

Guide - Understanding Macro commands

The Macro functionality is a function type of the Universal Function system that allow you to script SAP Business One.

Macros provide great functionality to open new windows, transfer data, set data and so on, as seen in the various macro samples.

This document will go through all the different Macro commands, but focus on the more rarely used and provide samples for them. The document does not show the syntax (please see the manual for this), but will give you an idea on how the different commands can be used.

The commands

As of version 2.750 of the B1UP there are 15 commands available

Command	Description
'Activate'	<p>The activate command are used for two things:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To open new windows by calling the windows Menuitem <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In this case you pass the menu-uid you want to open as a parameter to the command. Sample: <code>Activate(2050);</code> will open a new "A/R Sales order" window. To indicate to the macro that a new window was opened (this is needed if some other macro command forced a window to open (Like the press of a button)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In this case you do not pass a menu-uid to the command Sample "Function Buttons > 10 - Create a button on service call that create a an invoice.pdf" is a great example on how to use this. <p><u>NB: A 'ACTIVATE' COMMAND IS NEEDED IN ORDER TO MAKE A 'TRANSFER' COMMAND BECAUSE THE MACRO SYSTEM NEED TO KNOW WHAT WINDOW TO TRANSFER FROM AND WHAT WINDOW TO TRANSFER TO.</u></p> <p><u>TIP: PLEASE NOTE THAT MENUITEMS ARE NOT ONLY USED TO OPEN NEW WINDOWS, SO IT IS POSSIBLE TO AS EXAMPLES TO SWITCH TO ADD OR FIND-MODE. ANYTHING THAT CAN BE ACCESSED AS A MENUITEM CAN BE ACTIVATED.</u></p>
'Panelevel'	<p>The panelevel command is a rarely used command, but is used when creating new Tab-pages using the B1 Validation System. The command simply tells the current window to switch to a specific panelevel.</p> <p>Sample "B1 Validation System \ 01 - Add Additional Tab Page.pdf" is the best way to show this command in action.</p> <p><u>NB: DO NOT USE THIS COMMAND TO SIMULATE THE SWITCH TO ANOTHER TAB-PAGE. IN SUCH A CASE IT IS BETTER TO INITIATE A 'CLICK' COMMAND ON THE TAB-PAGES ITEM-UID</u></p>
'Click'	<p>The click command does as the name say, click on the item passed along to it. Clicks can be used to press buttons, tab-pages and linked buttons (the orange errors) as well as</p>

	<p>edittexts, checkboxes and comboboxes.</p> <p><u>NB: IT IS NOT TECHNICALLY POSSIBLE TO FOCUS OR CLICK A COLUMN</u></p>
'Focus'	<p>The focus command allow you to focus a specific item on a window to decide where the cursor will end up.</p> <p>Sample: Focus(\$[\$7.0.0]) will (if placed on a Business Partner Form) focus the name of the Business Partner.</p> <p><u>TIP: ACTUALLY BEHIND THE SCENES THE 'CLICK' AND 'FOCUS' COMMANDS DOES EXACTLY THE SAME</u></p>
'Transfer'	<p>The transfer command allows transferring of data for one window to the other.</p> <p>A typical sample would be to have a button on the business partner. Pressing this button the system would open a new window (using the Activate command) and transfer something (most often the cardcode) to a specific field on the newly opened window.</p> <p><u>NB: YOU WILL NEED TO CALL THE ACTIVATE COMMAND ONCE BEFORE YOU CAN TRANSFER DATA BETWEEN TWO WINDOWS</u></p> <p><u>TIP: IF NEEDED, IT IS ACTUALLY POSSIBLE TO TRANSFER DATA TO THE SAME WINDOW AS YOU ARE ONE (TRANSFER TO ITSELF... THAT WILL HAPPEN I YOU DON'T USE AN ACTIVATE COMMAND)</u></p>
'Transferback'	<p>Transferback work in the opposite direction as transfer. In such a case data is transferred from the newly opened window and back to the window that opened it.</p>
'Set'	<p>The Set command allows you to set data in a checkbox, edittext or a combobox. The most often use of this functionality is to set a '*' in a field to simulate a search, but also specific data or data from SQL can be set.</p>
'Sleep'	<p>This command allow the macro to "stop and wait" for an indicated number of seconds. This is not functionality in itself, but sometimes during a macro, the SAP client might struggle to keep up with the macro, and in such cases it might be needed. But only use the functionality if you have problems.</p>
'MessageBox'	<p>MessageBox allow you to show a message to the user during a macro. This is often used as the final point of a macro telling the user what to do now.</p> <p><u>NB: BE AWARE THAT YOUR MACRO SEQUENCE WILL BE SUSPENDED WHILE A MESSAGEBOX IS SHOWN. THE REST OF THE MACRO WILL FIRST HAPPEN AFTER THE USER PRESS OK</u></p>
'StatusBar'	<p>The Statusbar is an alternative way of showing data to the user in the lower part of the client and you have the option to show either a red, blue or green message.</p> <p><u>NB: BE AWARE THAT YOUR MACRO SEQUENCE WILL NOT BE SUSPENDED WHILE A STATUSBAR IS SHOWN. THE REST OF THE MACRO WILL HAPPEN AS SOON AS THE STATUSBAR IS SHOWN</u></p>
'Uppercase'	<p>The uppercase command allows you to make data in a certain field to be UPPERCASE. This is often used to make the quality of the data follow the same standard or in some cases I might be a legal requirement that som data should always be shown in uppercase.</p>
'Lowercase'	<p>Like the uppercase command but in lowercase instead</p>
'FirstCase'	<p>Like the uppercase command but in Firstcase instead (Every Word Will Have The First Letter In Uppercase Like This Sentence).</p>
'Block'	<p>The block command allow you to block the business logic that SAP is during the click of a</p>

	<p>certain button or similar.</p> <p><u>NB: YOU CAN ONLY USE THE BLOCK-EVENT IF YOU USE IT WITH A TRIGGER THAT HAPPENS "BEFOREACTION". ELSE YOU ARE YNABLE TO BLOCK THE EVENT.</u></p>
'SendKeys'	<p>The Send Keys command allows you to pass along key-strokes to the client. While it is not possible to send along all kind of keystroke, it might be the command you that saves you if nothing else work (commands like set and transfer should always be used if possible because they are faster than the SendKeys).</p> <p>The most often way of using SendKeys is to use a Focus Command to a certain field and then send along the SHIFT+F2 to activate a certain Formatted Search. (Use this syntax: <u>SendKeys(+{F2})</u>).</p>