

Introduction

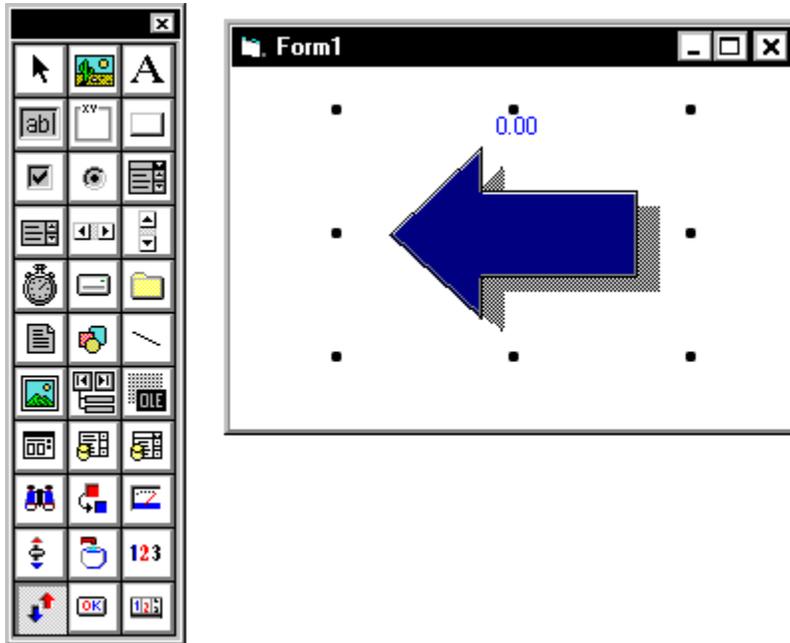
[Properties](#)

[Events](#)

[Methods](#)

Description

RSCmpare is a data comparison multi-state control. Its multiple state shape editor allows addition and removal of nodes and sides, 360 degree rotation, and bezier curve assignments. Its three-state capability allows you to view data trends in either a last point/this point mode or in an absolute mode, which allows you to view the status of data with respect to a check point value. In addition to three-state graphic shapes, you may also use RSCmpare's three-state picture switching by assigning a bitmap to each of the three states (< = >).



File Name

RSCMP32.OCX

Object Type

RSCmpare

Remarks

The RSCmpare control has several custom properties that allow you to monitor and control data. The RSCmpare control also has custom events that allow you to be notified when data has changed, or if data has finished its request or poke.

Note

When you create and distribute applications that use the RSCmpare control, certain files need to be installed in the WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory. Refer to the "Redistributing Files" section of this chapter for specific file names. The Setup Wizard included with Visual Basic provides tools to help create setup programs for installing your applications.

Basic Concepts

- The RSCompare control is designed to be used with any Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) Server and can provide enhanced performance when used with those that conform to AdvanceDDEprotocol. In order for RSCompare to communicate via AdvanceDDE or XL_Table protocols, RSJunctionBox, the module that provides the ability to use those protocols, must be purchased separately from Rockwell Software Inc. If you choose to write your own DDE server, the AdvanceDDE protocol can be obtained from Rockwell Software Inc. by contacting Technical Support.
- The RSCompare control can be easily configured by setting its properties, without writing a single line of code.
- The RSCompare control can be used as a bound control. It automatically handles updating and displaying data from the Data control, which supports ODBC, Microsoft Access, dBASE, FoxPro, Paradox, Btrieve and several other database types.
- The RSCompare control also supports the Paste Link method from RSLinx, Microsoft Excel or other servers for transferring DDE Link data via the clipboard.
- The RSCompare control has built in error notification and handling. If an error has occurred in the data stream, the error can be displayed in the control's caption property, or handled via code in one of its events.

Bound Properties

The RSCmpare control has three bound properties: **DataUpdate**, **DataField** and **DataSource**. These properties allow the RSCmpare control to be linked to a Visual Basic Data control or Remote Data control, and display field values for the current record in the recordset.

Note

*For more information on using bound controls, refer to [Accessing Databases With the Data Control](#), in the *Visual Basic Programmers Guide*.*

Properties, Events & Methods

All of the properties, events, and methods for the RSCompare control are listed in the following tables.

Properties

(About)	Clip	Height	ShadowOffsetX
(Custom)	CompareMode	HelpContextID	ShadowOffsetY
ActsLikeButton	DataChanged	Index	StartValue
AllowChangeEvent	DataField	Left	Symbol
AutoColumns	DataSource	LeftBorder	TabIndex
BackColor	DataUpdate	LinkErrorDisplay	TabStop
BackStyle	DataValue	LinkErrorNumber	Tag
BevelHeight	DecimalPlaces	LinkErrorString	Top
BevelHighlight	DisplayBorder	LinkItem	TopBorder
BevelShadow	DisplayCaption	LinkMode	TrailingZeros
BevelStyle	DisplayCaptionVertically	LinkServer	UpBorderColor
BevelWidth	DisplayEqualSign	LinkTip	UpColor
BorderBeveled	DisplayGraphic	LinkTipBackColor	UseInPoke
BorderColor	DisplayPicture	LinkTipForeColor	UseInRequest
BorderHighlight	DisplayValue	LinkTipText	UseStartEndValue
BorderInner	DownBorderColor	LinkTopic	Value
BorderInnerColor	DownColor	Name	ValueBackColor
BorderShadow	DragIcon	NumberOfDataValues	ValueColor
BorderStyle	DragMode	NumberOfSegments	ValuePadDownload
BorderWidth	DrawDisabledShadow	Picture	ValueShadow
BottomBorder	Enabled	PictureDown	ValueShadowColor
ButtonBorderWidth	EndValue	PictureEqual	ValueTransparent
Caption	EqualBorderColor	PictureStretch	ValueX
CaptionBackColor	EqualColor	PictureUp	ValueY
CaptionColor	ExpressionForRead	PokeLength	Visible
CaptionShadow	ExpressionForWrite	PokeStartIndex	WhatsThisHelpID
CaptionShadowColor	FlashEnabled	RequestLength	Width
CaptionTransparent	FlashOn	RequestStartIndex	WriteValue
CaptionX	FlashSpeed	RightBorder	XYPairDown
CaptionY	FlashTime	ScreenPriority	XYPairEqual
CheckValue	Font	Shadow	XYPairUp

Events

Change	KeyPress	LinkUnableToConnectToServer
Click	KeyUp	LostFocus
Clicks	LinkError	MouseDown
DbClick	LinkItemNotSupported	MouseMove
DragDrop	LinkItemSupported	MouseUp
DragOver	LinkNotify	PokeCompleted
GotFocus	LinkOutOfMemory	RequestCompleted
KeyDown	LinkServerDisconnected	

Methods

Container	LinkPoke	Parent
DoPoke	LinkRequest	SetFocus
DoRequest	Move	ShowWhatsThis
Drag	Object	ZOrder

Installing the OCX

You can install RSCcompare on your computer using Rockwell Software's SETUP.EXE. The setup program installs all RSCcompare files, the Help system, sample applications and other product components from the distribution disks to your hard disk.

System Requirements

Before you install RSCompare, make sure that your computer meets the minimum system requirements. You must have certain hardware and software installed on your computer. The system requirements include:

Minimum Requirements

- IBM-compatible 486 or higher
- 8 MB of RAM
- 10 MB free hard disk drive space
- A 3.5" floppy drive
- VGA Graphics Card
- Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0, Microsoft Access, or other OLE control containers
- Microsoft Windows NT 3.51 or Microsoft Windows 95

Recommended Requirements

- IBM-compatible Pentium
- 16 MB of RAM or more
- 30 MB free hard disk drive space
- Color (800 x 600) or (1024 x 768) Monitor
- Microsoft Mouse compatible pointing device (mouse, trackball, touchscreen, etc.)
- Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0, Professional or Enterprise Edition, Microsoft Access, or other OLE control containers
- Microsoft Windows NT 3.51 or Microsoft Windows 95

RSTOOLS.WRI File

The RSTOOLS.WRI file lists any last minute changes to the RSCompare documentation, Help file and to the RSCompare control. To read the file, open the Windows Write application or double-click the RSTOOLS.WRI file in the file manager or Windows Explorer.

Running Setup

When you run the setup program, you will set a path for RSCompare.

To Start Setup:

1. Insert Disk 1 into drive A.
2. From the file menu in Program Manager, File Manager or Explorer, choose Run.
3. Type a:setup
4. Follow the setup instructions on the screen.

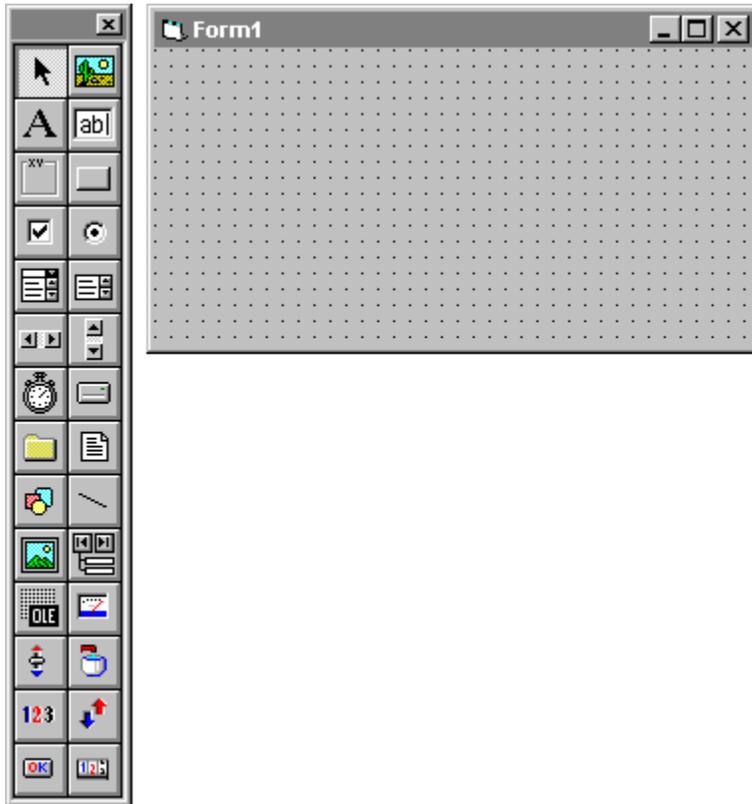
Learning To Use RSCompare

The RSCompare control requires very little programming to create full-featured applications. Much of the functionality is available by setting standard properties.

Loading RSCompare (Adding RSCompare to your VB Project)

To use RSCompare in Visual Basic, you must add the RSCompare control to the Visual Basic toolbox.

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. From Visual Basic, select Custom Controls from the Tools menu.
3. Scroll through the available controls listed. Choose “Rockwell Software RSCompare” and choose OK.



The RSCompare icon is added to the Visual Basic Toolbox.

Autoloading RSCmpare

You can configure Visual Basic to automatically load the RSCmpare control when you start a new project in Visual Basic.

To configure Visual Basic to automatically load RSCmpare:

1. Start Visual Basic and open AUTO32LD.VBP
2. Choose Custom Controls from the Tools menu. (The "Custom Controls" Dialog appears.)
3. Scroll down the list box until "Rockwell Software RSCmpare" is visible, select it and choose OK. The control is added to the project list.
4. Choose Save Project from the File menu.

Note

If "Rockwell Software RSCmpare" does not appear in the list of available custom controls, you may have to click the Browse button and manually select RSCMP32.OCX and RSCMPX32.DLL, which are located in the C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory. When attempting to load RSCMPX32.DLL the message "Unable to load control from RSCMPX32.DLL" may appear. This occurs because this DLL contains supporting code for the RSCmpare OCX and does not contain the actual control. Choose OK to continue.

Using Help

Comprehensive on-line help is available to assist you as you learn and use the RSCompare control. The complete RSCompare documentation is available through on-line help. In addition, you can receive context-sensitive help for properties & events. The Help file is located in your C:\RSWKSHOP\IRSTOOLBX directory.

To access the help contents page:

1. Click the RSCompare icon in the toolbox.
2. Press F1.

To access context-sensitive help for properties:

1. Select an RSCompare control on your form.
2. Highlight an RSCompare property in the properties window.
3. Press F1.

To access context-sensitive help for events:

1. Double-Click an RSCompare control on your form.
2. Pull down the procedure Combo-Box, labeled "Proc:", and select an event from the list.
3. Press F1.

Placing the RSCompare Control on a Form

Creating a new RSCompare control and placing it on a form is as simple as point, click and drag.

1. Select the RSCompare tool in the Visual Basic toolbox.
2. Position the mouse on the form at the location where you want to draw the control.
3. Click and drag to draw the outline of the RSCompare control on the form.
4. When you release the mouse, the new RSCompare control is placed in the location you specified.

-OR-

1. Double-click on the RSCompare tool icon in the Visual Basic toolbox.
2. An RSCompare control will be placed in the center of your form.

Distributing RSCmpare Applications

Please read the license agreement that was shipped with this package. You are bound by the licensing restrictions contained in that document.

Redistributing Files

You can use all the files accompanying this product for development of an application. You can redistribute the run time version of the software according to the terms of the license agreement.

You can ship the following files with your application:

File	Description
RSCMP32.OCX	Code for the RSCompare control
RSTOOL32.DLL	Common Code for the control

If the run time application requires features of the RSJunctionBox (enhanced communications, calculation engine) then in addition to the files above, an RSJunctionBox needs to be installed on the system. The RSJunctionBox (can be purchased separately) installs the following files in the WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory. These files may not be freely distributed and require a special activation key which is automatically installed during setup.

RSJBOX32.DLL	RSJunctionBox module
RSJBP32.DLL	RSJunctionBox Protection DLL
RSCALC32.DLL	Calculation engine for Read/Write expressions

Programming Tools

RSCmpare provides over 100 custom and standard properties. By setting these properties, you can perform a variety of tasks, such as setting colors and graphic images, establishing automatic DDE links, and binding to databases.

Visual Basic Floating Menu

Click the right mouse button anywhere within an RSCompare control to display the floating menu. Once the menu appears, use the left mouse button to select a menu item. Clicking on a menu item that contains three periods brings up additional dialog boxes for performing control functions. The “Properties...” menu item will bring up the Custom Property Tab dialog discussed in the next section.

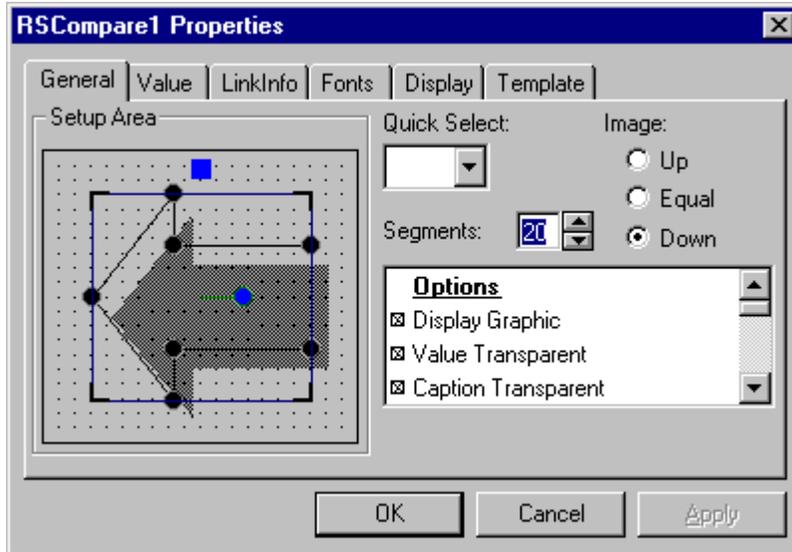


The following table describes the purpose of each item on the floating menu.

Menu item	Description
Cut	Deletes the selected item and copies it to the clipboard.
Copy	Copies the selected item to the clipboard.
Paste	Pastes the contents of the clipboard onto the form.
Delete	Deletes the selected item.
Bring To Front	Brings the selected item to the top of the z-order.
Send To Back	Sends the selected item to the bottom of the z-order.
View Code	Displays the selected item's code window.
Align to Grid	Aligns the control's Top and Left properties to the form's grid.
Properties	Displays the Custom Property Dialog.
Paste Link	Supports pasting a link to a valid DDE source.

Using Custom Property Tabs

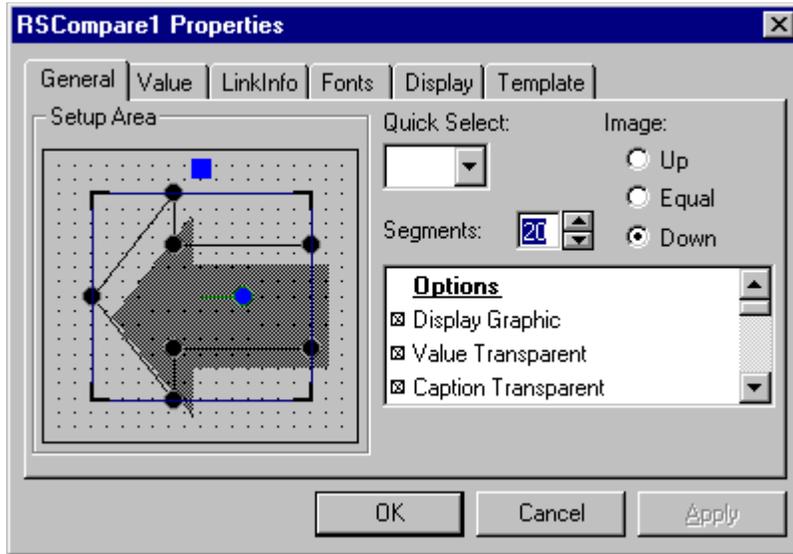
The RSCompare OCX dialog box provides sets of options grouped on separate tabs. As you click each tab, the controls in the dialog box change to allow you to edit a different set of options. Any options that are not appropriate for the current control type are grayed. The following illustration shows an example of an RSCompare OCX dialog box.



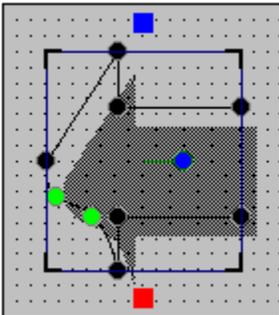
Note

Switching between tabs will force an automatic "apply" to the control.

General Tab

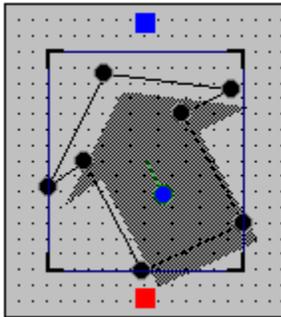
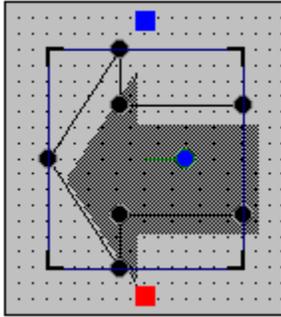


- OCX Setup Area.



Use this display to change the attributes of the control. The graphic image shown is made up of a series of nodes and lines connecting those nodes. To change the appearance of the graphic shape, simply click and drag the nodes within the rectangular grid area. Add nodes by right-clicking the mouse on top of an existing node; another node will then be created. Delete nodes by double-clicking on them. You can also add bezier curves to the image by double-clicking on any line between two nodes. Two new green “handles” will appear, and the line they are on can be pulled into a curve. These green “handles” can be moved to change the shape of the curve. These curves are actually a series of straight line segments. The “smoothness” of the curves is determined by the [NumberOfSegments](#) property, which is described later in this chapter.

The graphic image can be rotated from within the setup area by clicking and dragging the blue rotation handle, as shown below.



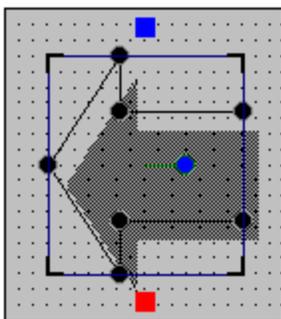
If the Value and Caption are being displayed on the RSCmpare control, their positions can be adjusted by moving their placeholders within the shape editor. The Value display is represented by a blue square, and the Caption display is represented by a red square. The Value and Caption displays can be turned off and on with the right-click menu described on the next page.

The graphic's shadow position can also be changed here by clicking and dragging the shadow within the setup area. The Shadow can be turned off and on in the Options list box or with the right-click menu described on the next page.

The size of the RSCmpare graphic within the control's borders can be adjusted using the sizing handles. Each of the four corners of the Setup Area has a sizing handle, and by clicking and dragging those sizing handles you can adjust the [TopBorder](#), [BottomBorder](#), [LeftBorder](#), and [RightBorder](#) properties of the RSCmpare, as illustrated below.

Note

Fit To Border, which appears on the right-click menu and is described below, works within this sizable border, not the control's outer boundary.



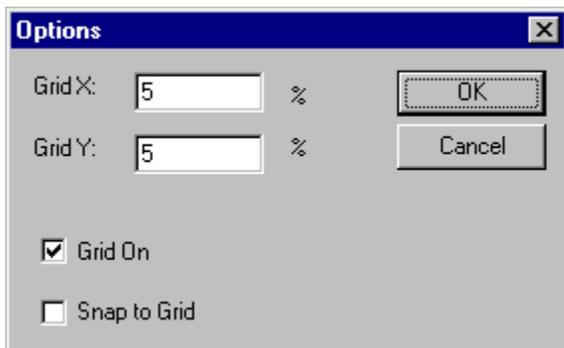
While in the setup area, click the right mouse button to bring up the floating menu.



