

SmallBase

User Manual

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SmallBase

Introduction

SmallBase is an extended databases manager for EPOC systems. SmallBase runs on ER3(Series 5, Geofox), ER5 (Series 5MX, REVO, Series 7, Netbook) and ER6 (Nokia 9210/9290) based devices.

SmallBase use the internal EPOC DBMS system in order to store and manage your datas.

But SmallBase offers much more...

Use SmallBase to create easily specific applications and manage important datas.

SmallBase offers a high level of customization with data display.

Users can define color display for datas according in using specific criterias.

Apply filters on the fly and retrieve quickly datas with an extended search function.

Encrypt and secure your databases with a single password. Based on a 256-bits encryption engine, SmallBase can protect your confidential datas with a high level of security.

1. Manage Tables and Databases

SmallBase databases are composed with tables. A table contains fields, users must first create this structure before entering datas.

When started SmallBase, propose to create a new database named SmallBase on the main disk. SmallBase will automatically turn to “**Build**” mode.



Table Fields can have different types.

SmallBase supports the fields types described below.

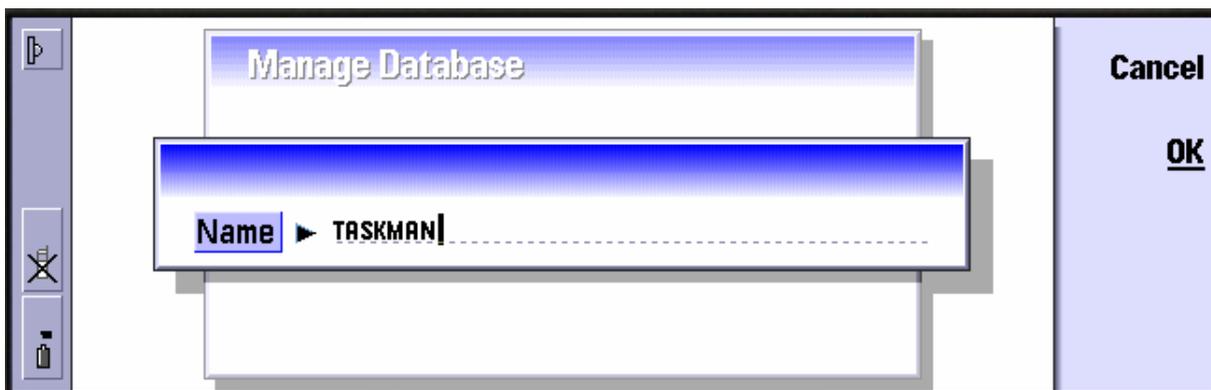
Name	Type	Size	Comment	Active
Text	Char	1-255 max	Basic text field	N
Memo	Char	1-255 max	Multilines text field	N
Numeric	Integer	4 bytes		N
Floating point	Decimal	8 bytes		N
Date	Date/Time	8 bytes	Single date	N
Duration	Integer	4 bytes	Duration as 00:00	N
Date/Time	Date/Time	8 bytes	Date with time	N
Choice List	Char	1-255 max	List of user-defined text	N
Long Memo	Char	Unlimited	Multilines text field without any size limitation	N
Telephone number	Char	1-255	Text field used considered by the engine as composable	Y
Formula	Floating point	8 bytes	Calculated field according to a user-defined arithmetic formula which allow fields combinaison.	Y
File List	Char	Unlimited	Multilines text field which contains a list of files separated with a “;” char.	Y
Folder List	Char	Unlimited	Multilines text field which contains a list of folder separated with a “;” char.	Y

Calc	Floating point	8 bytes	Calculated field according to a referred field in another Table. The calculation can be : Sum, Max, Min or Average. The calculation is based on a filter applied on the referred table.	Y
Yes/No	Integer	4 bytes		N
Variable	Char	50 Max	This field contains the name of a variable (see variables chapter). The field may be displayed by its name or its content. This field is useful for formulas. Users can define different kind of formula which may contain variable field types.	Y

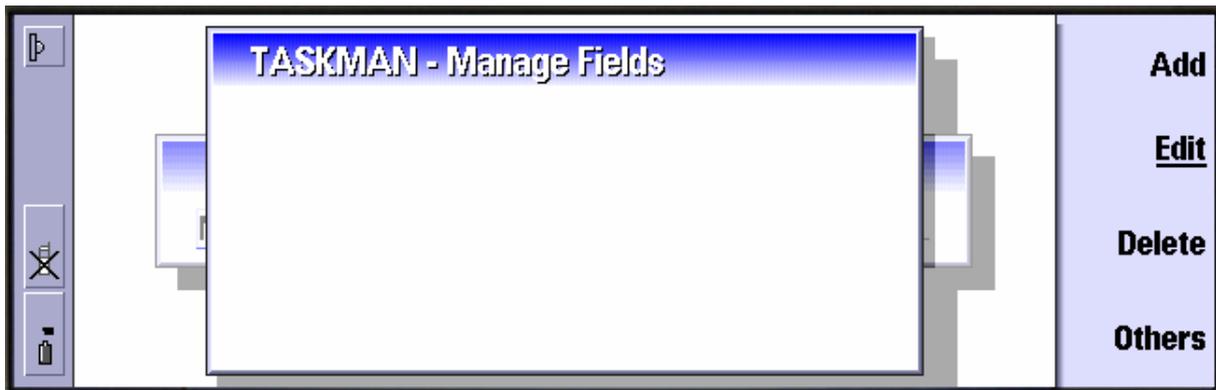
In “Build” mode, SmallBase proposes table creation (**Add**), table update (**Edit**), table deletion (**Delete**) and table duplication (**Duplicate**).

The “**Esc**” key returns to normal mode.

1.1.Add a new table.



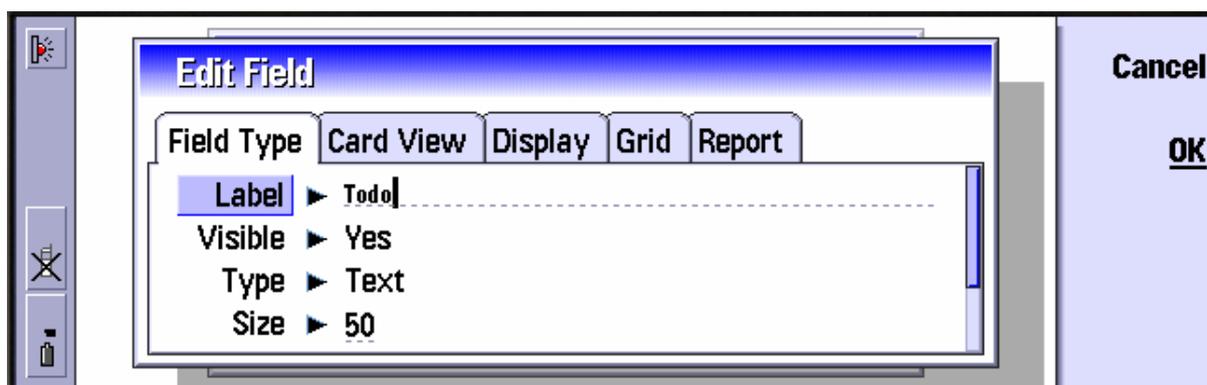
Create a table named “**TASKMAN**”. This table can be used to track tasks for example.



Manage fields with SmallBase for the current table.

SmallBase allows here field creation (**Add**), field update (**Edit**), field deletion (**Delete**), and specific operations for **Formula** and **Choice List** field types.

1.2. Manage fields.



The field management lets a high level of customization.

Tab	Field	Comment
Field Type		General information
	Label	Label of the field display in the columns header
	Visible	Field is visible or not in card view
	Type	Field Type (see before)
	Size	Only for Text-based field (but for memo)
	Order	Position in all views (grid view, card view, entering mode).
	Default	User can set a default value to this field. In the cases of Variable and Choice List types fields, users must create first the field without any default value, then set the variables or the choice lists, and finally set the default value by editing the field again.
Card View		Concern the card view only
	Label	Yes or No (label appears or not in card view)
	Foreground	Foreground color of the displayed data in the card view.
	Font	Default or select a specific font to display data
	Size	Size of the font
	Bold	Yes/No
	Italic	Yes/No
Display		Concern the dialog box when editing data
	Edit Box Width	Size of the edit box
	Lines	Number of lines in the dialog box (only for multilines field types).
	Sorted	Only for Choice List field types, items are or not sorted by alphabetically order.

Grid		Concern the grid view
	Column Size	Width in twips of the column (field is not displayed in the grid if column size=0).
	Display Value	Only for Variable field type, in this case the value of the variable is displayed instead of the variable name.

Report		Concern reports
	Column Size	Width of column in number of Chars

For our example we create a Table with those fields

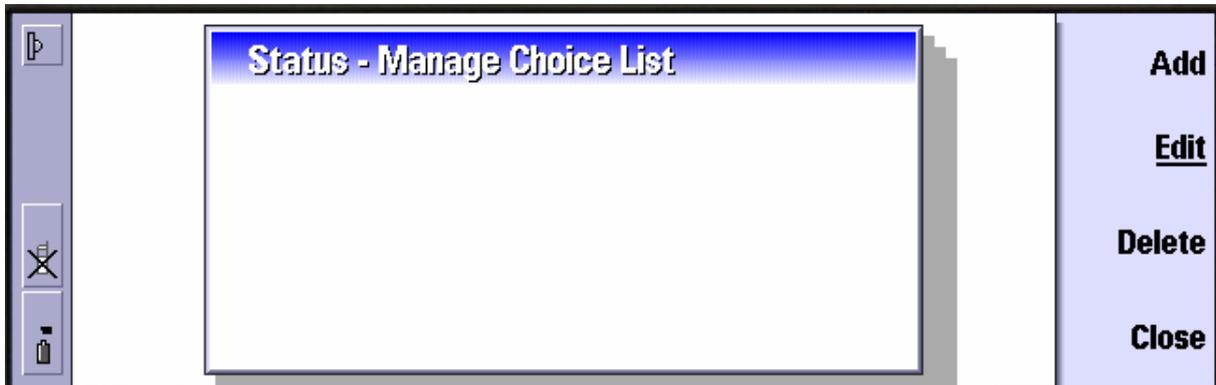
Field	Type	Color	Comment
Todo	Text/50	Blue	What I have to do
Priority	Numeric	Black	Priority of the todo
Status	Choice List	Green	Planned, In Progress, Complete
Due Date	Date	Red	The due date of the todo
Close	Date	Black	The date when I have complete the todo.
Who	Text/50	Black	Who have to work on the todo
Project	Text/50	Magenta	The project ref
Tel	Tel Number	Black	Phone number
Note	Long Memo	Black	Notes
Folders	Folder List	Black	Preferred folder (just for example)
Files	File List	Black	A list of files
Cost	Floating Point	Blue	The unit cost of workload
Hours	Integer	Black	Number of hours spent on this todo
Total	Formula	Red	Total = Cost*Hours

Press "**Cancel**" to stop creation loop.



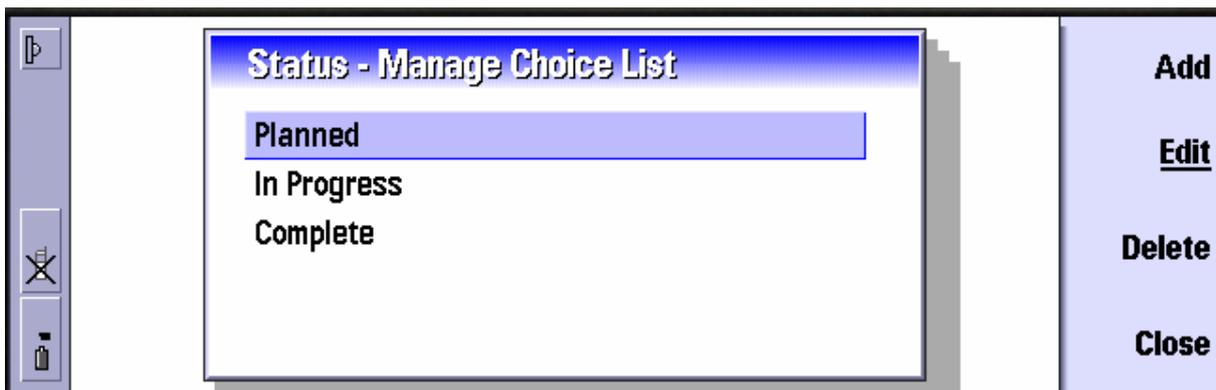
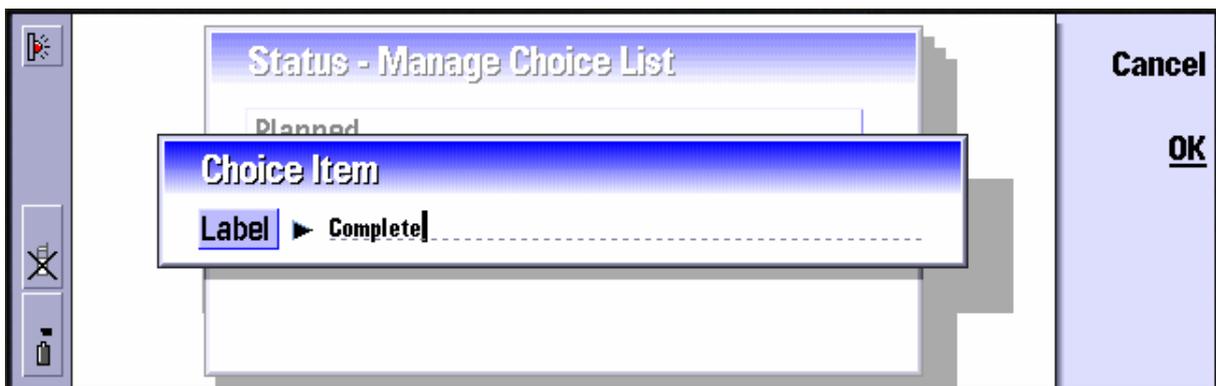
1.3. How to manage a choice list ?

Go on the “**Status**” field and press “**Others**”



SmallBase offers the capability to enter choice list strings.

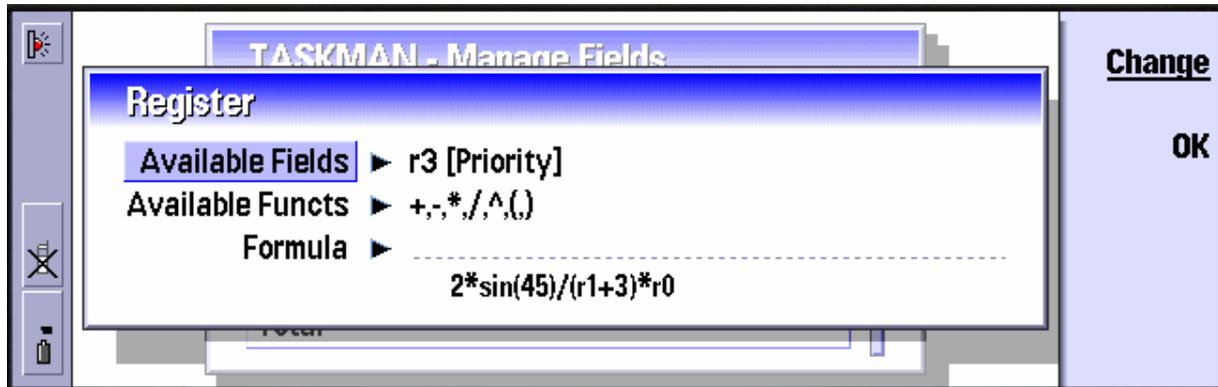
Users can now **Add**, **Edit** or **Delete** entries in the list.



Press “**Close**” to come back to the main list.

1.4.How to set a formula ?

Select the “Total” Field in List and press “Others”



The formula is composed by a combinaison of values, fields, variables and mathematics functions.

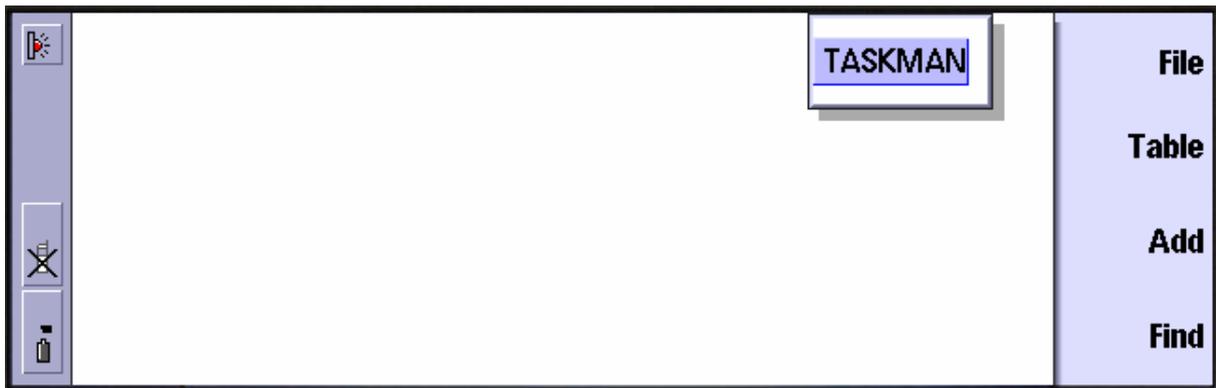
In order to help users to remember what are the available fields for the selected table, SmallBase displays the fields and the labels in a choice list. The Funct's list is also displayed in a choice list to help user with the syntax.

In our example, we can enter : **r13*r14** in the Formula field



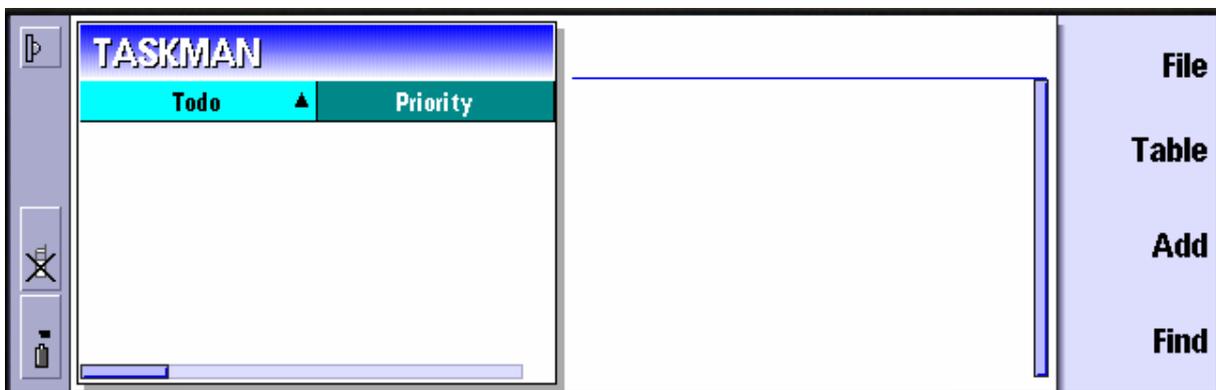
The table has now been created.

Close the dialog box with “**Esc**” key.



SmallBase is now waiting for a Table selection.

We can select "TASKMAN" in pressing "Enter" key



"TASKMAN" Table is now displayed.

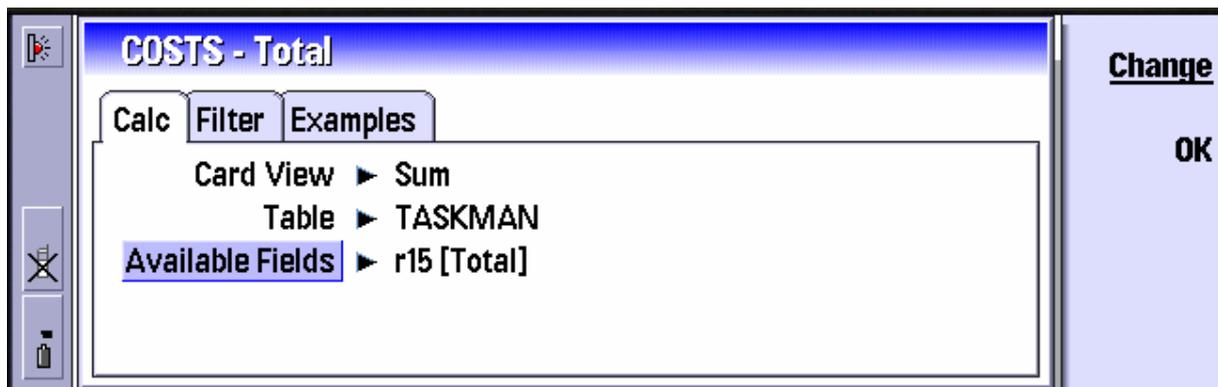
1.5.How to set a Calc field ?

In order to explain the use of a Calc field, create a new Table called “**COSTS**”

This field will contain 2 fields : “**Status**” (Text) and “**Total**” (Calc).



Select the “**Total**” Field in List and press “**Others**”.

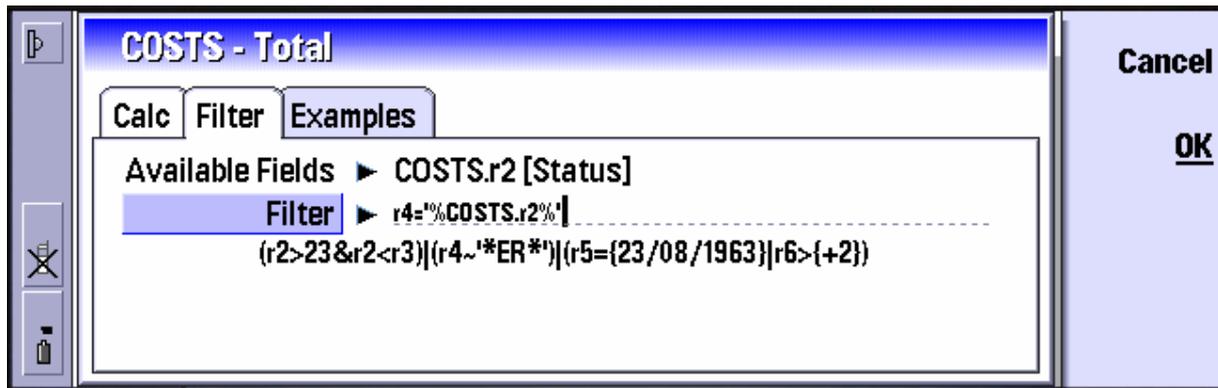


In this case we will set the “**Total**” field of “**COSTS**” table equal to the **sum of Total field from “TASKMAN”**, this for all records of the “**TASKMAN**” table.

But we can set a filter instead of summing all records. This filter can be set on the Status for example.

In our case we can link the “**Status**” field of the current record from “**COSTS**” table with the “**Status**” field of the “**TASKMAN**” table.

