

Crystal Reports Technical Document

Subject: Logging onto Server - uses and description of PE Calls
Date: August 24, 1993
Versions: 2.0 Pro or VB upgrades to 2.0 Pro

Situation:

When logging on to a SQL Server there are basically two options that you can choose from. An explicit logon(PELogOnServer) or an implicit logon(PESetNthLogonInfo). This document will describe the uses of both scenarios and demonstrate their uses within Visual Basic sample code.

Solution:

Explicit Logon

PELogOnServer

The explicit API call is used to log on to a specified server and it will return a value of TRUE(1) if the call is successful and FALSE(0) if something goes wrong. The appropriate time to use such a call would be when logging on to a specified server at runtime in response to user input. For example, a user could input a specified *ServerName*, *DatabaseName*, *UserID* and *Password*. However, when a report is created using SQL Tables all of the previous information will be stored in your report except for the password. Therefore, when you initialize the structure, as shown below, you can leave each structure blank(i.e " ") except for the password. For NetWare SQL, pass the dictionary path name in *ServerName* and data path name in *DatabaseName*.

Visual Basic Code for PLogOnServer

```
Dim DLLName As String  
Dim LogOnInfo As PLogOnInfo
```

```
DLLName = "PDSSYBAS.DLL"
```

'the DLLName is the name of the Crystal Reports DLL for the Server you want to log on to.

'DLLName for SQL/Sybase is PDSSYBAS.DLL

'DLLName for Oracle(Q+E) is PDSORACL.DLL

'DLLName for NetWare SQL is PDSNETW.DLL

'DLLName for Gupta is PDSGUPTA.DLL

'DLLName for SQL Sever(ODBC), or any other ODBC connection, PDSODBC.DLL

'Initialize the structure

```
LogOnInfo.Structsize = PE_SIZEOF_LOGON_INFO
```

```
LogOnInfo.ServerName = "ServerName" + Chr$(0)
```

```
LogOnInfo.DatabaseName = "DatabaseName" + Chr$(0)
```

```
LogOnInfo.UserID = "UserID" + Chr$(0)
```

```
LogOnInfo.Password = "Password" + Chr$(0)
```

'if you want to use the logoninfo stored in your report then leave all of the above 'blank(i.e " ") but the password. Crystal Reports does not store this password input.

PELOGONS.DOC

```
If PElLogOnServer(DLLName, LogOnInfo) = false then
  MsgBox("Connection to Server was unsuccessful)
Else
  MsgBox("Connection to Server was Successful)
```

```
' Do Work(other PE calls)
```

```
If PElLogOffServer (DLLName, LogOnInfo) = false then
  MsgBox("Unable to disconnect from Server")
End if
```

Comments:

- We recommend that you leave the structure size as PE_SIZEOF_LOGON_INFO which is defined in Global.BAS.
- PElLogOnServer can be called at any time to log on a database. This function is not required if the function PElSetNthTableLogOnInfo was already used to set the password for the table.
- This function requires the user to know the database DLLName
- This function can also be used for NonSQL tables, such as password-protected Paradox tables. Call this function to set the password for the Paradox DLL before beginning printing.
- When printing using PElStartPrintJob, the ServerName passed in PElLogServer must agree exactly with the server name stored in the report. If this is not true use PElSetNthTableLogOnInfo to perform the logging on instead.

PELogOffServer

This Print Engine call is similar to PElLogOnServer. An example is shown in the previous code.

Implicit Logon

This type of logon will allow the user to access the appropriate log on information from a report table(PEGetNthTableLogOnInfo) and then allows the user to set the password or change any of the log on parameters(PESetNthTableLogOnInfo)