From this floating menu you can invert the RSCompare shape vertically or horizontally with **Flip Vertical** and **Flip Horizontal**.

The OCX setup area will display a grid for alignment; that grid is enabled/disabled with the **Grid** option on the floating menu. With the **Snap to Grid** option you can align the nodes of your graphic shape with the points on the grid. When this option is on, any node that is moved will be repositioned on one of the grid points displayed.

The **Options...** option brings up a dialog box that allows you to set the density of the grid points, as well as enable / disable the **Grid** and **Snap to Grid** options.



With the **Multiline Object...** option you can quickly set the number of sides that make up the graphic shape. Valid values are between 3 and 40.



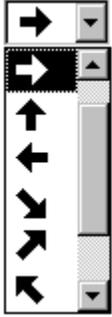
The **Zoom** option enlarges the OCX shape editor to allow you to make more detailed adjustments to the graphic shape.

The **Fit To Border** option will adjust any outside nodes in your graphic shape to align with the outside border of the grid area, in order to make the fill area as large as possible.

From this menu you can also enable/disable the **Value** ([DisplayValue](#)), **Caption** ([DisplayCaption](#)), **Tips** ([LinkTip](#)), or **Shadow** ([Shadow](#)) properties.

You can also display the **Preview** window, which allows you to view a floating display of your control.

- **Quick Select Combo Box.** Use this combo box to quickly select an arrow graphic as your Up, Equal, or Down display.



- **Image Option Buttons.** With these option buttons, select which of the three graphic shapes (Up, Equal, or Down) you wish to edit.
- **Segments Text Box.** The NumberOfSegments property value is changed here - the higher the number, the more rounded any bezier curves in the graphic image will appear.
- **General Options List.** This list box allows you to set the general options for the control. You can enable or disable these properties from this list box by clicking in the appropriate check box. Following is a list of the options available:

[Display Graphic](#)

[Value Transparent](#)

[Caption Transparent](#)

[Value Shadow](#)

[Caption Shadow](#)

[Shadow](#)

[Display Image Border](#)

[Border Beveled](#)

[Act Like Button](#)

[Display Equal Sign](#)

[Display Picture](#)

[Picture Stretch](#)

[Use Start / End Values](#)

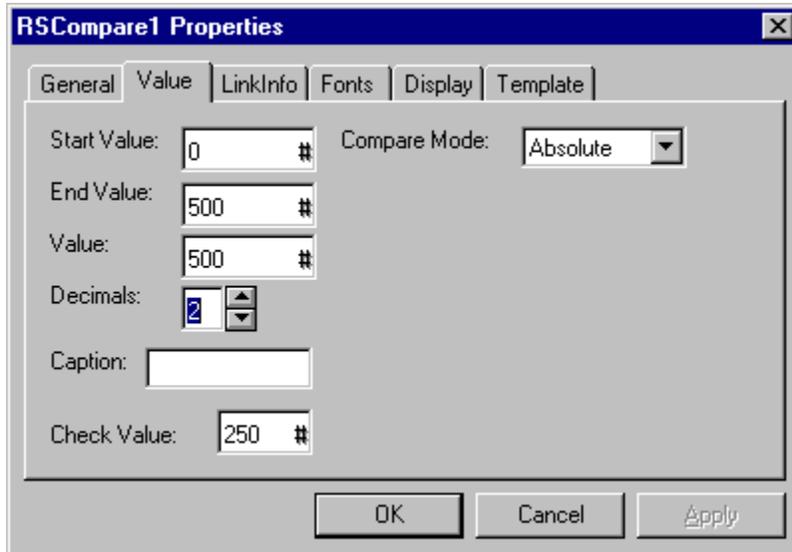
[Entry Pad Enabled](#)

[Draw Disabled Shadow](#)

When finished, press the **OK** button to save any changes or the **Cancel** button to exit without saving changes.

Value Tab

The Value tab allows you to view or edit the Value properties of the RSCompare control, such as [StartValue](#) and [EndValue](#), number of [DecimalPlaces](#), and [CheckValue](#).



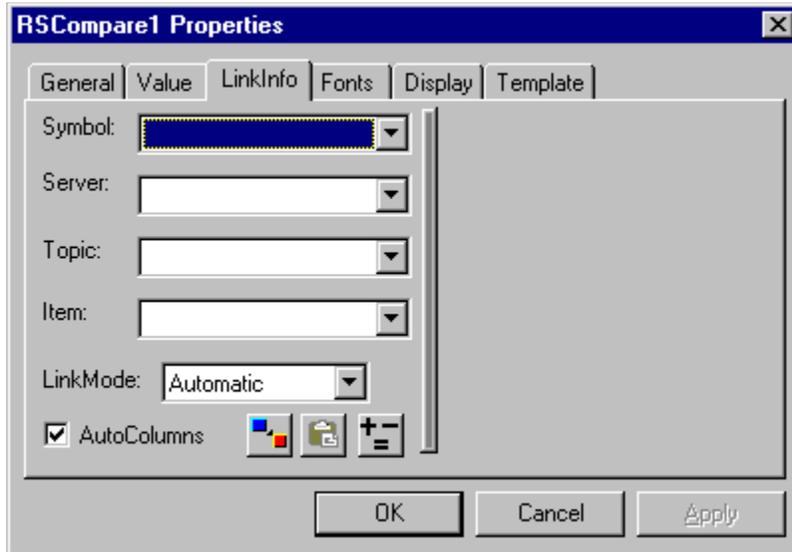
The screenshot shows the 'RSCompare1 Properties' dialog box with the 'Value' tab selected. The dialog has a title bar with a close button. Below the title bar are five tabs: 'General', 'Value', 'LinkInfo', 'Fonts', and 'Template'. The 'Value' tab is active and contains the following controls:

- Start Value:** A text box containing '0' and a '#' button to its right.
- End Value:** A text box containing '500' and a '#' button to its right.
- Value:** A text box containing '500' and a '#' button to its right.
- Decimals:** A spin box with the number '2' and up/down arrow buttons.
- Caption:** An empty text box.
- Check Value:** A text box containing '250' and a '#' button to its right.
- Compare Mode:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'Absolute'.

At the bottom of the dialog are three buttons: 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Apply'.

- **Start Value.** Sets the minimum value for the value range. Either enter the number directly or click on the “#” sign to enter the number using the keypad.
- **End Value.** Sets the maximum value for the value range. Either enter the number directly or click on the “#” sign to enter the number using the keypad.
- **Value.** Sets the default for the Value property. Either enter the number directly or click on the “#” sign to enter the number using the keypad.
- **Decimals.** Sets the number of decimal places (via the [DecimalPlaces](#) property) to be displayed for the Value property.
- **Caption.** Sets the default RSCompare caption.
- **Check Value.** Sets the Check Value to be used when Compare Mode is set to Absolute. The Check Value must fall in the range between Start Value and End Value. Either enter the number directly or click on the “#” sign to enter the number using the keypad.
- **Compare Mode.** The type of compare to be done is entered here. The available choices are Absolute mode - which determines whether the new value is above, equal to, or below the Check Value and displays the appropriate graphic shape - and Linear mode - which compares the new value to the last value read, determines whether the new value is above, equal to, or below the last value, and displays the appropriate graphic shape.

LinkInfo Tab



- **Symbol.** The Symbol combo box is used to choose a Symbol that has been previously defined for a specific Server, Topic, and Item in a DDE link. Select a Symbol from the combo box or type the Symbol's name directly in. When a defined Symbol is chosen, its Server, Topic, and Item combo boxes will be automatically filled in with the appropriate data. The *Manage Symbols* section below describes how to define a Symbol.
- **Server.** The Server combo box determines the application or LinkServer name to which the RSCmpare control is linked. If the Server name has been previously used it can be chosen from the combo box list; if not, enter a Server name in the combo box.
- **Topic.** This combo box determines the LinkTopic portion of the data link string, which the RSCmpare control uses for addressing in a DDE link. If the Topic has been previously used it can be chosen from the combo box list; if not, enter a Topic name in the combo box.
- **Item.** This combo box determines the LinkItem portion of the data link string, which the RSCmpare control uses for addressing in a DDE link. If the Item has been previously used it can be chosen from the combo box list; if not, enter an Item name in the combo box.
- **LinkMode.** Sets the type of link to be used for a DDE conversation and activates the connection. Available options for the LinkMode property are:

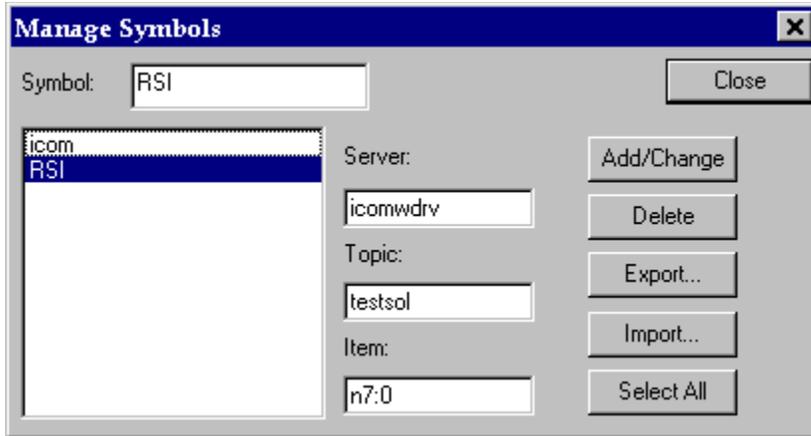
0 = None - No DDE connection is established between the control and **Server**.

1= Automatic - A "HOT link". The **Server** automatically updates the control when data changes.

2 = Manual - A "COLD link". The client has to issue a **DoRequest** method to get data from the **Server**.

3 = Notify - Causes Visual Basic to Fire the **LinkNotify** event which the user can respond to.

-  **Manage Symbols.** This button is used to display another form (see below), which is used to define Symbols for DDE links to the RSCmpare control.



To define a new Symbol for a specific Server, Topic, and Item in a DDE Link, enter the name for the new Symbol in the **Symbol** text box. Place the DDE Link Server name in the **Server** text box, the DDE Link Topic name in the **Topic** text box, and the DDE Link Item name in the **Item** text box.

Click on the **Add/Change** button to add a new Symbol name to the list box. To edit an existing Symbol, select the appropriate name from the list box and click on the **Add/Change** button to change the Server, Topic, or Item text. To delete an existing Symbol, select the appropriate Symbol name from the list box and click on the **Delete** button to delete that Symbol.

Press **Export** to write the symbol information to a .RSS file (Rockwell Software Symbol). This file is a text file with the following format:

```
[SYM]
RSI=icomwdrv|testsol|n7:0
icom=icomwdrv|testsol|n7:22
excel=excel|[book1]sheet1|R1C1
```

This is essentially a .INI file format with a separate *entry*= line for each symbol. This file can be read by a programmer to utilize symbol information in an application.

Click **Import** to import symbol information from an existing .RSS file.

Click **Select All** to select all symbols displayed.

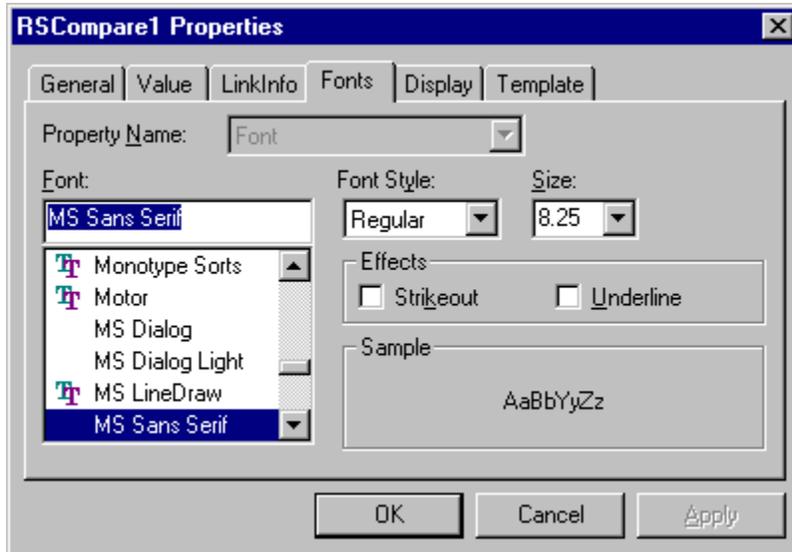
When finished, press the **Close** button to close the dialog box and save any changes.

-  **Paste Link.** This button is enabled when the user has copied specific DDE Link information from another application (for example, Microsoft Excel) to the clipboard. Pressing this button will then fill in the appropriate Server, Topic and Item for the DDE Link. To copy the link information, go to the application to which the RSCompare control is linked and highlight the appropriate address, then copy it to the clipboard.
-  **Expression.** This feature is available only when the RSJunctionBox module is installed on the computer.
- **AutoColumns.** This check box is used to enable or disable the AutoColumns property for the control. AdvanceDDE servers can provide data in block format.

When finished, press the **OK** button to save any changes or the **Cancel** button to exit without saving changes.

Font Tab

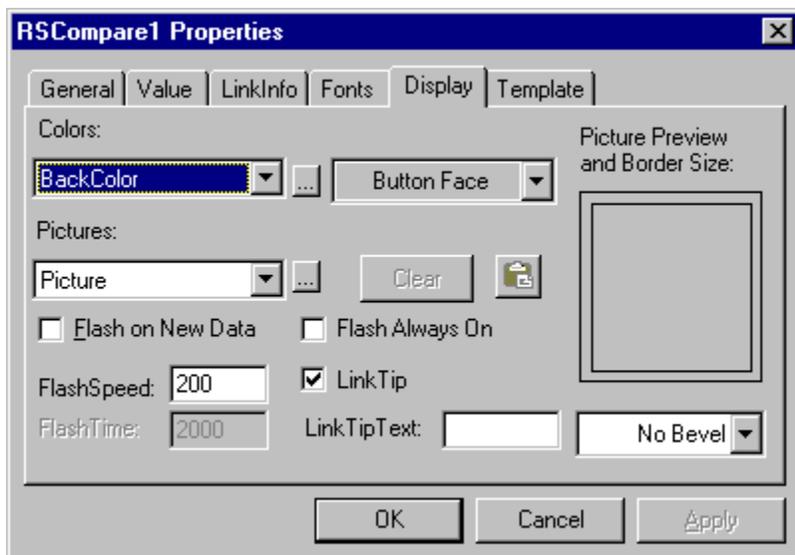
The Font tab is where you can change the name, style, and size of the RSCompare control's fonts. The selected font applies to the Value display and the Caption display.



- **Property Name.** Selects the property of the control that you want to format. At this time only the **Font** property is available for RSCompare.
- **Font.** Select a font from the list of fonts installed on your Windows system.
- **Font Style.** Select a font style from the list of supported styles for the font you selected.
- **Size.** Select a size from the list of valid sizes for the font you selected. You can also type a valid size in the Size field.
- **Strikeout.** Select the Strikeout checkbox if you want strikeout applied to the text.
- **Underline.** Select the Underline checkbox if you want the text to be underlined.

Display Tab

All of the display properties for RSCompare can be set using the Display tab. Display properties include things like colors, pictures, and bevel styles. This section describes the setting of these properties using this tab.



- Colors.** Setting colors involves selecting the color property (for example, BackColor) and then choosing a color. Both the property name and the color can be selected from the drop-down combo boxes labeled *Colors*.

Color properties that can be set using Display Tab for the RSCompare control are:

<i>BackColor</i>	<i>CaptionBackColor</i>	<i>LinkTipBackColor</i>
<i>BevelHighlight</i>	<i>CaptionColor</i>	<i>LinkTipForeColor</i>
<i>BevelShadow</i>	<i>CaptionShadowColor</i>	<i>UpBorderColor</i>
<i>BorderColor</i>	<i>DownBorderColor</i>	<i>UpColor</i>
<i>BorderHighlight</i>	<i>DownColor</i>	<i>ValueBackColor</i>
<i>BorderInnerColor</i>	<i>EqualBorderColor</i>	<i>ValueColor</i>
<i>BorderShadow</i>	<i>EqualColor</i>	<i>ValueShadowColor</i>

Select a color property by highlighting it in the drop-down combo box and then set the color you want to apply from either the basic color palette (activated by clicking on the ellipsis button) or the drop-down colors combo box. The drop-down combo box includes Windows default scheme colors in addition to standard colors. If you want your control to inherit the colors of the Windows desktop color scheme, use this drop-down combo box. The properties set to Windows desktop colors will automatically take up the new colors when you change your desktop's colors setting. If the project is compiled and made into an executable, then the executable's control colors would also inherit Windows desktop colors.

- Picture.** The RSCompare control has four picture properties that can be set, [Picture](#), [PictureUp](#), [PictureEqual](#), and [PictureDown](#). These properties allow you to display pre-defined pictures in addition to or rather than the graphic images for each of the three RSCompare states. To assign a picture to one of these properties, select the property name in the Picture combo box and click on the ellipsis button to bring up a File Open dialog box. With this dialog box you can choose any *.bmp, *.wmf, or *.ico file to be used as the picture. After selecting a file, that file will be displayed in the *Picture Preview and Border Size* window. To clear the picture, simply click on the Clear button.
- Flash on New Data.** The FlashEnabled property is turned off and on with this check box. When turned on, the RSCompare control will flash when its value changes for the amount of time designated by the FlashTime property, at the rate designated by the FlashSpeed property.
- Flash Always On.** The FlashOn property is turned off and on with this check box. When turned on, the RSCompare control will continually flash at the rate designated by the FlashSpeed property.
- FlashSpeed.** Set the FlashSpeed property value by entering a number here. FlashSpeed is measured in milliseconds. FlashSpeed is the rate at which the RSCompare control will flash on and off.

- **FlashTime.** Set the FlashTime property value by entering a number here. FlashTime is measured in milliseconds. FlashTime is the amount of time that the RSCmpare control will continue to flash.
- **LinkTip.** RSCmpare provides the ability to add tool tips for the control. The tool tip can be turned on by checking this check box. Text for the tool tip is entered in the **Link Tip Text** box below the check box. If no text is entered, the tool tip text defaults to the *Symbol* name being used, and if no symbol was used, to the DDE LinkItem details for the control.
- **Picture Preview and Border Size.** After choosing a bitmap for a picture property, a preview of the bitmap will appear here. The RSCmpare bevel width can also be set with this box by clicking and dragging the mouse on one of the corners of the inner border.
- **Bevel Style.** This combo box allows you to select a bevel style for the RSCmpare control if desired. The available bevel styles are:

No Bevel

Marble

Thick

Indented

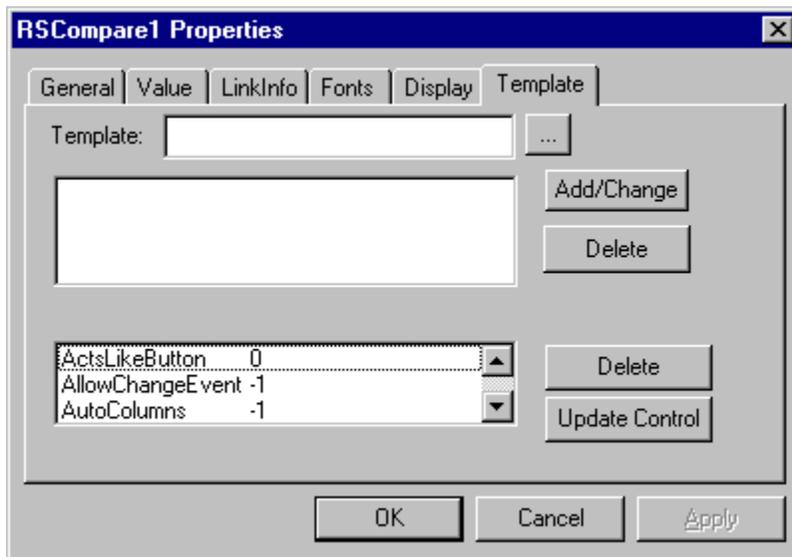
Bevel

Stripe

The amount of 3D effect on the bevel is determined by the border size as set above.

Template Tab

You can save the property settings of a control and apply them to other controls using templates. Once a template of properties has been saved, it can be applied to any RSCompare control and the properties settings applicable to that control are changed as per the template. Using this custom property page tab, templates can be Added, Changed and Managed. These property templates are saved in a file with an “.rwc” extension. Each set of templates is saved with a distinct name. A duplicate name will replace any template with the same name in that file.



- **Template.** This field displays the name of the template to be applied, added or changed. The template file can be selected by clicking on the ellipsis button  next to the field. Available templates names are displayed in the list below this field and can be selected by clicking on the template name (selected template is highlighted).
- **Add/Change Button.** New templates can be added or changes in an existing template can be saved by clicking on this button. The template is saved in the selected *.rwc file.
 - **Delete Button.** Use this button to delete a template from the list. Only that template is removed from the file; all other templates in that file are left in place.
 - **Properties.** This field, below the template list, shows the property names and their settings for the selected template.
 - **Delete Property Button.** If you want to delete a property from the template, select the property name from the list (selected property is highlighted) and click on this button.
 - **Update Control Button.** To apply an existing template to the control, select the template and click on this button. This is the only button that actually applies the property settings to the control. You can still click the **Cancel** button to exit without saving the template updates to the control.

Note

Properties have to be set using the other property pages and then saved in templates. Property values cannot be set on this property page.

