

WebPublisher v2

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WebPublisher v2

Introduction

WebPublisher has one purpose. To automate the process of making DataEase applications open to everyone with a web browser. A developer can web-publish DataEase forms and reports without writing a single line of code, simply by making choices and clicking buttons. There is no easier way to put a database application online.

When DataEase forms are web-published, WebPublisher automatically turns them into XML files. (XML is a Markup Language, eXtended for data-entry and update). WebPublisher then uses Active Server Pages to transfer data between web server and browser.

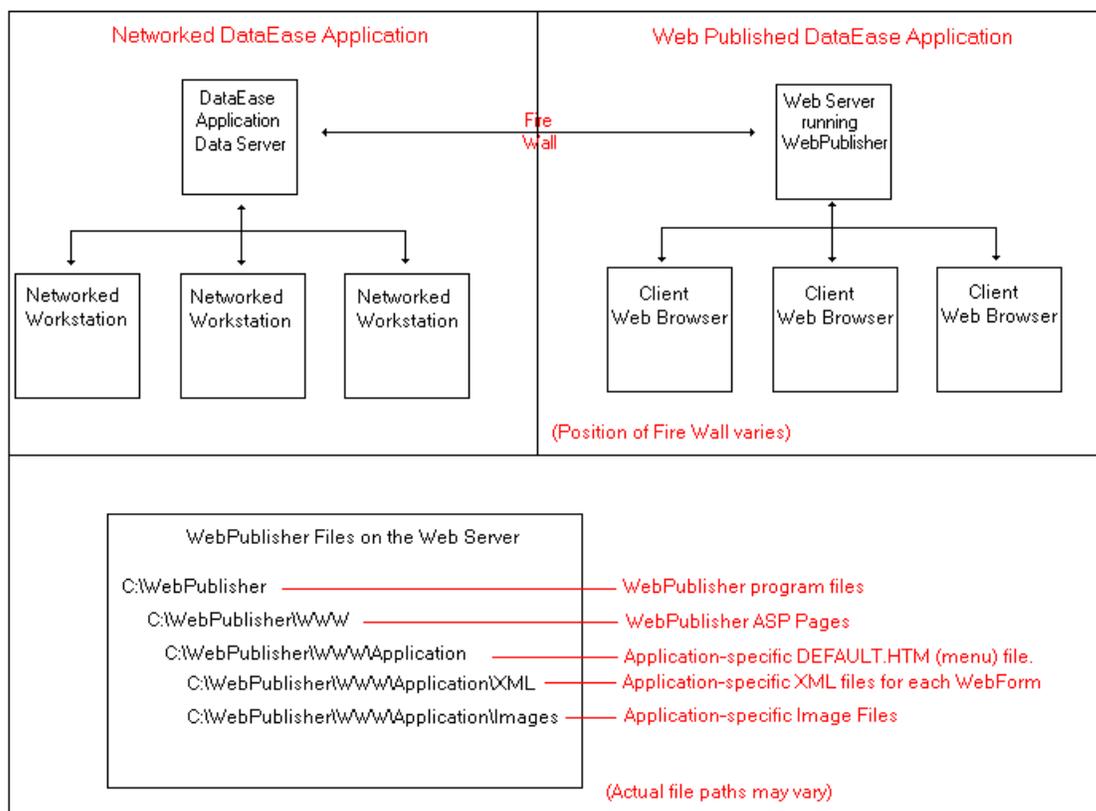
Using their normal web browsers, with no additional software, users can view, enter, modify and delete data in these forms – subject to the security permissions you select. They can also run reports, upload and download files, and enter their own search criteria to locate specific data.

Components

WebPublisher consists of three main components. These components are installed on the Web Server.

- The first component is called **WEBCOM**, which acts as a wrapper for PRISMDQL (the native DataEase engine), and effectively converts prism into a COM standard object. This allows the server to start up an instance of PRISMDQL whenever a client browser requests it, and the PRISMDQL session then handles the client's request. WEBCOM and Prism have to run on the Web Server, but the DataEase Application data files can be held on any machine connected to the Web Server.
- The second component is called **WebPub**. This is the program which creates XML WebForms from DataEase forms. WebPub is essentially the administration program for WEBCOM. WebPub performs two tasks: Firstly, it creates the XML forms - called "publishing" a form - and secondly, it establishes the path which WEBCOM uses to communicate with the source DataEase Application.
- The third component is **Customizelt**. This is a utility which allows you to modify the appearance and characteristics of various elements in your web-published applications.

The diagram below shows a typical WebPublisher installation. Notice that the same application is being simultaneously used by a conventional network, and by users on the World Wide Web. You can web-publish as much or as little of the application as you desire.



What's New in v2?

If you're familiar with previous DataEase web publishing packages – namely WebEase and WebPublisher v1 – then the following notes will quickly advise you of the new features in WebPublisher v2.

Earlier versions of DataEase included a limited web publishing package, called WebEase. This consisted of a Java applet which was downloaded to the client machine, along with the entire DataEase .DBM file you wanted to publish. Having downloaded everything, the client could view and search the file, but couldn't write to it.

WebPublisher is not a Java applet. It's based on ASP (Microsoft Active Server Pages). When you publish a DataEase form using WebPublisher, you allow the client to read and write data directly into the DataEase application. There are no massive downloads to the client machine. The hard work is done at the Web Server end.

The differences between WebPublisher v1 and v2 are summarized below.

- Web Publisher can be customized.
- Button icons can be customized.
- Reports can be published.
- Images can be uploaded via the browser.
- A range of "Button Actions" are now supported.
- Forms can now display more than one Sub-Form. The new limit is nine per form.
- Sub-Forms now display multiple rows.
- Searching is supported.
- Import and Export are now supported.

