



THE MONTHLY PLANET



*** EDITOR'S NOTE ***

This month we have a bit more news for you. Last month we only started on the newsletter at the last minute. This was due to decision's needed to be made whether or not to have a newsletter. Well... here we are, hard at work to bring you the best news. So don't let me keep you from reading the newsletter.

George Peterson - Editor

P.S.

If you have any suggestions about what you would like to see in the newsletter, please let us know by e-mailing us at the following address : ssuitesoftware2003@yahoo.com

HEADLINE NEWS



In the News



The first wave of miniature computers from Microsoft Corp.'s Origami project will be available starting next month at prices from \$600 to \$1,000 -- offering advanced features but initially falling short of some long-term goals that Bill Gates has established for such devices.

The portable devices were unveiled by the company early today at the CeBIT technology trade show in Germany, capping weeks of speculation that had been fueled by a cryptic Microsoft marketing campaign designed to generate online buzz.



Intel and Red Hat in global initiative to boost Linux deployment

Intel Corporation and Red Hat have announced a global initiative that is designed to help customers who want to deploy Linux solutions. The programme, whose main intention is to "plan for, accelerate and optimize" the use of Linux, will initially focus on creating and distributing tools for platform virtualization and grid computing.



Bifocals could soon be a thing of the past

Researchers at the University of Arizona have created an eyeglass variety of the liquid crystal displays that are used in modern day cell phones and TVs. These eyeglasses have the potential to do away with the uncomfortable bifocal glasses that are used by millions of people worldwide.

ENVIROMENT NEWS



Gray wolves of the Great Lakes no more endangered species

Gray wolves of the western Great Lakes region will no longer be in the U.S. federal list of endangered and threatened species. The interior department has proposed that wolves in Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin, as well as in parts of North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, need no longer figure in the protected list under the Endangered Species Act.

Largest oil spill detected in Prudhoe Bay field in Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska - An oil spill at the Prudhoe Bay field in Alaska has turned out to be the biggest ever in the region, according to official estimates. Around 267,000 gallons (one million litres) of crude leaked out from a corroded transit pipeline near the northern tip of the state. This was detected on March 2 and was immediately plugged, but the spill could wreck havoc on the delicate environmental balance in the region.

Arctic climate change affecting marine wildlife in Bering Sea

The ecosystem in the north Bering Sea, which is a home to whales, walruses, and sea birds, is being affected to a significant degree by the warmer climate forcing marine animals to either adapt to the changing atmosphere or suffer from its consequences, a report published in the journal Science suggests



California set to enact rules to curb greenhouse gases

California will be the first state in the United States to enact laws to ensure reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases.

American researchers warn of another quake in Indonesia

Two U.S. researchers at the California Institute of Technology has warned that the fault that caused one of the most powerful earthquakes in the Sumatran archipelago in December 2004 and a destructive tsunami can still trigger a devastating tremor.

Wastewater spillage leads to closure of Hawaiian beaches

A sewage spillage that is threatening to reach Hawaii's Waikiki beach has ruined picnickers' plans. The spillage, which occurred after a sewage main line burst, led to the authorities warning people off the waters to prevent infections because of bacterial contamination. Over a 100 warning signs have been posted along the one-mile stretch spanning 18 beaches between Waikiki and Honolulu.

50 dead, more than 800 injured as a series of earthquakes hit western Iran

TEHRAN, Iran - A series of powerful earthquakes hit Lorestan province in west Iran early on Friday morning. At least 50 people are feared dead and more than 800 people are injured. Lorestan Governor-General Mohammad Reza Mohseni-Sani said that most injured people were admitted in Doroud and Boroujerd area, which probably bore brunt of the quake.