Using RSCompare Custom Events

The RSCompare control comes with a set of eleven custom events that allow you to track and monitor actions performed on the control by users of your application. Events allow you to respond to users' actions and control the operation of the RSCompare control.

Change Event

You can use the **Change** event to create bargraphs, animation sequences, or copy data as it changes to other controls. The following code displays a Progress Bar using the dValue argument.

1. Place an RSCompare control and a Progress Bar control on your form.
2. Set the RSCompare **AllowChangeEvent** = True, **LinkServer** = "EXCEL", **LinkTopic** = "[Book1]Sheet1", **LinkItem** = "R1C1" and **LinkMode** = 1 - Automatic. Set RSCompare's **CheckValue** = 50 and **CompareMode** = Absolute..
3. In the Progress Bar properties window set Max = 100 and Min = 0.
4. Type in the following code:

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_Change(ByVal Value As Double, ByVal CompareIndex As Integer)
    ProgressBar1.Value = Value
End Sub
```

5. Run the program.
6. Go to EXCEL and change the value in Cell 1 of Row 1. The RSCompare value should change accordingly and the Progress Bar will show the value in graph form.

Note

*RSCompare can also be linked to an array of cells. For example, try changing the **LinkItem** to R1C1:R2C1. When you run the program, RSCompare will split into two Compare controls, one showing the value from Row1 Col1, and the other showing the value from Row2 Col1. CompareIndex will now be the index of the particular Compare control whose value is being changed. (Row1 Col1 will be CompareIndex 0; Row2 Col1 will be CompareIndex 1.)*

Clicks Event

You can use the **Clicks** event to fire code when the RSCmpare control uses its **ActsLikeButton** property to act as a button. The **Clicks** event is fired only when its **ActsLikeButton** property is set to True. In the **Clicks** event, the "dValue" argument will contain the new RSCmpare value, and in the case of a control array, the "iButtonIndex" argument will pass the index of the particular RSCmpare control that was clicked on. The following code displays the index of the RSCmpare control as well as its current value when one of the RSCmpare controls in a control array is clicked on.

1. Place an RSCmpare and a Text Box on your form.
2. Set the RSCmpare **AllowChangeEvent** = True, **LinkServer** = "EXCEL", **LinkTopic** = "[Book1]Sheet1", **LinkItem** = "R1C1:R5C1", **LinkMode** = 1 - Automatic, **CompareMode** = Absolute, and **CheckValue** = 50. Set RSCmpare **ActsLikeButton** = True.
3. Type in the following code.

```
Private Sub RSCmpare1_Clicks(ByVal dValue As Double, ByVal iButtonIndex As Integer)
    Text1.Text = "RSCmpare" & iButtonIndex & " Value is " & dValue
End Sub
```

4. Run the program. You will see the RSCmpare control split itself into an array of five separate controls, each logging a different value. If you click on one of those RSCmpare controls, the text box should display which RSCmpare control was clicked on as well as the current value for that control.

Note

There is a faster way to set up the LinkServer, LinkTopic, and LinkItem in this example. Highlight the cells to be linked while in Excel and copy them to the clipboard. Then return to Visual Basic and bring up the RSCmpare custom properties page. On the

LinkInfo tab, click on the Paste Link  button; this will paste in the Link Server, Topic, and Item directly from Excel. You can also use the Paste Link option on the floating menu that pops up when you right-click on the RSCmpare control.

LinkError Event

The **LinkError** event occurs when there is an error during a DDE conversation. This event is recognized only as the result of a DDE-related error that occurs when no Visual Basic code is being executed. The error number is passed as an argument.

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_LinkError(ByVal iRet As Integer, ByVal ErrorString As String)
    Dim Msg as String
    Select Case ErrNum
        Case 3
            Msg = "Connection Failed."
        Case 10
            Msg = "Out of memory Error."
    End Select
    MsgBox Msg, 48, "Error Report"
End Sub
```

LinkItemNotSupported Event

The **LinkItemNotSupported** event occurs when an attempt to establish a DDE link fails because the format of the LinkItem is incorrect.

1. Place an RSCompare control on your form.
2. Set the RSCompare **AllowChangeEvent** = True, **LinkServer** = "EXCEL", **LinkTopic** = "[Book1]Sheet1", **LinkItem** = "R0C1" and **LinkMode** = 1-Automatic.
3. Type in the following code:

```
Private Sub RSCompare_LinkItemNotSupported()  
    Dim Msg as String  
    Msg = "LinkItem " & RSCompare1.LinkItem & " Is Not Supported"  
    MsgBox Msg, 48, "ErrorReport"  
End Sub
```

4. Start Microsoft Excel and run the program. The **LinkItemNotSupported** event will be fired and the message box will appear because "R0C1" is not a valid LinkItem value.

LinkItemSupported Event

The **LinkItemSupported** event occurs when the a DDE conversation is initiated and the specified LinkItem is supported by the server.

1. Place an RSCompare control on your form.
2. Set the RSCompare **AllowChangeEvent** = True, **LinkServer** = "EXCEL", **LinkTopic** = "Book1]Sheet1", **LinkItem** = "R1C1" and **LinkMode** = 1-Automatic.
3. Type in the following code:

```
Private Sub RSCompare_LinkItemSupported()  
    Dim Msg as String  
    Msg = "LinkItem " & RSCompare1.LinkItem & " Is Supported"  
    MsgBox Msg, 48, "Error Report"  
End Sub
```

4. Start Microsoft Excel and run the program. Because R1C1 is a valid LinkItem, the **LinkItemSupported** event will be fired and the message box will appear.

LinkNotify Event

The **LinkNotify** event occurs when the source has changed the data defined by the DDE link, if the **LinkMode** property of the RSCmpare control is set to 3-Notify.

```
Sub RSCmpare1_LinkNotify ()  
    If Screen.ActiveForm Is Me Then  
        Picture1.LinkRequest    'Picture is on active form, so update.  
    Else  
        NewDataFlag = True      'Assumed to be a module-level variable.  
    End If  
End Sub
```

LinkOutOfMemory Event

The **LinkOutOfMemory** event occurs when the DDE client (RSCompare) has exhausted its memory resources.

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_LinkOutOfMemory()  
    Dim Msg as String  
    Msg = "Out of memory to carry on link activities"  
    MsgBox Msg, 48, "LinkError"  
End Sub
```

LinkServerDisconnected Event

The **LinkServerDisconnected** event occurs when the RSCmpare control is connected to a DDE server and that server becomes unavailable.

1. Place an RSCmpare control on your form.
2. Set the RSCmpare **AllowChangeEvent** = True, **LinkServer** = "EXCEL", **LinkTopic** = "[Book1]Sheet1", **LinkItem** = "R1C1" and **LinkMode** = 1-Automatic.
3. Type in the following code:

```
Private Sub RSCmpare1_LinkServerDisconnected()  
    Dim Msg As String  
    Msg = "Link Server Disconnected"  
    MsgBox Msg, 48, "Error Report"  
End Sub
```

4. Start Microsoft Excel and run the Visual Basic program.
5. While your program is running, close Book1 in Excel. Because the DDE server (Excel) has been shut down, the **LinkServerDisconnected** event is fired, and the message box appears.

LinkUnableToConnectToServer Event

The **LinkUnableToConnectToServer** event occurs when the RSCompare control attempts to connect to a DDE server that is unavailable.

1. Place an RSCompare control on your form.
2. Set the RSCompare **AllowChangeEvent** = True, **LinkServer** = "EXCEL", **LinkTopic** = "[Book1]Sheet1", **LinkItem** = "R1C1", and **LinkMode** = 1 - Automatic.
3. Type in the following code:

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_LinkUnableToConnectToServer()  
    Dim Msg As String  
    Msg = "Link Unable to Connect to Server"  
    MsgBox Msg, 48, "Link Error"  
End Sub
```

4. Run the program without starting Microsoft Excel. Because Visual Basic is unable to connect to the Excel server, the **LinkUnableToConnectToServer** event is fired and the message box is displayed.

PokeCompleted Event

The **PokeCompleted** event can be used to signal the user when the **DoPoke** command (download) has finished.

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_PokeCompleted(ByVal iRet As Integer)  
    'Once the Poke is completed, tell the user.  
    Label1.caption = "The Download has been processed."  
End Sub
```

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_PokeCompleted(ByVal iRet As Integer)  
    'Once the Poke is completed, reset a bit in the PLC.  
    RSCompare2.caption = "1"  
    RSCompare2.LinkServer = "icomwdrv"  
    RSCompare2.LinkTopic = "testsol"  
    RSCompare2.LinkItem = "b3\100"  
    RSCompare2.LinkMode = MANUAL  
    RSCompare2.DoPoke = True  
End Sub
```

Note

This event is very useful for preventing "outrunning the server", or sending additional data to a server while it is still processing the previous data.

RequestCompleted Event

The **RequestCompleted** event is very similar to the **DoPoke** event; it can be used to signal the user when the **DoRequest** command (upload) has finished.

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_RequestCompleted(ByVal iRet As Integer)
```

```
    'Once the Request is completed, tell the user.
```

```
    Label1.caption = "The Request has completed successfully!"
```

```
End Sub
```

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_RequestCompleted(ByVal iRet As Integer)
```

```
    'Once the Request is completed, change the preset value for T4:0.pre, in the PLC.
```

```
    RSCompare2.Caption = "1"
```

```
    RSCompare2.LinkServer = "icomwdrv"
```

```
    RSCompare2.LinkTopic = "testsol"
```

```
    RSCompare2.LinkItem = "T4:0.pre"
```

```
    RSCompare2.LinkMode = MANUAL
```

```
    RSCompare2.DoPoke = True
```

```
End Sub
```

Note

This event is very useful for preventing "outrunning the server", or sending additional data to a server while it is still processing the previous data.

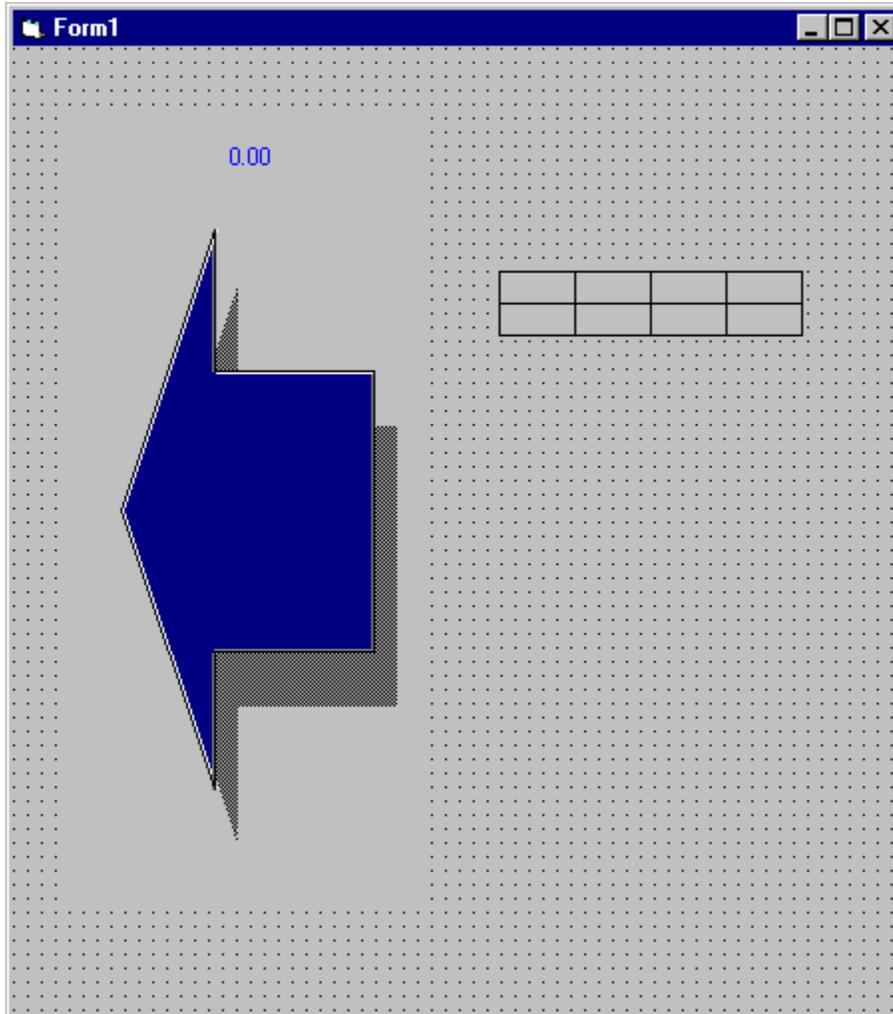
Samples Using RSCompare

The RSCompare control can be integrated easily with other controls on the market today. This chapter discusses using other common controls, including the Microsoft Grid control and the Visual Basic Data control, with the RSCompare control, as well as working with RSCompare's shape editor feature.

Using RSCompare With the Grid Control

The Grid control can be a very useful tool if you want to copy a block of data. The Grid control is generally used with an array of RSCompare controls or when block DDE is used. In the example below we will use the block DDE method.

1. Place an RSCompare control on a form and set **AllowChangeEvent = True**, **CheckValue = 50**, **UseStartEndValue = True**, **StartValue = 0**, **EndValue = 100**, **CompareMode = Absolute**, and **DisplayValue = True**.
2. Set **LinkServer = "Excel"**, **LinkTopic = "[Book1]Sheet1"**, **LinkItem = "R1C1:R8C1"**, and **LinkMode = "1 - Automatic"**.
3. Place a Grid control on the form as shown in the picture below. Set Rows = 2 and Cols = 4.



4. Type in the following code:

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_Change(ByVal Value As Double, ByVal CompareIndex As Integer)
    Dim j As Integer
    For j = 1 To RSCompare1.NumberOfDataValues
        If j < 5 Then
            Grid1.Row = 0
            Grid1.Col = j - 1
        Else

```

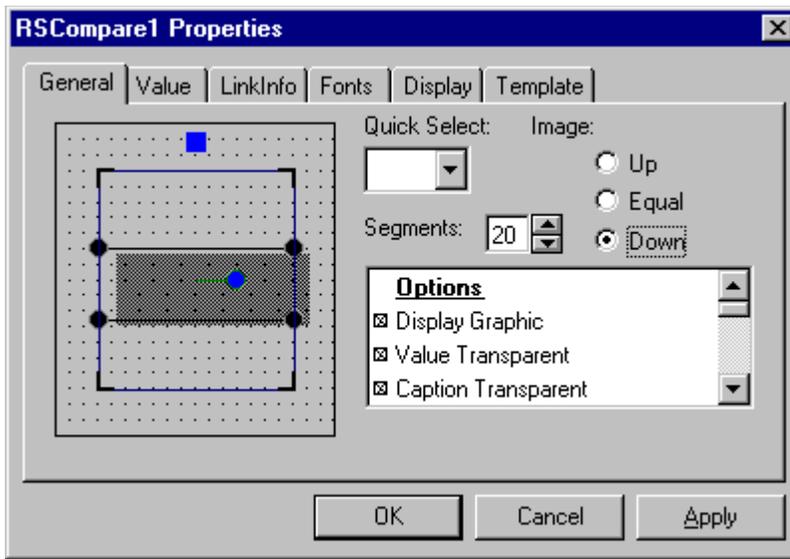
```
        Grid1.Row = 1
        Grid1.Col = j - 5
    End If
    Grid1.Text = RSCompare1.DataValue(j - 1)
Next j
End Sub
```

5. Start Microsoft Excel and run the Visual Basic program. As you type values into cells A1 - A8 in Excel Sheet 1, the values will be displayed in both the RSCompare control and in the Grid control. Notice that because the RSCompare **LinkItem** (R1C1:R8C1) is an array of 8 data values, the RSCompare control splits itself into 8 separate controls, each displaying data from a different Excel cell. Notice also that if you type in a value greater than 100, the RSCompare control will still display only 100, since you elected to set the **UseStartEndValue** property to True.

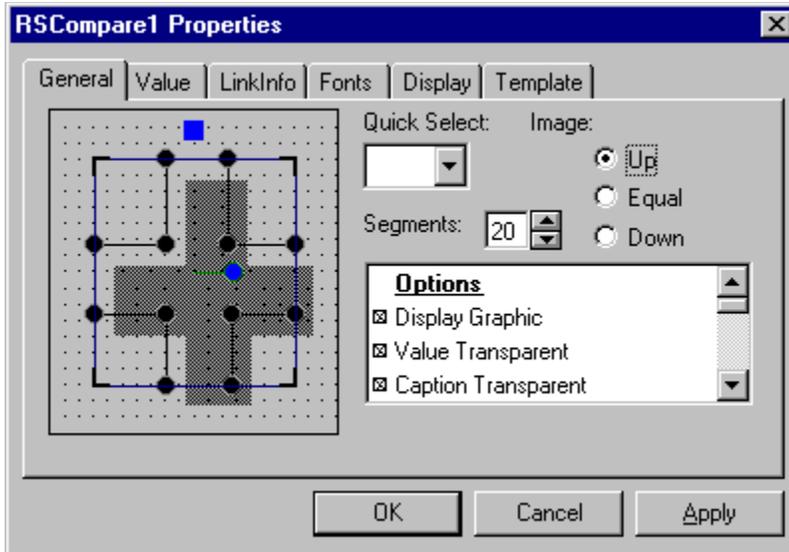
Working With the RSCompare Shape Editor

The RSCompare control is a visually versatile control. The following example will use the visual properties of RSCompare to display graphic shapes different from the default shapes, and will show how to work with the RSCompare Shape Editor that is provided on the custom properties page.

1. Place an RSCompare control on a new form and set **AllowChangeEvent** = True, **CheckValue** = 50, **CompareMode** = Absolute, **UseStartEndValue** = True, and **DataUpdate** = "0 - Data Link".
2. Set RSCompare's **LinkServer** = "Excel", **LinkTopic** = "[Book1]Sheet1", **LinkItem** = "R1C1", and **LinkMode** = "1 - Automatic".
3. Click the right mouse button over the RSCompare control and bring up the Custom properties page by choosing "Properties..." on the floating menu that appears.
4. On the General tab of the custom properties page you will see a shape editor grid that displays the shape of the RSCompare control. First make sure that you are editing the "Down" graphic shape by clicking on the Down Image option button. Using your mouse, drag and drop the RSCompare's nodes within the grid to change the Down graphic shape to look like a minus sign. To add an additional node, right-click on an existing node; to delete a node, double-click on it. Make your RSCompare Down graphic shape look similar to the illustration below.



5. Next, click on the Up Image option button to edit the Up graphic shape. Again using the mouse, change the Up graphic shape to look like a plus sign, as illustrated below.



6. Click on the OK button to apply your changes. Start Microsoft Excel and run the Visual Basic program. As you change the value in cell A1 in the Excel worksheet you will see the RSCompare control displaying its new graphic shapes - a plus sign when in the Up state, and a minus sign when in the Down state. The default equal sign will appear when the RSCompare value is 50, the value that was assigned to the **CheckValue** property.

Binding RSCmpare to the Data Control

With the RSCmpare control and Visual Basic's Data control, you can create an application to display, edit, and update (log) information to and from many types of existing databases. Creating a data-aware application with Visual Basic can be done easily through a few steps, and requires very little code.

The first thing you need to do to make a "data-aware" application is to add the Visual Basic Data control to your form. Next you have to specify the database you would like to read the information from. Once you have decided on the database, you must load the RSCmpare control on the form and set its properties to "bind" the control to Visual Basic's Data control. Depending upon the property settings you choose for DataSource, when you run this application you will be able to view data coming from your server, view data from a database, or log data to the database.

The RSCmpare control combined with Visual Basic's Data control give you seamless access to many standard database formats, including Microsoft Access, Btrieve, dBASE, Microsoft FoxPro, and Paradox.

The following steps will take you through building a data-aware application using the Visual Basic Data control and the RSCmpare control. We will use the DBFLOG.DBF database that comes with RSCmpare and is located in the C:\RSWKSHOP\IRSTOOLBX\DEMO directory.

How to use the RSCmpare control as a database tool

1. Select the RSCmpare control in the Toolbox and draw an RSCmpare control on a new form.
2. Draw a Visual Basic Data control on the form. In the Data control's properties window, set DatabaseName = "C:\RSWKSHOP\IRSTOOLBX\DEMO\", Connect = "dBASE IV;"; and RecordSource = "DBFLOG".
3. Set the RSCmpare control's **DataSource** = "Data1", **DataField** = "FIELD_1", **DataUpdate** = "2 - Data Source", and **EndValue** = 500.
4. Now run the program. The RSCmpare control displays the data in the FIELD_1 field based on which database record you display. You can use the Data control's arrow buttons to scroll through records in the database.

Using the RSCompare control to Log to the Data Source

One of the biggest advantages of the RSCompare control is its ability to log the value displayed to the DataSource specified by the Data control. All of this can be accomplished with just a few lines of code.

Before you can log any information to the Data Source, you must have an existing database to log the information. This database must contain at least one entry or record. In the database you must specify a field name for the data point you would like to log. You may have several field names, depending upon how many data points you have.

Once you have set up your database, all you need to do is set a few properties and run your project.

Follow the steps below to set up the RSCompare control for data logging. You may want to use the NEWDB.DBF sample database that came with the RSCompare control, which is located in C:\RSWKSHOP\IRSTOOLBX\DEMO.

1. Place a Visual Basic Data control on a new form and set Connect = "dBASE IV;", DatabaseName = "C:\RSWKSHOP\IRSTOOLBX\DEMO", and RecordSource = "NEWDB".
2. Place an RSCompare control on the form and set **DataSource** = "Data1", **DataUpdate** = "2 - DataSource", **DataField** = "FIELD_1", **ValuePadDownload** = True, **CheckValue** = 250, **CompareMode** = Absolute, and **EndValue** = 500.
3. Type in the following code:

