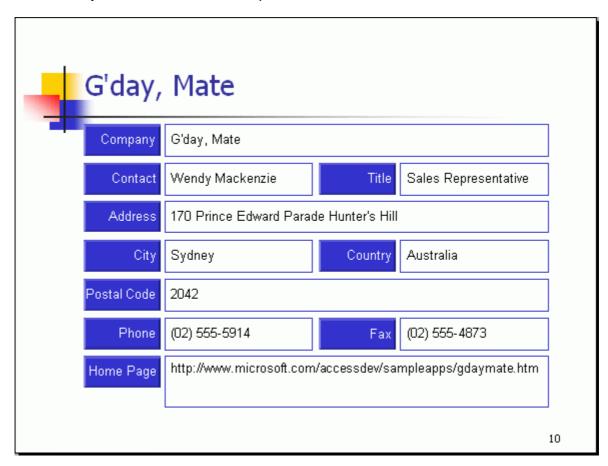
PTReportCom will insert a picture, and set the width of the picture to 120

points, the height to 90 points.

4.5 Form Reports

4.5.1 About Form Reports

Beside table reports, PTReportCom supports form reports too. For a form report, you can get data from data sources, and put data into shapes or text boxes. So you can make a form report as follows:



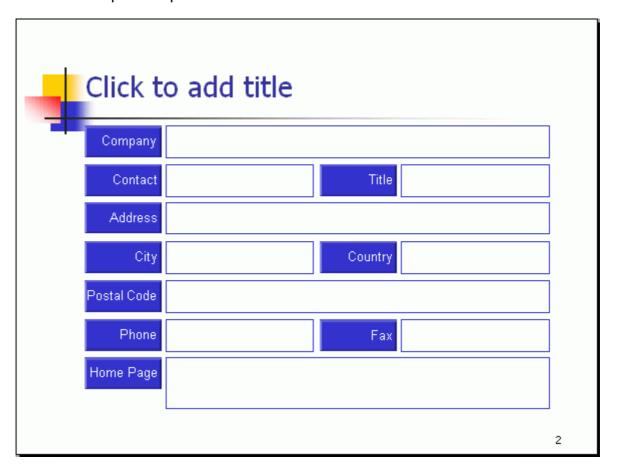
4.5.2 Creating a Slide

For a form report, you must create a slide including some shapes or text boxes in the report template file according to the report. When PTReportCom executes a SQL statement, the data values from data source will be put into

these shapes or text boxes. PTReportCom will add some slides according to results returned. One record makes one slide.

You can add some shapes as your needs, such as reshaping shapes, resizing shapes, changing colors, changing the font. For more detail information about shapes, refer to *Microsoft PowerPoint Help*.

To generate the previous PowerPoint report, you should make the following slide in the report template file.



4.5.3 Naming Objects

How to reference an object in a slide? PTReportCom can reference an object using its name. The name is not case-sensitive, and uniquely identifies an object in a slide. But Microsoft PowerPoint can not give a way to know the name of an object.

We developed a PowerPoint add-in "name.ppa" that can name an object in a slide. The add-in file is located in the PTReportCom's working directory. To load the add-in:

- 1. Launch Microsoft PowerPoint.
- 2. Click **Add-Ins** under **Tools** menu. The **Add-Ins** dialog box appears.
- 3. Press **Add New** button, and browse to "name.ppa" file, and Press **OK** button.
- 4. If prompted to enable macros, press **Enable Macros** button. The add-in will be listed in the **Add-Ins** dialog box. Press **Close** button to close the dialog box. If however you do not find the add-in listed in the **Add-Ins** dialog box, then check the macro settings. If this is not set to at least **Medium**, the add-in won't load. To resolve this:
- 1. Click **Macros** under **Tools** menu, and click **Security**. The **Security** dialog box appears.
- 2. Click the **Security Level** tab, and click **Medium**.
- 3. Press **OK** button.
- 4. Now load the add-in.
- 5. Once the add-in has been loaded you can set the security level back to High.

When you open Microsoft PowerPoint after "name.ppa" have been loaded, a **Name** menu item will appear under **Tools** menu. You can show the name of an object, and rename the object. To name an object:

- 1. Select an object in a slide.
- 2. On the **Tools** menu, click **Name**. The **Object Name** dialog box appears.
- 3. You will see the name of the object you have selected.
- 4. If you want to rename the object, input a new name in the **New Name** box, and press **Rename** button. If you get an error message "Permission denied", it probably means that the name already exists.

- 5. Press **Close** button to close the **Object Name** dialog box.

 Remember to save all your works. To ensure to save your change to object names, you should save a complete file.
- 1. On the **Tools** menu, click **Options**, and then click the **Save** tab.
- 2. Clear the **Allow fast saves** check box when you finish working on the file, and then save it one last time. A full save occurs when this check box is clear.

4.5.4 Formatting text in an Object

You can use Microsoft PowerPoint to change an object and the attached text. You can change the font, color, fill, shadow and so on. For more detail information, refer to *Microsoft PowerPoint Help*. But to display values in formatting string, you should use the way similar to cell formatting. You should write formatting expressions into a shape or text box in the report template file. PTReportCom will get the text as a format expression before it puts a value into the object, and output the value using the format expression. In fact, PTReportCom calls the format function in Visual Basic. The text got from an object is used as the format expression in format function. For more information about format expression, refer to "Format Expressions". For example, you add a text box with a text "YYYY-MM-DD" in the report template file. In the report file, you will get a formatted date string. For example, "1996-04-01".

A format expression for numbers can have from one to four sections separated by semicolons. You can define the different formats and colors for positive values, negative values and zeros.

For example, the format "\$#,##0;(\$#,##0)" has two sections: the first defines the format and color (black) for positive values and zeros; the second section defines the format and color (red) for negative values. It displays "2345.12" as "\$2,345", displays "-5432" as "(\$5,432)".

The format "#,##0.00;;" has three sections: the first defines the format and color (black) for positive values, the second defines the format and color (red) for negative values, the third section defines the format and color (blue) for zeros. Note, the first semicolon ";" is red, the second semicolon ";" is blue. The negative values and zeros are printed using the format of the positive value. But the color for negative values is red, the color for zeros is blue. It displays "8.9" as "8.90", displays "-123" as "-123.00", and displays "0" as "0.00".

4.5.5 Formatting Objects for Pictures

As same as the table report, you can insert pictures into your form report too. You should store the path and name of the graphics files in the database, and identify the image fields in the report function. PTReportCom will read the graphics files, and put them at the position of the objects in the report file. To specify the size, you should write a formatting expression into the shape or text box in the report template file. The format expression for pictures in form report is the same as the format expression in table report.

[size]

The **size** specifies the size of a picture. Possible values are STRETCH, Wnnn or / and Hnnn. "STRETCH" means that the picture is resized to fit within the object. "W100" means that the width of the picture is set to 100 points. "H50" means that the height of the picture is set to 50 points. The default means the original size. If you just specify the width or height of the picture, not both, PTReportCom will retain the original proportions of the picture when PTReportCom resize it.

4.6 Charts

4.6.1 About Charts

You can create many different types of charts in Microsoft PowerPoint. The chart software may be Microsoft Graph or Microsoft Excel. It is depended on the version of your Microsoft PowerPoint. For Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 or earlier, the default chart software is Microsoft Graph. For Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 or later, the default chart software is Microsoft Excel.

PTReportCom supports two kinds of charts created by Microsoft Graph or Excel. It executes a SQL statement, and puts the result data into the datasheet or worksheet of the chart. To work with charts created in Graph or Excel, you must have Graph or Excel installed.

4.6.2 Creating a Blank Chart using Microsoft Graph

To create a Graph chart in the report using PTReportCom, you need to add a Graph chart in the report template file first. The chart will be brought into the report file with the same chart type, display option, data format, label format and other chart item

If your Microsoft Office is earlier than Office 2007, or Microsoft Excel 2007 is not installed, when you create a new chart in Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Graph opens.

To add a Graph chart in the template file:

- 1. Open the report template file using Microsoft PowerePoint.
- 2. On the **Insert** menu, click **Chart**.
- 3. Change the sample data on the datasheet as you need.
- 4. Modify the chart. For example, you want to change the chart type, make the text larger, or change colors, patterns, lines, fills, and borders in charts.

5. After you have finished the modification, delete data from the chart. You should keep a blank chart in the report template file. PTReportCom will put data into the datasheet of the chart.

For more detail information, refer to *Microsoft PowerPoint Help and Microsoft Graph Help*.

4.6.3 Creating a Blank Chart using Microsoft Excel

To create an Excel chart in the report using PTReportCom, you need to add an Excel chart in the report template file first. The chart will be brought into the report file with the same chart type, display option, data format, label format and other chart item.

To add an Excel chart in the template file:

- 1. Open the report template file using Microsoft PowerPoint.
- 2. Insert a chart with a chart sheet and a worksheet. For more information to insert an Excel chart object in Microsoft PowerPoint, please refer to the following part.
- 3. Change the sample data on the worksheet as you need.
- 4. Modify the chart. For example, you want to change the chart type, make the text larger, or change colors, patterns, lines, fills, and borders in charts.
- If the report type is fix, the data range of the chart should be all rows/columns for the returned records.
- If the report type is var, the data range of the chart should be 2 rows/columns.
- 5. After you have finished the modification, delete data from the chart. You should keep a blank chart in the report template file, and make the chart sheet active. PTReportCom will put data into the worksheet of the chart.

By default, Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 uses Microsoft Excel to create charts, but doesn't expose the chart as a normal Excel object. To insert an Excel chart object, you can insert an Excel worksheet first, and then create a chart in the Excel worksheet object. Another way is to copy an Excel chart object from earlier PowerPoint presentation.

For Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 or later, to insert an Excel chart object:

- 1. In Microsoft PowerPoint, on the **Insert** tab, in the **Tables** group, click **Table**, and then click **Excel Spreadsheet**. You will see an Excel worksheet object.
- 2. Right-click the object, point to **Worksheet Object** on the shortcut menu, and choose **Open** from the submenu. Microsoft Excel will appear.
- 3. Create a chart in Microsoft Excel, and move the chart to a new worksheet.
- 4. When you've finished, choose **Close & Return** from the **File** menu. For Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 or earlier, to insert an Excel chart object:
- 1. In Microsoft PowerPoint, click **Object** on the **Insert** menu, and then select the **Microsoft Excel Chart**.
- 2. You can work the Excel chart object by right-clicking the object, and pointing to **Chart Object** on the shortcut menu, and choosing **Open** from the submenu.
- 3. When you've finished, choose **Close & Return** from the **File** menu. For more detail information, refer to *Microsoft PowerPoint Help and Microsoft Excel Help*.

4.6.4 Referencing Charts

If you want to reference a chart, you should reference a slide first. You can reference a slide by an index number. The index number represents the position of the slide in a presentation. The index number starts at 1. If the index number is less than 0, it represents the position from the end of presentation. So slide 1 is the first slide in a presentation, slide 2 is the second slide in a presentation, slide -1 is the last slide in a presentation. You can reference a slide dynamically. "N" means the next slide.

You can reference a chart in the slide by an index number. The index number

represents the position of the chart in the slide. The index number starts at 1. So chart 1 is the first chart in a slide, chart 2 is the second chart, and so on.

Chapter 5 API Reference

5.1 Objects

5.1.1 PTReport Object

Represents the PTReportCom. PTReport is the main class for report generation using PTReportCom.

Using the PTReport Object

The following example creates a PTReport object in another application and then generates a report using a PTR file.

Dim ptrpt As PTReport

Set ptrpt = New PTReport

ptrpt.PPTReport pptApp, "customer_list.ptr"

5.2 Methods

5.2.1 FixTableReport Method

Generates a fixed table report based on a template. In a fixed table report, the number of rows and columns is fixed. PTReportCom gets data from a recordset object, and directly fills data into the cells of a table.

Syntax

object.FixTableReport(Recordset, Slide, Table, CellList, Range, FillOrder, ImageList)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Recordset Required. An object variable that represents the

ADODB.Recordset object to provides data. Before calling this method, please keep the current record position to the first record.

Slide Required. An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Slide object to be filled data. Returns the last slide processed.

Table Required. An integer that represents the index number of the table. The index number starts at 1.

CellList Required. A string that represents the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *CellList* should correspond to the data source fields in the recordset. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cell

Range Optional. A string that indicates the range in the table to be used for the records. PTReportCom will skip the range for each record. A range is composed of some rows or columns. You can reference a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

FillOrder Optional. An integer that indicates the order in which PTReportCom fills data. If the value is zero, fills data by rows. Otherwise fills data by columns. Default is 0.

ImageList Optional. A string that indicates which data source fields are the picture files. The *ImageList* is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In data source, you stored the path and file name of the picture, not the picture. The file path can be a relative path, an absolute path or a URL. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the presentation.

Example

This example uses FixTableReport method to make the report "Top 5 Employees for Sales".