FRENCH PARLIAMENT FIGHTS IPOD AND ITUNES

"According to an article in New York Times, the French parliament is considering legislation which would require that the iPod also be able to use music from services other than the iTunes Store ." From the article: "The outcome of the debate, which began as an update to French copyright law, is far from clear. But taken to one logical conclusion, amendments to the copyright bill could lead Apple, the market leader, to leave the French music business, said Jonathan Arber, a research analyst in London at the technology consultancy Ovum. 'My gut feeling is that Apple will simply pull out of France if these amendments get through,' Mr. Arber said. 'Weighed against breaking their business model for all markets, it doesn't make sense for Apple to continue operating with the iPod and iTunes in France.'"

MICROSOFT RENAMES POST-VISTA O.S.

Microsoft has recently changed the name of their next operating system. It was called Blackcomb, but they decided to change it to Vienna. Only they will know why they changed it, probably to make it sound more similiar to Vista.

THE NEW COREL LOOK

Corel has released it's new CorelDraw® X3 graphics suite. They filled this incredible suite with even more functionality. It now comprises of enhanced illustration, page layout and photo editing, powerful bitmap-to-vector tracing, and new learning tools. Also included in this suite is 1000 new OpenType font styles and improved PDF support.

MOTOROLA'S DOUBLE EDGED RAZR

Motorola's new RAZR cellphone/mobile has a tendency to shutdown or cut off a caller while operating. This has forced them to recall all the RAZR products.

NANOPARTICLES MAY POSE THREAT TO LIVER CELLS

Researchers at the University of Edinburgh are to study the effects of nanoparticles on the liver. In a UK first, the scientists will assess whether nanoparticles -already found in pollution from traffic exhaust, but also used in making household goods such as paint, sunblock, food, cosmetics and clothes- can cause damage to the cells of the liver.

CARBON NANOTUBES WITH MEMORY

Carbon nanotubes have successfully been made into a variety of nanoscale circuit components, including transistors, inverters, and switches. Now, a pair of scientists has made a rough, yet promising, flash memory device out of carbon nanotubes. The device is a long way from a finished, marketable product, but it nonetheless represents a significant step in the drive to incorporate carbon nanotubes into mainstream electronics.

*** HARDWARE REVIEWS ***

ATI X1900XT 512MB VS. NVIDIA FX7800GTX 512MB

3DMark05 (1280 x 1024, 6x AA, Anisotropic Filtering)

ATI - 8453

NVIDIA - 7156

3DMark06 (1280 x 1024, 6x AA, Anisotropic Filtering)

ATI - 6360

NVIDIA - 5396

F.E.A.R. : 51 fps - ATI / 47 fps - NVIDIA

It seems that the new kid on the block kicked some real ass. ATI beat NVIDIA with a full 1000 points in both tests.

THE NEW AMD FX-60

This is a dual core processor running at 2.6GHz each with 1MB of L2 cache on each. This chip is also a 939 socket chip, which is good news if you have the latest AMD socket-939 motherboard. All you might need is a BIOS flash.

PCMark05 Pro - 6673

CPU score - 5334

INTERFACES - FIREWIRE VS. USB

Rated speed

FireWire - 100, 200, 400, 800 Mbps

USB - 1.5, 12, 480 Mbps

Cable Length

FireWire - 4.5m for 400Mbps and 100m for 800Mbps

USB - 5m

Connected Devices

FireWire - 63

USB - 127

*** SPACE NEWS ***



Universe grew from pea-size to astronomical size in an instant

WMAP data NASA's deep space probe has sent evidence of, what scientists believe, must have been the edge of time - the first instant after the Big Bang when the universe grew from a size smaller than a pea to astronomical dimensions.



Bush's NASA cuts halts much research

U.S. President George Bush's goal to return astronauts to the moon by 2018 has forced NASA to trim spending for many research projects across the nation.

NASA and Zero-G Agree on Regular Shuttle Runway Use

NASA and Zero Gravity Corp. of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., announced today the company -- known as ZERO-G -- will begin to regularly use the space shuttle's runway and landing facility at NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Fla. This agreement is the result of a successful pilot program to expand runway access for non-NASA activities.

