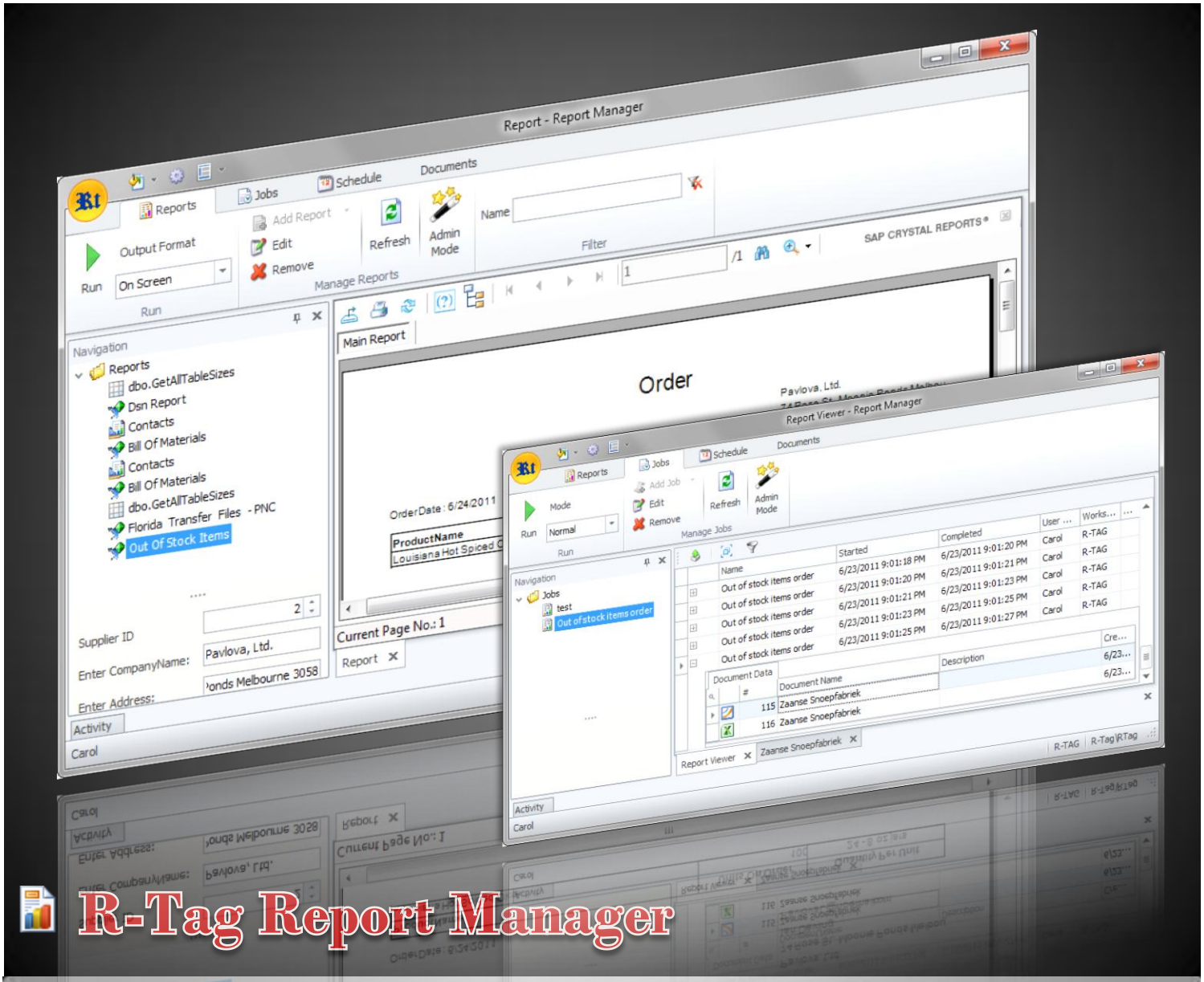


R-Tag Report Manager

R-Tag

July 2011

Value List

What you can do with reports. Save report to document management and send it by e-mail.

