Learn LANSA

Learn LANSA is here!

Learn LANSA is the new e-learning platform for the world's most powerful and versatile low-code platform, Visual LANSA. A comprehensive learning ecosystem is so important to foster developers' success as they adopt and learn a new software development platform. LANSA is relentlessly committed to making sure that current and future customers have the best resources available to make learning Visual LANSA easier than ever.

Content and a Community

Learn LANSA features tutorials and textbook-style learning content as well as the Learn LANSA Community for collaboration and knowledge sharing. This community will provide a central location for developers to discuss course content plus various aspects of Visual LANSA.

Developers will be able to post videos, code snippets and screen shots of issues they may encounter or solutions to other developers' issues. Communities are an essential aspect to modern online learning, and LANSA wants to ensure we are providing all the tools necessary for success with Visual LANSA.

New Trial Experience

The new Learn LANSA will also be the first step to a new and improved Visual LANSA trial experience. With the new trial experience (launched mid-May), future customers will get to try out Visual LANSA in a structured environment, carefully crafted to maximize the evaluation process.

Since the trial experience is hosted in Learn LANSA, trial users will have a seamless transition into course enrolees when they become part of the LANSA family.

Not One and Done

Learn LANSA will be a living, breathing and ever-evolving resource for all things Visual LANSA. Courses will be regularly added, and current courses will be evaluated and updated as necessary.

Along with full courses covering both V14 and V15, Learn LANSA will feature micro-learning courses. Micro-learning courses will be very short, one-topic courses dealing with very specific features and solutions. LANSA is dedicated to providing the best online learning experience in the industry.

Check It Out

You can check out learn.lansa.com right now to see all the courses available.

Learn LANSA's in-depth content includes:
- — Comprehensive tutorials
- — Extensive courses covering all aspects of Visual LANSA
- — Micro-learning courses for learning quick tasks
- — Learn LANSA e-learning community
- — Discussions to foster customer engagement
- — Visual LANSA's all-new trial experience

Current customers can request access through their sales contacts.

Portalize

LANSA is excited to announce Portalize, a revolutionary product combining the world's most powerful low-code platform, Visual LANSA, with the growing demand for customized application portals.


Portalize™: BUILD SECURE PORTALS FAST – THE FIRST LOW-CODE PORTAL SOLUTION BUILT FOR HUNDREDS OF USE CASES

Portalize is a fully functional, full-feature portal that can be customized and tweaked to your exact business specifications. With Portalize, you will get essential features out of the box, far beyond what a normal application portal offers. Portalize comes complete with built-in navigation, responsive web design, recording of user session events, logging, security, administrative features, user features, analytics, and scalability to support even the largest portal needs.

The benefits of Portalize go beyond a prebuilt full-feature portal. With Portalize, you have access to the best practices in Visual LANSA as well as a reference for consistent application development.

Since Portalize is powered by Visual LANSA, you have full access to the source code and full control over customizations. This also allows for quicker customizations of your portal. Use the built-in features to get your portal going quickly and add new features at any time.

LANSA NEWSLETTER

With Portalize, LANSA handles all your portal needs so you can focus on solutions and application development.
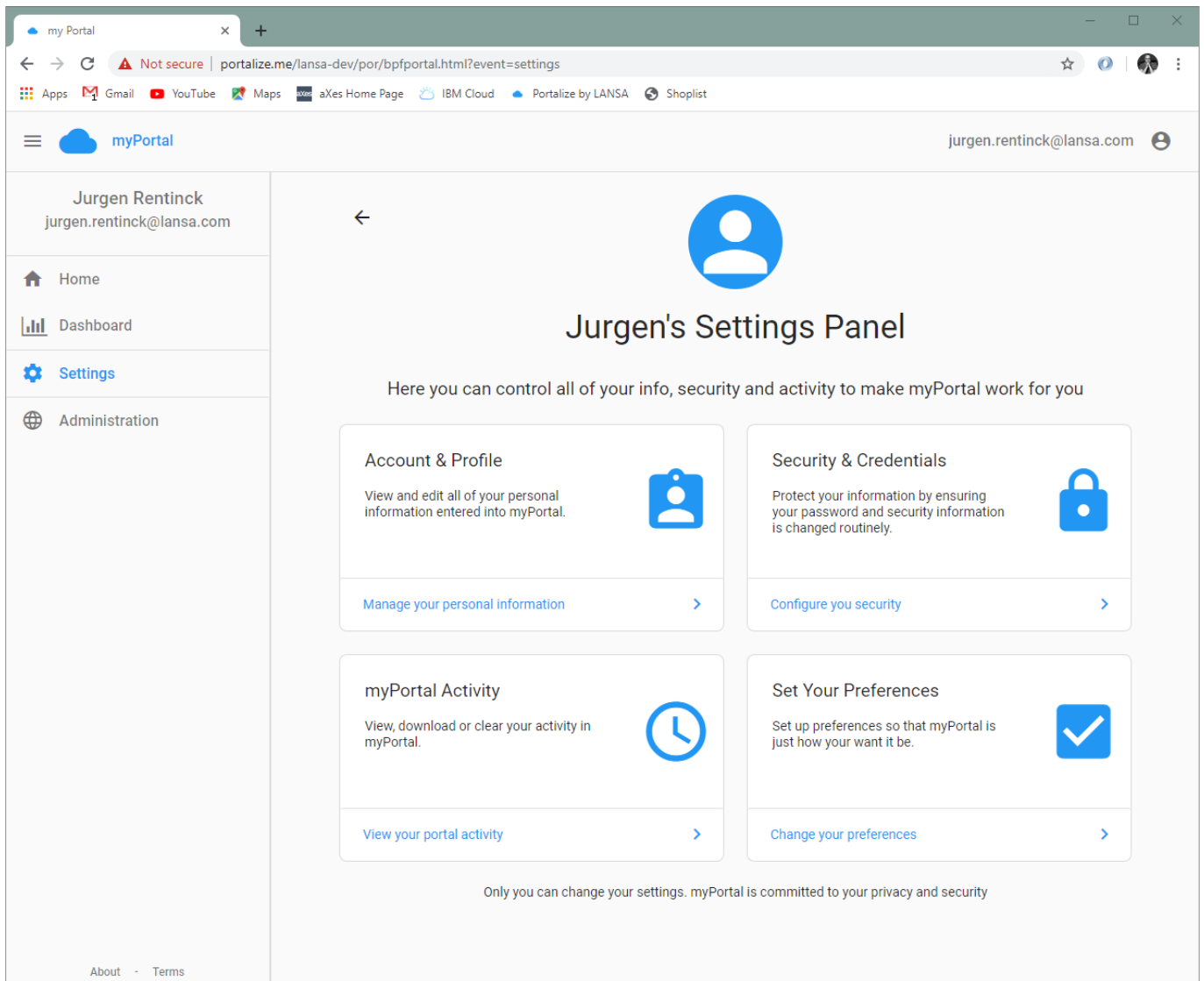
Use the out-of-box look for quick deployment or customize it as much as you need.
Portalize is loaded with out-of-the-box functionality, saving you valuable time and business resources. You will get instant access to all these features plus many more.