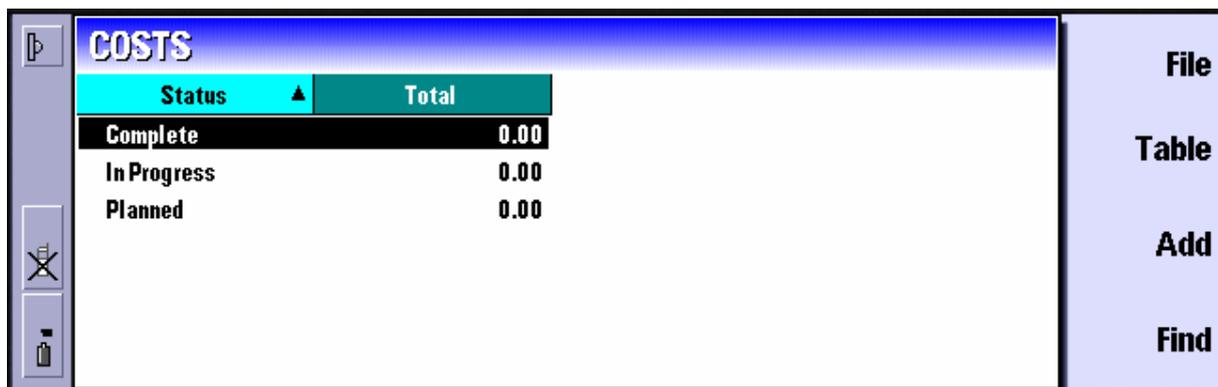
Press the “**Filter**” Tab.



The filter syntax is the same as for the Filter/Color feature see below.

Now the calculation will be done on each record and the filter will be applied on the Sum request according to the contains of the "Status" field from the "COSTS" table.

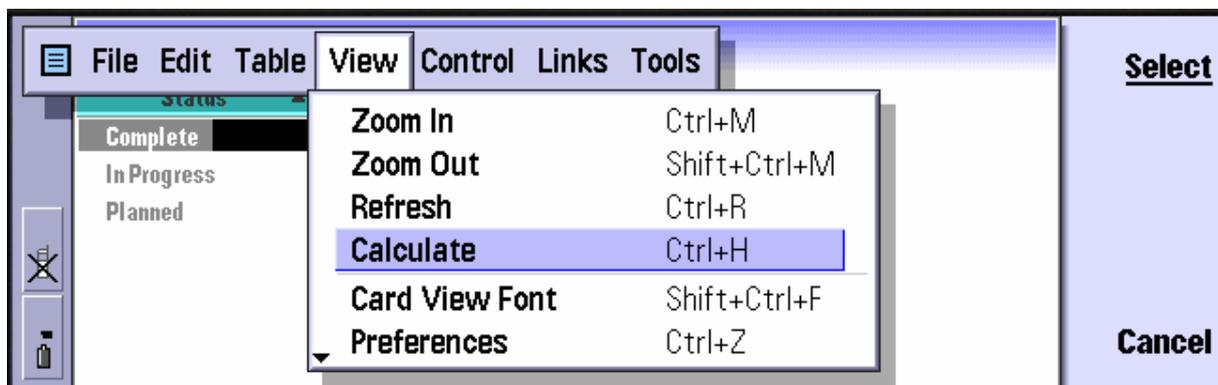
So we can create 3 records in the "COSTS" table with a "Status" equal respectively to "Planned", "In Progress" and "Complete".



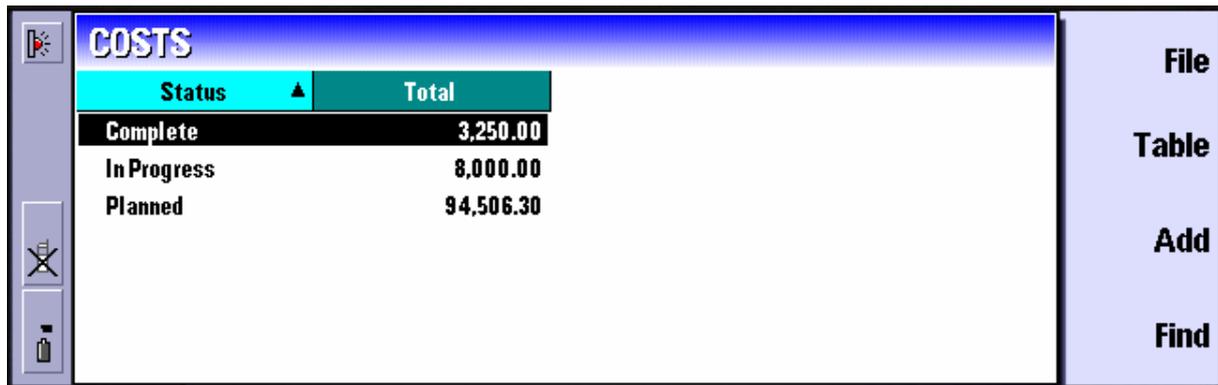
We can notice that after the added records are not automatically updated.

This is normal, in order to not slow down the application, **the calculation update is manual**.

Open the main menu and select the "View" Pane.



Press "CTRL+H" or choose "Calculate".



Status ▲	Total
Complete	3,250.00
In Progress	8,000.00
Planned	94,506.30

All data are now updated according to the filter and the Sum calculation.

2. Manage Windows

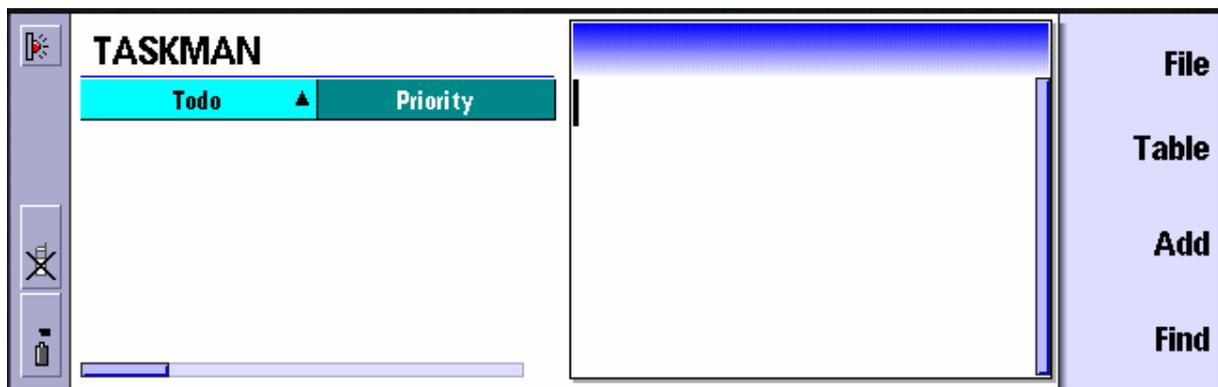
2.1. Windows Navigation

The SmallBase table display is splitted into 2 different part : the grid view and the card view.

The display is entirely customizable. Each table stores its own preferences.

Users can switch between the grid and the card views with the “**TAB**” key.

“**CTRL+TAB**” is used to switch between displayed tables.



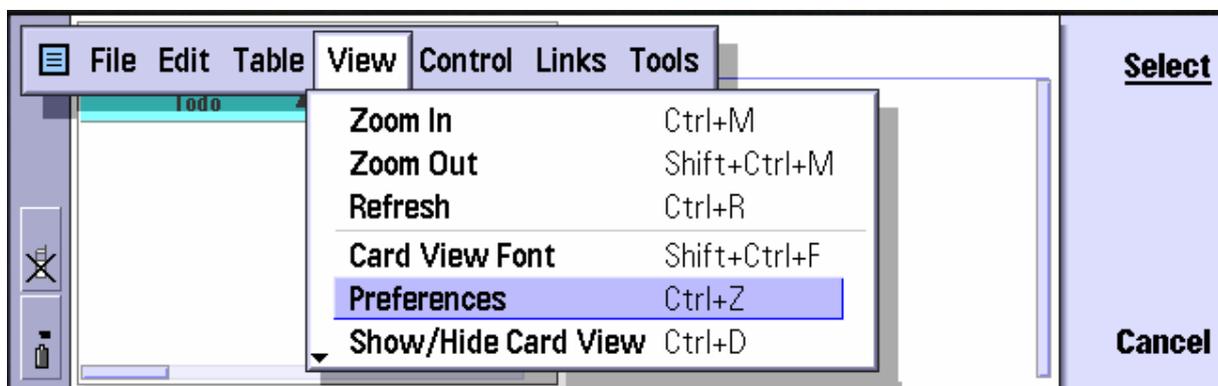
2.2. Customize display

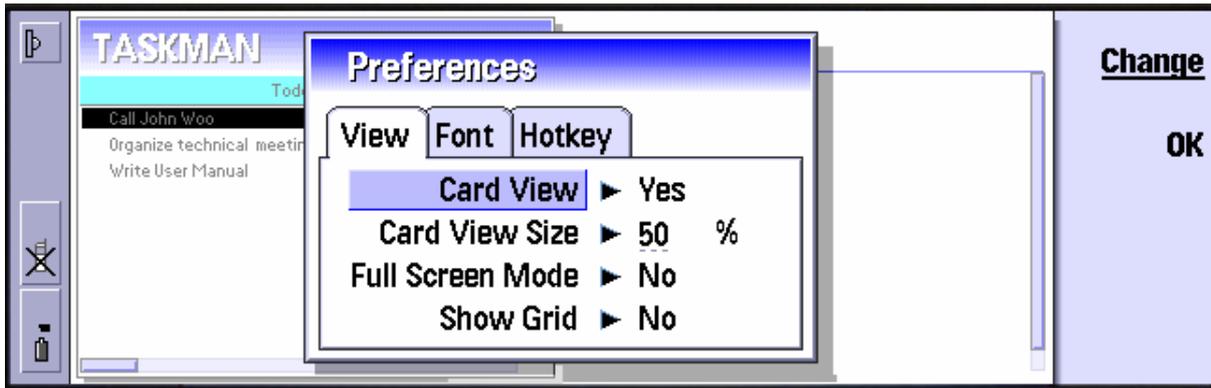
The Card View can be removed separately for each kind of Table.

The **Grid font** and the font size can be changed.

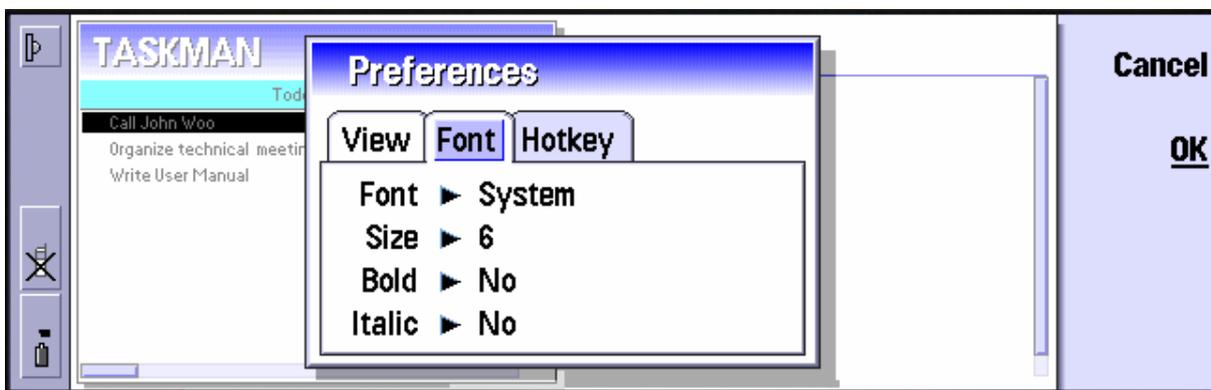
The **Zooming** feature is applicable either on the card view or the grid view according to the focused window.

Open the main menu and select “**Preferences**” in the “**View**” menu panel.



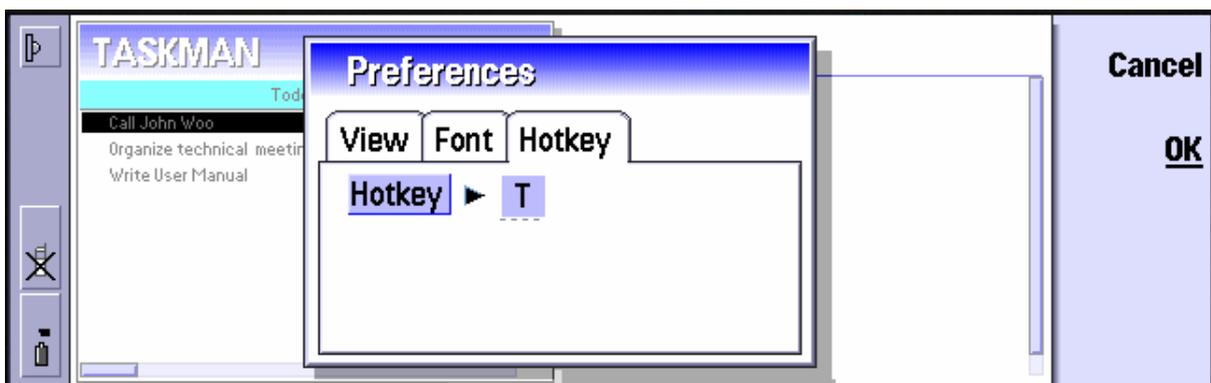


Display or Remove Card View, manage size, set or not the full screen mode, show grid lines or not.



Select the font name, the size and the attributes.

Hotkey is used to associate a Key to a Table.

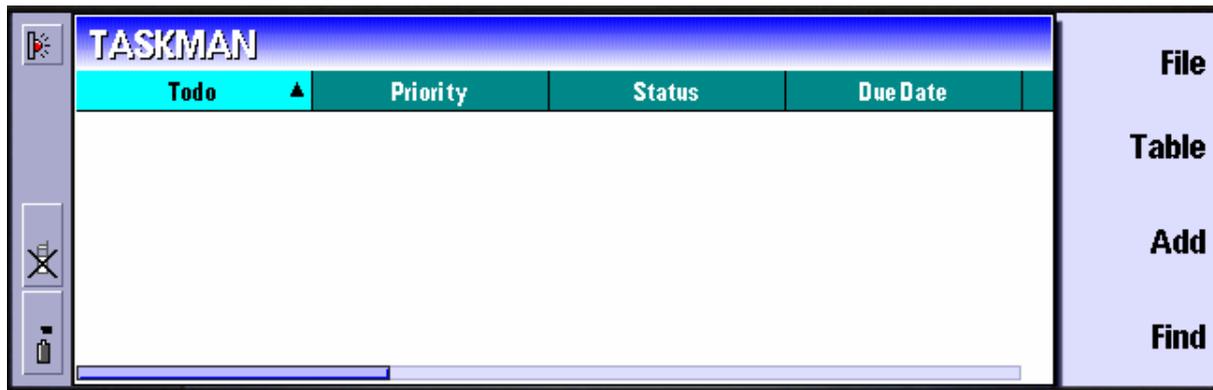


New if you press “T” or “t” on the keyboard, SmallBase will automatically switch to the “TASKMAN” table if already open or will open it.

Card View display and Full Screen Mode are directly manageable with hotkeys.

Press “CTRL+D” will remove Card View for the current table.

Preferences are stored in the database for each table.



2.3. Resize Columns

Users can use **CTRL+SHIFT+ARROW** to increase or decrease the width of the selected column.

CTRL+RIGHT goes to the next column

CTRL+LEFT goes to the previous column

CTRL+SHIFT+RIGHT increases column width

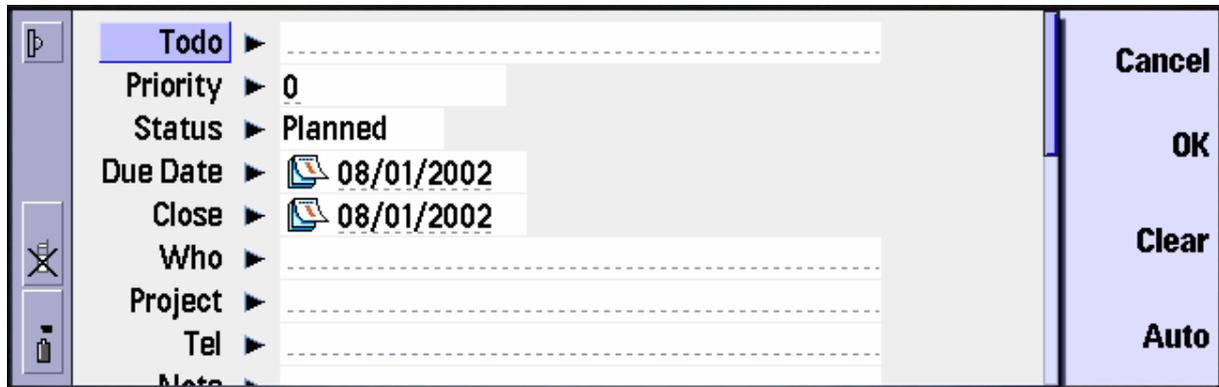
CTRL+SHIFT+LEFT decreases column width

CTRL+UP and **CTRL+DOWN** change the sort order of the selected column.

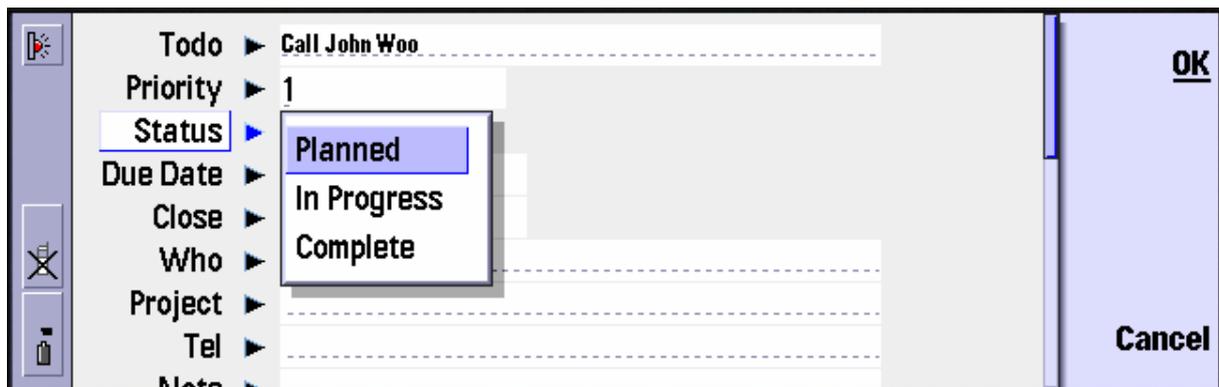
3. Manage Records

How to add records in the “TASKMAN” table.

Press “Add” button to create a new record in the table.



Enter datas with the dialog box.



Available Buttons :

Press **Cancel** to cancel the current entry

Press **OK** to save the current entry

Press **Clear** clean the current entry with a blank value

Auto is a special button and allows different capabilities according to the field type :

Field type	Auto feature
Date/Time	Set the date or date/time to the current date/time
Folders List	Open the Folder browser and allow automatic selection of folders
Files List	Open the File manager browser and allow automatic selection of files.

Click "OK" to validate entry

Todo	Priority	Status	Due Date
Call John Woo	1	Planned	08/01/2002

Edit an entry : select the item and press "Enter" key.

In this case all labels are displayed, but users can decide to not display some of them.

To do this, return in "Build" mode and change field settings.

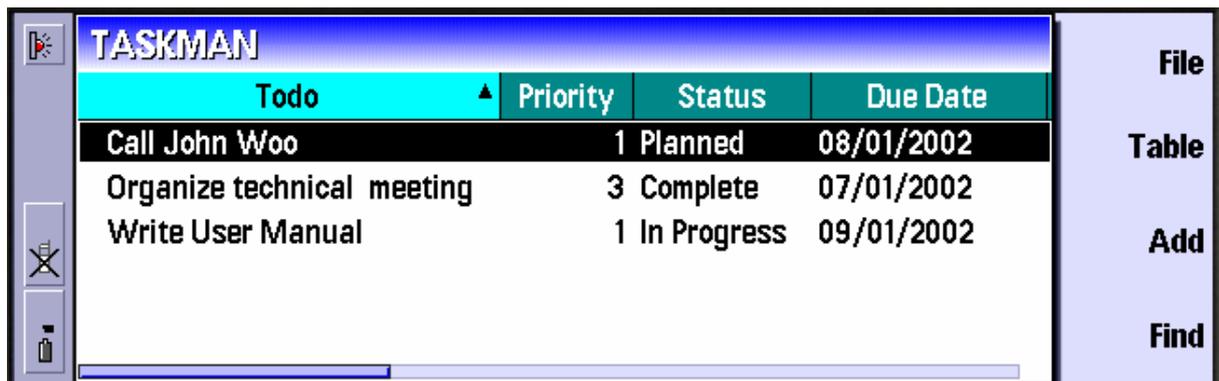
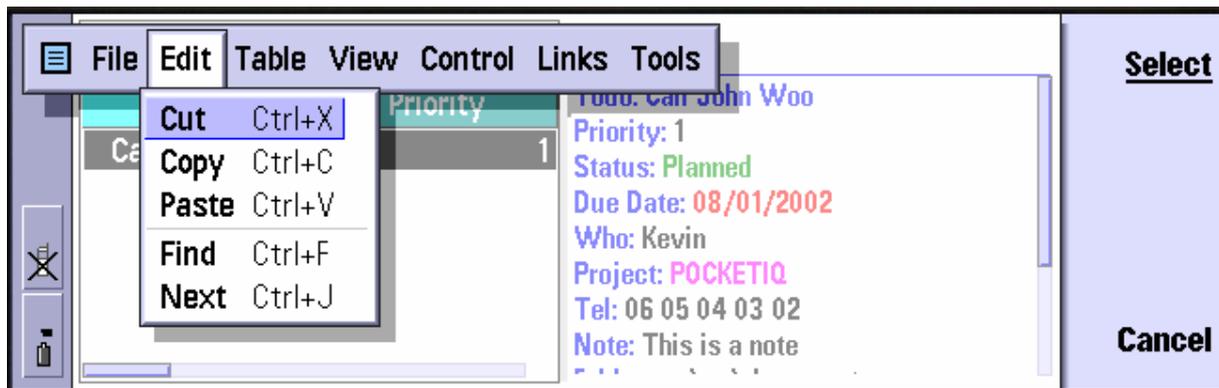
Let's enter more records in order to continue with other powerfull features of SmallBase.

4. Copy, Cut and Paste

Copy, cut and paste is supported by SmallBase.

This feature is applicable on the same table or between table if the both tables have the same structure.

Select more than one Record with **SHIFT+UP** or **SHIFT+DOWN** keys.