1. Create the template in Microsoft PowerPoint.

Тс	p N Emplo	oyees	for S	ales
Rank	Employee Name	Quantity	Amount	Percent of Total
1		#,##0	\$#,##0.00	0.00%
2		#,##0	\$#,##0.00	0.00%
3		#,##0	\$#,##0.00	0.00%
4		#,##0	\$#,##0.00	0.00%
5		#,##0	\$#,##0.00	0.00%

2. Write the code in your application.

Set con = New ADODB.Connection

Set rec = New ADODB.Recordset

con.ConnectionString = "Data Source=Report Sample" con.Open

strSQL = "SELECT TOP 5 e.FirstName + ' ' + e.LastName,

SUM(d.Quantity), Sum(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount)) AS

SalesAmount, SalesAmount / (SELECT amount FROM tmp_amount) FROM

Orders o, OrderDetails d, Products p, Employees e WHERE o.OrderID =

d.OrderID AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID AND o.EmployeeID =

e.EmployeeID AND YEAR(o.OrderDate) = 1996 AND MONTH(o.OrderDate) =

04 GROUP BY e.FirstName, e.LastName ORDER BY 3 DESC"

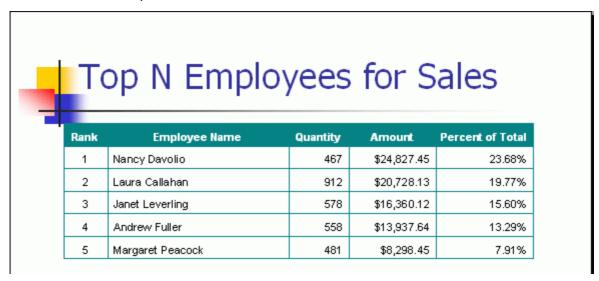
rec.Open strSQL, con

ptrpt.FixTableReport Recordset:=rec, Slide:=pptSlide, Table:=1,

CellList:="B2"

rec.Close

3. Generate the report.



5.2.2 VarTableReport Method

Generates a variable table report based on a template. In a variable table report, the number of rows or columns in the table is unfixed, and it is variable as the number of the result records. PTReportCom gets data from a recordset object, inserts some blank rows/columns or insert new slide for some records, then fills data into the cells of a table.

Syntax

object.VarTableReport(Recordset, Slide, Table, CellList, Range, Reserve, FillOrder, ImageList, PageBreak, NoData)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Recordset Required. An object variable that represents the

ADODB.Recordset object to provides data. Before calling this method, please

keep the current record position to the first record.

Slide Required. An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Slide object to be filled data. Returns the last slide processed.

Table Required. An integer that represents the index number of the table. The index number starts at 1.

CellList Required. A string that represents the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *CellList* should correspond to the data source fields in the recordset. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cell

Range Optional. A string that indicates the range in the table to be used for the records. A range is composed of some rows or columns. You can reference a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". PTReportCom will insert some rows/columns for each record, or copy slides for some records. If the length of the range is 1 row/column, you need to reserve 1 or 2 rows/columns in one slide. Otherwise you must reserve all blank rows/columns for records in one slide. The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

Reserve Optional. An integer that indicates the number of records for which you reserved some rows/columns in the report template for the report. One means you reserve some rows/columns for one record, and two means some rows/columns for two records. Default is 1. If the length of the range is 1 row/column, you need to reserve 1 or 2 rows/columns in one slide. Otherwise *Reserve* must be equal to the *PageBreak*.

FillOrder Optional. An integer that indicates the order in which PTReportCom fills data. If the value is zero, fills data by rows. Otherwise fills data by columns. Default is 0.

ImageList Optional. A string that indicates which data source fields are the picture files. The *ImageList* is the list of data source fields separated by the ","

character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In data source, you stored the path and file name of the picture, not the picture. The file path can be a relative path, an absolute path or a URL. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the presentation.

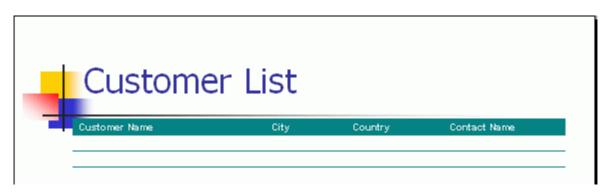
PageBreakOptional. A string that indicates the page breaks, and tells PTReportCom to insert new pages in the report. One page is one slide. The unit of page length is r that means record. For example, "6r" or "6" means that PTReportCom will put 6 records per slide. Default is "" that means no page break. If the length of the range is more than 1, *PageBreak* must be equal to the *Reserve*.

NoData Optional. An integer that represents an option when no data are returned from data source. If the value is 1, PTReportCom will delete the range when no data are returned. If the value is 2, it will delete the table. If the value is 3, it will delete the slide. Default is 0. It means to do nothing.

Example

This example uses VarTableReport method to make the report "Customer List".

1. Create the template in Microsoft PowerPoint.



2. Write the code in your application.

```
Set con = New ADODB.Connection
```

Set rec = New ADODB.Recordset

con.ConnectionString = "Data Source=Report Sample"

con.Open

strSQL = "SELECT CompanyName, CityName, CountryName,

ContactName FROM Customers, Cities, Countries WHERE

Customers.CityCode = Cities.CityCode AND Customers.CountryCode =

Cities.CountryCode AND Customers.CountryCode = Countries.CountryCode

ORDER BY CompanyName, CityName, CountryName"

rec.Open strSQL, con

ptrpt.VarTableReport Recordset:=rec, Slide:=pptSlide, Table:=1,

CellList:="A2", Reserve:=2, PageBreak:="19"

rec.Close

3. Generate the report.

Customore	1.154		
Customer	LIST		
Customer Name	City	Country	Contact Name
Affects Futterkiste	Berila	Germany	Maria Anders
Ana Trujillo Empare dados γ hetados	México D.F.	Mexico	Ana Trojillo
Antonio Moreno Taqueria	México D.F.	Mexico	Artorio Morero
Around the Horn	Lordor	UK	Thomas Hardy
Berglunds snabblióp	Lule å	Swede i	Christina Bergland
Blaver Sele Dellikatesseli	Marrielm	Germany	Harra Moos
Biondel pére etfils	Strasbourg	France	Frédérique Cite aux
Bólido Comidas preparadas	Madrki	Spalı	Marth Sommer
Box app'	Marse IIIe	France	Laurence Lebihan
Bottom-Dollar Markets	Tsawasse i	Carada	Elizabeth Lincoln
B's Beuerages	Lordor	UK	Victoria As il worti
Cactus Comitias para llevar	Bue nos Aires	Argentha	Patricio Simps on
Centro comercial Moctezama	México D.F.	Mexico	Franckoo Chang
Chop-stey Chinese	Bern	Switzerland	Yang Wang
Comércio Mineiro	São Paulo	Brazil	Pedro Aforso
Consolidate d Holdings	Lordor	UK	Elizabeth Brown
Die Wandernde Kuh	Stuttgart	Germany	R ita M Cler
Diraction blut Delikatessen	Aacher	Germany	Sue n Ottlieb
Dumonde entler	Nartes	France	Janine Labrune

5.2.3 GroupTableReport Method

Generates a variable table report based on a template, and groups data in the report. In a variable table report, the number of rows or columns in the table is unfixed, and it is variable as the number of the result records. PTReportCom gets data from a recordset object, copy the group range for each group, and copy the detail range for each record.

Syntax

object.GroupTableReport(Recordset, Slide, Table, CellList, Range, Reserve, FillOrder, ImageList, PageBreak, NoData, Group1, GroupRange1, ... Group10, GroupRange10)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Recordset Required. An object variable that represents the

ADODB.Recordset object to provides data. Before calling this method, please keep the current record position to the first record.

Slide Required. An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Slide object to be filled data. Returns the last slide processed.

Table Required. An integer that represents the index number of the table. The index number starts at 1.

CellList Required. A string that represents the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *CellList* should correspond to the data source fields in the recordset. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cell

Range Optional. A string that indicates the range in the table to be used for the records. A range is composed of some rows or columns. You can reference a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". PTReportCom will insert some rows/columns for each record, or copy slides for some records. If the length of the range is 1 row/column, you need to reserve 1 or 2 rows/columns in one slide. Otherwise you must reserve all blank rows/columns for records in one slide. The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

Reserve Optional. An integer that indicates the number of records for which you reserved some rows/columns in the report template for the report. One means you reserve some rows/columns for one record, and two means some rows/columns for two records. Default is 1. When the grouprange is same as the range of the detail, you can use *Reserve* to make report. If the length of the range is 1 row/column, you need to reserve 1 or 2 rows/columns in one slide. Otherwise *Reserve* must be equal to the *PageBreak*.

FillOrder Optional. An integer that indicates the order in which

PTReportCom fills data. If the value is zero, fills data by rows. Otherwise fills data by columns. Default is 0.

ImageList Optional. A string that indicates which data source fields are the picture files. The *ImageList* is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In data source, you stored the path and file name of the picture, not the picture. The file path can be a relative path, an absolute path or a URL. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the presentation.

PageBreakOptional. A string that indicates the page breaks, and tells PTReportCom to insert new pages in the report. One page is one slide. The unit of page length is r or g. "r" means record, "g1" means group one, "g2" means group two...... For example, "6r" or "6" means that PTReportCom will put 6 records per slide, "1g" means one group per slide, and "1g,6r" means one group or 6 records per slide. Default PTReportCom will not show the group name in the new page. You can add "s" to show them. For example, "1gs,6rs". If the length of the range is more than 1, PageBreak must be equal to the Reserve. If the grouprange is not same as the range of the detail, you must add a pagebreak by group, and the length of the range can not be more then 1 row/column.

NoData Optional. An integer that represents an option when no data are returned from data source. If the value is 1, PTReportCom will delete the range when no data are returned. If the value is 2, it will delete the table. If the value is 3, it will delete the slide. Default is 0. It means to do nothing.

*Group1...Group10*Optional. A string that indicates the group that is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In one report, there may be up to 10 groups. Notes: the order of groups should be in

accordance with the order of ORDER BY clause in the SQL statement.

GroupRange1...GroupRange10 Optional. A string that indicates the range of the group in the table. PTReportCom will repeat the range for each group. The range of the group should contain the range of the details and the area that includes all cells for this group. You reference a group range like "2:4" or "B:D". For example, there are two groups, the range of the group one contains all cells for the group one and the range of the group two, and the range of the group two contains all cells for the group two and the range of the details. The default range is the area that includes all cells for this group and the range or the group range for the lower level group. If the grouprange is not same as the range of the detail, you must add a pagebreak by group, and the length of the range can not be more then 1 row/column.

Example

This example uses GroupTableReport method to make the report "Customer Profile".

1. Create the template in Microsoft PowerPoint.

	Customer Profile	
-	Cuitomer Name Phone/Fai Addre II	
		_
		_
		2

2. Write the code in your application.

Set con = New ADODB.Connection

Set rec = New ADODB.Recordset

con.ConnectionString = "Data Source=Report Sample"

con.Open

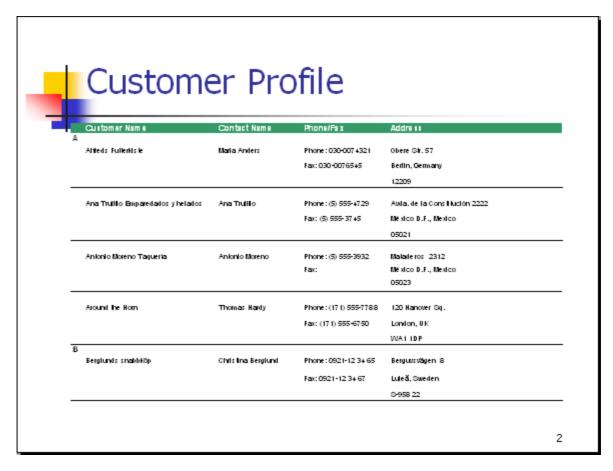
strSQL = "SELECT LEFT(CompanyName,1), CompanyName,

ContactName, 'Phone: ' & Phone, 'Fax: ' & Fax, Address, CityName & ', ' & CountryName, PostalCode FROM Customers, Cities, Countries WHERE Customers.CityCode = Cities.CityCode AND Customers.CountryCode = Cities.CountryCode AND Customers.CountryCode = Countries.CountryCode ORDER BY CompanyName"

rec.Open strSQL, con

ptrpt.GroupTableReport Recordset:=rec, Slide:=pptSlide, Table:=1,
CellList:="A2,B3,C3,D3,D4,E3,E4,E5", Range:="2:5", Group1:="1",
Reserve:=5, PageBreak:="5r"
 rec.Close

3. Generate the report.



5.2.4 FormReport Method

Generates a form report based on a template, and groups data in the report. For a form report, you can put data from data source into shapes or text boxes in the report file. PTReportCom gets data from a recordset object, copy the slide for each record.

Syntax

object.FormReport(Recordset, Slide, CellList, ImageList, NoData, Group1, ... Group10)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Recordset Required. An object variable that represents the ADODB.Recordset object to provides data. Before calling this method, please

keep the current record position to the first record.

Slide Required. An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Slide object to be filled data. If the slide is deleted, returns nothing. Otherwise returns the last slide processed.

CellList Required. A string that represents the list of shapes or text boxes in a slide separated by the "," character. For example, "ProductName, ProductID, QuantityPerUnit, UnitPrice". The shapes or text boxes in the *celllist* should correspond to the data source fields in the SQL statement. The value of the first data source field is put into the first object as a text, and the value of the second data source field is put into the second object......You can get the name of the shape or text box using the add-in "name.ppa".

ImageList Optional. A string that indicates which data source fields are the picture files. The *ImageList* is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In data source, you stored the path and file name of the picture, not the picture. The file path can be a relative path, an absolute path or a URL. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the table.

NoData Optional. An integer that represents an option when no data are returned from data source. If the value is 1 or 3, PTReportCom will delete the

range when no data are returned. Default is 0. It means to do nothing.

Group1...Group10Optional. A string that indicates the group that is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In one report, there may be up to 10 groups. Notes: the order of groups should be in accordance with the order of ORDER BY clause in the SQL statement.

Remarks

In FormReport method, there is no Range and PageBreak. It will put only one record per slide.

Example

This example uses FormReport method to make the report "Supplier Profile".