Remaining Limitations

1. Most, but not all, Action Buttons are allowed in WebForms. Check the list of **supported actions**. Unsupported action buttons should be removed from the document you wish to publish, since they will only confuse your users.
2. You may only publish document forms and reports. You can not publish procedures or menus.
3. Ellipses and OLE objects are not displayed on the published WebForm.
4. Users need an XML and XSL (eXtended Markup Language and eXtended Stylesheet Language) browser to use these features. Current versions of IE and Netscape are fine, but older versions may not support this technology.
5. Different browsers have different limitations as regards Image files. The safest thing for you to do is convert all Image files used in your WebForms to .JPG format. Browsers are all tolerant of the .JPG format, and any graphics package can convert a picture to .JPG format in the blink of an eye.

System Requirements

Requirements for the Web Server

The following software is required on the Web Server.

- Operating System: Microsoft Windows NT v4 or higher or 2000 or XP.
- Microsoft Internet Information Server (IIS) version 4.0 or higher.
- XML Parser Library version 4 or higher. This will have been automatically installed if you are running Microsoft Internet Explorer 6.0. If you are running IE 5.5 instead, then you can download and install the v2 XML Parser Library from Microsoft, free of charge. Upgrading to IE 6.0 is probably quicker, and is the recommended course of action. Versions of IE older than 5.5 will not work with WebPublisher.

Internet Options on Browsers:

From the Control Panel on each browser open the Internet Properties option. In the General tab, click on Settings in the Temporary Internet Files section. Under 'Check for newer versions of stored page' check 'Every visit to the page'. (The default setting is 'Automatic', but WebPublisher does not work with this setting).

Functionality

You are strongly advised to use a dedicated web server for WebPublisher and to put your applications on a different machine.

Installation and Configuration

Installation involves the following steps, which are described in greater detail below:

1. Uninstall any previous version of WebPublisher. (see **Uninstall** below).
2. Install WebPublisher (see **Installation** below).
3. Set up a WebPublisher User Account and adjust IIS settings (see **WebPublisher User Account** below).
4. Adjust the COM settings for the WebPublisher COM object (see **COM settings** below).
5. Set up the system environment variables dename and depath (see **Environment variables** below).
6. Check settings in Internet Explorer.

Step 1: Uninstall

WebPublisher V2 will normally be uninstalled from the Add or Remove Programs options from the Control Panel. Check the following:

1. That the WEBCOM object has been removed during uninstall. If it is 'left behind', it can be removed by typing WEBCOM.exe /UnregServer at the command line
2. That the fUpload.exe object has been removed during uninstall. If it is 'left behind', it can be removed by typing fupload.exe /UnregServer at the command line
3. Ensure that WebPublisher has been deleted from IIS, and delete it manually if necessary
4. Delete the WebPublisher folder

Step 2a: Installation

Install WebPublisher by selecting the appropriate option from the DataEase CD and follow the on-screen instructions.

The installation program does the following four things:

1. Creates a folder, called WebPublisher, which contains WebPublisher executables and configuration files. The default path of the WebPublisher folder is c:\WebPublisher. You do not need to have DataEase itself on the web server.
2. Creates a subdirectory, called WWW, in the WebPublisher directory. ASP and auxiliary files go in this directory. (Each time a DataEase application is web Published, an application directory is created in the WWW directory and contains the files for that application. Other files, e.g. CDFs, must be put into the relevant application directory by the developer)
3. Registers WEBCOM in the system registry. This COM object is a wrapper around prism, the core of the DataEase engine
4. Creates a virtual web directory on the Default Web Site named WebPublisher. The data path for the virtual directory is the WebPublisher\WWW path

Step 2b: Deploy Web Users Licence

The Deploy Web Users Licence is option 5 on the DataEase install CD. Run this option to permit multiusers on your webpublished system

Step 3: WebPublisher User Account:

Create a new user account (Must have Administrative Privileges). You can give the account any suitable name, e.g. 'WPUser', and a password.

Make sure that:

- I. The password for the account is not empty (otherwise non local browsers will not be able to access the web published application)
- II. The account has the rights to read from and write to the DataEase application folder
- III. The account has the rights to read from and write to the WebPublisher installation directory (C:\WebPublisher by default)

Note: You are recommended not to use the Administrator account for browser users as this would present a serious security risk.

- IV. Launch the Internet Services Manager, which is provided with IIS. Open the Default Web Site virtual directory, then choose Properties from the WebPublisher virtual directory.
- V. Open the Directory Security tab and click Edit on Anonymous Access and Authentication Control. The Authentication Methods dialog will display. Check 'Anonymous user access allowed'.
- VI. Click Edit again and the Anonymous User Account dialog will display. Type in or browse for your chosen user account, uncheck 'Allow IIS to control password' (or on NT uncheck 'Enable the Automatic Password Synchronization') and enter the account password.

4a: COM Settings, on 2000 and NT

The **dcomcnfg** program is used to adjust COM settings. It can be launched from the Run menu. From the list of COM objects select **WEBCOM** and open its Properties window.

- I. Click on the Security tab
- II. Check 'Use custom access permissions' and click Edit. Ensure that your account user is in the list of accounts and add it if necessary. Type of Access should be 'allow Access'.

4b: COM Settings, on XP

Choose Control Panel from the Start menu, and click on Administrative Tools. Double click on Component Services, then click on Computers/My Computer/DCOM Config. Scroll down to **WEBCOM** and right click to open the short menu. Click on Properties.