5. Manage Colors, Filters, Variables and Sorting Out Methods

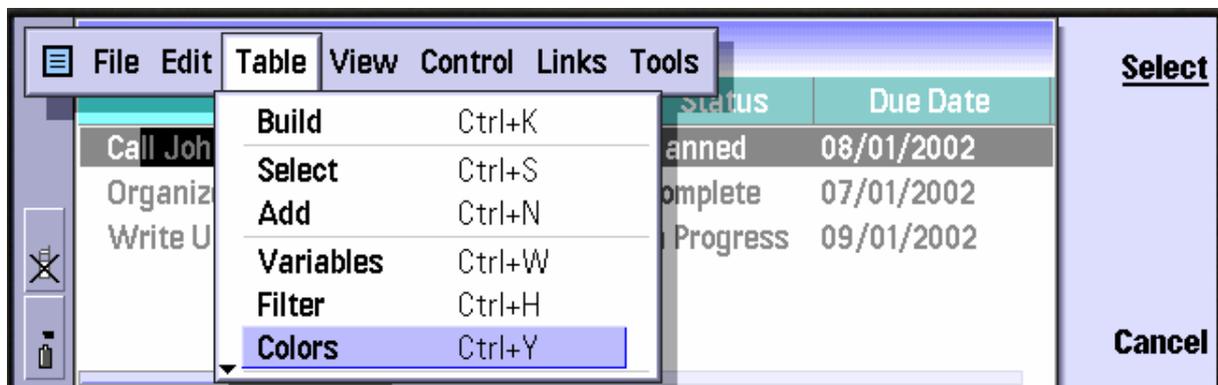
5.1. Manage Colors

Cell or line colors can be chosen according to specific criterias. Each table can be color customizable and manages its own parameters.

Colors are appliable on the fly.

For example we can set a specific color for records which have a **status=Planned**.

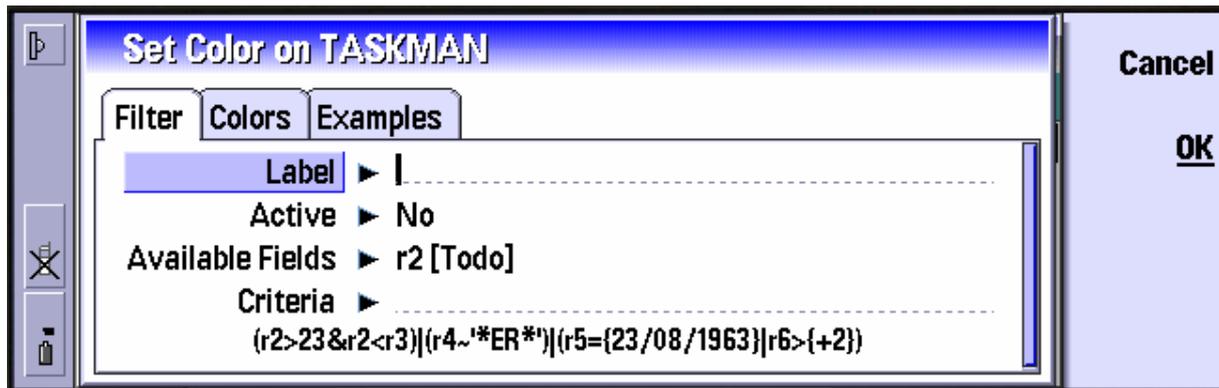
Open the main menu and select “**Colors**” in the “**Table**” menu, press “**SHIFT SPACE BAR**” to open the color selector.



Users can now **Add**, **Edit**, **Delete** or **Activate** new Color settings.

Add a Color criteria for records which have a status equal to planned.

Press “**Add**” button.

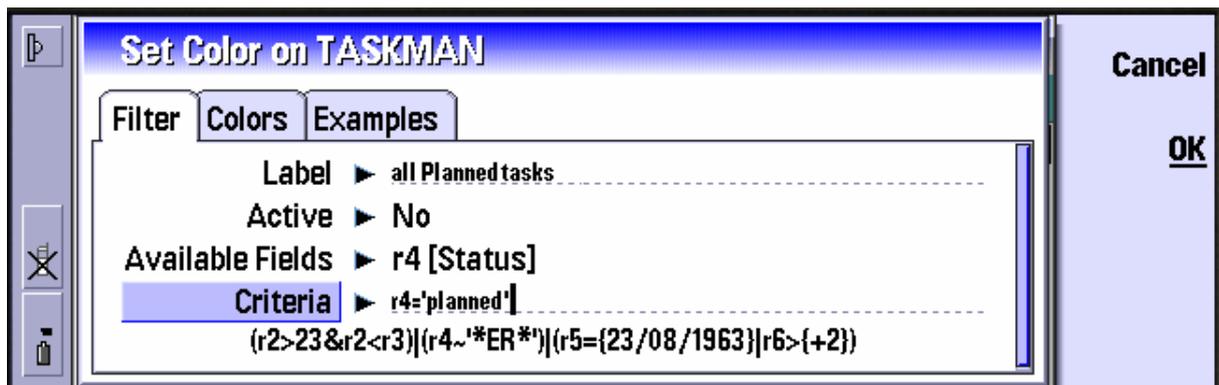


Define a label to remember easily what kind of criteria has been defined.

The criteria can be Active or Not at a time.

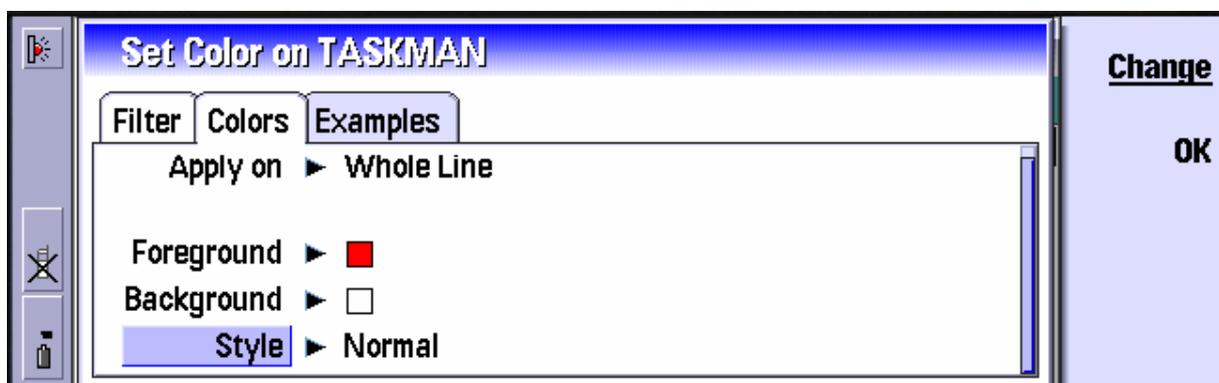
Available fields with their labels are displayed for the current table in in a choice list and can be used in the clause condition.

In our case, we enter :

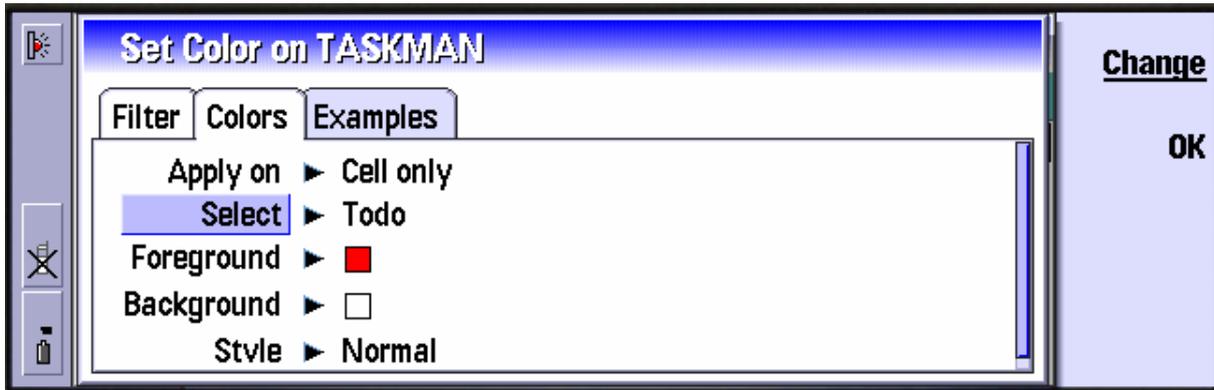


The request is very simple here, but SmallBase allows much more complicated for clause...

What about the “Colors” Tab

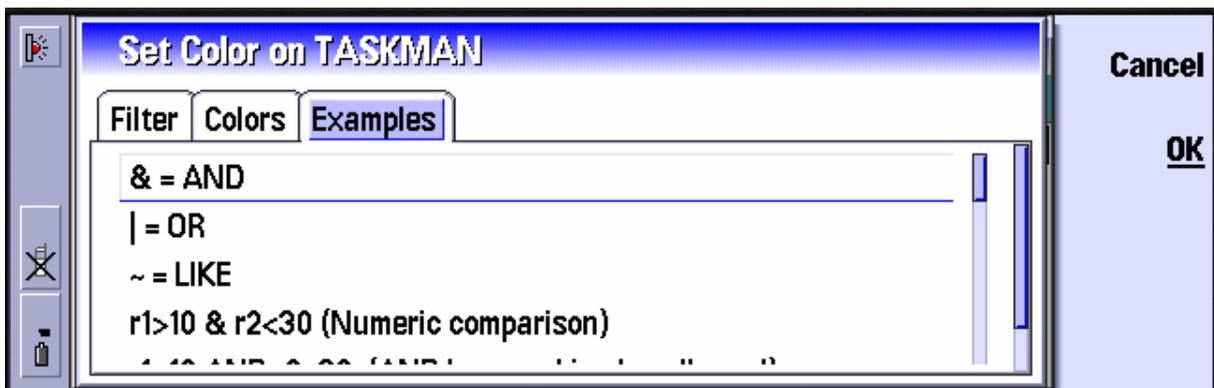


By default, the color is applied on the whole line, but the color can also be applied on a specific cell corresponding to a column field.



In this case we have selected the Cell corresponding to the “todo” column.

Examples are just here as a reminder and can help users to understand what are the capabilities of SmallBase for criterias.

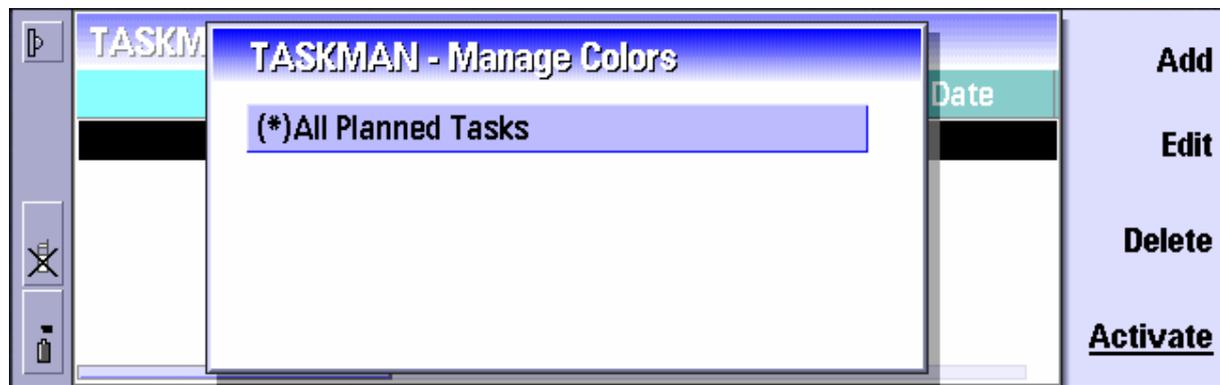


SmallBase allows complex combinations of fields into the clause condition.

Clauses	Explanations
&	This character represents a AND condition
AND	AND keyword is also supported
	This character represents a OR condition
OR	OR keyword is also supported
~	This character represents a LIKE condition
LIKE	LIKE keyword is also supported
>	Superior
<	Inferior
<>	Different from
()	Parenthesis allowed for complex formulas.
R2>10	Field R2 must be greater than 10, R2 is of course a numeric or floating point field type
R2='TOT'	Field R2 must be exactly equal to 'TOT', R2 is of course a text-based field.
R2~'*TOT*' Or R2 LIKE '*TOT*'	Field R2 contains a sub-string equal to 'TOT', note that the '*' character means that there can be characters on the left and of the right of the string.
R2={20/07/2001}	Field R2 is a Date field type and R2=20/07/2001. Note that a date must be enclosed into {} characters.
R2={20/07/2001 11:00}	Note that the date can contain a time, in this case the format must be conformed to the date/time international settings on your device.
R2={+2}	Relative date can be defined here, in this case R2 is date and {+2} means Today+2days. So R2 = Today+2 days. {+0} means Today ! For Date/Time field types be aware to not use r2={+0} if you want r2=today for a such field , use r2>{-1} AND r2<{+1} instead because, Date/Time field contains a time ! Negative values are allowed {-3}. The + and – signs are mandatory.
R2={+02:50}	Relative date from now. R2 must be a Date/Time field type and {+02:50} means now + 2h and 50 mns. Negative values are allowed too.

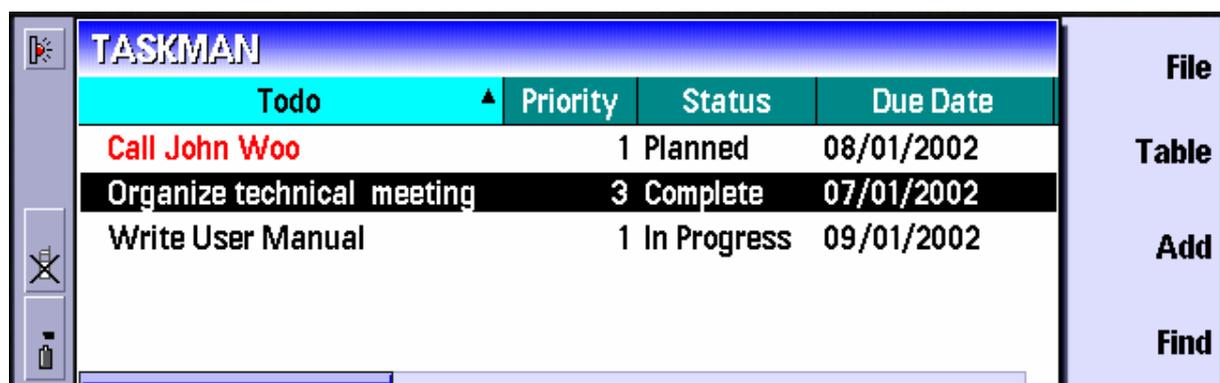
	The + and – signs are mandatory.
R2=[01:44]	R2 in this case is a duration field type. R2 = 01:44 Note that durations must be enclosed into [] characters.
R2=%var1%	SmallBase allow filter which depends on variables. In this case the variable must contains a numeric or floating point string. Variables can be used for every kind of fields. See “Manage Variables” chapter in order to understand how variables can be created and updated.
R2 LIKE **%project%**	If project variable contains SB this can be replaced with R2 LIKE **SB**.
R2>3 AND (R4={+2} OR R5 LIKE **SB**)	This is complex condition which is completely supported by SmallBase.

In our example we will have:



Note that an activated Color setting is displayed with a (*) prefix.

Users can see easily what kind of Color criterias are active at any time.



5.2. Manage Filters

Filters are managed the same way as colors.

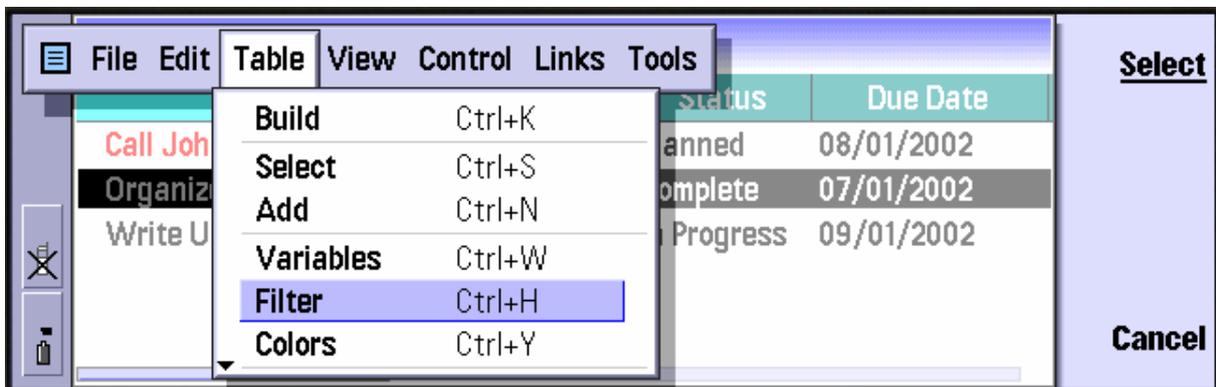
Instead of displaying data with a specific color, filters keeps in the view only records which match the active filters at a time.

If more than one filter are activated at the same moment SmallBase will use a **AND** combinaison between all active filters criterias.

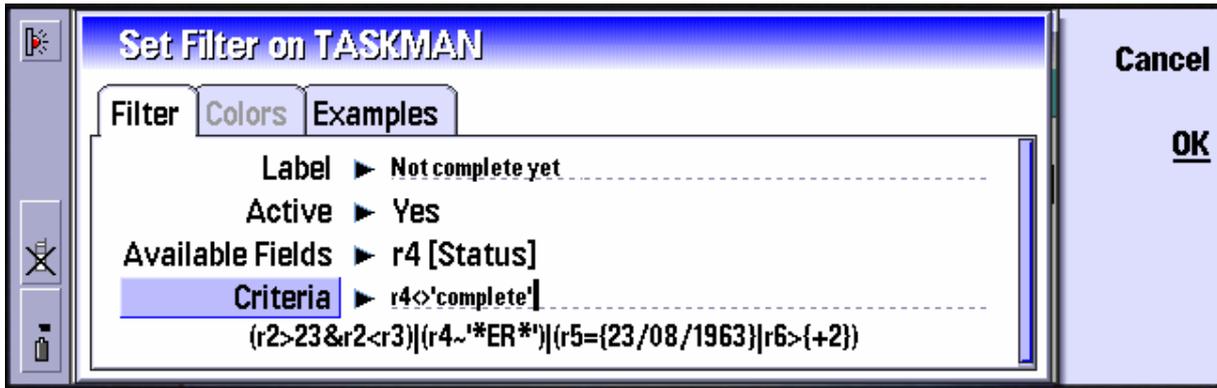
The creation mode is the same as for the colors (see color chapter).

In our example we will create a filter which display tasks in progress or planned.

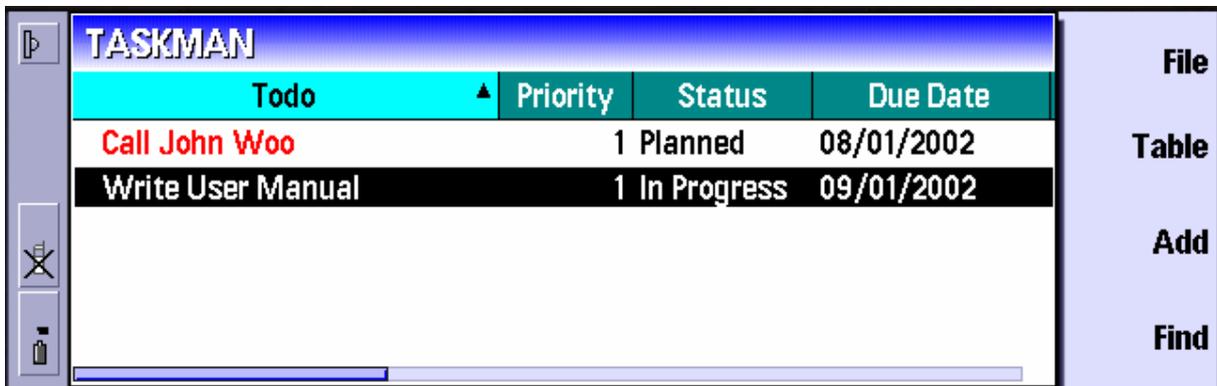
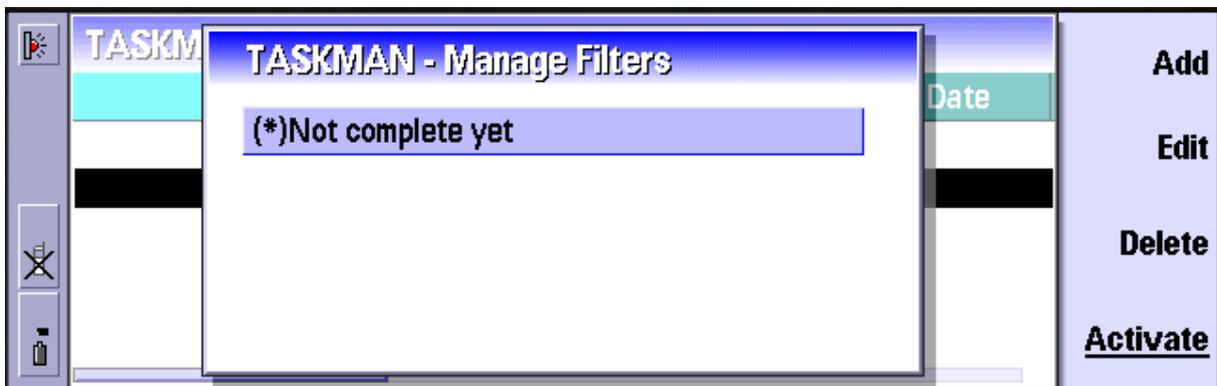
Use the main menu and select "**F**ilter" in the "**T**able" menu pane or press "**S**PACE **B**AR" to open the Filter selector.



Press "**A**dd" button to add a new filter.



Note that the Color and Filter dialog boxes are the same. “Colors” Tab is grayed, because not available for filters.



5.3. Manage Variables

SmallBase Filters and Colors criterias support variables. Variables must be enclosed into % characters.

A variable is represented with a label and a value. There is no limitation for the number of variables but memory.

A variable is a string of 255 chars max. A variable can contains anything.

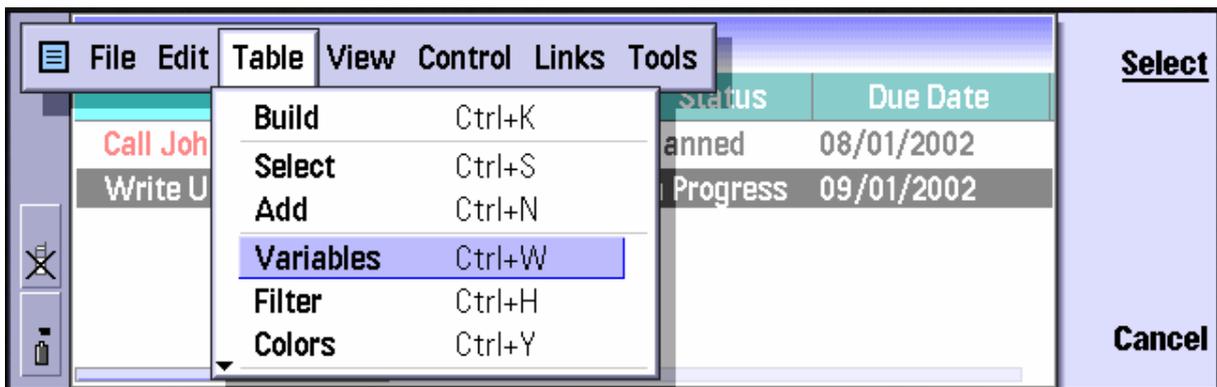
A variable can be a numeric, a floating point, even a date ...