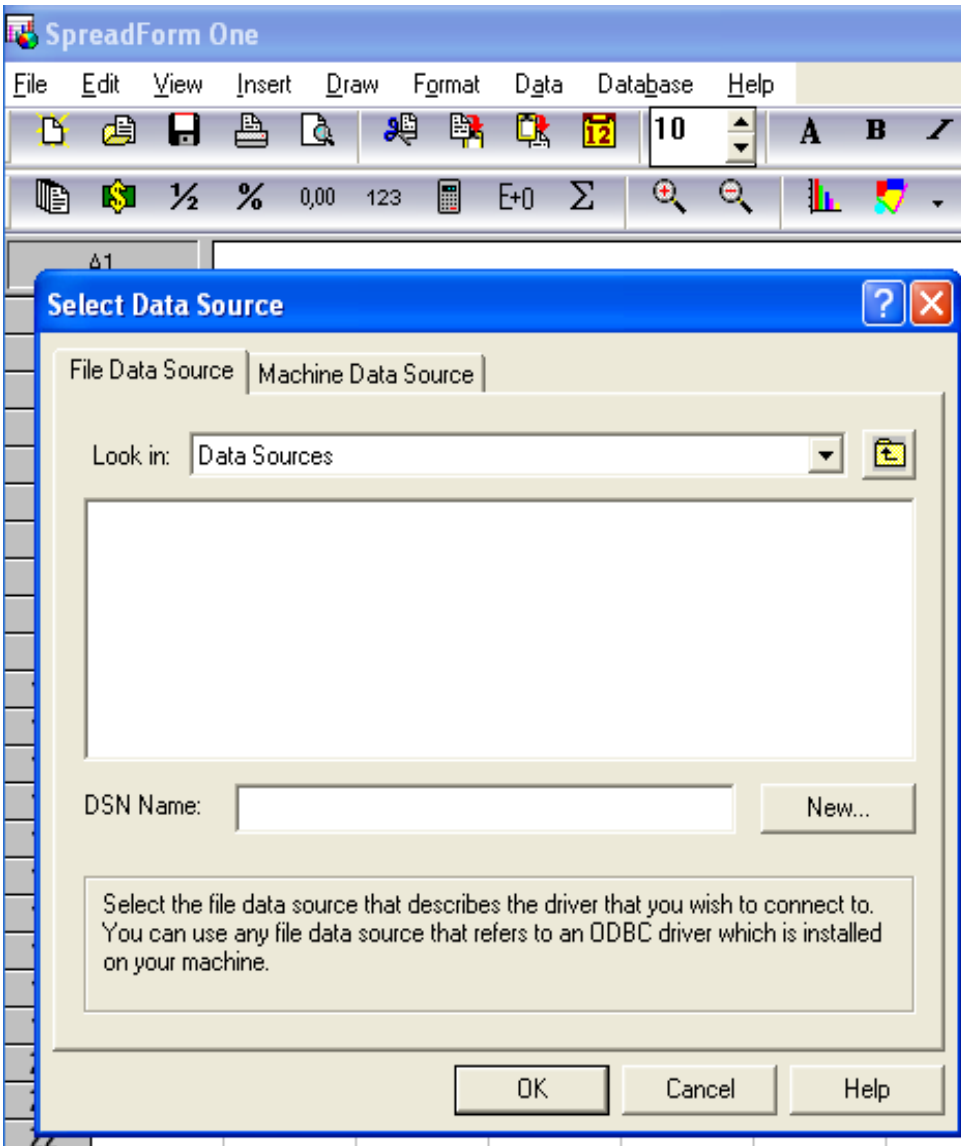
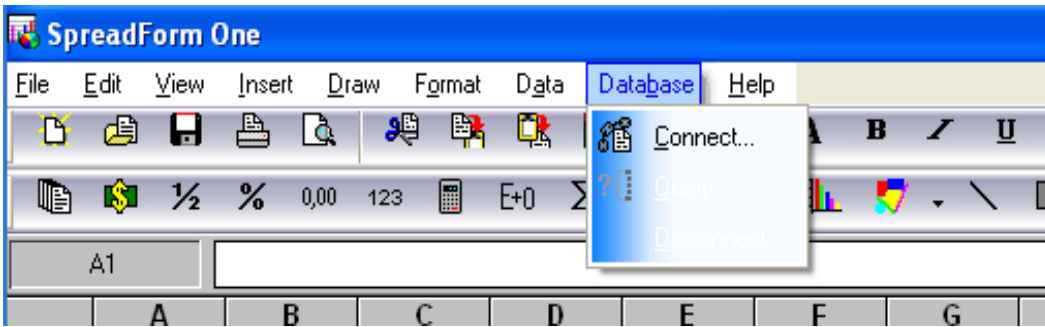