- I. Click on the **Security** tab.
- II. Click Edit in Access permissions. Ensure that the account user is in 'Group or user names' and that 'Access permissions' is checked to **Allow**.

Note: If you cannot find the user account in Launch, Access and Configuration permissions, first click Edit, secondly click on Add/Advanced/Find Now, and thirdly click on the user account to add it to '**Group or user names**'.

If the user account is missing from the list of accounts it is probably because it doesn't have a password. From the Control Panel, click on User Accounts, select the user account and click on 'Create a password'.

Step 5: Environment variables

The system environment variables **DEPATH** and **DENAME** must be set up on your web server and on your application server.

DENAME = AUTO. AUTO must be in upper case. This lets a random unique DENAME be automatically generated.

DataEase itself need not be installed on either the web server or the application server, but the DEPATH variable must point to the DataEase application's CONFIGUR.DAT file and DENETWRK.OVL.

Note: If you want to change the location where DEPATH points to (e.g. network path, for example) this can be done by opening up the "Command Prompt", going to the WebPublisher directory and typing "**WEBCOM/Config**". A dialog box will open, guiding you through the process of changing the path setting.

Step 6: Internet Explorer

Open "Internet Explorer", click on "**Tools**", then select "**Internet Options**". When the "**Internet Options**" menu opens up, in the "**Temporary Internet Files**" section, click on the "**Settings**" button.

For "**Check for newer versions of stored pages**", "**Every visit to the page**" needs to be checked.

Security and Passwords

Security and Passwords

You might wish to make the WebForms in your DataEase application open to everyone - or you might want to restrict them to people who know the appropriate Pass Names and Pass Words. Both are possible with WebPublisher. More than that, a user's ability to View, Modify, Enter or Delete records will obey the Security Rights that you have set for your application users.

- When you first web publish a form, you're prompted to type in a **Name** and **Password**. You must enter a Name and Password, since this will define the rights and privileges enjoyed by this set of users.
- If you type in a name and password, and then tick the "Save User Login" box, your users won't need to. You've done it for them. This is ideal for a sales or information system intended to be open to the general public.
- If you leave the "Save User Login" box blank, then the users will have to enter the name and password themselves. This will be checked by DataEase itself, against its usual internal list of Users, before the client's browser is allowed to access the form.

The screenshot shows the DataEase web publisher interface. On the left is a blue logo with the text "DataEase" and "© Copyright 2000-2003 Sapphire Int. Ltd. All Rights Reserved". The main area contains a form with the following fields:

- User application name: SalesAdmin
- User name: SalesStaff
- Password: xxxxxx
- Save user login:

Below the form is the instruction: "Click 'Next' to continue, 'Cancel' to stop the publication process." To the right of the form, there is red text explaining the "Save user login" checkbox:

When you webpublish one or more forms, you can require users to fill in a Name and Password before they are allowed to access the application. To do this, type in the Name and Password, BUT leave the "Save User Login" box unticked.

if you want the application to be open to everyone, just fill in the Name and Password fields, and tick the "Save User Login" box.

- Since the webdeployed form(s) can contain **New**, **Save** and **Delete** buttons, a user can write to any records he wants - assuming the user has the security rights. These rights are **precisely** the same as the user's name/password would grant him if he were using DataEase on its own...because these checks are carried out by a PRISMDQL session on the server.

Publishing WebForms

You may wish to make part or all of a DataEase application available to web users. Typically, only a part of your application would be web published, leaving various internal administration documents available only to networked PC's internal to your organization.

WebPublisher allows you to pick the forms and reports you want to publish. Since the process of 'publishing' forms and reports takes just a second or two, it is easy to come back later and publish more. Similarly it is easy to update your published WebForms, should they be modified or improved by the DataEase application managers.

To publish WebForms of your DataEase application:

1. Log on to your Web Server using the account name you chose as the WebPublisher User Account;
2. Launch WebPublisher from the **Start>>Programs>>WebPublisher** menu, and follow the instructions in the dialog boxes. These dialog boxes prompt you to set a path to your target DataEase Application, and then select which forms you wish to publish - as the screen-shots below show:

Select Application

Please enter the path of your DataEase application and its name. Then provide a user name and password for this application. Check "Save user login" to save information about the user login in the generated HTML file. This is so that users will be automatically logged in.

Application path:

Application name:

User application name:

User name:

Password:

Save user login

Click "Next" to continue, "Cancel" to stop the publication process.

< Back Next > Cancel

Here we are selecting a modified version of the DataEase Template Application called Membership.

The User Application Name can be anything you like. It allows you to have multiple entries to the same application - for different groups of users, with different access rights, say.

By ticking this box we enter the user's name and password for him. Useful when we wish the application to be open to all. Note that everyone who signs on will still be restricted to the access rights specified by the User name and Password you have filled in for them.