Actually, variables are stored into the database as entered, no check is done after entering the value.

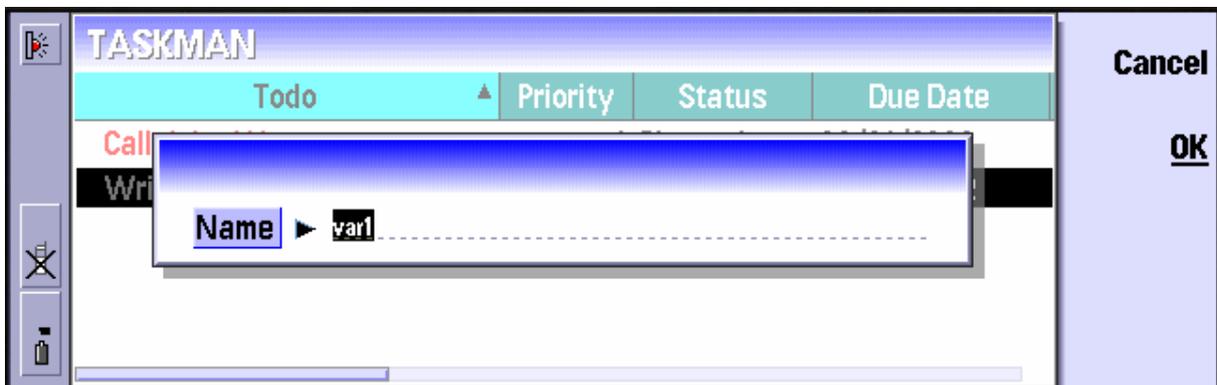
Variables are very useful, because they make filters and colors become **dynamic**.

Variable must be created manually. Variables are available for all Tables in the same database.

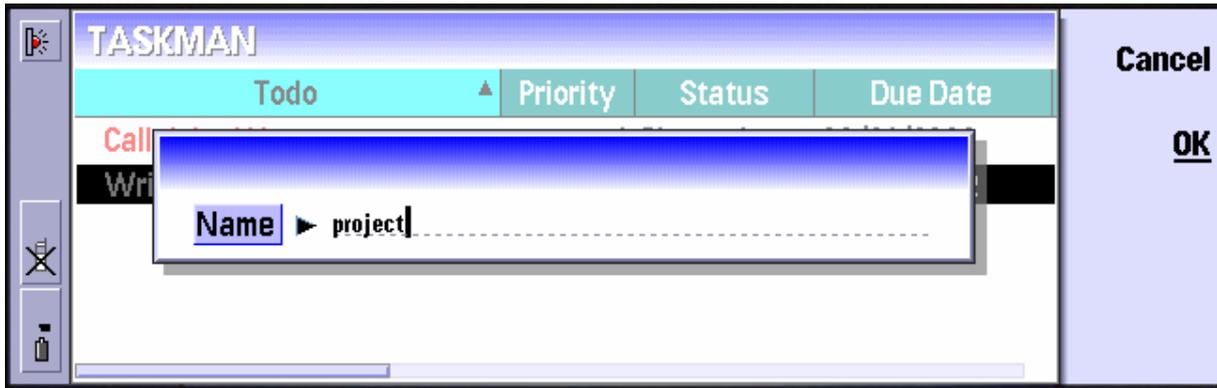
Use the main menu and select "**Variables**" in the "**Table**" menu pane.



At the first time SmallBase will open the dialog box below in order to enter the name of the first variable.



We can choose the new name "**project**" for this variable.

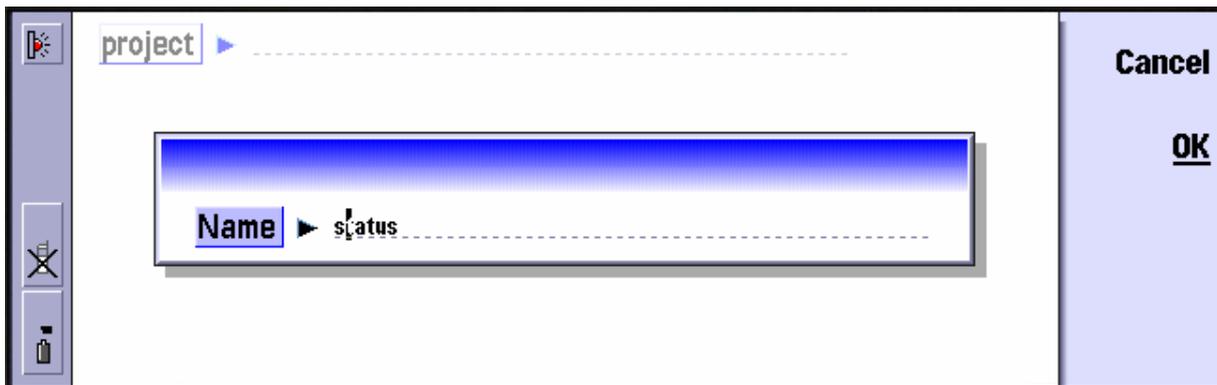


Press “**OK**” to validate variable creation.

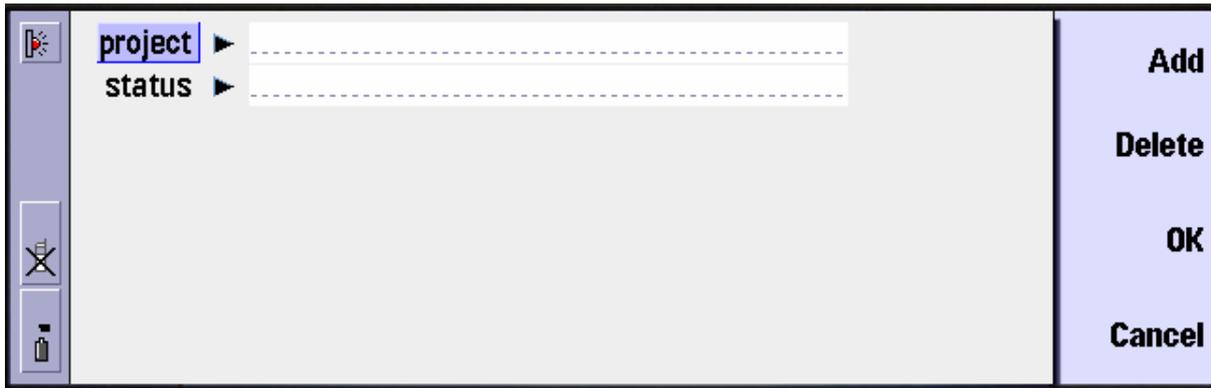


The new dialog box allows now variables updates, creation (“**Add**”) or deletion (“**Delete**”).

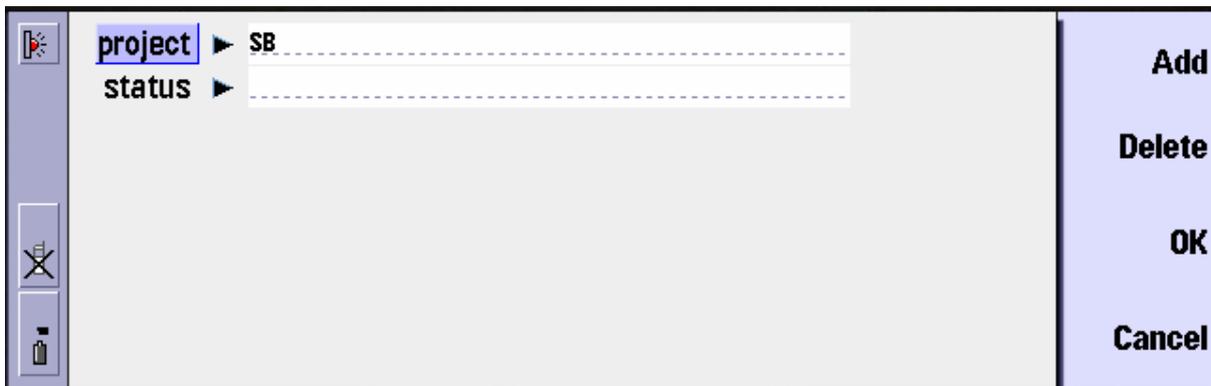
To create a new variable, press “**Add**”



Press “**OK**”

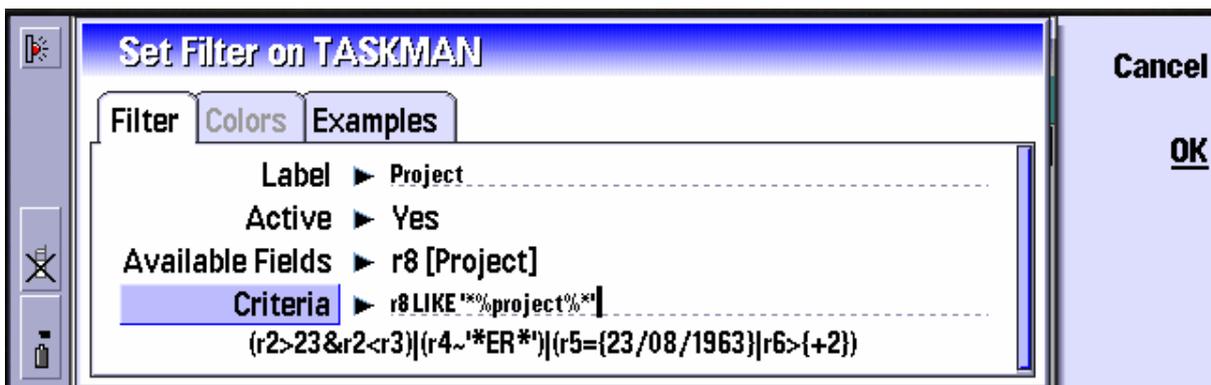


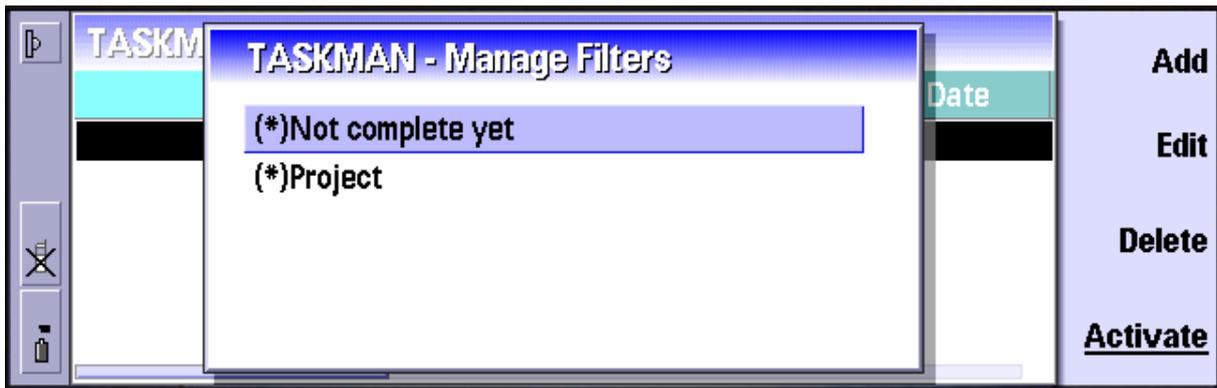
Enter a value for “Project”



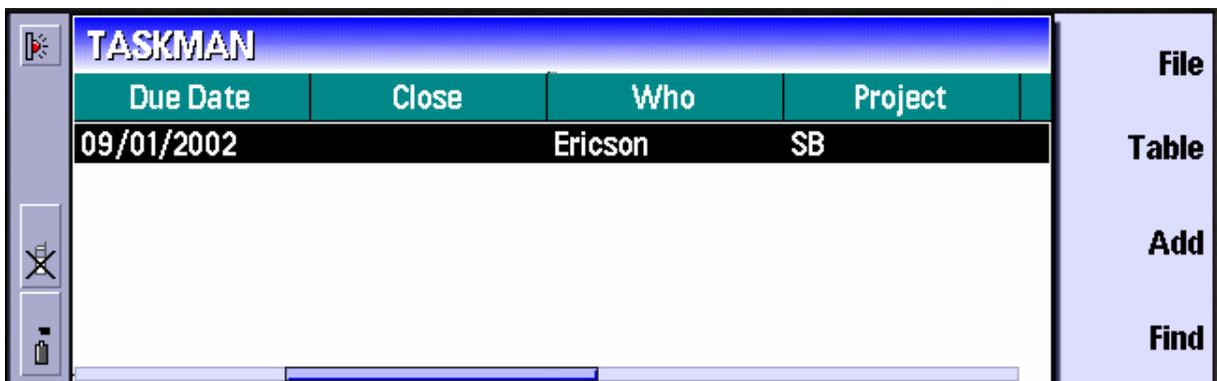
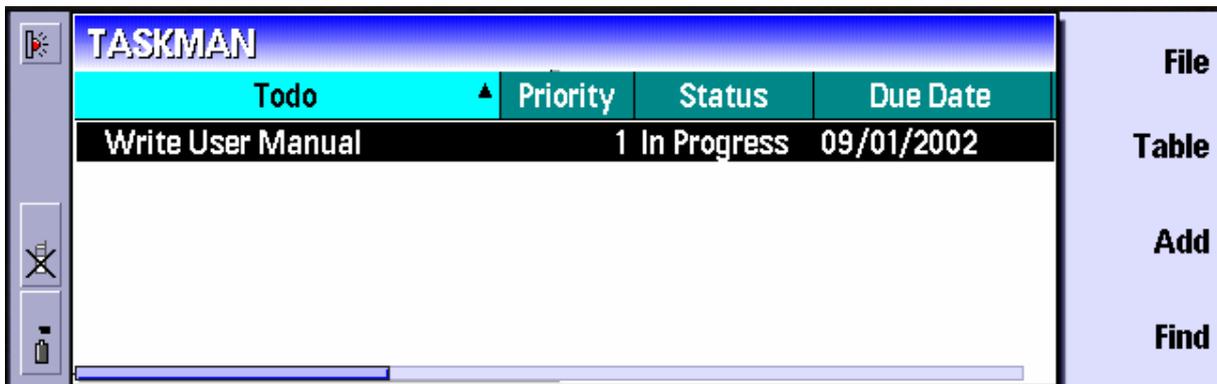
Press “OK”

Create a new filter which will use this variable in order to display value according the “project” variable value.





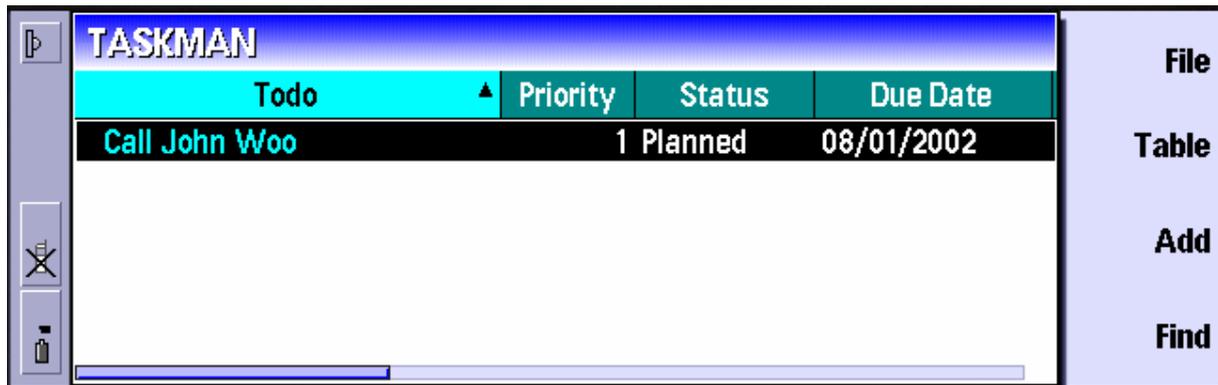
Let's see the result !



If we now change the value of project to enter "POCKET" instead of "SB"



Press “OK” and let’s see the result.



The screenshot shows a software interface titled "TASKMAN". It features a table with the following columns: "Todo", "Priority", "Status", and "Due Date". The "Todo" column has a small upward-pointing triangle next to it. The table contains one row with the text "Call John Woo", the value "1", the status "Planned", and the date "08/01/2002". To the right of the table is a vertical menu with the options "File", "Table", "Add", and "Find". On the left side of the table, there are two icons: a trash can and a document with a cross through it.

Todo ▲	Priority	Status	Due Date
Call John Woo	1	Planned	08/01/2002

A new record has been selected !

Important Note : Filters and Colors criterias using unknown or empty variables are automatically ignored by SmallBase !

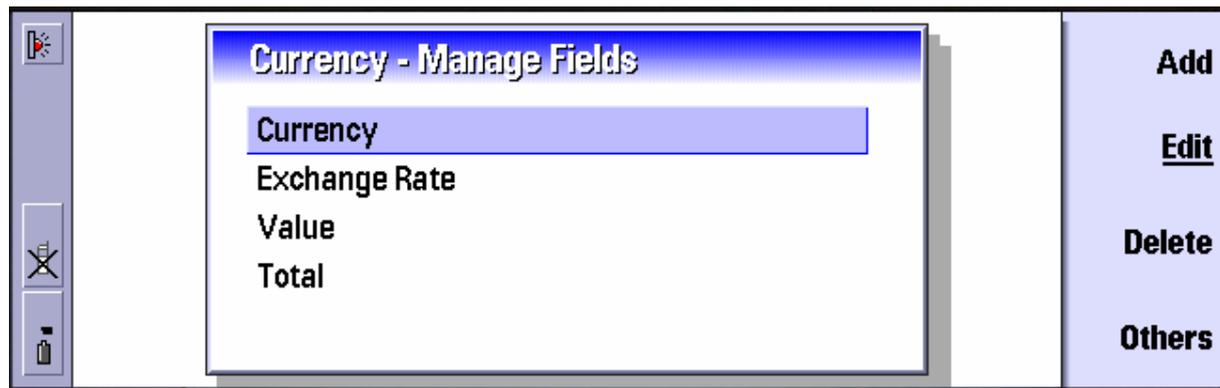
Variables may be used in the “Variable” field types, see below.

5.4.How to use a Variable field Type ?

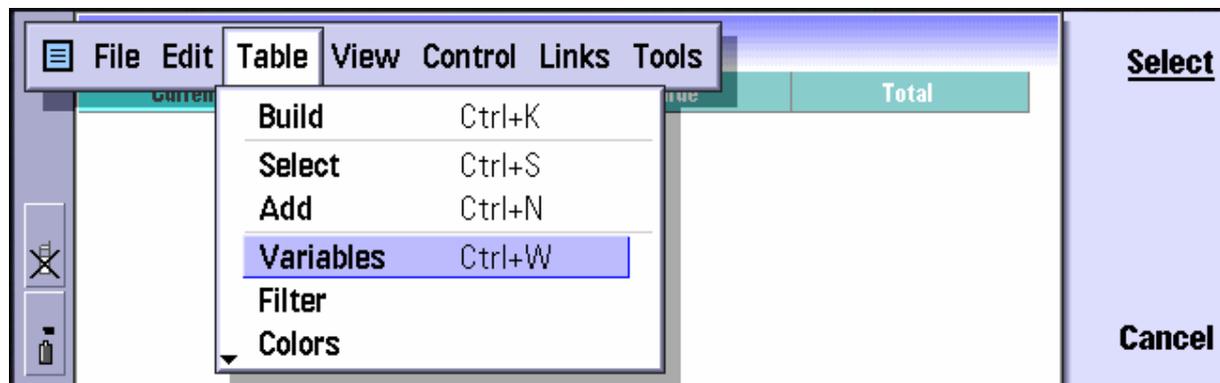
A variable type field is used to allow user set different variable value to a field in a record. This is very useful when you have to use this field in calculations. A typical case consists in managing a Currency conversion Table.

Let's create a Table which contains :

Currency	Text type field (10 chars) , the name of the currency
Exchange Rate	Floating point type field, The exchange rate for the currency in your money
Value	A Variable type field which will contains for example the Variable "Amount"
Total	A Formula type field which contains this : $r3*r4$ (Exchange Rate*Value)



Let's define the variable "Amount"



Currency			
Currency	Exchange Rate	Value	Total
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Name ▶ Amount </p> </div>			

Cancel

OK

<p>Amount ▶ 120 </p>	<p>Add</p> <p>Delete</p> <p>OK</p> <p>Cancel</p>
----------------------------	--

We have entered 120 as example.

So how to use this new conversion table.

We can add a record into the Currency table. It can be the reference

<p>Currency ▶ EUR</p> <p>Exchange Rate ▶ 1</p> <p>Value ▶ Amount</p> <p>Total ▶ 0</p>	<p>Cancel</p> <p>OK</p> <p>Clear</p> <p>Auto</p>
---	--

Currency			
Currency	Exchange Rate	Value	Total
EUR	1.00	Amount	120.00

File

Table

Add

Find

Of course $120 * 1 = 120$

Let's see now EUROS in USD with an exchange rate to 1.13 and add it to our Currency Table.

Currency	▶ USD
Exchange Rate	▶ 1.13
Value	▶ Amount
Total	▶ 0

Cancel

OK

Clear

Auto

Of course the Value is always "Amount"

Currency			
Currency	Exchange Rate	Value	Total
EUR	1.00	Amount	120.00
USD	1.13	Amount	135.60

File

Table

Add

Find

Now we can mask the column Value by editing it and set Visible to No.

Currency			File
Currency	Exchange Rate	Total	Table
EUR	1.00	120.00	Add
USD	1.13	135.60	Find

So how to use the conversion table.

It's very easy you just have to edit the Variable Value in pressing "**CTRL+W**"

And set the new value to 200 for example

Amount	200	Add
		Delete
		OK
		Cancel

Currency			File
Currency	Exchange Rate	Total	Table
EUR	1.00	120.00	Add
USD	1.13	135.60	Find

The display isn't automatically updated but if you press now "**CTRL+H**" or do a Calculate from the main menu.

Currency	Exchange Rate	Total
EUR	1.00	200.00
USD	1.13	226.00

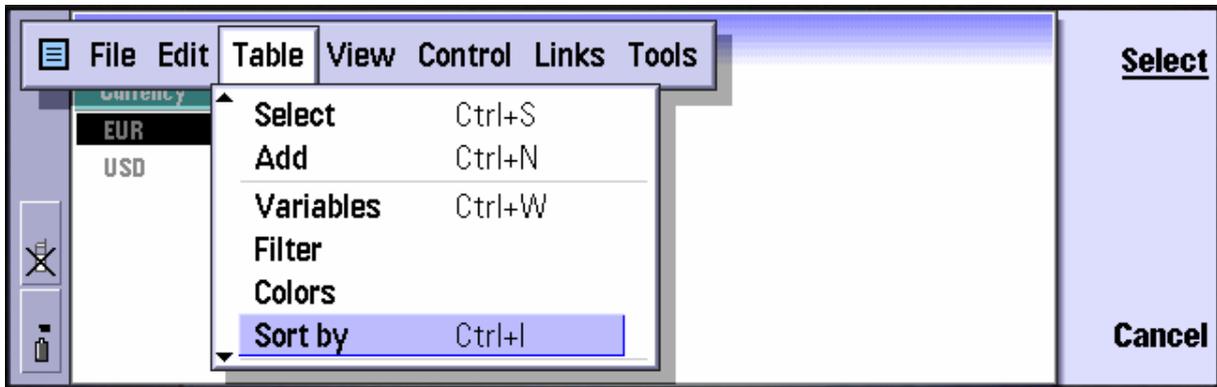
The display is now refreshed with the right values.