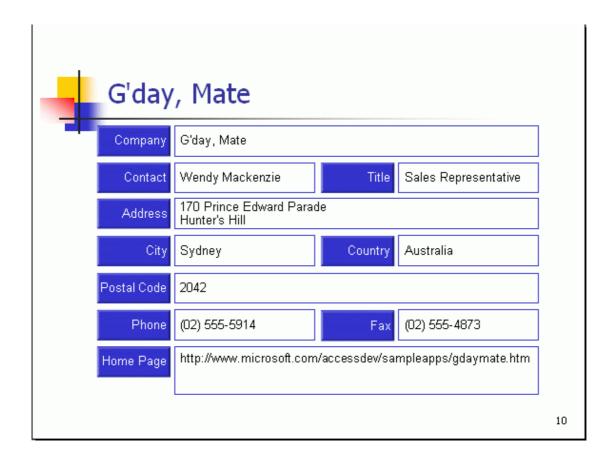
1. Create the template in Microsoft PowerPoint.



2. Write the code in your application.

```
Set con = New ADODB.Connection
    Set rec = New ADODB.Recordset
    con.ConnectionString = "Data Source=Report Sample"
    con.Open
    strSQL = "SELECT
CompanyName,CompanyName,ContactName,ContactTitle,Address"
    strSQL = strSQL & vbCrLf &
",CityName,CountryName,PostalCode,Phone,Fax,HomePage"
    strSQL = strSQL & vbCrLf & "FROM Suppliers, Countries, Cities"
    strSQL = strSQL & vbCrLf & "WHERE Suppliers.CityCode =
Cities.CityCode"
    strSQL = strSQL & vbCrLf & "AND Suppliers.CountryCode =
Cities.CountryCode"
    strSQL = strSQL & vbCrLf & "AND Suppliers.CountryCode =
Countries.CountryCode"
    strSQL = strSQL & vbCrLf & "ORDER BY CompanyName"
    rec.Open strSQL, con
    ptrpt.FormReport Recordset:=rec, Slide:=pptSlide, CellList:=" SlideTitle,
Company, ContactName, ContactTitle, Address, City, Country, PostCode,
Phone, Fax, HomePage "
    rec.Close
```

3. Generate the report.



5.2.5 MSGraphChart Method

Generates a chart based on a template using Microsoft Graph. PTReportCom gets data from a recordset object, and fills data into the datasheet of a chart in the report file.

Syntax

object.MSGraphChart(Recordset, Chart, CellList, Range, FillOrder)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Recordset Required. An object variable that represents the

ADODB.Recordset object to provides data. Before calling this method, please keep the current record position to the first record.

Chart Required. An object variable that represents the Graph. Chart object.

CellList Required. A string that represents the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *CellList* should correspond to the data source fields in the recordset. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cellNote: On the datasheet, the leftmost column and the top row, which are commonly used for legend text or axis labels, are referred to as column 0 (zero) and row 0 (zero).

Range Optional. A string that indicates the range in the datasheet to be used for the records. PTReportCom will skip the rows/columns of the range for each record. A range is composed of some rows or columns. You can reference a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

FillOrder Optional. An integer that indicates the order in which PTReportCom fills data. If the value is zero, fills data by rows. Otherwise fills data by columns. Default is 1.

Example

This example uses MSGraphChart method to make the report "Sales by Categories".

1. Create the template in Microsoft PowerPoint.

The datasheet of the chart defined in the report template:

		Α	В	С	Ш
	Category Name				
1 •	Amount				
2					

2. Write the code in your application.

Set con = New ADODB.Connection

Set rec = New ADODB.Recordset

con.ConnectionString = "Data Source=Report Sample" con.Open

strSQL = "SELECT c.CategoryName, Sum(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount)) FROM Orders o, OrderDetails d, Products p, Categories c WHERE o.OrderID = d.OrderID AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID AND p.CategoryID = c.CategoryID AND YEAR(o.OrderDate) = 1996 AND MONTH(o.OrderDate) = 04 GROUP BY c.CategoryName ORDER BY c.CategoryName"

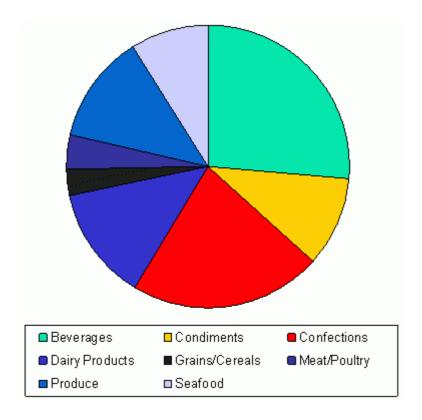
rec.Open strSQL, con
ptrpt.MSGraphChart Recordset:=rec, Chart:=pptChart, CellList:="A0"
rec.Close

3. Generate the chart.

The datasheet of the chart generated in the report:

		Α 🔼	B △	C b	D 🔈
	Category Name	Beverages	Condiments	Confections	Dairy Products
1 •	Amount	27761.57	10773.27	22877.18	13685.32
2					

The chart generated in the report:



5.2.6 ExcelChart Method

Generates a chart based on a template using Microsoft Excel. PTReportCom gets data from a recordset object, and fills data into the worksheet of a chart in the report file.

Syntax

object.ExcelChart(Recordset, Workbook, CellList, ReportType, Range, FillOrder)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Recordset Required. An object variable that represents the

ADODB.Recordset object to provides data. Before calling this method, please keep the current record position to the first record.

Workbook Required. An object variable that represents the Excel.Workbook

object.

CellList Required. A string that represents the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *CellList* should correspond to the data source fields in the recordset. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cell

ReportType Optional. An integer that indicates the report type. If the value is zero, PTReportCom will add some blank rows/columns before filling data values into the worksheet of the chart. If the value is one, PTReportCom will directly fill data vales into the worksheet of the chart. Default is 0. When it is a variable table report, you should reserve two rows/columns in the worksheet in the report template, and set the data range of the chart to 2 rows/columns.

Range Optional. A string that indicates the range in the worksheet to be used for the records. PTReportCom will skip the rows/columns of the range for each record. A range is composed of some rows or columns. You can reference a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

FillOrder Optional. An integer that indicates the order in which PTReportCom fills data. If the value is zero, fills data by rows. Otherwise fills data by columns. Default is 0.

Example

This example uses ExcelChart method to make the report "Sales by Categories".

1. Create the template in Microsoft PowerPoint.

The workheet of the chart defined in the report template:

	А	В	С
1	Category Name	Amount	
2			
3			
4			

2. Write the code in your application.

Set con = New ADODB.Connection

Set rec = New ADODB.Recordset

con.ConnectionString = "Data Source=Report Sample"

con.Open

strSQL = "SELECT c.CategoryName, Sum(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount)) FROM Orders o, OrderDetails d, Products p, Categories c WHERE o.OrderID = d.OrderID AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID AND p.CategoryID = c.CategoryID AND YEAR(o.OrderDate) = 1996 AND MONTH(o.OrderDate) = 04 GROUP BY c.CategoryName ORDER BY c.CategoryName"

rec.Open strSQL, con

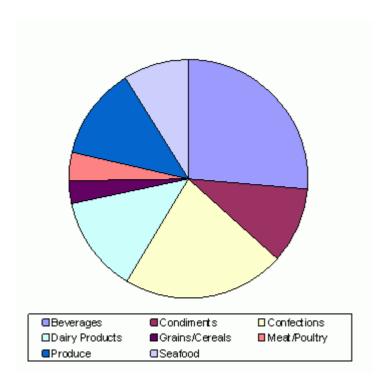
ptrpt.ExcelChart Recordset:=rec, Workbook:=xlWorkbook, CellList:="A2" rec.Close

3. Generate the chart.

The worksheet of the chart generated in the report:

	A	В	С
1	Category Name	Amount	
2	Beverages	27761.57499	
3	Condiments	10773, 26999	
4	Confections	22877. 17998	
5	Dairy Products	13685, 32499	
6	Grains/Cereals	3325, 399995	
7	Meat/Poultry	4083, 659998	
8	Produce	13031.2	
9	Seafood	9316.544988	

The chart generated in the report:



5.2.7 PPTReport Method

Generates the reports based on the templates and a PTR file. The PTR file tells PTReportCom how to get data from data sources and how to put data into the reports.

Syntax

object.PPTReport(Application, PtrFile, Param1 ... Param10)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Application Required. An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Application object.

PtrFile Required. A string that represents the PTR file. You can include a full path.

Param1 ... Param10 Optional. A string that represents the paramters.

These parameters have been defined in the PTR file.

Example

This example uses PPTReport method to make the report "Customer List".

- 1. Create the template customer_list.ppt using Microsoft PowerPoint.
- 2. Create the PTR file customer_list.ptr using a text editor.
- 3. Write the code in your application.

Set pptApp = New PowerPoint.Application

Set ptrpt = New PTReport

Call ptrpt.PPTReport(pptApp, "customer_list.ptr")

5.2.8 GetSlideByIndex Method

Returns a PowerPoint.Slide object by using the slide index.

Syntax

object.GetSlideByIndex(Presentaion, Index)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Presentaion Required. An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Presentaion object.

Index Required. An integer that represents the index of the slide. The index number starts at 1. If the index number is less than 0, it represents the position from the end of presentation. For examples, slide 2 is the second slide in a presentation, slide -1 is the last slide in a presentation.

Example

This example uses GetSlideByIndex method to get the second slide in the presentation.

Dim pptPres As PowerPoint.Presentaion

Dim pptSlide As PowerPoint.Slide

.

Set pptSlide = mptrpt.GetSlideByIndex(pptPres, 2)

5.2.9 GetTableInSlide Method

Returns a PowerPoint. Table object by using the table index.

Syntax

object.GetTableInSlide(Slide, Index)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Slide Required. An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Slide object.

Index Required. An integer that represents the index of the table. The index number starts at 1. For examples, table 2 is the second table in the slide.

Example

This example uses GetTableInSlide method to get the first table in the slide.

Dim pptSlide As PowerPoint.Slide

Dim pptTable As PowerPoint.Table

.

Set pptTable = mptrpt.GetTableInSlide(pptSlide, 1)

5.2.10 GetChartInSlide Method

Returns a PowerPoint.OLEFormat object that represents the Microsoft Graph chart or Microsoft Excel chart OLE object.

Syntax

object.GetChartInSlide(Slide, Index)

object Required. The object is the PTReport object.

Slide Required. An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Slide object.

Index Required. A string that represents the index of the chart. The index number starts at 1. For examples, chart 2 is the second chart in the slide.

Example

This example uses GetChartInSlide method to get the first chart in the presentation.

```
Dim pptSlide As PowerPoint.Slide

Dim pptChartOLE As PowerPoint.OLEFormat

Dim graChart As Graph.Chart

Dim xlWorkbook As Excel.Workbook

.....

Set pptChartOLE = mptrpt.GetChartInSlide(pptSlide, 1)

If Left(wdChartOLE.Progld, 11) = "Excel.Chart" Then

Set xlWorkbook = pptChartOLE.object

Else

Set graChart = pptChartOLE.object

End If
```

5.3 Events

5.3.1 BeforeConnect Event

Occurs before a connection starts.

Syntax

Private Sub object_BeforeConnect(UserID As String, Password As String, DataSource As String, Connection As ADODB.Connection)

object The object is the PTReport object.

UserID A string that represents a user name for the connection.

Password A string that represents a password for the connection.

DataSource A string that represents a data source name for the connection.

Connection The ADODB.Connection object.

Example

Private Sub mptrpt_BeforeConnect(UserID As String, Password As String, DataSource As String, Connection As ADODB.Connection)

Connection.ConnectionTimeout = 15

Connection.CursorLocation = adUseClient

End Sub

5.3.2 TemplateOpen Event

Occurs when a template presentation is opened.

Syntax

Private Sub object_TemplateOpen(ByVal Presentaion As PowerPoint.Presentaion)

object The object is the PTReport object.

Presentaion An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Presentaion object to be opened.

Example

Private Sub mptrpt_TemplateOpen(ByVal Presentaion As

PowerPoint.Presentaion)

gstrFileName = Presentaion.FullName

End Sub

5.3.3 ReportComplete Event

Occurs when all report generating process is completed.

Syntax

Private Sub object_ReportComplete(ByVal Presentaion As

PowerPoint.Presentaion)

object The object is the PTReport object.

Presentaion An object variable that represents the PowerPoint.Presentaion object.

Example

Private Sub mptrpt_ReportComplete(ByVal Presentaion As

PowerPoint.Presentaion)

With Presentation

'Close the presentation and do not display the report when get errors

If mintErrCount > 0 Then

.Close

'Show the presentation if no error

Else

.Application.Visible = True

.NewWindow

End If

End With

End Sub

5.3.4 FunctionBeforeExectue Event

Occurs before a function is executed.

Syntax

Private Sub object_FunctionBeforeExectue(ByVal FunctionNo As String, ByVal FunctionType As Integer, ByVal SQLNo As Long, ByVal SQLText As String)

object The object is the PTReport object.

FunctionNoA string that represents the label of the function.

FunctionTyp An integer that represents the type of the function. 0 means

ExecSQL function. 2 means Report function. 3 means Chart function.

SQLNo A long that represents the number of SQL statements.

SQLText A string that contains the SQL statement.

Example

Private Sub mptrpt_FunctionBeforeExectue(ByVal FunctionNo As String, ByVal FunctionType As Integer, ByVal SQLNo As Long, ByVal SQLText As String)

frmWait.lblFunctionNo = FunctionNo

frmWait.lbISQLCount = SQLNo

End Sub

5.3.5 FunctionAfterExectue Event

Occurs after a function is executed.

