Visual Composer's Control Types

Applies to:

Visual Composer for CE. For more information, visit the [Portal and Collaboration homepage](#).

Summary

The document will discuss Control types and their properties

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Overview

Controls represent the elements of user interface, such as a button, an input field, or a combo box. Most controls are bound to data fields and are used for displaying or editing field values. Controls are always placed inside tables or forms, which arrange their layout and govern their behavior. The type of an interactor (form or table) dictates the types of controls that can be placed in it.
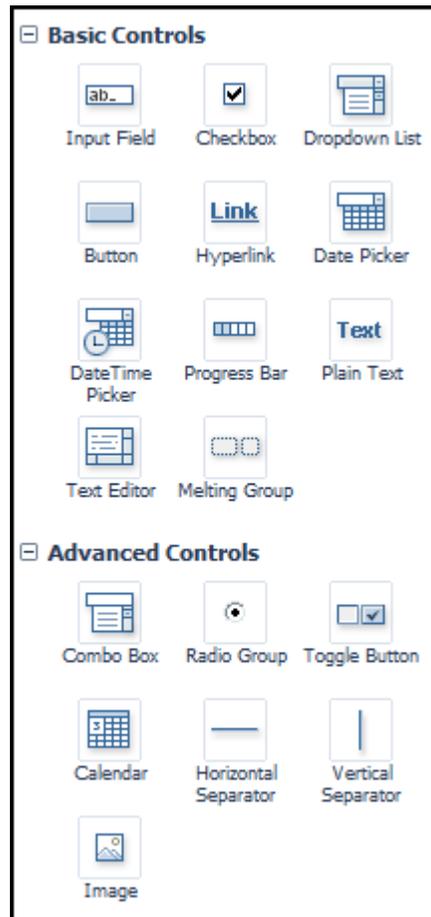
Input Controls

Input controls are used by the user to enter data.

1. Input Field Control

The Input Field control is used to enter plain data.

- Line breaks in input fields are ignored.
- In addition to standard formatting, input field also provides support for password
  character masking.
- Input field actions are triggered upon value changes. The actions are not continuously triggered while the user is typing in the control, but only once the changes are committed, for example, by tabbing out of the control or by pressing Enter.

2. Text Editor Control

The Text Editor control is a multi-line text editing control with support for line breaks, word wrapping, and scrolling.

- Can be used for writing descriptions and long text strings

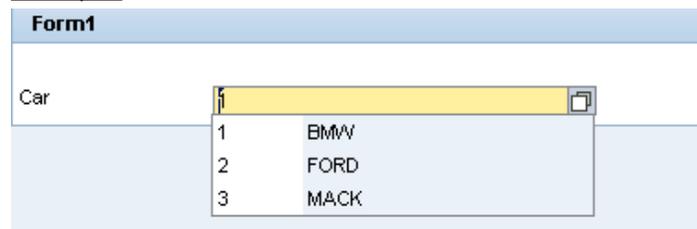- Supports addition of a tooltip

Example:
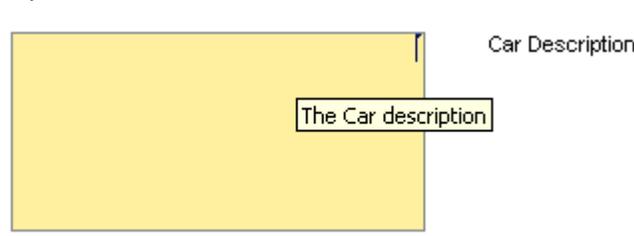
This example shows a tooltip that can be added to the Text Editor control.

3. Combo Box Control

The Combo Box control is a combination of the Dropdown List control and the Input Field control. Like the Dropdown List control, it consists of a dropdown list and a selection field. The list presents the possible values from which a user can select, and the selection field displays the current value. Unlike a simple dropdown control, the selection field is editable and can be used to enter values not available in the list.

- Unlike selection controls, the Combo Box values are not restricted by the enumeration and can be freely modified by the user.
- Also unlike selection controls, the Combo Box displays the enumeration items' values rather than their display texts.
- Line breaks in the Combo Box values are ignored.
- Combo Box action triggering follows the same rules as described for Input Field.