User Features
- Login
- Account creation/Forget password
- User management of details, preferences
- Users can update their account and profile information.
- Security validation questions

Administrative Features
- Administration of users, security, and notifications
- Easily manage user accounts
- An email engine that can send notifications and action requirements (forgot password, account disabled, etc.)
- Turn Google Analytics on or off
- Control session logging

Security
- Passed extensive penetration testing
- IP address monitoring for excessive requests
- Ban specific IP addresses
- Limit the number of login requests
- Portal checks to ensure all requests actually come from the portal

Portalize is loaded with other features such as advanced navigation and the ability to set system roles and set test and production emails. LANSA took the time to ensure that most all of your portal needs will be available out of the box. We also made sure it could be easily customized with Visual LANSA.

Don't waste time coding your own portal from scratch. Contact sales@lansa.com and experience the power of Portalize!

System Init fails when installing VL on a PC which has a Beta option enabled

When you install Visual LANSA on a PC which has the option "Beta: Use Unicode UTF-8 for worldwide language support" enabled, the System Init (starts after the install) will fail.

This option is set by navigating to Control Panel, Clock & Region, selecting the Administrative tab, then click Change System Locale and enabling the option. Refer to the dialogs shown below…
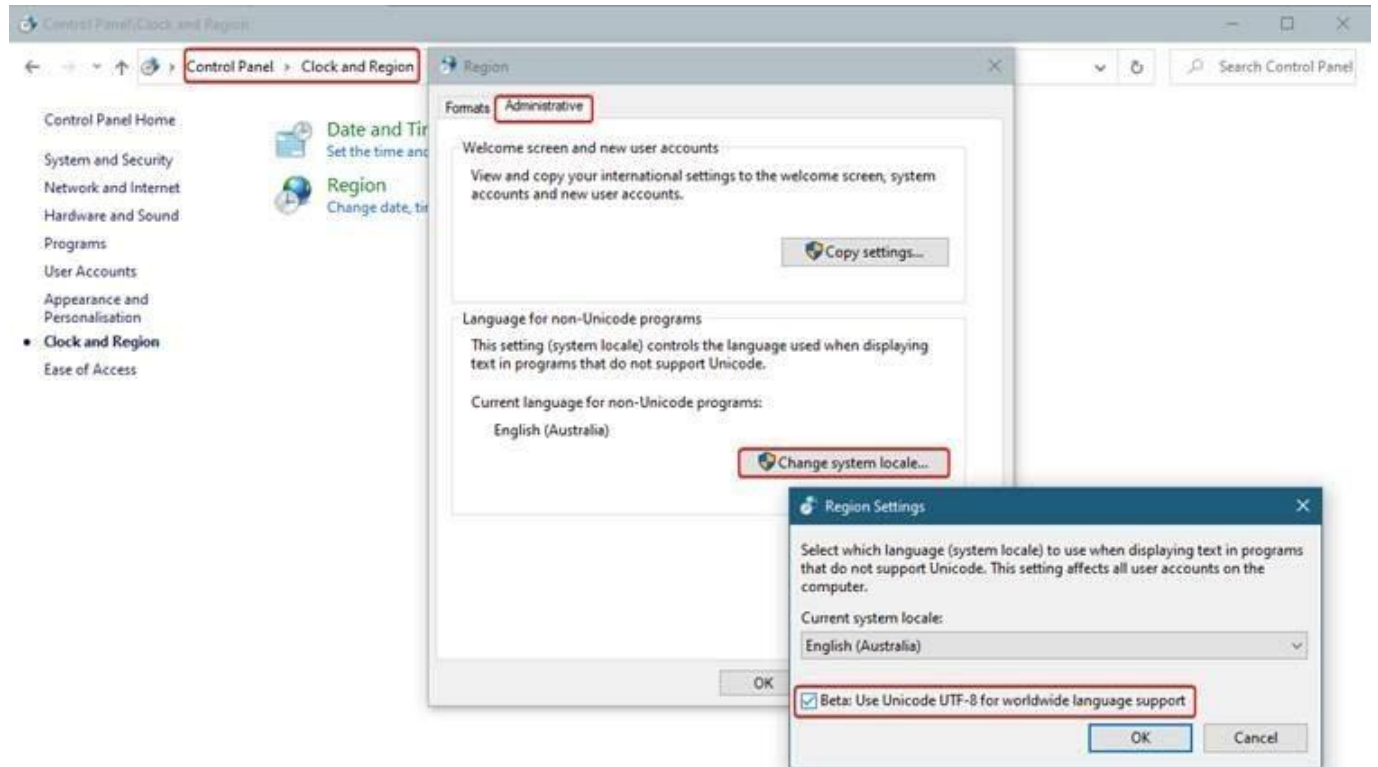

LANSA is not compatible with this Beta/experimental feature. It causes all input data to be presumed to be in UTF-8 format. When the ANSI codepage data is converted to the database codepage, presuming the data is in UTF-8 format, the data is corrupted.