Syntax

Private Sub object_FunctionAfterExectue(ByVal FunctionNo As String, ByVal FunctionType As Integer, ByVal SQLNo As Long, ByVal ErrObj As ErrObject)

object The object is the PTReport object.

FunctionNoA string that represents the label of the function.

FunctionTyp An integer that represents the type of the function. 0 means ExecSQL function. 2 means Report function. 3 means Chart function.

SQLNo A long that represents the number of SQL statements.

ErrObj The Err object.

Example

```
Private Sub mptrpt_FunctionAfterExectue(ByVal FunctionNo As String, ByVal FunctionType As Integer, ByVal SQLNo As Long, ByVal ErrObj As ErrObject)

If ErrObj.Number <> 0 Then
```

```
If FunctionType <> 0 Then 'Ignore errors of EXECSQL

MsgBox ErrObj.Description, vbExclamation, App.ProductName

mintErrCount = mintErrCount + 1
```

End If

End If

End Sub

5.3.6 FunctionProgress Event

Occurs periodically during a function processing.

Syntax

Private Sub object_FunctionProgress(ByVal Progress As Long, ByVal RecordCount As Long)

object The object is the PTReport object.

Progress A long that indicates the number of records that have currently been processed.

RecordCount A long that indicates the total number of records.

Example

Private Sub mptrpt_FunctionProgress(ByVal Progress As Long, ByVal RecordCount As Long)

frmWait.lblRecordCnt.Caption = Format(Progress, "#,##0") & " / " & Format(RecordCount, "#,##0")

End Sub

5.4 Error Messages

The following table lists the trappable errors for the PTReport Object.

Value	Description
-2147221493	The file PtrFileName does not exist.
-2147221492	The file PtrFileName is not a PPTReport file.
-2147221491	Error in reading the file PtrFileName.
-2147221490	Report template file TemplateFileName does not exist.
-2147221489	The report file is not named correctly.
-2147221488	Failed to create the report file ReportFileName.
-2147221487	Failed to open the template file TemplateFileName.

-2147221486 Failed to save the report file2147221487 Failed to save the report file. Not support the file format: FileFormat2147221473 The ADODB.Recordset object is closed2147221451 Syntax error. The table M in slide N does not exist2147221452 Syntax error. The chart M in slide N does not exist2147221453 The PowerPoint.Slide object is not set2147221449 The Graph.Chart object is not set2147221449 The Graph.Chart object is not set2147221449 The Graph.Chart object is not set2147221440 Unable to find the PowerPoint presentation2147221445 Unable to find the Excel chart2147221393 Syntax error. There is a lack of the parameter "CELL"2147221393 Syntax error. Failed to parse cell list2147221394 Syntax error. Failed to parse cell Cell2147221386 Can not find the shape Shape in the slide N2147221387 Can not find the shape Shape2147221387 The range should be Range2147221381 The range should be Range2147221382 Syntax error. Failed to parse range Range2147221383 The range should add parameter PAGEBREAK or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221370 You should add a pagebreak by record or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 You should add a pagebreak by record or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221370 You should add a pagebreak by record or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221370 Syntax error. Failed to parse image. Can not find field ImageField in the image list2147221371 Syntax error. Failed to parse image2147221372 Syntax error. Failed to parse image2147221373 Syntax error. Failed to parse image2147221374 Syntax error. Failed to parse image2147221375 Syntax error. Failed to parse group.		
-2147221473 The ADODB.Recordset object is closed2147221453 Syntax error. The table <i>M</i> in slide <i>N</i> does not exist2147221452 Syntax error. The chart <i>M</i> in slide <i>N</i> does not exist2147221451 Syntax error. The side <i>N</i> does not exist2147221450 The PowerPoint.Slide object is not set2147221449 The Graph.Chart object is not set2147221449 The Excel.Workbook object is not set2147221446 Unable to find the PowerPoint presentation2147221447 Unable to find the Excel chart2147221393 Syntax error. There is a lack of the parameter "CELL"2147221393 Syntax error. It is not a valid cell "" for the parameter "CELL"2147221390 Syntax error. Failed to parse cell list2147221390 Syntax error. Failed to parse cell <i>Cell</i> 2147221390 Syntax error. Failed to parse cell <i>Cell</i> 2147221391 Can not find the shape <i>Shape</i> in the slide <i>N</i> 2147221380 Syntax error. Failed to parse cell <i>Cell</i> . The cell <i>Cell</i> is out of the range of the table2147221381 Can not add text in the shape <i>Shape</i> 2147221382 Syntax error. Failed to parse range <i>Range</i> 2147221383 The range should be <i>Range</i> 2147221384 Syntax error. Failed to parse range <i>Range</i> 2147221385 Syntax error. Failed to parse range <i>Range</i> 2147221386 The range should be <i>Range</i> 2147221387 The range should be <i>Range</i> 2147221388 Syntax error. Failed to parse range <i>Range</i> 2147221380 The range should add parameter PAGEBREAK or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 Tou should add a pagebreak by record or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 Tou should add a pagebreak by record or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 Syntax error. Failed to parse image. Can not find field <i>ImageField</i> in the image list2147221373 Syntax error. Failed to parse image. Can not find field <i>Field</i> 2147221362 Syntax error. Failed to parse group.	-2147221486	
-2147221453 Syntax error. The table <i>M</i> in slide <i>N</i> does not exist2147221452 Syntax error. The chart <i>M</i> in slide <i>N</i> does not exist2147221451 Syntax error. The slide <i>N</i> does not exist2147221450 The PowerPoint.Slide object is not set2147221449 The Graph.Chart object is not set2147221449 The Excel.Workbook object is not set2147221447 Unable to find the PowerPoint presentation2147221446 Unable to find the Excel chart2147221333 Syntax error. There is a lack of the parameter "CELL"2147221393 Syntax error. There is a lack of the parameter "CELL"2147221393 Syntax error. Failed to parse cell list2147221394 Syntax error. Failed to parse cell list2147221395 Can not find the shape <i>Shape</i> in the slide <i>N</i> 2147221388 Syntax error. Failed to parse cell <i>Cell</i> . The cell <i>Cell</i> is out of the range of the table2147221387 Can not add text in the shape <i>Shape</i> 2147221388 The range should be <i>Range</i> 2147221381 You should add parameter PAGEBREAK or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221380 You should add a pagebreak by record or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 You should add a pagebreak by record or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 You should add a pagebreak by record or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 You should add a pagebreak by record or change the value for RESERVE when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 You should add a pagebreak by record when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221379 You should add a pagebreak by record when the length of the range is more then 1 row/column2147221373 Syntax error. Failed to parse image. Can not find field <i>ImageField</i> in the image list2147221373 Syntax error. Failed to parse group. N. Can not find field <i>Field</i> 2147221361 The grouprange of gr	-2147221485	Failed to save the report file. Not support the file format: FileFormat.
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-2147221361 The grouprange of group N should be Range.	-2147221363	
	-2147221362	Syntax error. Failed to parse group.
-2147221360 Syntax error. Failed to parse grouprange.	-2147221361	The grouprange of group N should be Range.
	-2147221360	Syntax error. Failed to parse grouprange.

-2147221359	The length of the range can not be more then 1 row/column when
-214/221339	the grouprange is not same as the range of the detail.
-2147221358	You should add a pagebreak by group when the grouprange is not
	same as the range of the detail.

Chapter 6 PTR Files

6.1 Using PTR files

6.1.1 About PTR files

"Dairy Products")

Like PTReportGen, PTReportCom can also read a PTR file to generate a report. The PTR file is a text file with a .ptr extension. It contains information such as the name of the report template file, the name of the report file, the name of the log file, data sources, parameters and functions. The PTR file tells PTReportCom how to get data from data sources and how to put data into a report. Using the PTR file, it will simplify your development.

6.1.2 Using a PTR file with PTReport Object

PTReport object provides the PPTReport method to generate a report based on a PTR file. For example, you have created the PTR file "myreport.ptr" and the template file. In the PTR file, there are two parameters. The first parameter is the sales date "\$SalesDate", and the second is the category of the products "\$Category". You can call PPTReport method to generate the report.

Set pptApp = New PowerPoint.Application

Set ptrpt = New PTReport

Call ptrpt.PPTReport(pptApp, "c:\pptreport\myreport.ptr", "1996-05-01",

PTReportCom will replace "\$SalesDate" in SQL statements with "1996-05-01", replace "\$Category" with "Dairy Products", and then submit SQL statements to data sources.

6.1.3 Using a PTR file in command line

In the PTReportCom, there is an executable file PPTReport.exe that can read a PTR file to generate a report. It is the same as PTReportGen command line. For example, you have created the PTR file "myreport.ptr" and the template file. In the PTR file, there are two parameters. The first parameter is the sales date "\$SalesDate", and the second is the category of the products "\$Category". You can run PPTReport.exe in command line mode as follows:

pptreport c:\pptreport\myreport.ptr 1996-05-01 "Dairy Products"

PTReportCom will replace "\$SalesDate" in SQL statements with "1996-05-01",
replace "\$Category" with "Dairy Products", and then submit SQL statements to
data sources.

6.1.4 Creating a PTR file

The PTR file is a text file. You can create and modify a PTR file in PTReportGen or a text editor.

Sometimes you want to make a PTR file programmatically. You can write a program to create a PTR file using C, perl or DOS shell, and then run PTReportCom to generate report. The two steps can be written into a batch file.

- 1. Write a program to make the PTR file as you need.
- 2. Write a batch file to call the program and PPTReport.exe.

For example, you write a batch file runrpt.bat as follows. changeptr is an executable file that reads template.txt and output template.ptr. First runrpt.bat call changeptr to make the PTR file, and then call PPTReport.exe to generate the report.

@echo off
if "%1"=="" goto usage

goto process

:usage

echo Usage: runrpt ReportDate

echo ReportDate Date format 'YYYY-MM-DD'

goto:EOF

:process

changeptr %1 <"template.txt" >"template.ptr"

SQL statements and the paths and names of the files.

PPTReport "template.ptr" %1

6.1.5 Using parameters

You can use parameters in the PTR file. You can pass values to PTReportCom when it processes a PTR file. PTReportCom will replace the parameter names with the actual values. You can use the parameters in the

To use a parameter, you must define it first. If you have defined a parameter name, you can use it in SQL statements. In fact, PTReportCom will replace all strings that are the same as the names of the parameters. You should be careful to define a unique name for each parameter. It is a good choice a name begins with the "\$" character.

Example

Input an order id to get the order information. The field OrderID is numeric type.

1. Defining a parameter

Define a parameter as follows:

Name: \$OrderID

Title: Order ID (>=10248)

Default: 10360

2. Using a parameter

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```
You can use the parameter "$OrderID" in SQL statements. For example:
SELECT o.OrderID
,o.OrderDate
,SUM(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount)) AS Amount
FROM Orders o, OrderDetails d
WHERE o.OrderID = d.OrderID
AND o.OrderID = $OrderID
GROUP BY o.OrderID, o.OrderDate
Example
Define two parameters. The first parameter is the sales date, and the second is
the category of the products. The field OrderDate is date type, and
CategoryName is char type.
1. Defining parameters
Define parameters as follows:
    Name1: $SalesDate
    Title1: Sales Date
    Default1: 1996-05-01
    Name2: $Category
    Title2: Category of Products
    Default2:
2. Using parameters
You can use the parameters "$SalesDate", "$Category" in SQL statements.
For example:
SELECT .....
FROM Orders, OrderDetails, Products, Categories
WHERE .....
```

AND OrderDate = '\$SalesDate'

```
AND CategoryName LIKE '$Category%'
;
/* For Microsoft Jet SQL, LIKE '$Category*' */
```

Example

Get the information from the database, table and column that you identify when the report is generated.

1. Defining parameters

Define parameters as follows:

Name1: \$Database

Title1: Database Name

Default1:

Name2: \$Table

Title2: Table Name

Default2:

Name3: \$Column

Title3: Column Name

Default3:

2. Using parameters

You can use the parameters "\$Database", "\$Table" and "\$Column" in SQL statements. For example:

