
Subject: Missing Multi2 column + debug tips + modify dbObject by task

Posted by [markcarranza](#) on Mon, 31 Dec 2012 01:57:51 GMT

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I'm using the Radicore data dictionary to document legacy data. I added a 'col_rename' column to dict_column, and a 'Rename Column' Multi2 task to edit documentation of all a table's columns on the same screen.

Screen structure file attached.

Problem: The 'is_required' column is blank: <td> </td>.

Behavior: If I force an error, for example, leaving 'description' blank and submit, the proper 'is_required' dropdown shows(!) and edits to this column save (when 'description' filled in) on submit, but then go back to blank.

I traced the code, but don't know the system well enough to see something wrong yet.

I found: `$_SESSION['log_xml_document'] = true;`

1) Link please: where are debug tips documented?

so:

```
<is_required required="y" control="dropdown" optionlist="is_required"
nodisplay="y">**hidden**</is_required>
```

But a breakpoint in dict_column.class.inc _cm_checkColumnType line 98

```
if (isset($colspecs['is_required'])) {
doesn't get hit(?)
```

I searched for _cm_checkColumnType in RADICORE for PHP - Functions, Methods and Variables, and not finding it there, went back and found it in dict_column.class.inc

2) would it make sense to have a naming convention for private(?) class methods different from foundation '_cm_...' methods?

So now I see: _cm_post_getData

```
//...
```

```
// just comment out for now
```

```
// $this->fieldspec['is_required']['nodisplay'] = 'y';
```

```
//...
```

```
if (count($rowdata) == 1) {
    $rowdata[0] = $this->_cm_checkColumnType($rowdata[0]);
} // if
```

3) Link please: where is it covered how best to modify dbObject behavior by task?

4) How best to do this? Can I edit \$this->fieldspec in a screen.inc file? Suggestions welcome.
Thanks!

Subject: Re: Missing Multi2 column + debug tips + modify dbObject by task

Posted by [markcarranza](#) on Mon, 31 Dec 2012 02:02:19 GMT

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I can't seem to upload the file here, so:<?php

```
$structure['xsl_file'] = 'std.list2.xsl';
```

```
$structure['tables']['outer'] = 'dict_table';
```

```
// identify the column specs - may use 'width' or 'class'
```

```
$structure['outer']['columns'][] = array('width' => '25%');
```

```
$structure['outer']['columns'][] = array('width' => '*');
```

```
// identify the field names and their screen labels
```

```
$structure['outer']['fields'][] = array('database_id' => 'Database Id');
```

```
$structure['outer']['fields'][] = array('table_id' => 'Table Id');
```

```
$structure['outer']['fields'][] = array('table_desc' => 'Table Description');
```

```
$structure['outer']['fields'][] = array('tbl_comment' => 'Comment');
```

```
$structure['tables']['inner'] = 'dict_column';
```

```
// identify the column specs - may use 'width' or 'class'
```

```
$structure['inner']['columns'][] = array('width' => 5);
```

```
$structure['inner']['columns'][] = array('width' => 10, 'align' => 'right');
```

```
$structure['inner']['columns'][] = array('width' => 10, 'nowrap' => 'nowrap');
```

```
$structure['inner']['columns'][] = array('width' => 20);
```

```
$structure['inner']['columns'][] = array('width' => 40);
```

```
$structure['inner']['columns'][] = array('width' => '*');
```

```
$structure['inner']['columns'][] = array('width' => 20);
```

```
// identify the field names and their screen labels
```

```
$structure['inner']['fields'][] = array('selectbox' => 'Select');
```

```
$structure['inner']['fields'][] = array('column_seq' => '#');
```

```
$structure['inner']['fields'][] = array('column_id' => 'Name');
```

```
$structure['inner']['fields'][] = array('col_rename' => 'Rename', 'size' => 20);
```

```
$structure['inner']['fields'][] = array('column_desc' => 'Description', 'size' => 40, 'nosort' => 'y');
```

```
$structure['inner']['fields'][] = array('col_comment' => 'Comment', 'cols' => 40, 'rows' => 2, 'nosort' => 'y');
```

```
$structure['inner']['fields'][] = array('is_required' => 'Is Required', 'nosort' => 'y');
```

```
// uncomment to get debug XML in /xsl directory
```

```
// $_SESSION['log_xml_document'] = true;
```

Subject: Re: Missing Multi2 column + debug tips + modify dbObject by task

Posted by [AJM](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2013 22:32:52 GMT

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What sql did you use to add the new column?

Did you import then export the changed table definition to recreate the dict_column.dict.inc file?

You really should learn how to build and then modify your own tasks and screens before you start amending any core components.

Answers:

1) See What debugging aids exist in this framework? You should also try using a proper interactive debugger instead of just putting breakpoints where you **think** the error might be.

2) I have no plans to rename any methods.

3) See How do you deal with task-specific behaviour?

4) You do not edit \$this->fieldspec in the screen.inc file. Use the _cm_changeConfig() method instead.