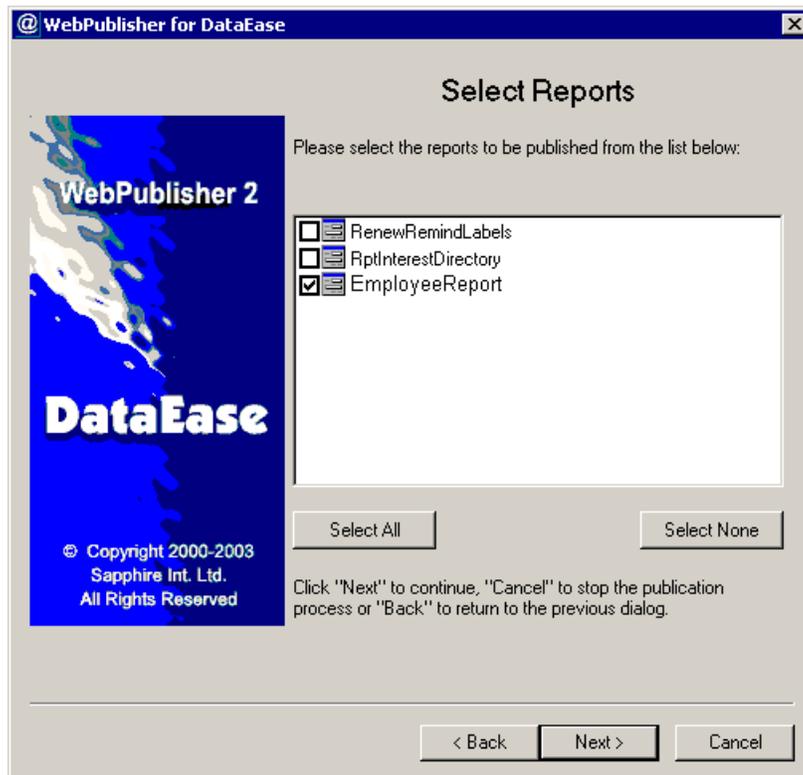
Place a tick alongside the forms you wish to web-publish.



In this Dialog Box we are selecting the forms which we wish to publish. (two more selected forms are off screen).

Notice that we are selecting a subset of the application's available forms. If - at a later date - we decide to make more forms available to web-users, then it is a simple matter to return to this Dialog Box and add the extra forms to our published list.

Having selected our forms, we can go on to select which Reports we wish to publish, as shown over page.



...and when we click the Next button, to publish our selection, the following takes place:

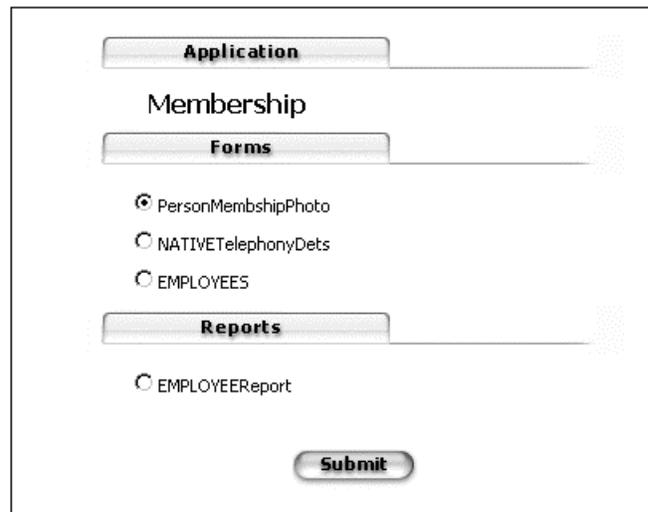
- WebPublisher creates a new directory on the WebServer to hold the published WebForms. So if you had chosen to publish some forms from the an application called MEMBERSHIP, then your Web server would now have a new directory, as shown below:

`C:\WebPublisher\WWW\applications\SalesAdmin`

...assuming that you had installed WebPublisher in the default path of C:\.

Note: The directory will have the name of your **User Application Name**. The Application Name will only be used if you didn't enter a User Application Name.

- Inside this new subdirectory there would be one file and two further subdirectories. There is also a single file, called DEFAULT, which is an HTML startup menu for your web-published forms and reports. When your Website Administrator builds a link to this .htm page, people will be able to access it from their web browsers. The screen-shot below shows the startup menu for the Membership forms we selected earlier.



The screenshot shows a web interface with a central heading "Membership". Below this heading are three sections, each with a title in a rounded rectangular box: "Application", "Forms", and "Reports". Under the "Forms" section, there are three radio button options: "PersonMembershipPhoto" (which is selected), "NATIVETelephonyDets", and "EMPLOYEES". Under the "Reports" section, there is one radio button option: "EMPLOYEEEReport". At the bottom center of the form is a "Submit" button.

This startup screen is functional, but is deliberately left as simple as possible, so that the user can modify it to their own corporate style.

Publishing Considerations

WebPublisher produces a near-perfect visible representation of your original form. But there are some important underlying differences that you need to consider. First and foremost, you must not assume that field-level derivation and validation rules will work as before – or more exactly, **when** they worked before.

Your form is now a page of XML, and like all XML, it will only provide the server an opportunity to validate the user's input when the user clicks a button to **submit** the form. Only at this point is the user's response sent to the Server, whereupon DataEase can check for lookups, derivations, validations, and so on. All these lookups, derivations and validations will work correctly – but they work at the form level, not the field level.

If a user has just laboriously filled in a dozen fields before submitting a form, he will not be pleased if the form is returned by the Server because he mistyped something in the very first field. Every web user has encountered this situation, and knows how annoying it is.

WebPublisher goes a long way to avoiding this problem by generating automatic JavaScript functions to check that text is being entered in a text field, required fields are filled in, and so on. This Javascript instantly spots user errors at the field level, and gives him a timely warning, before the form is submitted.

Even so, you should carefully consider your form before publishing it, to see if it can be simplified to avoid validation problems. There is no way round this design limitation. The client's web browser will not communicate with the server until he submits the entire form. So bear this in mind, and try to minimize the number of situations in which a form will be rolled back to the user with a validation error.

WebPublisher publishes Native DataEase forms. Some aspects of DataEase functionality do not translate from a Windows environment to a browser: For example, OML Event scripting will not run through a browser.