This option may be switched on at any time. Whenever it is switched on, SQL Server will always corrupt the data. Switching the option on and off only causes permanent damage to the data in SQL Server. Software installations themselves are unaffected. In particular, SQL Server is installed the same whatever this option is set to.

Data corruption may occur with other database servers like Oracle and MySQL. And if it does not already occur with other databases, it may occur in the future if software updates are released for these other database servers.

The symptom when installing Visual LANSA is that a fatal error String data, right truncation in Routine X_DBI_Fetch_by_Cursor is generated by the ODBC driver. See following image. Note that different symptoms will occur when running the IDE and running applications.
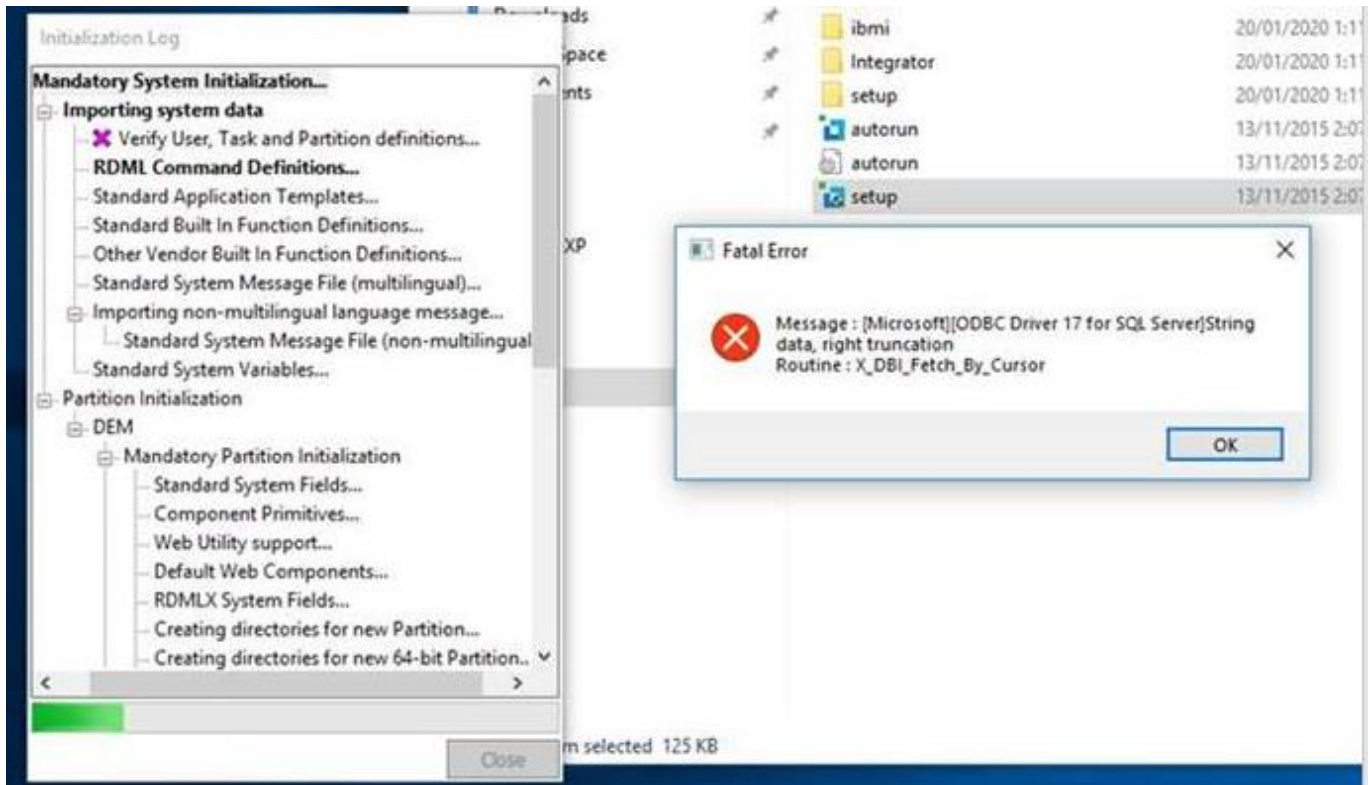
Solution

The workaround is to switch the option off and redo whatever you were doing. In this case, with the Visual LANSA install, after switching the option off, uninstall Visual LANSA and delete the database from SQL Server. And do not switch the option back on.

For the IDE and runtime, data may have been corrupted which will need to be manually resolved.

For the next version of LANSA, a change will be introduced to detect that the option is enabled and not allow LANSA to run until the option is turned off.
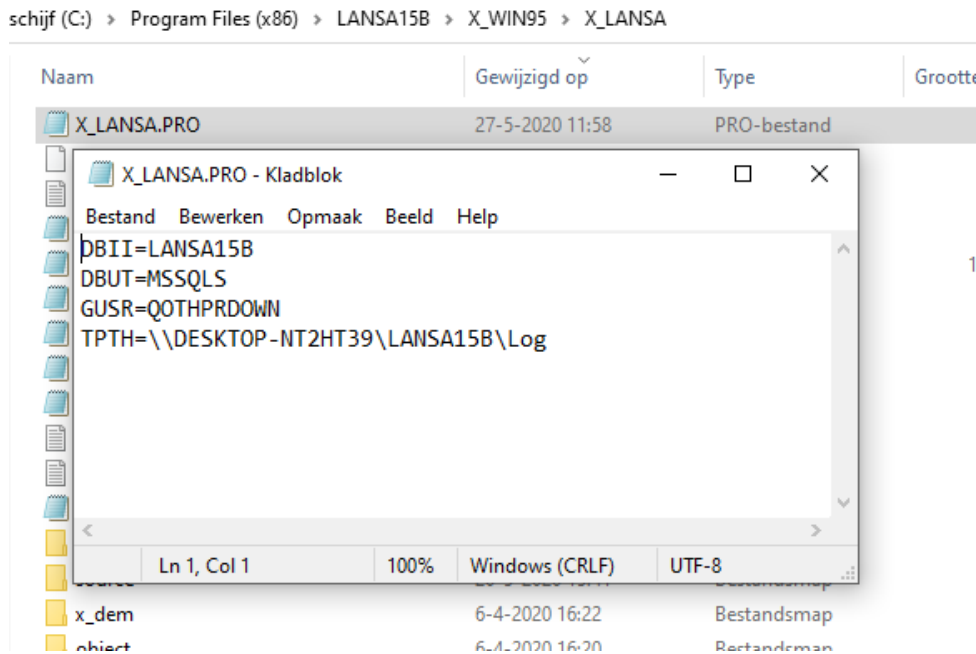
Did you know?

