

2011



# **USER GUIDE**

Form Category Rendering Modes

## Categories

In the detail view of records in *Code On Time* applications, fields are organized according to categories. By default, the primary fields of a record are listed under a *General* category, while reference fields are listed under *Reference*.

Categories can be modified by using *Code On Time Designer*. They have several modifiable parameters that can change the way that detail view renders the information.

## Adding New Categories

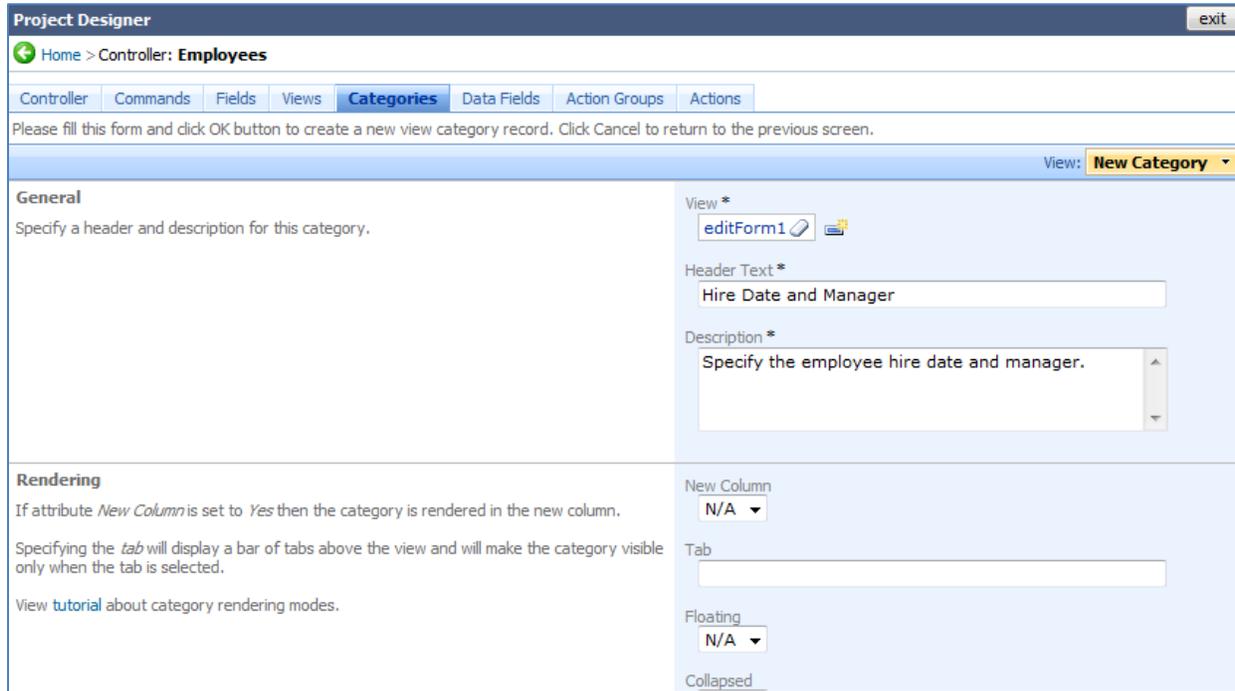
We will be using the Northwind sample database. By default, the detail view for employee records only has one category, called General. Let's change the categories to *General*, *Hire Date and Manager*, *Address*, and *Notes*.

Run *Code On Time Generator*, select the project name you wish to edit, and press the *Design* button. From the list of *All Controllers*, select *Employees*. Switch to the *Categories* tab, and you will see the two currently existing categories, one for *createForm1* view and the other for *editForm1* view. You will need to create some new categories, and delete the *Employees* category.

To start, mouse over the *Employees* category, activate the dropdown, and press *Delete*. On the action bar, press *New | New Category*. This category will have *View* of "editForm1", *Header Text* of "General", and *Description* of "These are the fields of the employees record that can be edited."

