



THE .NET EFFECT - MOVING FROM MICROSOFT ACCESS IN TRAVERSE

White Paper
June, 2009



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Introducing the TRAVERSE® Framework

TRAVERSE version 11 was written entirely in C# using the .NET Framework, which means this is the first version of TRAVERSE that does not employ the Microsoft Access® framework. While this immediately makes TRAVERSE deployment less complicated and less dependent upon the purchase of separate software suites for operation, you may be concerned about how you can accomplish the TRAVERSE tasks you have employed using Access and Access tools.

Fear not! TRAVERSE version 11 has been designed to simplify tasks and empower the user, and that includes providing easier means of accomplishing what you used to do with Access.

Using the New Framework to Accomplish Tasks

Below is a table illustrating how to accomplish tasks in the new TRAVERSE framework that you may have used Access to accomplish in past TRAVERSE versions.

I want to...	Access (v10.x)	.NET (v11)	Notes
Modify reports	Access reporting or third party (Excel, Crystal, Reporting Services)	New Interactive Views and Reporting Services	<p>Changing Access reports requires using source code and re-compiling.</p> <p>New Interactive Views and Reporting Services provide user-level reporting. Reporting Services reports can be easily copied and changed without re-compiling.</p> <p>Version 11 still supports Excel, Crystal and other third party reporting integration, including placement on menu.</p>
Add fields	Add columns to tables (SQL Server), modify all SQL source queries and Access forms and reports where fields are used	Design Studio	<p>Old platform requires changes to server and client objects, hindering application of service packs and feature packs.</p> <p>Design Studio adds fields without affecting base tables, manages queries, and exposes fields on requested forms and reports without any changes to server or client objects.</p>

I want to...	Access (v10.x)	.NET (v11)	Notes
Hide or move fields on forms	Modify Access forms	Design Studio	<p>Modification of access forms requires re-compiling source code, restricts easy application of service packs and feature updates.</p> <p>Design Studio changes do not change source code. Multiple variations of a form can be built and assigned by role to different users. They can be easily isolated for problem management.</p>
Modify or add dashboard objects	Requires TRAVERSE SDK	Design Studio	No need to purchase programming tools.
Custom links and navigation	Modify Access forms	Task Panes Visual Studio	<p>Modification of access forms requires re-compiling source code, restricts easy application of service packs and feature updates.</p> <p>Task Panes are program components that sit outside of the source code.</p>
Complex process modifications	Requires modification of Access source code	Use Object Oriented programming concepts Visual Studio	Source code is not modified; new objects are created that inherit and expand upon the original functionality. Modifications done in this manner will generally not be affected by service packs, and often not by feature updates.