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# Managing Data in an Object World



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## **Consultingwerk Ltd.**

- Independent IT consulting organization
- Focusing on OpenEdge and .NET
- Located in Cologne, Germany
- Vendor of tools and consulting programs
- 24 years of Progress experience (V5 ... OE11)
- Specialized in GUI for .NET, OO, Software Architecture Application Integration

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# **OpenEdge®** application modernization solutions

- WinKit
- SmartComponent Library
- Dynamics4.NET
- Tools can be used together or separately
- Share common code base
- SmartComponents.Mobile, SmartComponents.Web
- SmartBPMAdapter for OpenEdge BPM/Savvion
- Smart Rollbase Adapter for OpenEdge

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## Agenda

- Rules Showcase
- Value Objects
- Object Relational Mapping
- Business Entities
- Dataset Model Classes
- Conclusion

### **Rules Showcase**

- This talk will give you an overview of different approaches for dealing with data in an OOABL application
- All are right all are wrong …
- But they have different value strength for different use cases
- So, you will need to pick yours...

### **Rules Showcase**

- Object Oriented principles
- Suited for the ABL, ABL suited for model
- AppServer support
- User Interface support

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### **Object Oriented principles**

- Encapsulation
- Extensibility
- Code Reuse
- Single Responsibility Principle

## Suited for the ABL, ABL suited for model

- Implementation effort
- Queryablility
- Transaction support, before image management
- Ad hoc use

## **AppServer support**

- Effort needed to use model on the AppServer
- Support for AppServer clients
- ABL
- .NET
- Java
- Web Services
- REST (including OpenEdge Mobile and Rollbase)

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### **User Interface Support**

- Ability to bind UI to data
  - Viewer
  - Browser / Grids
  - Navigation

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### Value Objects

- Simple objects with mostly properties
- Perfect for passing information around
- Can be used as parameter objects (currently within a session only, 11:4 ABL client to ABL AppServer)
- Similar to struct's in C-like languages
- Easy use with procedural code

### Value Objects

- Tim Kuehn's "single record temp-tables"
- Advantage over temp-tables with small amount of records: does not blows up the DBI file
- Beauty in code: temp-tables and ProDatasets are defined per compile unit, objects may be defined inside internal procedures, methods, more local scope
- Life time (object + data) may end as soon as a method is left
- Temp-Table (definition + data) stays longer

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### Value Objects

#### class Customer Customer + CustNum: int + Country: char + Name: char Address: char Address2: char City: char + + State: char + PostalCode: char + Contact: char + Phone: char + SalesRep: char + CreditLimit: float + Balance: float + Terms: char Discount: int + Comments: char Fax: char + EmailAddress: char

CLASS Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.SimpleValueObject.Customer: DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY CustNum AS INTEGER NO-UNDO GET. SET. DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Country AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO GET. SET. DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Name AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO GET. SET. DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Address AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO GET. SET. DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Address2 AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO GET. SET. DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY City AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO GET. SET. DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY State AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO GET. SET.

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ROUTINE-LEVEL ON ERROR UNDO, THROW.

USING Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.SimpleValueObject.\* FROM PROPATH .

DEFINE VARIABLE oCustomer AS Customer NO-UNDO .

FIND FIRST Customer .

oCustomer = NEW Customer () .

ASSIGN oCustomer:CustNum = Customer.CustNum oCustomer:Country = Customer.Country oCustomer:Address = Customer.Address oCustomer:Address2 = Customer.Address2 oCustomer:City = Customer.City oCustomer:PostalCode = Customer.PostalCode oCustomer:State = Customer.State oCustomer:Balance = Customer.Balance oCustomer:Comments = Customer.Comments oCustomer:Contact = Customer.Contact oCustomer:CreditLimit = Customer.CreditLimit oCustomer:CustNum = Customer.CustNum oCustomer:Discount = Customer.Discount oCustomer:EmailAddress = Customer.EmailAddress oCustomer:Fax = Customer.Fax oCustomer:Name = Customer.Name oCustomer:Phone = Customer.Phone oCustomer:SalesRep = Customer.SalesRep oCustomer:Terms = Customer.Terms .