X_LANSA.PRO

Most X_RUN parameter values can be permanently specified in a special profile file named x_lansa.pro.

A profile file can provide you with three benefits:
1. No need to type in most of the parameters every time you wish to use the X_RUN command.
2. All parameter values are consistently specified. Changing and forgetting parameters between different executions of X_RUN may produce differing results that confuse you.
3. Values for parameters that are not set up when you execute your application directly from within Visual LANSA can be specified.

So, the X_LANSA.pro file contains X_RUN parameters to be permanently specified and applied to the LANSA environment it is associated with.
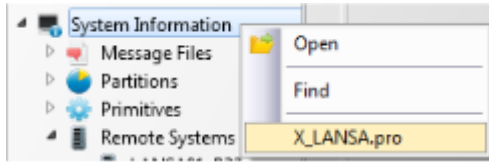
The x_lansa.pro file is per LANSA installation in Windows located in the \X_WIN95\X_LANSA directory and is normally maintained in notepad as a text file:
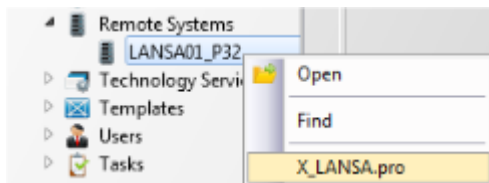

But did you know........

……….. that ……

To review the X_LANSA.pro file in the VL IDE associated with the current Visual LANSA environment, select the X_LANSA.pro command on the System Information context (right click) menu.

To review the X_LANSA.pro file in the VL IDE associated with a remote system select the X_LANSA.pro command on the Remote System's context menu.
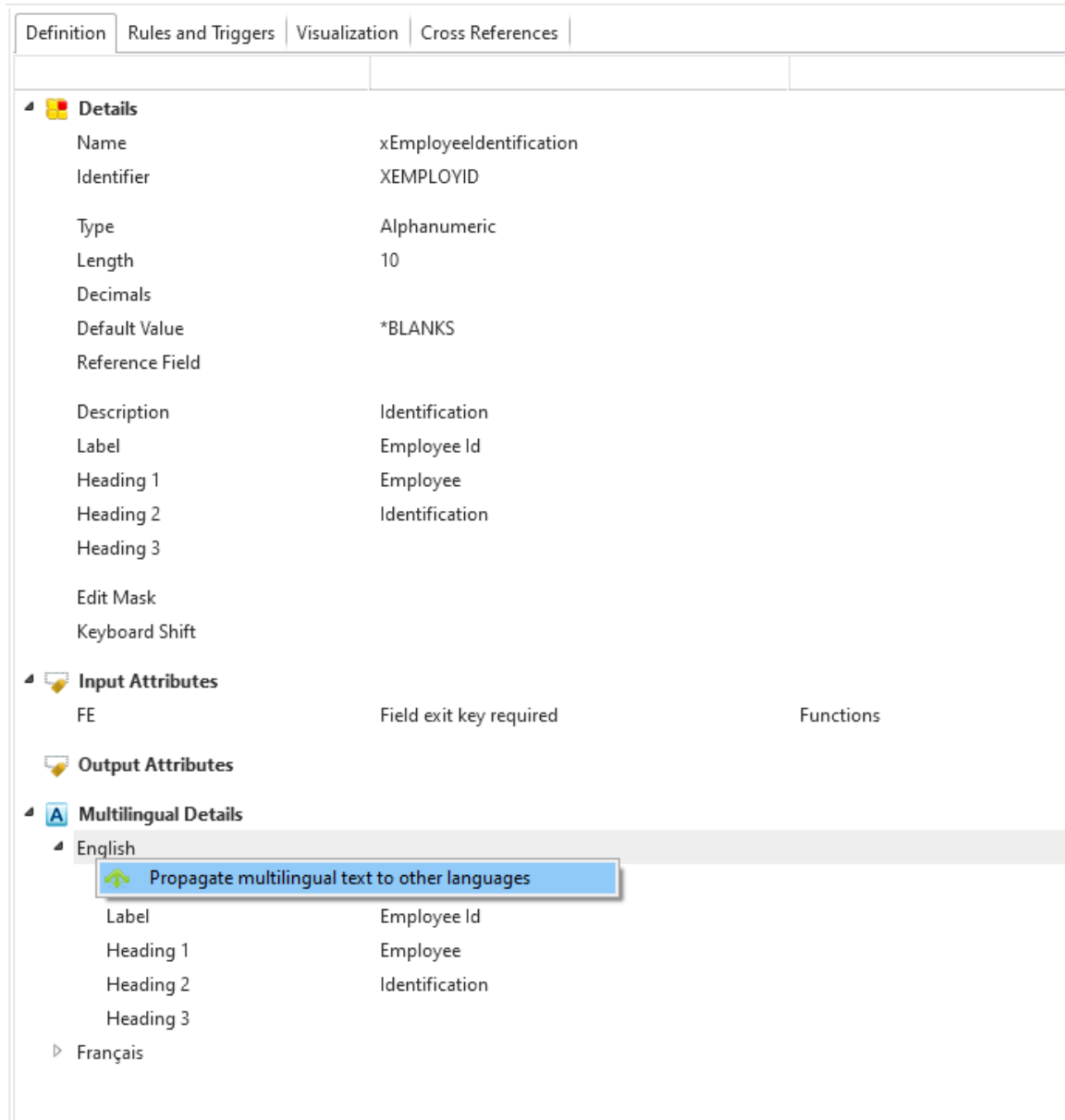