Forms - What the User Sees

When a user navigates to the default.htm, and from it selects a WebForm to open, he will see a form which looks very like the original DataEase form. The screenshot below shows the WebForm version of the PersonMembershipPhoto form from the modified Membership application.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following elements:

- Browser Interface:** File, Edit, View, Fav, Back, Forward, Address bar.
- Form Title:** PersonMembershipPhoto
- Action Buttons (Top):** Log Off, New, Save, Delete, QBF, Import, Export, First, Previous, Next, Last.
- Form Content:**
 - Person ID: 000009
 - Details of People, Their Memberships and Interests
 - First/Middle/Last Names: Simon M Irwin
 - Address: 18a Milton Road
 - Town/ Country or State: Cambridge
 - Post or Zipcode: CB4 1JY
 - Country: [Blank]
 - Include Address In Dir? Sell to 3rd Parties?
 - Auto Renew Membership?
 - Telephone, etc:
 - Tel: 01223 503472
 - Fax: [Blank]
 - Mobile: 0700 8100234
 - E-Mail: simoni@ntlworld.com
 - Photo: [Portrait of a man with glasses and a mustache]
- Form Footer:** NOTE: The above is DataEase Native Data
- Action Buttons (Bottom):** Save, Close, Clear, Search, Table View, Delete.

The form is practically identical to the original. The main difference is that there is now a set of Action Buttons running along the Top of the page. These Action Buttons are the standard Action Buttons defined by WebPublisher, and by default they will appear on all WebForms. They can be modified – and in some cases removed – by the **CustomizeIt** tool, which we will describe later.

Notice that there are four Action Buttons in the shape of blue arrows in the top left hand corner of the published form, as shown below.



These are normal DataEase Picture objects, with Actions attached to them (first, previous, next, last). These continue to work on the web published form exactly as they did on the original form.

The application also contains a number of action buttons, e.g.



These buttons will also work – assuming, of course, the User Name and Password permit these actions.

Reports – User Options

All the user has to do is click on a web-published report in order to run it. The data will be displayed in similar fashion to the report shown below. The user can print it out from his web browser, if he wishes, using the web browser's **File>>Print** option.

The graphic below shows a report at its most simple – a list of on-screen data.

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> Log Off New Save Delete QBF Import </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; margin-top: 5px;"> EMPLOYEEReport First Previous Next Last </div> <h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">List of Employees on File</h3> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Hire_Date</th> <th>Ref</th> <th>Fname</th> <th>Lname</th> <th>Salary</th> <th>Gender</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>22/02/1990</td><td>36</td><td>Annette</td><td>Roulet</td><td>29,500.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>24/07/1990</td><td>23</td><td>Elizabeth</td><td>Lincoln</td><td>16,500.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>13/09/1990</td><td>3</td><td>Victoria</td><td>Ashworth</td><td>37,600.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>13/02/1991</td><td>5</td><td>Lesley</td><td>Browning</td><td>44,000.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>26/05/1991</td><td>19</td><td>Janine</td><td>Labrune</td><td>20,000.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>16/07/1991</td><td>9</td><td>Ann</td><td>Devon</td><td>18,000.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>26/10/1991</td><td>8</td><td>Aria</td><td>Cruz</td><td>25,500.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>05/02/1992</td><td>34</td><td>Martine</td><td>Rance</td><td>31,000.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>27/03/1992</td><td>20</td><td>Maria</td><td>Larsson</td><td>11,000.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>07/07/1992</td><td>38</td><td>Carine</td><td>Schmitt</td><td>35,000.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> <tr><td>17/10/1992</td><td>16</td><td>Karin</td><td>Josephs</td><td>32,500.00</td><td>Female</td></tr> </tbody> </table>						Hire_Date	Ref	Fname	Lname	Salary	Gender	22/02/1990	36	Annette	Roulet	29,500.00	Female	24/07/1990	23	Elizabeth	Lincoln	16,500.00	Female	13/09/1990	3	Victoria	Ashworth	37,600.00	Female	13/02/1991	5	Lesley	Browning	44,000.00	Female	26/05/1991	19	Janine	Labrune	20,000.00	Female	16/07/1991	9	Ann	Devon	18,000.00	Female	26/10/1991	8	Aria	Cruz	25,500.00	Female	05/02/1992	34	Martine	Rance	31,000.00	Female	27/03/1992	20	Maria	Larsson	11,000.00	Female	07/07/1992	38	Carine	Schmitt	35,000.00	Female	17/10/1992	16	Karin	Josephs	32,500.00	Female
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But the user can do a lot more with web-published DataEase reports. The sections which follow show how user-specific data can be selected, and even downloaded to the user's machine so that it can be integrated with other packages, or modified and re-exported.

Firstly, by clicking on the **Export** button users can choose to download the report onto their local machine, in the form of a text file which can be imported into other packages – such as Excel or DataEase. Look at the example below:

Log Off
New
Save
Delete
QBF
Import
Export

EMPLOYEEReport
First
Previous
Next
Last

Export Format Type

Export File Name

Table

Include Field Names

Field Separator

Record Separator

Text Delimiter

Selected Records

To

When you click the Export button, you are presented with an export definition dialog - which will be very familiar to DataEase users.

This facility is not intended for members of the general public. It's designed to help employees download data to their home pc's or laptops.

