

# Microsoft Access Spinning Label Control

## Version 1.0.002

Andrew R. Miller (andrewm@microsoft.com)  
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SPINLBL.OCX is an OLE Custom Control designed to be used with Microsoft Access 2.0. The control is basically a label that can be rotated 0, 90, 180, or 270 degrees. This allows you to create special form effects, and it also gives you the ability to print VHS tape labels and such with much better results.

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## Installation

- 1) Copy SPINLBL.OCX and SPINLBL.LIC to your Access directory.
- 2) Copy OC1016.DLL to your \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory.
- 3) From ProgMan, run MSAREG.EXE C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM\OC1016.DLL
- 4) Start Microsoft Access
- 5) New Form.
- 6) Choose EDIT INSERT OBJECT from the menu.
- 7) Click on Controls
- 8) Click Add New
- 9) Select SPINLBL.OCX and hit OK.

NOTE: Steps 2 and 3 are not necessary if you have recently installed the ADT. The ADT installs OC1016.DLL for you.

## Using the Control

If you've ever used an Access label, you should have no problem using the Spinning Label control. After inserting it into a form, right click on the control and choose **Spinning Label Control Object > Properties** from the menu. This will bring up the OLE Controls property sheet that will allow you to set various properties. For more information on these properties, see [Properties](#).

NOTE: If you are using the control on a report, you should save the report after editing the objects properties. This is a known problem with Access 2.0 and this preliminary version of OLE Controls. This is not a problem with forms.

## Properties

BackColor - The color to use when painting the background of the control.

Font - A font object that has these attributes:

- Font.Name
- Font.Size
- Font.Weight
- Font.Italic
- Font.Strikeout
- Font.Underline

ForeColor - The color to use when painting the text in the control.

Caption - The text to display in the label

TextOrientation - Which way the text faces

- 0 - Up
- 1 - Left
- 2 - Right
- 3 - Down

## Events

The spinning label control currently has no methods.

## **Methods**

The spinning label control currently has no methods.

## **Samples**

If you're looking for some ideas on how to use the control, check out the forms and reports in SPINLBL.MDB, which should have been distributed with this document and the spinning label control.

## Binding the Control to Your Data

With Microsoft Access 2.0, you can bind a textbox directly to a table column, so that as you scroll through the records (or print the records) the textbox is automatically updated. Unfortunately, this is not possible with an OLE Control in Access 2.0. To get around this problem, you need to write some Access Basic code.

If you want the control to show some table column value as you scroll through the records on a form, write this code in the Forms OnCurrent event:

```
Sub Form_Current()  
    Me![SpinLblControl].Object.Caption = Me![MyTableColumn]  
End Sub
```

If you're using the control on a report, you'll want to use this code:

```
Sub Detail1_Print(Cancel As Integer, PrintCount As Integer)  
    Me![SpinLblControl].Object.Caption = Me![MyTableColumn]  
End Sub
```

Note that for a report [MyTableColumn] needs to be a control on the report somewhere (probably hidden). This is not true for a form (i.e. you can reference the table column directly)

## Distributing the Control

The README.TXT file that accompanies this control describes two ways that you can distribute the control. The README file is a bit formal, so I thought a little legal-ease to English translation was in order. Basically, you have two options:

1) Distribute everything in SPINLBL.ZIP, but dont distribute SPINLBL.ZIP nor any component inside of it for money. This means you can give SPINLBL.ZIP to your friend, your mom, your dog, upload it to a bulletin board system, copy it to ftp.foo.bar.bletch on the Infobahn, etc.

If you would like to distribute SPINLBL.ZIP as part of a commercial product (e.g. an Access book or a samples disk), you need contact me first, as the license agreement does not permit you to distribute SPINLBL.ZIP in this manner.

2) Distrbute SPINLBL.OCX and OC1016.DLL as part of a Microsoft Access application. You can charge money for an application that includes SPINLBL.OCX. You cannot distribute SPINLBL.LIC, which comes in SPINLBL.ZIP, in your Microsoft Access application.

If any of this is unclear, please feel free to email me.

## Notes

This control is not yet complete. I've still got some performance work to do, as well as some bug fixes. If you come across problems, I'd like to know about them.

New in version 1.0.002:

- + Text that is oriented Up (i.e. the normal way) should paint faster than it did before. For any other type of text, there is a slight performance penalty, because we need to rotate the text, and there's no fast, easy way to do this.

