OpenText™

# OpenText™ Composer Ciphersoft

## Known Differences in an Oracle® Forms Application Converted to Java™/ADF

The purpose of this document is to list the known differences in an Oracle Forms application that has been converted into Java/ADF with OpenText Composer CipherSoft. OpenText Composer CipherSoft maintains the look, feel, and navigation for the initial conversion in order to minimize the impact on end users and avoid retraining. This can be a significant cost savings. Although the look and feel is similar, end users will notice some minor differences in the browser. The differences are organized into three categories below. Screen shots are also included to help illustrate some of the differences.

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# Overview

OpenText Composer CipherSoft is a software solution that delivers automated migration of Oracle Forms and PL/SLQ applications to standard technologies such as Java and XML. As part of the conversion, the presentation layer, business logic, and persistence layer is separated into a Model View Controller (MVC) architecture. There are two options for the automated conversion of the presentation layer. The first option converts the presentation layer using Java plug-in/applet technology. No business logic is placed on client in this option but it does require a JRE to be installed on each client. The presentation layer in this option can be deployed in a browser or as a Java desktop application.

The other option is to convert the presentation layer into ADF. The ADF option does not require a browser plug-in or JRE on the client. Since the presentation layer is using ADF GUI controls for the user interface, there are some known differences to the Oracle Forms applications once it is converted and displayed in a browser. These differences are outlined below.

# Visual or Appearance Differences

- Colors in the browser may not be an exact match to the colors in Oracle Forms. Colors can be adjusted using Cascading Style sheets to support different color themes.
- Some Oracle Forms components like tabs, tree structures, expand/collapse icons will display a little differently (See Figures 3 -6 below).
- ALERTS and Messages will be displayed on one line, unlike Oracle Forms where the text of the message can be on multiple lines.
- Only one blank tabular row will be displayed when a form is initially opened. Once a query is executed, multiple rows are displayed (the number of rows displayed is defined in a configuration file used during deployment). If more records are retrieved than the number of rows in the display area, a scroll bar will appear on the right side.
- One block spread on several tabular canvases in Oracle Forms will be merged to one canvas. This will look different from the original Oracle Forms application if the tabular canvases are a tab canvas or a stack canvas. In these cases, it will be converted to one content canvas with all items on it.
- Stack canvases will appear on their own page instead of on top of the content canvas.
- A form called from another form will display as its own page instead of in an MDI window.
- OpenText Composer Ciphersoft does not handle right to left orientation.
- The browser zooming facility can be used to make the forms look bigger or smaller.
- ADF provides a nicer, modern looking Model Dialog window.
- ADF provides nicer, modern looking Menu and Menu Item components.
- ADF Input Date Fields will provide calendar popup to select date.