RUN DisplayCustomer (oCustomer) .

PROCEDURE DisplayCustomer:

DEFINE INPUT PARAMETER oCustomer AS Customer NO-UNDO .

MESSAGE oCustomer:CustNum SKIP oCustomer:Name SKIP oCustomer:City VIEW-AS ALERT-BOX.

END.

Message (Press HE	LP to view stack tr
1 Lift Line Skiing Inc Burlington	
	OK Hilfe

 "Customer" has two meanings here. Not only you can get confused. The compiler as well...

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### Generalization



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### Generalization

CLASS Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.SimpleValueObject.Generalized.Contact:

DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Country AS CHARACTER GET. SET.	USING Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.SimpleValueObject.Generalized.* FROM PROPATH . USING Progress.Lang.* FROM PROPATH .
DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Name AS CHARACTER NO- GET.	CLASS Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.SimpleValueObject.Generalized.Customer INHERITS Contact:
DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Address AS CHARACTER GET.	DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY CustNum AS INTEGER NO-UNDO GET. SET.
SET. DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Address2 AS CHARACTER	DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Balance AS DECIMAL NO-UNDO GET. SET.
GET. SET. DEETNE PUBLIC PROPERTY City AS CHARACTER NO-	DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Comments AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO GET.
GET. SET.	SET. DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY CreditLimit AS DECIMAL NO-UNDO GET.
DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY State AS CHARACTER NO GET. SET.	SET. DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Discount AS INTEGER NO-UNDO
DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Contact AS CHARACTER GET. SET.	GET. SET.
52	DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY SalesRep AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO GET. SET.
	DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY Terms AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO GET. SET.
Managing Data in an Object World	END CLASS.

### Generalization

- Consumer of "Customer" does not need to know that it is inheriting "Contact"
- "Contact" part may be reused for "Supplier"
- Code may expect "Contact" as a parameter and receive "Customer" or "Supplier" (send Email, write letter)
- Properties are always inherited (unless they are private)
- No property overloading, no ability to redefine

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Object Relational Mapping

- Business Entities
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# **Object Relational Mapping**

- Value objects with Data Access ...
- .NET: Entity Framework, NHibernate
- Java: Hibernate, Java Persistence API
- Abstracting Database structure in code to object optimized form
- Reversal of reference: In DB child records have the key of the parent, in objects parents typically have the reference to the child(s)

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USING Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.Orm.Customer.\* FROM PROPATH .

DEFINE VARIABLE oCustomer AS Customer NO-UNDO .

```
FIND FIRST Customer .
```

```
oCustomer = NEW Customer () .
```

```
ASSIGN oCustomer:CustNum = Customer.CustNum
oCustomer:Balance = Customer.Balance
oCustomer:Comments = Customer.Comments
oCustomer:Contact = Customer.Contact
oCustomer:CreditLimit = Customer.CreditLimit
oCustomer:CustNum = Customer.CustNum
oCustomer:Discount = Customer.Discount
oCustomer:SalesRep = Customer.SalesRep
oCustomer:Terms = Customer.Terms
```

```
oCustomer:Address:Country = Customer.Country
oCustomer:Address:Name = Customer.Name
oCustomer:Address:Address = Customer.Address
oCustomer:Address:Address2 = Customer.Address2
oCustomer:Address:City = Customer.City
oCustomer:Address:PostalCode = Customer.PostalCode
oCustomer:Address:State = Customer.State
```

```
oCustomer:Communication:EmailAddress = Customer.EmailAddress
oCustomer:Communication:Fax = Customer.Fax
oCustomer:Communication:Phone = Customer.Phone .
```

# **Multiplicity**

- OOABL limited support for "lists" of objects
- Array of Objects
- Temp-Table with Progress.Lang.Object fields
  - Potential issues with DBI file size
- Linked Lists
  - Complex implementation
- Unless using Array's you should wrap List implementation in separate classes for reuse and separation of concern

