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Session Eight: Forms and Macros

Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.

Sir Arthur C. Clarke (1917-2008)

British science fiction author, inventor and futurist

Most people use mobile phones and televisions, but very few understand the technology that allows moving pictures and sound to travel invisibly through the air. How they actually work is indistinguishable from magic.

You can design Excel applications for users who have no Excel skills.

When you create this type of application, you need to provide a simple and intuitive form-based user interface. The user interface should be so simple that the application can be used without any training.

In this session you'll create a powerful, form-based, Excel application with a simple and intuitive user interface.

You'll also learn how to record and run macros. Macros allow you to provide users with simple form controls that execute a complex sequence of Excel actions.

Session Objectives

By the end of this session you will be able to:

- Add group box and option button controls to a worksheet form
- Add a combo box control to a worksheet form
- Set form control cell links
- Connect result cells to a form
- Add a check box control to a worksheet form
- Use check box data in result cells
- Add a temperature gauge chart to a form
- Add a single input data table to a form
- Improve form appearance and usability
- Understand macros and VBA
- Record a macro with absolute references
- Understand macro security
- Implement macro security
- Record a macro with relative references
- Use shapes to run macros
- Run a macro from a button control