

When Microsoft Deprecated Pivots In Access

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Agenda

- Who he?
- Why
- How
- Demo



My background



- Originally a developer (when it was all chocolate Green & Black)
 - COBOL, Algol68R, Fortran
- Added minis and then PC's to my world
- Access developer since the 1st beta
- During employment (to 2004) always programming to internal needs
- Now three development models:
 - Take over maintenance
 - Turn data into information clients to take over (long term pseudo-agile😊/prototyping projects)
 - Build new systems to replace rubbish or outmoded system
- That's my excuse list finished 😊

Presentation Rules



1. No one is going to die (we hope)
2. Know your subject
3. Rehearse your content
4. Hope that for each attendee there is at least 1 “ah!” moment

If any one of the above is false...

5. Imagine the audience is naked

How did this come about?



- Developing a replacement system to a G&B system, still using Access 2010 as standard development environment (stable, why change?)
- Doing this via a reseller who PM's the project and does intermediate testing.
- Delivered a compiled version to the intermediate party.
- First time I'd found a reason to use a pivot object

How the form looked to the user



frmForwardPlantCommittment

Forward Plant Committment [Close Form](#)

ID	<input type="text" value="13191"/>
REGNO	<input type="text" value="Generic:1"/>
HireID	<input type="text" value="Enq: 1"/>
DateOnHire	<input type="text" value="Tue 1-7"/>

What happened?



- Go and have a look at <http://bit.ly/1TC5hsR>
- Discontinued features and modified functionality in Access 2013
- In particular:

PivotCharts
and
PivotTables

There are no options to create PivotCharts and PivotTables in Access 2013, because Office Web Components are no longer supported.

Use enhanced PivotChart and PivotTable capabilities in Excel.

Charts that are not PivotCharts and that use the MSGraph component are still available in Access 2013. Charts that are created by the Chart Wizard component are still supported.

For background on the Office Web Components life cycle, see the following blog post: [Office Web Components "Roadmap"](#).

Βαξταβδς!!



- But... it occurred to me that the old pivot table was limited in some respects (mostly the “missing values” problem)
- So what next?
 - Demo...

Demo

- Time to switch to the Access VM 😊



Pros/Cons



- Pros

- Sorted now, and Microsoft can add/remove that feature and it will work in 2013, 2016 and (I assume) future versions
- Was able to quickly add a report with similar features
- Hot spots on the cells

- Cons

- Fixed to a certain time frame (although I am sure this could be sorted in future with customising of the tables)
- It cost a fair bit of time when it happened
- Some of the code is (currently) clunky in places (but after a chat on the day, that can be improved, thanks Peter 😊)

Possibilities



- Fix your timeline in the table to user's needs
- Expand that even further!
 - It is easier to trim the data than extend it
- The usual things about isolating code, separate modules and so on.
- Make the module more generic by building the tables on the fly to the number of dates required (although this will require some imagination on the form and report)

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