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### **Reducing Temp-Table overhead**

- Every temp-table (OE11 once it contains a single record) allocates 9 blocks in the DBI file
- Many small temp-tables blow up DBI fast
- Consider wrapping List code in class that uses a single temp-table for all instances of the List
- "static" temp-table (in OO means)

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USING Consultingwerk.Framework.Base.\* FROM PROPATH . USING Consultingwerk.Framework.Enum.\* FROM PROPATH . USING Progress.Lang.\* FROM PROPATH .

```
CLASS Consultingwerk.Framework.Base.List
IMPLEMENTS IEnumerable, ISupportsListChanged:
```

DEFINE PRIVATE STATIC TEMP-TABLE ttList NO-UNDO FIELD RecordOwner AS CHARACTER FIELD ListItem AS Progress.Lang.Object INDEX RecordOwner RecordOwner ListItem



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# List:Add ()

```
ASSIGN ttList.RecordOwner = cInternalId
ttList.ListItem = poItem .
```

THIS-OBJECT:OnListChanged (NEW ListChangedEventArgs (ListChangedTypeEnum:ListItemAdded)) .

RETURN poItem .

END METHOD.

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### List:GetItem ()

METHOD PUBLIC Progress.Lang.Object GetItem (piIndex AS INTEGER):

DEFINE BUFFER ttList FOR ttList .

DEFINE VARIABLE i AS INTEGER NO-UNDO.

```
DO i = 1 TO piIndex:
```

FIND NEXT ttList WHERE ttList.RecordOwner = cInternalId NO-ERROR .

```
IF NOT AVAILABLE ttList THEN
    UNDO, THROW NEW AppError ("The specified index is not part of the List"{&TRAN}, 0).
```

END.

```
IF AVAILABLE ttList THEN
RETURN ttList.ListItem .
```

END METHOD.

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### **Sample using List**

```
DEFINE VARIABLE oList AS Consultingwerk.Framework.Base.List NO-UNDO .
DEFINE VARIABLE oCustomer AS Customer NO-UNDO .
```

```
oList = NEW Consultingwerk.Framework.Base.List () .
```

```
FOR EACH Customer WHERE Customer.CustNum <= 5:
```

```
oCustomer = CAST (oList:Add (NEW Customer()),
Customer) .
```

```
ASSIGN oCustomer:CustNum = Customer.CustNum
oCustomer:Balance = Customer.Balance
oCustomer:Comments = Customer.Comments
oCustomer:Contact = Customer.Contact
oCustomer:CreditLimit = Customer.CreditLimit
oCustomer:CustNum = Customer.CustNum
oCustomer:Discount = Customer.Discount
oCustomer:SalesRep = Customer.SalesRep
oCustomer:Terms = Customer.Terms
```

```
oCustomer:Address:Country = Customer.Country
oCustomer:Address:Name = Customer.Name
oCustomer:Address:Address = Customer.Address
```

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# Sample using List

#### PROCEDURE DisplayCustomer:

```
DEFINE INPUT PARAMETER oList AS Consultingwerk.Framework.Base.List NO-UNDO .
```

DEFINE VARIABLE oCustomer AS Customer NO-UNDO . DEETNE VARTABLE i AS INTEGER NO-UNDO.

```
DO_i = 1 TO_olist:Count:
```

```
oCustomer = CAST (oList:GetItem (i), Customer) .
```

MESSAGE oCustomer:CustNum SKTP oCustomer:Address:Name SKTP oCustomer:Address:City VTEW-AS ALERT-BOX.

FND. FND.

### **Sample using Enumerator**

### New "Statement" using Include File

PROCEDURE DisplayCustomer:

DEFINE INPUT PARAMETER oList AS Consultingwerk.Framework.Base.List NO-UNDO .

{Consultingwerk/foreachABL.i Customer oCustomer in oList}

MESSAGE oCustomer:CustNum SKIP oCustomer:Address:Name SKIP oCustomer:Address:City VIEW-AS ALERT-BOX.

