

Using a Custom Report in DBA Next Generation

This document explains how to copy a custom DBA Next Generation report created through the Report Builder into your program. The file extension for these custom reports is “.rtm”.

NOTE: This only applies to users running DBA Next Generation Version 2. To check this, go to Help/About DBA Manufacturing. The version # is located in the upper right hand corner of that screen.

Step 1: Download the .rtm file and save it to your server or central workstation.

Step 2: In DBA Next Generation, go to the *Utilities/Report Writer* menu and create NEW report.

Step 3: From within the Design Tab of the new report, go to *File/Load from file*.

Step 4: Locate the Saved report on your server or central workstation and open it.

Step 5: Next, go to *File/Save As* to save the report to your Report Writer.

The report can be modified further or saved as is and run. If you need to modify the report in the future, you may contact [Oakpointe](#) to do the modifications or right click on the report in Report Writer and modify yourself.

You also have the ability to add the customized report to any main menu in DBA using **User-Defined Menus** through the (File – Administrator – User-Defined Menus) menu. This screen enables you to add your own programs to the standard system menus and security system. This can be used for selecting custom reports or for linking to outside applications. When you add a menu item on this screen, it automatically is added to the Module Security tab in the User Setup screen and can then be given security access permission for each of your users. Parameters can be passed with the exe file. This is achieved by including the opening and closing square brackets around the parameters (eg: word.exe [releasenotes.doc]).

There are four built-in variables for allowing more integration with external reports and programs; these are: {APPPATH} {DBPATH} {USER} {PASSWORD}. Each of these is replaced with the actual values when the menu item is executed – also the symbols { } are needed for these to function.

- The {APPPATH} variable is replaced by the path of the main ‘ej sme’ application program.
- The {DBPATH} variable is replaced by the current database path and can only be used as a parameter (Useful for external reports).
- The {USER} & {PASSWORD} variables are replaced by the user name and passwords and is needed for running reports from the menu that have been developed

with the system's built-in Report Writer. The syntax if a report called 'ItemValue' had been developed and was located under the main ALL FOLDERS directory would be:

{APPPATH}ejrw.exe [{DBPATH} {USER} {PASSWORD} ItemValue]

NOTE: You MUST save the Custom Report into the main ALL FOLDERS directory in the report explorer for this to work. Additionally, your report name should contain no spaces or special characters such as quotes (“”).

The text that represents the variables within the '{ }' brackets is not meant to be replaced with actual user names, passwords, or paths. The text must be entered literally as 'APPPATH', 'DBPATH', 'USER', and 'PASSWORD'.