.NET Mobile Applications DataMaker

Key Features

Compatible with:
- SQL Mobile/Anywhere
- SQL CE
- SQL Server Directly

Writes code for:
- .Net Framework 1.1 or 2.0
- .Net Compact Framework 1.0 or 2.0

It Builds:
- C# Classes that map directly onto SQL Tables/Views or stored procedures.
- SQL Server SQL Publication Script
- App.config file with all appropriate configuration.

The challenges of producing mobile and web based applications that consume data from an ERP system are numerous. A key discipline is to ensure that the application correctly reflects the underlying table, views and stored procedure structures for the base data. Any changes to the tables in either application can cause the solution to fail. The resulting disruption can have serious commercial implications for an organisation.

Anglia Business Solutions have recognised this issue and have designed and developed a unique software utility called DataMaker. DataMaker provides a set of tools that automatically creates professionally structured .Net code that exactly matches the underlying ERP database. This enables the developer to concentrate on meeting the user requirements rather than continually having to probe the structure of underlying database.

With DataMaker, data code generation that used to take days or even weeks is now eliminated. Furthermore, facilitating application changes in line with the needs of the business are quick and easy. As a result, user satisfaction is greatly increased while the cost of ownership is reduced.

What does it do?

The Anglia DataMaker tool has been developed to rapidly build first class optimised .Net C# code that wrappers the tables/views or stored procedures of a SQL Server 2000/2005 database.

DataMaker can be used to build C# classes for SQL Mobile/Anywhere or SQL Server applications.

With DataMaker the developer is able to concentrate on building user interface rather than having to worry about writing correct code for interacting with the underlying database. This is vital when building applications that utilise ERP table structures that can sometimes run to hundreds of fields.
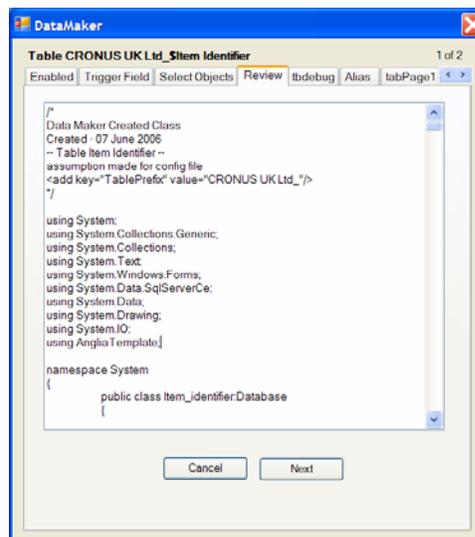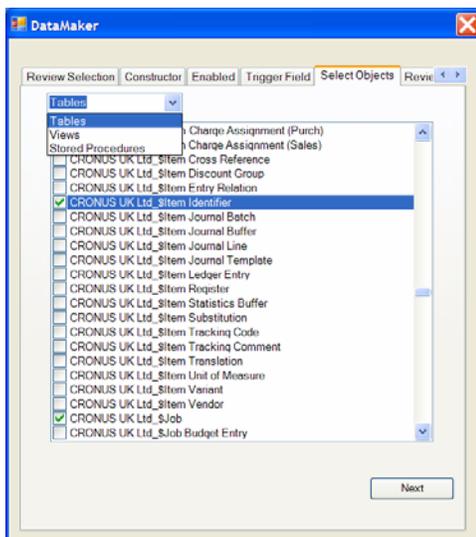

Fig i)
(Left) DataMaker auto-building .NET Code.

Fig ii)
(Centre) User selection menu for the Microsoft Dynamics™ NAV Database elements to be used in a .NET application.
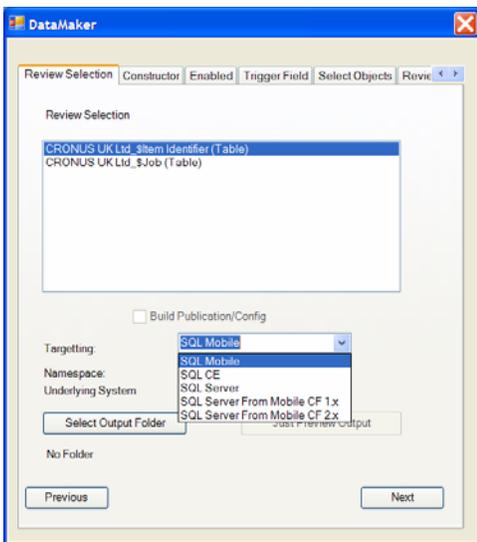
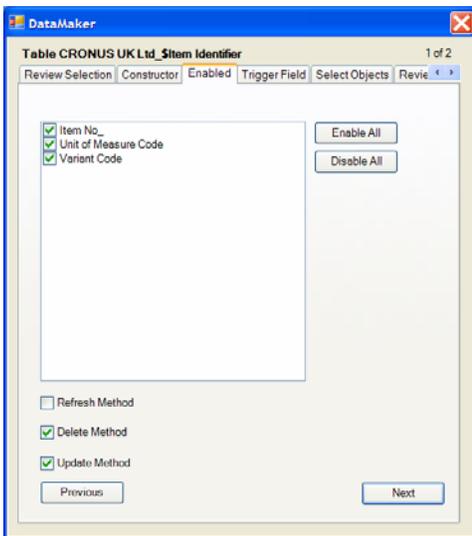Fig iii) Selecting a target environment for the .NET application.

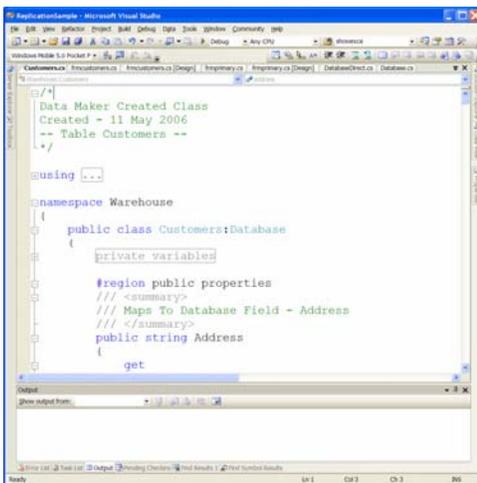Fig iv) Selecting read and/or write access for each table/view.

Fig v) Visual Studio 2005 using DataMaker generated Code.

How does it work?

The developer simply selects which tables/views or stored procedures that are required and DataMaker does the rest. Datamaker will write classes that wrap all of the functionality needed to correctly insert, update, delete and retrieve records for tables or views.   Or in the case of a stored procedure correctly call passing in and out all appropriate parameters.

The developer is prompted to assign read and/or write access to a table/view.   DataMaker generates the appropriate C# code to fully utilise the SQL functionality either with SQL Server or SQL Mobile/SQL Anywhere.

Once the DataMaker code has been created the developer is able to modify the classes produced automatically as the generated code sits alongside any manually generated functionality.

Advantages

Rapid Application Development
DataMaker promotes Rapid Application Development significantly reducing the time to market for new applications.

100% error-free code
DataMaker produces optimised, ready to use bug free code which can be immediately utilised in applications with no requirement for additional code modification or correction.

Low code maintenance in deployed applications
Code created using DataMaker can easily be "re-configured" to reflect changes made to the back office database once the application has been deployed.

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