

1 Miscellaneous

1.1 How Can I Add A Table Of Contents To A Multi Page Report?

A multi page report can be very long and typically needs a Table of Contents to allow the reader to find information they are seeking easily. Unfortunately, the page numbers for a Table of Contents are unknown until the preceding pages have been rendered, so this is a fairly complex task. However, using variables and the page BeginRender and EndRender events with Stimulsoft Reports it is quite possible to achieve an automated Table of Contents like this:

Financial statements for the period ended 31 October 2010

<i>Contents</i>	<i>Page</i>
Directors, officers and advisers	3
Directors Report	4
Accountants Report	5
Profit and Loss Account	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8
Detailed Profit and Loss Account	9

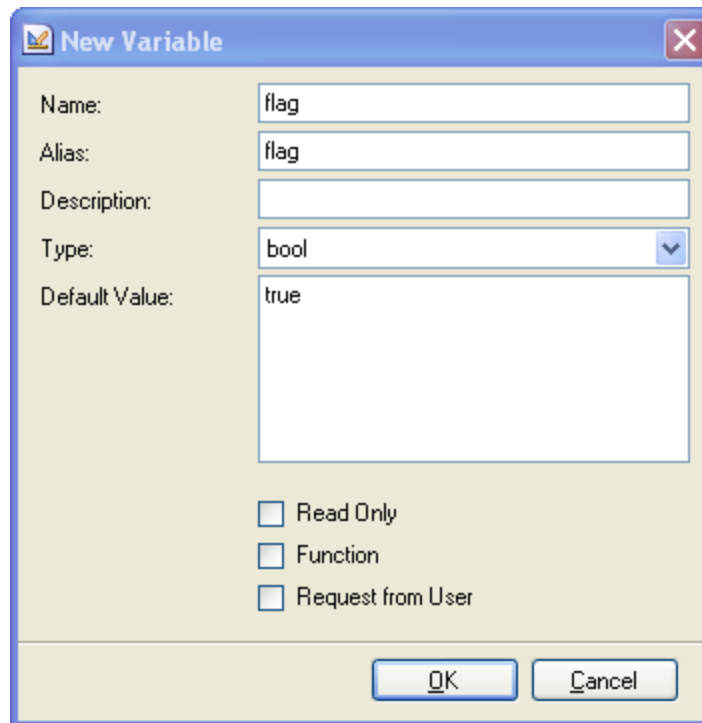
An automatically completed Table of Contents

Using this method the page numbers will be calculated automatically based on the report page numbers - if a page extends to multiple pages the page numbers will be automatically adjusted to show the correct starting pages for each chapter or section.

Once you have created your Table of Contents page and added the necessary text components, the steps to generate this feature within your report are as follows:

Create a Flag variable

The first step is to add a boolean variable called 'flag' to the report dictionary:



New Variable Dialog

This flag will be used to track whether or not a page anchor should be added to the current page.

Note: The variable name is not compulsory - if you prefer to use a different variable name you may do so, and simply adjust the following code to suit.

Set The Tag

In each of the text components being used to output the page numbers set the Tag property (located under Interaction in the object inspector) to the name of the page that is to have its first page number shown within the Table of Contents. In the example above the first page to be included is named 'DirectorsOfficersAndAdvisers' so this would be the tag value. Repeat the process for each additional page to be included in the Table of Contents.

Set The Text Expression

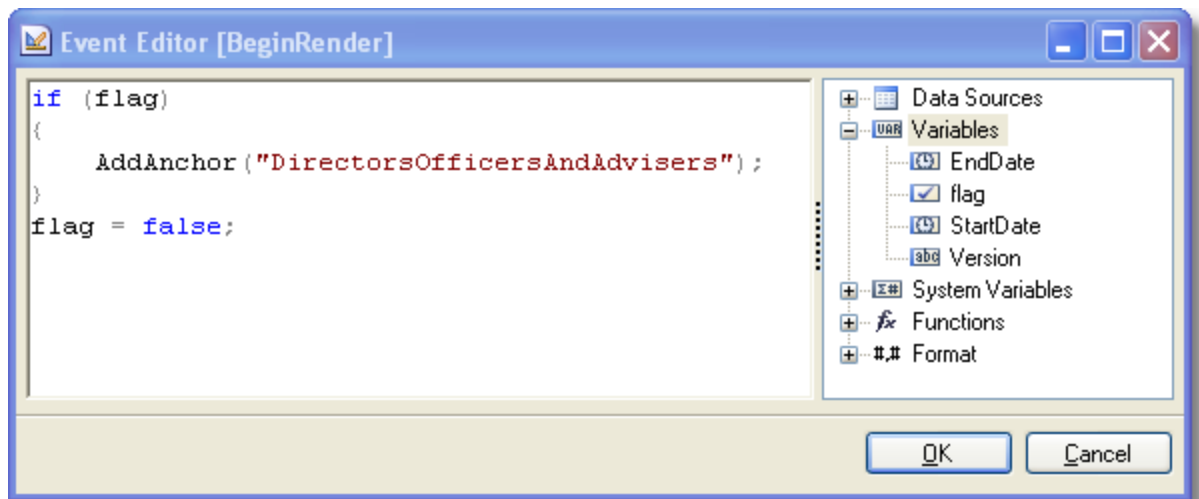
To get the appropriate page number to use in the Table of Contents we will use the `GetAnchorPageNumber` method within the text expression. For each of the text components being used to output the page numbers set the expression to:

```
{GetAnchorPageNumber(sender.TagValue)}
```

Unlike when setting the tag you can use exactly the same expression for each text component.

Add Code To The BeginRender Event

For each page open the Event Editor for the `BeginRender` event by clicking the ellipsis beside the event in the object inspector, and enter code as shown below.



Event Editor showing the BeginRender event code

For each page in the report, add the same code except that the `AddAnchor` call should be modified so that the relevant page name should appear as the parameter in each case.

Add Code To The EndRender Event

For each page open the Event Editor for the `EndRender` event by clicking the ellipsis beside the event in the object inspector, and enter code as shown below.

```
flag = true;
```

Again you can use the same expression for each page.

You can now print or preview the report and the Table of Contents will be automatically populated with the correct page numbers.