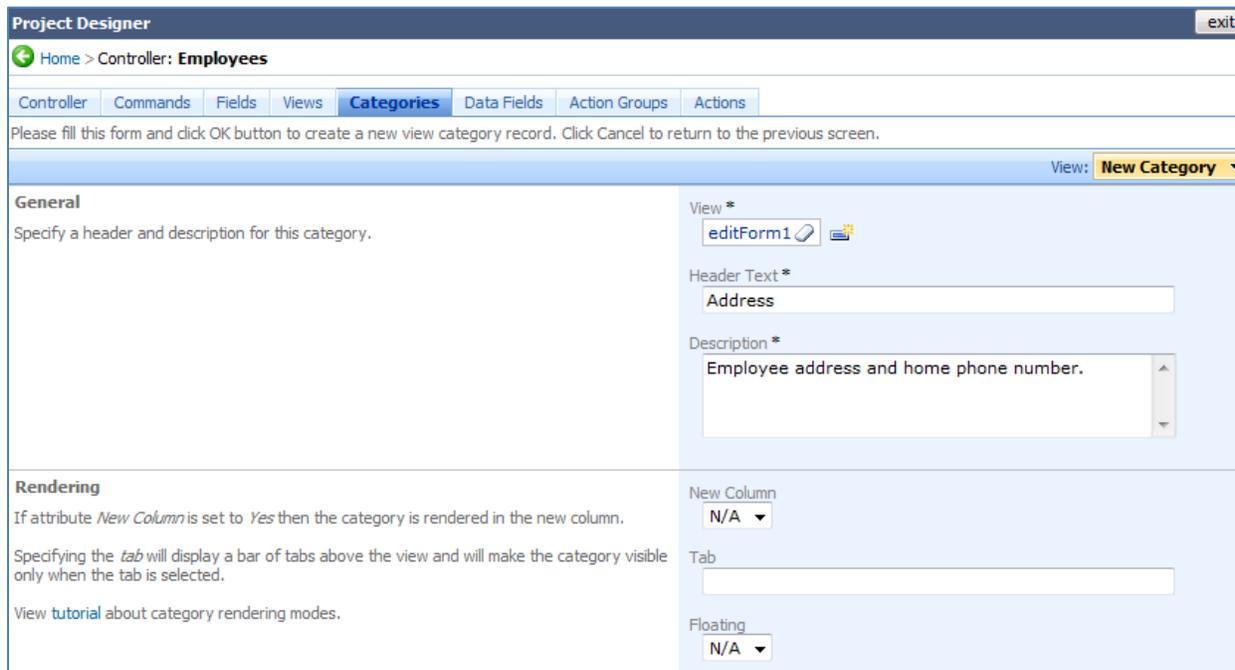
The screenshot shows the 'Project Designer' application window. The title bar reads 'Project Designer' with an 'exit' button on the right. The breadcrumb path is 'Home > Controller: Employees'. The 'Categories' tab is selected in the top navigation bar, which also includes 'Controller', 'Commands', 'Fields', 'Views', 'Data Fields', 'Action Groups', and 'Actions'. A message states: 'Please fill this form and click OK button to create a new view category record. Click Cancel to return to the previous screen.' The 'View' dropdown is set to 'New Category'. The form is divided into two sections: 'General' and 'Rendering'. The 'General' section includes a 'View \*' dropdown set to 'editForm1', a 'Header Text \*' field containing 'General', and a 'Description \*' text area containing 'These are the fields of the employees record that can be edited.'. The 'Rendering' section includes a 'New Column' dropdown set to 'No', a 'Tab' text field, and a 'Floating' dropdown set to 'N/A'.

Save this category, and create another category. This one will have *View* of “editForm1”, *Header Text* of “Hire Date and Manager”, and *Description* of “Specify the employee hire date and manager.”



The screenshot shows the 'Project Designer' interface for creating a new category. The breadcrumb is 'Home > Controller: Employees'. The 'Categories' tab is active. The form is titled 'New Category'. The 'View' dropdown is set to 'editForm1'. The 'Header Text' field contains 'Hire Date and Manager'. The 'Description' field contains 'Specify the employee hire date and manager.'. The 'Rendering' section has 'New Column' set to 'N/A', 'Tab' is empty, and 'Floating' is set to 'N/A'.