You have create a small application to manage Currency Conversion.

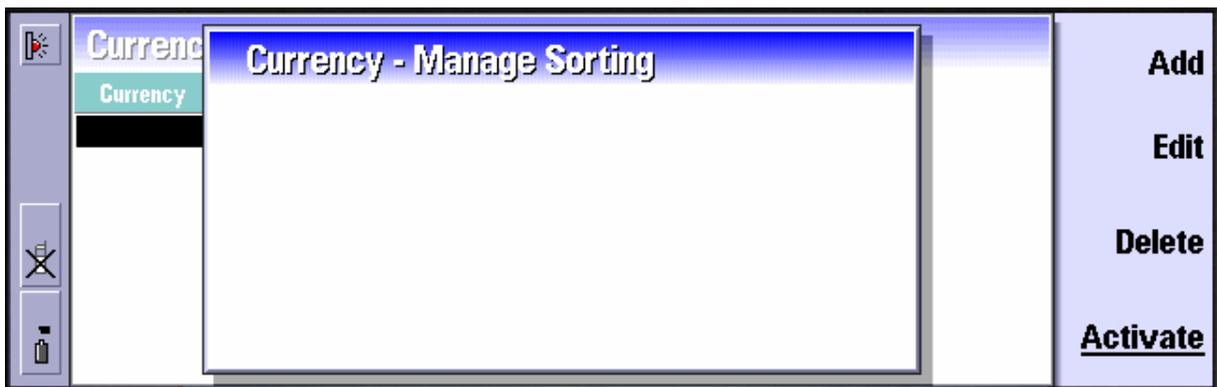
5.5. Manage Sorting Out Methods and Increase Speed

Sorting out methods let's the user sort datas in table according to one or more criterias.

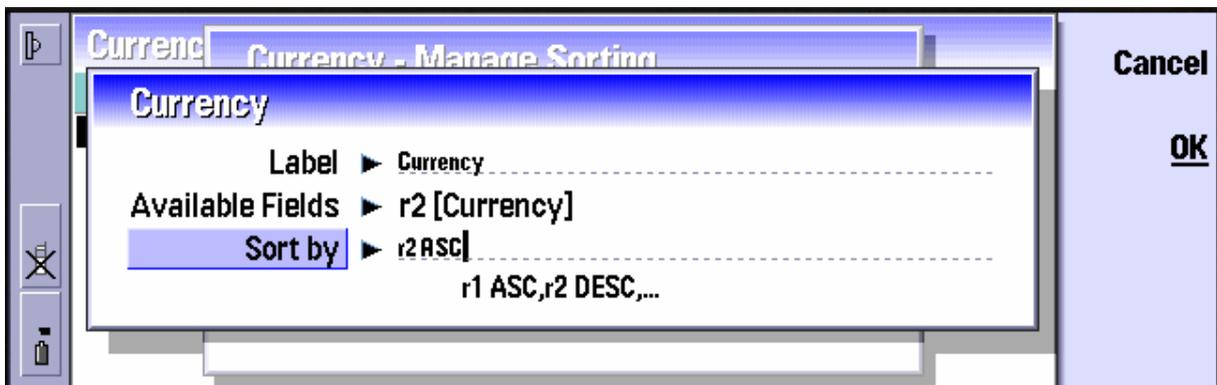
Let's take previous example and set a sorting out method on the Currency Name



Open the main menu and select "Sort By"



Sorting out methods are managed the same way as Filters and Colors.



We can add a new method called "Currency".

We have selected the Currency Name field and we have chosen to sort datas ascendingly.

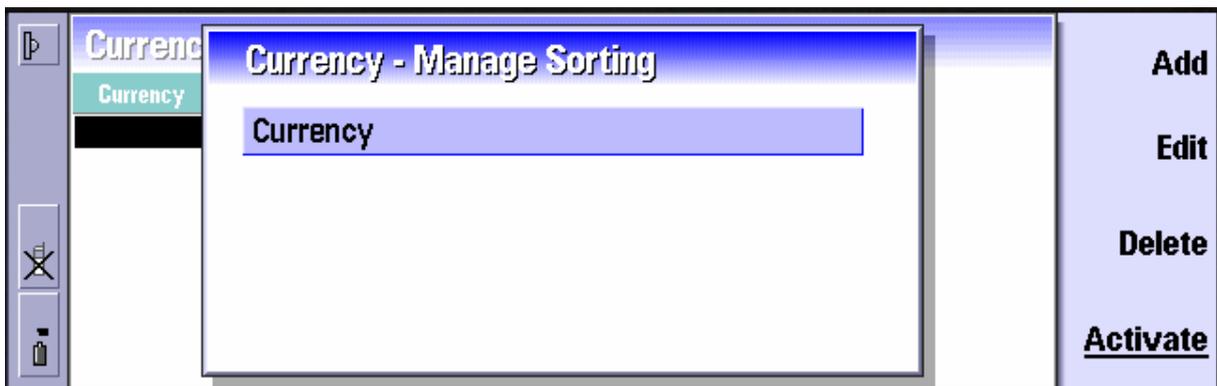
Actually, we can define more than one criteria and create sophisticated indexes.

The fields must be separated with a comma and must have a keyword “**ASC**” for ascending sort or “**DESC**” for descending sort.

Every kind of fields can be used in the sorting out methods.

BE AWARE : Sorting out methods generate indexes into the database, these indexes can be very large if you create indexes on long string. We not recommend to create indexes on text field with more than 50 chars.

A database with lot indexes may take time on compaction or on repair.



The sorting out method must now be activated to be available.

Press “ACTIVATE” do set it as the default sorting out method.



Now the datas are sorted according to the Currency name.

You can increased data search in selecting the right index according to what you are searching.

Example: We have a dictionary table composed with a “word” and its “translation”. It’s a good thing to add a sorting method on the “Word” field. When you’re looking for a word. SmallBase might find it 10 times faster.

Currency		
Currency	Exchange Rate	Total
EUR	1.00	200.00
USD	1.13	226.00

We can also create a sorting out method on the Total and sort datas according to the total descending.

Currency - Manage Sorting	
Label	Total
Available Fields	r5 [Total]
Sort by	r5 DESC
	r1 ASC,r2 DESC,...

Currency - Manage Sorting	
Currency	
(*)Total	

Activate the new sorting out method, Note that only ONE method can be used at the same time. For combinaison with more than one field, create more than one Sorting Out methods

Currency		
Currency	Exchange Rate	Total
USD	1.13	226.00
EUR	1.00	200.00

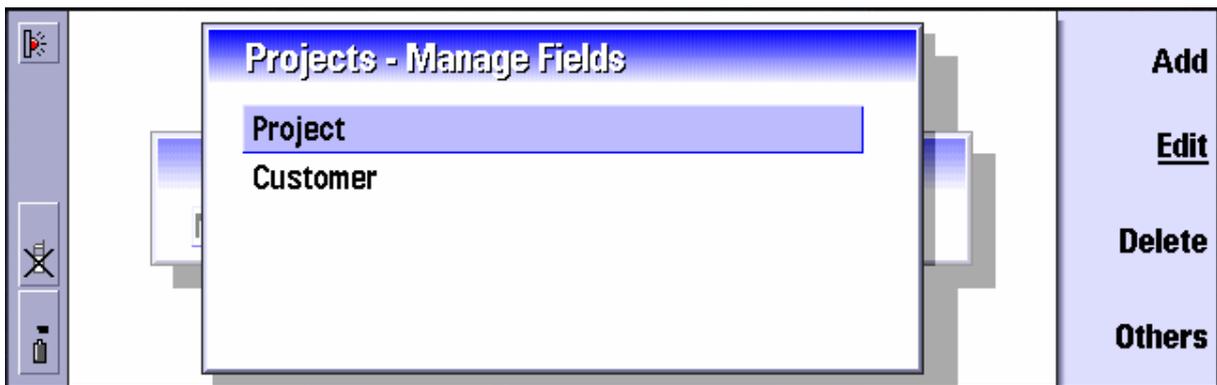
File
Table
Add
Find

5.6. Manage Filters and Colors with Table Links

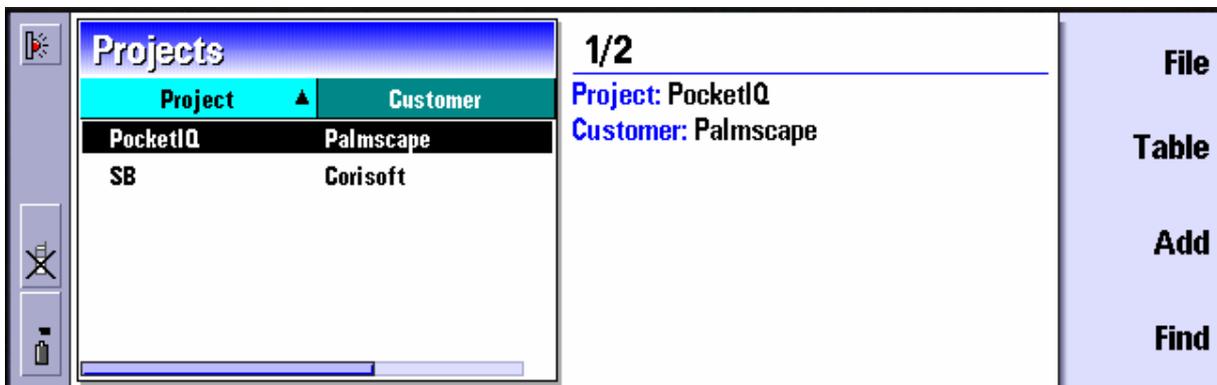
Another great feature of SmallBase consists in creating Filters and Colors criterias which support fields from others tables.

The previous example can become totally dynamic in using a table which contains Project ids.

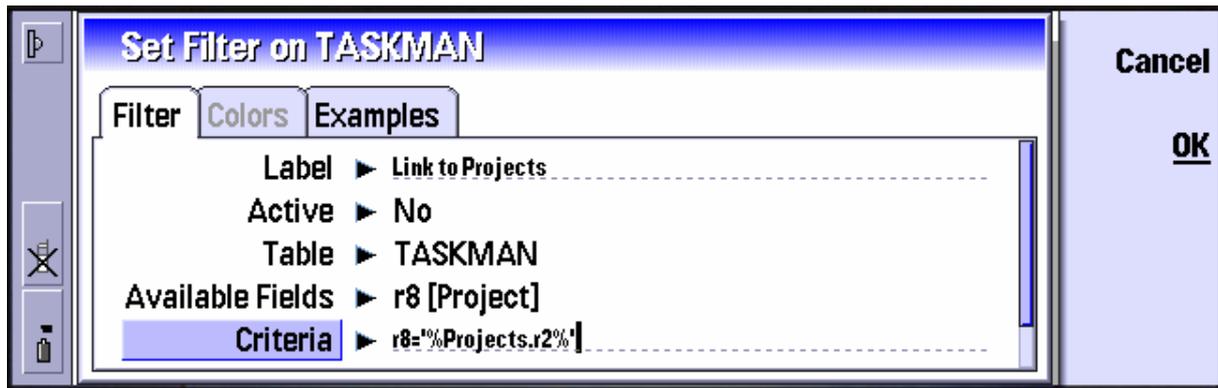
Let's create a new table "**Projects**" which contain 2 text fields Project and Customer.



Open table Projects and enter 2 projects "SB" and "PocketIQ"



We will now open the "**TASKMAN**" table and create a filter which refer the "**Projects**" Table.



Note that as for variables, the reference to the “**Projects**” table fields must be enclosed into “%” chars.

We can create different kind of link and mix more than one table in the criteria.

To help users remember valid fields in current database Tables, a choice-list has been added to select the table, so available fields choice-list is updated according to selected table.

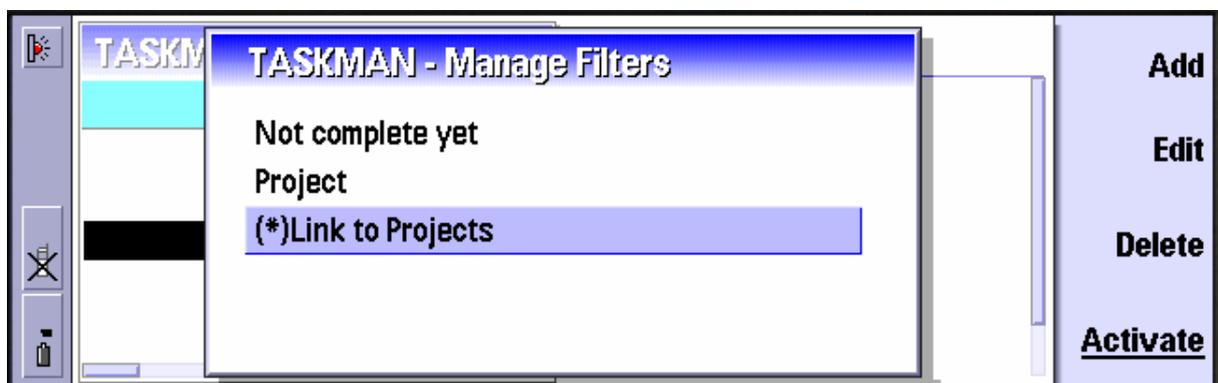
How SmallBase deal with this ?

In fact, to use a such filter you must open all referred tables in the criteria. In our case, open the “**TASKMAN**” table and the “**Projects**” table. As for variables, if referred tables are not opened, criterias are ignored by SmallBase.

The “**TASKMAN**” table view will be updated according to the “**Projects**” table view. If you select an item in the “**Projects**” table view the field “**r2**” (Project) will contain a certain value. When you switch to the “**TASKMAN**” table view, the active filter will be updated with this new value and the filter will be applied on the view.

Let’s see this with an example.

Activate only this new filter.



Select an item in the “**Projects**” table view.

Project	Customer
PocketIQ	Palmscape
SB	Corisoft

2/2
Project: SB
Customer: Corisoft

File
Table
Add
Find

Now the selected project is “SB”

Let's see the result when return to the “TASKMAN” table view.

Who	Project
Ericson	SB

1/1
Todo: Write User Manual
Priority: 1
Status: In Progress
Due Date: 09/01/2002
Who: Ericson
Project: SB
Cost: 0.00
Hours: 0

File
Table
Add
Find

We can check that only record which refers “SB” in project field are displayed !

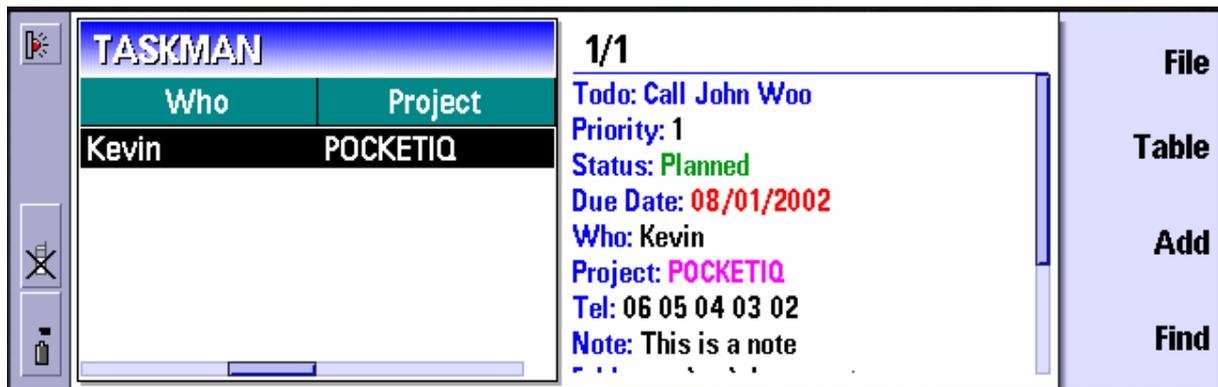
Let's return to “Projects” table view and select another project.

Project	Customer
PocketIQ	Palmscape
SB	Corisoft

1/2
Project: PocketIQ
Customer: Palmscape

File
Table
Add
Find

We return again in the “TASKMAN” table view.



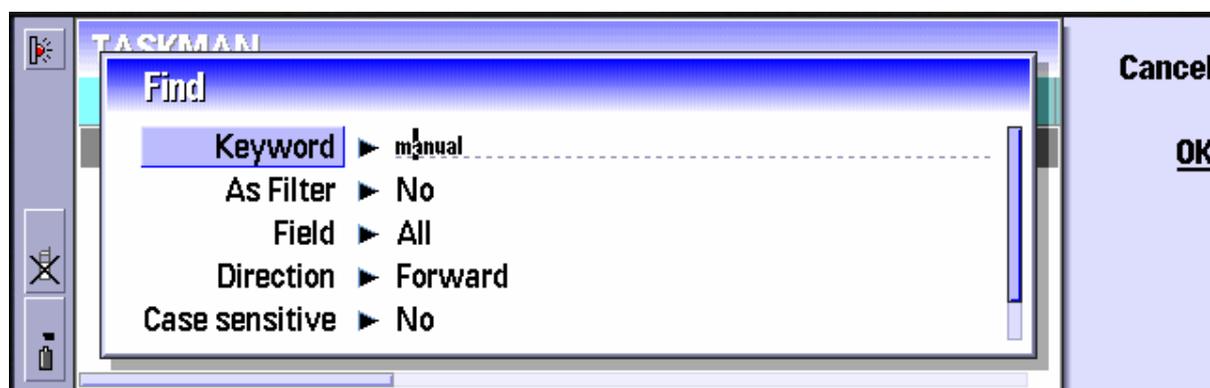
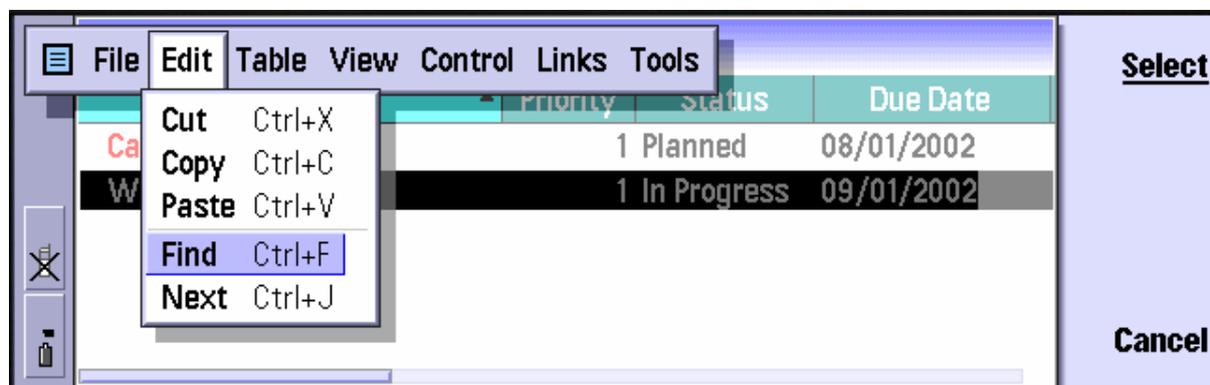
Now records which contains “**POCKETIQ**” project are displayed !

This feature works also with Colors.

6. Search

SmallBase offers an extended search feature.

Use the main menu or press directly the “**Find**” button.

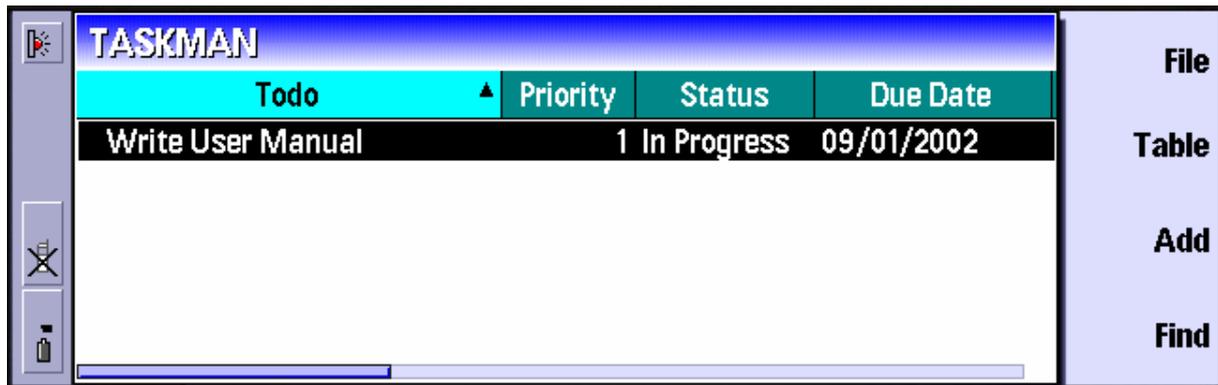


Search feature is working 2 ways :

Classical search : SmallBase goes on the first matching row

Extended search : SmallBase filter datas and display only matching rows. In this case this new filter is added to the active ones.

SmallBase can perform the search on **all fields** or on a **specific field**. SmallBase can search data from the current row **forward** or **backward**. The search can be **case sensitive**. Search can be done on a **substring** or on the **exact word**.



The screenshot shows the TASKMAN application window. The title bar is blue and contains the text "TASKMAN". Below the title bar is a menu bar with a cyan background and the text "Todo". To the right of the menu bar is a vertical toolbar with three icons: a magnifying glass, a trash can, and a printer. The main area is a table with a black header row and one data row. The header row has columns for "Priority", "Status", and "Due Date". The data row has the text "1 In Progress" under "Status" and "09/01/2002" under "Due Date". To the right of the table is a vertical toolbar with three buttons: "File", "Table", and "Find".

Priority	Status	Due Date
	1 In Progress	09/01/2002

For **classical search**, SmallBase will locate the next row matching the condition in pressing "**Next**" in the main menu or **CTRL+J**.