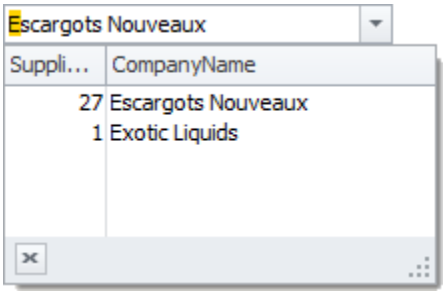
Contents

1 Introduction: What you can do with value list

Value list can replace parameter values which are hard to remember with more user friendly values. For example your database may use numbers to identify the suppliers:

Supplier ID	Company Name
1	Exotic Liquids
…	…
27	Escargots Nouveaux
…	…
1000000	Green Power LLC

If you need to use supplier id as a parameter in a report it will be easier for the user to select it from a list of values than to remember each supplier id. Another advantage is the option to search by typing. The screenshot below shows just the suppliers starting with the letter 'e' ('e' marked in yellow after the insert)



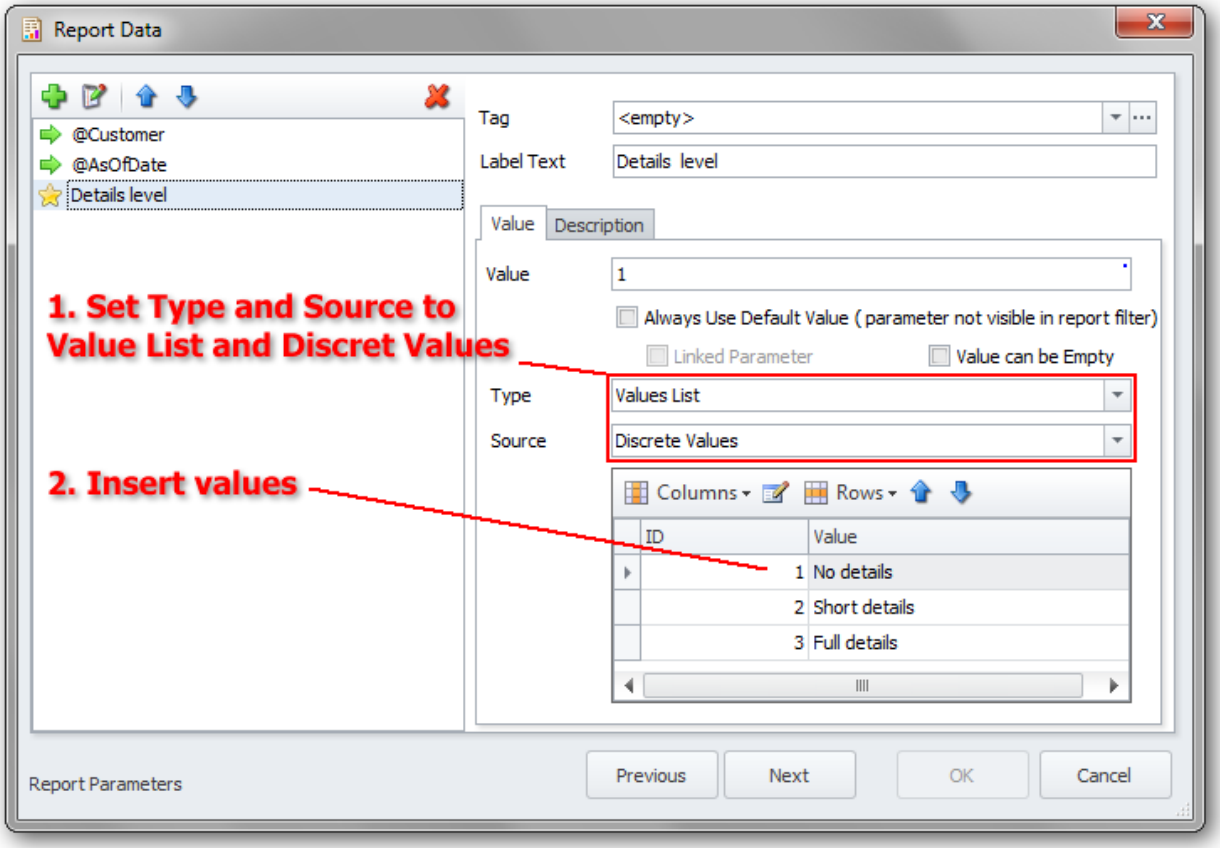
R-Tag report manager supports 2 types of value lists:

