

Forms Interelement Contracts

Form interelement contracts allow you to set values of form elements based on interactions and values of other form elements. Some of these are specific to certain situations. Others are more general.

These contracts can be divided up into three classifications. List and list box initialization, check box initialization and setting values based on user interactions.

List box initialization

There are three contracts that start with “Set selection...”. These initialize the selection state of list boxes and lists based on the item (the visible text in the list), by value (the value associated with the item), and by item number (zero based item number of the list item). These contracts are useful in database applications where you want to pre-set the selection in a list box. The value can come from the database as a hidden text element and one of these interactions can be used to pre-set the state of the list box.

Check box initialization

The contract “Set state of [target] by the Boolean value in [source]” is similar to the List box initialization contracts except it initializes the state of a check box. Again this contract finds usefulness in database applications. The Boolean value of a database field can be sent to the client in a hidden text element and this interaction can be applied to correctly set the state of the check box. The text value that represents a Boolean true can be either “True”, “T”, or “1” and is not case sensitive.

User interaction contracts

These contracts perform when a user interacts with a page.

There are contracts that set the value of a text box when the user makes a selection in a list or list box. In one case the selected item is placed in a text box and in the other contract the selected items value is placed in a text box. Note that the target is most generally a regular edit box, or it can be a hidden text box.

There are also contracts to copy text from text boxes to other text boxes (either hidden or visible edit boxes) on button clicks.