Alarm wakes sleeping astronauts on space station

An alarm signalling a still unidentified problem on the International Space Station abruptly woke two NASA astronauts sleeping separately to the rest of the crew Tuesday.

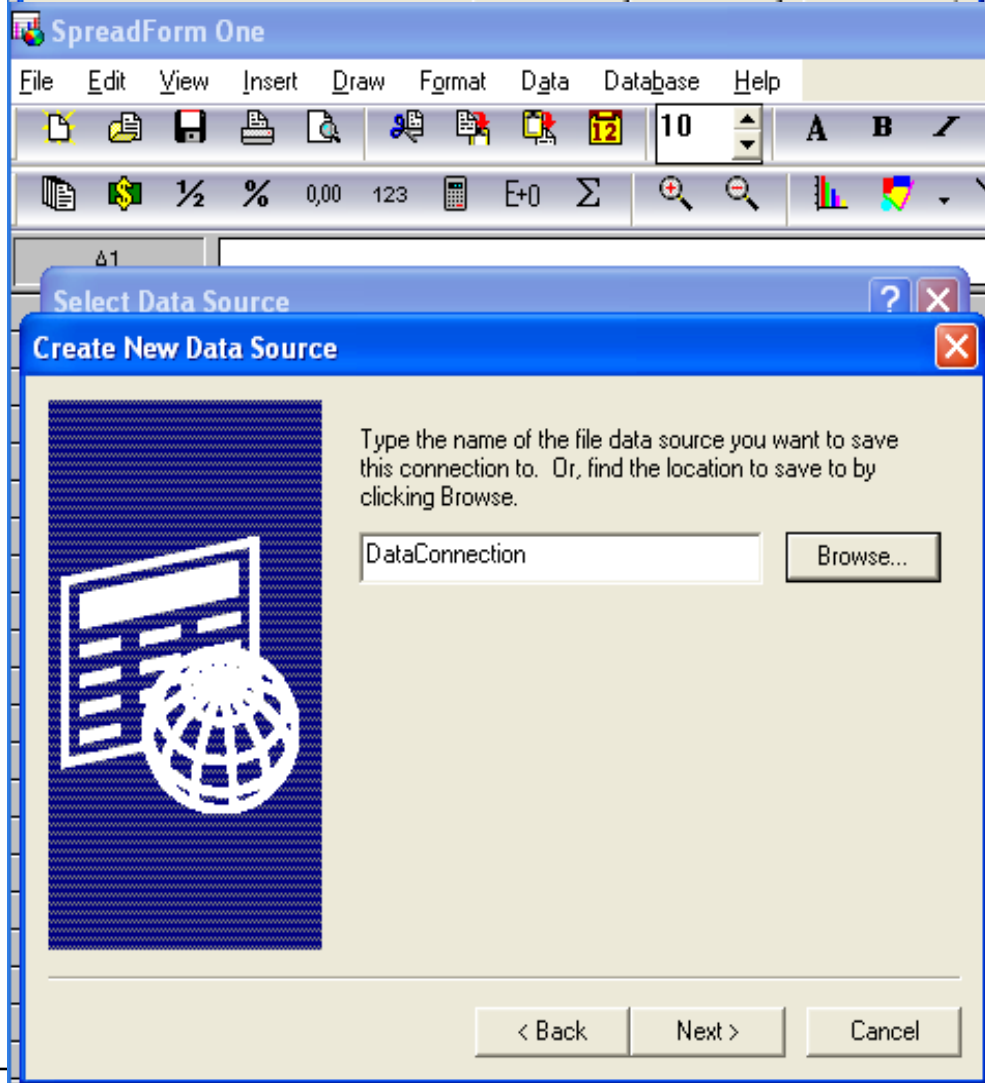
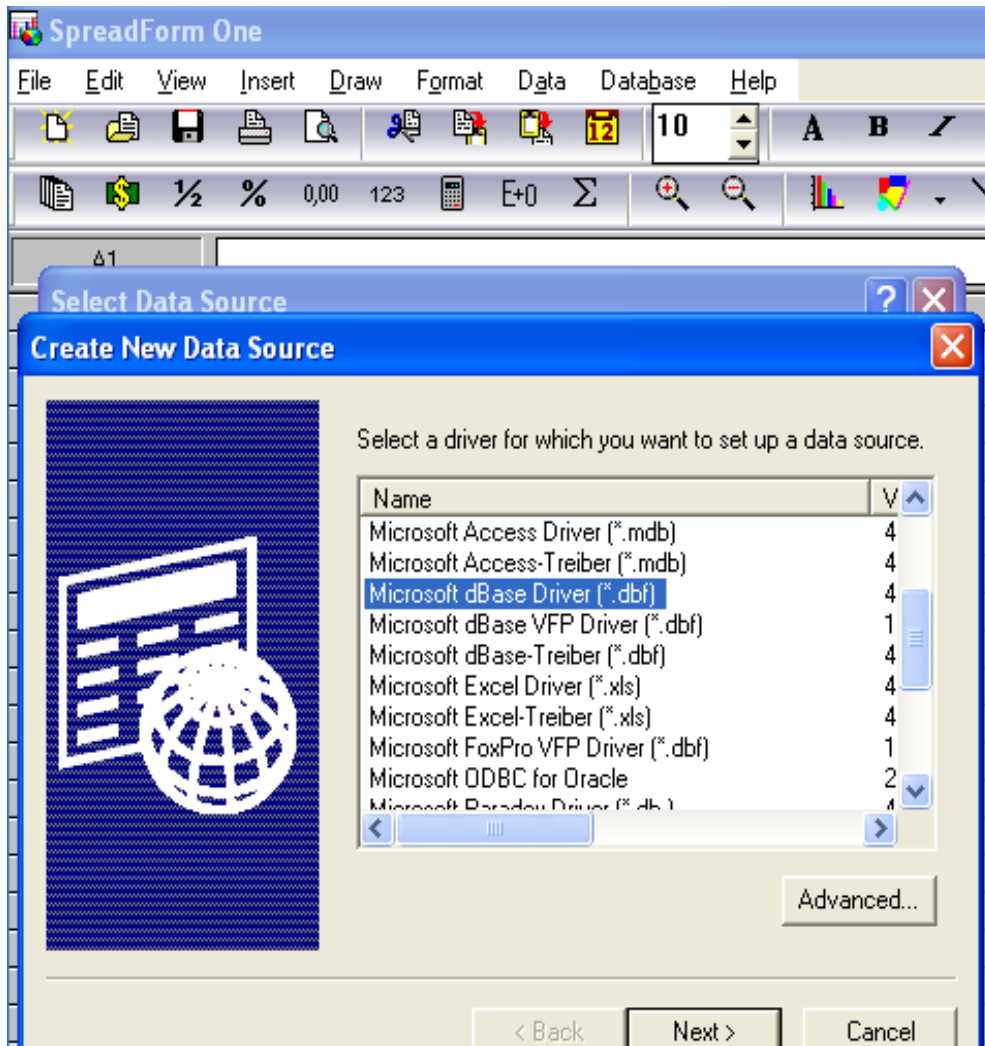
*** TIPS AND TRICKS USING SSUITE OFFICE ***