1. Discrete values
2. SQL Command

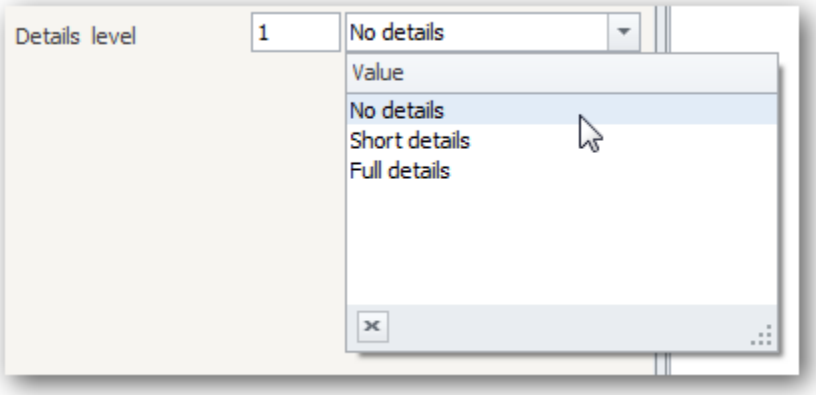
2 Discrete value list

Discrete values list can be used to replace fixed values. For example a report has parameter to show different level of details:

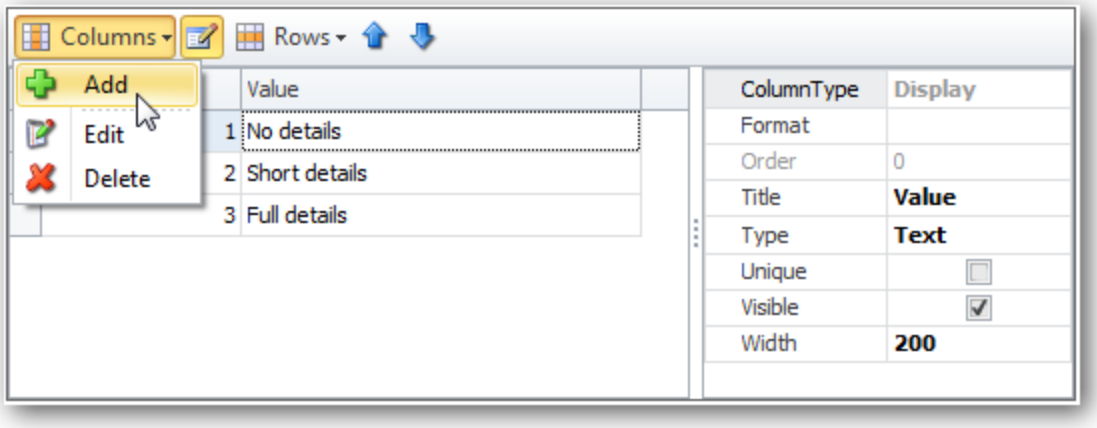
1. No details
2. Short details
3. Full details



The value list will be presented in this way in the user interface



If you need to add more than one column use the Columns drop down. Button  will show/hide a panel where you can set column properties.