```
Private Sub RSCompare1_Change(ByVal Value As Double, ByVal CompareIndex As Integer)
    Dim sTemp As String
    sTemp = RSCompare1.Value
    Data1.Recordset.AddNew
    RSCompare1.Value = sTemp
    Data1.Recordset.Update
    Data1.Recordset.MoveLast
End Sub
```

4. Run the program. Each time you click on the RSCompare control, a number pad will appear that allows you to enter a new value for RSCompare. The RSCompare control value is updated, and at the same time the new value is written to the database. You can test this by entering a series of numbers and then scrolling through the values in the database by using the Data control's arrow buttons. Each new value that is entered is logged to a new record in the database.

Property List

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(About) Property

Description

Displays the *About RSCmpare* dialog box and revision number. (Design time only.)

(Custom) Property

Description

Displays the RSCompare custom properties page. (Design time only.)

ActsLikeButton Property

Description	Allows the RSCompare control to function as a button.
Custom	General section, with a checkbox in the Options window.
Visual Basic	[Form1.]Control.ActsLikeButton[=setting]
Remarks	If both ActsLikeButton and ValuePadDownLoad are set to True, ValuePadDownLoad is ignored and the control acts like a button (does not display the value pad when clicked).
Data Type	Boolean

CheckValue Property

Description	Sets the value that incoming data is to be compared with to determine in which direction (up, down, or equal) the value is going.
Custom	Set on the Value section of the custom properties page. Clicking on the "#" sign will bring up a number pad on which you enter the value and click on the "Enter" key.
Syntax	[Form1.]JRSCmpare1.CheckValue[=setting]
Remarks	CheckValue is used only with Absolute CompareMode - if the Value is greater than CheckValue, the value trend is upward, and if the Value is less than CheckValue the value trend is downward. Linear CompareMode does not use CheckValue.
Data Type	Integer

CompareMode Property

Description	Sets the mode for trend reporting. Available modes are 0 - Absolute and 1 - Linear.
Custom	CompareMode is set in the Value section of the properties page by choosing either Absolute or Linear mode from the Compare Mode Combo Box.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCompare1.CompareMode[=setting]
Remarks	Absolute CompareMode compares the RSCompare Value to the CheckValue in order to determine in which direction (up, equal, or down) the value is going. Linear mode compares each RSCompare Value with the last Value read in order to determine in which direction the value is going. Linear mode does not utilize the CheckValue property.
Data Type	Integer

DisplayBorder Property

Description	Enables/disables all borders for the RSCompare graphic shape.	
Custom	Enabled/disabled in the Options window of the General section of the properties page.	
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCompare1.DisplayBorder[=setting]	
Remarks	Setting	Description
	True	RSCompare will display a three-dimensional border around the fill area using the DownBorderColor, EqualBorderColor, UpBorderColor, BorderHighlight, and BorderShadow properties.
	False	RSCompare will not display any of the border properties.
Data Type	Boolean	

DisplayEqualSign Property

Description	Enables/disables the Equal sign image.
Custom	Enabled/disabled in the Options window of the General section of the properties page.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCompare1.DisplayEqualSign[=setting]
Remarks	If the CheckValue is equal to RSCompare.Value, and DisplayEqualSign is True, the Equal graphic is displayed. This property is not used when the DisplayGraphic property is set to False.
Data Type	Boolean

DisplayGraphic Property

Description Enables/disables the RSCompare control to display a graphic shape for each of the three RSCompare states (up, equal, and down).

Custom Enabled/disabled in the Options window of the General section of the properties page.

Syntax [Form1.]RSCompare1.DisplayGraphic[=setting]

Remarks The following table lists the DisplayGraphic settings.

Setting	Description
True	The graphic shapes shown on the General section of the properties page are displayed.
False	The graphic shapes are not displayed.

Data Type Boolean

DownBorderColor Property

Description	Sets the Down graphic shape border color.
Custom	Color is set in the Display section of the properties page by choosing DownBorderColor in the properties Combo Box and then selecting a color in the colors Combo Box.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCompare1.DownBorderColor[=setting]
Data Type	String

DownColor Property

Description	Sets the color for the Down graphic shape.
Custom	Color is set in the Display section of the properties page by choosing DownColor in the properties Combo Box and then selecting a color in the colors Combo Box.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCCompare1.DownColor[=setting]
Data Type	String

EqualBorderColor Property

Description	Sets the Equal graphic shape border color.
Custom	Color is set in the Display section of the properties page by choosing EqualBorderColor in the properties Combo Box and then selecting a color in the colors Combo Box.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCompare1.EqualBorderColor[=setting]
Data Type	String

EqualColor Property

Description	Sets the color for the Equal graphic shape.
Custom	Color is set in the Display section of the properties page by choosing EqualColor in the properties Combo Box and then selecting a color in the colors Combo Box.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCompare1.EqualColor[=setting]
Data Type	String

PictureDown Property

Description	Sets the picture to be displayed when the value trend is downward.
Custom	Picture is set in the Display section of the properties page by choosing PictureDown in the picture Combo Box and selecting a picture by clicking on the "..." button next to the picture Combo Box. This will bring up a Dialog Box that allows you to choose a .bmp, .ico, or .wmf image file as the picture to be displayed when the trend is downward.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCCompare1.PictureDown[=setting]
Remarks	The "Clear" button on the Display section will clear the picture you have chosen so that no image will be displayed.
Data Type	Picture

PictureEqual Property

Description	Sets the picture to be displayed when the value trend is equal.
Custom	Picture is set in the Display section of the properties page by choosing PictureEqual in the picture Combo Box and selecting a picture by clicking on the "..." button. This will bring up a Dialog Box that allows you to choose a .bmp, .ico, or .wmf image file as the picture to be displayed when the trend is equal.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCCompare1.PictureEqual[=setting]
Remarks	The "Clear" button on the Display section will clear the picture you have chosen so that no image will be displayed.
Data Type	Picture

PictureUp Property

Description	Sets the picture to be displayed when the value trend is upward.
Custom	Picture is set in the Display section of the properties page by choosing PictureUp in the picture Combo Box and selecting a picture by clicking on the "..." button. This will bring up a Dialog Box that allows you to choose a .bmp, .ico, or .wmf image file as the picture to be displayed when the trend is upward.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCCompare1.PictureUp[=setting]
Remarks	The "Clear" button on the Display section will clear the picture you have chosen so that no image will be displayed.
Data Type	Picture

UpBorderColor Property

Description	Sets the Up graphic shape border color.
Custom	Color is set in the Display section of the properties page by choosing UpBorderColor in the properties Combo Box and then selecting a color in the colors Combo Box.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCCompare1.UpBorderColor[=setting]
Data Type	String

UpColor Property

Description	Sets the Up graphic color.
Custom	Color is set in the Display section of the properties page by choosing UpColor in the properties Combo Box and then selecting a color in the colors Combo Box.
Syntax	[Form1.]RSCCompare1.UpColor[=setting]
Data Type	String

XYPairDown Property

Description	Sets the coordinates for the nodes on the Down graphic's shape.
Custom	XYPairDown is set on the General section of the properties page by choosing the "Down" image with the Image Option buttons and moving or adding/deleting nodes from the Compare graphic window. The XY coordinates (0,0 to 100,100 starting with 0,0 at the upper left corner) of the nodes make up the XYPair value.
Syntax	[Form1.]JRSCmpare1.XYPairDown[=Xsetting,Ysetting,...]
Remarks	A line is drawn between each pair of nodes, beginning and ending at the same node in the sequence, in order to determine the shape of the graphic.
Data Type	String

XYPairEqual Property

Description	Sets the coordinates for the nodes on the Equal graphic's shape.
Custom	XYPairEqual is set on the General section of the properties page by choosing the "Equal" image with the Image Option buttons and moving or adding/deleting nodes from the Compare graphic window. The XY coordinates (0,0 to 100,100 starting with 0,0 at the upper left corner) of the nodes make up the XYPair value.
Syntax	[Form1.]JRSCmpare1.XYPairEqual[=Xsetting,Ysetting,...]
Remarks	A line is drawn between each pair of nodes, beginning and ending at the same node in the sequence, in order to determine the shape of the graphic.
Data Type	String

XYPairUp Property

Description	Sets the coordinates for the nodes on the Equal graphic's shape.
Custom	XYPairEqual is set on the General section of the properties page by choosing the "Equal" image with the Image Option buttons and moving or adding/deleting nodes from the Compare graphic window. The XY coordinates (0,0 to 100,100 starting with 0,0 at the upper left corner) of the nodes make up the XYPair value.
Syntax	[Form1.]JRSCcompare1.XYPairEqual[=Xsetting,Ysetting,...]
Remarks	A line is drawn between each pair of nodes, beginning and ending at the same node in the sequence, in order to determine the shape of the graphic.
Data Type	String

Event List

[Change](#)

[Click](#)

[Clicks](#)

[DbClick](#)

[DragDrop](#)

[DragOver](#)

[GotFocus](#)

[KeyDown](#)

[KeyPress](#)

[KeyUp](#)

[LinkError](#)

[LinkItemNotSupported](#)

[LinkItemSupported](#)

[LinkNotify](#)

[LinkOutOfMemory](#)

[LinkServerDisconnected](#)

[LinkUnableToConnectToServer](#)

[LostFocus](#)

[MouseDown](#)

[MouseMove](#)

[MouseUp](#)

[PokeCompleted](#)

[RequestCompleted](#)

Method List

[Container](#)

[DoPoke](#)

[DoRequest](#)

[Drag](#)

[LinkPoke](#)

[LinkRequest](#)

[Move](#)

[Object](#)

[Parent](#)

[SetFocus](#)

[ShowWhatsThis](#)

[ZOrder](#)

INI File Used for RSCompare

RSCompare saves some of its information such as the default file names, etc. in the RSTOOLS.INI file located in the C:\WINDOWS directory. Only the following information should be changed or altered, and any other section should not be altered for proper operation of the OCX.

The following section sets the default template name for RSCompare. The user templates are stored in this file.

```
[cfg]
cfg = c:\windows\mytempl.s.rwc
```

where mytempl.s.rwc is the default template file you want your templates to be saved in. The symbol information for the DDE link is set in the following section:

```
[sym]
symbolname = server|topic|item
```

where the “server” is the DDE server, “topic” is the DDE topic, and “item” is the DDE item. An example of the above is:

```
[sym]
subtotal = Excel | [Book1]Sheet1 | R6C2
total = Excel | [Book1]Sheet1 | R8C2
```


Enabled Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property

Height Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

Left Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

DragIcon Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

HelpContextID Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

Name Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

Index Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

DragMode Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

HelpContextID Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

HelpContextID Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

HelpContextID Property

Refer to Visual Basic Help on this property.

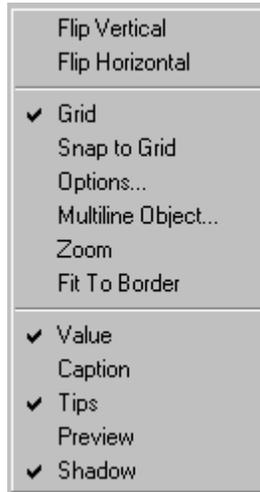
Introduction

Basic Concepts

- The RSTools controls are designed to be used with any Dynamic Data Exchange Server and provide enhanced performance when used with those that conform to AdvanceDDEprotocol. If you choose to write your own DDE server, the AdvanceDDE protocol can be obtained from Rockwell Software Inc., by contacting our Technical Support.
- The RSTools controls can be easily configured by setting their properties, without writing a single line of code.
- The RSTools controls can be used as a bound control. They automatically handle adding, updating and displaying data from the Data control, which supports ODBC, Microsoft Access• , dBASE• , Foxpro• , Paradox• , Btrieve and several other database types.
- The RSTools controls also support the Paste Link method from RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx, Excel or other DDE servers for transferring DDE Link data via the clipboard.
- The RSTools controls have built in error notification and handling. If an error has occurred in the data stream, the error can be displayed in the control's Caption property, or handled via code in one of the events.
- With RSTools you may consider using RSJunctionBox - Our flexible, high-speed DDE communications module. RSJunctionBox allows all of our controls to communicate with DDE Servers supporting AdvanceDDE and Excel Table formats.

Description

RSTools is a unique line of graphical OLE Custom Controls that let you turn any data into a dynamic picture. You can easily add a professional “custom” look to all interface and data management projects. RSTools are the fastest, easiest-to-use programming tools for developing applications for manufacturing and process control and they give you the power to build graphical database interfaces that tell the story in a flash.



File Name

- RSBTN32.OCX
- RSCMP32.OCX
- RSDAT32.OCX
- RSGGE32.OCX
- RSSLD32.OCX
- RSVSL32.OCX
- RSWHL32.OCX

Remarks

The RSTools controls have several custom properties that allow you to monitor and control data. The RSTools controls also have custom events that allow you to be notified when data has changed, or if data has finished its request or poke.

Note

When you create and distribute applications that use the RSTools controls, you should install the appropriate OCX files in the WINDOWS \SYSTEM subdirectory. A more detailed description of these files are located on page 9 of this chapter. The Setup Wizard included with Visual Basic provides tools to help you write setup programs that install your applications correctly.

Bound XE "Bound" Properties

The RSTools controls have three bound properties: **DataUpdate**, **DataField** and **DataSource**. This allows the RSTools controls to be linked to a Visual Basic Data control or Remote Data Control, and display field values for the current record in the recordset. The RSTools control can also write values to the Data control's recordset.

Note *For more information on using bound controls, refer to Accessing Databases With the Data Control, in the Visual Basic Programmers Guide.*

Properties & Events XE "Properties"

All of the common properties, events and methods for the RSTools controls are described in chapters 5, 6 and 7 of this manual, respectively. The RSTools controls also come with many standard properties. For documentation of these properties, see "Standard Properties, Events, and Methods." in the Microsoft Visual Basic *Custom Control Reference*.

Installing the RSTools

You can install the RSTools controls on your computer using Rockwell Software's SETUP.EXE. The setup program installs all RSTools files, the Help system and other product components from the distribution disks to your hard disk.

System Requirements

Before you install RSTools, make sure that your computer meets the minimum system requirements. You must have certain hardware and software installed on your computer. The system requirements include:

Minimum Requirements

- IBM-compatible 486 or higher
- 8 MB of RAM
- 10 MB of free Hard Disk space
- A 3.5" floppy drive
- VGA Graphics Card
- Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0, Microsoft Access, or other OLE Container.

Note: This manual references Visual Basic only.

- Microsoft Windows NT 3.51 or Windows 95

Recommended Requirements

- IBM compatible Pentium
- 16 MB of RAM or more
- 30 MB of free Hard Disk space
- CD-ROM
- Color (800x600) or (1024 x 768)
- Any Microsoft compatible pointing device (mouse, trackball, touchscreen, etc.)
- Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0, Professional Edition or the Enterprise edition
- Microsoft Windows NT 3.51 or Windows 95

RSTOOLS.WRI File

The RSTOOLS.WRI file lists any last minute changes to the RSTools documentation, Help file and to the RSTools controls. To read the file, open the Windows Write application or double-click the **RSTOOLS.WRI** file using File Manager or Windows Explorer in the following directory C:\RSWKSHOP\RSTOOLBX.

Running Setup XE "Running Setup"

When you run the setup program, you will create a path for RSTools.

To Start Setup:

1. Insert Disk 1 in drive A.
2. From the file menu in Program Manager or File manager, choose Run.
3. Type a:setup
4. Follow the setup instructions on the screen.

The RSTools program group is created in your Program Manager or placed in your Windows 95 Start Menu. The Help file, RSTOOLBX.WRI file and sample applications are also copied to this program group.

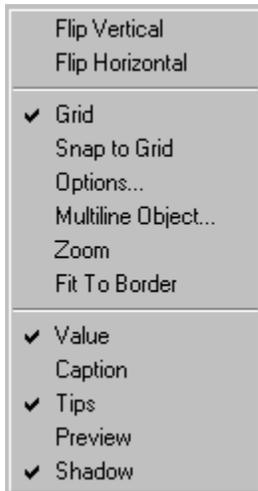
Learning To Use RSTools

The RSTools controls require very little programming to create full-featured applications. Much of the functionality is available by setting standard properties. You can even log data seamlessly through the Visual Basic Data control or Remote Data control with only a few lines of code.

Loading RSTools XE "Loading RSToolbox" Controls (Adding RSTools to your VB Project)

To use RSTools in Visual Basic, you must add the RSTools controls to the Visual Basic toolbox.

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. From Visual Basic, select Tools/Custom Controls menu item.
3. Scroll down the list box until one of the "Rockwell Software" OCX tools is visible, select the desired control, and choose OK. (You may have to click the Browse button and manually search for the OCX file, which will be located in the C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory.) The control is added to the project list. A list of the files are on the next page.



1. The RSTools icons are added to the Visual Basic Toolbox.

Autoloading XE "Autoloading" RSTools XE "RSToolbox"

You can configure Visual Basic to automatically load the RSTools controls when you start a new project in Visual Basic.

To configure Visual Basic to automatically load RSTools:

1. Start Visual Basic and open AUTO32LD.VBP.
1. Choose Custom Controls from the Tools menu. (The "Custom Controls" Dialog appears.)
2. Scroll down the list box until the "Rockwell Software" OCX tools are visible, select the desired controls, and choose OK. (You may have to click the Browse button and manually search for the OCX files, which will be located in the C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory). The controls are added to the project list. Here is a list of the current OCX files:

<u>1.OCX</u>	<u>Filename</u>	<u>Description</u>
	RSButton	RSBTN32.OCX Rockwell Software Button
	RSCmpare	RSCMP32.OCX Rockwell Software Compare
	RSDData	RSDAT32.OCX Rockwell Software Data
	RSGauge	RSGGE32.OCX Rockwell Software Gauge
	RSSlider	RSSLD32.OCX Rockwell Software Slider
	RSVessel	RSVSL32.OCX Rockwell Software Vessel
	RSWheel	RSWHL32.OCX Rockwell Software Wheel

-

1. Choose Save Project from the File menu.

Using Help XE "Help"

Comprehensive on-line help is available to assist you as you learn and use the RSTools controls. The complete RSTools documentation is available through on-line help. In addition, you can receive context-sensitive help for properties and events. The Help file is located in your RSTools directory.

To access the help contents page:

1. Click one of the RSTools icons in the Visual Basic toolbox.
2. Press F1.

To access context-sensitive help for properties:

1. Select an RSTools control on your form.
2. Highlight a property in the properties window.
3. Press F1.

To access context-sensitive help for events:

1. Double-Click an RSTools control on your form.
2. Pull down the procedure Combo-Box, labeled "Proc:", and select an event from the list.
3. Press F1.

Placing an RSTools Control on a Form XE "Form"

Creating a new instance of an RSTools control and placing it on a form is as simple as point, click and drag.

1. Select an RSTools control from the Visual Basic toolbox.
2. Position the mouse on the form at the location where you want to draw the control.
3. Click and drag to draw the outline of the RSTools control on the form.
4. When you release the mouse, the new RSTools control is placed in the location you specified.

Note

By double-clicking on the control within the toolbox, the control will automatically be placed in the center of the form.

Distributing RSTools Applications XE "Distributing RSToolbox Applications"

Please read the license agreement that was shipped with this package. You are bound by the licensing restrictions contained in that document.

Redistributing Files

You can use all the files accompanying this product for development of an application. You can redistribute the run time version of the software according to the terms of the license agreement.

You will need the individual OCX file for each OCX that you use and the following table of files:

File	Description
RSTOOL32.DLL	Common code for Design & Run modes
RSCALC32.DLL *	Calculation engine for Read/Write expressions
RSJBOX32.DLL *	RSJunctionBox module
RSJBP32.DLL*	RSJunctionBox License Check DLL

Note * *These files are optional when distributing applications. The RSCALC32.DLL is used for calculating expressions in run time. The RSJBOX32.DLL is needed only if AdvanceDDE is required during runtime. And the RSJBP32.DLL is the run time license check.*

INI Files

RSTools supports its own INI file used mostly for testing purposes. It allows you specify which DDE protocol to use; AdvanceDDE, XLTABLE or TEXT mode. You have the options to turn these on or off; the default setting is True (on) for all modes. To create a INI file for RSTools, you must use a text editor and add the following lines:

```
[Values]
;Force Text mode DDE
Support Excel = False
Support PackDDE = False
```

Then save the file in the C:\WINDOWS directory as "WORKLIST.INI". The above example disables the XLTABLE and AdvanceDDE modes, leaving the TEXT mode as the only mode to operate in.

Sample Applications

In addition to the documentation, the RSTools package includes sample applications that you can load into Visual Basic. These applications are useful, and are excellent tools to learn from. You may use any part of the samples in your own applications.

Note *Throughout the documentation, you will find references to sample code and applications that illustrate programming techniques. Many of the files for these applications are included on your installation disks. If you installed the sample applications, you will find them in the C:\RSWKSHOP\RSTOOLBX\DEMO\ subdirectory, or the drive you choose for the installation. You will also find some code examples in the RSTools help file, that you can copy and paste into your forms and subroutines.*

Programming Tools

RSTools provide several custom properties and standard properties. By setting these properties, you can perform a variety of tasks, such as hiding and displaying controls, setting DDE properties or binding to a database.

Contents

- Link Tips
- Excel Blocks
- AdvanceDDE Arrays

LinkTips

The LinkTips property can be a very useful tool during run time. It allows you to create a help balloon to display useful information. It will also display the property settings for the LinkServer, LinkTopic and LinkItem all at once. The controls have four properties associated with the LinkTips function:

- LinkTip (True\False) - The LinkTip property allows you to turn it on or off during run time.
- LinkTipText - Displays text in a popup window next to the control. (A help balloon).
- LinkTipBackColor (any color value) - The LinkTipBackColor property allows you to change the background color of the LinkTip window.
- LinkTipForeColor (any color value) - The LinkTipForeColor property allows you to change the text color of the LinkTip window.



Note

Refer to the LinkTip property in the property reference for more information on the LinkTip property's attributes.

Excel Blocks XE "Excel Blocks"

A very useful tool that the control supports is its ability to poke or request data to Microsoft Excel, one word at a time or as a large block of data. Below is one possible example for configuring a block read from Excel (Using RSData as an example).