```
USE $Database;
```

or

DATABASE \$Database;

SELECT \$Column

FROM \$Table

,

Example

Use parameters in the path and name of the report file and the log file.

1. Defining a parameter

Define a parameter as follows:

Name: \$CustomerID

Title: Customer ID

Default: C000001

2. Using a parameter

ReportFileName=report\report_\$CustomerID.ppt

LogFileName=log\report_\$CustomerID.log

or

ReportFileName=report\\$CustomerID\report.ppt

LogFileName=log\\$CustomerID\report.log

6.1.6 Converting files

You can convert a file from Microsoft PowerPoint presentation to and from another file format. For example, the template file is a presentation file with a .ppt extension, and the report file is a PowerPoint show file with a .pps extension.

The file formats PTReportCom supports can be one of these. What file format PTReportCom supports is dependent on your Microsoft PowerPoint. For example, Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 supports Web archive (.mht), but Microsoft PowerPoint 2000 does not support it. For more information about converting files, please refer to *Microsoft PowerPoint Help*. The file "pconv.cfg" located in the PTReportCom directory contains the information of file formats.

You can expand it if your Microsoft PowerPoint supports more file formats.

File Format Name	Value	Description	Extension	Converter
ppSaveAsPresentation	1	Presentation	ppt	Office2000
ppSaveAsPowerPoint7	2	PowerPoint 95	ppt	Office2000
		Presentation		
ppSaveAsPowerPoint4	3	PowerPoint 4 Presentation	ppt	Office2000
ppSaveAsPowerPoint3	4	PowerPoint 3 Presentation	ppt	Office2000

ppSaveAsTemplate	5	Design Template	pot	Office2000
ppSaveAsRTF	6	6 Outline/RTF		Office2000
ppSaveAsShow	7 PowerPoint Show		pps	Office2000
ppSaveAsAddIn	8	8 PowerPoint Add-In		Office2000
ppSaveAsPowerPoint4FarEast	10	PowerPoint 4 Far East	ppt	Office2000
ppSaveAsHTML	12	Web Page	htm html	Office2000
ppSaveAsHTMLv3	13	Web Page v3	htm html	Office2000
ppSaveAsHTMLDual	14	Web Page Dual	htm html	Office2000
ppSaveAsMetaFile	15	Windows Metafile	wmf	Office2000
ppSaveAsGIF	16	GIF (Graphics Interchange	gif	Office2000
		Format)		
ppSaveAsJPG	17	JPEG (File Interchange	jpg	Office2000
		Format)		
ppSaveAsPNG	18	PNG (Portable Network	png	Office2000
		Graphics Format)		
ppSaveAsBMP	19	Device Independent	bmp	Office2000
		Bitmap		
ppSaveAsWebArchive	20	Single File Web Page	mht	Office2002
			mhtml	
ppSaveAsTIF	21	TIFF (Tag Image Format	tif	Office2002
		File)		
ppSaveAsPresForReview	22	Presentation for Review	ppt	Office2003
ppSaveAsEMF	23	Enhanced Windows	emf	Office2003
		Metafile		
		Metafile		

For Microsoft PowerPoint 2007, please copy "pconv2007.cfg" to "pconv.cfg".

This file contains the information of file formats for Microsoft PowerPoint 2007.

File Format Name	Value	Description	Extension
ppSaveAsOpenXMLPresentation	24	PowerPoint	pptx
		Presentation	
ppSaveAsOpenXMLPresentationMacroEnabled	25	PowerPoint	pptm
		Macro-enabled	
		Presentation	
ppSaveAsPresentation	1	PowerPoint 97-2003	ppt
		Presentation	
ppSaveAsPDF	32	PDF	pdf
ppSaveAsXPS	33	XPS Document	xps
		Format	
ppSaveAsOpenXMLTemplate	26	PowerPoint Template	potx
ppSaveAsOpenXMLTemplateMacroEnabled	27	PowerPoint	potm
		Macro-enabled	

		Presentation Template	
ppSaveAsTemplate	5	PowerPoint 97-2003	pot
·		Template	
ppSaveAsOpenXMLTheme	31	Office Theme	thmx
ppSaveAsOpenXMLShow	28	PowerPoint Slide	ppsx
		Show	
ppSaveAsOpenXMLShowMacroEnabled	29	PowerPoint	ppsx
		Macro-enabled Slide	
		Show	
ppSaveAsShow	7	PowerPoint 97-2003	pps
		Show	
ppSaveAsOpenXMLAddin	30	PowerPoint Add-in	ppam
ppSaveAsAddIn	8	PowerPoint 97-2003	рра
		Add-In	
ppSaveAsXMLPresentation	34	PowerPoint XML	xml
		Presentation	
ppSaveAsWebArchive	20	Single File Web Page	mht
			mhtml
ppSaveAsHTML	12	Web Page	htm html
ppSaveAsHTMLv3	13	Web Page v3	htm html
ppSaveAsHTMLDual	14	Web Page Dual	htm html
ppSaveAsGIF	16	GIF (Graphics	gif
		Interchange Format)	
ppSaveAsJPG	17	JPEG (File	jpg
		Interchange Format)	
ppSaveAsPNG	18	PNG (Portable	png
		Network Graphics	
		Format)	
ppSaveAsTIF	21	TIFF (Tag Image	tif
		Format File)	
ppSaveAsBMP	19	Device Independent	bmp
		Bitmap	
ppSaveAsMetaFile	15	Windows Metafile	wmf
ppSaveAsEMF	23	Enhanced Windows	emf
		Metafile	
ppSaveAsRTF	6	Outline/RTF	rtf

6.2 PTR File Reference

6.2.1 PTR File Format

The layout of a PTR file is as the following:

PPTReport Version 1.0
[Data Source]
.....
[File]
.....
[Parameter]
.....
[SQL]

"PPTReport" is the flag of the PTR file. "Version 2.0" is the version of the PTR file.

A PTR file contains several sections. The sections of [Data Source], [File], and [Parameter] consist of a group of related settings. The sections and settings are listed in the PTR file in the following format:

[section name]

keyname=value

In this example, [section name] is the name of a section. The enclosing brackets ([]) are required, and the left bracket must be in the leftmost column on the screen.

The keyname=value statement defines the value of each setting. A keyname is the name of a setting. It can consist of any combination of letters and digits, and must be followed immediately by an equal sign (=). The value can be an integer, a string, or a quoted string, depending on the setting.

You can include comments in these sections. You must begin each line of a

comment with a semicolon (;).

The [SQL] section consists of functions. Each function is begin with the "@" character. Syntax:

@functionno=functionname(arguments)
sqlstatement

The *functionno* is the label of the function.

The *functionname* represents a function.

The *arguments* define various properties for the function. An argument takes the form *Name="Value"*. The argument value can be delimited by single or double quotes.

The *sqlstatement* is a SQL statement.

You can use comments in [SQL] section. A comment is the "/*" characters, followed by any sequence of characters (including new lines), followed by the "*/" characters. You cannot nest comments.

6.2.2 [Data Source] Section

The [Data Source] section contains information how to connect to data sources.

```
Name1=<name1>
Name2=<name2>
.....
Name10=<name10>
```

These settings specify the names of data sources you want to connect to.

Name1 specifies the name of the first data source. Name2 specifies the name of the second data source...... You can define up to 10 data sources in one PRT file. You can make a connection to a data source using an ODBC data source name or a connection string. Even if you use a connection string to

make a connection, you should define a name that you can reference in functions.

User1=<username1>

User2=<username2>

.

User10=<username10>

These settings specify the user names. If you use an ODBC data source name to make a connection, you should define user name and password. If you use a connection string to make a connection, PTReportCom will ignore the setting. User1 specifies the user name of the first data source. User2 specifies the user name of the second data source...... They are optional settings. If defined default user and password in ODBC data source, you may not define them.

Password1=<password1>

Password2=<password2>

.

Password10=<password10>

These settings specify the user passwords. If you use an ODBC data source name to make a connection, you should define user name and password. If you use a connection string to make a connection, PTReportCom will ignore the setting. Password1 specifies the password of the first data source.

Password2 specifies the password of the second data source...... They are optional settings. If defined default user and password in ODBC data source, you may not define them.

ConnectionString1=<connectionstring1>

ConnectionString2=<connectionstring2>

.

ConnectionString10=<connectionstring10>

These settings specify the connection strings. If you defined a connection string, PTReportCom will make a connection to the data source using the connection string, and ignore the settings of the name, user and password. But you must define a name that you can reference in functions.

ConnectionString1 specifies the connection string of the first data source.

ConnectionString2 specifies the connection string of the second data source...... They are optional settings. If no connection string, PTReportCom will make a connection to data source using the ODBC data source name.

EncryptPassword = Y/N

This setting specifies how to save the passwords of the data sources. If the value is Y, passwords will be saved in an encrypted format. If the value is N, the passwords will be saved in plain text.

6.2.3 [FILE] Section

[FILE] section contains information about files.

ReportTemplateFileName=<templatefilename>

This setting specifies the name of the report template file. <templatefilename> value is the name and path of the report template file. The file path can be a relative path or an absolute path. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the PTR file.

ReportFileName=<reportfilename>

This setting specifies the name of the report file. <reportfilename> value is the name and path of the report file. The file path can be a relative path or an

absolute path. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the PTR file. In <reportfilename>, you can use parameters.

ReportFileType=<reportfiletype>

This setting specifies the type of the report file. <reportfiletype> value is the name or value of the file format. For example, ppSaveAsRTF or 6. What file format PTReportCom supports is dependent on your Microsoft PowerPoint.

LogFileName=<logfilename>

This setting specifies the name of the log file. <logfilename> value is the name and path of the log file. The file path can be a relative path or an absolute path. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the PTR file. In <logfilename>, you can use parameters.

6.2.4 [PARAMETER] Section

[PARAMETER] section contains information about parameters.

Name1=<name1>

Name2=<name2>

.

Name10=<name10>

These settings specify the names of the parameters. Name1 specify the name of the first parameter, Name2 specifies the name of the second parameter......

You can define up to 10 parameters in one PTR file.

Title1=<title1>

Title2=<title2>

.

Title10=<title10>

These settings specify the titles of the parameters. Title1 specifies the title of the first parameter. Title2 specifies the title of the second parameter......

Default1=<default1>

Default2=<default2>

.

Default10=<default10>

These settings specify the default values of the parameters. Default1 specifies the default value of the first parameter. Default2 specifies the default value of the second parameter......

6.3 Function Reference

6.3.1 Fixed Table Report

Uses FixTableReport method to generate a fixed table report. In a fixed table report, the number of rows and columns is fixed. PTReportCom executes a SQL statement to get data from data source, and directly fills data into the cells of a table.

Syntax

Report(...)

sqlstatement

Arguments

TYPE = "fix"

SLIDE = slide

TABLE = table

FILLORDER = fillorder

CELL= celllist

RANGE = range

IMAGE = fieldlist

is 1.

CONNECT = datasource

The **TYPE** argument specifies the report type. "fix" means a fixed table report. The **SLIDE** argument identifies a slide in the report template. The *slide* is the index number of the slide. The index number starts at 1. If the index number is less than 0, it represents the position from the end of presentation. For examples, slide 2 is the second slide in a presentation, slide -1 is the last slide in a presentation. You can also reference a slide dynamically. "N" means the next slide. "N-1" means the last slide that the previous function processed. The **TABLE** argument identifies a table in a slide for a table report. The *table* is the index number of the table in a slide. The index number starts at 1. For examples, table 1 is the first table in a slide, table 2 is the second table. Default

The **FILLORDER** argument specifies the order in which PTReportCom fill data. Possible values are row or col. "row" means to fill data by rows, and "col" means to fill data by columns. Default is row.

The **CELL** argument specifies the positions where data values will be inserted. The *celllist* is the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *celllist* should correspond to the data source fields in the SQL statement. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cell PTReportCom will use the next cell if you omit a cell except the first cell. If FILLORDER="row", the next cell is the right cell. If FILLORDER="col", the next cell is the below cell.

The **RANGE** argument specifies the range in the table to be used for the records. PTReportCom will skip the range for each record. You can reference

a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

The **IMAGE** argument specifies the data source fields are picture files. The *fieldlist* is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In data source, you stored the path and file name of the picture, not the picture. The file path can be a relative path, an absolute path or a URL. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the report template file. The **CONNECT** argument specifies the connection to a data source. The CONNECT can takes a string that expresses a data source name or a number that expresses a data source index. The index number of data source is the sequential number defined in the PTR file, and starts at 1. The default implies the first data source.

The **sqlstatement** is a SQL statement such as a SELECT statement.

Example

This example uses Fixed Table Report function to make the report "Top 5 Employees for Sales".

```
@F1=REPORT(slide=5 type=fix cell=B2)
```

SELECT TOP 5 e.FirstName + ' ' + e.LastName

- , SUM(d.Quantity)
- , Sum(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount)) AS SalesAmount
- , SalesAmount / (SELECT amount FROM tmp_amount)

FROM Orders o

,OrderDetails d

,Products p

,Employees e

WHERE o.OrderID = d.OrderID

AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID

AND o.EmployeeID = e.EmployeeID

AND YEAR(o.OrderDate) = 1996

AND MONTH(o.OrderDate) = 04

GROUP BY e.FirstName, e.LastName

ORDER BY 3 DESC

6.3.2 Variable Table Report

Uses VarTableReport method to generate a variable table report. In a variable table report, the number of rows or columns in the table is unfixed, and it is variable as the number of the result records. PTReportCom executes a SQL statement to get data from data source, inserts some blank rows/columns or insert new slide for some records, then fills data into the cells of a table.

Syntax