Save and create a new category. *View* will be “editForm1”, *Header Text* is “Address”, and *Description* is “Employee address and home phone number.”



The screenshot shows the 'Project Designer' interface for creating a new category. The breadcrumb is 'Home > Controller: Employees'. The 'Categories' tab is active. The form is titled 'New Category'. The 'View' dropdown is set to 'editForm1'. The 'Header Text' field contains 'Address'. The 'Description' field contains 'Employee address and home phone number.'. The 'Rendering' section has 'New Column' set to 'N/A', 'Tab' is empty, and 'Floating' is set to 'N/A'.

The last category will have *View* of “editForm1”, *Header Text* of “Notes”, and *Description* of “Personal employee record.”

**Project Designer** exit

Home > Controller: **Employees**

Controller | Commands | Fields | Views | **Categories** | Data Fields | Action Groups | Actions

Please fill this form and click OK button to create a new view category record. Click Cancel to return to the previous screen.

View: **New Category** ▾

**General**  
Specify a header and description for this category.

View \*  
editForm1

Header Text \*  
Notes

Description \*  
Personal employee record.

**Rendering**  
If attribute *New Column* is set to *Yes* then the category is rendered in the new column.

Specifying the *tab* will display a bar of tabs above the view and will make the category visible only when the tab is selected.

New Column  
N/A ▾

Tab  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Adding Data Fields

Now, we will need to add data fields to all of the categories. If a field is listed several times in different categories, the page will not work. Select *General* from the list of categories, and switch to the *Data Fields* tab. On the action bar, press *New | New Data Field*. Specify *Field Name* to be “LastName”, *Columns* to be “25”, and *Header Text* to be “Last Name”.

Category | **Data Fields** | Visibility

Please fill this form and click OK button to create a new data field record. Click Cancel to return to the previous screen.

View: **New Data Field** ▾

\* - indicates a required field OK Cancel

**New Data Field**  
Complete the form. Make sure to enter all required fields.

Field Name \*  
LastName

Alias  
(select)

**Presentation**  
Specify visual properties of the data field.

Columns  
25

Rows  
\_\_\_\_\_

Values of this field cannot be edited. \*  
Default ▾

Text Mode \*  
N/A ▾

**Header and Footer**  
Header and footer are displayed above and below the data field in the form. If the header and footer are not defined on the view data field level that the value is inherited from the

Header Text  
Last Name

Save, and create another data field. This will have Field Name of “FirstName”, Columns of “20”, and Header Text of “First Name”.

<p><b>New Data Field</b></p> <p>Complete the form. Make sure to enter all required fields.</p>	<p>Field Name *</p> <input type="text" value="FirstName"/> <p>Alias</p> <input type="text" value="(select)"/>
<p><b>Presentation</b></p> <p>Specify visual properties of the data field.</p>	<p>Columns</p> <input type="text" value="20"/> <p>Rows</p> <input type="text"/> <p>Values of this field cannot be edited. *</p> <input type="text" value="Default"/> <p>Text Mode *</p> <input type="text" value="N/A"/>
<p><b>Header and Footer</b></p> <p>Header and footer are displayed above and below the data field in the form. If the header and footer are not defined on the view data field level that the value is inherited from the field of the controller.</p>	<p>Header Text</p> <input type="text" value="First Name"/>

The next data field will have *Field Name* of “TitleOfCourtesy”, *Header Text* of “Title of Courtesy”, *Columns* of “5” and *Auto Complete Minimum Prefix Length* of “1”.