END.

END.

### List needs to support IEnumerable Interface

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### foreachABL.i

```
&IF "{5}" NE "nodefine" &THEN
    DEFINE VARIABLE {2} AS {1} NO-UNDO .
    DEFINE VARIABLE {2}Enumerator AS Consultingwerk.Framework.Base.IEnumerator NO-UNDO .
&ENDIF
    ASSIGN {2}Enumerator = CAST({4}, Consultingwerk.Framework.Base.IEnumerable):GetEnumerator() .
    {2}Enumerator:Reset() .
    DO WHILE {2}Enumerator:MoveNext() ON ERROR UNDO, THROW:
        ASSIGN {2} = CAST({2}Enumerator:Current, {1}) .
```

### **Generic Lists**

- Base List class Add method allows Progress.Lang.Object, i.o.W. every kind of member
- Return value of GetItem needs CAST
- A specialized List class of "Customer" guaranties that only customer objects are part of the List
- .NET has dynamic language concepts for this: Generic lists: List<Customer>
- ABL needs class for every list. Don't be shy and use Include Files in Classes!

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<b>Generic List</b>	/*		
	METHOD PUBLIC {1} Add (poItem AS {1}):		
	SUPER:InternalAdd (poItem).		
	RETURN poItem .		
	END METHOD.		
	/*		
CLASS Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.ListCustomer		generic List	
INHERITS GenericList ABSTRACT:		Lists member type	
		л):	
{ Consultingwerk/Framework/Bas	<pre>se/GenericList.i Customer }</pre>	,	
END CLASS.			
	/*		
	Purpose: Retrieves an item from the generic List Notes: CAST's the element from the underlying Progress.Lang.Object based list @param piIndex The 1 based index of the item to retrieve @return The item of the Lists member type		
	METHOD PUBLIC {1} GetItem (INPUT piIndex	AS INTEGER ):	
RETURN CAST (SUPER:InternalGetItem (piIndex), {1}).		-	
	RETURN CAST (SUPER:InternalGetItem (	piIndex), {1}) .	

# **Filtering**

- .NET has LINQ Support
- Language Integrated Natural Query
- Iterating a list of objects with filtering
- True FOR EACH on objects
- Difficult to achieve with objects in Progress
- You end up iterating the whole list and verifying condition on every object in loop
- Ungly code, difficult to debug

# What's missing

- Data Access: Our preferred way are Business Entities, when ORM view is abstracted from relational view, mapping code is required
- Before Image Handling: Transaction undo, error handling, optimistic locking
- Filtering
- UI Binding: ABL supports this for Temp-Tables
- AppServer boundary... require custom serialization
- A code generator ☺

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### **Business Entity**

- Central term of the OERA
- OpenEdge Reference Architecture
- Business Logic Object typically build around a ProDataset
- Uses Data Access Object for reading and updating Data in the Database (or another storage)
- Term Business Entity abused in OE Mobile

### **Business Entity**

- Business Entity: State Less Service Object (on the AppServer)
- ProDataset may be exposed to the outside
- ProDataset may be send to AppServer client
- Leveraging ProDataset before tables for optimistic locking and rollback
- Abstraction of the Dataset model possible in ProDataset design: Temp-Tables do not need to copy DB tables (completely), denormalization possible

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#### class CustomerBusinessEntity «Dataset» **CustomerDataAccess** CustomerBusinessEntity dsCustomer AttachDataSource(): void RetrieveData(): void + + Uses DefineReadEvens() : void «TempTable» ValidateData() : void + + DetachDataSource(): void + dsCustomer:: SourceColumn(): void + eCustomer SourceDefaultQuery() : void + defines +DataAccessObject «TempTable» Is A ls A dsCustomer:: eSalesRep **BusinessEntity** DataAccess FetchData(): void + FetchData() : void + FetchDataset(): void + dsCustomer:: SaveChanges() : void + SaveChanges() : void + eOrder dsCustomer:: eOrderLine

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# **Retrieving Data from a Business Entity**

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```
USING Consultingwerk.OERA.* FROM PROPATH .