```
Report(...)
sqlstatement
```

Arguments

TYPE = "var"

SLIDE = slide

TABLE = table

FILLORDER = fillorder

CELL= celllist

RANGE = range

IMAGE = fieldlist

RESERVE = reserverecords

PAGEBREAK = pagelength

NODATA = nodataoption

CONNECT = datasource

The **TYPE** argument specifies the report type. "var" means a variable table report. Default is var.

The **SLIDE** argument identifies a slide in the report template. The *slide* is the index number of the slide. The index number starts at 1. If the index number is less than 0, it represents the position from the end of presentation. For examples, slide 2 is the second slide in a presentation, slide -1 is the last slide in a presentation. You can also reference a slide dynamically. "N" means the next slide. "N-1" means the last slide that the previous function processed. The **TABLE** argument identifies a table in a slide for a table report. The *table* is the index number of the table in a slide. The index number starts at 1. For examples, table 1 is the first table in a slide, table 2 is the second table. Default is 1.

The **FILLORDER** argument specifies the order in which PTReportCom fill data. Possible values are row or col. "row" means to fill data by rows, and "col" means to fill data by columns. Default is row.

The **CELL** argument specifies the positions where data values will be inserted. The *celllist* is the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *celllist* should correspond to the data source fields in the SQL statement. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cell PTReportCom will use the next cell if you omit a cell except the first cell. If FILLORDER="row", the next cell is the right cell. If FILLORDER="col", the next cell is the below cell.

The **RANGE** argument specifies the range in the table to be used for the records. A range is composed of some rows or columns. You can reference a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". PTReportCom will insert some rows/columns

for each record, or copy slides for some records. If the length of the range is 1 row/column, you need to reserve 1 or 2 rows/columns in one slide. Otherwise you must reserve all blank rows/columns for records in one slide. The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

The **IMAGE** argument specifies the fields are picture files. The *fieldlist* is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In data source, you stored the path and file name of the picture, not the picture. The file path can be a relative path, an absolute path or a URL. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the report template file.

The **RESERVE** argument specifies the number of the records for which you reserved some rows/columns in the report template for the report. The *reserverecords* represents the number of the records you reserved in the report template. One means you reserved some rows/columns for one record, and two means some rows/columns for two records. Default is 1. If the length of the range is 1 row/column, you need to reserve 1 or 2 rows/columns in one slide. Otherwise the value of RESERVE must be equal to the value of PAGEBREAK.

The **PAGEBREAK** argument specifies the page breaks, and tells PTReportCom to insert new pages in the report. One page is one slide. The unit of page length is r that means record. For example, "6r" or "6" means that PTReportCom will put 6 records per slide. Default is no page break. If the length of the range is more than 1, the value of PAGEBREAK must be equal to the value of RESERVE.

The **NODATA** argument specifies an option when no data are returned from data source. If the value is "delrange", PTReportCom will delete the range when no data are returned. "deltable" means to delete the table. "delslide" means to delete the slide. Default is to do nothing.

The **CONNECT** argument specifies the connection to a data source. The CONNECT can takes a string that expresses a data source name or a number that expresses a data source index. The index number of data source is the sequential number defined in the PTR file, and starts at 1. The default implies the first data source.

The **sqlstatement** is a SQL statement such as a SELECT statement.

Example

This example uses Variable Table Report function to make the report "Customer List".

@F1=Report(slide=2 type=var cell=A2 pagebreak=19 reserve=2)

SELECT CompanyName

,CityName

,CountryName

,ContactName

FROM Customers, Cities, Countries

WHERE Customers.CityCode = Cities.CityCode

AND Customers.CountryCode = Cities.CountryCode

AND Customers.CountryCode = Countries.CountryCode

ORDER BY CompanyName, CityName, CountryName

6.3.3 Group Table Report

Uses GroupTableReport method to generate a variable table report and group data. In a variable table report, the number of rows or columns in the table is unfixed, and it is variable as the number of the result records. PTReportCom executes a SQL statement to get data from data source, copy the group range for each group, copy the detail range for each record, then fills data into the table.

Syntax

```
Report(...)
sqlstatement
```

Arguments

TYPE = "var"

SLIDE = slide

TABLE = table

FILLORDER = fillorder

CELL= celllist

RANGE = range

GROUP= grouplist

GROUPRANGE = grouprange

IMAGE = fieldlist

RESERVE = reserverecords

PAGEBREAK = pagelength

NODATA = nodataoption

CONNECT = datasource

The **TYPE** argument specifies the report type. "var" means a variable table report. Default is var.

The **SLIDE** argument identifies a slide in the report template. The *slide* is the index number of the slide. The index number starts at 1. If the index number is less than 0, it represents the position from the end of presentation. For examples, slide 2 is the second slide in a presentation, slide -1 is the last slide in a presentation. You can also reference a slide dynamically. "N" means the next slide. "N-1" means the last slide that the previous function processed.

The **TABLE** argument identifies a table in a slide for a table report. The *table* is the index number of the table in a slide. The index number starts at 1. For

examples, table 1 is the first table in a slide, table 2 is the second table. Default is 1.

The **FILLORDER** argument specifies the order in which PTReportCom fill data. Possible values are row or col. "row" means to fill data by rows, and "col" means to fill data by columns. Default is row.

The **CELL** argument specifies the positions where data values will be inserted. The *celllist* is the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *celllist* should correspond to the data source fields in the SQL statement. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cell PTReportCom will use the next cell if you omit a cell except the first cell. If FILLORDER="row", the next cell is the right cell. If FILLORDER="col", the next cell is the below cell.

The **RANGE** argument specifies the range in the table to be used for the details. A range is composed of some rows or columns. You can reference a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". PTReportCom will insert some rows/columns for each record, or copy slides for some records. If the length of the range is 1 row/column, you need to reserve 1 or 2 rows/columns in one slide. Otherwise you must reserve all blank rows/columns for records in one slide. The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

The **GROUP** argument specifies the group of the report. The *grouplist* is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name or index number of the field, but not simultaneously. In one report, there may be up to 10 groups. Notes: the order of the groups should be in accordance with the order of the ORDER BY clause in the SQL statement. The **GROUPRANGE** argument follows the GROUP argument, and specifies the range of the group in the table. For example, the grouprange of level 1 must follow the group of level 1, and the grouprange of level 2 must follow the

group of level 2. PTReportCom will repeat the group range for each group. The range of the group should contain the range of the details and the area that includes all cells for this group. You reference a group range like "2:4" or "B:D". For example, there are two groups, the range of the group one contains all cells for the group one and the range of the group two, and the range of the group two contains all cells for the group two and the range of the details. The default range is the area that includes all cells for this group and the range or group range for the lower level group. If the grouprange is not same as the range of the detail, you must add a pagebreak by group, and the length of the range can not be more then 1 row/column.

The **IMAGE** argument specifies the fields are picture files. The *fieldlist* is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In data source, you stored the path and file name of the picture, not the picture. The file path can be a relative path, an absolute path or a URL. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the report template file.

The **RESERVE** argument specifies the number of the records for which you reserved some rows/columns in the report template for the report. The *reserverecords* represents the number of the records you reserved in the report template. One means you reserved some rows/columns for one record, and two means some rows/columns for two records. Default is 1. If the length of the range is 1 row/column, you need to reserve 1 or 2 rows/columns in one slide. Otherwise the value of RESERVE must be equal to the value of PAGEBREAK.

The **PAGEBREAK** argument specifies the page breaks, and tells PTReportCom to insert new pages in the report. One page is one slide. The unit of page length is r or g. "r" means record, "g1" means group one, "g2" means group two...... For example, "6r" or "6" means that PTReportCom will

put 6 records per slide, "1g" means one group per slide, and "1g,6r" means one group or 6 records per slide. Default PTReportCom will not show the group name in the new page. You can add "s" to show them. For example, "1gs,6rs". If the grouprange is not same as the range of the detail, you must add a pagebreak by group, and the length of the range can not be more then 1 row/column. If the grouprange is same as the range of the detail, and the length of the range is more than 1, you should add a pagebreak by record, and the value of PAGEBREAK must be equal to the value of RESERVE.

The **NODATA** argument specifies an option when no data are returned from data source. If the value is "delrange", PTReportCom will delete the range when no data are returned. "deltable" means to delete the table. "delslide" means to delete the slide. Default is to do nothing.

The **CONNECT** argument specifies the connection to a data source. The CONNECT can takes a string that expresses a data source name or a number that expresses a data source index. The index number of data source is the sequential number defined in the PTR file, and starts at 1. The default implies the first data source.

The **sqlstatement** is a SQL statement such as a SELECT statement.

Example

This example uses Group Table Report function to make the report "Customer Profile".

@F1=Report(slide=2 cell=A2,B3,C3,D3,D4,E3,E4,E5
range=2:5 group=1 pagebreak=5 reserve=5)
SELECT LEFT(CompanyName,1)
 ,CompanyName

,ContactName

,'Phone: ' & Phone

```
,'Fax: ' & Fax
,Address
,CityName & ', ' & CountryName
,PostalCode

FROM Customers, Cities, Countries

WHERE Customers.CityCode = Cities.CityCode

AND Customers.CountryCode = Cities.CountryCode

AND Customers.CountryCode = Countries.CountryCode

ORDER BY CompanyName
```

6.3.4 Form Report

Uses FormReport method to generate a form report and group data. For a form report, you can put data from data source into shapes or text boxes in the report file. PTReportCom gets data from a recordset object, copy the slide for each record.

Syntax

```
Report(...)
sqlstatement
```

Arguments

TYPE = "form"

SLIDE = slide

CELL= celllist

GROUP= grouplist

IMAGE = fieldlist

NODATA = nodataoption

CONNECT = datasource

The **TYPE** argument specifies the report type. "form" means a form report.

The **SLIDE** argument identifies a slide in the report template. The *slide* is the index number of the slide. The index number starts at 1. If the index number is less than 0, it represents the position from the end of presentation. For examples, slide 2 is the second slide in a presentation, slide -1 is the last slide in a presentation. You can also reference a slide dynamically. "N" means the next slide. "N-1" means the last slide that the previous function processed. The **CELL** argument specifies the positions where data values will be inserted. The *celllist* is the list of shapes or text boxes separated by the "," character. For example, "ProductName,ProductID,QuantityPerUnit,UnitPrice". The shapes or text boxes in the *celllist* should correspond to the data source fields in the SQL statement. The value of the first data source field is put into the first object as a text, and the value of the second data source field is put into the second object.......You can get the name of the shape or text box using the add-in "name.ppa".

The **GROUP** argument specifies the group of the report. The *grouplist* is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In one report, there may be up to 10 groups. The first GROUP is group one, the second is group two...... Notes: the order of groups should be in accordance with the order of ORDER BY clause in the SQL statement.

The **IMAGE** argument specifies the fields are picture files. The *fieldlist* is the list of data source fields separated by the "," character. You can identify a field using the name of field or the index number of field, but not simultaneously. In data source, you stored the path and file name of the picture, not the picture. The file path can be a relative path, an absolute path or a URL. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the report template file.

The **NODATA** argument specifies an option when no data are returned from data source. If the value is "delrange" or "delslide", PTReportCom will delete

the slide when no data are returned. Default is to do nothing.

The **CONNECT** argument specifies the connection to a data source. The CONNECT can takes a string that expresses a data source name or a number that expresses a data source index. The index number of data source is the sequential number defined in the PTR file, and starts at 1. The default implies the first data source.

The **sqlstatement** is a SQL statement such as a SELECT statement.

Remarks

In FormReport method, there is no Range and PageBreak. It will put only one record per slide.

Example

This example uses Form Report function to make the report "Supplier Profile".

@F1=Report(slide=2 type=form cell=SlideTitle,Company,ContactName

,ContactTitle,Address,City,Country,PostCode,Phone,Fax,HomePage)

SELECT CompanyName

,CompanyName

,ContactName

.ContactTitle

,Address

,CityName

,CountryName

,PostalCode

,Phone

,Fax

,HomePage

FROM Suppliers, Countries, Cities

WHERE Suppliers.CityCode = Cities.CityCode

AND Suppliers.CountryCode = Cities.CountryCode

AND Suppliers.CountryCode = Countries.CountryCode

ORDER BY CompanyName

6.3.5 MSGraph Chart

Uses MSGraphChart method to generate a chart. PTReportCom gets data from a recordset object, and fills data into the datasheet of a chart in the report file.

Syntax

Chart(...)
sqlstatement

Arguments

SLIDE = slide

CHART = chart

FILLORDER = fillorder

CELL= celllist

RANGE = range

CONNECT = datasource

The **SLIDE** argument identifies a slide in the report template. The *slide* is the index number of the slide. The index number starts at 1. If the index number is less than 0, it represents the position from the end of presentation. For examples, slide 2 is the second slide in a presentation, slide -1 is the last slide in a presentation. You can also reference a slide dynamically. "N" means the next slide. "N-1" means the last slide that the previous function processed. The **CHART** argument identifies a chart in the report template. The *chart* is the index number of the chart in the slide. The index number starts at 1. For examples, chart 2 is the second chart in the slide.

The **FILLORDER** argument specifies the order in which PTReportCom fill data.

Possible values are row or col. "row" means to fill data by rows, and "col" means to fill data by columns. Default is col.

The **CELL** argument specifies the positions where data values will be inserted. The *celllist* is the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *celllist* should correspond to the data source fields in the SQL statement. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cell PTReportCom will use the next cell if you omit a cell except the first cell. If FILLORDER="row", the next cell is the right cell. If FILLORDER="col", the next cell is the below cell. Note: On the datasheet, the leftmost column and the top row, which are commonly used for legend text or axis labels, are referred to as column 0 (zero) and row 0 (zero).

The **RANGE** argument specifies the range in the datasheet of the chart to be used for the records. PTReportCom will skip the rows/columns of the range for each record. A range is composed of some rows or columns. You can reference a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

The **CONNECT** argument specifies the connection to a data source. The CONNECT can takes a string that expresses a data source name or a number that expresses a data source index. The index number of data source is the sequential number defined in the PTR file, and starts at 1. The default implies the first data source.

The **sqlstatement** is a SQL statement such as a SELECT statement.

Example

This example uses Chart function to make the chart "Sales by Categories".

@F3_3=CHART(slide=3 cell=A0)

SELECT c.CategoryName

, Sum(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount))

```
FROM Orders o
,OrderDetails d
,Products p
,Categories c
WHERE o.OrderID = d.OrderID
AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID
AND p.CategoryID = c.CategoryID
AND YEAR(o.OrderDate) = 1996
AND MONTH(o.OrderDate) = 04
GROUP BY c.CategoryName
ORDER BY c.CategoryName
```

6.3.6 ExcelChart

Uses ExcelChart method to generate a chart. PTReportCom gets data from a recordset object, and fills data into the worksheet of a chart in the report file.

Syntax