The X_LANSA.pro maintenance interface is primarily provided to allow confidential details to be encrypted in the file, but it also allows for general review and maintenance of unencrypted information.
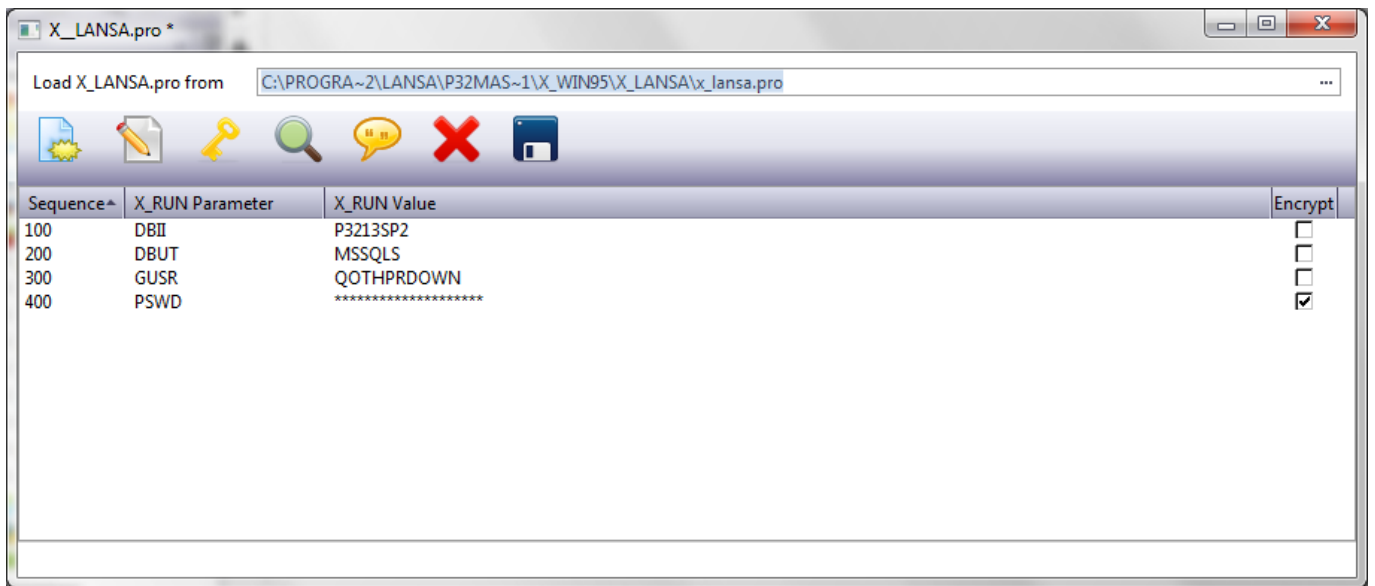
Propagate Multilingual Text

Did you know ….

That when you use your right mouse button at a language in the Multilingual Details part of a component:

Definition	Rules and Triggers	Visualization	Cross References

Details

Name	xEmployeeIdentification
Identifier	XEMPLOYID
Type	Alphanumeric
Length	10
Decimals	
Default Value	*BLANKS
Reference Field	
Description	Identification
Label	Employee Id
Heading 1	Employee
Heading 2	Identification
Heading 3	
Edit Mask	
Keyboard Shift	

Input Attributes

FE	Field exit key required	Functions

Output Attributes

Multilingual Details

English

   ⬆ Propagate multilingual text to other languages

Label	Employee Id
Heading 1	Employee
Heading 2	Identification
Heading 3	

Français

That you can 'Propagate multilingual text to other languages'?

Identity Column in Table

An identity column provides a way to automatically generate a unique numeric value for each row in a table. A table can have only one column that is defined with the identity attribute.

An identity column is a column (also known as a field) in a database table that is made up of values generated by the database. This is much like an AutoNumber field.

An identity column differs from a primary key in that its values are managed by the server and usually cannot be modified. In many cases an identity column is used as a primary key; however, this is not always the case.

Did you know ….

That you can mark a field in a LANSA file as the Identity Column:

EPC150010 for LANSA V15

EPC150010 ships many fixes and enhancements for V15 across the LANSA product suite.

Major highlights include:
- A new wizard for both forms of SELECT_SQL in RDMLX has been included in this EPC. Refer to the online documentation for details.
- Several Web API template improvements have been implemented. Significant improvements include implementing security options in the Web API template, improvements to the handling of files with null fields and making Values for the Media Types parameter available in a dropdown.
- All EPCs also ship all the latest fixes and changes shipped via hotfix and patch since the last EPC.

SELECT_SQL Statement Wizard

Use the SELECT_SQL Statement Wizard to easily create SELECT_SQL statements in RDMLX-enabled components such as reusable parts. In fact, it can be used anywhere that you would use a SELECT_SQL statement.

The statements can search over a table or a value in multiple columns (fields).

The Wizard allows you to select from all the database types supported by LANSA.

It can be used on both Visual LANSA independent systems as well as Visual LANSA slave systems linked to an IBM i.

Related files are available for inclusion. They are not be automatically included.

You can choose files that are known to be related to a selected file by LANSA. In addition, files can be nominated manually and the relationship specified.

To use the Wizard

To start the wizard, open a component, display the Source tab and type SQL on a blank line, then press Enter.

