

## Dialog@Site Technical Note 1 - Filtering The Access Log

### Filtering Data Using Microsoft Excel's Advanced Filtering

#### Usage:

You may wish to extract the activities from ACCESS.LOG for one customer only. Typically, this customer will be an @Site GROUP – under which there will be several USERS and/or IP addresses.

#### Autofiltering

By using the AutoFilter command (Data|Filter|Autofilter), you can specify multiple conditions for different columns and display only the rows that meet **all** the conditions (logical AND). However, this method cannot give you logical OR between columns, and you are limited to a maximum of two statements per column.

For this reason, the Advanced Filtering (Data|Filter|Advanced Filter) may be more appropriate.

#### Method:

1. Copy the Access.log file to a convenient location, renaming it to say 0600Access.CSV (note the CSV file extension)
2. Open the file in Excel, e.g.:

Date	Time	User ID	IP/URL	Database ID	Action	Group Code
15/05/2000	16:31:06		128.143.139.110		Login	L
15/05/2000	16:31:09		128.143.139.110	GRANTS DATABASE March 2000	DB Connect	D
15/05/2000	16:31:20		128.143.139.110	GRANTS DATABASE March 2000	DB Search	S
15/05/2000	16:41:21		128.143.139.110	GRANTS DATABASE March 2000	DB Disconnect	D
15/05/2000	16:41:21		128.143.139.110		Logout	L
30/05/2000	10:47:12	Smith			Login	L
30/05/2000	10:47:28	Smith		DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Connect	D
30/05/2000	10:47:39	Smith		DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:47:59		128.210.124.143		Login	L
30/05/2000	10:48:09		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Connect	D
30/05/2000	10:48:19	Smith		DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:51:07		128.210.124.143		Login	L
30/05/2000	10:51:15		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Connect	D
30/05/2000	10:51:24		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:52:13		128.210.124.143		Login	L
30/05/2000	10:52:14	Smith		DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Disconnect	D
30/05/2000	10:52:17		128.210.124.143		Login	L
30/05/2000	10:52:28		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Connect	D
30/05/2000	10:52:34		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:52:41		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S

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3. Open a new workbook, or insert a new worksheet, to contain the **Advanced Filter Criteria**. (See below for advice). Type in the filtering criteria. The column titles are VERY important, and MUST match the column titles in the Accesslog data set exactly. e.g.:

User	IP/URL					
Smith						
Jones						
	128.210.124.*					

(The above example will give those records where "User=Smith OR User=Jones OR IP/URL=128.210.124.\*")

**NOTE:** The filtering criteria can either be typed in, OR copied out of Dialog@Site. Go into Dialog@Site with Administrator rights, choose GROUP, highlight the relevant Group from the list, and choose ASSIGNED. The range of IP Addresses (for example) can then be directly copied and pasted into Excel to act as the filtering criteria. If authorisation is by host name, then you must convert this to the relevant IP addresses – since the Accesslog records IP addresses rather than the host name

4. In the Accesslog data file, select any cell inside the data set. From the menu select Data|Filter|Advanced Filter
5. The Wizard that starts should detect the List Range: \$A1: \$Gxxx (where xxx is the final row of the access log file).
6. If this does not happen automatically, click into the box labelled "List range:" and then highlight the data range. This is accomplished by clicking into the top left-hand cell, then clicking onto and dragging the box in the lower right-hand corner of that cell to the lower right hand limit of the data.
7. Click into the "Criteria range" box
8. If your criteria are in another workbook, then from the Excel pull-down Menu select Window click onto the name of the workbook file which contains the **Advanced Filter Criteria**. If your criteria are in the same workbook on another sheet, then click on the worksheet tab towards the bottom of the screen.
9. Select the range containing the criteria (**including the title field(s)**).
10. Leave the setting "Filter in Place" checked.
11. Click OK.

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You should now have a restricted set of access log entries according to the criteria you used, e.g.:

Date	Time	User ID	IP/URL	Database ID	Action	Group Code
30/05/2000	10:47:12	Smith			Login	L
30/05/2000	10:47:28	Smith		DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Connect	D
30/05/2000	10:47:39	Smith		DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:47:59		128.210.124.143		Login	L
30/05/2000	10:48:09		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Connect	D
30/05/2000	10:48:19	Smith		DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:51:07		128.210.124.143		Login	L
30/05/2000	10:51:15		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Connect	D
30/05/2000	10:51:24		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:52:13		128.210.124.143		Login	L
30/05/2000	10:52:14	Smith		DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Disconnect	D
30/05/2000	10:52:17		128.210.124.143		Login	L
30/05/2000	10:52:28		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Connect	D
30/05/2000	10:52:34		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:52:41		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:52:52		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S
30/05/2000	10:53:13		128.210.124.143	DOE Energy Site Enhanced 1992 - 1999	DB Search	S

12. You can now copy the restricted data set to a new spreadsheet for further examination, charting, etc.

### ***Further Examples of advanced filter criteria***

Advanced filter criteria can include multiple conditions applied in a single column, or multiple conditions applied to multiple columns, or conditions created as the result of a formula. Below, we look at single/multiple column examples. Each column MUST have a title (which must be identical to the titles in the data set), followed by the limiting criteria.

#### Variables in a single column (Logical OR)

Type the criteria directly below each other. For example, the following criteria range displays the rows that contain either "Smith," "Jones," or "Williams" in the User column (logical OR combination).