```
Chart(...)
sqlstatement
```

Arguments

SLIDE = slide

CHART = chart

TYPE = type

FILLORDER = fillorder

CELL= celllist

RANGE = range

CONNECT = datasource

The **SLIDE** argument identifies a slide in the report template. The *slide* is the index number of the slide. The index number starts at 1. If the index number is

less than 0, it represents the position from the end of presentation. For examples, slide 2 is the second slide in a presentation, slide -1 is the last slide in a presentation. You can also reference a slide dynamically. "N" means the next slide. "N-1" means the last slide that the previous function processed. The **CHART** argument identifies a chart in the report template. The *chart* is the index number of the chart in the slide. The index number starts at 1. For examples, chart 2 is the second chart in the slide.

The **TYPE** argument specifies the report type. Possible values are fix or var. "fix" means that PTReportCom will directly fill data vales into the worksheet of the chart. "var" means that PTReportCom will add some blank rows/columns before filling data values into the worksheet of the chart. Default is var. When the report type is "var", you should reserve two rows/columns in the worksheet in the report template, and set the data range of the chart to 2 rows/columns. The RESERVE must be 2.

The **FILLORDER** argument specifies the order in which PTReportCom fill data. Possible values are row or col. "row" means to fill data by rows, and "col" means to fill data by columns. Default is row.

The **CELL** argument specifies the positions where data values will be inserted. The *celllist* is the list of cells separated by the "," character. For example, "A2,B2,B3,D2,D3". The cells in the *celllist* should correspond to the data source fields in the SQL statement. The value of the first field is put into the first cell, and the value of the second field is put into the second cell PTReportCom will use the next cell if you omit a cell except the first cell. If FILLORDER="row", the next cell is the right cell. If FILLORDER="col", the next cell is the below cell.

The **RANGE** argument specifies the range in the datasheet of the chart to be used for the records. PTReportCom will skip the rows/columns of the range for each record. A range is composed of some rows or columns. You can

reference a range of cells like "2:4" or "B:D". The default range is the area that includes all cells for the records.

The **CONNECT** argument specifies the connection to a data source. The CONNECT can takes a string that expresses a data source name or a number that expresses a data source index. The index number of data source is the sequential number defined in the PTR file, and starts at 1. The default implies the first data source.

The **sqlstatement** is a SQL statement such as a SELECT statement.

Example

```
This example uses Chart function to make the chart "Sales by Categories".
```

@F3_3=CHART(slide=3 cell=A2)

SELECT c.CategoryName

, Sum(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount))

FROM Orders o

,OrderDetails d

,Products p

,Categories c

WHERE o.OrderID = d.OrderID

AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID

AND p.CategoryID = c.CategoryID

AND YEAR(o.OrderDate) = 1996

AND MONTH(o.OrderDate) = 04

GROUP BY c.CategoryName

ORDER BY c.CategoryName

6.3.7 ExecSQL

Executes a SQL statement, but no data is returned to the report.

Syntax

```
ExecSQL(...) sqlstatement
```

Arguments

CONNECT= datasource

The **CONNECT** argument specifies the connection to a data source. The CONNECT can takes a string that expresses a data source name or a number that expresses a data source index. The index number of data source is the sequential number defined in the PTR file, and starts at 1. The default implies the first data source.

The *sqlstatement* is a SQL statement that can be DDL (Data Definition Language), DML (Data Manipulation Language) and even DCL (Data Control Language).

Using EXECSQL function, you can open a database, create a temporary table, insert data into a temporary table, update data, execute a stored procedure, and drop a table. It is very useful to create a temporary table, and prepare data for REPORT function.

Example

This example uses ExecSQL functions to create a table tmp0, and add some records into the table. No result is returned to the report.

```
@F1=EXECSQL()
CREATE TABLE tmp0 (
min_date DATE,
max_date DATE)
;
@F2=EXECSQL()
INSERT INTO tmp0
SELECT ...
```

Chapter 7 Advanced Reports

7.1 Executing multiple SQL statements

In one report building process, PTReportCom can execute multiple SQL statements. This enables you to

- 1. Create a report like building block. You may divide one report into several parts, and respectively use the different SQL statements to make each part of the report. You can use the different queries to get the data located in the different tables or databases.
- 2. Create a complex report using the temporary table. First, you create a temporary table. Second, use several SQL statements to prepare data in the temporary table. You can execute INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, INSERT SELECT statements. And then put the prepared data from the temporary table into your report.
- 3. Create one report file with several reports. For example, you may create one presentation with several tables.

Example

This example executes multiple SQL statements to create a report.

1. Create the template in Microsoft PowerPoint.



Compare with Last Month by Categories

Category Name	Curre	ent Month	Last Month		
	Quantity	Amount	Quantity	Amount	
	#,##0	\$#,##0.00	#,##0	\$#,##0.00	
Total	#,##0	\$#,##0.00	#,##0	\$#,##0.00	

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```
AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID
AND YEAR(o.OrderDate) = YEAR('1996-04-01')
AND MONTH(o.OrderDate) = MONTH('1996-04-01')
/* Calculate the total in the last month */
@F8_2=REPORT(slide=8 type=fix cell=D4)
SELECT SUM(d.Quantity)
   , Sum(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount))
FROM Orders o
   ,OrderDetails d
   ,Products p
WHERE o.OrderID = d.OrderID
AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID
AND o.OrderDate >= DateAdd('m',-1,#1996-04-01#)
AND o.OrderDate < #1996-04-01#
/* Drop table tmp_category_sales */
@F8_3=EXECSQL()
DROP TABLE tmp_category_sales
/* Create table tmp_category_sales */
@F8_4=EXECSQL()
CREATE TABLE tmp_category_sales (
CategoryID INTEGER,
Quantity INTEGER,
Amount MONEY
)
```

```
/* Get the sales amount by categories in the current month */
@F8_5=EXECSQL()
INSERT INTO tmp_category_sales (CategoryID, Quantity, Amount)
SELECT p.CategoryID
   , SUM(d.Quantity)
   , Sum(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount))
FROM Orders o
   ,OrderDetails d
   ,Products p
WHERE o.OrderID = d.OrderID
AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID
AND YEAR(o.OrderDate) = YEAR('1996-04-01')
AND MONTH(o.OrderDate) = MONTH('1996-04-01')
GROUP BY p.CategoryID
/* Show the sales amount by categories in the current month */
@F8_6=REPORT(slide=8 type=var cell=A3)
SELECT c.CategoryName
   , IIF(IsNull(t.Quantity),0,t.Quantity)
   , IIF(IsNull(t.Amount),0,t.Amount)
FROM Categories c LEFT JOIN tmp_category_sales t
ON c.CategoryID = t.CategoryID
ORDER BY c.CategoryName
/* Delete from table tmp_category_sales */
@F8 7=EXECSQL()
DELETE FROM tmp_category_sales
```

```
/* Get the sales amount by categories in the last month */
@F8_8=EXECSQL()
INSERT INTO tmp_category_sales (CategoryID, Quantity, Amount)
SELECT p.CategoryID
   , SUM(d.Quantity)
   , Sum(d.UnitPrice * d.Quantity * (1-d.Discount))
FROM Orders o
   ,OrderDetails d
   ,Products p
WHERE o.OrderID = d.OrderID
AND d.ProductID = p.ProductID
AND o.OrderDate >= DateAdd('m',-1,#1996-04-01#)
AND o.OrderDate < #1996-04-01#
GROUP BY p.CategoryID
/* Show the sales amount by categories in the last month */
@F8_9=REPORT(slide=8 type=fix cell=D3)
SELECT IIF(IsNull(t.Quantity),0,t.Quantity)
   , IIF(IsNull(t.Amount),0,t.Amount)
FROM Categories c LEFT JOIN tmp_category_sales t
ON c.CategoryID = t.CategoryID
ORDER BY c.CategoryName
```

3. Generate the report.



Compare with Last Month by Categories

Category Name	Curr	Current Month		Last Month	
	Quantity	Amount	Quantity	Amount	
Beverages	925	\$27,761.58	834	\$34,599.15	
Condiments	378	\$10,773.27	289	\$6,293.97	
Confections	880	\$22,877.18	475	\$10,074.09	
Dairy Products	581	\$13,685.33	506	\$11,454.50	
Grains/Cereals	189	\$3,325.40	219	\$4,060.01	
Meat/Poultry	92	\$4,083.66	344	\$23,334.05	
Produce	351	\$13,031.20	37	\$1,172.80	
Seafood	669	\$9,316.55	584	\$12,531.12	
Total	4,065	\$104,854.15	3,288	\$103,519.69	

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7.2 Sorting, Grouping and Totaling

7.2.1 Sorting data

Sorting means placing data in some kind of order to help you find and evaluate it. For example, you may want to have a customer list sorted alphabetically by name or by country.

To sort your data, you may use SQL. Use the **ORDER BY** clause to have your results displayed in a sorted order.

SELECT EmployeeID

,LastName

,FirstName

,HireDate

FROM Employees

ORDER BY HireDate; /* ascending sort */

In the example above, results will come back in ascending order by hire date.

To explicitly specify ascending or descending order, add ASC or DESC, to the end of your ORDER BY clause. The following is an example of a descending order sort.

ORDER BY HireDate DESC; /* descending sort */

7.2.2 Totaling

You can sum the values, count all the values or only those values that are distinct from one another, and determine the maximum, minimum, average. To add totals, you can use aggregate functions in SQL statement, such as COUNT, SUM, AVG, MAX, MIN.

- 1. In the fixed table report, you can add a total directly using a separate SQL.
- 2. In the variable table report, you must add the total first using a Fixed Table report function before you use the Variable Table report function. Because the cell address of the total field will change after you use Variable Table report function.

7.2.3 Grouping data and Subreports

Grouped data is data that is sorted and broken up into meaningful groups. In a customer list, for example, a group might consist of all those customers living in the same Region.

To group data in a report, you should use GROUP TABLE REPORT function. For more detail information, refer to "GroupTableReport Method" and "Group Table Report" in this document.

Using the feature of grouping data, you can make subreports within a report. A subreport would typically be used to perform one-to-many lookups such as

Customer / Order / OrderDetails.

To make sub reports within the main report,

- 1. Write a JOIN SQL statement to access data from two or more tables. For example, you can join Customers, Orders and OrderDetails tables.
- 2. Use GROUP TABLE REPORT function.

For more detail information, refer to the samples customer_profile.ptr, product_catalog.ptr and sales_detail.ptr within PTReportCom.

7.2.4 Subtotaling

A subtotal is a summary that totals or sums numeric values in a group. You can sum the values in each group, count all the values in each group, and determine the maximum, minimum, average in each group. For example, determine the total sales per sales representative in a sales report.

To add subtotals, you can use aggregate functions in SQL statement.

- 1. Use aggregate function and GROUP BY clause, get summary data for each group, and insert results into a temporary table.
- 2. If you have the different kinds of summaries, repeat the step 1, and insert results into another temporary table.
- 3. Use group table report function, and join the detail data and the summary data using JOIN. The summary fields must be included in the group list.
- 4. Except for sub-totals, you can add total too using aggregate function in SQL statement. You must add total first using a Fixed Table report function before you use the Variable Table report function. Because the cell address of the total field will change after you use Variable Table report function.

For more detail information, please refer to the samples sales_detail.ptr within PTReportCom.

7.3 Pictures

7.3.1 Inserting pictures into a report template

To make eye-catching reports, you can add pictures to your reports. You can directly insert pictures into the report template in Microsoft PowerPoint. For example, you want to display a logo in your report. You can insert the logo graphics file into the report template. For more information about adding pictures to a presentation, refer to *Microsoft PowerPoint Help*.

7.3.2 Inserting pictures into a report

Except for inserting the static pictures during report design, you may insert pictures during report building process. PTReportCom can put the graphics files into the report, and support all graphics file format that Microsoft PowerPoint support.

To insert pictures into a report using PTReportCom, you should do as follows:

- 1. Store the paths and names of the graphics files in the database
 You store the paths and names of the picture files in database, do not store the
 pictures. The file path can be a relative path, an absolute path or a URL. For
 example, you store "images\emp1.jpg" in Photo field.
- 2. Specify the size in the report template

To specify the size, you should write a formatting expression in the report template file. For a table report, you write a formatting expression in the cell. For a form report, you write a formatting expression in the shape or text box. PTReportCom will get the formatting expression, and insert a picture into the report according to the instruction in the format expression.

3. Write the report function in a PTR file, and identify the image fields using the IMAGE argument. For example,

@F1=Report(slide=1 ... image=photo)

4. Use PTReportCom to generate report with pictures

PTReportCom will submit the SQL statement and get the data from database, read the graphics files according to the paths and names, and insert them into the report. If the path and file name of the picture is "", PTReportCom will return "". PTReportCom will return "#Error" if it does not find the file of the picture.

For more detail information about pictures, refer to the samples employee_profile.ptr, product_catalog.ptr within PTReportCom.

Chapter 8 Hints and Tips

You can run PPTReport.exe in command line. The format is:

pptreport <ptr file name> [-d] [-u1 user1] [-p1 pwd1] ... [pa1 pa2 ...]

For example:

pptreport c:\pptreport\monthlysales.ptr 199605

PPTReport.exe can be scheduled with Windows Scheduled Tasks or other tools. The process of generating reports can be fully automated, periodically or on events.

PTReportCom comes with a sample database, VB sample programs, VBA sample programs and sample reports. You can use them when learning the program. To use the samples, you must add a data source named "Report Sample" to specify the sample database.

To make a report template, you can use some sample data. It is very useful especially for formatting. After you have made the report template, you delete the sample data.

For a table report, you can format the value from data sources with a format expression. You should write a format expression into a data cell in the report template file first. PTReportCom will get the text of the cell as a format expression before it puts a value into a cell, and output the value using the format expression.

For a form report, you can format the value from data sources with a format expression. You should write a format expression into the shape or text box in

the report template file first. PTReportCom will get the format expression before it puts a value into a shape or text box, and output the value using the format expression.

You can define the different formats and colors for positive values, negative values and zeros.