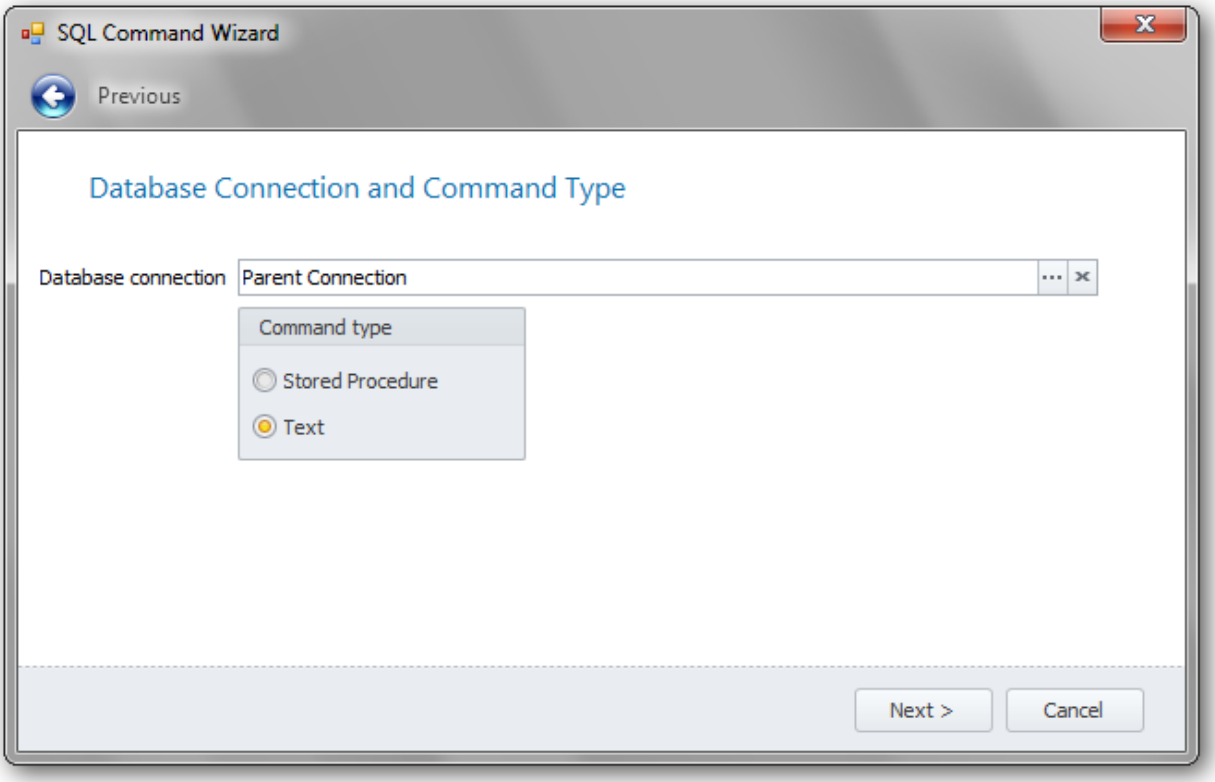
3 SQL Command value list

This value list will retrieve the values from a database. It will be prepared by the SQL Command wizard.

3.1 Set data connection and command type

Choose the connection to the database where is your data. You may decide to use the existing parent connection which will be the report or job connection. For some report types parent connection may not be available.

Command type could be stored procedure or text. Keep in mind that the command will be executed with the user credentials. You may select stored procedure or tables in a text command which are accessible for you but not accessible for some other users. Check with your system administrator or DBA if there are restrictions.

