

Smart Access

Solutions for Microsoft® Access® Developers

Create XML Web Reports from Access 2002

Danny Lesandrini

2002

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Transforming XML data with XSL is a great way to deliver formatted content to the Web. Although creating XSL stylesheets can be daunting for the uninitiated, the new ExportXML method in Access 2002 makes it easy to publish even the most complicated reports. Danny Lesandrini shows how you can “push” or “pull” your Access reports to or from the Internet.

THE new ExportXML method in Microsoft Access 2002 is great for generating XML files from Access tables, but its greatest value may lie in its ability to generate formatted XML Web reports. For those who haven't yet explored this brave new frontier, XSL is a transformation language (similar in some ways to SQL) that can be applied to XML data files to produce any output that you want—including a formatted HTML output.

According to the Help file, the syntax for generating a report as transformed-XML from Access 2002 takes this form:

```
ExportXML( ObjectType, DataSource, DataTarget, _
          SchemaTarget, PresentationTarget, _
          ImageTarget, Encoding, OtherFlags )
```

For example, to create an HTM page to display an Access 2002 report named rptBookSales001, you could use the following code:

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In code, an underscore (_) as the last character of a line indicates that the line has been wrapped for layout purposes. In Access 95 and up you can use the code as it appears, but in Access 2.0 you must recombine the wrapped lines.