7. Manage Files and Databases

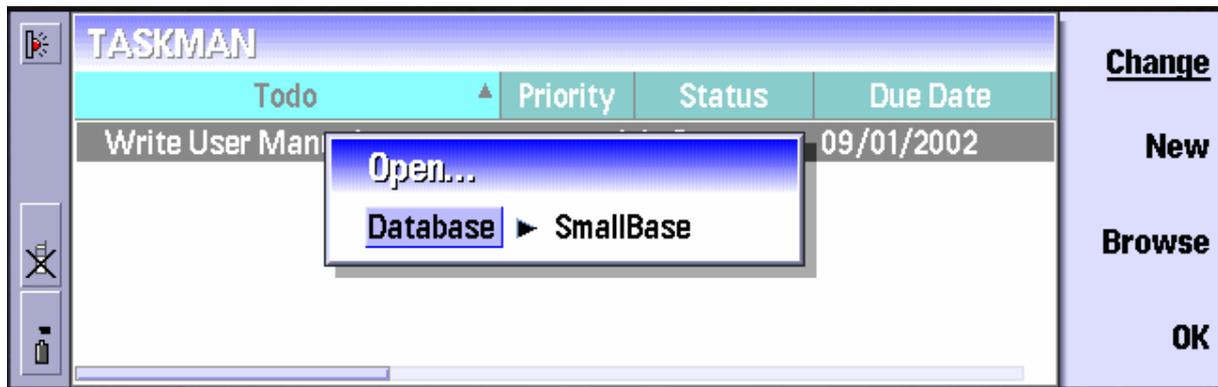
7.1. Open and Create Databases

SmallBase can manage more than one table in one database but only one file at once.

For this reason file selection has been improved to make it much easier.

Open or create new SmallBase databases with only one dialog box.

Press “**File**” button or use the main menu and select “**Open**” in the “**File**” menu pane.



SmallBase stores the recents files in a choice list, so the database selection is really easy.

Users can remove a file from the history list by pressing the “**BACKSPACE**” key.

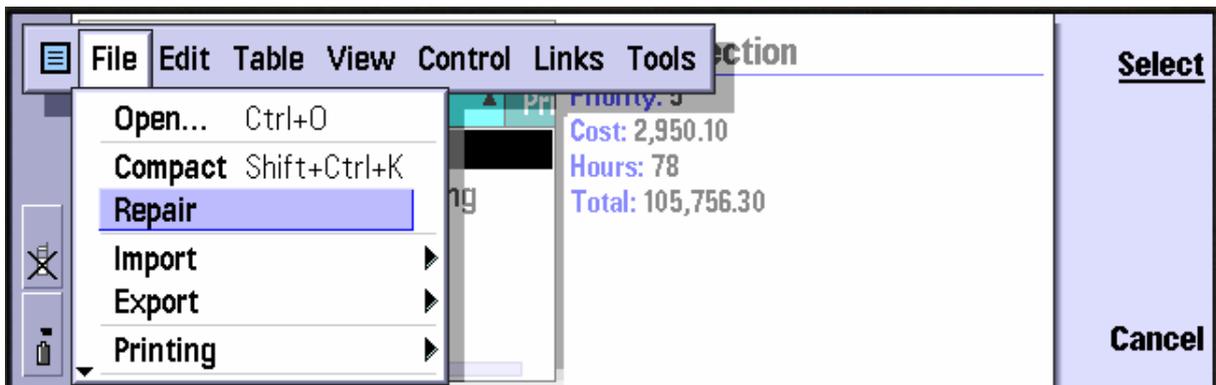
The “**New**” button allows the creation of a new database.

Navigate through the file manager and open a SmallBase file with the “**Browse**” button. The selected file will be automatically added to the history list. The database can be easily reopened.

7.2. Compact and Repair databases

SmallBase databases can be compacted at any time. After lot of updates, it's recommended to do a compaction of the database in order to reduce the size of the file. This is valuable for ER3 and ER5 devices. EPOC DBMS has been more optimized in ER6, this operation is not always required but recommended.

Use the main menu and select "**Compact**"



To repair a database choose Repair instead of Compact. When repairing a database, SmallBase does first a destroy of all existing indexes on the tables, a recover of the database after a damage check, and a reindexation of the database according to the permanent indexed fields.

Use the main menu and select "**Repair**"

8. Protect Databases

A really great feature of SmallBase consists in protection of your confidential datas.

SmallBase integrates a powerful encryption engine. This encryption engine is based on the popular “**Encrypt-it**” software for EPOC devices from **Peter Csutora**.

SmallBase use a **256-bits encryption key, based on user-defined password**.

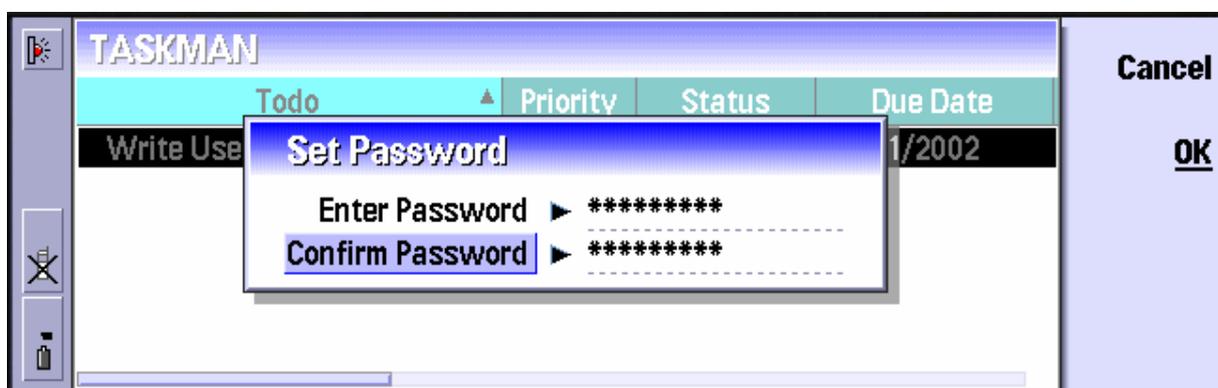
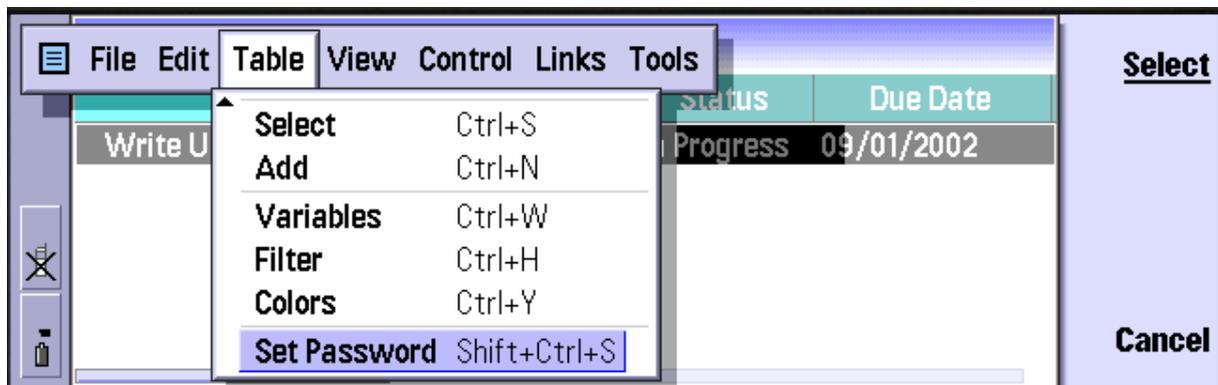
Users can use the same password for all databases, the file encryption will be different each time.

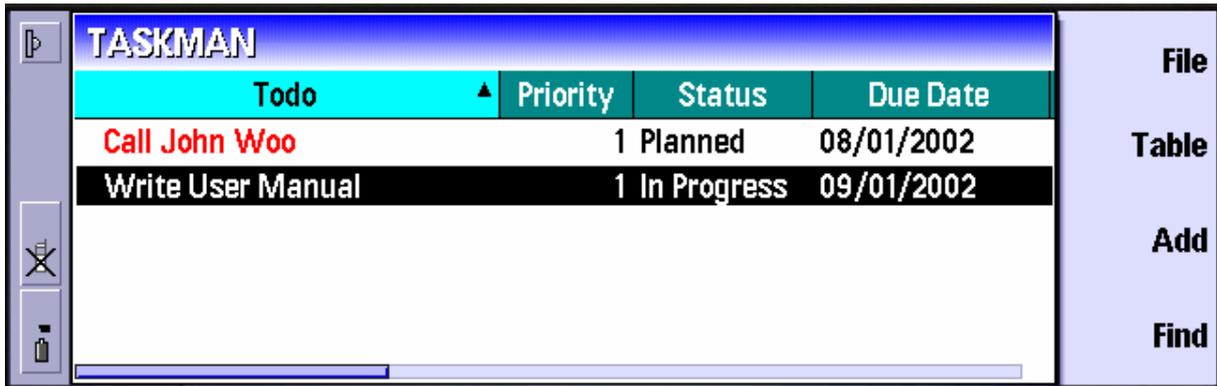
Without the right password for a protected database, the datas are definitively lost.

Encryption is automatically applied on the file after closing the database or when SmallBase goes background.

When SmallBase regains the focus, SmallBase will ask for the requested password, will decrypt the file and will finally reopen the database. Without the password, the database can't be reopen.

Users must take in account the encryption calculation delay depends on the EPOC device when using this feature for opening a database. It is recommended to activate this feature on small databases.



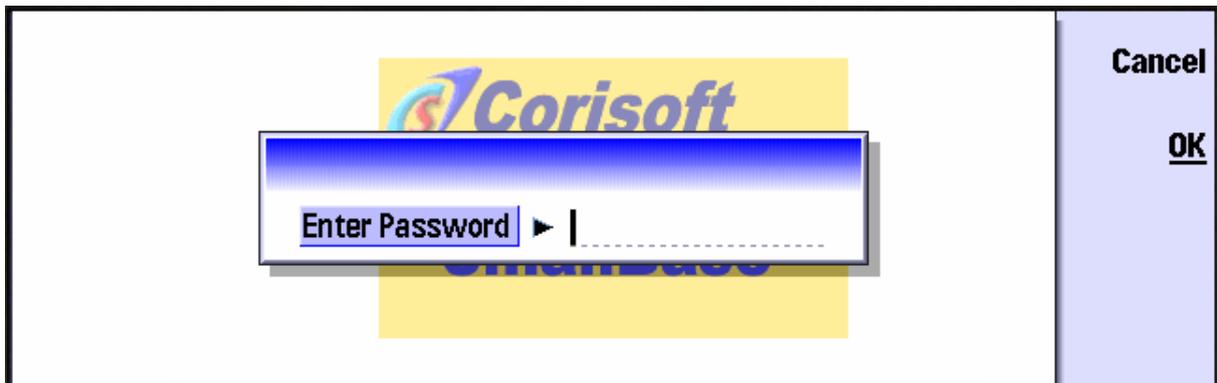


The file is now password protected.

Switch to another task.



Come back to SmallBase



To cancel a password, users must set the password again and just press “**Enter**” key, the old password will be removed.

9. Active fields and Automation

9.1. Making a phone call

Telephone number field type from SmallBase allows user to make directly a phone call from the device.

For ER3 and ER5, SmallBase will generate DTMF frequencies.

For ER6 (Nokia 9210/9290), SmallBase will automatically make a call for the selected record.

If there is more than one telephone number field in the record, SmallBase will open a list box with all telephone numbers. Users can select one of them and press "**Compose**" to issue the call.

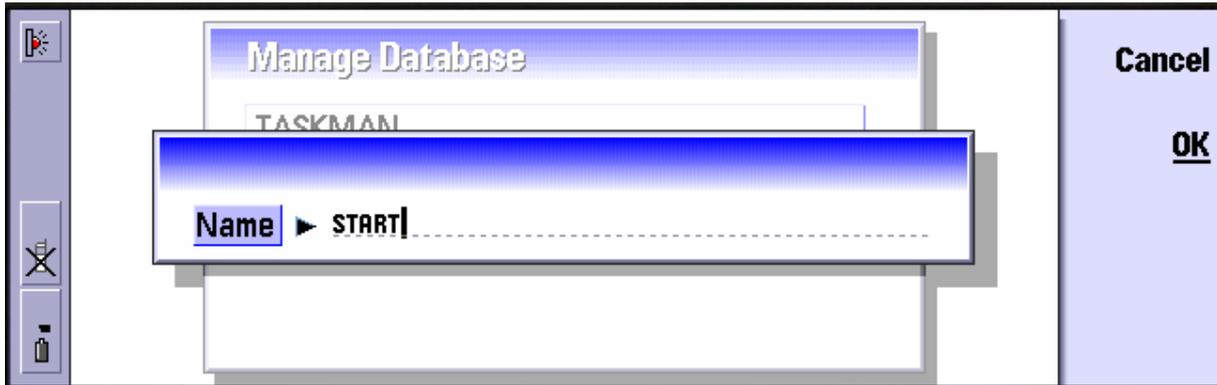
9.2. Start a document or an application from SmallBase

The **“File List”** field type can be used to start documents or applications directly from SmallBase.

SmallBase can easily become a document launcher.

Let’s go and create a File Launcher with SmallBase

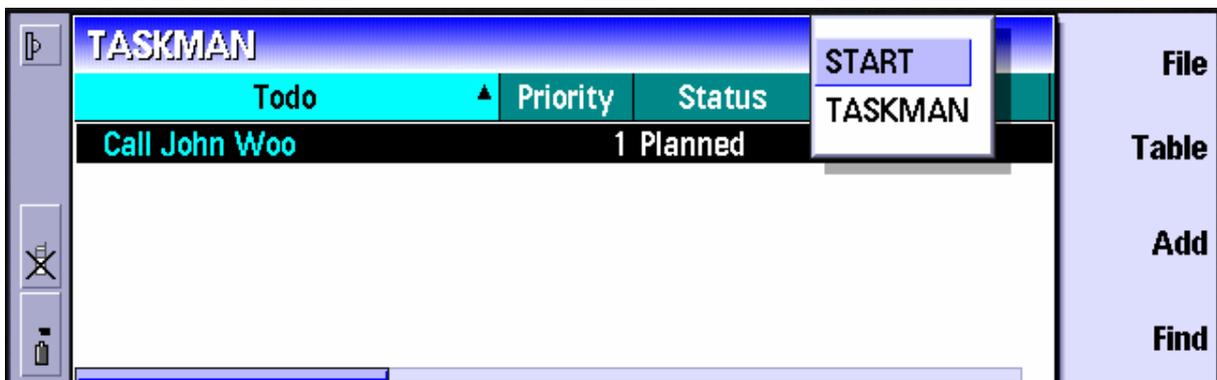
Turn SmallBase into **“Build”** Mode and create a new table



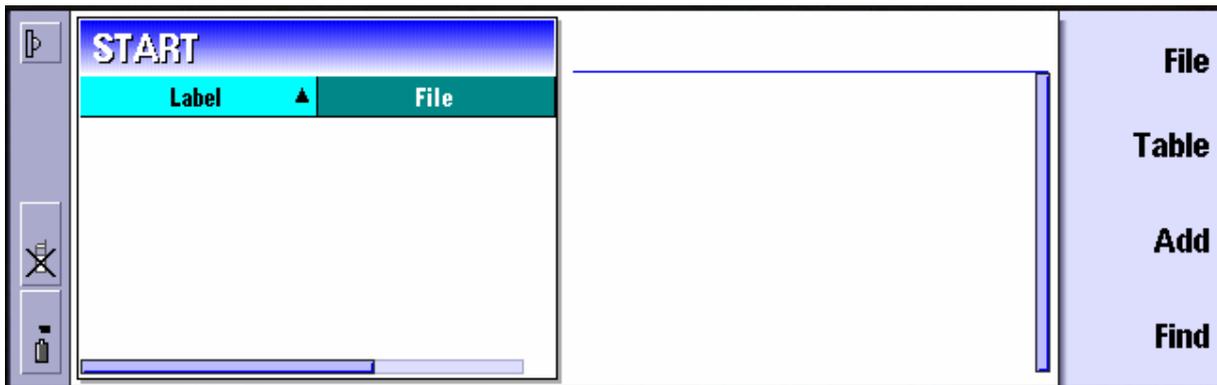
Add fields : Label (Text) and File (File List).



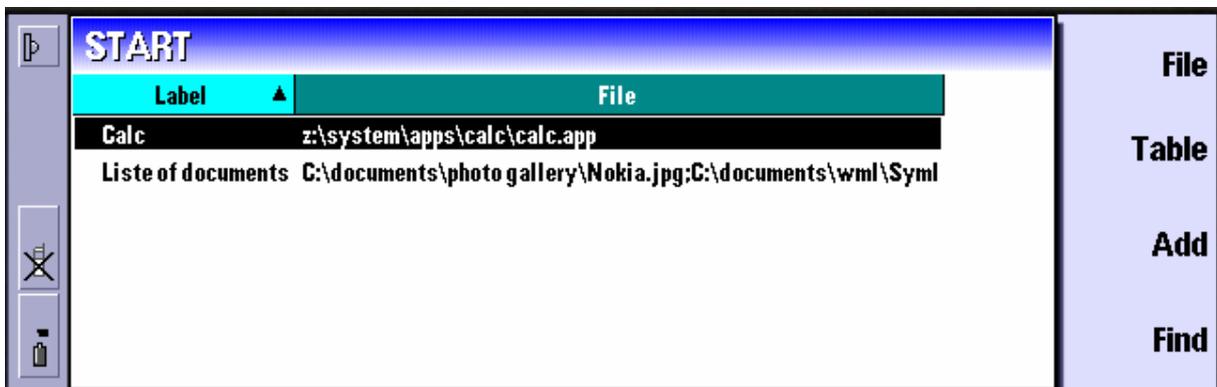
Close the selector and return to normal mode



Select the new table.



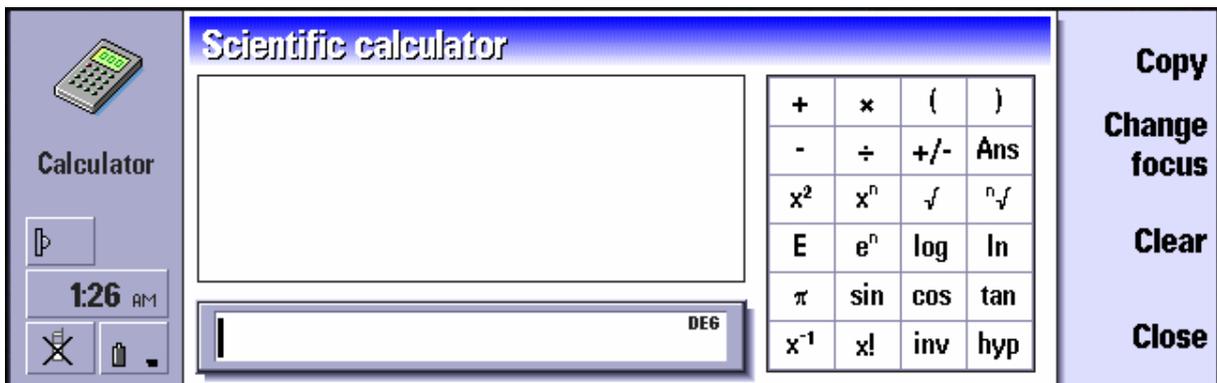
Create some records and remove the card view just to see the File names.



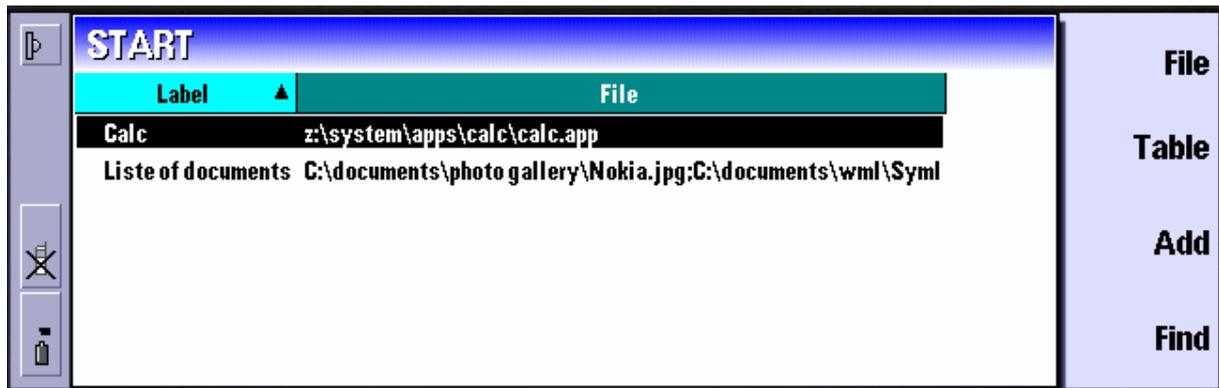
We have created a shortcut to **CALC** application and a shortcut to two JPEG documents.

Note that build in application are located in the ROM so in Z: drive.

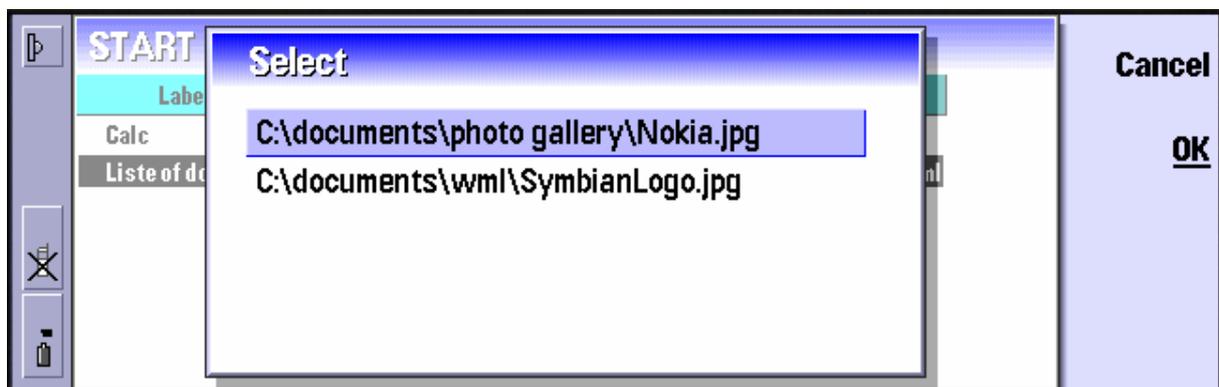
Let's start the CALC, select the **CALC** record and press **CTRL+G**



Close the calc, then you'll return immediately to SmallBase.



When there is more than one document in the “File List” field. SmallBase opens a list box which contains the files.



Select one and press “OK”.

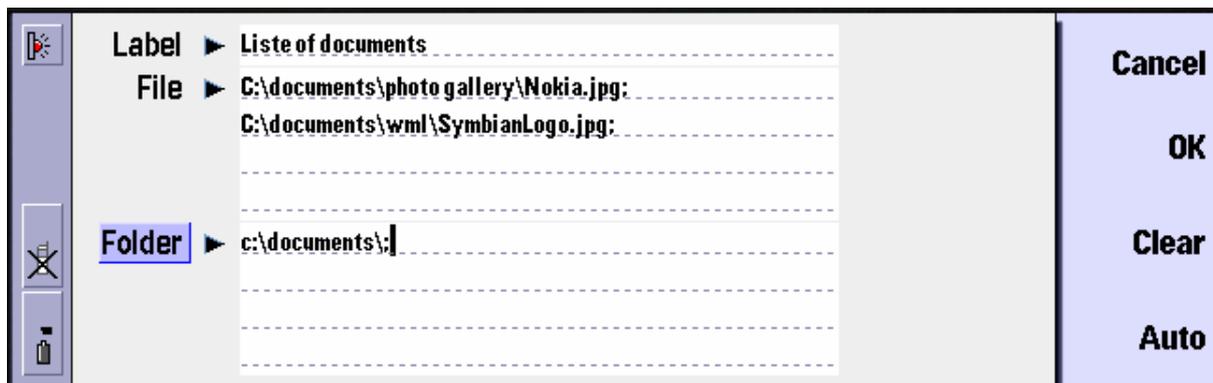


9.3. Manage Folders

The **Folder List** field type can be used to manage your preferred folders.