{Demo/ManagingDataInObjects/BusinessEntity/dsCustomer.i}

DEFINE VARIABLE oRequest AS IFetchDataRequest NO-UNDO .

oRequest = NEW FetchDataRequest ("eCustomer",

"FOR EACH eCustomer WHERE eCustomer.Name BEGINS 'Lift'",

10) .

ServiceInterface:FetchData ("Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.BusinessEntity.CustomerBusinessEntity":U,

oRequest,

OUTPUT DATASET dsCustomer) .

FOR EACH eCustomer:

DISPL eCustomer.CustNum

eCustomer.Name .

END.
```

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## **Updating Data using a Business Entity**

ServiceInterface:FetchData ("Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.BusinessEntity.CustomerBusinessEntity":U, oRequest, OUTPUT DATASET dsCustomer) .

TEMP-TABLE eCustomer:TRACKING-CHANGES = TRUE .

FOR EACH eCustomer: DISPL eCustomer.CustNum eCustomer.Name .

UPDATE eCustomer.Name . END.

```
ServiceInterface:SaveChanges ("Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.BusinessEntity.CustomerBusinessEntity":U,
INPUT-OUTPUT DATASET dsCustomer) .
```

IF DATASET dsCustomer:ERROR THEN
 MESSAGE Consultingwerk.Util.ErrorHelper:DatasetErrorStrings (DATASET dsCustomer:HANDLE)
 VIEW-AS ALERT-BOX.

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### **Business Entity Validation**

```
IF LENGTH (eCustomer.Name) < 5 THEN
   ASSIGN BUFFER eCustomer:ERROR-STRING = "Customer name needs to have at least a characters"
   BUFFER eCustomer:ERROR = TRUE
   DATASET dsCustomer:ERROR = TRUE .</pre>
```

END.

END METHOD.



### Validate API

- Assertion style validation
- Easier to read, don't focus on error handling, include field info with error

/*	Message (Press HELP to view stack trace)
Purpose: Provides a hook for high level operations Notes: Invoked during SaveChanges ().	Customer name needs to have at least 5 characters <sup>J</sup> Name <sup>J</sup> eCustomer
is set, the Update operation wi the data to the database using	OK Hilfe
METHOD OVERRIDE PUBLIC VOID ValidateData ():	

```
FOR EACH eCustomer:
```

```
Validate:MinLength (BUFFER eCustomer:HANDLE,
"Name",
5,
"Customer name needs to have at least 5 characters").
END.
```

### **Business Entity vs. Data Access Object**

- Business Entity should contain Business Rules
- Data Access should contain Data Access ③
- BE: Validation based on Business Rules
- DA: Validation based on DB schema, e.g. violating unique constraints, required foreing keys assigned, etc.
- BE: Should contain calculated values assignment
- BE: Should contain additional methods on the data, e.g. "ShipOrder", "CancelDelivery"

```
Purpose: Ships an order by setting the Order.OrderStatus field, a ship date
             and instructions as passed in
    Notes:
    @param dsOrder INPUT-OUTPUT DATASET To return modified Order record to consumer
    @param poShipOrderParameter Parameter object with OrderNumer, ShipDate and Instructions
METHOD PUBLIC VOID ShipOrder (INPUT-OUTPUT DATASET dsOrder,
                              poShipOrderParameter AS ShipOrderParameter):
    DEFINE VARIABLE oRequest AS Consultingwerk.OERA.FetchDataRequest NO-UNDO .
    DEFINE VARIABLE cMessages AS CHARACTER
                                                                      NO-UNDO.
    /* Define Query */
    ASSIGN oRequest = NEW Consultingwerk.OERA.FetchDataRequest ("eOrder",
                                                                SUBSTITUTE ("FOR EACH eOrder WHERE eOrder.OrderNum = &1", poShipO
                                                                2,
                                                                1,
                                                                "":U) .
    /* Get data from data access object*/
   THIS-OBJECT:FetchData (oRequest) .
    /* access and modify data */
    FIND FIRST eOrder .
    THIS-OBJECT:TrackingChanges = TRUE .
    ASSIGN eOrder.Instructions = poShipOrderParameter:Instructions
           eOrder.ShipDate
                              = poShipOrderParameter:ShipDate
           eOrder.OrderStatus = "Shipped" .
    IF poShipOrderParameter:SalesRep > "":U THEN
        eOrder.SalesRep = poShipOrderParameter:SalesRep .
    THIS-OBJECT:TrackingChanges = FALSE .
    /* Save data using data access object */
    THIS-OBJECT:SaveChanges() .
    cMessages = Consultingwerk.Util.ErrorHelper:DatasetErrorStrings(DATASET dsOrder:HANDLE) .
```