The Wizard will open displaying the Start tab. Screen example below is showing the Where tab:
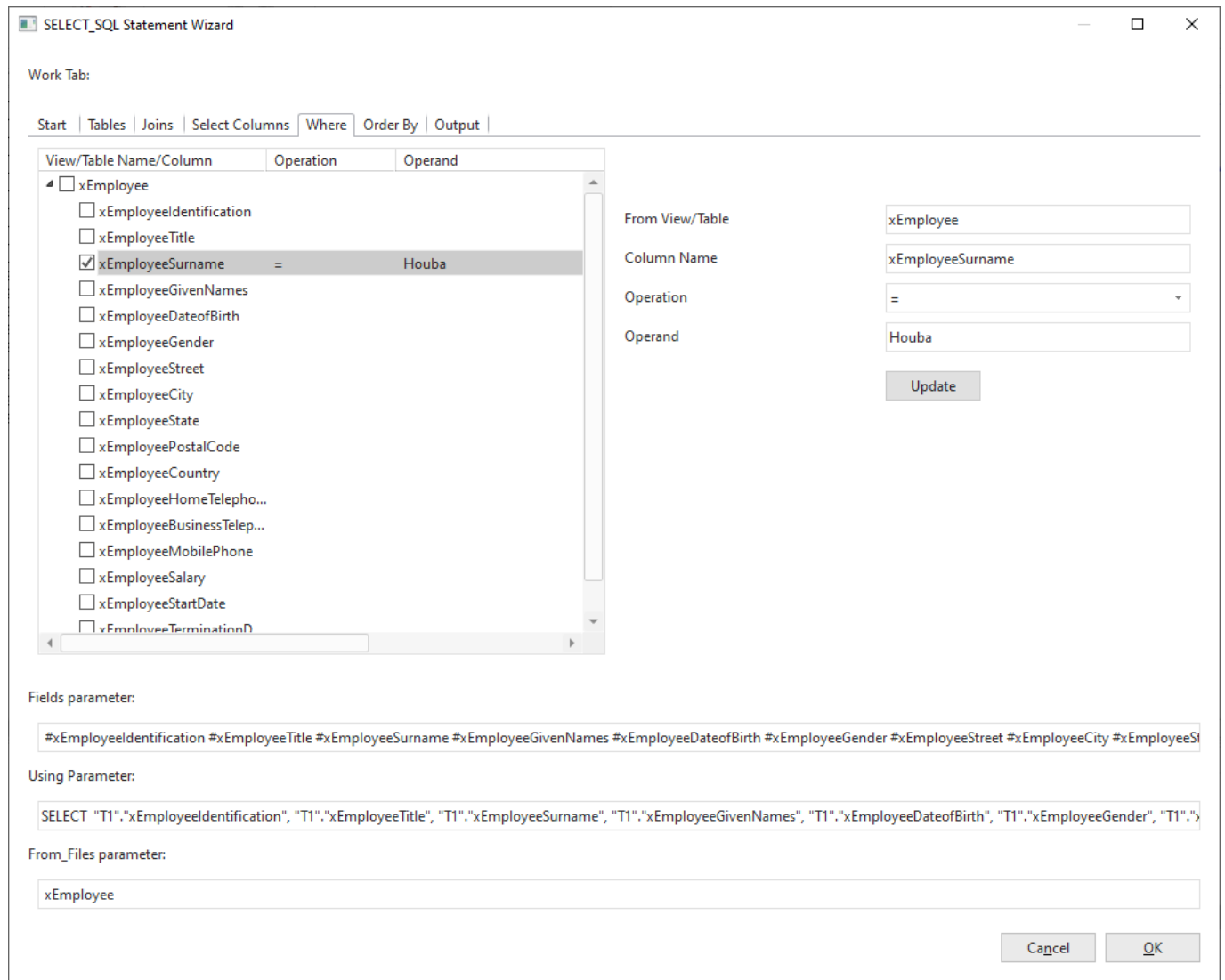
You will use this window to define your requirements. At the bottom of the dialog is the RDMLX code being developed by your choices in the top half of the dialog.

Install LANSA V15 on old Windows systems

Installing Visual LANSA V15 on an operating system older than Windows 10 or Windows Server 2016 (or newer) can end with an error during the SQL Server 2019 install.

If you encounter the following error:
The SQL Server install ended in Error. Check C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\150\Setup_Bootstrap\Log\Summary.txt to identify the error.
search the %TEMP% folder for SqlSetup.log. Open SqlSetup.log and look for the following entry: Unsupported Operating System. SQL Server 2019 is only installable on Windows Server 2016/Windows 10 or newer.

SQL Server 2019 cannot be installed on an operating system older than Windows 10 or Windows Server 2016. For example, SQL Server 2019 cannot be installed on Windows 8.1.

Scope *APPLICATION

The SCOPE parameter of the DEFINE_COM command includes an option *APPLICATION.

All *APPLICATION variables are identified by variable name. Therefore, two different component classes can share a component instance simply by including a DEFINE_COM for the variable name and specifying a scope of *APPLICATION.

The first reference to an *APPLICATION scoped variable that is not *DYNAMIC will cause the component instance to be created. All other accesses retrieve that instance.

When a component instance at scope *APPLICATION is retrieved, the only checking performed is to ensure that the class of the component instance can be dynamically cast to the class specified on the variable's DEFINE_COM.

*APPLICATION variables are released when the application terminates. Care must be taken to ensure that the component classes used by an instance of a component at *APPLICATION scope are fully understood. All the component DLL's required to implement these component classes will remain in memory for the lifetime of the component instance and this could correspond to the lifetime of the application.

*The examples below show how Scope *application works.*

A.

Create a new form called APP3. Copy/paste source below into it and compile the form.

```
* ***************************************************
* COMPONENT:  APP3
* ***************************************************
Function Options(*DIRECT)
Begin_Com Role(*EXTENDS #PRIM_FORM) Clientheight(104) Clientwidth(509) Height(143)
Left(481) Top(202) Width(525)

Define_Com Class(#STD_TEXT.Visual) Name(#STD_TEXT) Displayposition(1) Height(19) Left(8)
Parent(#COM_OWNER) Tabposition(1) Top(32) Usepicklist(False) Width(478)

Evtroutine Handling(#com_owner.Initialize)
Set Com(#com_owner) Caption(*component_desc)
Endroutine

End_Com
```

B.