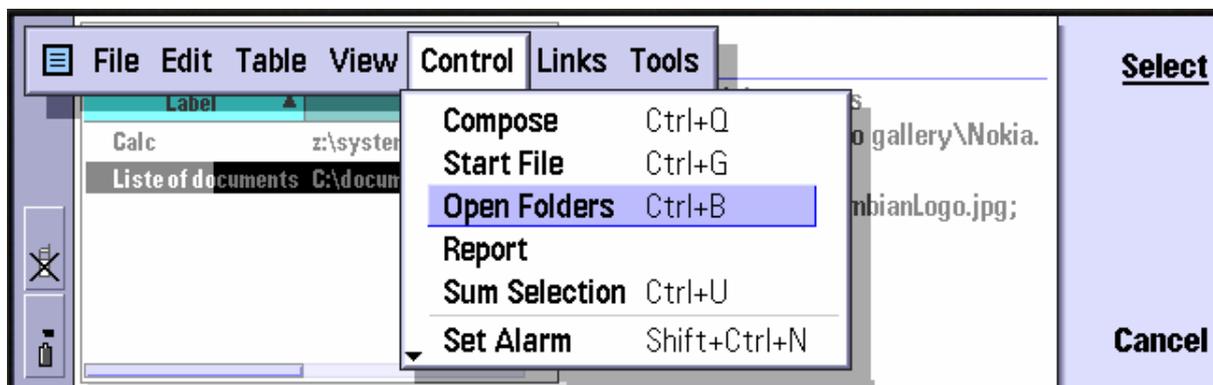
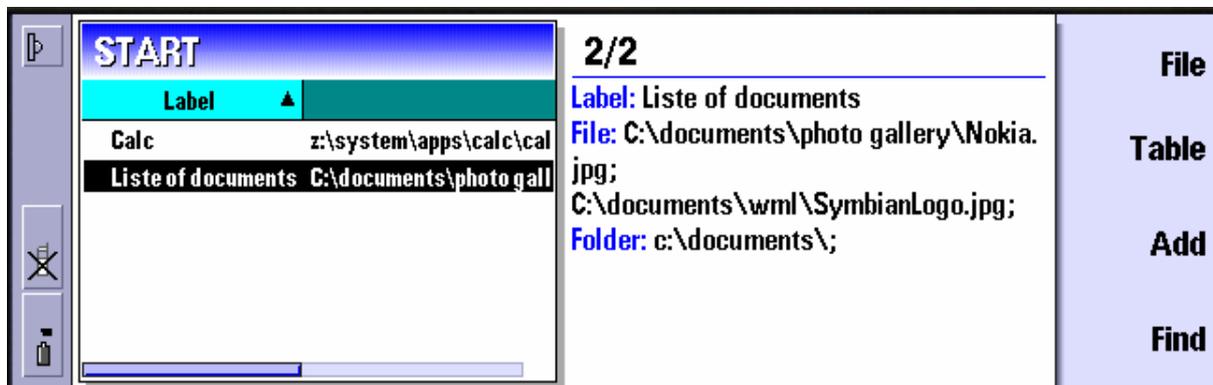
SmallBase allows users to define field which can contain folders. SmallBase will open a browser view on the path and let's users start files from it.

Add a new **Folder List** field type in the **START** table, and enter a path.



In this case, we have edit an entry and set the **Folder** field to the path **C:\documents**.

Click **OK** to confirm update.

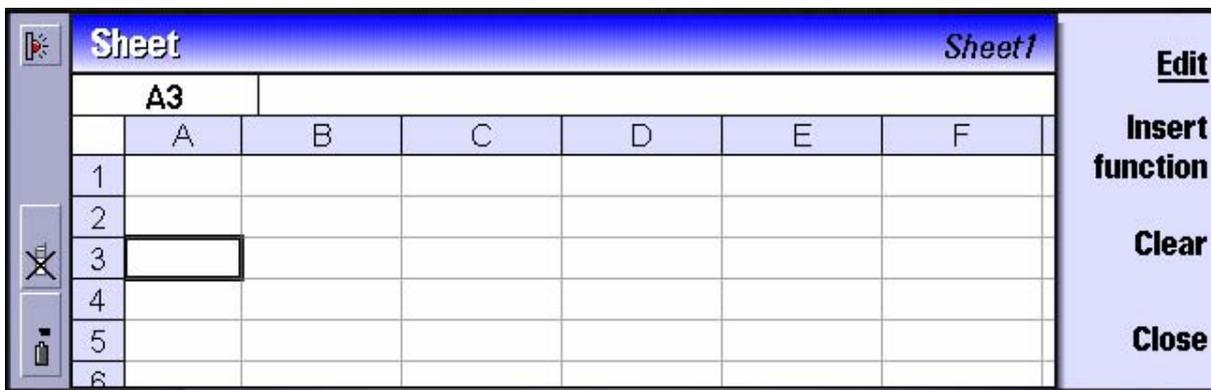


Open the main menu or press “CTRL+B” to open SmallBase file browser.

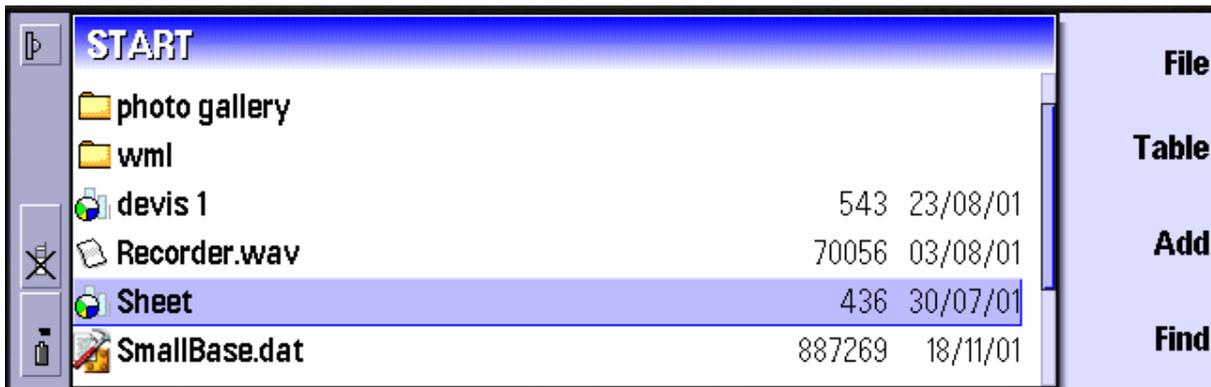


Browse the folder or select a file and start it by pressing the “ENTER” key.

Let's start “sheet” !



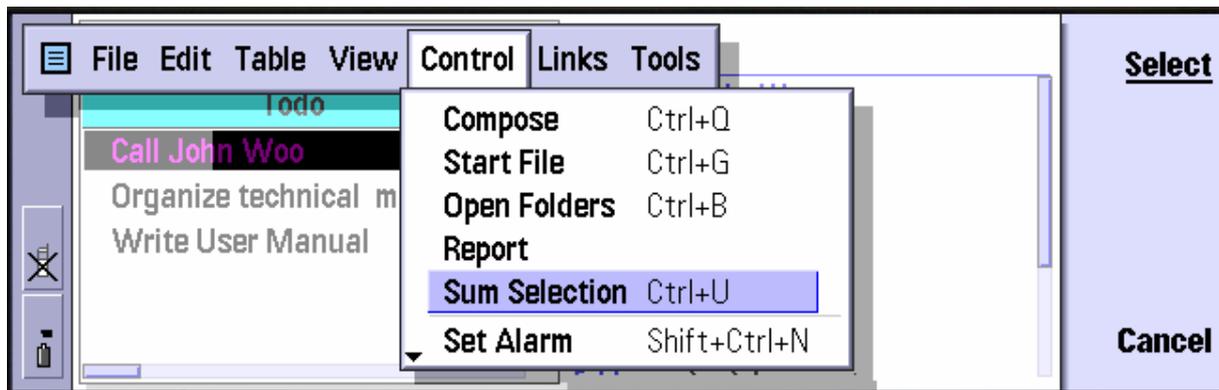
Quit Sheet application and we return directly to SmallBase.



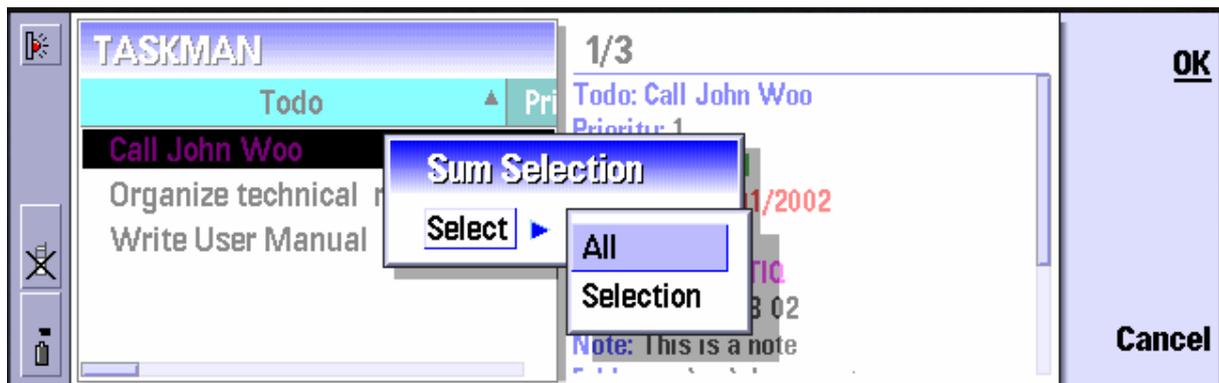
9.4. Quick Calculations

Quick Calculations is another useful feature of SmallBase. Quick Calculations allows users to do fast sum, min or max calculation on a selection or on the entire view.

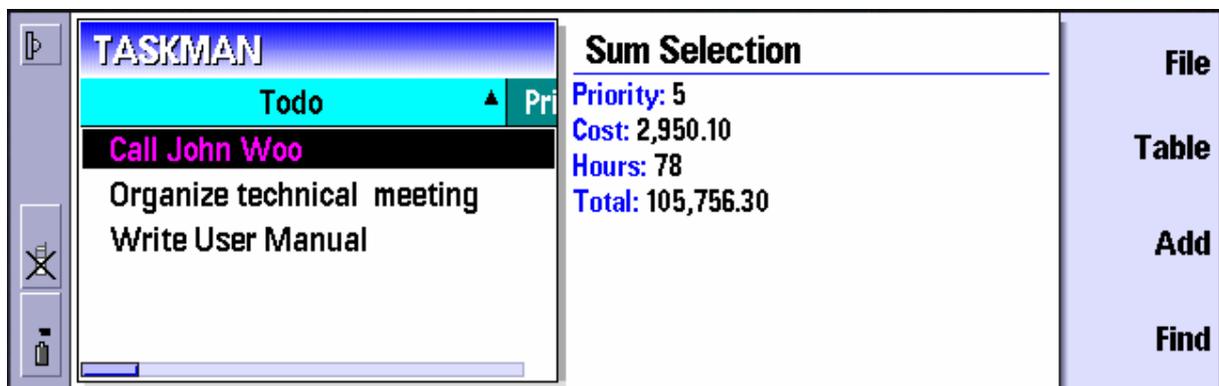
SmallBase will select all numeric and floating point fields in the table and will calculate the fields sum for the selection or for the entire view.



Open the main menu or press “CTRL+U”



Press “OK” after having selected “All”



The result is displayed in the card view.

9.5. Set Alarms on items

An alarm management feature has been added into SmallBase.

Users can now create alarms on each records of the displayed view.

The alarms are available ONLY if SmallBase is running.

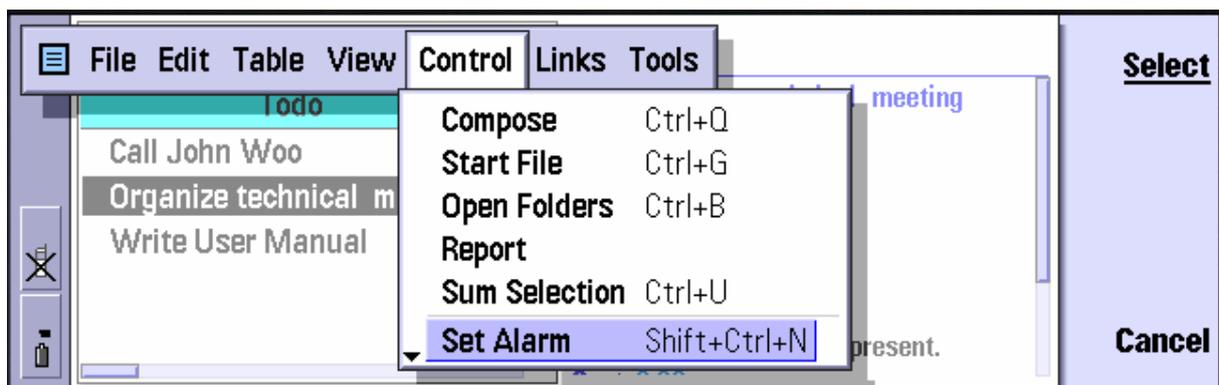
Important Note : alarms are disactivated on a password protected database when SmallBase goes to the foreground (the database is closed and encrypted).

Alarms wakes up your device even if this one is not powered on.

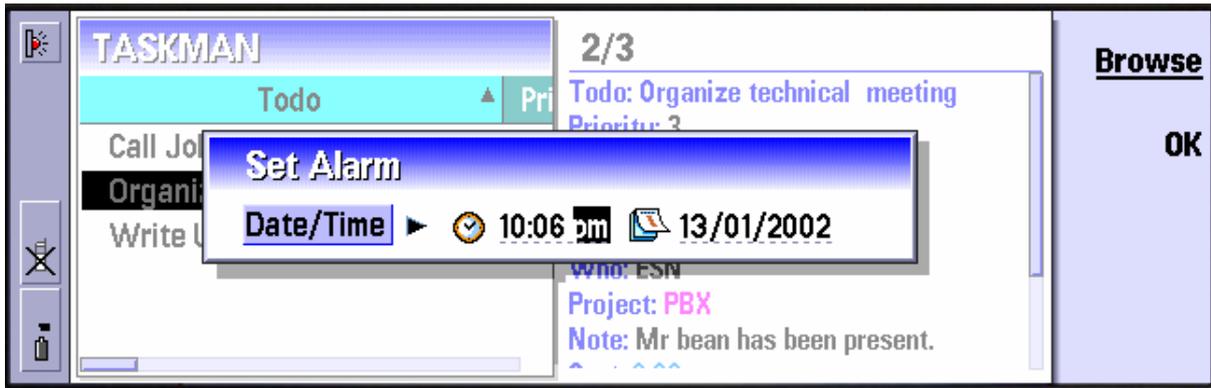
SmallBase use the default agenda alarm for Nokia ER6 based devices (9210/9290) but can be selected on ER3/ER5-based devices.



Set an alarm on the selected record.



Use the main menu or press “**SHIFT+CTRL+N**”

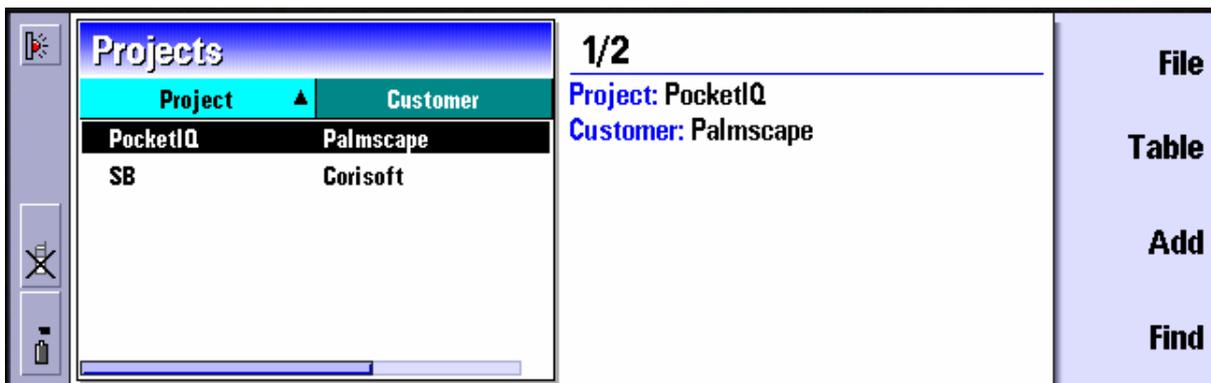


Validate the alarm date and time. Select also sound for ER3/ER5 devices.



Note the small rect added to the left of the record, this means that the record has an alarm positioned.

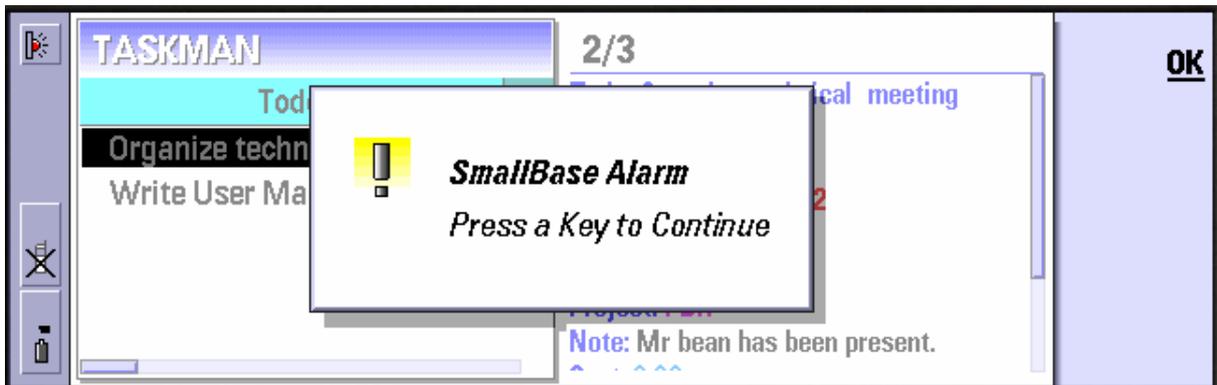
For the example we can switch to another table.



For this example, press "Extra" or "System" button to make SmallBase goes foreground. You can also turn your device off.



SmallBase wakes the device up and bring SmallBase to foreground.



The alarm sound will be played 5 times with a pause of 30 secs between each.

Press "OK" to stop the alarm and close the dialog box.

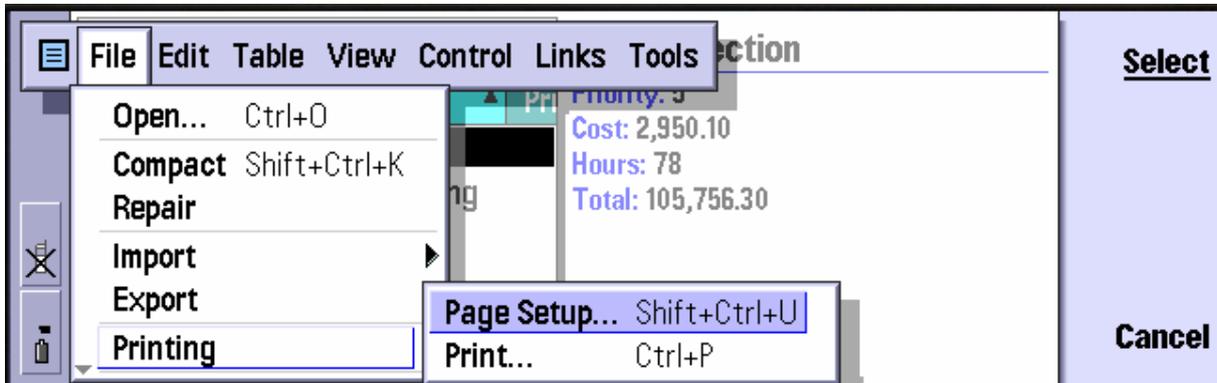


SmallBase has automatically open the concerned table and has located the cursor on the record.

10. Printing and Report

The printing feature is really simple, SmallBase can print what is displayed in the Card View.

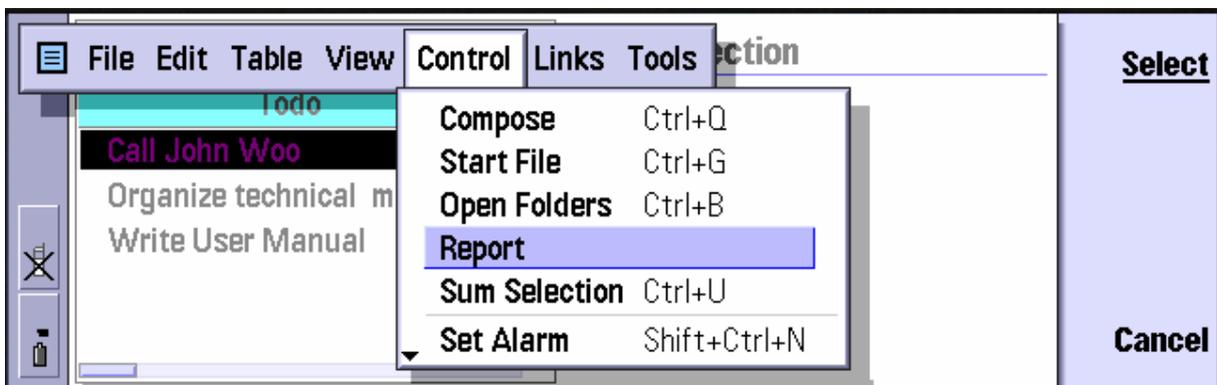
So users can print the **current record**, a **Quick Sum** calculation or a **Report**.



