Business View Cross Reference for Multiple Tables

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Editor's Note: The author asks himself, "what took me so long to decide to do this?" We think you may wonder how you ever lived without it. This handy application will allow your super users and business analysts to show what business views are used by multiple tables. He provides the background, steps us through the Power Forms build, then includes the code needed to complete the custom tool.

Introduction

There are many times as a developer where I have the need to cross reference different items within E1. Examples include tables used by an interactive application, business views used by a batch application, tables for a business view, and even business views using a table. Fortunately, E1 has a Cross Reference application, P980011.

The Cross Reference application is a very handy tool except if you need to see what business views are used by multiple tables. There are many scenarios where a user or Business Analyst asks me what business view they can databrowse that is a join between multiple tables. The only way to determine this is to use the Business Views Using a Table option in P980011 for each table and determine which views are used for each table in question.

By leveraging the existing Cross Reference Field Relationships table (F980021) we can determine the business views used by multiple tables. We can even take this a step further and display the tables and columns associated with the business view. This will aid the developer in finding a business view that could be used instead of creating a new one from scratch.

By creating the Power Form (starting with 8.11) shown in Figure 1 and adding a little coding, you will now be empowered to easily determine a list of business views based on one, two, or even five tables. I think you will find this to be a tool that you use often and your users will agree.
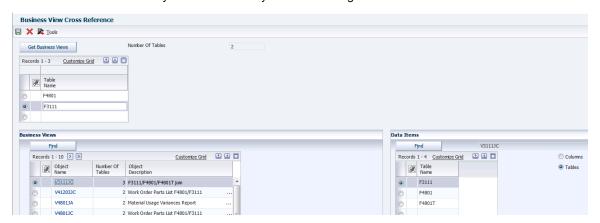
Figure 1: Business View Cross Reference Application

Getting to Know the Cross Reference Field Relation Table

Before we begin developing this application, it's probably a good idea to understand the table that will be the main source of this application.

The Cross Reference Field Relation table, F980021, is created by running R980011 (Build Cross Reference File). This is usually a pretty long running job and can even take a full day to complete. Once it's built, you can use the Cross Reference Application (P980011) to see a lot of "where used" data.

This table will contain the Business View Name and its associated tables and columns. Following is a list of the columns that we will be using for this application.

- OBNM (Object Name) – This will contain the business view name
- FMT (Format Name) – This will contain the table name
- DTAN (Data Field Name) – This will contain the column associated with the business view/table
- OBJP (Primary Object Name) – This will contain "BSVW" to indicate business view cross reference
- ATRP (Primary Object Attribute) – This will contain "TBLE" to indicate tables related to the business view
- DL01 (Description) – If the record is for the column in the business view, this will contain "DTAN"; otherwise, it will be blank

Figure 2 shows an example of the data set for business view V3111JC, which joins the Work Order, Work Order Extension, and Work Order Parts List tables.

Cross Reference Field Relationships - F980021 - Central Objects - DV900

			BSVW	TBLE	
SJOBNM	**SJFMT**	**SJDTAN**	**SJOBJP**	**SJATRP**	**SJDL01**
V3111JC	F3111	USER	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F3111	VEND	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801		BSVW	TBLE	
V3111JC	F4801	DCTO	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801	DOCO	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801	ITM	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801	MCU	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801	SHTY	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801	SRST	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801	TYPS	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801T		BSVW	TBLE	
V3111JC	F4801T	DOCO	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801T	MWDH	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN
V3111JC	F4801T	PRJM	BSVW	TBLE	DTAN

Figure 2: F980021 Data Set

Hands-on Development

Now that we understand the table needed, let's get into some actual coding and develop this handy application.

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