The downloaded file looks something like the one shown below. This delimited format can be easily read into packages such as DataEase, so that the data can be worked with, and then exported again.

```
Hire_Date~Ref~Fname~Lname~Salary~vTexGender
22/02/1990~36~Annette~Roulet~29,500.00~Female
24/07/1990~23~Elizabeth~Lincoln~16,500.00~Female
13/09/1990~3~Victoria~Ashworth~37,600.00~Female
13/02/1991~5~Lesley~Browning~44,000.00~Female
26/05/1991~19~Janine~Labrune~20,000.00~Female
16/07/1991~9~Ann~Devon~18,000.00~Female
26/10/1991~8~Aria~Cruz~25,500.00~Female
05/02/1992~34~Martine~Rance~31,000.00~Female
27/03/1992~20~Maria~Larsson~11,000.00~Female
07/07/1992~38~Carine~Schmitt~35,000.00~Female
17/10/1992~16~Karin~Josephs~32,500.00~Female
27/01/1993~10~Anabela~Domingues~13,000.00~Female
19/03/1993~27~Helvetius~Nagy~34,500.00~Female
29/06/1993~37~Mary~Saveley~32,000.00~Female
09/10/1993~26~Rita~Muller~13,000.00~Female
19/01/1994~31~Paula~Parente~39,500.00~Female
11/03/1994~15~Karla~Jablonski~17,500.00~Female
```

The second interesting thing a user can do with a report is to combine it with QBF to produce a report tailored exactly for him. To do this, the user first runs the report, and then clicks the QBF button, whereupon the report's list fields are shown on-screen. The user can now type his own selection criteria into these fields, further refining the report for his own requirements.

Using QBF with a report

When you run a report, you can choose to use QBF to enter additional selection criteria into the report. Click the QBF button, and a set of information appears, similar to the one shown below. It shows the report's list fields, and allows you to type in your own selection criteria. In this example the report is being modified so that only female employees hired after 01/01/1990.

Click Next to run the QBF

Log Off	New	Save	Delete	QBF	Import	Export
EMPLOYEEReport		First	Previous	Next	Last	

List of Employees on File

Hire_Date	Ref Fname	Lname	Salary	Gender
>01/01/1990				Female

Selection criteria has been typed in here and here

The user can choose to display his QBF as a form – in which case he sees one record at a time, and hits the **Next** button when he wants to see the next record in the report – or he can choose to display the report in Table View.

EMPLOYEEReport

17 record(s) matching your selection

Viewing records as a table...

EMPLOYEEReport

Select	Hire_Date	Ref	Fname	Lname	Salary	vTexGender
<input type="radio"/>	22/02/1990	36	Annette	Roulet	29,500.00	Female
<input type="radio"/>	24/07/1990	23	Elizabeth	Lincoln	16,500.00	Female
<input type="radio"/>	13/09/1990	3	Victoria	Ashworth	37,600.00	Female
<input type="radio"/>	03/02/1991	5	Lesley	Browning	44,000.00	Female
<input type="radio"/>	26/05/1991	19	Janine	Labrune	20,000.00	Female
<input type="radio"/>	16/07/1991	9	Ann	Devon	18,000.00	Female
<input type="radio"/>	26/10/1991	8	Aria	Cruz	25,500.00	Female
<input type="radio"/>	05/02/1992	34	Martine	Rance	31,000.00	Female

Click on a button to see the selected record in Form View.

Webform Action Buttons

When you create (publish) a WebForm, it is automatically provided with a number of predefined Action Buttons, as described below:

New	Clears the record, ready for a new record to be created.
Save	Saves the record on screen.
Delete	Deletes the record on screen.
QBF	Clears the form so can enter search criteria.
Import	Opens a file import dialog.
Export	Opens a file export dialog.
First	Views the first record.
Previous	Views the previous record.
Next	Views the Next record, if any.
Last	Views the last record.
Log Off	Log off and exit.

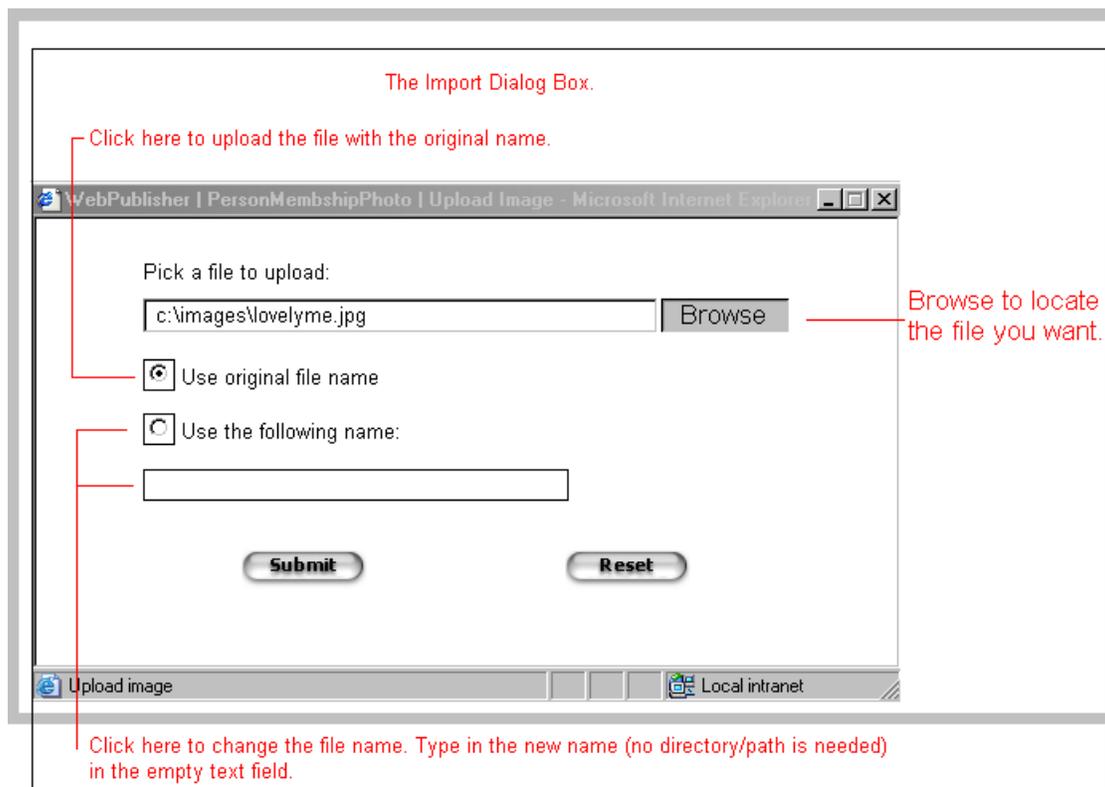
The buttons above are mostly self-explanatory, but **Log Off**, **Import**, **Export** and **QBF** need a little further description

