# Using PxPlus Excel Object

PxPlus 2017 (v14) & PxPlus 2018 (v15)

**DireXions 2018** 

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# Excel MSDN Terminology

### Application object

• The Excel application itself

### • Workbook

• An Excel file containing spreadsheet(s)

#### Worksheet

• Individual tab/spreadsheet

### • Range

• Selected range (for applying fonts, formatting etc.)

### Excel Screen (default values)

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# PxPlus Excel Object \*obj/excel.pvc

Instantiation

x=new("\*obj/excel")

where 'x' is the object identifier and could be any numeric variable

# **Application Properties**

- EXCEL (Read Only)
  - Handle to the Excel Application object
- ECONSTANTS (Read Only)
  - Handle to the Excel Named Constants object
- ERROR (Read Only)
  - Handle to the Excel Error object
- VISIBLE
  - Allows Excel application to be made visible
  - Defaults to Off (0)

### DISPLAY\_ALERTS

- Allows suppression of Excel message boxes (e.g. saving changes on close)
- Defaults to Off (0)

### Workbook Properties

### ACTIVE\_WORKBOOK (Read Only)

- Handle to the active workbook object
- x'Active Workbook = x'EXCEL'ActiveWorkbook

### WORKBOOKS\_COUNT (Read Only)

- Number of workbooks open
- x'Workbooks\_Count = x'EXCEL'WORKBOOKS'Count

# Workbook Methods

- CreateWorkbook(path\$, overwrite\_flag)
- OpenWorkbook(path\$)
- SetWorkbook(workbook or workbook\_name\$)
- SaveWorkbook(workbook or workbook\_name\$)
- SaveAsWorkbook(workbook\_path\$, workbook or workbook\_name\$)
- SaveWorkbooks()
- CloseWorkbook(workbook or workbook\_name\$)
- CloseWorkbooks()

### **General Notes**

- Workbooks can be referred to by index number (workbook) or by name such as "name.xlsx" (workbook\_name\$)
- In Excel, index numbers correspond to the order workbooks were opened
- Methods that take optional workbook or workbook\_name\$ arguments will use the ACTIVE\_WORKBOOK property if no workbook argument is passed
- SaveWorkbooks() and CloseWorkbooks() act on all opened workbooks
- Most methods return '1' for success and '0' for failure

# SaveAsWorkbook() Method

- SaveAsWorkbook(workbook\_path\$, workbook or workbook\_name\$)
- Enhanced for PxPlus 2018



- Allows a workbook or a workbook\_name\$ to be specified (rather than always saving the current workbook)
- Saves the workbook with the file type specified in the workbook\_path\$ variable
  - Defaults to an Excel Workbook file type (.xlsx)
  - Also supports the file types on the following slide

### SaveAsWorkbook – File Extensions

Extension	Description	Extension	Description
.xlsx	Excel Workbook (default)	.csv	CSV (Comma delimited)
.xlsm	Excel Macro-Enabled Workbook	.txt	Text (Tab delimited)
.xlsb	Excel Binary Workbook	.prm	Formatted Text (space delimited)
.xls	Excel 97-2003 Workbook	.dif	DIF Data Interchange Format
.xml	XML Data	.slk	SYLK (symbolic Link)
.mht, .mhtml	Single File Web Page	.xlam	Excel Add-In
.htm, .html	Web Page	.xla	Excel 97-2003 Add In
.xltx	Excel Template	.pdf	PDF
.xltm	Excel Macro-Enabled Template	.ods	OpenDocument Spreadsheet
.xlt	Excel 97-2003 Template	.xps	XPS Document

### Worksheet Property and Methods

- ACTIVE\_SHEET (Read Only)
  - Active worksheet object on the active workbook
  - x'Active\_Sheet = x'EXCEL'ActiveSheet
- CreateWorksheet(worksheet\_name\$, tab\_index)
  - Created before ACTIVE\_SHEET unless a tab index is specified
- SetWorksheet(worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
- PrintWorksheet(worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)



# Arguments for Range Methods

Argument	Description	Example
cells\$	Range	A12 (single) or A2:D5 (range) Range_Name
col	Column Number	1 – 16384
col\$	Column Letter	"B" or "AC"
row	Row Number	1 – 1048576

