
Subject: output2 with parent/child tables
Posted by [htManager](#) on Thu, 02 Oct 2014 10:11:17 GMT
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Hi Tony,

I have a question concerning the pdf output2 pattern with parent-/child tables.

I want to show the child occurrences of the parent record in the same way as you created the pdf invoice example. My child records would be the items in the invoice example. Is this alright?

I want to create a subclass of the parent class where I can get all the necessary data by the `_cm_output_multi()` function.

Is this the right way or is there a better one?

Subject: Re: output2 with parent/child tables
Posted by [AJM](#) on Sun, 05 Oct 2014 09:13:57 GMT
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If you want to emulate what I have done with my sample PDF invoice I suggest that you unzip my 'Example' subsystem and take a look at the code.

Subject: Re: output2 with parent/child tables
Posted by [htManager](#) on Mon, 13 Oct 2014 15:37:31 GMT
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I did investigate the code of the invoice example and tried to create a similar report. But I failed. I think that it is better for me to use an output2 pattern.

In the `$structure[title]` section I can define different fields one after another in one line. Is it possible to show the fields 'floating'. I don't know how to express this correctly. What I mean is, that I have to define the width of each field. But if I have defined a width of 20 and I have only three characters there is much space between this and the next word.

The second question I have is the following: Can I group the list view by a column in the same manner as the list view with totals? For your understanding what I mean: I have a team with members. Each member is categorized by a certain position(as 'Star sign' in your example). I want to create a list where all members of a position are grouped under his/her position. I hope you can imagine what I want.

Subject: Re: output2 with parent/child tables

Posted by [AJM](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2014 10:00:19 GMT

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(1) It is not possible to show the "floating" as you require. Each field has a defined width which cannot be adjusted to cover the data it contains. If each field contains a single word, and you want this string of fields/words to be shown with only one space between each word, then it cannot be done. What you must do is concatenate all those words into a single field, then display that single field.

(2) The output of data in any PDF report is mainly controlled by the SQL query which you use to extract data from the database. The PDF processing will simply take each record that is produced from that query and process it before moving on to the next record. Any sorting or grouping must therefore be done in the SQL query *BEFORE* you send that data to the PDF object.

The documentation at <http://www.tonymarston.net/php-mysql/output-to-pdf.html> clearly identifies the various options which are available, so if you want something which is not in this document then it's probably not available.

Subject: Re: output2 with parent/child tables

Posted by [htManager](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2014 12:55:22 GMT

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Thank you very much for the information. I will try what you proposed and I hope that I succeed.

Subject: Re: output2 with parent/child tables

Posted by [htManager](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2014 15:48:00 GMT

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Sorry, but I didn't succeed.

(1) I looked at your example in option_list(a).php and changed my \$sql_select statement as described below:

```
$sql_select = 'CONCAT(vereine_kuerzel, \' \', mannschaften_id) AS mannschaft_name';
```

In the report I changed the entry in:

```
$structure['title'][] = array('text' => '%%mannschaft_name', 'width' => 15, 'align' => 'left', 'x' => 25, 'y' => 0);
```

But there is no output. What did I wrong?

(2) Can I get a field value of the parent table within the above sql_select statement? I want to show a logo image file in the child report title. But the file name is stored in the parent table. I think that this should work with outer/inner join in a way as you showed in option_list(a).php. Did you

somewhere describe this problems in one of your documentation? Or can you tell me what SQL-expression I should looking for to get information how to handle it?

Once more, thanks for your patience!

Subject: Re: output2 with parent/child tables
Posted by [AJM](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2014 22:03:04 GMT
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As an experiment I tried adjusting the contents of file xample\reports\en\x_person.list.report.inc and changed line 16 from

```
$structure['title'][] = array('text' => '- Contents of X_PERSON table -',
```

to

```
$structure['title'][] = array('text' => '%%last_name',
```

and it worked perfectly.

I suggest you step through with your debugger to see what is going wrong in your code.

When reading from a database table it is possible in the SQL query to JOIN to other tables to obtain other values, then that data can be handled in the code as if it came from the first table. All you have to do is construct a valid query.

Subject: Re: output2 with parent/child tables
Posted by [htManager](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2014 15:16:40 GMT
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Concat: As you told, it works also perfectly with me. My fault was that I changed the wrong php file.

To construct a valid sql query is obviously too difficult for me. But I get the value by the `_cm_getExtraData` in the parent class and I store this value in the `$_SESSION` variable.

I am happy now - til the next problem rises up.