An irregular table does not have the same number of cells for each row or column. It does make it harder to process the presentation. In an irregular table, you have some difficulty to reference a cell, and an error may occur when you try to work with some rows or columns.

For a form report, you can reference a shape or text box by its name. You can find a PowerPoint add-in "name.ppa" under the PTReportCom's working directory that can name an object in a slide.

To create a chart in the report template file, you can use some sample data.

Using sample data, you can set the various chart options. After you have made the report template, you delete the sample data.

For MSGraph chart, on the datasheet, the leftmost column and the top row, which are commonly used for legend text or axis labels, are referred to as column 0 (zero) and row 0 (zero).

By default, Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 uses Microsoft Excel to create charts, but doesn't expose the chart as a normal Excel object. PTReportCom can not access the charts. You must insert an Excel chart object that PTReportCom can access.

PTReportCom is a converter too. Besides Microsoft PowerPoint document, you can generate a report in other file format such as HTML, RTF, GIF, JPG and BMP. You can also convert data from database to other file format.

You can edit a PTR file (.ptr) with a text editor such as Notepad.

In a PTR file, for the report template file, report file and log file, it is possible to give a relative path. If it is a relative path, the base path is the path of the PTR file.

In a PTR file, you can use parameters in the SQL statements. To use parameters, you must define them first.

In a PTR file, you can use parameters in the paths and names of the report file, template file and log file. To use parameters, you must define them first.

You should be careful to define a unique name for each parameter, because PTReportCom will replace all strings that are the same as the names of the parameters. It is a good choice a name begins with the "\$" character such as "\$ReportDate".

If you get some errors when you run PPTReport.exe, you can check the default log file "PPTReport.log" under the PTReportCom program directory. If you do not define the log file in the PTR file, or can not create the log file defined, you can find log information in the PPTReport.log.

In the [SQL] section in the PTR file, you can use comments. A comment is the

"/*" characters, followed by any sequence of characters (including new lines), followed by the "*/" characters. You cannot nest comments.

You can reference a slide dynamically. "N" means the next slide. "N-1" means the last slide that the previous function processed.

To add totals or subtotals, you can use the aggregate functions in SQL statement.

To group data in a report, you should use GroupTableReport method, and Group Table Report function.

In Group Table Report function or Form Report function in the PTR file, the order of groups should be in accordance with the order of ORDER BY clause in the SQL statement.

For a variable table report, if the length of the range is 1 row/column, you need to reserve 1 or 2 rows/columns. PTReportCom will insert some rows/columns for each record. If the length of the range is more than 1 row/column, you should add PAGEBREAK argument, and the value of PAGEBREAK must be equal to the value of RESERVE. PTReportCom will copy some slides.

If the grouprange is not same as the range of the detail, you must add a pagebreak by group, and the length of the range can not be more then 1 row/column. If the grouprange is same as the range of the detail, and the length of the range is more than 1, you should add a pagebreak by record, and the value of PAGEBREAK must be equal to the value of RESERVE.

You can create reports with pictures using PTReportCom. You should store the path and name of the graphics file in the database, identify the image fields in the report function, and specify the size in the report template file.

To convert from pixels to points, it is depend on the screen resolution (DPI). If you have a 96 dpi screen (Windows PC), 4 pixels are equal to 3 points.

It is very useful to create a temporary table. You can prepare data using INSERT/UPDATE/DELETE/INSERT SELECT, and then make a report using REPORT function.

You can write a program to make a PTR file using C, perl or DOS shell, and then run PPTReport.exe to generate report. The two steps can be written into a batch file.

PTReportCom supports Microsoft PowerPoint 2007. You can use pptx file as report file and template file. Please copy "pconv2007.cfg" to "pconv.cfg".

Chapter 9 Format Expressions

For a cell, shape or text box in which data are got from data source, you can set the format using a format expression. PTReportCom gets the text from the cell, shape or text, and outputs the result using it as the format expression. In fact, PTReportCom calls the format function in Visual Basic. For more information about format, refer to Format Function in Visual Basic for Applications Reference.

A.1 Formats for Numeric Values

A user-defined format expression for numbers can have from one to four sections separated by semicolons. If the format argument contains one of the named numeric formats, only one section is allowed.

If you use	The result is
One section only	The format expression applies to all values.
Two sections	The first section applies to positive values and zeros, the
	second to negative values.
Three sections	The first section applies to positive values, the second to
	negative values, and the third to zeros.
Four sections	The first section applies to positive values, the second to
	negative values, the third to zeros, and the fourth to Null
	values.

The following example has two sections: the first defines the format for positive values and zeros; the second section defines the format for negative values.

"\$#,##0;(\$#,##0)"

If you include semicolons with nothing between them, the missing section is printed using the format of the positive value. For example, the following format

displays positive and negative values using the format in the first section and displays "Zero" if the value is zero.

"\$#,##0;;\Z\e\r\o"

The following table identifies characters you can use to create user-defined number formats:

number formats:		
Character	Description	
None	Display the number with no formatting.	
(0)	Digit placeholder. Display a digit or a zero. If the expression	
	has a digit in the position where the 0 appears in the format	
	string, display it; otherwise, display a zero in that position.	
	If the number has fewer digits than there are zeros (on either	
	side of the decimal) in the format expression, display leading	
	or trailing zeros. If the number has more digits to the right of	
	the decimal separator than there are zeros to the right of the	
	decimal separator in the format expression, round the number	
	to as many decimal places as there are zeros. If the number	
	has more digits to the left of the decimal separator than there	
	are zeros to the left of the decimal separator in the format	
	expression, display the extra digits without modification.	
(#)	Digit placeholder. Display a digit or nothing. If the expression	
	has a digit in the position where the # appears in the format	
	string, display it; otherwise, display nothing in that position.	
	This symbol works like the 0 digit placeholder, except that	
	leading and trailing zeros aren't displayed if the number has	
	the same or fewer digits than there are # characters on either	
	side of the decimal separator in the format expression.	
(.)	Decimal placeholder. In some locales, a comma is used as	
	the decimal separator. The decimal placeholder determines	

how many digits are displayed to the left and right of the decimal separator. If the format expression contains only number signs to the left of this symbol, numbers smaller than 1 begin with a decimal separator. To display a leading zero displayed with fractional numbers, use 0 as the first digit placeholder to the left of the decimal separator. The actual character used as a decimal placeholder in the formatted output depends on the Number Format recognized by your system. (%) Percentage placeholder. The expression is multiplied by 100. The percent character (%) is inserted in the position where it appears in the format string. (,) Thousand separator. In some locales, a period is used as a thousand separator. The thousand separator separates thousands from hundreds within a number that has four or more places to the left of the decimal separator. Standard use of the thousand separator is specified if the format contains a thousand separator surrounded by digit placeholders (0 or #). Two adjacent thousand separators or a thousand separator immediately to the left of the decimal separator (whether or not a decimal is specified) means "scale the number by dividing it by 1000, rounding as needed." For example, you can use the format string "##0,," to represent 100 million as 100. Numbers smaller than 1 million are displayed as 0. Two adjacent thousand separators in any position other than immediately to the left of the decimal separator are treated simply as specifying the use of a thousand separator. The actual character used as the thousand separator in the

	formatted output depends on the Number Format recognized
	by your system.
(:)	Time separator. In some locales, other characters may be
	used to represent the time separator. The time separator
	separates hours, minutes, and seconds when time values are
	formatted. The actual character used as the time separator in
	formatted output is determined by your system settings.
(/)	Date separator. In some locales, other characters may be
	used to represent the date separator. The date separator
	separates the day, month, and year when date values are
	formatted. The actual character used as the date separator in
	formatted output is determined by your system settings.
(E- E+ e- e+)	Scientific format. If the format expression contains at least
	one digit placeholder (0 or #) to the right of E-, E+, e-, or e+,
	the number is displayed in scientific format and E or e is
	inserted between the number and its exponent. The number
	of digit placeholders to the right determines the number of
	digits in the exponent. Use E- or e- to place a minus sign next
	to negative exponents. Use E+ or e+ to place a minus sign
	next to negative exponents and a plus sign next to positive
	exponents.
-+\$()	Display a literal character. To display a character other than
	one of those listed, precede it with a backslash (\) or enclose
	it in double quotation marks (" ").
(\)	Display the next character in the format string. To display a
	character that has special meaning as a literal character,
	precede it with a backslash (\). The backslash itself isn't
	displayed. Using a backslash is the same as enclosing the

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	next character in double quotation marks. To display a
	backslash, use two backslashes (\\).
	Examples of characters that can't be displayed as literal
	characters are the date-formatting and time-formatting
	characters (a, c, d, h, m, n, p, q, s, t, w, y, / and :), the
	numeric-formatting characters (#, 0, %, E, e, comma, and
	period), and the string-formatting characters (@, &, <, >,
	and !).
("ABC")	Display the string inside the double quotation marks (" "). To
	include a string in format from within code, you must use
	Chr(34) to enclose the text (34 is the character code for a
	quotation mark (")).

A.2 Formats for String Values

A format expression for strings can have one section or two sections separated by a semicolon (;).

If you use	The result is
One section only	The format applies to all string data.
Two sections	The first section applies to string data, the second to Null
	values and zero-length strings ("").

You can use any of the following characters to create a format expression for strings:

Character	Description
@	Character placeholder. Display a character or a space. If the
	string has a character in the position where the at symbol (@)
	appears in the format string, display it; otherwise, display a
	space in that position. Placeholders are filled from right to left

	unless there is an exclamation point character (!) in the format
	string.
&	Character placeholder. Display a character or nothing. If the
	string has a character in the position where the ampersand (&)
	appears, display it; otherwise, display nothing. Placeholders are
	filled from right to left unless there is an exclamation point
	character (!) in the format string.
<	Force lowercase. Display all characters in lowercase format.
>	Force uppercase. Display all characters in uppercase format.
!	Force left to right fill of placeholders. The default is to fill
	placeholders from right to left.

A.3 Formats for Date/Time Values

The following table identifies characters you can use to create user-defined date/time formats:

Character	Description
(:)	Time separator. In some locales, other characters may be used
	to represent the time separator. The time separator separates
	hours, minutes, and seconds when time values are formatted.
	The actual character used as the time separator in formatted
	output is determined by your system settings.
(/)	Date separator. In some locales, other characters may be used
	to represent the date separator. The date separator separates
	the day, month, and year when date values are formatted. The
	actual character used as the date separator in formatted output
	is determined by your system settings.
С	Display the date as ddddd and display the time as ttttt, in that

	order. Display only date information if there is no fractional part
	to the date serial number; display only time information if there is
	no integer portion.
d	Display the day as a number without a leading zero (1 – 31).
dd	Display the day as a number with a leading zero (01 – 31).
ddd	Display the day as an abbreviation (Sun – Sat).
dddd	Display the day as a full name (Sunday – Saturday).
ddddd	Display the date as a complete date (including day, month, and
	year), formatted according to your system's short date format
	setting. The default short date format is m/d/yy.
dddddd	Display a date serial number as a complete date (including day,
	month, and year) formatted according to the long date setting
	recognized by your system. The default long date format is
	mmmm dd, yyyy.
aaaa	The same as dddd, only it's the localized version of the string.
W	Display the day of the week as a number (1 for Sunday through 7
	for Saturday).
ww	Display the week of the year as a number (1 – 54).
m	Display the month as a number without a leading zero $(1 - 12)$. If
	m immediately follows h or hh, the minute rather than the month
	is displayed.
mm	Display the month as a number with a leading zero (01 – 12). If m
	immediately follows h or hh, the minute rather than the month is
	displayed.
mmm	Display the month as an abbreviation (Jan – Dec).
mmmm	Display the month as a full month name (January – December).
0000	The same as mmmm, only it's the localized version of the string.

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q	Display the quarter of the year as a number $(1 - 4)$.
у	Display the day of the year as a number (1 – 366).
уу	Display the year as a 2-digit number (00 – 99).
уууу	Display the year as a 4-digit number (100 – 9999).
h	Display the hour as a number without leading zeros $(0 - 23)$.
Hh	Display the hour as a number with leading zeros (00 – 23).
N	Display the minute as a number without leading zeros (0 – 59).
Nn	Display the minute as a number with leading zeros (00 – 59).
S	Display the second as a number without leading zeros (0 – 59).
Ss	Display the second as a number with leading zeros (00 – 59).
ttttt	Display a time as a complete time (including hour, minute, and
	second), formatted using the time separator defined by the time
	format recognized by your system. A leading zero is displayed if
	the leading zero option is selected and the time is before 10:00
	A.M. or P.M. The default time format is h:mm:ss.
AM/PM	Use the 12-hour clock and display an uppercase AM with any
	hour before noon; display an uppercase PM with any hour
	between noon and 11:59 P.M.
am/pm	Use the 12-hour clock and display a lowercase AM with any hour
	before noon; display a lowercase PM with any hour between
	noon and 11:59 P.M.
A/P	Use the 12-hour clock and display an uppercase A with any hour
	before noon; display an uppercase P with any hour between
	noon and 11:59 P.M.
a/p	Use the 12-hour clock and display a lowercase A with any hour
	before noon; display a lowercase P with any hour between noon
	and 11:59 P.M.

AMPM

Use the 12-hour clock and display the AM string literal as defined by your system with any hour before noon; display the PM string literal as defined by your system with any hour between noon and 11:59 P.M. AMPM can be either uppercase or lowercase, but the case of the string displayed matches the string as defined by your system settings. The default format is AM/PM.

Chapter 10 License and Support

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If you encounter any problems in usage of PTReportCom, and need the technical support:

■ Go to our support web site at:

http://www.ljzsoft.com/support.htm

Send email to support@ljzsoft.com