```
rsdata1.LinkServer = "Excel"  
rsdata1.LinkTopic = "[Book1]Sheet1"  
rsdata1.LinkItem = "R1C1:R2C2" 'Read 4 cells of data  
rsdata1.DoRequest = True
```



- Flip Vertical
- Flip Horizontal

- ✓ Grid
- Snap to Grid
- Options...
- Multiline Object...
- Zoom
- Fit To Border

- ✓ Value
- Caption
- ✓ Tips
- Preview
- ✓ Shadow

AdvanceDDE Arrays (Optional: Requires RSJunctionBox) XE "AdvanceDDE Arrays"

AdvanceDDE arrays are very useful when accessing large amounts of data from a server. The easiest method is to use DDE block arrays as shown below.

```
rsdata1.LinkServer = "icomwdrv"  
rsdata1.LinkTopic = "testsol"  
rsdata1.Linkitem = "N7:0,L10"  
rsdata1.LinkMode = 1
```



Note

This functionality (AdvanceDDE) requires a Rockwell Software server product, RSServer Toolkit partner server product, or a self-built AdvanceDDE server as the data link source.

Using DDE (Linking)

DDE stands for “Dynamic Data Exchange”. It is a feature of the Microsoft Windows operating system that enables two applications to “talk” to each other by continuously and automatically exchanging data.

Rockwell Software has created a DDE format called AdvanceDDE. AdvanceDDE packetizes information, which greatly increases the speed at which data can be exchanged.

Contents

- Sources and Destinations
- Applications, Topics and Items
- Linking DDE within RSTools Controls
- DDE Links
- Link Modes
- Creating Links
- Requesting and Poking Data
- DDE Arrays
- RSTools Control Arrays
- Using DDE Block Arrays with RSTools

Sources XE "Sources" and Destinations XE "Destinations"

Two applications exchange information using a DDE conversation. This is similar to a conversation between two people. The application that initiates the conversation is called the **destination (client)** application, the application that responds to the client is the **source (server)** application. An application can be engaged in several conversations at the same time, acting as the destination in some and the source in others. The RSTools controls are designed to be used as clients only.

Applications XE "Applications" , Topics XE "Topics" and Items XE "Items"

When a destination application begins a DDE conversation, it must specify three things:

1. The name of the source application (program), called the *application*.
2. The subject of the conversation, called the *topic*.
3. The specific data requested, called the *item*.

When a source application receives a request for a conversation concerning a topic it recognizes, it responds and a conversation is started. Once established, a conversation cannot change application or topics. The application and topic remain constant for the duration of the conversation. You must first deactivate any links to change the application or topic.

Data values are passed through *items*. Items are references to data that is meaningful to both applications. Either the destination or the source can change the value of the item without affecting the state of the conversation.

Application name

Any application that can be a DDE source has a unique *application name*. Some examples are shown below.

Application	DDE application name
RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx	ICOMWDRV
Microsoft Excel	EXCEL
Microsoft Word	WINWORD

To set the application name for a control, you must set its **LinkServer** property to valid server name. One example for the **LinkServer** name could be “ICOMWDRV”; another would be “EXCEL”.

Topic

The topic defines the subject of a DDE conversation. In the case of Rockwell Software’s RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx, a topic name would most likely be the name of a PLC program running somewhere on your PLC network. If you were using Excel the LinkTopic would be “[Book1]Sheet1”.

You can specify a control’s topic by setting its **LinkTopic** property.

Item

The item defines the piece of data actually being passed during the DDE conversation. An example would be a programmable controller address from RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx such as N7:0, T4:11.ACC or B3/100, for Excel it could be a spreadsheet cell R1C1, or R1C1:R2C2

You can specify a control’s item by setting its **LinkItem** property.

DDE Links XE "DDE Links"

A DDE conversation is often called a link because the two applications in the conversation are linked by the data they are exchanging. The RSTools controls support 3 different types of links, set by its LinkMode property:

1. **Automatic (Hot) link:** The source supplies the data to the control every time the data changes, or on a predefined interval.
2. **Manual (Cold) link:** The source supplies data only when it is requested. (See DoRequest in appendix A)
3. **Notify link:** The source notifies the control when the data changes, but supplies data only when it is requested.

Note

For more information on Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE), refer to Microsoft Visual Basic's Programmer's Guide.

DDE Formats XE "DDE Formats"

The RSTools controls supports three different DDE formats, these are; AdvanceDDE, XLTABLE and TEXT mode. When the control attempts to establish a link it first tries the AdvanceDDE mode; if it cannot establish a link with this mode it then tries XLTABLE and then TEXT mode.

RSJunctionBox

RSJunctionBox boosts your communications by adding Rockwell Software's Advanced DDE or Microsoft's Excel Table DDE formats. These enhanced DDE formats provide RSTools with high-volume, high-speed data transfer and extended error detection. When added to your application, RSJunctionBox negotiates with each DDE sever for the best common format (AdvanceDDE, Excel Table, Text).

RSJunctionBox provides each control with notification of important communication events (Change, PokeCompleted, RequestCompleted, LinkError), and utilizes High-speed, real world data access utilizing RSLinx or other AdvanceDDE capable DDE servers. RSJunctionBox is required on each run-time node when the application is utilizing RSTools High Speed (non-Text) DDE communications functionality.

Linking XE "Linking" DDE XE "DDE" with an RSTools Control

The "Best Common Format" Approach

RSTools can communicate through a variety of formats, and utilizes the "Best Common Format" approach when establishing links to source or "server" applications.

Rockwell Software's AdvanceDDE is a binary, packetized data format that allows blocks of contiguous and non-contiguous data to be encoded into a message, sent through the DDE link and decoded by the receiving application. AdvanceDDE also allows the transfer of arrays of data as single items. Many of these array items can be encoded within a single AdvanceDDE message. AdvanceDDE is used when linked to Rockwell Software's RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx family of products or any other applications utilizing this format.

XL_Table format allows the transfer of a spreadsheet-like blocks of data in a single message. This format also supports specifying an array of cells in a single item. It is used when linked to Microsoft Excel or other applications providing XL_Table services.

TEXT format is the most common format and is used if no other format is supported by the DDE Server.

How AdvanceDDE works

AdvanceDDE compresses multiple DDE messages into a single message. In TEXT mode each control's data is sent in it's own message. If you have 10 controls using TEXT mode there can be as much as 10 times the message traffic required for AdvanceDDE.

Windows Message Flow to Exchange 5 Requested Data Items
(TEXT Mode)

Windows Message Flow to Exchange 10 Requested Data Items (AdvancedDDE Mode)

As can be seen, twice as much data was transferred in the second example with less than half of the messages or overhead.

LinkModes XE "LinkModes"

The control's **LinkMode** properties are very much like Visual Basic's label control. The **LinkMode** property has 4 different modes:

- 0-None
- 1-Automatic
- 2-Manual
- 3-Notify

When the **LinkMode** is set to Automatic the control will attempt to initiate a conversation. If the source application specified in the **LinkServer** and **LinkTopic** properties is not running, will generate an error, during run time.

When the **LinkMode** is set to 1-Automatic, and when the data changes, the control receives the new data and a **Change** event is generated for that control. The **AllowChangeEvent** property must be set to True, if you want to use the **Change** event. If it is set to False then the event will not get generated. The **AllowChangeEvent** property can be toggled at run time to disable the event.

If you set the **LinkMode** to 2-Manual or 3-Notify, then the control will not automatically update, and you must use the **LinkRequest** method (**DoRequest** property. See Creating Manual Link).

Manual XE "Manual" or "Cold" Links

Manual Links require that Visual Basic code in the application containing the control requests the data from the source or server. Manual Links are often used to poke or write data back to the server or source application. The controls are designed so that when they are used in control arrays, blocks of data can be Requested or Poked with a single line of Visual Basic code. This is the most efficient way to write data with the RSTools controls.

Automatic or "Hot" Links

Automatic links are the easiest way to move information with the controls, and does not require any Visual Basic code to transfer data . The link can be made entirely by setting properties at design time.

When data in the source or server application changes, it is automatically updated in the control. Automatic Links can be set up as array items. Refer to "Using DDE Block Arrays with RSTools" later in this chapter.

Creating an Automatic Link XE "Automatic Link"

There are three ways to create an automatic link. These are

- Paste & Set LinkMode
- Design Time - set link properties
- At run time

If you have a valid **LinkServer**, such as RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx, and a valid **LinkTopic** and **LinkItem**, then you can establish an automatic link by setting the **LinkMode** property for that control to Automatic.

The following code for a Form_Click event attempts to establish an automatic link at run time between RSTools controls and RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx when the form is clicked.

Paste & Set LinkMode:

1. In RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx, select Copy to Clipboard from the Edit menu.
2. Select a valid Data Table Address and Topic name.
3. Click Ok.
4. Go back to VB, select or place a RSDData control (or any RSTools control) on the form. Then select Paste Link.
5. Press Run (F5).

Design time - Set Link properties:

1. Drop an RSDData (or any RSTools control) control on a form, and bring up the properties window for the control. (Or use the LinkInfo custom property tab.)
2. Set the **LinkServer** Property to "ICOMWDRV", "EXCEL" or another DDE server.
3. Set the **LinkTopic** Property to "TESTSOL", or to the name of the topic you configured.
4. Set the **LinkItem** Property to "N7:0", or any valid item name.
5. Set the **LinkMode** Property to 1 - Automatic.
6. Press Run (F5).

Run time (Using Code):

1. Double click on a form that has a RSDData or another RSTools control on it, and add the following code. (If using a control other than RSDData, substitute that control's name for *RSDData1*.)

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
  
    Const AUTOMATIC = 1, NONE = 0  
  
    'Set LinkMode properties  
    rsdata1.LinkMode = NONE  
  
    rsdata1.LinkServer = "ICOMWDRV"  
  
    rsdata1.LinkTopic = "Testsol"  
  
    rsdata1.Linkitem = "T4:0.ACC"  
  
    rsdata1.LinkMode = AUTOMATIC  
  
End Sub
```

1. Press Run (F5).

Note

For the above sample to work, you must be running Rockwell Software's RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx and WINtelligent EMULATE 5, running the sample PLC ladder logic program called ICOM5DM7.X5.

Creating a Manual Link XE "Manual Link"

There are three ways to create an manual link. Two don't even require you to write any VB code. These are as follows: 1) Paste & Set **LinkMode**, 2) Design Time - set link properties, and 3) At run time.

To create a manual link, you must set the **LinkMode** property to 2-Manual. When **LinkMode** is manual, a conversation will exist, but you must update the link by using the **LinkRequest** method (or **DoRequest** property). By setting the **LinkRequest** method, you will update the control.

The properties **DoPoke** and **DoRequest** are identical to LinkPoke and LinkRequest. They are here strictly for backwards compatibility with the RSData VBX. Use the LinkPoke and LinkRequest methods, not the DoPoke or DoRequest properties. When using LinkPoke and LinkRequest the UseInPoke/UseInRequest properties should be checked.

The following code for a **Form_Click** event will establish a manual link at run time between an RSData control and Rockwell Software's RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx server when the form is clicked. Each time the form is clicked a request will be made:

```
Sub Form_Click()  
  Const MANUAL=2, NONE=0  
  'Establish Link with the LinkServer  
  If rsdata1.LinkMode = NONE then  
    rsdata1.LinkServer = "ICOMWDRV"  
    rsdata1.LinkTopic = "TESTSOL"  
    rsdata1.LinkItem = "N7:21"  
    rsdata1.LinkMode = MANUAL  
  End If  
  'Retrieve data  
  rsdata1.LinkRequest  
End Sub
```

Note

For the above sample to work, you must be running Rockwell Software's RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx and WINTelligent EMULATE 5, running the sample PLC ladder logic program called ICOM5DM7.X5.

Efficient Requests XE "Requests"

The properties affecting requests are **RequestLength**, **RequestMode**, **RequestStartIndex** and **LinkRequest**. When creating an array of controls, the **LinkRequest** property comes in handy for requesting information into the array from the appropriate **LinkItems**. These properties allow the user to read a block of data by setting a **RequestStartIndex** and a **RequestLength**, and initiating a **LinkRequest**. For example, let's say you want to request information into 10 RSDData (or any RSTools control) controls on a form from a DDE server. Instead of requesting each one separately, set the **RequestLength** to 10 and set the **LinkRequest** property. Once the **LinkRequest** is initiated, the request will start from the RSDData control that was specified in the **RequestStartIndex**.

The following example uses controls RSDData1(0) through RSDData1(9):

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    rsdata1(0).RequestStartIndex = 0  
    rsdata1(0).RequestLength = 10  
    'Request data  
    rsdata1(0).LinkRequest  
End Sub
```

You can also set which one of the RSDData controls get updated in the array request, by setting the **UseInRequest** property. If any one of the control's **UseInRequest** property is set to false, then that control will not get updated.

Note *The above example references the RSDData control, any one of the RSTools controls may be used in the same manner.*

Efficient Pokes XE "Pokes"

The properties affecting pokes are **PokeLength**, **PokeStartIndex** and **LinkPoke**. When creating an array of controls, the **LinkPoke** property comes in handy for Poking information in the array to the appropriate **LinkItems**. These properties allow the user to set up a block of data by setting a **PokeStartIndex** and a **PokeLength**, and initiating a **LinkPoke**. For example, let's say you want to poke the information in 10 RSDData (or any RSTools control) controls on a form to another application. Instead of poking each one separately, set the **PokeLength** to 10 and set the **LinkPoke** property. Once the **LinkPoke** is initiated, the poke will start from the RSDData control that was specified in the **PokeStartIndex**.

The following example uses controls RSDData1(0) through RSDData1(9):

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    rsdata1(0).PokeStartIndex = 0
    rsdata1(0).PokeLength = 10
    'Poke data
    rsdata1(0).LinkPoke
End Sub
```

As with the **UseInRequest** property, you can also set which one of the RSDData controls in the array are included in the DoPoke, by setting the **UseInPoke** property. If any one of the control's **UseInPoke** property is set to false, then that control will not get poked.

Note *The above example references the RSDData control, any one of the RSTools controls may be used in the same manner.*

Creating a Notify Link XE "Notify Link"

The Notify Link is 3-Notify, it is similar to 2-Manual except that the source application notifies your application when the data changes. The notification occurs in your application through the **LinkNotify** event.

The sample below will wait until a **LinkNotify** event has occurred, after you click the form, and will then execute a **DoRequest**:

```
Sub Form_Click()  
    Const NOTIFY = 3, NONE = 0  
    'Establish Link with the LinkServer  
    If rsdata1.LinkMode = NONE then  
        rsdata1.LinkServer = "ICOMWDRV"  
        rsdata1.LinkTopic = "TESTSOL"  
        rsdata1.LinkItem = "T4:0.ACC"  
        rsdata1.LinkMode = NOTIFY  
    End if  
End Sub  
  
Sub RSData1_LinkNotify()  
    'Retrieve Data  
    rsdata1.LinkRequest  
    rsdata1.LinkMode = None  
End Sub
```

Note

For more information on the common types of LinkModes and properties, refer to the Visual Basic Programmers Guide on DDE.

Working with DDE Arrays

One of the most important functions of the RSTools controls is optimization of DDE communications. Rich array manipulation activities are supported to accomplish this optimization. There are three important concepts to understand:

- Control arrays are the most efficient way to move “non-contiguous” data as all writes or reads to a topic are completed simultaneously in XL_Table and AdvanceDDE messages.
- Array data types are the most efficient way to move “contiguous” data to/from servers that support them. Entire arrays are moved in one item.
- For highest data density per DDE message, array data types can be used in control arrays.

RSTools Control Arrays XE "Control Arrays"

An efficient method for requesting or poking data is to use an array of RSDData (or any RSTools) controls. For example, if you want to request 20 items of data from a particular server and topic. You could set up a control array on your form in run time, then set the **LinkRequest** method, which will then retrieve all 20 items from that server and topic. If, for instance, you wanted to poke data rather than request data, then all you would have to do is set the **LinkPoke** method to True, instead of the **LinkRequest** property. Try the following example below.

1. Place an RSDData control on a blank form.
2. Set the **Index** = 0.
3. Set the **RequestLength** = 20, **RequestMode** = 0 - Start with Data, **RequestStartIndex** = 0 and **UseInRequest** = True.
4. Type in the following code below.

Sub Form_Load ()

```
    const manual = 2
    'set properties for server, topic and item
    rsdata1(0).LinkServer = "icomwdrv"
    rsdata1(0).LinkTopic = "testsol"
    rsdata1(0).LinkItem = "n12:0"
    For j% = 1 To 19
        'load 19 more rsdata control on the form
        Load rsdata1(j%)
        rsdata1(j%).LinkItem = "N12:" & LTrim$(Str$(j%))
        Select Case j%
            Case 10
                rsdata1(j%).Left = rsdata1(j% - 10).Left +
                    rsdata1(j% - 10).Width
                rsdata1(j%).Top = rsdata1(0).Top
            Case Else
                rsdata1(j%).Left = rsdata1(j% - 1).Left
                rsdata1(j%).Top = rsdata1(j% - 1).Top +
                    rsdata1(j% - 1).Height
            End Select
        rsdata1(j%).Visible = True
    Next j%
    For j% = 0 To 19
        rsdata1(j%).LinkMode = Manual
    Next j%
    'request the data
```

```
rsdata1(0).LinkRequest
```

End Sub

1. After typing in the above code, run the Visual Basic program. It should create 19 more RSData controls on the form. And then fill them with data via the LinkRequest method.

Note

For this example to work properly you must have RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx and WINtelligent EMULATE 5 running with the sample ladder logic program ICOM5DM7.X5.

The previous example can be modified slightly to do a control array poke. The example below will poke data to the same **LinkItem's** as the previous example. We must first populate each of the controls in the array with data. To do this, create a For/Next loop to fill in random sample data.

1. Place a Button control on the form and set the caption = "Poke Data".
2. Place an RSDData (or any RSTools) control on a blank form.
3. Set the **Index** = 0.
4. Set **AlwaysDisplayData** = True
5. Set the **PokeLength** = 20, **PokeStartIndex** = 0 and **UseInPoke** = True.
6. Type in the following code below for each appropriate event.

Sub Form_Load ()

```
Const manual = 2
' set properties for server, topic and item
rsdata1(0).LinkServer = "icomwdrv"
rsdata1(0).LinkTopic = "testsol"
rsdata1(0).LinkItem = "n7:0"
For j% = 1 To 19
' load 19 more rsdata control on the form
Load rsdata1(j%)
rsdata1(j%).LinkItem = "N7:" & LTrim$(Str$(j%))
Select Case j%
Case 10
rsdata1(j%).Left = rsdata1(j% - 10).Left +
rsdata1(j% - 10).Width
Continued on next page
```

```

        rsdata1(j%).Top = rsdata1(0).Top
    Case Else
        rsdata1(j%).Left = rsdata1(j% - 1).Left
        rsdata1(j%).Top = rsdata1(j% - 1).Top +
rsdata1(j% - 1).Height
    End Select
    rsdata1(j%).Visible = True
Next j%
End Sub
Sub Command1_Click ()
    'Set the LinkMode to manual for each control
    For j% = 0 To 19
        rsdata1(j%).LinkMode = manual
    Next j%
    'Generate random data for RSData captions
    For j% = 0 To 19
        rsdata1(j%).Caption = Int(Rnd(j% + 1) * 1000)
    Next j%
    'Poke the data
    rsdata1(0).LinkPoke
End Sub

```

Run the program, but before you click the “Poke Data” button, switch to RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx and view the N7:0 data table. This allows you to view the changes in the data table when you click the “Poke Data” button. When both the Visual Basic window and the RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx windows are up, click the “Poke Data” button.

Note *For this example to work properly you must have RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx and WINtelligent EMULATE 5 running with the sample ladder logic program ICOM5DM7.X5.*

Using DDE Block Arrays XE "DDE Block Arrays" with RSTools

Using DDE block arrays is a very efficient method of retrieving data from a server when using a single control. Each piece of data can then be retrieved out of the DDE block array using the **DataValue(index)** run time-only property. The **NumberOfDataValues** property, allows access to the number of elements in an array item.

Below is an example that retrieves 30 words (Pieces) of data from RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx. Then displays several of the word values in bargraphs and a label that displays how many words are in the Link itself.