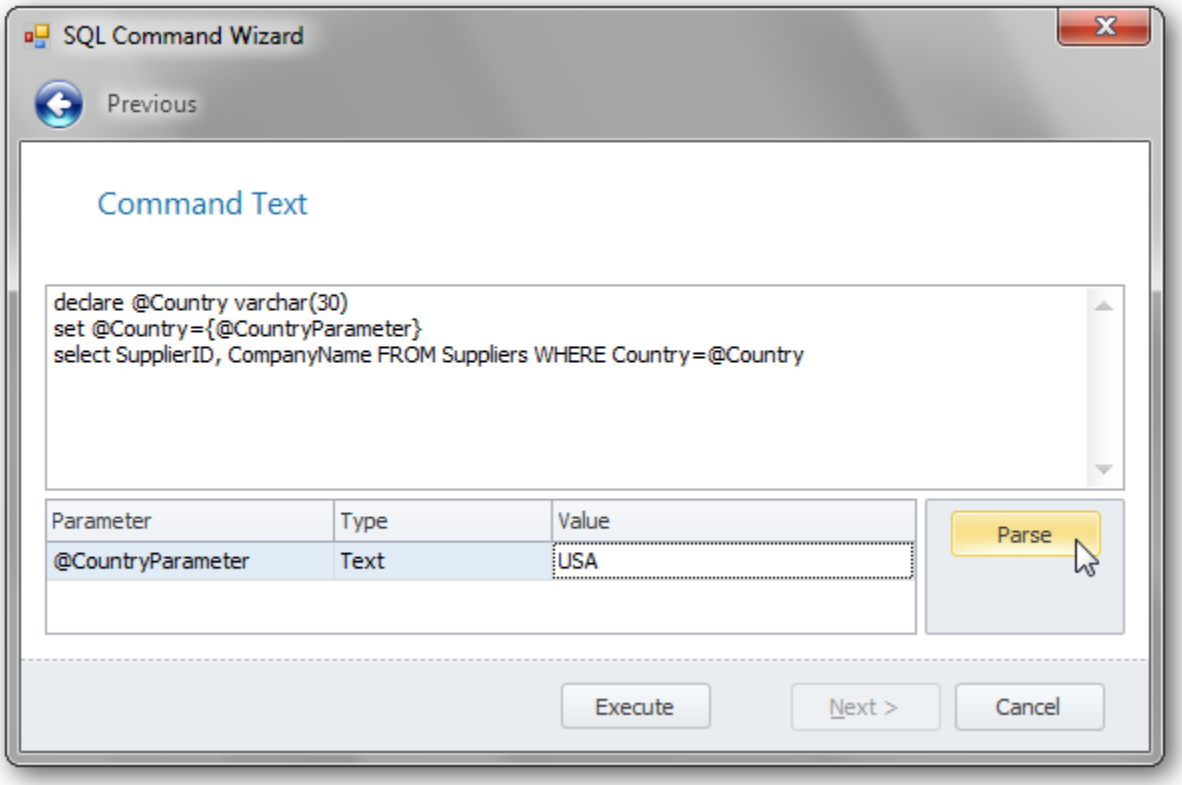


3.2 Set command text

The screen where you can set command text will differ depending of the command type.

3.2.1 Text command

You have to insert the command text in the text box on the top.



When you are done click button "Parse". The parameters will be extracted and added to the parameters table.

Parameters should be in format **{@<name>}**. This will help the parser to make difference between external parameters and internal variables. For example the command bellow will work fine in SQL server. You can declare variable **@Country** which value will be set inside the script and a parameter @**ParameterCountry** which value will be set from the calling application

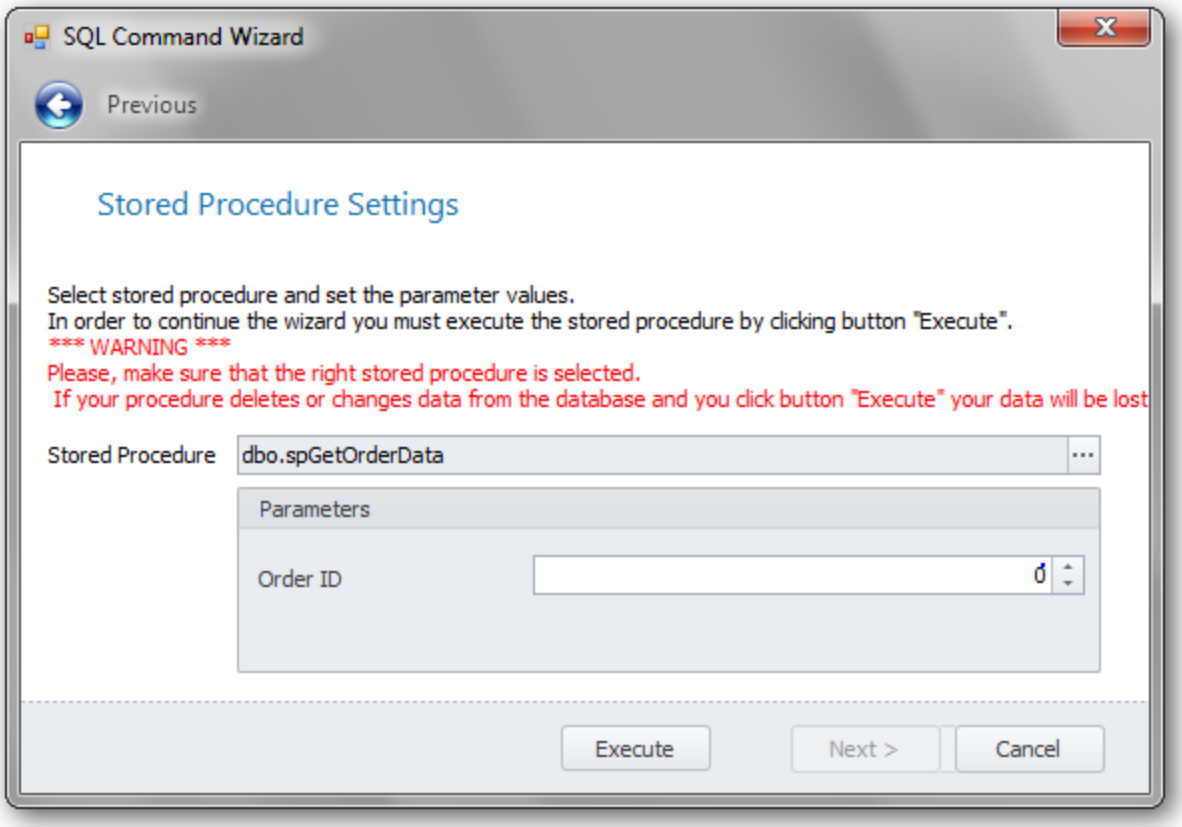
```
declare @Country varchar(30)
set @Country={@ParameterCountry}
select SupplierID, CompanyName FROM Suppliers WHERE Country=@Country
```

The parser will ignore @Country because {} are missing and will add just {@ParameterCountry} to the parameters table.