Create a new form called APP2. Copy/paste source below into it and compile the form.

```
* ************************************************
* COMPONENT:  APP2
* ************************************************
Function Options(*DIRECT)
Begin_Com Role(*EXTENDS #PRIM_FORM) Clientheight(125) Clientwidth(297) Height(164)
Left(453) Top(200) Width(313)

Define_Com Class(#PRIM_PHBN) Name(#Button1) Caption('Show APP3') Displayposition(1)
Left(104) Parent(#COM_OWNER) Tabposition(1) Top(40)

Define_Com Class(#app3) Scope(*APPLICATION)

Evtroutine Handling(#com_owner.Initialize)
Set Com(#com_owner) Caption(*component_desc)
Endroutine

Evtroutine Handling(#Button1.Click)
#app3.showform
Endroutine

End_Com
```

C.

Create a new form called APP1. Copy/paste source below into it and compile the form.

```
* ************************************************
* COMPONENT:  APP1
* ************************************************
Function Options(*DIRECT)
Begin_Com Role(*EXTENDS #PRIM_FORM) Clientheight(125) Clientwidth(297) Height(164)
Left(453) Top(200) Width(313)

Define_Com Class(#PRIM_PHBN) Name(#Button1) Caption('Show APP2') Displayposition(1)
Left(104) Parent(#COM_OWNER) Tabposition(1) Top(32)
Define_Com Class(#PRIM_PHBN) Name(#Button2) Caption('Show APP3') Displayposition(2)
Left(104) Parent(#COM_OWNER) Tabposition(2) Top(69)

Define_Com Class(#app2) Name(#APP2)
Define_Com Class(#app3) Scope(*APPLICATION)

Evtroutine Handling(#com_owner.Initialize)
Set Com(#com_owner) Caption(*component_desc)
Endroutine

Evtroutine Handling(#Button1.Click)
#app2.showform
Endroutine

Evtroutine Handling(#Button2.Click)
#app3.showform
Endroutine

End_Com
```
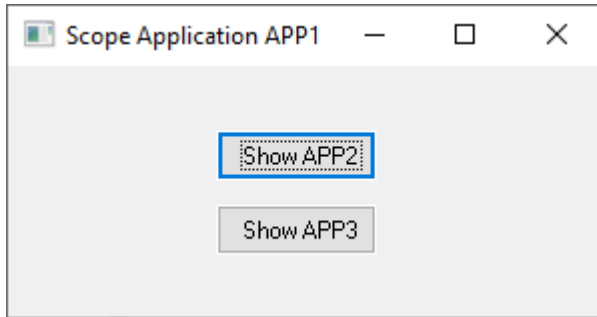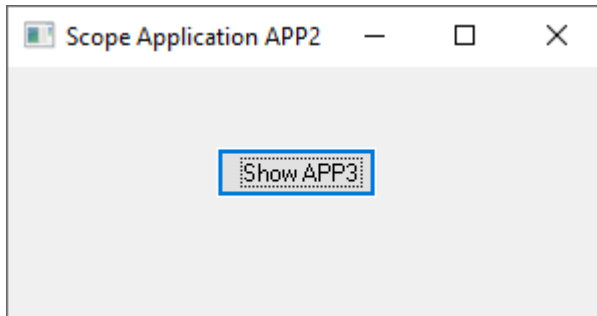
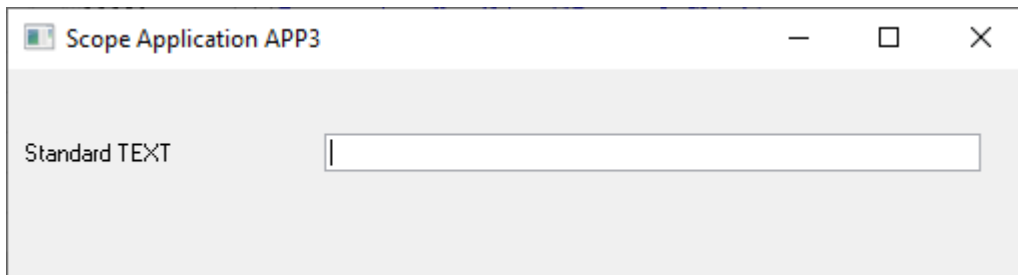To understand how Scope *Application works, follow the next steps.

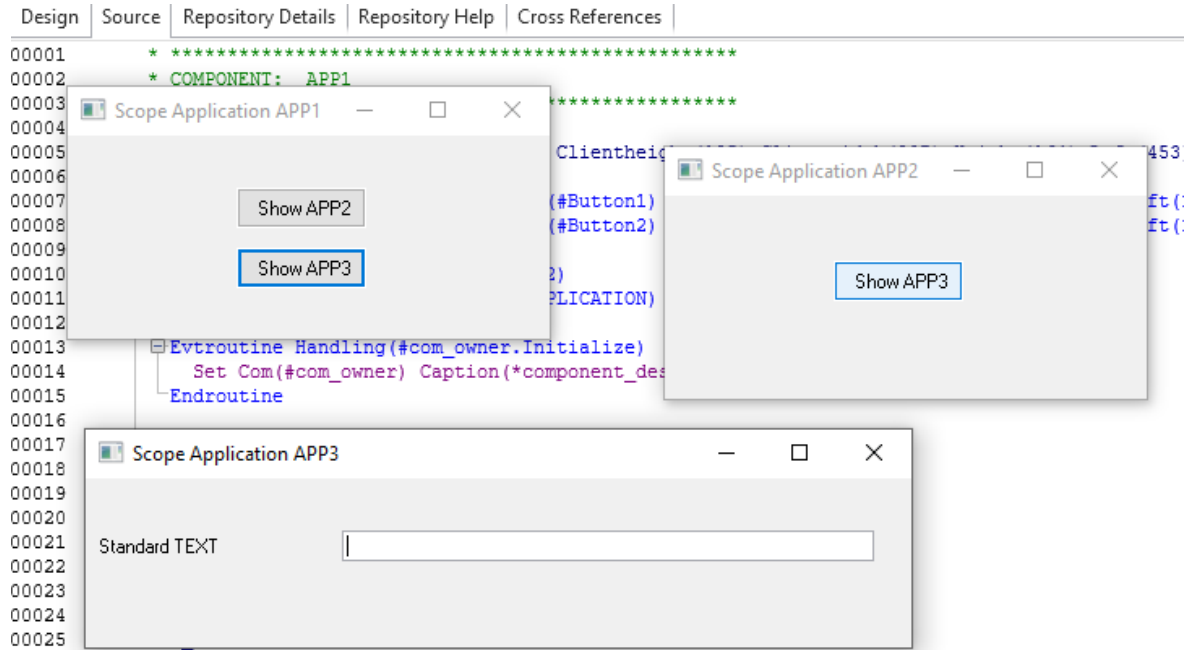1. Start APP1. You will see the buttons 'Show APP2' and 'Show APP3'.

