DEVELOP

Microsoft Dynamics™ GP

eConnect Serialization Example Using Microsoft® Visual Basic® .NET and ADO.NET

Article

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Microsoft Dynamics™

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Introduction

This article demonstrates how to serialize data from a custom Microsoft® SQL Server® table and use eConnect objects to integrate the records into Microsoft Dynamics™ GP 10.0. This article assumes that that you have some experience with eConnect for Microsoft Dynamics GP 10.0, Microsoft Visual Studio® 2005, and Microsoft SQL Server 2005.

Add a new Windows application

The first step in this project is to add a new Microsoft Windows® application within Visual Basic .NET.

Launch Visual Studio .NET 2005 and Create a Project

1. Choose Start, click Programs, click Microsoft Visual Studio .NET 2005, and then click Microsoft Visual Studio .NET 2005.
2. When Visual Studio is active, click the **New Project** button. You will be prompted to select what type of project you would like to create. In the Project Type section, choose **Visual Basic Projects**.
3. Once you have selected Visual Basic Projects you will see the templates on the right hand side. Choose the **Windows Application** template.
4. Define the name of the new project and specify the location at which the new project will be saved. When you are ready to proceed, click **OK**. A blank project will open, where you can begin the process of developing a custom application.

Add References

In your new project, add the following references:

Reference name	Path to reference
`Microsoft.Dynamics.GP.eConnect`	C:\Program Files\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\eConnect 10\Objects
`Microsoft.Dynamics.GP.eConnect.Serialization`	C:\Program Files\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\eConnect 10\Objects

Apply the Sample Code

Once the references have been added and you have verified that they are correct, add the sample code to your new project.

In the following code samples, comments are enclosed in curly braces.

Note: To view attachments, you must be viewing this document in Adobe Reader 6.0 or later, or in the full version of Acrobat. Right-click the paperclip icon to the left of the desired file, and choose to open or save the file.

Script: Initializing eConnect Methods

In Visual Basic .NET 2005, use the Imports function to avoid having to type the entire method and reduce the amount of code.

- ImportsFunction.txt

Script: Adding a New Command Button

In the project, create a new command button on the window. This button is used to trigger the Visual Basic .NET code and call the Sales Order Object.

- AddCommandButton.txt

Script: Setting the Sales Order Object

This section of the code sets the Sales Order Object. It also dimensions variables that will be used in the later sections of the code.

- InitializeSalesOrderObject.txt

Script: Using ADO.NET to retrieve records

Use Microsoft ActiveX® Data Objects (ADO).NET and the **SqlDataReader** to query records from our custom SQL table. The following code loops through the custom table and sets the elements in the **taCreateCustomerAddress_ItemsTaCreateCustomerAddress** node. The elements are then set to their corresponding columns in the custom SQL table.

- ADONETRecordRetrieval.txt

Script: Serialize using the XML Text Writer

Serialization is the process of converting an object into a form that can be readily transported. To serialize an object, first create the object that is to be serialized, and set its public properties and fields. To do this, you must decide the transport format in which the XML stream is to be stored—either as a stream or as a file.

- XMLTextWriter.txt

Debug and test the application

In Visual Studio .NET, select the **Debug** menu item and choose the option to start the debug process.

This customization can be tested against the sample company (Fabrikam, Inc.) that is provided with Microsoft Dynamics GP. The eConnect product does not need to be registered when testing with the sample company.

Conclusion

Integrating with eConnect objects can be accomplished fairly easily. This article explains how to create an integration that queries records from a custom Microsoft SQL Server table and then passes that data to the Customer Create Object. The concept is the same for any other object. The same code can be used to integrate other eConnect types, as long as the sample code is modified to be able to pass data to other eConnect objects.

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U.S. and Canada Toll Free 1-888-477-7989
Worldwide +1-701-281-6500
0Hwww.microsoft.com/dynamics

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