By default button "Next" is disabled. Click button "Execute" to run the command in order the button "Next" to be enabled. Please keep in mind that when you click button "Execute" this will run the command and if it deletes or changes data your data will be lost or changed.

3.2.2 SQL command

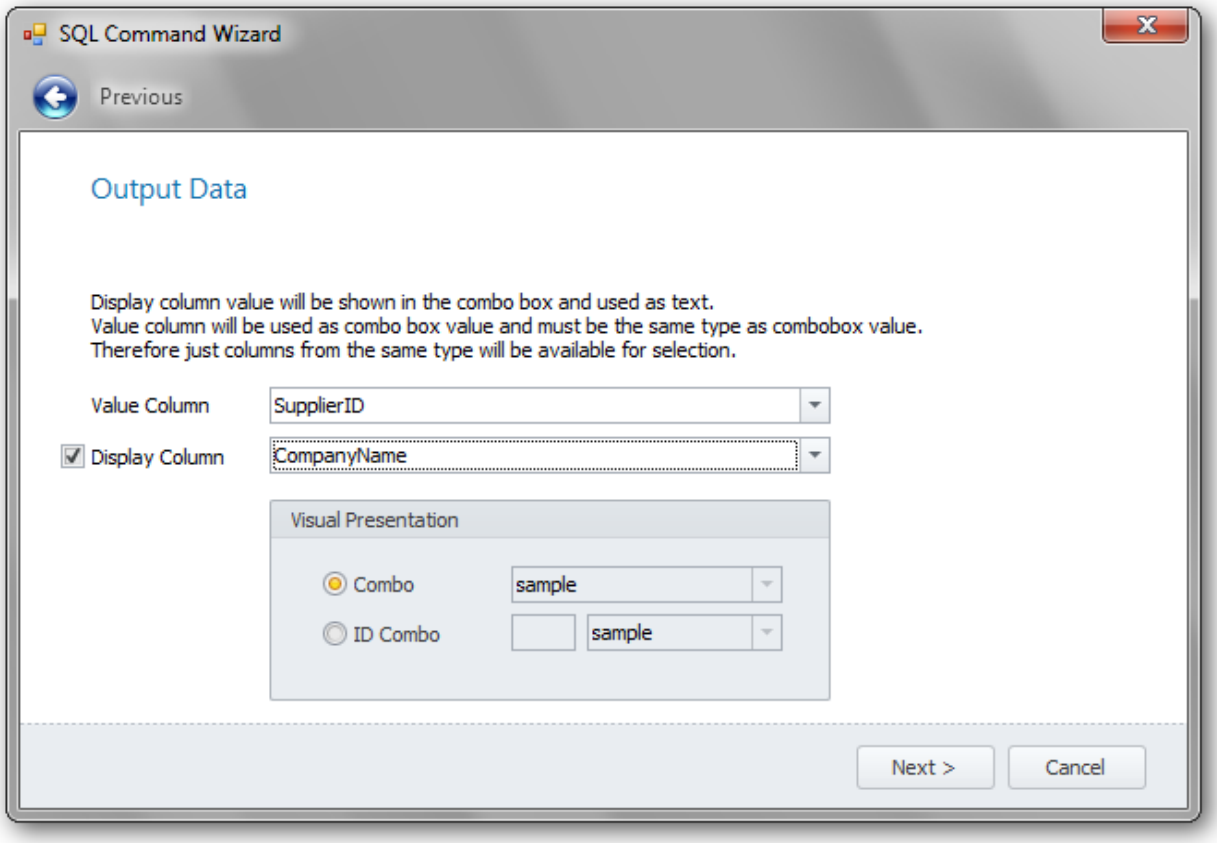
If your command is stored procedure the screen will like the screenshot below.



