

Resize-Recalc

Doug Den Hoed



So how much of a wizard are you? In "Stump the Expert," we'll describe an Access bug but omit the solution. Adventurous readers are invited to download a working example of the bug from www.smartaccessnewsletter.com and try to solve it. When you give up, you're welcome to look at the author's answer in the Download file. Of course, if you figure it out, you won't have to look...

JUST when I thought I'd seen every Access bug there is, a new one popped up last month that put all former contenders to shame. A client called me to complain that one of their reports was giving inconsistent results. After a little testing, I confirmed the symptoms: When different users resized the report for different local printers, some of the numbers on the report changed. Astounding! **Figure 1** shows the report on 8.5x11-inch paper, while **Figure 2** shows the same report after changing its page setup to 11x17-inch paper. The totals are different. This was an interesting feature: If you don't like the numbers, just print the report on a different sized paper.

It took me about 15 minutes to find the problem

and another 30 to fix and test it. It was by far one of the most interesting bugs I've ever solved. So here's our first "Stump the Expert" challenge. I've prepared an Access 97 and an Access 2000 download for you to investigate. **Figure 3** shows the instructions for the download. Happy hunting! ▲

DOWNLOAD STMP0204.ZIP at www.smartaccessnewsletter.com

Doug Den Hoed is a founder of Lumina Systems Delivery in Calgary, Canada, which specializes in customized software solutions using Access, Visual Basic, InterDev, SQL Server, and Oracle. Doug gets a lot of his material for his articles from The KB™ (www.thekb.com), the commercial Access application he invented to manage multiple software development projects. busi_ops@anadarko.com.

%	%	Unrisked	Wl Unrisked	Wl Risked	(befe)
		29,093	29,093	29,093	76.8
		44,503	44,503	44,503	
		188,321	177,905	169,387	339.4

Figure 1. Buggy report on 8.5x11-inch paper

%	%	Unrisked	Wl Unrisked	Wl Risked	(befe)
		29,093	29,093	29,093	76.8
		46,549	46,549	46,549	
		190,367	179,951	171,433	339.4

Figure 2. Buggy report on 11x17-inch paper

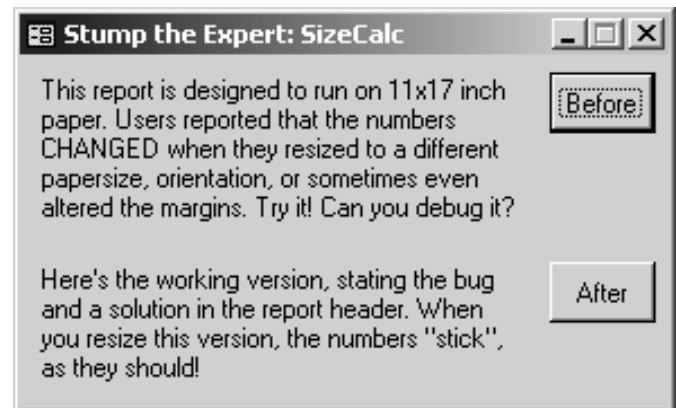


Figure 3. The Download challenge.

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