```
IF cMessages > "":U THEN
UNDO, THROW NEW AppError (cMessages, 0) .
```

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### Demo

- Build Business Entity in Business Entity Designer
- Business Entity Tester
- Review code

### **Business Entity conclusion**

- Build around first class citizen in the ABL: ProDataset
- Exposes ProDataset to the consumer
- Typically does not persist state information
- So, ProDataset is considered part of message to Business Entity, not violating encapsulation
- May be Data Provider for ORM
- ProDatasets supported with EVERY AppServer client: ABL, .NET, Java, Web Services, REST, OE Mobile, Rollbase

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### **Dataset Model Classes**

- Primary goal: Simplify access to Business Entities on server side code and clients, make it transparent if on client or AppServer
- Secondary goal: Provide more control on access to fields and tables
- Third goal: Neat query interface
- Build around ProDataset
- Typically build as consumer to a Business Entity
- Support for Read and Write

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### **Dataset Model Classes**

- Access to fields (and tables) through
- Main difference to ORM approach is, that there is only a single instance of the model that allows access to multiple records though iterators
- Model Class constructors may retrieve data using default (PUK) queries

DEFINE VARIABLE oCustomer AS Demo.Mana	gingDataInObjects.BusinessEntity.CustomerDatasetModel NO-UNDO
oCustomer = NEW Demo.ManagingDataInObj	<pre>ects.BusinessEntity.CustomerDatasetModel (1) .</pre>
MESSAGE oCustomer:Customer:Name VIEW-AS ALERT-BOX.	Message (Press HELP to view stack tr
ιε	OK Hilfe

# **Query Sample**

- Every "Table" class has a filter class attached
- Provides simple and strong typed query capabilities
- Batching support

```
DEFINE VARIABLE oCustomer AS Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.BusinessEntity.CustomerDatasetModel NO-UNDO .
oCustomer = NEW Demo.ManagingDataInObjects.BusinessEntity.CustomerDatasetModel () .
oCustomer:BatchSize = 10 .
oCustomer:Customer:Filter:Name:Begins ("Li") .
oCustomer:Customer:Filter:City:Begins ("B"):Run () .
DO WHILE oCustomer:Customer:Available:
    MESSAGE oCustomer:Customer:CustNum
    oCustomer:Customer:Customer:City
    VIEW-AS ALERT-BOX.
    oCustomer:Customer:GetNext() .
END.
```

# **Query Support**

- We are using the same Filter techniques on top of data in the models
- Support for retrieving large batch of data from the Database and AppServer and run local sub queries
- Support for Viewes

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### Demo

- Review Dataset Model Class
- Execute Query
- Modify Data
- Build and Invoke Custom Method

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Conclusion

### Conclusion

- OOABL is ready for Data Access!
- Different approaches
  - there is no single right answer
  - some may be more ABL style than others which may be more Java or C# style
- Don't ban ABL language element from your code (include files, ProDataset, TempTable)
- Pick YOURS!
- Any approach will require building foundation classes, consider code generation

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# **Consultingwerk** software architecture and development

### **Questions?**