<u>Example:</u>

This example shows a combo box based on a static entry list that contains 3 fields

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Selection Controls

Selection controls enable the user to select a value from a predetermined set of possible values, which are defined using an enumeration. Selection controls are restricted and cannot contain values that are not predefined.

1. Checkbox Control

The main purpose of the Check Box control **{** XE "CheckBox" **}**is a dual-state selection control used for setting of theBoolean fields.
<u>Example:</u>

What do you want to do now?

☐ Go to a movie

☐ Play basketball

This example shows a checkbox that propose what to do today. When a box is checked, its value becomes True.

2. Toggle Button Control

The purpose of the Toggle Button control **{** XE "CheckBox" **}**is a dual-state selection control used for setting of the Boolean fields.

- The Toggle Button control resembles the Check Box control in its behavior, but differs in its visual appearance. Also unlike selection controls, the Combo Box displays the enumeration items' values rather than their display texts.

- The Toggle Button controls are usually associated with actions that are triggered when the toggle state is changed.
<u>Example</u>:

Press here for start the process...

Start

This example shows a Toggle button that, when pressed, initiates a process.

Layout Controls

1. Melting Group

This control can be used to group controls aiding in the layout.

Example:

1. Create a form and, using the Define Data action, add to it two fields – Date and String, call them Date and Status respectively.

2. Switch to the Layout view add a new Melting Group control to your form.

3. Choose Configure, and set its label to "Reporting Date/Time".

4. Add a Date Picker control to the Melting Group and set its value to DATE.

5. Deploy. The result should look as follows:
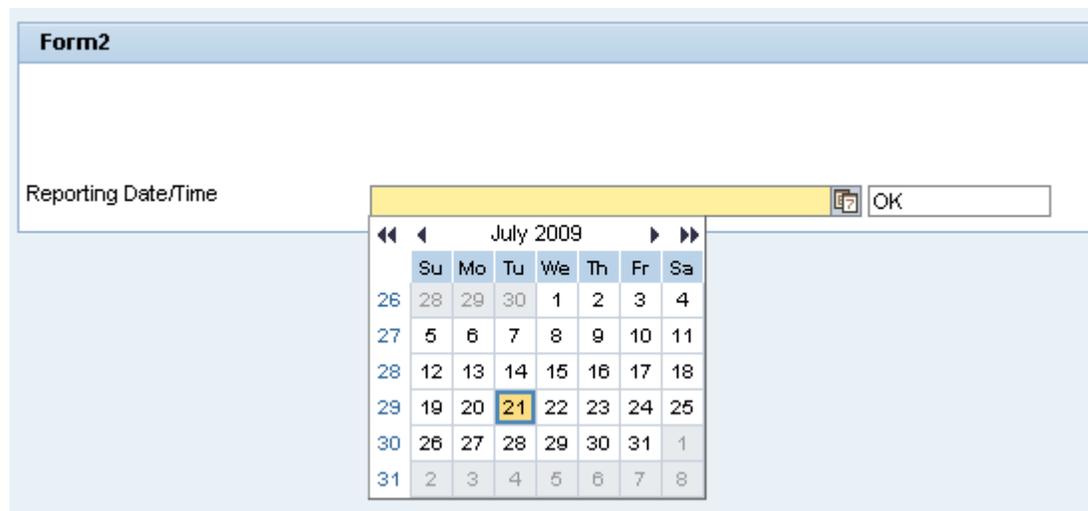
2. Image Control

Embedded images are images that are already known at design time and thus can be included directly within the document.

In addition to embedded images, there are external images that are located outside of the document and are referenced by URLs. External image URLs can be specified using dynamic expressions, and thus can only be resolved and downloaded at runtime.

To add an image from URL, we select the image and then enter the URL parameter in the Configure pane.

