Known Problems

Version 2.0, Nov 19, 1998

See also ASP Notes.doc for ASP-specific problems and notes.

All Components

- Names of components must be valid JScript identifier names. Currently, due to limitations with string manipulation functions in the MAY 97 CDK API, we cannot accurately validate component names. Because of this, you must take care when naming your components to use only valid JScript identifier names. The following rules must be adhered to for this version:
  - Names must begin with a letter and can contain only letters, numbers and underscores (_).
  - Component names are case-sensitive, so the name `MyQuery` is not the same as `myquery`.
  - JScript reserved words may be not used as component names.
- All components must have a unique name relative to other components on the page.
- At this time, you cannot use image files for the MSDBSearch, MSDBUpdate or MSDBNav components if the filenames contain spaces.
- The components will not work properly if you access database tables that allow null values in primary key fields.

MSDBDynaField

- When viewing published pages within Netscape Navigator that contain editable MSDBDynaFields, the MSDBDynaFields may not show up unless you have checked the "Layout is a form" option on the properties page of the corresponding Layout or Layout Region in NetObjects Fusion. This appears to be a Netscape Navigator limitation.
- Single quotes are not recommended in database text strings. Enter only the number of quotes desired. In most cases, the components will take care of converting the single quotes so that the database engine stores them properly. Keep in mind, though, that some databases are confused by use of a single quote and will return an error when adding or updating the record, so avoid them where possible.

- If you try and use an editable MSDBDynaField to display data from a fixed-length, padded field in your database, you may experience problems when attempting to edit or update data in the MSDBDynaField. You can avoid problems in this situation by making sure the Max Length property of your MSDBDynaField is set to a number greater than or equal to the length of the database field.

  For example, the SQL Server data type varchar(n) (where n is the length of the field) will pad a value stored in this field with spaces to take up the entire length of the field. So if a varchar(30) field holds a string of only 10 characters long, the database will actually concatenate 20 spaces to the end of the string to ensure it has a length of 30 characters. When you then display the data value in a MSDBDynaField, you may experience problems if the Max Length of your MSDBDynaField is less than the length of the field in the database.

MSDBNav

- MSDBNav does not work in combination with an MSDBList component when both components are on the home page of a site. They work together properly on any other pages within a site.
- You may experience intermittent problems when placing an MSDBNav component on a list page that links to a detail page which also contains an MSDBNav component.

MSDBUpdate

Troubleshooting:

In the even that you are have problems properly configuring the MSDBUpdate component, we have provided a debug version of its ASP resource file, MSDBUpdate.debug, to help you troubleshoot problems. Troubleshooting the MSDBUpdate component may be difficult since the components are unable to detect and display the exact error in this version of the components. For this reason, during development it may be necessary to view error messages returned by the ODBC driver when an attempt to add, modify, or delete a record in the database fails. Currently, the only method of viewing error messages returned by the ODBC driver during an update requires temporarily replacing the ASP resource file, MSDBUpdate.inc, with the debug version, MSDBUpdate.debug, during initial debugging phase. Once you have completed your troubleshooting, restore the file.

To use the debug version of the resource file:

1. Backup your original MSDBUpdate.inc file as MSDBUpdate.orig

2. Copy the file MSDBUpdate.debug to MSDBUpdate.inc.
3. Republish your site (this will copy over the debug version of MSDBUpdate.inc to the web server). Run your application and make sure that your updates are working properly and that you are not receiving any ODBC driver error messages.
4. When satisfied that your application is working properly, copy the backup of the original file, MSDBUpdate.orig, to MSDBUpdate.inc. This will overwrite the debug version with the original, working version of the file.
5. Republish the site to copy over the original version of the resource file to the web server.

While debugging, each update attempt will redirect the user to MSDBUpdateHandler.asp which will display detailed information about the attempted transaction. The last few lines at the very bottom of the page will be printouts of the SQL statement, followed by any ODBC errors if there are any. The very last line of the page will show the URL (of the success page or error page) the user would have been redirected too had you not been using the debug version of the file.