

Databinding Contracts

Note that a number of these contracts are used by the Pageset wizard and should not be modified

The databinding contracts represent a more specialized version of the analogous database navigation and sorting contracts. Like database contracts, they enable navigation and sorting of records via an interaction between a button and a ‘record source.’ The primary difference is that the databinding versions do not interact with the server, so the button involved in these contracts is a generic button as opposed to a submit button. Also, the record source is a Databinding SmartElement or Tabular Data Control that provides a read-only set of records on the client, as opposed to a recordset that exists on the server. Another major difference is that the databinding contracts use IE 40 databinding and are therefore only available in IE 40 pages.

The main use of databinding contracts is with databound Pagesets. The Pageset wizard automatically inserts these contracts when you insert a Pageset for IE 40 databinding, most of the time you don’t need to worry about these contracts. If you decide to manually configure a databound page, be sure to set the Databinding element’s content to a content table, bind display elements to the Databinding element and set the databinding DataURL field to a .csv file. Basically, the .csv file is where the Databinding element’s record content ends up on the client.

The four “Go to <specified> record...” contracts are straightforward navigation contracts. Simply select a generic form button and Databinding element and apply the contract. The “Sort...” contract sorts a databinding element's records based on the selected text of a list element such as a drop-down list or a list box. The list element’s content is a list of strings that correspond to columns in the Databinding record. Note that the contract is not active on initial load and becomes active only after the records have been navigated. The “Navigate...” contract allows navigation of a Databinding element’s records using an integrated recordset navigation SmartElement such as the DHTMLRecordsetNavigation and RecordsetNavigationScriptlet elements.

For more detailed information on individual contracts, see the individual contract descriptions, which are found on the ‘Description’ tab of the Contract Properties Dialog. The Contract Properties dialog can be accessed from the Drumbeat Tools menu. For more information on configuring and using the different flavors of Pagesets, consult the Chapter 14 of the User’s Guide.