<p><b>New Data Field</b></p> <p>Complete the form. Make sure to enter all required fields.</p>	<p>Field Name *</p> <input type="text" value="TitleOfCourtesy"/> <p>Alias</p> <input type="text" value="(select)"/>
<p><b>Presentation</b></p> <p>Specify visual properties of the data field.</p>	<p>Columns</p> <input type="text" value="5"/> <p>Rows</p> <input type="text"/> <p>Values of this field cannot be edited. *</p> <input type="text" value="Default"/> <p>Text Mode *</p> <input type="text" value="N/A"/>
<p><b>Header and Footer</b></p> <p>Header and footer are displayed above and below the data field in the form. If the header and footer are not defined on the view data field level that the value is inherited from the field of the controller.</p>	<p>Header Text</p> <input type="text"/> <p>Footer Text</p> <input type="text"/>
<p><b>Miscellaneous</b></p> <p>Specify miscellaneous presentation properties of the data field.</p> <p>A data format string is applied to the field value on the client via JavaScript <i>String.format</i> function. You can enable a server-side formatting via .NET <i>System.String.Format</i> function if <i>Format On Client</i> is set to <i>No</i>.</p> <p>Hyperlink format string is an absolute or relative (starting with ~) URL that may include field names enclosed in curly brackets. You can place <i>_blank</i> or any other <i>standard window name</i> followed by <i>colon</i> symbol in front of the URL.</p> <p>Set auto complete minimum prefix length to 1 or a greater value to enable auto-completion on this field.</p>	<p>Data Format String</p> <input type="text"/> <p>Use data format strings compatible with <i>String.format</i> functions.</p> <p>Format On Client</p> <input type="text" value="N/A"/> <p>Hyperlink Format String</p> <input type="text"/> <p>Auto Complete Minimum Prefix Length</p> <input type="text" value="1"/>

The next data field will have Field Name of “Photo”.

<b>New Data Field</b> Complete the form. Make sure to enter all required fields.	Field Name * <input type="text" value="Photo"/>
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The last field in this category will have *Field Name* of “Extension” and *Columns* of “5”.

<b>New Data Field</b> Complete the form. Make sure to enter all required fields.	Field Name * <input type="text" value="Extension"/>
<b>Presentation</b> Specify visual properties of the data field.	Columns <input type="text" value="5"/>

Navigate back to the list of *Categories*, and select the *Hire Date and Manager* category. Create a new data field with *Field Name* of “Hire Date” and *Columns* of “10”. The next data field will have *Field Name* of “Title”. The final data field in this category will have *Field Name* of “ReportsTo” and *Alias* of “ReportsToLastName”. When finished, the *Data Fields* list should look like the picture below.

Home > Controller: Employees > Category: <b>Hire Date and Manager</b>									
Category <b>Data Fields</b> Visibility									
This is a list of data fields.									
Quick Find <input type="text"/> New ▾ Preview ▲ Up ▼ Down View: <b>Data Fields</b> ▾									
Field Name	Read Only	Cols	Rows	Data Type	Alias	Hidden	Text Mode	Σ	Chart
HireDate	Default	10	n/a	DateTime	n/a	No	Text	None	None
Title	Default	n/a	n/a	String	n/a	No	Text	None	None
ReportsTo	Default	n/a	n/a	Int32	ReportsToLastName	⊕ No	Text	None	None

Go back to the list of categories and select the *Address* category. Switch to the *Data Fields* tab, and add a few more data fields. They will have the *Field Names*, respectively, of “Address”, “City”, “Region”, “PostalCode” (with *Header Text* of “Postal Code”), “Country”, and “HomePhone” (with *Header Text* of “Home Phone” and *Columns* of “15”). When finished, the list of data fields should look like the picture below.

Home > Controller: Employees > Category: <b>Address</b>									
Category <b>Data Fields</b> Visibility									
This is a list of data fields.									
Quick Find <input type="text"/> New ▾ Preview ▲ Up ▼ Down View: <b>Data Fields</b> ▾									
Field Name	Read Only	Cols	Rows	Data Type	Alias	Hidden	Text Mode	Σ	Chart
Address	Default	n/a	n/a	String	n/a	No	Text	None	None
City	Default	n/a	n/a	String	n/a	No	Text	None	None
Region	Default	n/a	n/a	String	n/a	No	Text	None	None
PostalCode	Default	n/a	n/a	String	n/a	No	Text	None	None
Country	Default	n/a	n/a	String	n/a	No	Text	None	None
HomePhone	Default	n/a	n/a	String	n/a	No	Text	None	None

Navigate back to the list of categories, and select the *Notes* category. Switch to the *Data Fields* tab and create some more data fields. The first data field will have *Field Name* of “Notes”, with *Rows* of “4”. Next data field will have *Field Name* of “PhotoPath” and *Header Text* of “Photo Path”. The final data field will have *Field Name* of “BirthDate”, *Columns* of “10”, and *Header Text* of “Birth Date”.