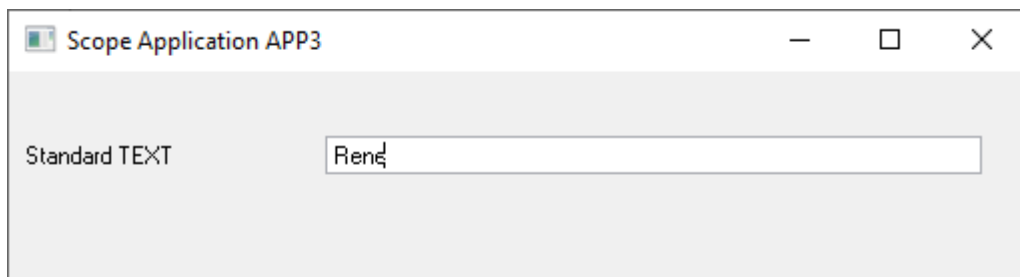2. Use button 'Show APP2' to activate APP2. In both form APP1 as APP2, form APP3 is defined as scope(*application).

3. Now use in form APP1 button 'Show APP3'. Form APP3 will be activated.

4. Now use in form APP2 button 'Show APP3'. **No new instance** of form APP3 will be created, because of the scope *application setting.
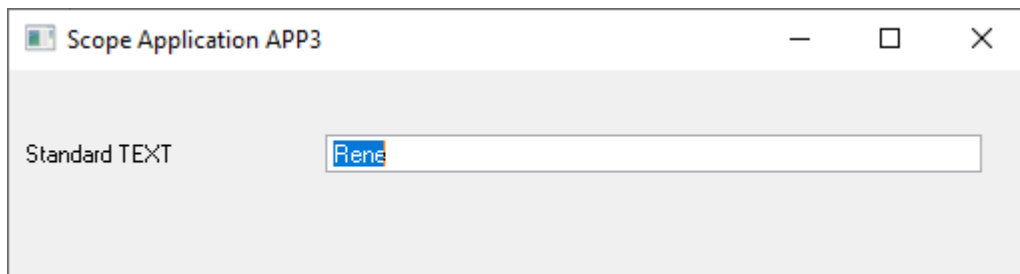

5. Next step is to give field std_text a value in APP3.

When the field is filled close this form APP3.

6. Now restart APP3 again in form APP1 or APP2 and you will see that always the same instance of APP3 will be activated (and the field value is still there):

User Defined Application Object

A User Defined Application Object is a global object of your own creation typically used to encapsulate all the logic you need access across the application. This may include Event definitions, Property definitions, common Routines for accessing messages or anything else which you need to remember or use repeatedly while running your Web Application.

Typically, User Defined Application Objects are defined as non-visual components of type PRIM_OBJT.

For simplicity it is recommended is to have a single user defined application object.
Define_Com Class(#MYAPPOBJ) Name(#Application) Scope(*APPLICATION)

Of course you do not have to have a User Defined Application Object but it does make life a lot easier when you are navigating between different Web Pages and Reusable Parts and need to have access to common values and routines.

Visual LANSA Connectors

We are excited to announce our partnership with **CData Software**. Through this partnership, developers will be able to easily integrate their enterprise applications with more than 200 popular SaaS, NoSQL, and Big Data sources.

CData Software announced a partnership with LANSA.

Through the partnership, CData will provide enhanced data connectivity to Visual LANSA, enabling developers to easily integrate their enterprise applications with more than 200 popular SaaS, NoSQL, and Big Data sources.

More than 8,000 businesses worldwide use LANSA to change how they develop, maintain, and integrate their business applications. With a proven, 30-year track record of equipping and supporting IT teams, LANSA dramatically improves developer productivity using a combination of innovative technologies for low-code web & mobile development, system integration, and digital transformation initiatives.
LANSA users can integrate their disparate data, applications, processes, and databases to seamlessly exchange and process critical business information from within and outside the enterprise.

"This partnership adds even more flexibility to the Visual LANSA low-code platform," said Mitch Holt, Director of Marketing at Idera, Inc. "As we continue to welcome more dev and IT teams to low-code, the breadth of data sources that our customers need to connect has increased dramatically. Our integration with CData's connectors is yet another way we're giving dev teams the most robust low-code toolkit on the market and the flexibility to build better applications faster."

"Our driver technologies and low-code development platforms like Visual LANSA both empower less technical users to solve business problems without help from Enterprise IT," said Eric Madariaga, Chief Marketing Officer, CData Software. "Pairing our drivers with a robust low-code development platform like Visual LANSA gives business users and citizen developers a powerful platform for building and deploying next-generation connected applications."

CData will support LANSA data connectivity directly through CData's standard ODBC driver technologies. This will allow Visual LANSA users to easily integrate with any of the supported data sources as if they were a common relational database, a paradigm familiar to LANSA developers.

For more information about any of the Visual LANSA Connectors, please go to:
https://www.cdata.com/solutions/lowcode/lansa/