1. Place one-RSData control, two-Label controls and two-3DPanel controls on the form.
2. For the RSData control, set the **AllowChangeEvent** = True and **LinkTip**=True.
3. For Label1, set the caption = "Number of Data Values".
4. For Panel3D1, set the FloodColor = Green (&HC000&), FloodShowPct = True and FloodType = 1 - Left To Right.
5. For Panel3D2, set the FloodColor = Red (&HFF&), FloodShowPct = True and FloodType = 1 - Left To Right.
6. Type in the following code.

Sub Form_Load ()

```
Const Automatic = 1
'Set properties for the server, topic and item
rsdata1.LinkServer = "icomwdrv"
rsdata1.LinkTopic = "testsol"
'Set LinkItem to T4:0.ACC with a length of 30 words
Continued on next page
rsdata1.LinkItem = "T4:0.acc,L30"
rsdata1.LinkMode = Automatic
```

End Sub

Sub RSData1_Change (NewData As String)

```
'set the floodpercent properties using the DataValue
'If the value of DataValue is greater than 100, then
Divide by 10
panel3d1.FloodPercent = rsdata1.DataValue(0) / 10
panel3d2.FloodPercent = rsdata1.DataValue(3) / 10
'Set label2's caption to the Number of Data
values(i.e. 30)
label2.Caption = rsdata1.NumberOfDataValues
```

End Sub

1. After typing in the code, run the program.

Notice that as you move the mouse cursor over the RSData control and leave it there for more than one second, the **LinkTip** box is displayed. You should see something similar to this:

```
icomwdrv!testsol!t4:0.acc,130
```

The **L30** signifies a length of 30 words. You can also change the BackColor and ForeColor of the **LinkTip** box, by setting the **LinkTipBackColor** and **LinkTipForeColor** properties.

Note

For this example to work properly you must have RSLinx or Wintelligent Linx or Wintelligent Linx and WINTelligent EMULATE 5 running with the sample ladder logic program ICOM5DM7.X5.

Binding to the Data Control

With the RSTools controls and Visual Basic's Data control, you can create an application to display edit, and update (log) information from many types of existing databases. Creating a data-aware application with Visual Basic can be done easily through a few steps, and requires very little code.

The first thing you need to do to make a "data-aware" application is to add the Visual Basic Data control or the Remote Data control to your form. Next, you will have to specify the database you would like to get the information from. Once you have decided on the database, you must place the RSTools controls on the form and set their properties to "bind" to Visual Basic's Data control. Depending on the property settings you choose for DataUpdate, when you run the application you will be able to view data coming from your server, view data from a database, or log data to the database.

The RSTools controls combined with Visual Basic's Data control give you seamless access to many standard databases, including Microsoft Access, Btrieve, dBASE, Microsoft FoxPro, and Paradox. If the Remote Data control is used, ODBC databases such as SQL Server and Oracle are accessible anywhere on a network.

Contents

- Quick Start - Using RSTools to read from DataSource.
- Using RSTools to log to DataSource.
- Time-Based Logging• .
- Working with other types of Databases

Quick Start

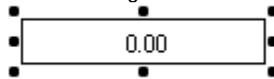
The following procedure gives you a brief overview of how to “bind” or use the RSDData control (one of the RSTools controls) and Visual Basic’s data control in your application. Below we will use the COLOR.MDB sample database that comes with RSTools.

How to use the RSDData (or any RSTools control) control as a “Database” tool.

1. Select the RSDData control in the toolbox and draw a RSDData control on the form. The RSDData control icon looks like this:



Click and drag the control on your form. It will look like a label control. The default name of the control is RSDData1.



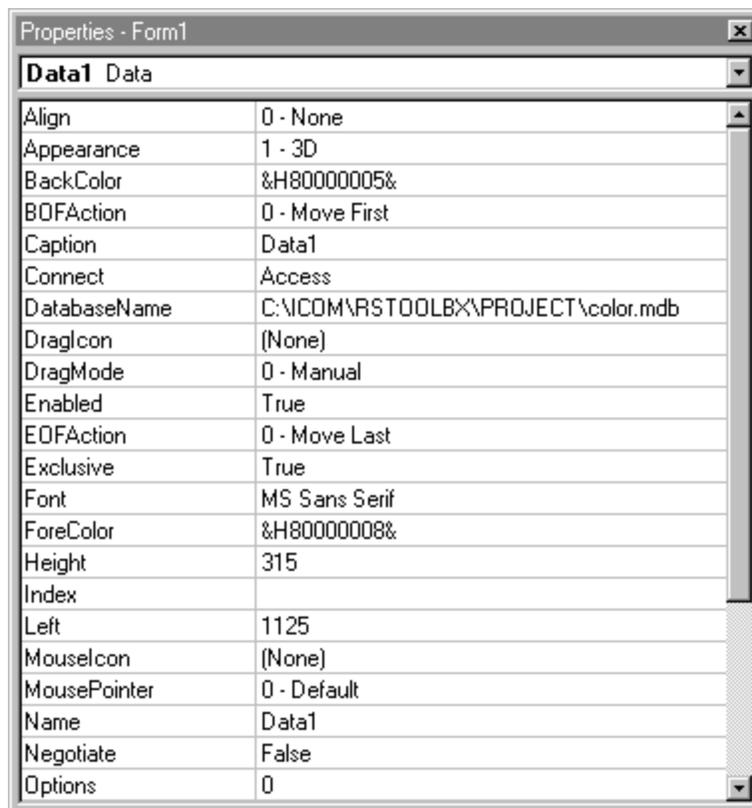
1. Select the Visual Basic Data control and draw a control on the form. The Data control icon looks like this:



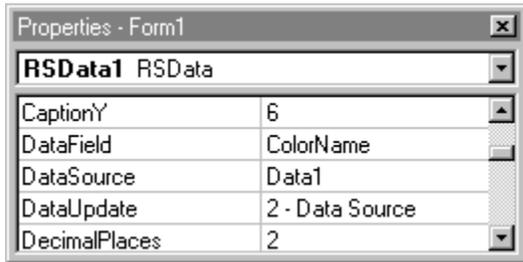
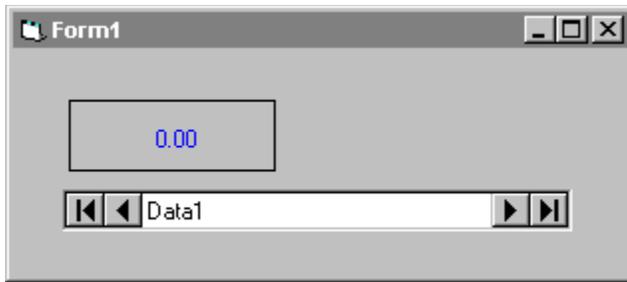
After you have drawn the control on the form, it will look like this, with the default caption as Data1.



1. In the properties window for the Visual Basic Data control, set the DatabaseName property to the filename you want to connect to C:\RSWKSHOP\RSTOOLBX\DEMO\COLOR.DBF.



1. For the **Connect** property, you must specify “Access” Then set **RecordSource** = “COLORS”. The RecordSource is the name of the database table.
1. Click once on the RSDData control and bring up it’s property window. In the properties window, set the **DataSource** = Data1, the **DataField** = COLORNAME, and set the **DataUpdate** = 2- Data Source.



1. Now run the application. The RSTools control displays the data in the "COLOR" field based on which database record you display. You can use the arrow buttons in the data control to move through the records.

Working with other types of Databases XE "Databases"

The RSTools controls support all database types that Visual Basic's Data control and Remote Data control supports. These include: Microsoft Access, dBASE, Paradox, FoxPro, and many other ODBC compliant drivers.

If you used any database other than Access, in earlier versions of Microsoft Visual Basic, you would have had to create an initialization file (*.INI) for your application. This INI file would need to contain ISAM information for the database type you have chosen, and would have the same name as your Visual Basic EXE name. The INI file would be placed in your C:\WINDOWS directory. With Visual Basic 4.0, you no longer have to be concerned with creating your own INI files for the ISAM drivers; Visual Basic will take care of connecting to these databases.

***Note** Refer to the Visual Basic Programmers Guide for more information on other types of databases.*

Property Reference

AllowChangeEvent Property

Applies To RSTButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel

Description Enables the firing of a Change event when data in the control changes.

Visual Basic *object.AllowChangeEvent*[= *setting %*]

Settings The following table lists the AllowChangeEvent property settings for the control.

Settings	Description
False	Do not allow the Change event to occur.
True	Allow the Change event to occur.

Data Type Integer

AutoColumns Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Creates the correct number of columns to be displayed based on the LinkItem.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object.AutoColumns</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	AutoColumns will work only if the LinkItem length divided by the number of columns leaves a remainder of zero. For example, a LinkItem of "C5:0,L11,C2" would display as only one column because eleven divided by two leaves a remainder of one. AutoColumns will only work with AdvancedDDE, which requires RSJunctionBox.
Data Type	Integer

BackColor Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the background color for the control.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .BackColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Settings	Visual Basic uses the Microsoft Windows operating environment red-green-blue (RGB) color scheme. The settings for color are:

<u>Setting</u>	<u>Description</u>
Normal RGB colors	Colors specified by using the Color palette or by using the RGB or QBColor functions in code.
System default colors	Colors specified by system color constants listed in the Visual Basic (VB) object library in the Object Browser. The Windows operating environment substitutes the user's choices as specified in the Control Panel settings.

Data Type	Color
------------------	-------

BackStyle Property

Applies To RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel

Description Determines if the control will be transparent or opaque.

Custom No access via custom property page.

Visual Basic *object*.BackStyle[=*setting %*]

Settings	Settings	Description
	0	Sets the control to transparent.
	1	Sets the control to opaque.

Data Type Integer

BevelHeight Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the height of the top and bottom beveled edges around the control.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BevelHeight [= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Integer

BevelHighlight Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the highlight color of the control's beveled border.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BevelHighlight [= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	BevelHighlight is dependent on the bevel style chosen for the control. If BevelStyle is set to either 1 (indented) or 3 (beveled), the control's outside border will be given a 3 dimensional appearance by displaying a bevel highlight and a bevel shadow.
Data Type	Color

BevelShadow Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the shadow color of the control's beveled border.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .BevelShadow[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	BevelShadow is dependent on the bevel style chosen for the control. If BevelStyle is set to either 1 (indented) or 3 (beveled), the control's outside border will be given a 3 dimensional appearance by displaying a bevel highlight and a bevel shadow.
Data Type	Color

BevelStyle Property

Applies To RSTButton, RSTCompare, RSTData, RSTGauge, RSTSlider, RSTVessel, RSTWheel

Description Determines the style of the beveled area around the control object. A beveled appearance is one that has a three dimensional look. This property controls the beveled appearance of the outside border around the control.

Custom Adjusted in the Display section of the custom properties page. The BevelStyle list box in the lower right hand corner has a drop drop down menu with six styles available for the bevel:

<u>Settings</u>	<u>Description</u>
0	None
1	Indented
2	Marble
3	Beveled
4	Thick
5	Stripe

Visual Basic *object.BevelStyle[=setting %]*

Remarks If a bevel does not appear when this property is set to True, make sure that the BevelWidth and BevelHeight properties are set to a value greater than zero.

Data Type Integer

BevelWidth Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the width of the left and right beveled edges around the control.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .BevelWidth[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Integer

BorderBeveled Property

Applies To	RSCmpare, RSVessel
Description	Toggles display of BorderHighlight and BorderShadow.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page with a checkbox in the Options window.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BorderBeveled [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	When set to False in the RSVessel control, the BorderHighlight and BorderShadow are not displayed, but PolyBorderColor is displayed. When True, all three are shown. When set to False in the RSCmpare control, BorderHighlight and BorderShadow are not displayed, while DownBorderColor, EqualBorderColor, and UpBorderColor are still shown. When set to True, all are shown.
Data Type	Integer

BorderColor Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the color of the border around the control object.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .BorderColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The BorderColor property can be set to any color in the palette or to a hex integer value that represents a color.
Data Type	Color

BorderHighlight Property

Applies To	RSCmpare, RSVessel
Description	Sets the Highlight color for the three-dimensional border of the applicable controls' graphic shapes.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BorderHighlight [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	For the RSCmpare control, this property sets the BorderHighlight color for all of its states - Up, Equal, and Down.
Data Type	Color

BorderInner Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the inner border is displayed around the control object.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BorderInner [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	This property is dependent upon the BevelStyle property in that the inner border is displayed only when a BevelStyle other than 0 (none) is chosen.
Data Type	Integer

BorderInnerColor Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the color of the inner border around the control object.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BorderInnerColor [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The BorderInnerColor property can be set to any color in the palette or to a hex integer value that represents a color.
Data Type	Color

BorderShadow Property

Applies To	RSCmpare, RSVessel
Description	Sets the Shadow color for the three-dimensional border of the applicable controls' graphic shapes.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BorderShadow [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	For the RSCmpare control, this property sets the BorderShadow color for all of its states - Up, Equal, and Down.
Data Type	Color

BorderStyle Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the type of border displayed around the control object.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BorderStyle [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	There are two border styles available: 0 = None and 1 = Fixed Single.
Data Type	Integer

BorderWidth Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the width of the border displayed around the control object.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BorderWidth [= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	The BorderStyle property needs to be set to 1 (Fixed Single) in order to make changes in BorderWidth visible.
Data Type	Integer

BottomBorder Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the distance between bottom external border of the control and bottom of the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page. Placing the mouse pointer over either of the control graphic's lower corners will cause a sizing pointer to appear. Clicking and holding the left mouse button allows the bottom border for the control to be adjusted to the appropriate position with respect to the bottom external border of the control. Releasing the mouse button will then set the BottomBorder property.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . BottomBorder [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The BottomBorder property controls the distance between the outside border of the control and the lower edge of the control. Use this property to adjust the space available for displaying a caption or value.
Data Type	Integer

ButtonBorderWidth Property

Applies To	RSCmpare, RSVessel
Description	Sets the width of the BorderHighlight and BorderShadow properties for applicable controls.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . ButtonBorderWidth [= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	Sets the width of the three-dimensional border (shown with the BorderHighlight and BorderShadow properties) around the RSVessel and RSCmpare controls' graphic shapes. For these two controls there is not a corresponding ButtonBorderHeight property as in the RSButton control.
Data Type	Integer

ButtonFaceColor Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSSlider, RSWheel
Description	Sets the color for the face of the control's buttons.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . ButtonFaceColor [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	For the RSButton control, the Button's (all styles) face color is set with ButtonFaceColor, for the RSSlider control, the face color of the its two scroll buttons is set with ButtonFaceColor, and for the RSWheel control ButtonFaceColor sets the face color for the up and down scroll arrow buttons.
Data Type	Color

ButtonHighlight Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSlider, RSWheel
Description	Sets the highlight color for the control's three-dimensional button(s) effect.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . ButtonHighlight [= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	ButtonHighlight sets the highlight color for the Button control's three-dimensional outside border, sets the highlight color on the scroll buttons for the Slider, and sets the highlight color for the up and down scroll arrow buttons for the Wheel.
Data Type	Color

ButtonShadow Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSSlider, RSWheel
Description	Sets the shadow color for the control's three-dimensional button(s) effect.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . ButtonShadow [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	ButtonShadow sets the shadow color for the Button control's three-dimensional outside border, sets the shadow color on the scroll buttons for the Slider, and sets the shadow color for the up and down scroll arrow buttons for the Wheel.
Data Type	Color

Caption Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the caption to be displayed on the control.
Custom	Set in the Value section of the custom properties page with the "Caption" text box. Text entered in this text box will appear as the control's caption.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Caption</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The DisplayCaption property must be set to True in order for the Caption to be shown.
Data Type	String

CaptionBackColor Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the background color of the caption for the control.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .CaptionBackColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The CaptionBackColor property can be set to any color in the palette or to a hex integer value representing a color. If the CaptionTransparent property is set to True, CaptionBackColor will not be shown.
Data Type	Color

CaptionColor Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the color of the caption text for the control.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .CaptionColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The CaptionColor property can be set to any color in the palette or to a hex integer value representing a color. The DisplayCaption property must be set to True in order for this property to have any effect.
Data Type	Color

CaptionShadow Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Enables/disables the shadow behind the caption for the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page with a checkbox in the Options window.
Visual Basic	<i>object.CaptionShadow</i> [=setting %]
Remarks	The DisplayCaption property must be True before this property will have any visible effect. When set to True, a shadow will be displayed behind the caption text; when set to False, the shadow will not be displayed.
Data Type	Integer

CaptionShadowColor Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the color of the caption's shadow for the control.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .CaptionShadowColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The CaptionShadowColor property can be set to any color in the palette or to a hex integer value representing a color. The DisplayCaption and the CaptionShadow properties must be set to True before this property will have any visible effect.
Data Type	Color

CaptionTransparent Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Enables/disables display of the CaptionBackColor.
Custom:	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page with a checkbox in the Options window.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .CaptionTransparent[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	When set to True, the CaptionBackColor is transparent and will not be displayed; when set to False the CaptionBackColor will be displayed. DisplayCaption must be set to True before this property will have any visible effect.
Data Type	Integer

CaptionX Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the horizontal position of the caption with respect to the left edge of the control object.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page. The red square caption position indicator on the control graphic shows the relative position of the caption. To change the caption position, click, drag, and drop the red square in the desired location. If the red square is not displayed, the DisplayCaption property needs to be set to True.
Visual Basic	<i>object.CaptionX</i> [=setting %]
Remarks	The range for the CaptionX property is from 0 to 100 with zero being the left edge and 100 being the right edge of the control. The DisplayCaption property must be set to True before this property will have any visible effect.
Data Type	Integer

CaptionY Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the vertical position of the caption with respect to the top edge of the control object.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page. The red, square caption position indicator on the control graphic shows the relative position of the caption. To change the caption position, click, drag, and drop the red square in the desired location. If the red square is not displayed, the DisplayCaption property needs to be set to True.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Control.CaptionY</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The range for the CaptionY property is from 0 to 100 with zero being the top edge and 100 being the bottom edge of the control. The DisplayCaption property must be set to True before this property will have any visible effect.
Data Type	Integer

Clip Property

Applies To RSTool, RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel

Description Returns or sets the contents of the data elements in a control. Not available at design time.

Visual Basic *object.Clip [= string]*

The Clip property syntax has these parts:

Part	Description
object	An object expression that evaluates to an object in the Applies To list.
string	A string expression containing the element contents.

Remarks The string can contain the contents of multiple rows and columns. In the string, a tab character (ANSI character 9) indicates a new element in a row, and a carriage return (ANSI character 13) indicates the beginning of a new row. Use the Chr function to embed these characters in strings. For example, the following line of code puts text into 4 Gauge controls that are displayed in 2 rows by 2 columns:

```
RSGauge1.Clip = "231" & Chr(9) & "400" & Chr(13) & "278" & Chr(9) & "58"
```

Compiling a string and setting a control's **Clip** property is an excellent way to programmatically use a single instance of a control to display multiple values.

The clip property works in a similar fashion for the other RSTool controls.