Field Name	Read Only	Cols	Rows	Data Type	Alias	Hidden	Text Mode	Σ	Chart
Notes	Default	n/a	4	String	n/a	No	Text	None	None
PhotoPath	Default	n/a	n/a	String	n/a	No	Text	None	None
BirthDate	Default	10	n/a	DateTime	n/a	No	Text	None	None

Showing 1-3 of 3 items | Refresh

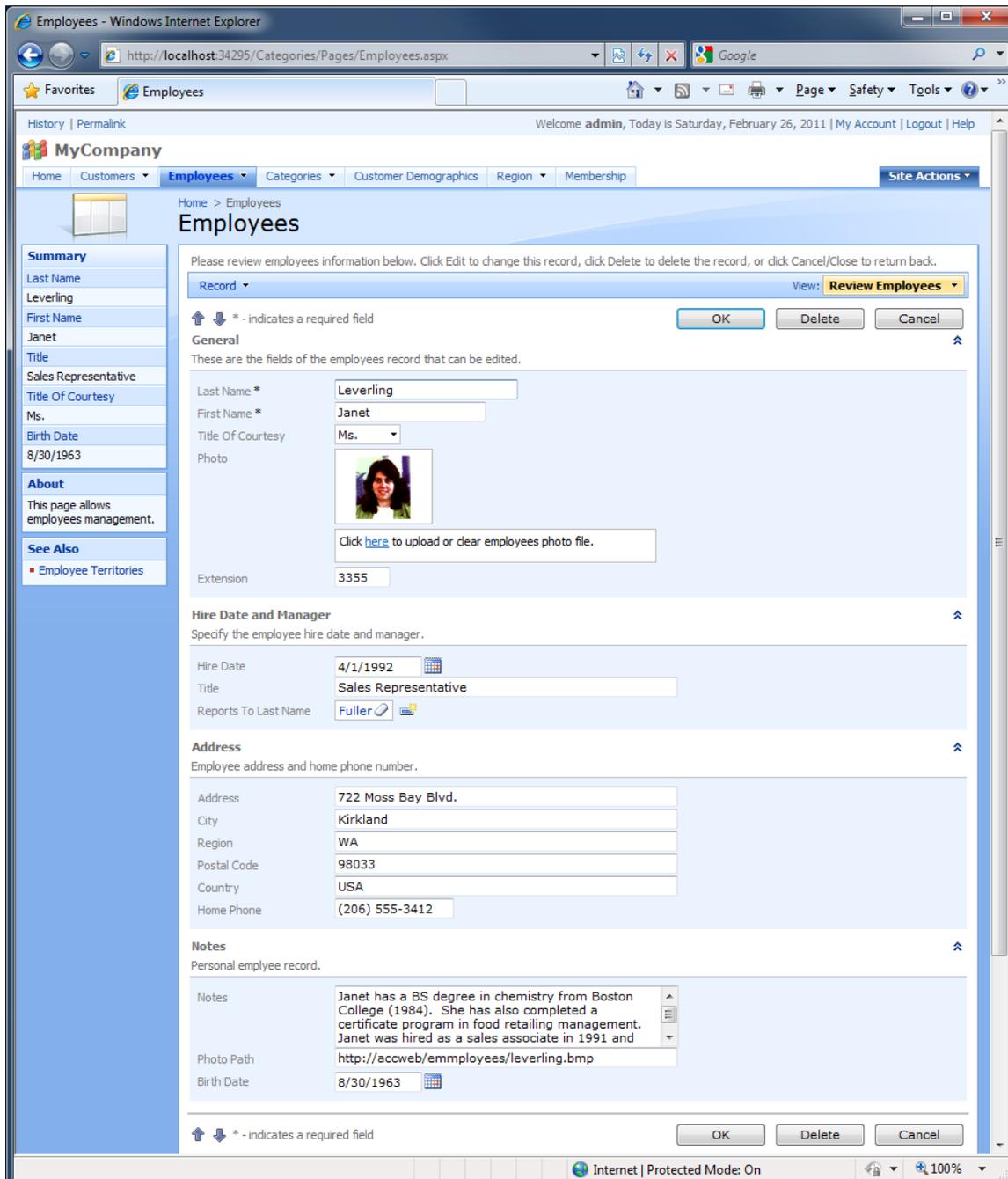
When you generate the application, the detail view for employees page will display the four categories in compact rendering mode.