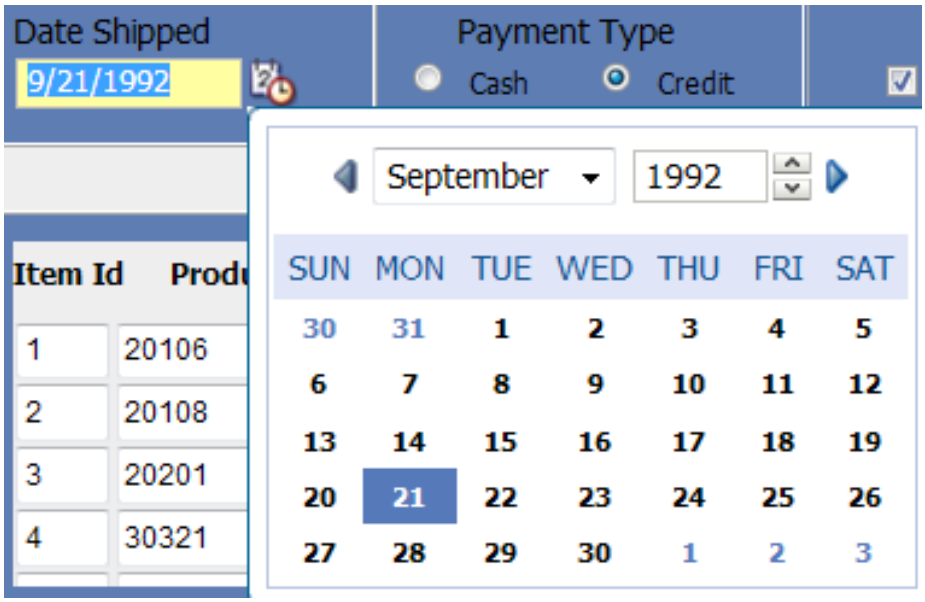



**FIGURE 1**

***Calendar popup in ADF***

*ADF Input Date Fields will provide an example to assist users with acceptable date formats*

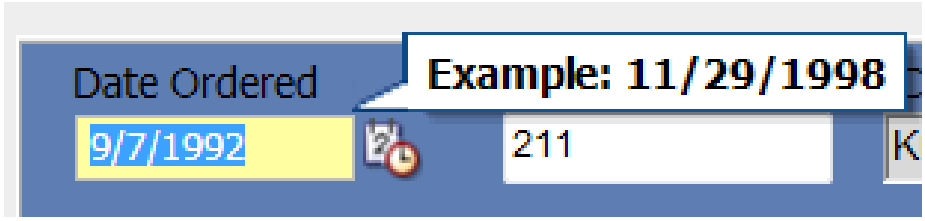



**FIGURE 2**

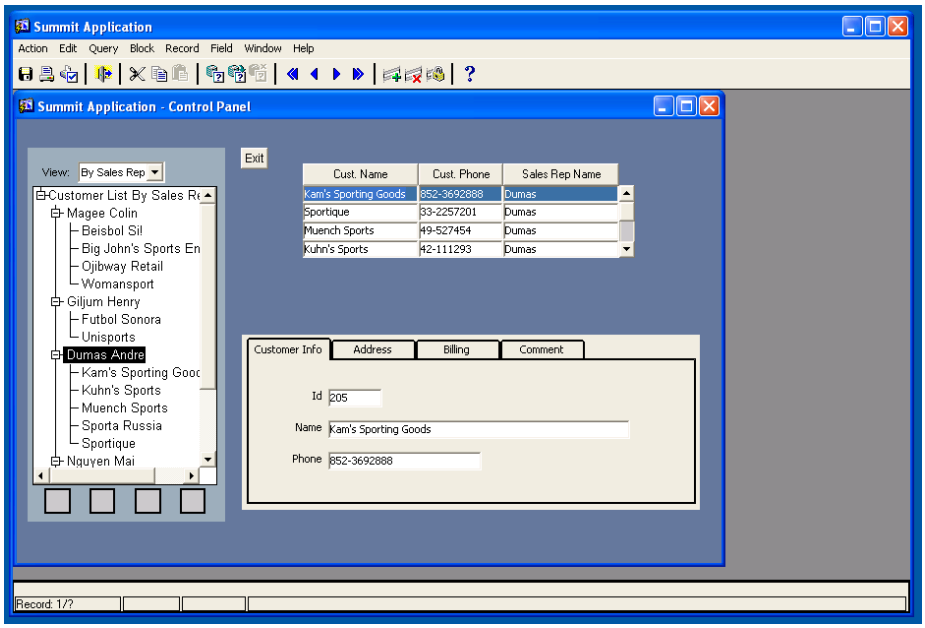
***Example message in ADF***

## Functional or Testing Differences

- Oracle Forms visual attributes (VA) would be created as Cascade Style Sheet (CSS) manually.
- When-mouse-enter/leave events are not available in ADF.

