

FileMaker Custom function to query a value from other table or file



Today I have a custom function for FileMaker for you. It allows you to query any value in your databases by referring to the record by a field and it's value. This can avoid complex relations if you just run a little query:

```
// Custom Function QueryValue
//
// Parameter:
// theFileName: the file name of the database. Empty for current.
// theFieldToQuery: the field name we want to query
// theFieldToMatch: The field to look for (primary field). Can be RowID for record ID.
// theValueToMatch: The value of the match field. Must match in data type
//
Let ( [
// put quotes around field names unless it is RowID
theFieldToMatch = If(theFieldToMatch = "RowID"; theFieldToMatch; "\"" & theFieldToMatch
& "\"");
theFieldToQuery = If(theFieldToQuery = "RowID"; theFieldToQuery; "\"" & theFieldToQuery
& "\"");

// put quotes around the table name
theTable = "\"" & theTable & "\"";

// Now run query
SQLRef = MBS( "FM.SQL.Execute"; theFilename; "SELECT " & theFieldToQuery & "
FROM " & theTable & " WHERE " & theFieldToMatch & " = ?"; theValueToSearch);

// if no error, get first value
result = If(MBS("IsError"); SQLRef; MBS( "FM.SQL.Field"; SQLRef; 0; 0 ));

// if no error, release the recordset from memory
r = If(MBS("IsError"); ""; MBS( "FM.SQL.Release"; SQLRef ))

// return result
]; result )
```

By using [FM.SQL.Field](#), we get the field in it's original data type. So a container stays a container and a number stays a number. Converting to text would destroy them and cause problems. For example you can use this query to show a picture (container field) of a user if you know the user's login name for the query:

```
Set Field [Test::Picture; QueryValue(Get(FileName); "Picture";  
"PersonID"; $PersonID) ]
```

The advantage is that you don't need a relation and you can query it at any time anywhere.

A special field name is RowID which allows you to query with using record ID. This is internal FileMaker number for a record which you query by Get(RecordID).

Works with current MBS Plugin and FileMaker with FileMaker 11 and newer.