

# OptionGroup ActiveX control

Written by Martin Kremer

Language Version: Visual Basic 6

This control is designed to simplify data entry for multiple-choice/Likert-scale data entry. The control comprises a frame and 1 to 7 option (radio) buttons. The buttons represent a linear range of values with a definable lowest value.

The control exposes several control-specific properties and methods:

**AllowUserReset:** Property, Boolean – Enables or disables the ability of the user to request **Reset** of the control to unselected state in user mode. If **True**, the user can right-click on the control and select ‘Reset’ from the popup menu.

**LeftOrTopIsLow:** Property, Boolean – Sets or returns **True** indicating that the radio button on the left side (or top) of the control represents the low end of the value range or **False** indicating that the radio button at the right or bottom represents the low end of the value range. Future versions of the control may include an Orientation property that will permit vertical as well as horizontal format. As of version 1.0.0, this functionality is not implemented. This property is read/write at design time and read only at run time.

**LowEndValue:** Property, Integer - Sets or returns the lowest value to be returned when a radio button is selected in the control. The default is zero, but the value can be set for any integer-size value. Setting this property to a negative value can permit zero center-value groups. This property is read/write at design time and read only at run time.

**NoSelectionValue:** Property, Integer – Sets or returns the value that will be assigned to the control if none of the radio buttons is selected.

**OptionCount:** Property, Integer – Sets or returns the number of option buttons to be displayed. This value may range from 1 to 7 and may be set at run time. Attempting to assign a value outside this range raises error –2147220503

**Orientation:** Property, Integer, values 0=Horizontal 1=Vertical – Not currently implemented.

**Value:** Property, Integer – The Default property of the control. Returns either the **NoSelectionValue** or the state of the radio button selection. Can be set through code at run time and will set the option corresponding to the passed value to **True**. If the value passed is out of range for the current configuration of the control, no error is raised and the control’s value is not changed. If the value passed is the **NoSelectionValue**, the **Reset** method is invoked.

**Reset:** Method – Sets all option buttons in the control to false. Available only at run time. Can be called directly from code or by the user right-clicking on the control when the **Value** is other than **NoSelectionValue**.

Other properties exposed by the control are standard control properties.

To register the control, copy it to your computer and register it using regsvr32.exe *pathname*\optgrp.ocx  
No license is required.

At design time, drop the control on your form, set the **OptionCount** property and then size to suit your need. This will space the radio buttons evenly across the width of the control. To accomplish the same effect programmatically at run time, set the control **Width** before setting the **OptionCount**.

The **OptionCount** can be set programmatically, in which case the control will resize itself at run time and add another radio button on the right side with the spacing between options either 400 twips (default) or the current spacing established by two or more design-time radio buttons on the control.

When the user clicks on an option button in the control, or when the **Value** property is set through code, the control's **Click** event is raised. This event can be used to capture the **Value** of the control for program use.

Author information:

Martin A. Kremer

e-mail: [makremer@ameritech.net](mailto:makremer@ameritech.net)