# Rendering Modes

## Compact

The compact mode mimics *Microsoft SharePoint* forms. Fields are listed underneath the category name and description. This is the default rendering mode.

Unlike *Microsoft SharePoint*, the form is an AJAX web form and is being rendered entirely on the client, eliminating the need for post backs and providing an excellent response time. The XML data controller embedded into the server application provides a list of data fields and categories. You can create, modify, and delete categories using *Code On Time Designer*. In the picture below, you can see the default categories for the *Employees* page.



## Standard

Standard rendering mode displays the category name and description on the left, and fields on the right side. It can be enabled by unchecking “Start each data field category in the new column with category information displayed on top” on the Features page of Code On Time Generator.

Features - Code OnTime

YouTube | Blog | Newsgroup  
http://www.codeontime.com

Please specify global features of the generated application. You can override the global features in **Code OnTime Designer**.

### Features

Specify the text displayed at the top of all pages in the page header. Project namespace is displayed if left blank. Specify the text displayed at the bottom of all pages in the page footer. A standard copyright message is displayed if left blank.

Page Header:  Copyright:

### Annotations

A standard annotations plug-in allows to enhance all data controllers of a generated application with unlimited number of free-form notes and file attachments that can be associated with any records by end-users at run-time. Requires support for ASP.NET Membership option to be enabled.

Enable global record annotations and store attachment and note files in  folder.

### Form Layout

Standard form layout displays category information on the left side of the screen. The data fields are listed on the right side of the screen.

Start each data field category in the new column with category information displayed on top.

Float data fields in view categories from left to right to fill the entire space available.

Show modal forms in master data views without children and in child data views.

### Grid Layout

All grid views will present up to  data fields. Use *Designer* to modify, add, and remove the data fields of individual views.

Activate search mode in master grid views by default.

Data lookup windows must always open in search mode.

Enable multi-selection in all grid views. Only *Delete* action is automatically supported on multiple rows.

Enable batch editing in all data controllers. Requires multi-selection mode.

### Miscellaneous

Enable relationship explorer hyperlinks in lookup fields of all data controllers.

Enable permalinks to allow bookmarking of master records selected by end users.

Enable interactive history of most-recent-used data objects.

Cancel Back Next

2/26/2011 3:40:25 PM transform template="[Documents]\Code OnTime\Library\Web Site Factory\Application.xslt" output="Application.xml"  
2/26/2011 3:40:26 PM navigate url="..\Data Aquarium\DataAquarium.Controllers.htm"  
2/26/2011 3:40:27 PM retract path="DataAquarium.Project.xml" test="WebServer!Generate" steps="12"  
2/26/2011 3:40:27 PM retracting 12 steps  
2/26/2011 3:40:27 PM navigate url="..\Data Aquarium\DataAquarium.Start.htm?splash=WebSiteFactory"

When you regenerate the application, the detail view will look like the page below.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Employees - Windows Internet Explorer" displaying a web application interface. The browser address bar shows the URL `http://localhost:34295/Categories/Pages/Employees.aspx`. The application header includes "MyCompany" and navigation links for "Home", "Customers", "Employees", "Categories", "Customer Demographics", "Region", and "Membership". A "Site Actions" menu is also present. The main content area is titled "Employees" and displays a form for editing an employee record. The form is divided into several sections: "General", "Hire Date and Manager", "Address", and "Notes". The "General" section includes fields for "Last Name" (Peacock), "First Name" (Margaret), "Title Of Courtesy" (Mrs.), and a "Photo" field with a small image and a link to upload or clear the photo. The "Hire Date and Manager" section includes "Hire Date" (5/3/1993), "Title" (Sales Representative), and "Reports To Last Name" (Fuller). The "Address" section includes "Address" (4110 Old Redmond Rd.), "City" (Redmond), "Region" (WA), "Postal Code" (98052), "Country" (USA), and "Home Phone" ((206) 555-8122). The "Notes" section includes a text area with the text "Margaret holds a BA in English literature from Concordia College (1956) and an MA from the American Institute of Culinary Arts (1966). She was assigned to the London office temporarily from". The form also includes "OK", "Delete", and "Cancel" buttons. The browser status bar at the bottom shows "Done" and "Internet | Protected Mode: On".