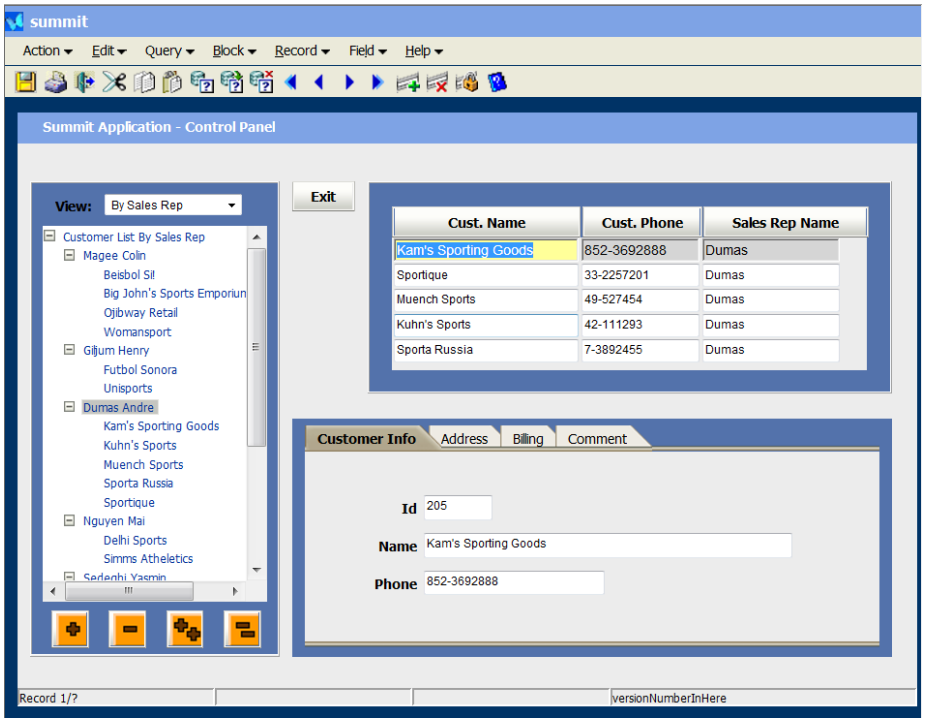
## Limitations or Restrictions Due to Java/Browser

- JDK on server should be 1.5 or 1.6.
- JDBC should be of correct version of the database being used. For example, for Oracle 10g database, jdbc14.jar file is ok but for 11g database you might have to use jdbc5.jar or jdbc6.jar.
- IE 8, IE9 and IE10 browser is supported.
- Since ADF is a browser based presentation layer, certain FKeys are not available for custom mapping (For example, F1 and F10 as they are default settings specific to the browser). In these cases, the FKeys could be remapped to something like CTRL F1 or CTRL F10.
- Performance of the application in a browser can be affected in extreme cases, where thousands of records are being fetched from the database to be displayed in a browser. There are several solutions to address this (For example, limit the number of records fetched can be configured.)



