

SimulateTabbed

(Q) Can I easily simulate a tabbed interface (like in Calc ... ?) in a database form ?

tags:
HowTo

(R) A tabbed interface is for building wizards stepping from a page to the next or hiding/unhiding portions of a form when a button is clicked. This feature is builtin in a **dialog**. See the **Page** property of dialogs and/or dialog **controls**.

However in a form we will have to be more creative by:

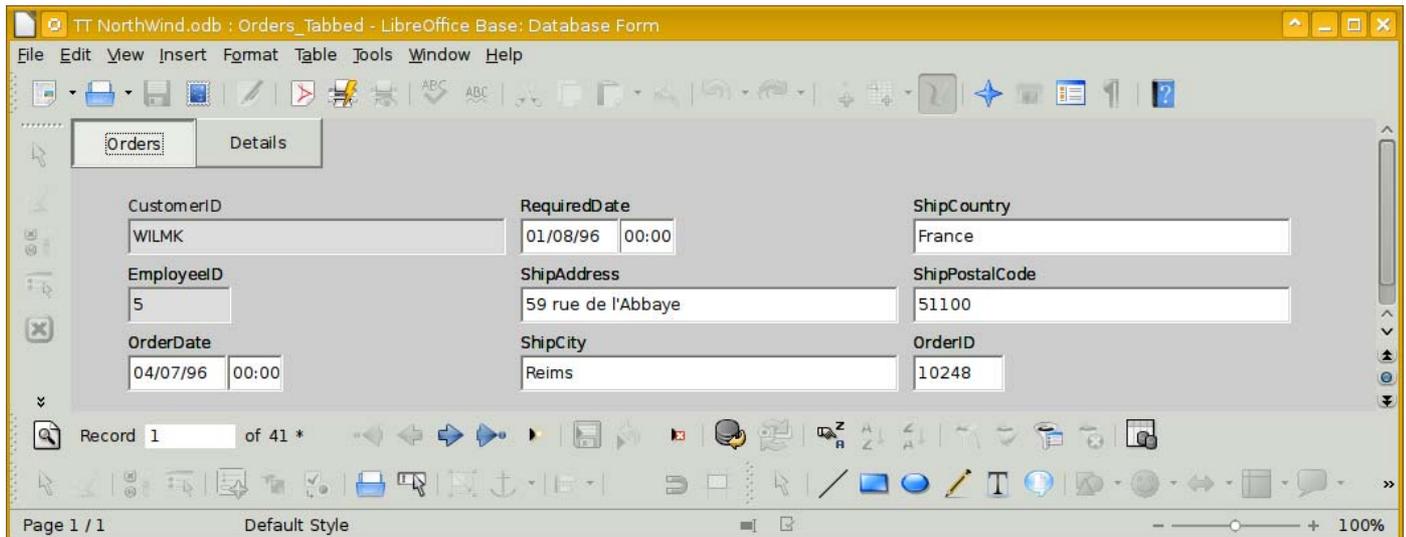
- making use of the concept of *sections* (remember that a database form is finally a Writer document ...). Indeed *sections* can be made programmatically hidden or visible very simply.
- managing them by mixing the *Access2Base* and *UNO* API's

You have to understand that a *section* in a Writer document is nothing else than a set of **contiguous paragraphs**.

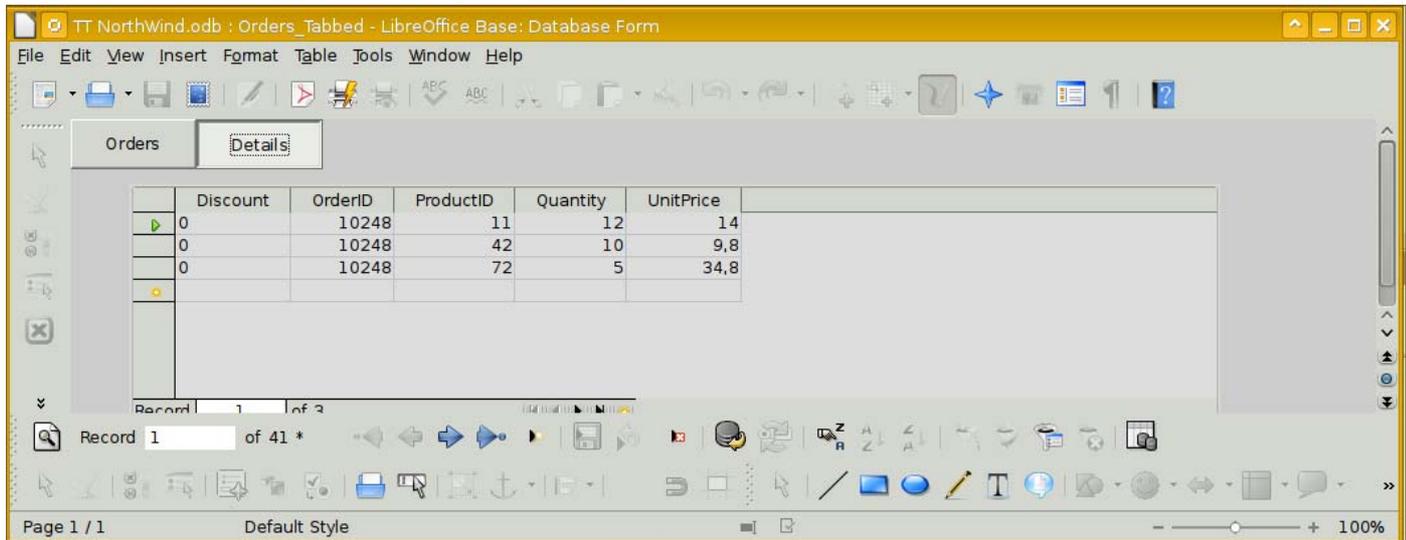
If we anchor a control on the form to a paragraph, and if that paragraph is included in a *section*, when hiding the *section* the control will be made hidden as well.

The concept has been derived from a topic from the (french) [OpenOffice forum](#).

In next example we have put the main form - except its 2 top buttons *Orders* and *Details* -, in the first section, and a subform in the second one. This allows us to obtain next result:



and after having pressed the *Details* button:



The code behind the top buttons

```
Public Sub SelectTab(Optional poEvent As Object)
Dim oEvent As Object, oForm As Object
Set oEvent = Application.Events(poEvent)
Set oForm = Forms("Orders_Tabbed")
If oEvent.Source.Name = "btnOrders" Then
oForm.Component.TextSections.getByIndex(1).IsVisible = False
oForm.Component.TextSections.getByIndex(0).IsVisible = True
oEvent.Source.Value = True
oForm.Controls("btnDetails").Value = False
Else
oForm.Component.TextSections.getByIndex(0).IsVisible = False
oForm.Component.TextSections.getByIndex(1).IsVisible = True
oEvent.Source.Value = True
End If
End Sub
```

```
oForm.Controls("btnOrders").Value = False
End If
End Sub
```

The code manages

- the visibility of each section : see the *TextSections* property of text components;
- the toggle status of the upper buttons : see the **Value** property of command buttons.

Refer to ...

Basic module	Form	Form event	Control	Control event	Comments
Tabbed	Orders_Tabbed		btnOrders btnDetails	Execute action	

Bookmark this page » » [SimulateTabbed](#)