Log Off Logs off and leaves the application. Ideally all users will log off when they decide to exit your web-published application. Logging off shuts down the relevant DataEase session on the application server. In practice, of course, users will often exit the application by some other means, leaving the DataEase session still running. WebPublisher has maintenance routines which cope with this, by automatically shutting down unused sessions.

QBF Clicking this button clears all data from on-screen record, allowing the user to type in his own data for use in a Query. For example, you could type "Smith" into a name field, and when you submit this query the form would display only those records which contained "Smith" in the name field. You may also use Wild Cards in fields, so typing in "Smit*" would return records such as **Smith**, **Smythe**, and **Smithson**. Selection criteria can be entered into as many fields as you desire.

Import

If enabled, this option will allow a user to upload a file to the DataEase application. The user selects the field, clicks on Import, and is then presented with a dialog box – shown below – from which he can select the file to be uploaded. When a file has been selected and submitted (uploaded) it will be added to the DataEase Application, and will immediately become live data.



Export

Allows you to download data from a report into a text file on your own pc. You can define the format of the text file, so that it can be easily imported into DataEase, a word processor, spreadsheet, and so on.

DataEase Action Buttons

DataEase, of course, allows you define buttons and images which have embedded Actions. Almost every form will have some of these Action Button/Images.

Many of these Actions are supported by WebPublisher, and the image/buttons will continue to work on the Web-published form. Some Actions are not supported. For example, it would be not be a good idea to have Actions such as “Install Application”, “Lock Application”, or “Restore Application” – run from a Web Browser. Maintenance tasks such as this should be carried out by the DataEase Administrator.

The following list of Button/Image Actions are fully supported.

Action	Comments
Add Filter (AND)	Combine action parameter with current filter expression using AND clause and display results.
Add Filter (OR)	Combine action parameter with current filter expression using OR clause and display results.
Clear Query Filters	Clear selection filter and display first record
Clear Selection Filter	Clear selection filter and display first record
Clear Sort	Clear sorting order and display first record
Data Export	Open export dialog
Document Close	Log off and return to list of published documents
Exit DataEase	Log off and close browser window
Filter Clear	Cancel selection filter and display first record
Filter Set	Apply selection filter and display results
Form Clear	Display blank record
Record Delete	Delete current record
Record First	Display first record
Record Last	Display last record
Record Next	Display next record
Record Previous	Display previous record
Record Restore	Reload current record from server
Record Save	Save current record
Record Save As New	Save current record as new one
Records Sort	Display clear form to specify sort fields
Records Sort Ascending	Adjust sort order when specifying sort fields
Records Sort Decending	Adjust sort order when specifying sort fields
Refresh Screen	Reload current record from server
Select Records	Display clear form to specify selection criteria (same as QBF)

Some Actions are supported, but work slightly differently than the originals. For example, "Print Document" would normally open a DataEase-specific print dialog box. Since the user doesn't have a copy of DataEase – just a web browser – this Action has been modified so that it opens the user's local print dialog box instead.

The following list of Button/Image Actions are supported, but there are behavioral differences between the original and the web-published versions.

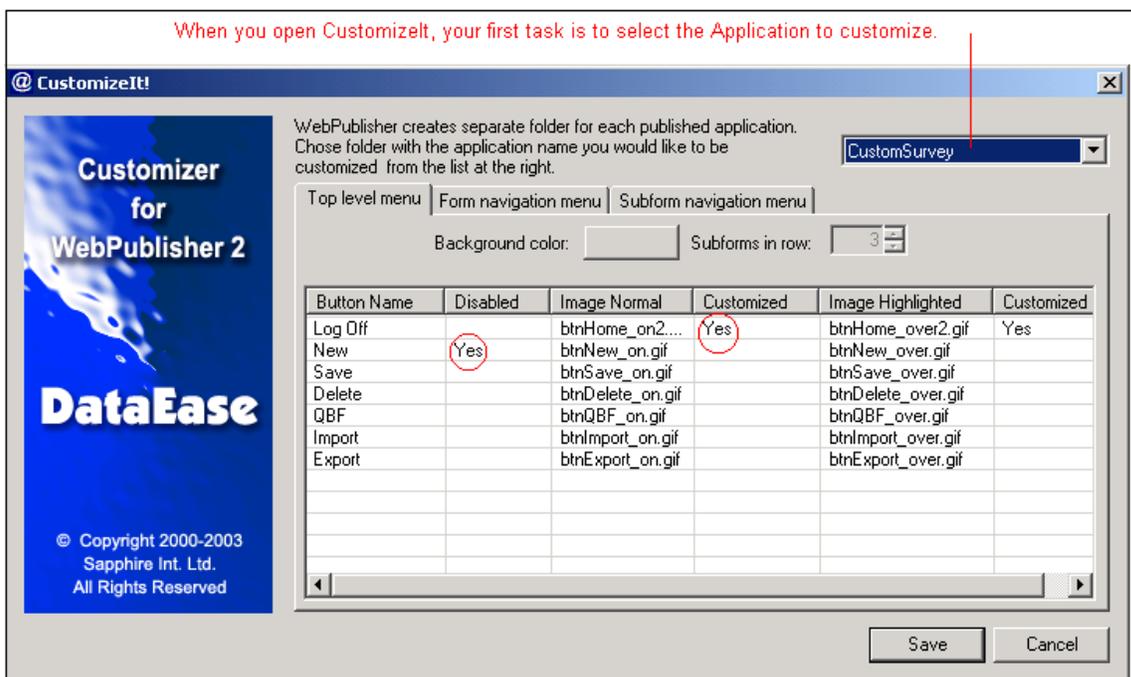
Action	Comments
Application Close	Log off and return to list of published documents. Same as "Document Close"
Data Import	Open import dialog. Action parameter (dbi-file name) is ignored
Print Document	Open browser "Print..." dialog
Printer Setup	Open browser "Print..." dialog
Refresh Continuously	Start process of periodical reloading of records from server for current form only
Refresh Set Time	Set refresh interval in seconds (minimum and default values are limited)
Selection Filter	Set selection criteria from action parameter. No additional dialog is displayed
View as Table	Display form in table mode