### Range Property and Methods

- ACTIVE\_RANGE (Read Only)
  - Active range object for the active worksheet
  - x'Active\_Range = x'EXCEL'Selection
- SetRange(cells\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
- SetRangeColumn(col or col\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
- SetRangeRow(row, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)

Note: Setting ranges by row or column can be slow

# Named Ranges

New for PxPlus 2018



- 'Named' Ranges can be defined and used anywhere a range value (such as "A1:G20") would be specified.
- AddNamedRange(name\$,cells\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
- DeleteNamedRange(name\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
  - where name\$ cannot contain spaces

### Set Column Widths Method

• New for PxPlus 2018



- Allows width of columns in a range to be set (in pixels)
- SetColumnWidth(width, cells\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)

# FindReplace Method and related Properties

 FindReplaceAll(find\$, replace\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$ or "All")

#### CASE\_SENSITIVE\_SEARCH

- Defaults to '0' for case insensitive searches
- Set to '1' for case sensitive searches

#### • MATCH\_ENTIRE\_CELL

- Defaults to '0' for partial matches within cell contents
- Set to '1' to force matches on the entire cell contents

# Cell Value Methods and related Property

### • SEP\$

• New Property for PxPlus 2018



- Defaults to standard PxPlus field delimiter SEP (\$8A\$)
- Read\$(cells\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
  - Returns a string for one cell or a SEP\$ delimited string for multiple cells
- Write(cell\_values\$, cells\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
  - cell\_values\$ is a string or a SEP\$ delimited string
  - Returns '0', '1' or '-1' (discrepancy in cell counts)

# Cell Formatting Methods

- SetColor(color\_index or color\$, cells\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
- SetFillColor(color\_index or color\$, cells\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
  - Excel color\_index is an integer value from 1 to 56
  - color\$ is one of 16 basic PxPlus named colors such as "red" or "light cyan"
  - RGB colors not yet supported
- SetFont(font\$, cells\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
  - font\$ is comma separated "name\$,size\$,style\$"
  - e.g. "Arial" or "Arial,12,Bold"

# Column and Row Methods

- Columns
  - InsertColumn(col or col\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
  - DeleteColumn(col or col\$, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
- Rows
  - InsertRow(row, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)
  - DeleteRow(row, worksheet or worksheet\_name\$)

### Excel Named Constants

- Excel Object Model incorporates hundreds of global named constants
- If required, these Excel constants may be accessed via the **ECONSTANTS** property
- Example
  - constants used for **MATCH\_ENTIRE\_CELL** property



# Excel Error Object

- Excel contains an **ERROR** object which may help when debugging code
- Checking the **ERROR'Description\$** property may give more information if a method fails

return value=x'OpenWorkbook("badfile")

if not (return\_value) msgbox x'Error'Description\$

# Excel Demo Program

- 1. Instantiate Excel object
- 2. Make Excel visible to check progress
- 3. Create a workbook
- 4. Check some properties
- 5. Create a worksheet
- 6. Write some data
- 7. Insert a new column (A)
- 8. Create some named ranges
- 9. Change separator and populate named column

# Excel Demo Program continued ...

10. Copy data from one worksheet to another

- 11.Format (color and font) header row and first column
- 12. Show use of ERROR object
- 13. Find and Replace
- 14.Save
- 15. Save in different formats
- 16. Close Workbook
- 17. Drop object

### Excel Demo Program Results

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1 Time Monday	Thursday	Saturday				
2 9:00 am What's new in PxPlus	What's new in iNomads	Excel/Word Object Interfac	e			
3 9:45 am	Application Framework	Creating/Using SSL Certifica	ites			
4 10:45 am What's new in Nomads	What's new in the Toolset	Date File Recovery				
5 11:30 am		Web Browser Control				
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#### Spreadsheet (.xlsx)

#### Web Page (.htm)

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DireXions\_Agenda.txt - Notepad

### Text file (.txt)

File Edit Format	View Help	
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10:45 am	What's new in Nomads What's new in the Toolset Date Fi	le Recovery
11:30 am	Web Browser Control	

### Review

- Created flexible methods for the most common functionality from Microsoft's objects
- Simplify and speed development
- Experienced users can still access all Microsoft functionality via properties exposing handles to the MS objects, errors and constants

# Additional Resources

The help link(s) below refer to the current on-line help pages. The functionality may have been further updated since the PxPlus 2018 (version 15) release.

- <u>PxPlus Excel Object</u>
- <u>PxPlus Word Object</u>