Data Type String

DataChanged Property

Description	Returns or sets a value indicating that RSDData in a control has changed by some process other than by retrieving RSDData from the current record.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Control.RSDDataChanged</i> [= <i>setting</i>]
Remarks	The Visual Basic Data control will record changes made to a bound database as you move through its records. In order to avoid recording changes made to the database's records, set the DataChanged property to False in the Data control's Validate event. When the Data control is moved to the next record, the Validate event is fired and if DataChanged is True, changes made to the database are recorded.
Applies To	RSTButton, RSCompare, RSDData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel

DataField Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Binds the control to a particular field in a database. Used for reading from and writing to a database. The DataSource property must be set prior to this property to enable browsing.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .DataField[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The DataField, DataSource, and DataUpdate properties work together with the Visual Basic Data control to bind the RSTools control to a database.
Data Type	String

DataSource Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Binds the control to the particular Visual Basic data control which is bound directly to a database. The available data controls appear in a drop-down list next to the property name in the properties window
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object.DataSource</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	DataSource is read/write at design time; not available at run time. The DataField, DataSource, and DataUpdate properties work together with the Visual Basic Data control to bind the RSTool control to a database.
Data Type	String

DataUpdate Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the primary source of displayed data as well as which data triggers a Change event.
Visual Basic	<i>object.DataUpdate</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	Available settings for the DataUpdate property are 0 = Data Link, which displays only the data specified by the LinkItem; 1 = Data Source, which displays only the data (field in database) that the control is bound to; 2 = Data Link, Log To Data Source, which logs data to the Data Source specified by the data control; and 3 = No Update. When DataUpdate is set to 1 (Data Source), you will be able to view the contents of the field that the control is bound to. When DataUpdate is set to 2 (Data Link, Log to Data Source) and LinkMode is set to Automatic, the data control will add new records to the database whenever the control's value changes.
Data Type	Integer

DataValue(Index) Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel
Description	When requesting an array of data by using the block method (i.e. LinkItem = t4:0.acc, L25), you can use the DataValue property to select the specified element in the array. DataValue(0) for a single item data link is valid as well, even though it is not an array. DataValue(n) is an array property and must have an index.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .DataValue(<i>item number</i>)
Remarks	Specifying array items in your LinkItem string makes it very easy to move large blocks of data with only one control. If you want to use element 25, simply specify that number. (i.e. rsdata1.datavalue(24)).
Data Type	Integer

DecimalPlaces Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the number of decimal places that will be shown when the value is displayed on the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the Value section of the custom properties page by changing the value in the "Decimals" text box. This value can be changed either by typing the number directly or by using the up and down scroll buttons.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . DecimalPlaces [= <i>setting</i>]
Remarks	The range for the DecimalPlaces property value is from 0 to 9. TheDisplayValue property must be set to True before this property will have any visible effect, however the setting affects the Value and DataValue(n) properties whether visible or not.
Data Type	Integer

DisplayBorder Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSVessel
Description	Enables/disables all borders for the control's graphic shape.
Custom	Enabled/disabled in the Options window of the General section of the properties page.
Visual Basic	<i>Object</i> . DisplayBorder [= <i>setting</i>]
Remarks	In the case of the RSCompare control, when set to True a three-dimensional border will be displayed around the control's graphic shapes using the DownBorderColor , EqualBorderColor , UpBorderColor , BorderHighlight , and BorderShadow properties; when set to False none of those properties will be displayed. In the case of the RSVessel control, when set to True, a three-dimensional border around the fill area will be displayed using the PolyBorderColor , BorderHighlight , and BorderShadow properties; when set to False none of those properties will be displayed.
Data Type	Integer

DisplayCaption Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the caption will be displayed on the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom property page. Place the mouse pointer inside the setup frame of the General Tab and right-click to display the popup property menu. Clicking on "Caption" on this menu will toggle a check mark on and off which represents the True state for the DisplayCaption property. When the DisplayCaption is True, a red square caption position indicator appears on the control graphic in the General section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .DisplayCaption[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	When set to True the Caption will be displayed; when set to False the Caption will not be displayed.
Data Type	Integer

DisplayCaptionVertically Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the caption will be displayed vertically on the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the property page. The red indicator (square) on the control graphic represents the relative position of the caption on the control. Double clicking on the red indicator toggles the caption display between horizontal and vertical. When the caption is vertical the red indicator becomes a rectangle, and when the caption is horizontal the red indicator is a square.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .DisplayCaptionVertically[= <i>setting</i>]
Remarks	When set to True, the caption will be displayed vertically; when set to False, the caption will be displayed horizontally.
Data Type	Integer

DisplayPicture Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if a picture will be displayed on the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page with a checkbox in the Options window.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . DisplayPicture [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	When set to True, the picture designated in the Picture property will be displayed; when set to False, the picture will not be displayed. Because the RSCompare control has three possible picture properties (PictureUp, PictureEqual, PictureDown), this property applies to all three.
Data Type	Integer

DisplayValue Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the control's current value will be displayed.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom property page. Place the mouse pointer inside the setup frame of the General Tab and right-click to display the popup property menu. Clicking on "Value" on this menu will toggle a check mark on and off which represents the True state for the DisplayValue property.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . DisplayValue [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	When set to True, the value will be displayed; when set to False the value will not be displayed.
Data Type	Integer

DrawDisabledShadow Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if a shadow will be displayed over the entire control when it is disabled.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page with a checkbox in the Options window.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .DrawDisabledShadow[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	When set to True, a shadow will be displayed when the control's Enabled property is set to False. When set to False, the shadow will not be displayed if the Enabled property is set to False. The shadow is not displayed if the control's Enabled property is set to True.
Data Type	Integer

EndValue Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the maximum for the value range of the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the "End Value" text box in the Value section of the custom properties page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .EndValue[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	For the RSGauge and RSSlider controls, EndValue applies to both the Scale1 and Scale2 value ranges. For the RSCompare, RSData, and RSWheel controls, the EndValue will be ignored if the UseStartEndValue property is set to False.
Data Type	Double

ExpressionForRead Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the mathematical expression that will be performed on the link item value when the control reads that value.
Custom	Adjusted in the LinkInfo section of the custom property page. When the "Expression" button is pressed another form appears with two input boxes. Input the appropriate mathematical expression into the "Read Expression" text box. The expression must be in the form item[mathematical expression]. For example, "item+5" would add 5 to the LinkItem value.
Visual Basic	<i>object.ExpressionForRead</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	<p>This property allows you to perform a mathematical function on the link item as it is read by the control. The expression must be in the form item[mathematical expression]. For example, "item+5" would add 5 to the LinkItem value.</p> <p>Optional Calculation/Math module required, RSCALC32.DLL.</p>
Data Type	String

ExpressionForWrite Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the mathematical expression that will be performed on the link item when the control writes that value.
Custom	Adjusted in the LinkInfo section of the custom property page. When the "Expression" button is pressed another form appears with two input boxes. Input the appropriate mathematical expression into the "Write Expression" text box. The expression must be in the form item[mathematical expression]. For example, "item+5" would add 5 to the LinkItem value.
Visual Basic	<i>object.ExpressionForWrite</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	<p>This property allows you to perform a mathematical function on the link item as a write is performed by the control. The expression must be in the form item[mathematical expression]. For example, "item+5" would add 5 to the LinkItem value.</p> <p>Optional Calculation/Math module required, RSCALC32.DLL.</p>
Data Type	String

FaceBorderColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel
Description	Sets the color of the face border for the control.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . FaceBorderColor [= <i>color</i>]
Remarks	The FaceBorderColor property can be set to any color in the palette or a hex integer value representing a color. The DisplayFace property must be True before this property will have any visible effect.
Data Type	Color

FaceColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel
Description	Sets the color of the face for the control.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . FaceColor [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The FaceColor property can be set to any color in the palette or a hex integer value representing a color. The DisplayFace property must be True before this property will have any visible effect.
Data Type	Color

FillColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSVessel
Description	Determines the color of the filled area on the control.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object.FillColor</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The FillColor property can be set to any color in the palette or a hex integer value representing a color. For the Gauge control this property is only used with the LED-style, Vertical and Horizontal Gauge types (4-7).
Data Type	Color

FlashEnabled Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the control will flash when its value changes.
Custom	Enabled / disabled in the Display section of the properties page with the "Flash on New Data" check box.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .FlashEnabled[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Integer

FlashOn Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the control will continuously flash from visible to invisible.
Custom	Enabled / disabled in the Display section of the properties page with the "Flash Always On" check box.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .FlashOn [= setting %]
Remarks	When set to True the control flashes continuously; when set to False the control does not flash. The FlashSpeed property adjusts the rate that the control flashes on and off.
Data Type	Integer

FlashSpeed Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the rate that the control flashes on and off.
Custom	Set on the Display section of the custom properties page with the "FlashSpeed" text box.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .FlashSpeed[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	The setting for FlashSpeed is in milliseconds.
Data Type	Long

FlashTime Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines how long the control should flash when server sends new data and FlashEnabled is True.
Custom	Set on the Display section of the custom properties page with the "FlashTime" text box.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .FlashTime[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	Enabled only when the "Flash On New Data" check box is checked. The setting for FlashTime is in milliseconds.
Data Type	Long

Font Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the font name, style, and size of text that will be used for the control's caption and value.
Custom	Set on the Fonts section of the custom properties page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Font[= <i>setting</i>]
Remarks	Available effects on the Fonts section of the custom properties page are Strikeout and Underline. These can be enabled and disabled with check boxes on the Font section.
Data Type	Font

KnobWidth Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Determines the width of the knob displayed on the control.
Custom	The knob width can be changed on the General section of the custom properties page by clicking the mouse on the knob graphic and drag-dropping the knob outline to the desired width.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . KnobWidth [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	<p>For the Gauge control, KnobWidth will have a visible effect only when the NeedleType property is set to a knob-type setting (3 = Knob; 4 = Knob-Plate; 5 = NeedleKnob; 6 = Needle-Knob-Plate). For the Slider, the KnobWidth property will affect both the button and pointed style knobs.</p> <p>For the Gauge control, KnobWidth is represented as Diameter.</p>
Data Type	Integer

LeftBorder Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the distance between left external border of the control and left edge of the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page. Placing the mouse pointer over either of the control graphic's left corners will cause a sizing pointer to appear. Clicking and holding the left mouse button allows the bottom border for the control to be adjusted to the appropriate position with respect to the left external border of the control. Releasing the mouse button will then set the LeftBorder property.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . LeftBorder [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The LeftBorder property controls the distance between the outside border of the control and the left edge of the control. Use this property to adjust the space available for displaying a caption or value.
Data Type	Integer

LinkErrorDisplay Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if an error message will be displayed in a control if an error has occurred when attempting to establish a DDE conversation with a LinkItem.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>[Form1.]Control.LinkErrorDisplay[=setting %]</i>
Remarks	When set to True, link error messages will be displayed; when set to False link error messages will not be displayed.
Data Type	Integer

LinkErrorNumber Property (Run Time Only)

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Returns the error number associated with its LinkItem. Not available at design time and read only at run time.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>[Form1.]Control.LinkErrorNumber</i>
Remarks	Use the LinkErrorNumber property along with a label control to display the error number. For example: Label1.caption = rsdata1.LinkErrorNumber.
Data Type	Integer

LinkErrorString Property (Run Time Only)

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Returns the error string associated with its LinkItem. Not available at design time and read only at run time.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>[Form1.]Control.LinkErrorString</i>
Remarks	Use the LinkErrorString property along with a label control to display the error string. For example: Label1.Caption = rsdata1.LinkErrorString.
Data Type	String

LinkItem Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the item portion of the data link string to which the control is linked.
Custom	Adjusted in the LinkInfo section of the custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object.LinkItem</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	Depending upon which type of DDE link is being established, the LinkItem can have many different formats, for example: "N7:1" is an integer address from a PLC datatable; "T4:0.ACC,L10" is a DDE block array, with a length of 10 items; "B3/0" is a binary address from a PLC datatable; "T4:11.ACC" is a timer address from a PLC datatable; and "r1c1" or "R2C2" are row and column addresses from a Microsoft Excel table.
Data Type	String

LinkMode Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the type of link to be used for a DDE conversation and activates the connection.
Custom	Adjusted in the LinkInfo section of the custom properties page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . LinkMode [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	Available options for the LinkMode property are: 0 = None; 1 = Automatic; 2 = Manual; and 3 = Notify.
Data Type	Integer

LinkServer Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the application or server name that the control is linked to.
Custom	Adjusted in the LinkInfo section of the custom properties page.
Visual Basic	<i>object.LinkServer</i> [=setting %]
Remarks	Depending upon which type of DDE link is being established, the LinkServer can have different formats, for example: "ICOMWDRV" is the DDE server name for WINTelligent Linx and "EXCEL" is the DDE server name for Microsoft Excel.
Data Type	String

LinkTip Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel						
Description	Determines if a pop up LinkTip will be displayed whenever the mouse pointer is positioned above the control. The message in the LinkTip will either be the address that the control is linked to or a message specified by the LinkTipText property.						
Custom	Enabled / disabled in the Display section of the custom properties page with the "Link Tip" check box.						
Visual Basic	<i>object.LinkTip</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]						
Settings	<table><thead><tr><th><u>Settings</u></th><th><u>Description</u></th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>True</td><td>Displays LinkTip window.</td></tr><tr><td>False</td><td>Disables LinkTip window.</td></tr></tbody></table>	<u>Settings</u>	<u>Description</u>	True	Displays LinkTip window.	False	Disables LinkTip window.
<u>Settings</u>	<u>Description</u>						
True	Displays LinkTip window.						
False	Disables LinkTip window.						
Remarks	When set to True, the LinkTip popup box will appear whenever the mouse pointer is positioned above the control; when set to False the LinkTip popup box will not appear. If there is not a string value entered for the LinkTipText property, the LinkTip popup message box will display the Link Server, Topic, and Item to which the control is connected.						
Data Type	Integer						

LinkTipBackColor Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the background color of the LinkTip popup box.
Custom	Color is set in the Display section of the custom properties page by choosing LinkTipBackColor in the properties Combo Box and then selecting a color in the color Combo Box.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . LinkTipBackColor [= <i>setting</i>]
Remarks	The LinkTipBackColor property can be set to any color in the palette or a hex integer value representing a color. The LinkTip property must be set to True before this property will have any visible effect.
Data Type	Color

LinkTipForeColor Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the color of the LinkTip message text.
Custom	Color is set in the Display section of the custom properties page by choosing LinkTipForeColor in the properties Combo Box and then selecting a color in the color Combo Box.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .LinkTipForeColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The LinkTipForeColor property can be set to any color in the palette or a hex integer value representing a color. The LinkTip property must be True before this property will have any visible effect.
Data Type	Color

LinkTipText Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Displays a text string that will be displayed in the LinkTip popup box, or the symbol name of a DDE address or the actual DDE address (i.e. LinkServer, LinkTopic, LinkItem).
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . LinkTipText [=setting %]
Remarks	This property will only be effective when the LinkTip property is set to True. The LinkTip window has an order of precedence as follows: If there is not any string value entered for this property, then the LinkTip popup window will display the Symbol name associated with the DDE address. If a Symbol name is not used then the actual DDE address will be displayed (i.e. LinkServer, LinkTopic, and LinkItem) to which the control is connected.
Data Type	String

LinkTopic Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the topic portion of a data link string to which the control is linked.
Custom	Adjusted in the LinkInfo section of the custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . LinkTopic [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	Depending upon which type of DDE link is being established, the LinkTopic can have different. Formats, for example: "testsol" would be a DDE topic created for the WINTelligent Linx driver and "sheet1.xls" would be a DDE topic name for Microsoft Excel.
Data Type	String

MoveRefresh Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Determines if the Windows repaint commands called messages will be acted upon immediately upon mouse movement over the control or if the Windows system will decide when to send the messages and repaint the control.
Custom	No access via custom properties page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . MoveRefresh [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	When set to True the repaint messages will be acted upon immediately; when set to False the Windows system will decide the most appropriate time to send the message. On a fast machine there will probably not be a visible difference, therefore most users can set this property to False.
Data Type	Integer

NotFilledColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSVessel
Description	Determines the color of the not-filled area on the control.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .NotFilledColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The NotFilledColor property can be set to any color in the palette or a hex integer value representing a color. For the Gauge control this property is only used with the LED-style, Vertical and Horizontal Gauge types (4-7).
Data Type	Color

NumberOfDataValues Property (Run Time Only)

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Returns the total number of individual data values represented by the control. Not available at design time. Read only at run time.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .NumberOfDataValues
Data Type	Integer

NumberOfSegments Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSVessel
Description	Sets the number of line segments to be drawn between the green bezier nodes in the control shape. (Green bezier nodes are visible on the custom properties page.) The higher the number of segments, the more round the control's shape will appear.
Custom	Segments text box on General page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .NumberOfSegments[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

NumbersColor Property

Applies To	RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the color of the Start and End values within the control's display area. This only applies when the DisplayStartEndValues property is set to True.
Custom	Display Section
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .NumbersColor[= <i>setting</i> %]

Data TypeColor

Picture Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Any file of the *.bmp, *.wmf, *.ico format may be displayed on the control by defining the picture file.
Custom	Display Section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . Picture [= <i>filename</i>]
Remarks	Bitmaps, Windows metafiles, and icon files may be used as pictures for the control. The RSTools controls also support drag and drop of pictures from the optional RSWorkbench Visual Basic Add-In.
Data Type	String

PictureStretch Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Stretches the picture to fit the control boundaries.
Custom	Check box in General Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .PictureStretch[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	True stretches the Picture. False lets the picture be displayed in its original size.
Data Type	Integer

PictureUp Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare
Description	Sets the filename of a picture to be displayed within the control when the control is not depressed. (Or in the case of the RSCompare control, when the control is in its Up state.)
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . PictureUp [= <i>file</i>]
Remarks	Picture files of the format *.bmp, *.wmf, and *.ico may be used. The RSCompare has several other picture properties including PictureUp; PictureDown, PictureEqual and Picture. Refer to the RSCompare documentation for information on these properties.
Data Type	String

PokeLength Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Defines the number of controls in a control array to be used in a LinkPoke starting from the PokeStartIndex in a control array.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object.PokeLength</i> [= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	The number of controls to be used in single message transaction if AdvanceDDE is used.
Data Type	Integer

PokeStartIndex Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the starting index value of the controls in a control array to be used in a poke to the DDE server (source).
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .PokeStartIndex[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

RequestLength Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Defines the number of controls in a control array for a LinkRequest from the DDE server (source).
Custom	N/A on the Custom properties page
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .RequestLength[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	This property applies if the control is part of an array.
Data Type	Integer

RequestStartIndex Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the starting index value of the controls in a control array to be used in a request from the DDE server (source).
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . RequestStartIndex [= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

ReverseDirection Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel
Description	This property reverses the start and end values.
Custom	General section.
Visual Basic	<i>object.ReverseDirection</i> [= <i>setting%</i>]
Remarks	Setting to False uses the defined start and end values. Setting to True reverses the start and end values.
Data Type	Integer

RightBorder Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the distance between right external border of the control and right edge of the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page. Placing the mouse pointer over either of the control graphic's right corners will cause a sizing pointer to appear. Clicking and holding the left mouse button allows the bottom border for the control to be adjusted to the appropriate position with respect to the right external border of the control. Releasing the mouse button will then set the RightBorder property.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . RightBorder [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	The RightBorder property controls the distance between the outside border of the control and the left edge of the control. Use this property to adjust the space available for displaying a caption or value.
Data Type	Integer

Scale1DecimalPlaces Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets or returns the number of decimal places used for the Scale 1 numerals.
Custom	Key in or Use the spin buttons next to 'Decimal' on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1DecimalPlaces[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale1End Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSlider
Description	Sets or returns the End position and value of the Scale 1 markings.
Custom	Key in or click on the # sign to bring up the key pad on 'Place Scale1 @' settings box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1End[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Double

Scale1Length Property

Applies To	RSSlider, RSGauge
Description	Determines the physical length of the markings for Scale 1.
Custom	General Section. Can be edited directly on the picture.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Scale1Length</i> [= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale1Major Property

Applies To	RSSlider, RSGauge
Description	Sets the number of major scale divisions for Scale 1.
Custom	Key in or Use the spin buttons next to 'Major' on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1Major[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale1MajorColor Property

Applies To	RSSlider, RSGauge
Description	Sets the major scale color of Scale 1.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1MajorColor[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Color

Scale1Minor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets the number of minor scale divisions for Scale 1.
Custom	Key in or Use the spin buttons next to 'Minor' on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1Minor[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale1MinorColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets the minor scale mark color of Scale 1.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1MinorColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Color

Scale1NumbersVisible Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Determines whether or not Scale 1 numbers are visible.
Custom	Check Box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1NumberVisible[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	True makes the numbers visible. False hides the numbers.
Data Type	Integer

Scale1Offset Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Defines the offset of the Scale 1 markings from the inside border.
Custom	Double Click on the # mark next to scale in the Setup Area on the General Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1Offset[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale1Start Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSlider
Description	Determines the Start position and value of the Scale 1 markings on the control.
Custom	Key in or click on the # sign to bring up the key pad on 'Place Scale1 @' settings box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Scale1Start</i> [= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Double

Scale1String Property

Applies To	RSSlider, RSGauge
Description	Determines the String Caption to be displayed next to Scale 1.
Custom	Not Available on Custom Property Pages.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1String [=setting%]
Data Type	String

Scale1StringEnabled Property

Applies To	RSSlider, RSGauge
Description	Enables / Disables the display of String caption next to Scale 1.
Custom	Not Available on Custom Property Pages.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1StringEnabled[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale1Style Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Defines the position of the Scale 1 numbers on the control.
Custom	Drop down combo box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1Style[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	Valid styles are 0=Next Scale, 1=Inside Border and 2=Outside Border
Data Type	enumScaleStyles

Scale1TextColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Defines the text color for Scale 1.
Custom	Display Section
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1TextColor[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	Color can be chosen form the color palette or specified as RGB in Hex.
Data Type	Color

Scale1TrailingZeros Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Defines the number of trailing zeros for Scale 1.
Custom	Check Box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1TrailingZeros[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale1Type Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSlider
Description	Specifies the Scale 1 marking type.
Custom	Drop down combo box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1Type[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	Valid style are 0=Normal, 1=Indented and 2=Bevel
Data Type	Integer

Scale1Visible Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Specifies if Scale 1 is visible or hidden.
Custom	Check Box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1Visible[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Integer

Scale1Width Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets the width of the Scale 1 markings.
Custom	Edit directly on the setup area of the General custom properties tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1Width[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale2DecimalPlaces Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets or specifies the number of decimal places used for the Scale 2 numerals.
Custom	Key in or Use the spin buttons next to 'Decimal' on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2DecimalPlaces[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale2End Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets or returns the End position and value of the Scale 2 markings on the control.
Custom	Key in or click on the # sign to bring up the key pad on 'Place Scale1 @' settings box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2End[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Double

Scale2EndNumber Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSlider
Description	Sets or returns the end number value of the numerals on Scale 2.
Custom	Key in or Use the spin buttons next to 'Scale 2 Numbering' on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2EndNumber[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	The Scale2End property value is the physical location of the end scale marking with respect to Scale1; Scale2EndNumber represents the text (number) that will be displayed at that end marking.
Data Type	Double

Scale2Length Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider.
Description	Sets the length of the Scale 2 markings.
Custom	General section. Edit directly on the setup area.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2Length[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale2Major Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Custom	Key in or Use the spin buttons next to 'Major' on the Scale Tab.
Description	Sets the number of major scale divisions for Scale 2.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2Major[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Integer

Scale2MajorColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets the major scale color for Scale 2.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2MajorColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Color

Scale2Minor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets the number of scale divisions for the minor scale of Scale 2.
Custom	Key in or Use the spin buttons next to 'Minor' on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2Minor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Integer

Scale2MinorColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets Scale 2 minor scale color.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2MinorColor[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Color

Scale2NumbersVisible Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Determines whether Scale 2 numbers are visible or not.
Custom	Check Box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2NumbersVisible[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	True sets the numbers to be visible. False hides the numbers.
Data Type	Integer