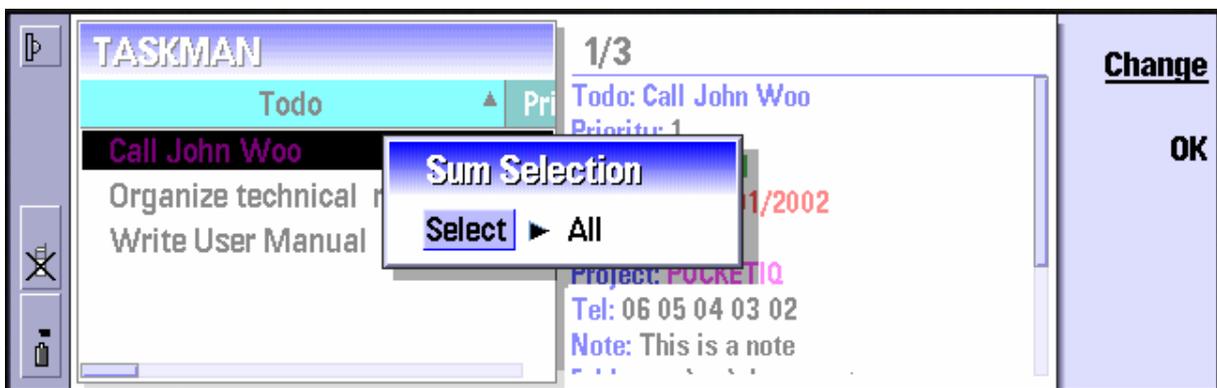
Users can change page setup before print.

How to generate a report ?

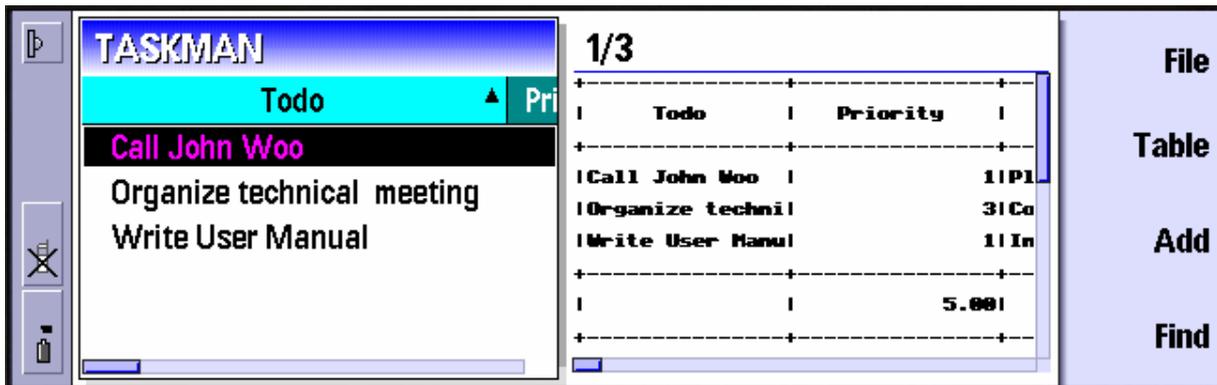
Open the main menu and select Report.



A report can be done on the current view or on a selection.



Press "OK" to validate.

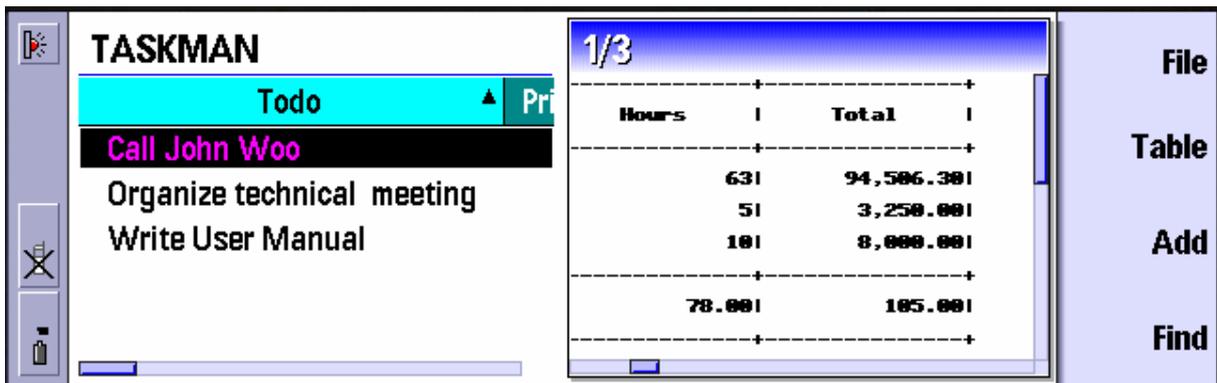


The report has been generated in the card view.

All selected lines has been included in the report. Users can now print it with the main menu.

Note that the last line contains for each numeric field the sum of the all records.

Users can see the report in details with the "TAB" key.



11. Extra Linking Feature

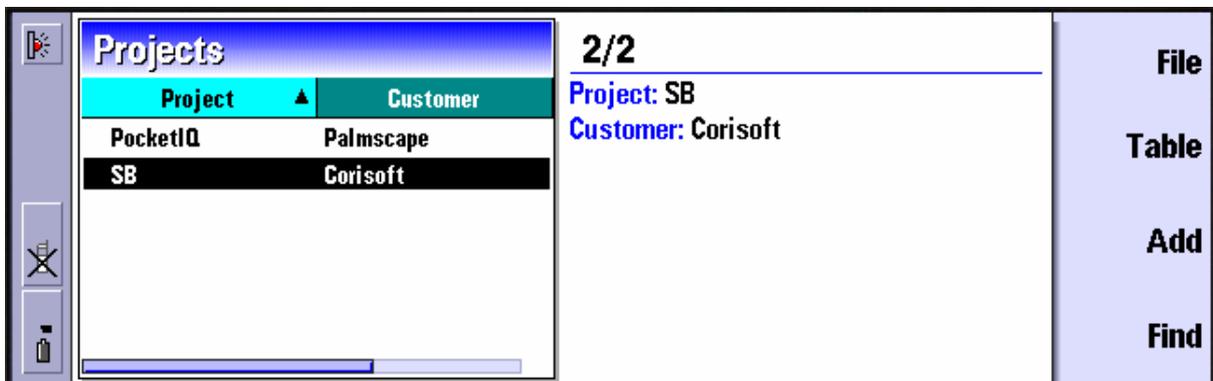
SmallBase offers an extended linking feature. The extra linking feature allows users to create free links between items into the same table or between different kind of tables.

This feature must be used onto small tables because the display can become slow if there is too much records in a table.

Let's see this with an example.

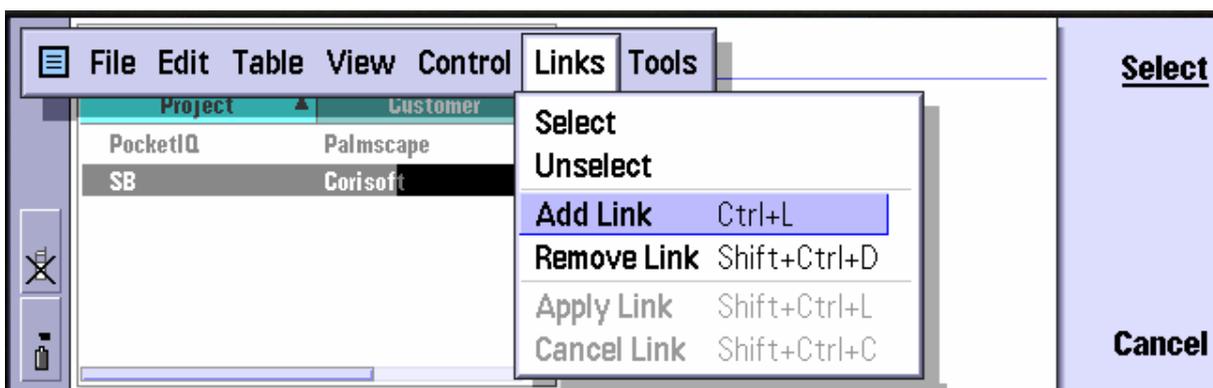
We will create a link on a record from **"Projects"** table and a record from **"START"** table.

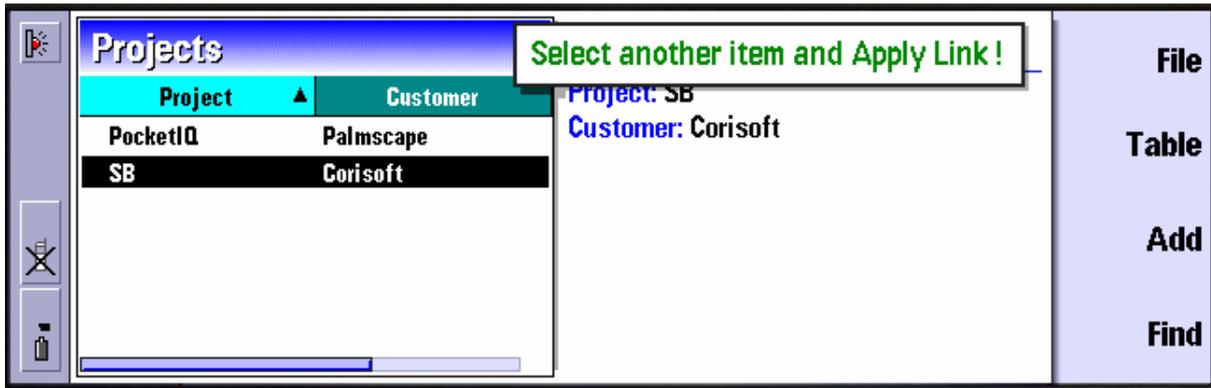
Open the "Projects" table and select an item.



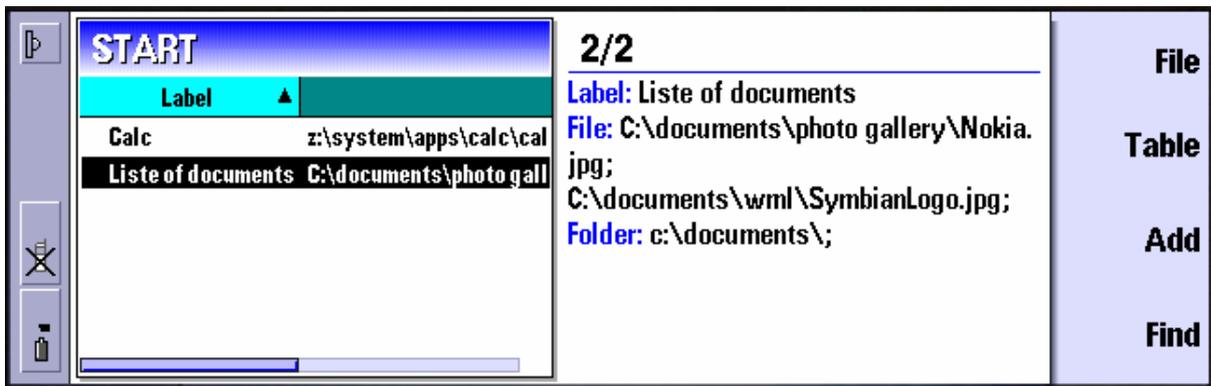
We want to link this record with another record from the **"START"** table.

Start the link creation in using the main menu or press **"CTRL+L"**

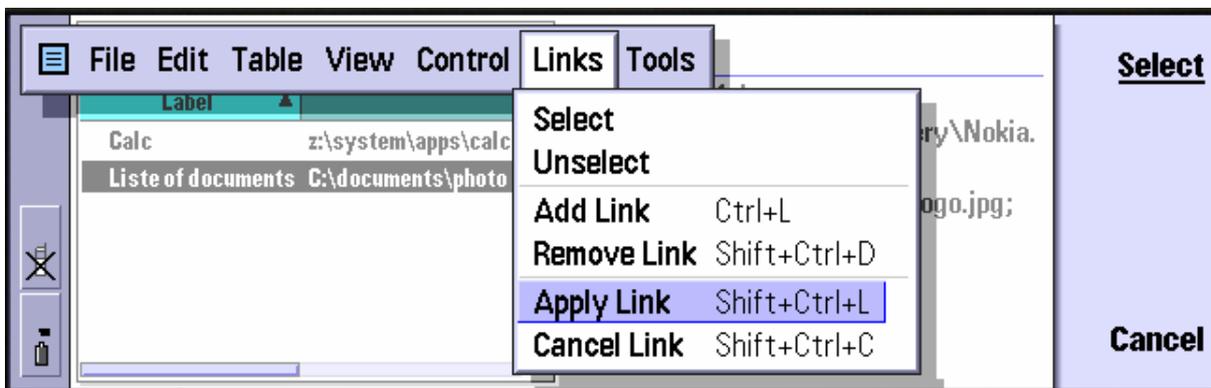




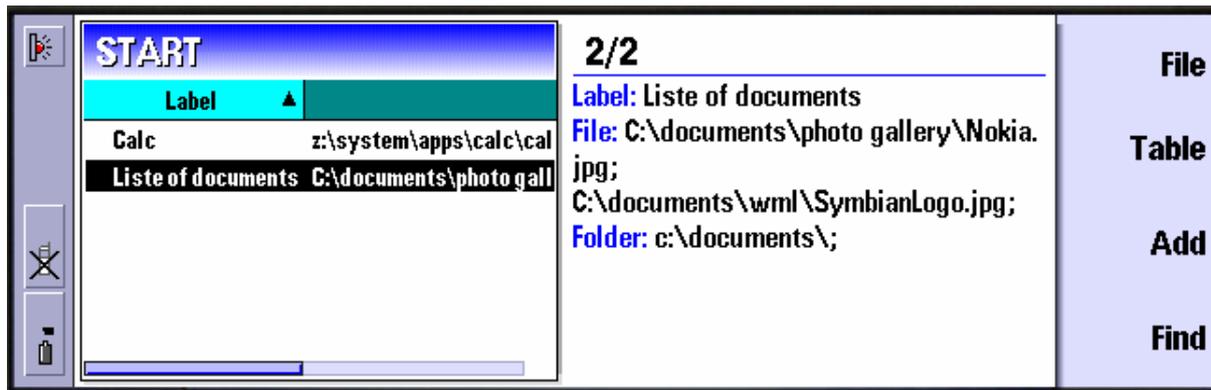
Ok now, select the “**START**” table in order to select the linked item.



Select the record and open the main menu and select “**Apply Link**” or press “**SHIFT+CTRL+L**” to complete the link.



Note that you can cancel a link in progress in pressing “**Cancel Link**”

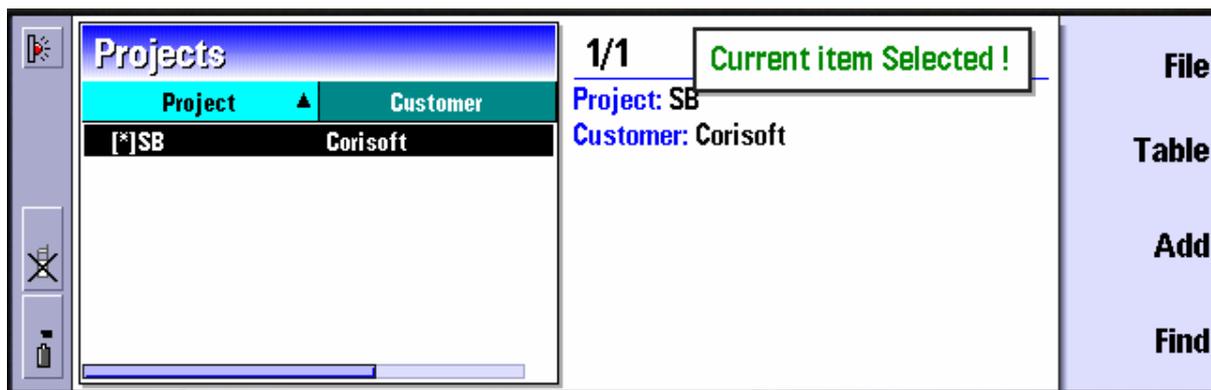


Now the link is established between the both records.

So what's the use of this ?

In fact, users now can turn SmallBase into “**Link mode**”

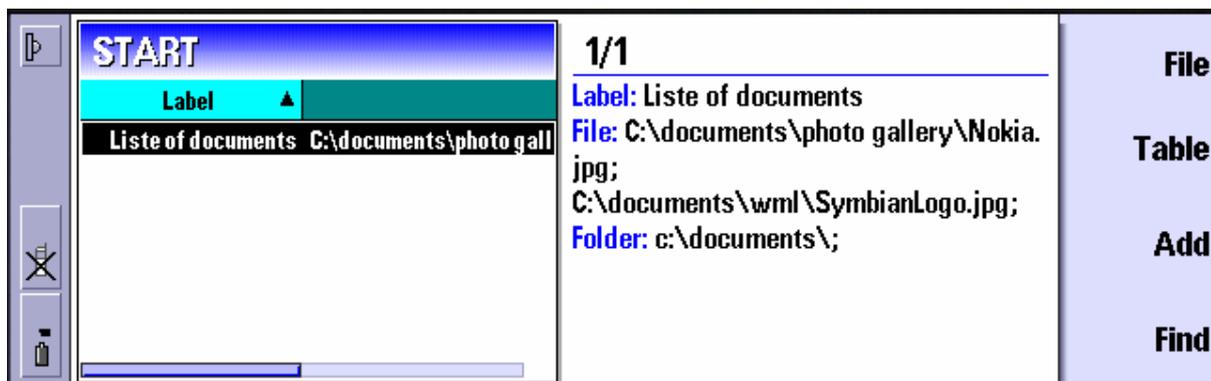
If you want to retrieve all records from other tables which are linked to the current item. Select the current item and press “**CTRL+Y**”



The current table contains only records which are linked to the selected one. The current selected record is displayed with a “[*]”.

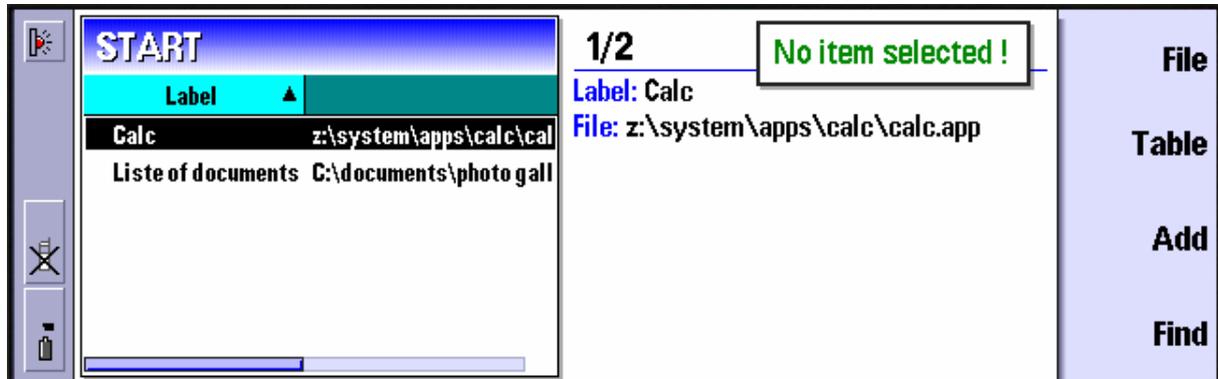
In this table no more linked items are found.

Open the “**START**” table to see if the linked items are also displayed.



We retrieve the current linked item displayed.

To come back SmallBase “**Normal Mode**”, users can press “**SHIFT+ CTRL+Y**” or select again the selected item.



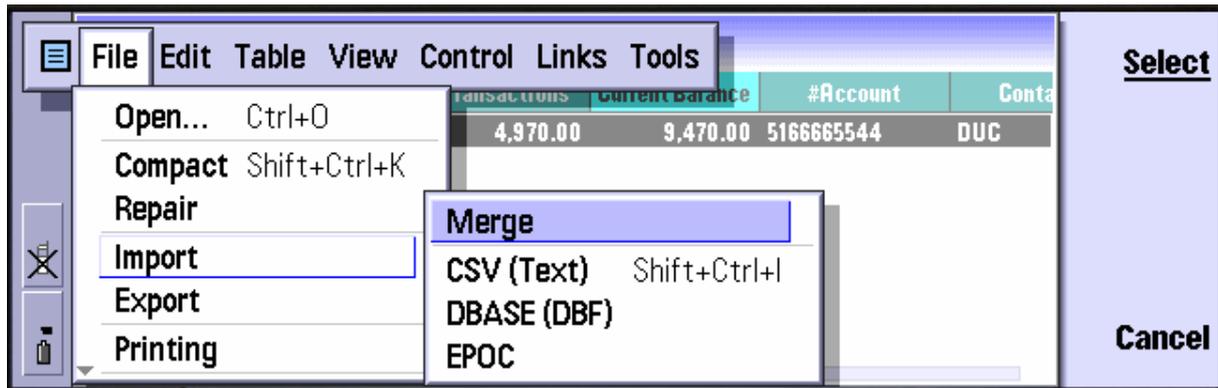
SmallBase has returned “**Normal Mode**”

12. Export and Import

12.1. Import

Users can import datas into SmallBase from text files **CSV** or from **FoxPro, DBASE III,IV, IV** files. Users can also import tables from **Power Data, ProjXpert, DCP, Business Warrior, OPL applications**, and some of other **EPOC applications**.

Users can also import tables from other SmallBase files with the “**Merge**” item menu.



Before importing from **CSV** (Comma separated value) files, users must create the database structure and datas must be in accordance with the table and fields format.

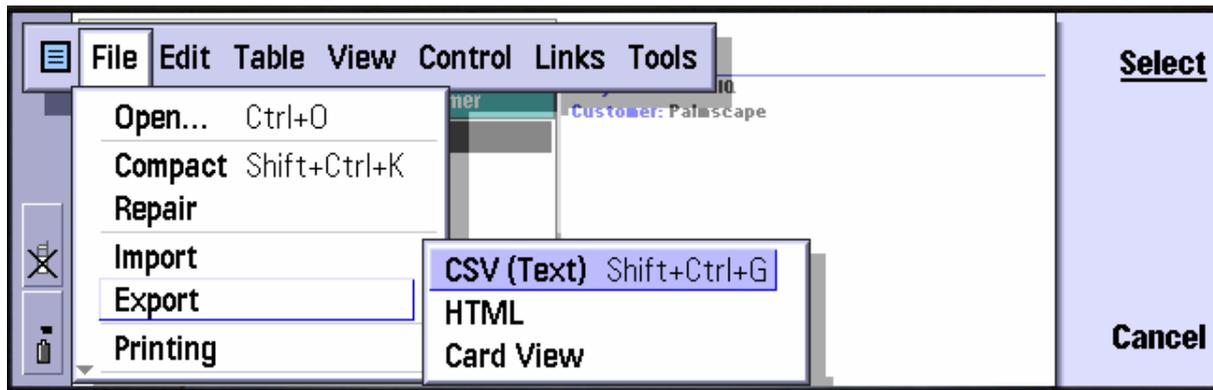
It's recommended to add some test datas in the table and do a CSV export to understand what's the expected input format.

For CSV format, strings must be enclosed into “” characters.

Users can't have to create table structure when importing from DBASE files. The table structure will be automatically generated by SmallBase.

12.2. Export

Users can also export datas from SmallBase into text files. The files can be CSV or HTML.



Another useful feature of SmallBase consists in exporting the card view. Users can easily export the **current record**, a **Quick Sum** calculation or a **report** into a text file.