You will be able to select a stored procedure and to set the parameters. You can use formulas to set parameter values. More about formulas you can read here: Formulas

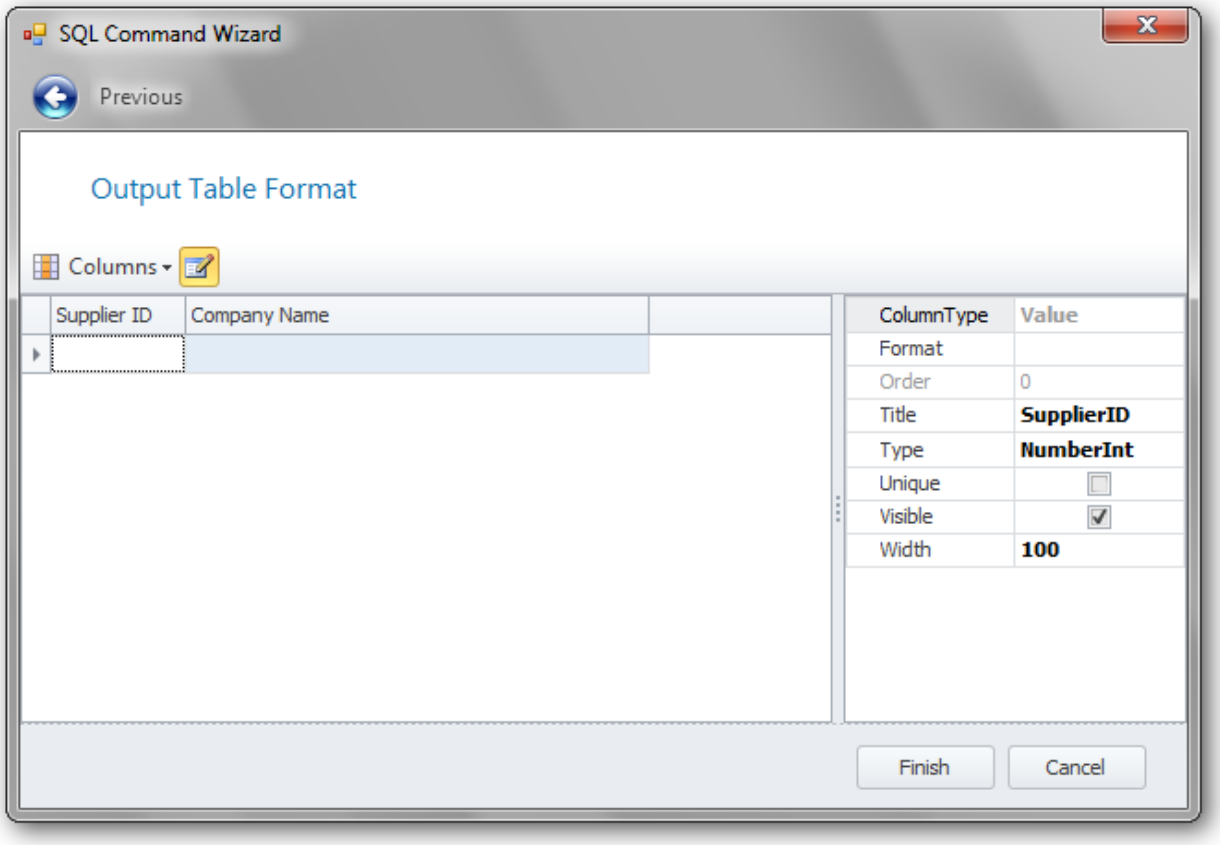
In the same way as for the text command button "Next" will be disabled until command is executed without errors.

3.3 Set value list output



Value list will be presented as a combo box. You must set the value and display columns and to choose the layout of the control. In some cases it may be useful to have a field where the user can insert directly the ID. In case like that you can choose ID Combo which will give the user an option to select value from the combo box or to insert id in a text box.

3.4 Set the format of the list



On this screen you will be able to set how the format of the combo box dropdown. You can resize or hide columns.

Since the information associated with the selected ID will be available through the parameter property AdditionalData. Hidden columns may become useful. For example: you may want to add the number of the last supplier's order to the exported file name. File name will look like this "Summary for Exotic Liquids last order 123456.pdf". The order number will be not available from the report and the only one way to get it is to retrieve it directly from the database. You can add it as a column to the value list and use it later. In order to not confuse the user set the visible flag of this column to false.