Scale2Offset Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Defines the offset of Scale 2 markings from the outside border.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2Offset[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale2Start Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets or returns the Start position and value of the Scale 2 markings on the control.
Custom	Key in or click on the # sign to bring up the key pad on 'Place Scale2 @' settings box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2Start[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Double

Scale2StartNumber Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSlider
Description	Sets or returns the Scale 2 start number value of the scale numerals.
Custom	Key in or Use the spin buttons next to 'Scale 2 Numbering' on the Scale Tab.
Remarks	The Scale2Start property value is the physical location of the start scale marking with respect to Scale1; Scale2StartNumber represents the text (number) that will be displayed at that start marking.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2StartNumber[= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Double

Scale2String Property

Applies To	RSSlider, RSGauge
Description	Determines the String Caption to be displayed next to Scale 1.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Scale1String</i> [=setting%%]
Data Type	String

Scale2StringEnabled Property

Applies To	RSSlider, RSGauge
Description	Enables / Disables the display of String caption next to Scale 1.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale1StringEnabled[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale2Style Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Defines the position of the Scale 2 numbers on the control.
Custom	Drop down combo box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2Style[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	Valid styles are 0=Next Scale, 1=Inside Border and 2=Outside Border.
Data Type	Integer

Scale2TextColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Define the text color for Scale 2.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2TextColor[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Color

Scale2TrailingZeros Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets the number of trailing zeros for Scale 2.
Custom	Check Box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2TrailingZeros[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Scale2Type Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Specifies the scale marking type for Scale 2.
Custom	Drop down combo box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2Type[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	Valid types are 0=Normal, 1=Indented and 2=Bevel
Data Type	Integer

Scale2Visible Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Decides whether Scale 2 is visible or hidden.
Custom	Check Box on the Scale Tab.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2Visible[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	True makes the scale visible. False hides it.
Data Type	Integer

Scale2Width Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Sets the width of the scale markings for Scale 2.
Custom	General Section. Edit the picture directly in the setup area.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Scale2Width[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

ScaleBorderColor Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSlider
Description	Sets the scale marking border color.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .ScaleBorderColor[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	This property is active with a Scale Type of 1. Color can be chosen from the color palette or specified in RGB format.
Data Type	Color

ScaleHighlight Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Set the scale marking highlight color.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .ScaleHighlight[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	This property is active with a Scale Type of 2. Color can be chosen from the color palette or specified in RGB format.
Data Type	Color

ScaleShadow Property

Applies To	RSGauge, RSSlider
Description	Displays a shadow of the scale.
Custom	Check Box in the General section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .ScaleShadow[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	This property is active when the Scale Type = 2. True displays the Shadow and False disables Shadow display.
Data Type	Color

ScreenPriority Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the Windows dispatch commands called messages will be acted upon immediately or the Windows system will decide when to send the messages.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .ScreenPriority[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	When set to True the messages will be acted on immediately. When set to False the Windows system decides the most appropriate time to send the message.
Data Type	Integer

Shadow Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel
Description	Specifies if the control's knob or graphic shadow is visible or hidden.
Custom	Check box in General section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . Shadow [= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	True sets the shadow visible. False hides the shadow.
Data Type	Integer

ShadowOffsetX Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel
Description	Sets the horizontal offset of the control's knob or graphic shadow.
Custom	General section. Edit the picture directly in the setup area.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .ShadowOffsetX[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

ShadowOffsetY Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel
Description	Sets the vertical offset of the control's knob or graphic shadow.
Custom	General section. Edit the picture directly in the setup area.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .ShadowOffsetY[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

StartValue Property

Applies To	RSCmpare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Specifies the starting value for the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the “Start Value” text box in the Value section of the custom properties page.
Visual Basic	<i>object.StartValue</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	For the RSGauge and RSSlider controls, StartValue applies to both the Scale1 and Scale2 value ranges. For the RSCmpare, RSData, and RSWheel controls, the StartValue will be ignored if the UseStartEndValue property is set to False.
Data Type	Double

Symbol Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSDData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Serves as an alias name for the server, topic and item to be used in a DDE link.
Custom	LinkInfo Section.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Symbol</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	<p>To establish a symbol go to the LinkInfo tab on the control's custom property page. Select manage symbols and enter the symbol name, server, topic and item. After applying this data to the control, enter the Symbol name on the property sheet. The Linkserver, LinkTopic and LinkItem properties will be updated according to the symbol name entered.</p> <p>See also: <i>LinkTip</i> property.</p>
Data Type	String

TabIndex Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the tab index for the control.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . TabIndex [= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	TabIndex is always one less than the total number of controls.
Data Type	Integer

TabStop Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Adds or removes the control from the form's Tab order at run time.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . TabStop [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	Setting to True adds the control to the form's tab order. False removes the control from the tab order.
Data Type	Integer

Tag Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets or returns an expression that stores any extra data needed in the application.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Tag[=setting %]</i>
Remarks	This is a user defined property that does not affect other VB properties.
Data Type	String

Top Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the distance between the top edge of a control and the top edge of its container.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . Top [= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Single

TopBorder Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the distance between the top external border of the control and the top of the control.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page. Placing the mouse pointer over either of the control graphic's lower corners will cause a sizing pointer to appear. Clicking and holding the left mouse button allows the top border for the control to be adjusted to the appropriate position with respect to the top external border of the control. Releasing the mouse button will then set the TopBorder property.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . TopBorder [= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

TrailingZeros Property

Applies To	RSCmpare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel
Description	Determines if the value is displayed with trailing insignificant zeros.
Custom	Check box in General section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . TrailingZeros [= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	True displays the value with trailing zeros. False displays the value without trailing zeros.
Data Type	Integer

UseInPoke Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	A flag to signify that the control should be used in a LinkPoke or DoPoke.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . UseInPoke [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	True sets the control to be used in a poke. False sets the control not to be used. This property may be set for each element of a control array, which allows individual controls to be “skipped” in a block write action.
Data Type	Integer

UseInRequest Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	A flag to signify that the control should be used in a LinkRequest or DoRequest.
Custom	No access via custom property page.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .UseInRequest[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	True sets the control to be used in a request. False sets the control not to be used. This property may be set for each element of a control array, which allows individual controls to be “skipped” in a block read action.
Data Type	Integer

UseStartEndValue Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSWheel
Description	Enables / disables use of a minimum and maximum value range for the applicable controls, with the minimum and maximum being the values of the StartValue and EndValue properties.
Custom	Adjusted in the General section of the custom properties page with a checkbox in the Options window.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .UseStartEndValue[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	When set to True, the control will not allow its Value to fall outside of the StartValue to EndValue range. When set to False, the control will allow Values outside of that range.
Data Type	Integer

Value Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Contains the value of the control at runtime.
Custom	Value section.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Value</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	<p>Since the RSTools controls are capable of displaying multiple LinkItem addresses with an array of controls, you can preview an array of controls at design time with the Value property by setting the Value to a comma-separated string of values. For instance, a Value setting of “0,1,2,3,4” will display an array of 5 controls within the one instance of the RSTools control, each with the corresponding Value displayed.</p> <p>See also: <i>Clip</i> property.</p>
Data Type	String

ValueBackColor Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the back color for the control's value.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object.ValueBackColor</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	Is visible only if the VALUE is set to transparent.
Data Type	Color

ValueColor Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the foreground color of the control's value.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .ValueColor[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Color

ValuePadDownload Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSVessel
Description	Enables / disables the number entry pad from being activated when the control is clicked on at run time.
Custom	Check box in the General section.
Visual Basic	<i>object.ValuePadDownload</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Integer

ValueShadow Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Turns On/Off the value shadow.
Custom	Check box in General section.
Visual Basic	<i>object.ValueShadow</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	True displays the shadow and False hides it.
Data Type	Integer

ValueShadowColor Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines the color of the value's shadow.
Custom	Display section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .ValueShadowColor[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Color

ValueTransparent Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the value background is transparent or opaque.
Custom	Check box in General section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .ValueTransparent[= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	True sets it to transparent. False sets it to opaque.
Data Type	Integer

ValueX Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the horizontal position of the Value display within the control.
Custom	General section. Edit the picture directly.
Visual Basic	<i>object.ValueX</i> [=setting %]
Remarks	The position can be set from 0 to 100. The CenterOnKnob property of the RSSlider should be False to display the value somewhere other than the knob.
Data Type	Integer

ValueY Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets the vertical position of the Value display within the control.
Custom	General section. Edit the picture directly.
Visual Basic	<i>object.ValueY</i> [=setting %]
Remarks	The position can be set from 0 to 100. The CenterOnKnob property for the RSSlider should be False to display the value somewhere other than the knob.
Data Type	Integer

Visible Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the control is visible at run-time.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Visible</i> [= <i>setting %</i>]
Remarks	True sets the control to be visible and False hides it.
Data Type	Integer

WhatsThisHelpID Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets or returns the associated WhatsThisHelp context number.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . WhatsThisHelpID [= <i>number</i>]
Remarks	These context numbers are associated with Windows help files.
Data Type	Long

Width Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Sets or returns the width of the control.
Custom	General section. Edit the picture directly.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . Width [= <i>setting %</i>]
Data Type	Single

WriteStyle Property

Applies To	RSButton, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel
Description	Sets the write style to the DDE server.
Custom	Value section.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .WriteStyle[= <i>setting</i> %]
Remarks	Options are: 0 - ReadOnly; 1- Continuous, 2- Release.
Data Type	Integer

WriteValue Property

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Determines if the value will be downloaded to a database or LinkItem.
Custom	The WriteValue is used when a person programmatically changes a value.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .WriteValue[= <i>setting</i> %]
Data Type	Integer

Event Reference

This chapter provides a complete alphabetical reference for the RSTools common controls' events. Refer to Chapter 2, Programming Tools, for additional information about using events.

Change Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Indicates that the contents of a control's Value property have changed.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object_Change</i> (<i>index As Integer</i>)
Remarks	<p>The Change event procedure can synchronize or coordinate data display among controls.</p> <p>For additional information, refer to the description of the Change event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.</p>

Click Event

Applies To	RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the user presses and then releases a mouse button over an object.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_Click(<i>[index As Integer]</i>)
Remarks	<p>Typically, you attach a Click event procedure to a CommandButton control, Menu object, or PictureBox control to carry out commands and command-like actions. For the other applicable controls, use this event to trigger actions in response to a change in the control.</p> <p>For additional information, refer to the description of the Click event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.</p>

Clicks Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSVessel
Description	The Clicks event occurs when the user presses and releases the mouse button while the pointer is in the control's window and the control's ActsLikeButton property is set to True.
Visual Basic	Sub RSButton1_Click ([ByVal dValue As Double, ByVal iButtonIndex As Integer])
Remarks	Differs from the click event in that when the RSVessel (RSButton or RSCompare) control is linked to an array of data items, the index of the RSVessel that is clicked on within that array is passed to the event as well as that RSVessel's value. The ActsLikeButton property must be set to True for this event to fire

DbIcIck Event

Applles To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the user presses and releases a mouse button and then presses and releases it again over an object.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_DbIcIck (<i>index</i> As Integer)
Remarks	<p>The argument Index uniquely identifies a control if it's in a control array. You can use a DbIcIck event procedure for an implied action, such as double-clicking an icon to open a window or document.</p> <p>For additional information, refer to the description of the DbIcIck event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.</p>

DragDrop Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when a drag-and-drop operation is completed as a result of dragging a control over a form or control and releasing the mouse button or using the Drag method with its action argument set to 2 (Drop).
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_DragDrop(<i>index</i> As Integer,<i>source</i> As Control, <i>x</i> As Single, <i>y</i> As Single)
Remarks	<p>Use a DragDrop event procedure to control what happens after a drag operation is completed.</p> <p>For additional information, refer to the description of the DragDrop event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.</p>

DragOver Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when a drag-and-drop operation is in progress. You can use this event to monitor the mouse pointer as it enters, leaves, or rests directly over a valid target. The mouse pointer position determines the target object that receives this event.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_DragOver(<i>[index As Integer,</i>]<i>source As Control, x As Single, y As Single, state As Integer</i>)
Remarks	<p>Use a DragOver event procedure to determine what happens after dragging is initiated and before a control drops onto a target.</p> <p>For additional information, refer to the description of the DragOver event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.</p>

EndMove Event

Applies To	RSGauge, RSlider
Description	Occurs when the user releases the mouse button after using the mouse pointer to position the RSGauge needle or RSlider knob to a new value.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_EndMove ([byVal <i>Value</i> As Double, ByVal <i>Index</i> As Integer])
Remarks	<p>The EndMove event can be used to dictate what should happen after the RSGauge needle or RSlider knob has been moved to a new value using the mouse pointer.</p> <p>Note: This event is unavailable when using a RSGauge type with fill boxes unless you apply a needle to it.</p>

GotFocus Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when an object receives the focus, either by user action, such as tabbing to or clicking the object, or by changing the focus in code using the SetFocus method.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_GotFocus(<i>[index As Integer]</i>)
Remarks	<p>Typically, you use a GotFocus event procedure to specify the actions that occur when a control or form first receives the focus.</p> <p>For additional information, refer to the description of the GotFocus event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.</p>

KeyDown, KeyUp Events XE " KeyUp Event"

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occur when the user presses (KeyDown) or releases (KeyUp) a key while an object has the focus.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_KeyDown(<i>[index As Integer,]keycode As Integer, shift As Integer</i>) Private Sub <i>object</i>_KeyUp(<i>[index As Integer,]keycode As Integer, shift As Integer</i>)
Remarks	For both events, the object with the focus receives all keystrokes. For additional information, refer to the description of the KeyDown,KeyUp events in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.

KeyPress Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the user presses and releases an ANSI key.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i> _ KeyPress (<i>[index As Integer,</i> <i>keyascii As Integer]</i>)
Remarks	The object with the focus receives the event. For additional information, refer to the description of the KeyPress event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.

LinkError Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when there is an error during a DDE conversation. This event is recognized only as the result of a DDE-related error that occurs when no Visual Basic code is being executed. The error number is passed as an argument.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_LinkError(ByVal <i>iRet</i> As Integer, ByVal <i>ErrorString</i> As String)
Remarks	Use a LinkError event procedure to notify the user of the particular error that has occurred. For additional information, refer to the description of the LinkError event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.

LinkItemNotSupported Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the control's LinkItem has an incorrect format.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i> _LinkItemNotSupported ()

LinkItemSupported Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the control's LinkItem has a correct format.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i> _LinkItemSupported ()

LinkNotify Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the source has changed the data defined by the DDE link if the LinkMode property of the destination control is set to 3 (Notify).
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_LinkNotify([ByVal <i>index</i> As Integer])
Remarks	Typically, in the LinkNotify event your code notifies the user, gets the new data immediately, or defers getting the data until later. You can use the LinkRequest method to obtain the new data from the source. For additional information, refer to the description of the LinkNotify event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.

LinkOutOfMemory Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the client (control) has exhausted its memory resources.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_DbClick ([ByVal <i>Index</i> As Integer])

LinkServerDisconnected Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the control is connected to a server and that server becomes unavailable..
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i> _LinkServerDisconnected ()

LinkUnableToConnectToServer Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the control attempts to connect to a server that is unavailable.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i> _LinkUnableToConnectToServer ()

LostFocus Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when an object loses the focus, either by user action, such as tabbing to or clicking another object, or by changing the focus in code using the SetFocus method.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_LostFocus(<i>index</i> As Integer)
Remarks	A LostFocus event procedure is primarily useful for verification and validation updates. Using LostFocus can cause validation to take place as the user moves the focus from the control. For additional information, refer to the description of the Click event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.

MouseDown, MouseUp Events

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occur when the user presses (MouseDown) or releases (MouseUp) a mouse button.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i> _MouseDown(<i>index</i> As Integer,<i>button</i> As Integer, <i>shift</i> As Integer, <i>x</i> As Single, <i>y</i> As Single) Private Sub <i>object</i> _MouseUp(<i>index</i> As Integer,<i>button</i> As Integer, <i>shift</i> As Integer, <i>x</i> As Single, <i>y</i> As Single)
Remarks	Use a MouseDown or MouseUp event procedure to specify actions that will occur when a given mouse button is pressed or released. For additional information, refer to the description of the MouseDown, MouseUp events in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.

MouseMove Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	Occurs when the user moves the mouse.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i> _MouseMove(<i>index As Integer</i>,<i>button As Integer</i>, <i>shift As Integer</i>, <i>x As Single</i>, <i>y As Single</i>)
Remarks	The MouseMove event is generated continually as the mouse pointer moves across objects. For additional information, refer to the description of the MouseMove event in the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference Manual.

PokeCompleted Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	The PokeCompleted event occurs when a poke action has completed
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_PokeCompleted ([ByVal <i>iRet</i> As Integer])
Remarks	The argument <i>iRet</i> returns error numbers

RequestCompleted Event

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSVessel, RSWheel
Description	The RequestCompleted event occurs when a request action has completed.
Visual Basic	Private Sub <i>object</i>_RequestCompleted ([ByVal <i>iRet</i> as Integer])
Remarks	The argument <i>iRet</i> returns error numbers

StartMove Event

Applies To

RSGauge, RSlider

Description

Occurs when the RSlider's knob or RSGauges Needle begins to move.

Visual Basic

Private Sub *object*_**StarMove**([ByVal *Value* As Double, ByVal *Index* as Integer])

Methods Reference

This chapter provides a reference for the RSTools common methods. Refer to the individual component manuals in Chapter 2, Programming Tools, for additional information about using methods.

Container Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, EventMaster, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel
Description	Returns or sets the container of a control.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Control.Container</i> [= <i>setting</i>]
Remarks	Not available at design time. A control's parent (container) may be changed at run time with the Container method.

DoPoke Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel
Description	Writes the values of all controls in an array to the server in a DDE conversation. To work successfully the control's UseInPoke property must be set to True.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Control. DoPoke
Remarks	The control's LinkMode property must be set to 2 - Manual. See also: <i>PokeStartIndex</i> and <i>PokeLength</i> properties, <i>LinkPoke</i> method.

DoRequest Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel
Description	Requests the source application in a DDE conversation to update an array of control values. LinkMode should be set to either None(0) or Manual(2). To work successfully, the control's UseInRequest property must be set to True.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Control.DoRequest</i>
Remarks	The control's LinkMode property must be set to 2 - Manual. See also: <i>RequestStartIndex</i> and <i>RequestLength</i> properties, <i>LinkRequest</i> Method.

Drag Method

Applies To RSTButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel

Description Begins, ends, or cancels a drag operation of any control except the Line, Menu, Shape, Timer, or CommonDialog controls.

Visual Basic *object*.Drag action

Settings The settings for action are:

<u>Constant</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Description</u>
vbCancel	0	Cancels drag operation.
vbBeginDrag	1	Begins dragging object.
vbEndDrag	2	Ends dragging and drop object.

Remarks Using the Drag method to control a drag-and-drop operation is required only when the DragMode property of the object is set to Manual (0). However, you can use Drag on an object whose DragMode property is set to Automatic (1 or vbAutomatic).

For more information refer to the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference.

LinkPoke Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel
Description	Transfers the value of a control to the source application in a DDE conversation. To work successfully the control's UseInPoke property must be set to True.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . LinkPoke
Remarks	Typically, information in a DDE conversation flows from source to destination. However, LinkPoke allows a destination object to supply RSData to the source. See also: <i>PokeStartIndex</i> and <i>PokeLength</i> properties, <i>DoPoke</i> method.

LinkRequest Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel
Description	Requests the source application in a DDE conversation to update the value of the control. LinkMode should be set to either None(0) or Manual(2). To work successfully the control's UseInRequest property must be set to True.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . LinkRequest
Remarks	LinkRequest causes the source application to send the most current RSData to object. See also: <i>RequestStartIndex</i> and <i>RequestLength</i> properties, <i>DoRequest</i> method.

Move Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel
Description	Moves an MDIForm, Form, or control.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . Move left, top, width, height
Remarks	<p>Only the left argument is required. However, to specify any other arguments, you must specify all arguments that appear in the syntax before the argument you want to specify.</p> <p>For more information refer to the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference.</p>

Object Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSWheel, RSVessel, RSSlider
Description	Returns an object in a control.
Visual Basic	<i>object.Control</i> . Object [.property .method][=value]
Remarks	For more information refer to the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference.

Parent Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel
Description	Returns the container on which an object is located.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> .Control. Parent
Remarks	For more information refer to the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference.

SetFocus Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel
Description	Moves the focus to the specified control or form.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . SetFocus
Remarks	<p>The object (control) that can receive the focus. After invoking the SetFocus method, any user input is directed to the specified control.</p> <p>For more information refer to the Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference.</p>

ShowWhatsThis Method

Applies To	RSButton, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel
Description	Displays a selected topic in a Help file using the What's This popup provided by Windows 95 Help.
Visual Basic	<i>object</i> . ShowWhatsThis
Remarks	The ShowWhatsThis method is very useful for providing context-sensitive Help from a context menu in your application. The method displays the topic identified by the WhatsThisHelpID property of the object specified in the syntax.

ZOrder Method

Applies To RSBUTTON, RSCompare, RSData, RSGauge, RSSlider, RSWheel, RSVessel

Description Places a specified MDIForm, Form, or control at the front or back of the z-order within its graphical level.

Visual Basic *object.ZOrder* position

Remarks The ZOrder method syntax has these parts:

<u>Part</u>	<u>Description</u>
object	Optional. An object expression that evaluates to an object in the Applies To list. If object is omitted, the form with the focus is assumed to be object.
position	Optional. Integer indicating the position of object relative to other instances of the same object. If position is 0 or omitted, object is positioned at the front of the z-order. If position is 1, object is positioned at the back of the z-order.