Employees - Windows Internet Explorer  
http://localhost:34295/Categories/Pages/Employees.aspx

Welcome admin, Today is Monday, February 21, 2011 | My Account | Logout | Help

MyCompany  
Home Customers Employees Categories Customer Demographics Region Membership Site Actions

Home > Employees  
Employees

Please review employees information below. Click Edit to change this record, click Delete to delete the record, or click Cancel/Close to return back.

Record View: Review Employees

↑ ↓ \* - indicates a required field

OK Delete Cancel

**General**  
These are the fields of the employees record that can be edited.

Last Name \* Peacock  
First Name \* Margaret  
Title Of Courtesy Mrs.  
Photo  
Click here to upload or clear employees photo file.  
Extension 5176

**Hire Date and Manager**  
Specify the employee hire date and manager.

Hire Date 5/3/1993  
Title Sales Representative  
Reports To Last Name Fuller

**Address**  
Employee address and home phone number.

Address 4110 Old Redmond Rd.  
City Redmond  
Region WA  
Postal Code 98052  
Country USA  
Home Phone (206) 555-8122

**Notes**  
Personal employee record.

Notes Margaret holds a BA in English literature from Concordia College (1956) and an MA from the American Institute of Culinary Arts (1966). She was assigned to the London office temporarily from

Photo Path http://accweb/emmployees/peacock.bmp  
Birth Date 9/19/1937

↑ ↓ \* - indicates a required field

OK Delete Cancel

Done Internet | Protected Mode: On 100%

## Floating

You can also make the fields float within each category to provide a much more compact presentation. You can enable floating by checking “Float data fields in view categories from left to right to fill the entire space available”.

Features	
Specify the text displayed at the top of all pages in the page header. Project namespace is displayed if left blank. Page Header: <input type="text"/>	Specify the text displayed at the bottom of all pages in the page footer. A standard copyright message is displayed if left blank. Copyright: <input type="text"/>
<b>Annotations</b> A standard annotations plug-in allows to enhance all data controllers of a generated application with unlimited number of free-form notes and file attachments that can be associated with any records by end-users at run-time. Requires support for ASP.NET Membership option to be enabled. <input type="checkbox"/> Enable global record annotations and store attachment and note files in <input type="text"/> folder.	
<b>Form Layout</b> Standard form layout displays category information on the left side of the screen. The data fields are listed on the right side of the screen. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Start each data field category in the new column with category information displayed on top. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Float data fields in view categories from left to right to fill the entire space available. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show modal forms in master data views without children and in child data views.	

Detail view will be presented as in the picture below.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying an employee detail page. The page title is "Employees" and the breadcrumb is "Home > Employees". The main content area shows the employee's information, including a summary, general information, hire date and manager, address, and notes. The summary section lists the last name (Peacock), first name (Margaret), title (Mrs.), sales representative status, and birth date (9/19/1937). The general information section shows the last name (Peacock), first name (Margaret), title of courtesy (Mrs.), photo, and extension (5176). The hire date and manager section shows the hire date (5/3/1993), title (Sales Representative), and reports to last name (Fuller). The address section shows the address (4110 Old Redmond Rd.), city (Redmond), region (WA), postal code (98052), country (USA), and home phone number ((206) 555-8122). The notes section shows a personal employee record with a note about Margaret's education and temporary assignment. The page also includes a navigation menu on the left and a "Site Actions" menu on the right.

## Two Column

You can also display categories in two different columns. Go back to the *Designer*, select the *Employees* controller, and switch to *Categories* tab. Edit the *General* category, and change *New Column* to “n/a”. Save, edit the *Address* category, and change *New Column* to “Yes”.

