



What's New

Note

Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in "Notices," on page 7.

First Edition (September 2006)

This edition applies to version 1, release 2.6.1 of Workplace Forms and to all subsequent releases and modifications until otherwise indicated in new editions.

This edition replaces version 1, release 2.6 of Workplace Forms.

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New features and improvements

The following improvements have been made in this release of the Designer. For detailed information about these improvements, see the *Workplace Forms™ Designer User's Guide*.

Form templates

You can now create a new form based on one of several pre-defined templates:

- A form with a horizontal tabbed toolbar
- A form with a vertical tabbed toolbar
- A form with an attachment popup toolbar
- A form with a striped toolbar
- A form with a styled button toolbar
- A form with a three color banner.

You can also use any form that you have created as a template.

Table Wizard

The Designer now includes a Table Wizard for easily setting up XForms tables. You can access the wizard using the **Table (Repeat) By Wizard** tool in the Palette.

Note: This tool is only displayed in the Palette if your form contains XForms.

Palette re-organization

The XFDL 7.0 and XForms 1.0 drawers in the Palette have been merged, reorganized, and renamed to Standard Library. Tools that create XForms items have also been renamed.

If your form contains XForms, then the Standard Library includes tools for creating all XFDL and XForms items. If your form does not contain XForms, then the Standard Library only includes tools for creating XFDL items.

Object library

The Palette now includes an Object Library containing tools that let you easily create several predefined objects:

- Canadian address block consisting of several fields with constraints
- U.S. address block consisting of several fields with constraints
- Phone number field using a (###) ###-#### template
- Phone number field using various patterns
- Canadian postal code field using a A#A #A# pattern
- U.S. zip code field using a ##### or #####-#### pattern
- Popup list of Canadian provinces that stores the full province name
- Popup list of Canadian provinces that stores the abbreviated province name
- Popup list of U.S. states that stores the full state name
- Popup list of U.S. states that stores the abbreviated state name.

- Social Insurance Number field using a ###-###-### pattern
- Social Security Number field using a ###-##-#### pattern

You can also create your own custom objects using an improved export interface.

Note: Custom objects can include XForms interface items; however, they cannot contain XForms model elements (for example, instance data).

Note: The new custom object functionality replaces the export functionality that was in Designer 2.6.

Properties view

The following improvements have been made to the Properties view:

- You can now list properties in alphabetical order.
- The **Advanced** category has been renamed to **Miscellaneous** to avoid confusion with **Show Advanced Properties**.
- The **Show Categories**, **Show Advanced Properties**, and **Sort Alphabetically** settings are now saved when you exit the Designer.

Online help

The *Designer User's Guide* is now available as an online help system:
<http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/wf/v2r6m1/index.jsp>

Creating fields from instances

When you create a field by dragging an instance from the Instance view and dropping it onto the canvas, the Designer now inserts a field and label on the form. (The label text is the name of the element.) Previously, dragging an instance from the Instance view and dropping it onto the canvas would only insert a field on the form.

Creating fields with labels

You can now simultaneously insert a field and label on the form using the new **Field with Label** tool in the Palette.

Hiding invisible items

You can now hide all items that have a **visible** value of **off** using the **Hide items that have their visible property turned off** check box in the Preferences window. This can make it easier to work with forms that contain many invisible items.

Nudging items

You can now nudge items by one pixel at a time by selecting them and pressing an arrow key. You can also nudge items by the grid spacing distance by holding down the Ctrl key and pressing an arrow key.

Showing views

You can now show all Designer views directly from the **Window** → **Show View** menu. Previously, you had to open **Window** → **Show View** → **Other** to show certain Designer views.

Inserting a new page

When you insert a new page onto a form, the canvas now displays a watermark indicating that it is a new blank page. Previously, the canvas would become entirely blank.

Eclipse menus

Eclipse menu items that were not required for users of the Designer have been removed from the interface.

Selecting cases

When you right-click an XForms switch and click **Active Case** to list the switch's cases, the selected case is now indicated by a check mark. Previously, the selected case was dimmed in the list.

Preview

If you click the **Preview** tab and do not have the 2.6 version of the Viewer installed on your system, the message that is displayed now clearly indicates that you must have the 2.6 version of the Viewer installed to preview forms in the Designer. Previously, the message simply indicated that the Designer was unable to preview the form.

Switching from Source tab to Design tab

The following improvements have been made when switching from the **Source** tab to the **Design** tab:

- When you switch from the **Design** tab to the **Source** tab and edit the form, and then switch back to the **Design** tab, the page that was originally displayed in the **Design** tab is re-displayed and the item that was originally selected in the **Design** tab is selected. Previously, the first page of the form would be displayed, no matter which page was originally displayed.
- When you switch from the **Source** tab to the **Design** tab, and your form does not validate against the XFDL schema, a message window is displayed clearly indicating that you cannot return to the **Design** tab because of the schema validation error. Previously, a technical message would be displayed in the Problems view, so it was not obvious why you could not return to the **Design** tab.
- When you make an edit in the **Source** tab and then switch to the **Design** tab, a progress bar is now displayed while the form interface is rendered.

Copying and pasting between pages

The following improvements have been made to copy and paste:

- When you copy and paste an item from one page to another, it is pasted to the same XY location as the original item. Previously, the item would be pasted into the top left corner of the form.
- When you copy an item that contains an image, and the item does not specify on which page the image file is enclosed, and then you paste the item onto a different page, the pasted item will also contain the image. Previously, the pasted item would not contain the image.

Note: When creating items with images in the Designer, by default the item specifies the page on which the image file is enclosed. However, if you are using legacy forms or creating or modifying forms in the **Source** tab or in a text editor, you may not always explicitly specify the page on which an image file is enclosed.

Creating project sub-folders

You can now create a folder within a project by clicking **File** → **New Folder**. Previously, you had to click **File** → **New** → **Other**, expand **Simple**, and select **Folder**.

Opening older forms

If you open a form that is based on XFDL 6.x, the Designer now asks if you want to upgrade the form to XFDL 7.0. Previously, the Designer would open the form in the **Source** tab without upgrading it to XFDL 7.0.

Navigator view

Project files (*.project) are no longer displayed in the Navigator view.

Default project

The default project has been renamed from **Workplace Forms Designer** to **My Forms**.

Compute Wizard

The Compute Wizard now includes a larger area for manually creating formulas. You can also increase this area by re-sizing the Compute Wizard window.

View menu settings

The **View** menu settings now apply to all open forms, and the settings are now saved when you exit the Designer:

- **View** → **Show Grid**
- **View** → **Snap To Grid**
- **View** → **Snap To Geometry**
- **View** → **Show Rulers**
- **View** → **Show Page Size**.

Feedback pages

You can now easily provide feedback on the Designer and the Designer documentation by clicking **Help** → **IBM Product Feedback** and **Help** → **IBM Help Feedback**.

Customizing the Palette

You can no longer customize the Palette by right-clicking the Palette and clicking **Customize**. Previously, these settings were not saved after exiting the Designer.

Fixed limitations

The following limitations have been fixed in this release of the Designer:

- You can once again use `
` in your source code to define line breaks. Use of `
` in Workplace Forms Designer 2.6 would not maintain line breaks. Code samples in the documentation use `
` extensively, so you can once again copy code samples from the documentation and paste them into the Designer and line breaks will be maintained.
- The Compute Wizard now accepts valid computes containing the `set` method and an empty `value`.

Appendix. Notices

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