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Subject: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Thu, 21 Jan 2010 20:25:04 GMT

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Tony,

Further to all the recent discussion and changes around formatting when producing PDF output I have a question about formatting when using the `_cm_listView_header()` method. I've recently moved some code that sets substitution tokens into this method (it's where it should have been anyway) but the standard date formatting does not seem to be applied.

Is there something about the order of events for printing the header that I need to take into account?

Thanks.

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [AJM](#) on Thu, 21 Jan 2010 23:00:59 GMT

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No formatting is applied after any call to the `_cm_listView_header()` method as the header does not contain any variables, just headings.

Have you tried calling the `formatData()` method yourself?

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Thu, 21 Jan 2010 23:23:50 GMT

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I've just tried putting the following code as the first line in `_cm_listView_header()`

```
$rowdata = $this->formatData($rowdata);
```

Unfortunately, this seems to have the effect of removing some of the data (I've not debugged properly to see why yet).

However, would it not be appropriate to have the `$rowdata` that is passed into `_cm_listView_header` already formatted so that any substitution tokens are formatted correctly in advance?

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Thu, 21 Jan 2010 23:28:42 GMT

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I've fixed the missing data problem - I put the code in the wrong place. However, the question I asked is still valid.

Graham

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [AJM](#) on Thu, 21 Jan 2010 23:33:51 GMT

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If you step through with your debugger you will see that the `formatData()` method will format the contents of a row of data according to the field specifications in `$this->fieldspec`.

If you have a value which is not being formatted into a date it is because my code does not know that it is a date.

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Thu, 21 Jan 2010 23:44:35 GMT

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Yes, I had already fixed the problem and the call to `formatData` is working properly. I really wanted to ask about the necessity to do this manually though as until the recent changes the data was being formatted in the headings without me having to do it specifically.

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [AJM](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 00:25:43 GMT

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See if the attached file fixes your problem.

(attachment deleted)

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 09:19:52 GMT

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This version generates an error:

Fatal error: Call to a member function `formatData()` on a non-object in  
C:\xampp\includes\std.pdf\_list.class.inc on line 25

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [AJM](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 10:07:04 GMT

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Whoops! Try This one.

#### File Attachments

1) [std.pdf\\_list.class.zip](#), downloaded 1885 times

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 13:19:01 GMT

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I can work fine with this, although I think the functionality has changed slightly from previously. I see that the data contained in `$rowdata` within `_cm_listView_header()` is not formatted, but it gets formatted immediately prior to printing.

I am creating a string of concatenated data into a substitution token, so I have to manually format that data before building the string if I want the correct formats. That's perfectly reasonable to expect. Any auto build substitution tokens are being correctly auto formatted now.

Thanks.

Graham

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [AJM](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 13:42:32 GMT

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I had not realised that you expected the data to be formatted BEFORE the call to `_cm_listView_header()`. Is this what you want?

Which is more logical to you? Perform the formatting on the row data BEFORE or AFTER the call to `_cm_listView_header()`? This would mean that if you want any changes made in `_cm_listView_header()` to be formatted then you will have to do it yourself.

It would be a simple change to make - just move line 22 to below line 25.

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 13:59:49 GMT

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I had originally expected the data to be formatted before the call to `_cm_listView_header()` which is why I was originally struggling with my data. There were actually two problems from my point of

view of which your update corrected one (the most important).

Now I'm not sure which approach is more logical to me. I think the current version is probably more consistent with the approach taken throughout the rest of the framework (you are better placed to confirm that). However, the purpose of `_cm_listView_header()` is to modify the contents of the header before printing, so the type of processing most likely to be done is probably easier if the data is already formatted.

I can handle this whichever way now I understand how it is working.

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [AJM](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 14:16:41 GMT

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Upon reflection it would be more logical to format the data BEFORE the call to `_cm_listView_header()` as you can only modify the contents of the current row.

With the `_cm_ListView_print_before()` and `_cm_ListView_print_after()` methods you are not amending the current row but optionally adding new rows, so it is correct that any formatting is done afterwards.

Modified file is attached.

#### File Attachments

1) [std.pdf\\_list.class.zip](#), downloaded 1853 times

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 14:27:10 GMT

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Hmmm. Now that I've tried this I'm not so sure anymore!

Now that the data is formatted I can't easily get back to the id from a value representation to use in another query.

It's swings and roundabouts, although it was probably easier the other way!

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Subject: Re: Formatting in `_cm_listView_header()` method

Posted by [AJM](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 16:38:41 GMT

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You are confusing me now because your earlier problem was with the formatting of dates.

If you want to stop a ValRep field from being automatically changed into its representation then

you need to amend the contents of the \$fieldspec entry so that the formatData() method does not overwrite the field value with the external representation.

If you need to work with both the value and the representation you should put two separate fields into the row data before any formatting or custom processing is performed.

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Subject: Re: Formatting in \_cm\_listView\_header() method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 16:42:43 GMT

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Tony,

The formatted data now contains data that has been converted by \_cm\_getValRep(). So \$rowdata contains representation data rather than the value.

Prior to the latest change \$rowdata contained values rather than representations.

What is the correct/easiest way to obtain the original value for these items?

Sorry - just spotted your previous post so you can ignore this.

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Subject: Re: Formatting in \_cm\_listView\_header() method

Posted by [AJM](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 16:50:21 GMT

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I identified two possibilities in my previous post:

- (1) Amend the \$fieldspec entry so that the formatData() method will not swap the value with the representation.
- (2) After reading the record but before the call to \_cm\_listView\_header() or formatData() put a copy of the original value into the row data with another name. As this will not have an entry in the \$fieldspec array it will not be reformatted.

If you need to work with the unformatted value but display the formatted value then I would go for option (2).

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Subject: Re: Formatting in \_cm\_listView\_header() method

Posted by [gpatti](#) on Fri, 22 Jan 2010 16:55:25 GMT

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Yes, understood - and using option 2 successfully as I need both values - one to work with and one to print.

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Thanks.

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