

SearchStandalone

(Q) Can I have a search box and trigger the search thru all the records related to a form ?

tags:
[HowTo](#)

(R) Use the **FindRecord** and **FindNext** actions.

The feature is illustrated thru the use of a **standalone form**.

Solution

Design the *standalone* form taking into account:

- The *FindRecord* action works only on data displayed in a tabular form, i.e. through the use of a **grid control**.
- You will observe that the execution is slow: indeed *FindRecord* will literally scroll thru the data and refresh the display accordingly. The solution is not adapted for very large tables of data.

Design next 4 fields and buttons:

1. The search box: a simple *text box*, name = *SearchText*. In the *Properties* window set its *Default text* property to "(search)". Link its *When receiving focus* event to the *CleanSearch* procedure.
2. A *checkbox* called *MatchCase* indicating if the search must or not respect upper and lower cases.
3. A search start button : link the *execute action* event with the *ButtonStart* procedure.
4. A *next* button : link the *execute action* event with the *ButtonNext* procedure.

Now the code:

The *CleanSearch* procedure empties the search box when its content is the default value:

```

Const cstDefault = "(search)"

Sub CleanSearch(poEvent As Object)
Dim oEvent As Object, oField As Object
    Set oEvent = Application.Events(poEvent)
    Set oField = oEvent.Source
    If oField.Value = cstDefault Then oField.Value = ""
End Sub
    
```

The *cstDefault* constant is set outside the *Sub...End Sub* to be available also in next procedures:

```

Sub ButtonStart(poEvent As Object)
Dim ofForm As Object, sSearch As String, bMatch As Boolean
    Set ofForm = Application.Forms(0) ' standalone form itself
    sSearch = ofForm.Controls("SearchText").Value
    If sSearch = "" Or sSearch = cstDefault Then
        MsgBox "The search box is not initialized. Please do and retry.", 16, "Search"
        ofForm.Controls("SearchText").SetFocus()
    Else
        bMatch = ofForm.Controls("MatchCase").Value
        DoCmd.Findrecord sSearch, acAnywhere, bmatch, acDown, , acAll, True
    End If
End Sub
    
```

```

Sub ButtonNext(poEvent As Object)
    DoCmd.FindNext
End Sub

```

See also

[FindRecord](#)
[FindNext](#)
[GridControl](#)
[SetFocus](#)

Refer to ...

Basic module	Form	Form event	Control	Control event	Comments
Code	<i>TT Northwind Standalone.odt</i>		SearchText	When receiving focus	Enter a search text and press <i>Start</i> .
			btnStart btnNext	Execute action	

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