This opens the Image Browser:
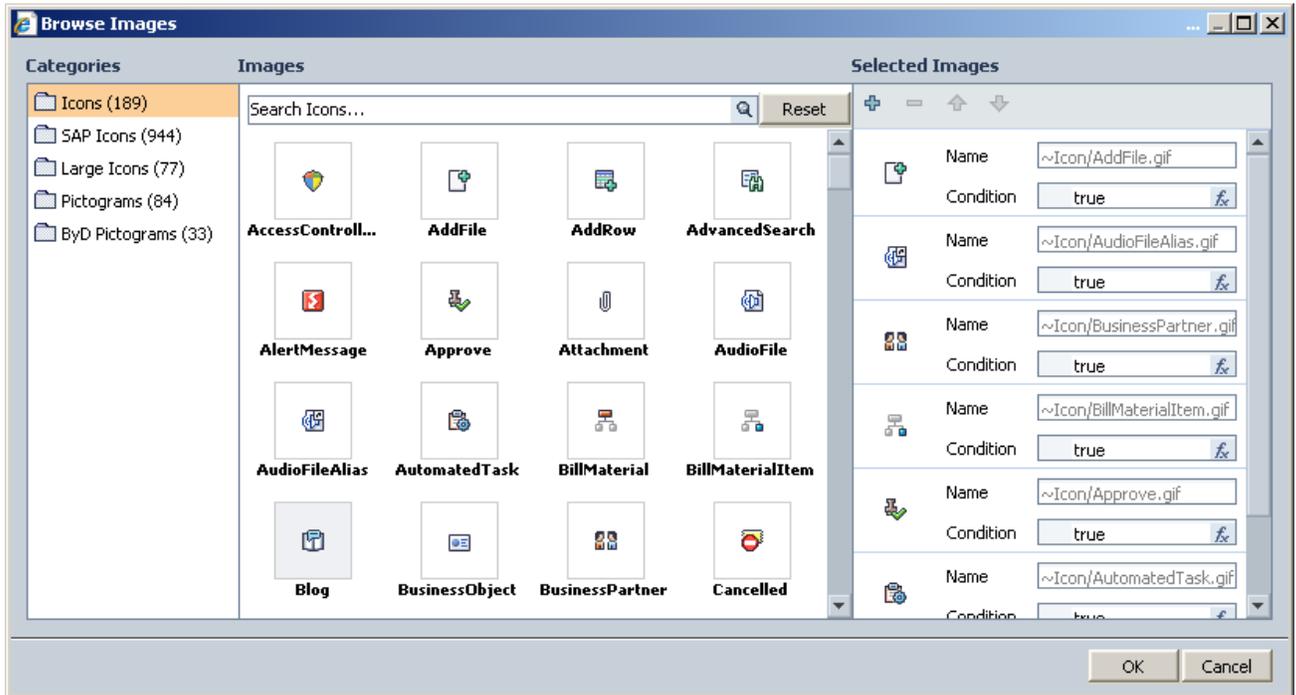
We can assign multiple images per image control in order to change it dynamically at runtime according to specific condition. We can take for example a traffic light that contains several images – one with red, yellow and green. Thus per condition the image will change.

The Image control supports three scale modes:

1. Original size – the image original size

2. Auto-fit – can extend the image vertically and horizontally to fit

3. Proportional fit – Keeps the image size proportionally when extended

Common Attributes for Controls

Visible attribute

This attribute determines the visibility state of the control. It can be set to a simple true/false value or to a dynamic expression that is evaluated at runtime according to some logical expression.

You set this attribute by clicking on the Configure pane button and selecting the control.

Indent attribute

All controls of Visual Composer enable a label part. When indent is set to false, the control starts from the most left margin of its parent, i.e. the label is not shown. When indent is set to true, the label is be shown and the input field itself is shown after the label.

Enabled attribute

This attribute determines whether the control can be used. It can be set to a simple true/false value or to a dynamic expression that is evaluated at runtime according to some logical expression.

You set this attribute by clicking on the Configure pane button and selecting the control.

Tooltip Attribute

Displays a tooltip related to the control when the user hovers over it. It can be set as simple true/false value or as a dynamic expression that is evaluated on runtime according to some logical expression.

You set this attribute by clicking on the configure pane button and selecting the control.

Related Content

[Visual Composer Controls Overview](#)

[Configuring Visual Composer Controls](#)

[Visual Composer SDN page](#)

For more information, visit the [Portal and Collaboration homepage](#).

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