Header Text	View	Description	New Column	Tab	Floating	Collapsed
New Employees	createForm1	\$DefaultNewDescription	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
General	editForm1	These are the fields of the employees record that can be edited.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hire Date and Manager	editForm1	Specify the employee hire date and manager.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Address	editForm1	Employee address and home phone number.	Yes		N/A	N/A
Notes	editForm1	Personal employee record.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

The categories are rendered from top to bottom with the fields and corresponding labels displayed on a single line. Category header text and description are displayed above the category fields.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Employees - Windows Internet Explorer" displaying the "Employees" page of a "MyCompany" application. The page is rendered in a two-column layout. On the left is a "Summary" sidebar with fields like Last Name (Leverling), First Name (Janet), Title (Sales Representative), and Birth Date (8/30/1963). The main content area is titled "Employees" and contains several sections: "General" (Last Name: Leverling, First Name: Janet, Title: Ms., Photo, Extension: 3355), "Hire Date and Manager" (Hire Date: 4/1/1992, Title: Sales Representative, Reports To Last Name: Fuller), "Address" (Address: 722 Moss Bay Blvd., City: Kirkland, Region: WA, Postal Code: 98033, Country: USA, Home Phone: (206) 555-3412), and "Notes" (Personal employee record. Janet has a BS degree in chemistry from Boston College (1984). She has also completed a certificate program in food retailing management. Janet was hired as a sales associate in 1991 and promoted to sales representative in February 1992. Photo Path: http://accweb/emmployees/leverling.bmp, Birth Date: 8/30/1963). The page also includes navigation tabs like "New Employees", "Actions", and "Report", and buttons for "Edit", "Delete", and "Close".

## Tabbed

You can also enable a standard or compact rendering with categories activated when a corresponding tab is selected.

Switch back to the *Designer*, select the *Employees* controller, and switch to the *Categories* tab. For the *Address* category, change *New Column* field back to "n/a", and change *Tab* to "Address". Change *General* category to have a *New Column* of "No". Change the *Tab* field of *Notes* category to "Address".

Controller	Commands	Fields	Views	Categories	Data Fields	Action Groups	Actions	
This is a list of data field categories in the view. Categories are not supported in grid views.								
Quick Find				Record	View: Categories			
Header Text	View	Description	New Column	Tab	Floating	Collapsed		
New Employees	createForm1	\$DefaultNewDescription	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
General	editForm1	These are the fields of the employees record that can be edited.	No	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Hire Date and Manager	editForm1	Specify the employee hire date and manager.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Address	editForm1	Employee address and home phone number.	n/a	Address	n/a	n/a		
Notes	editForm1	Personal employee record.	N/A	Address	N/A	N/A		

The employee detail page will be split into two tabs, *General* and *Address*.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Employees - Windows Internet Explorer" with the URL "http://localhost:34295/Categories/Pages/Employees.aspx". The page displays a "MyCompany" header and a navigation menu. The main content area is titled "Employees" and shows a summary of employee information for Steven Buchanan. The page is split into two tabs: "General" and "Address". The "Address" tab is active, showing the following details:

- Address:** 14 Garrett Hill, London, N/A, SW1 8JR, UK, (71) 555-4848
- Notes:** Steven Buchanan graduated from St. Andrews University, Scotland, with a BSC degree in 1976. Upon joining the company as a sales representative in 1992, he spent 6 months in an orientation program at the Seattle office and then returned to his permanent post in London. He was promoted to sales manager in March 1993. Mr. Buchanan has completed the courses "Successful Telemarketing" and "International Sales Management." He is fluent in French.
- Photo Path:** http://accweb/emmployees/buchanan.bmp
- Birth Date:** 3/4/1955

Tabs are aware of the *edit* and *insert* modes of the view and are working in unison. For example, if you start editing the data while the first tab is selected and then switch to the second tab then the data fields are presented in edit mode as well and edits of the first tab are not lost.

If there is an error in the invisible field then the tab is automatically selected and the field is highlighted when a user tries to update or insert a record.