If a Button/Image Actions does **NOT** appear in one of the two lists above, then it is **NOT** supported. You should remove it from the form before web-publishing it, because it will simply confuse your users.

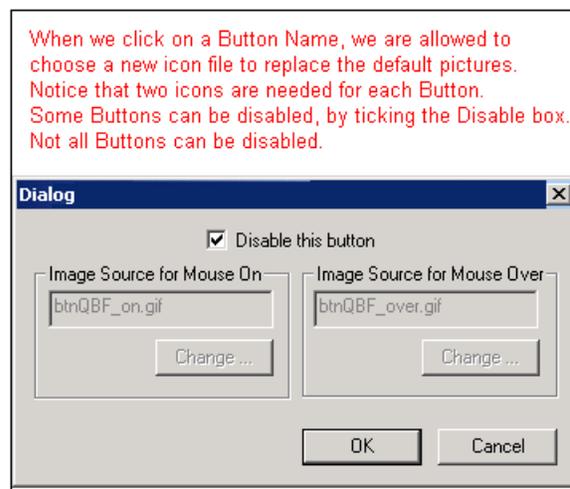
Customizelt

WebPublisher includes a powerful utility – called **Customizelt** - which can be used to select and specify the menu options available to users of your web deployed documents.

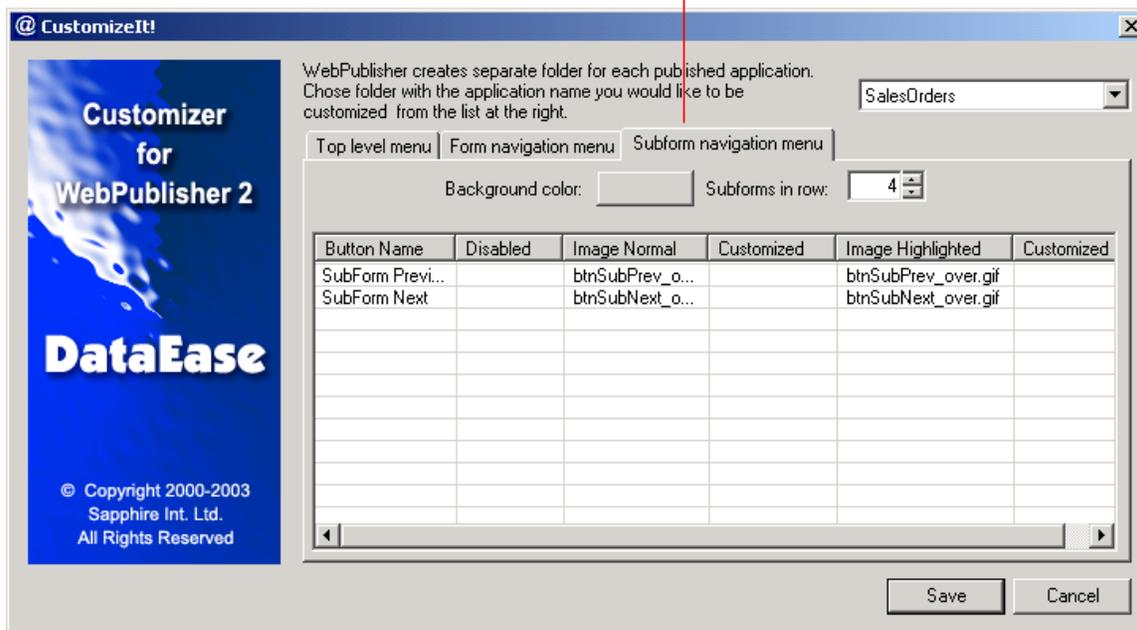
Customizelt has three Tabs, allowing you to modify details of the Top Line Menu Actions, the Form Navigation Controls, and finally the characteristics of SubForm display.



yes Indicates that a default setting has been Disabled or Changed



Here we select our SubForm icons, and decide how many rows are to be displayed in each subform.



Although each application is allowed only one set of Customizelt rules, you can in fact assign different Customizelt rules to each form, by using the optional User Application Name to define multiple entries into the same application - several different entries per form, if you desire it.

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