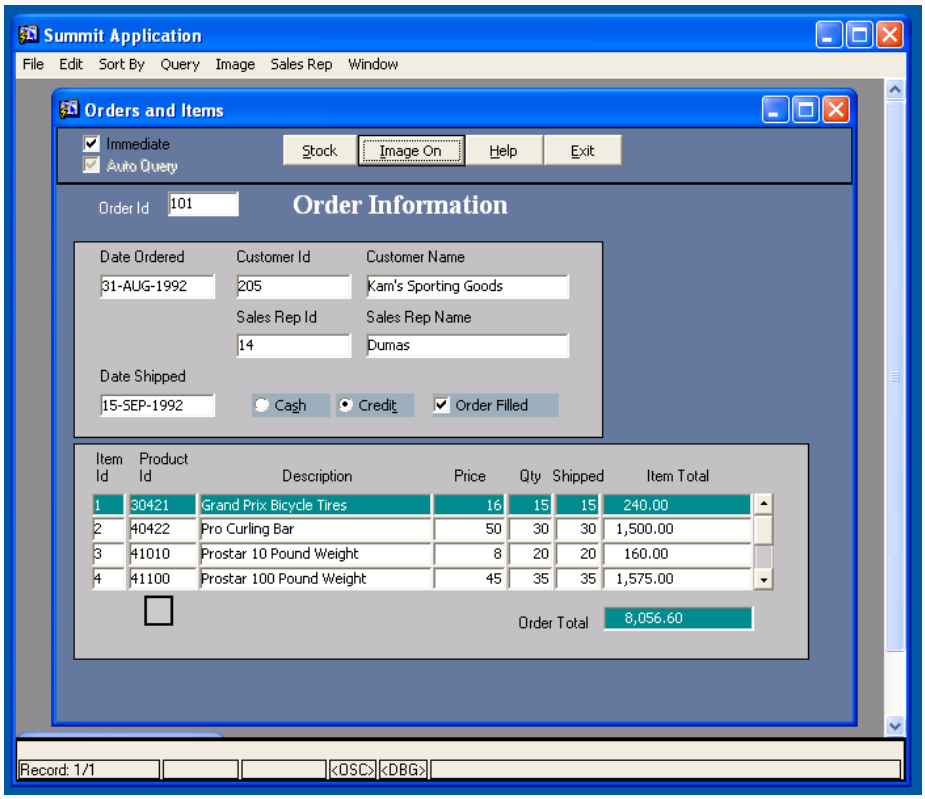

## FIGURE 3

*The Original Oracle Forms Application*



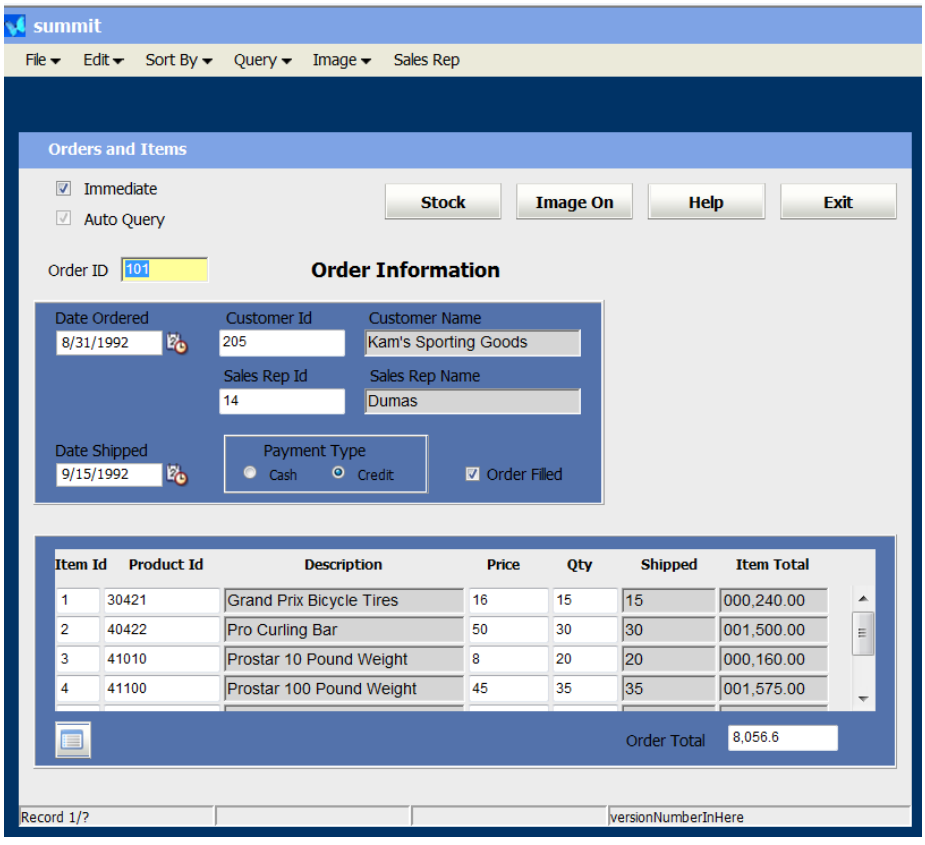

## FIGURE 4

*The Converted Java EE Application*




## FIGURE 5

*The Original Oracle Forms Application*




## FIGURE 6

*The Converted Java EE Application*



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