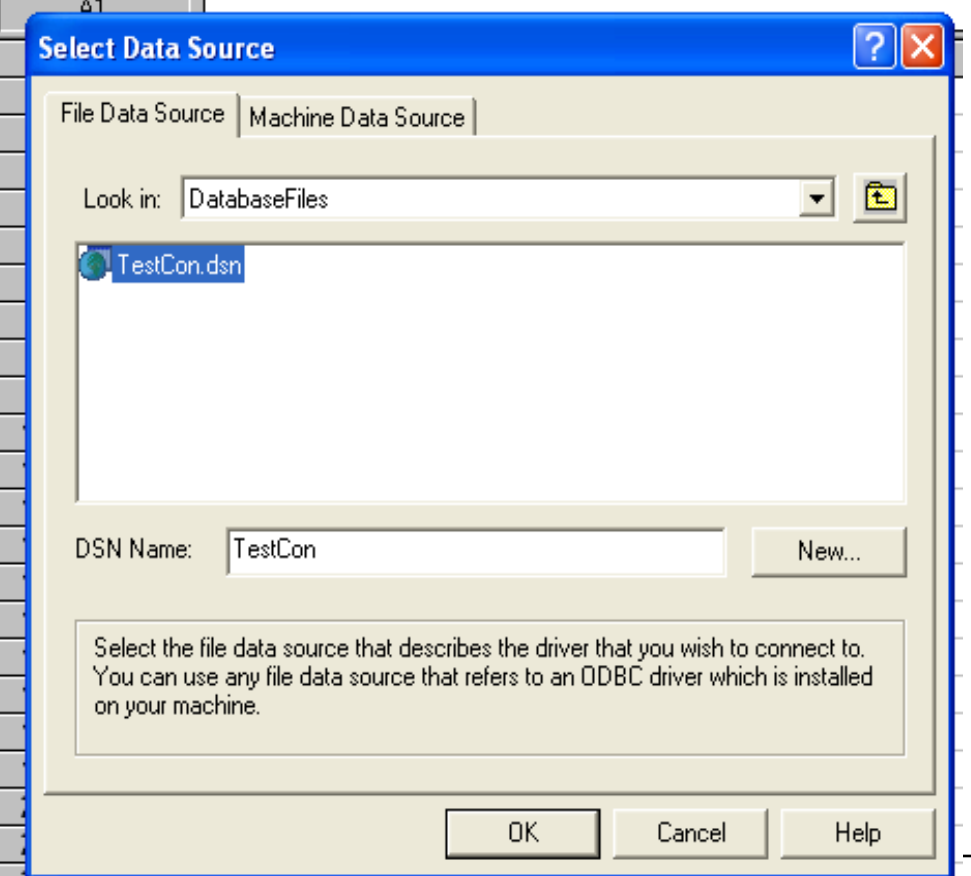
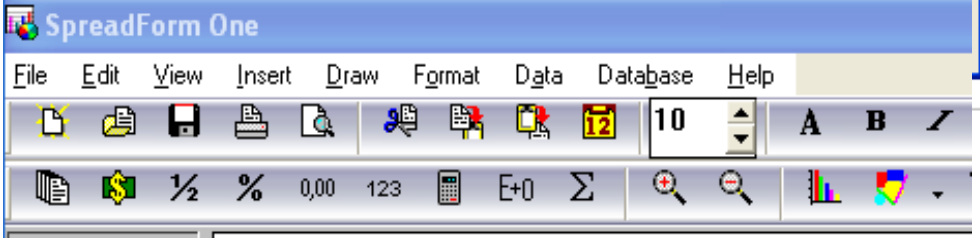
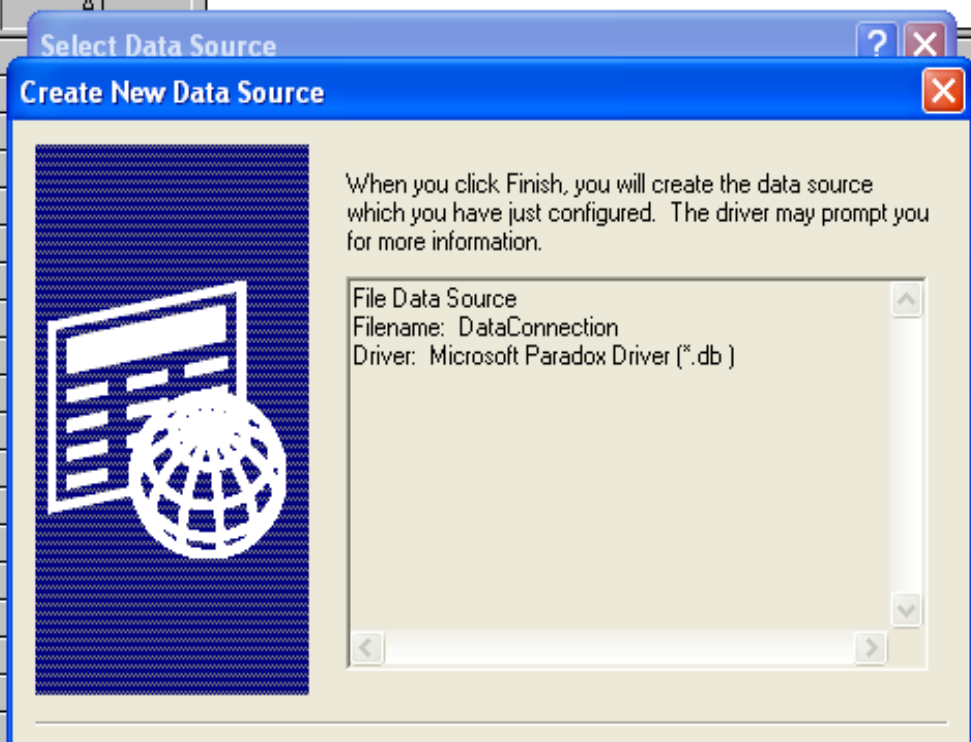
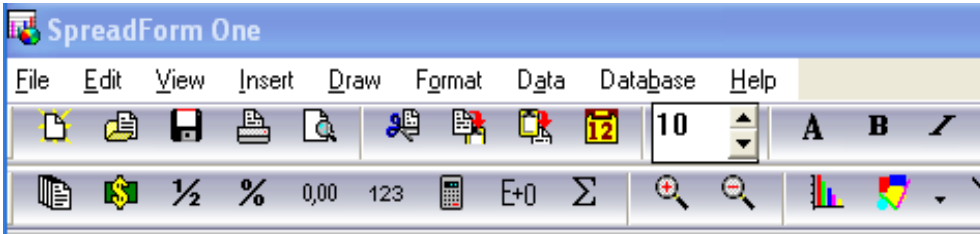
How to connect to a database, using an ODBC connection with SpreadForm One.



If you have not created a datasource object, press the " New " button to create one. Select the relevant ODBC database driver from the list, and press the " Next " button.

When you are asked to save the connection later on, go to the directory that contains all the database files you wish to connect to. Enter a name(any name) for the connection, and press the " Save " button. When you are returned to the main form, select your new connection and press the " OK " button. This will open the query page on which you may enter any SQL query you want. When you are finished, disconnect from the database by clicking on the "Disconnect" option in the Database menu.





Each worksheet in SpreadForm One requires a connection to the database. So if you need to acquire more information from the database, make a connection for each query and worksheet. This method of datamining is very effective, and can be used on any database as long as you have an ODBC driver for it. Please read the help file for more information if necessary.

Our Sources:

www.earthtimes.com

www.physorg.com

www.geekcoffee.net

