Creating a Class module from a Table

ADOLPH DUPRE
PROGRAM CONSULTANTS
MT. PLEASANT PA, USA

EMAIL: adolph@programconsultants.com
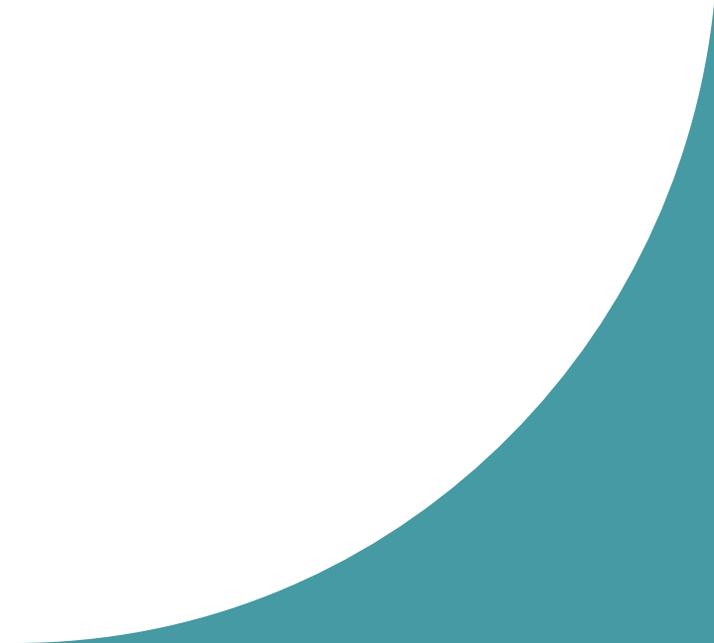WEBSITE: www.programconsultants.com

What is a class object in Access?

- A class is like a User Defined Type (UDT) on steroids.

- Both allow you to define an encapsulated set of differing fields as an object

- A class builds upon this encapsulated set of fields

- It allows you to create functions and subroutines specifically to manage the object

- For example:

  - Initialize the field values
  - Validate user entered data before saving
  - Read / write / update / delete records
  - Define read only and write only variables
  - Define variables, functions and subroutines as public or private
  - Run code when the object is terminated

Some more benefits of classes

- Place the business logic in a module which can be compiled.

- Public properties of a class are picked up by IntelliSense

- Break steps into bite sized chunks so code is easier to understand

- Make code more transferable to other backends

- Support inheritance

- Work with Object Oriented Programming (OOP)

- Works well with (Model-View-Controller) MVC architecture

Summary

- Classes manage the business layer of your code

- This is a key component in object-oriented programming

When to consider using a class

- If using an Array/Dictionary/Collection, the additional functionality of a class may be beneficial

- Having a frontend that doesn't have a stable connection to the backend

- Using an unbound form

- If more than one coder is working on the code. Classes tend towards modularity of code

- If at some time in the future, the backend will need to be upgraded

- If at some point, the frontend will be rewritten in another language