

# QueryVision SharePoint Web Parts for IBM Cognos

## REPORT PARAMETER UPDATE CONTROL WITH QVTDYNCONFIG.XML

Version 2019.1

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

To support connecting the QueryVision Report Viewer Web Part to SharePoint filters, the Report Viewer will request the parameter specifications and values for the report from the IBM Cognos server.

This can be a time consuming request – made by the QueryVision via an SDK call from SharePoint server to the Cognos BI server – the length of which is somewhat related to the complexity of the report specification.

This has been shown to result in additional load on the Cognos server and intermittent execution failures on user request to run reports in SharePoint with the QueryVision Web Parts, particularly on Cognos Server installations under a heavy reporting load.

The solution is to provide the Cognos Administrator control over when the parameters and specifications are requested – with the recommended approach to only request them while the Report Viewer is in editor mode.

**Important Note:** The Report Viewer currently requests “parameter specs and values” for ALL reports, regardless of whether they have report (prompt) parameters or whether the Report Viewer Web Part is connected to a Filter Web Part or not.

## 2. CONFIGURATION

Configuration properties in the QvtDynConfig.XML allows the SharePoint Administrator control over how and when the GetParametersAndValues call is used.

- **Web Part in Edit mode** – when the ReportViewer web part is being edited, GetParameters() is called when clicking Apply/OK or OK in the edit panel to retrieve the parameter specifications and caching in the web part for use in applying SharePoint Filters to Cognos Reports.
- **Web Part in “Run” mode** – when the ReportViewer editor panel is close (Run Mode) there is a new parameter in the QvtDynConfig.xml file (“GetParamSpecOption”) which controls when the parameters are called in run/operational mode for the web page/part. The options are as follows:

- ◇ get\_params (default – this is the existing behavior) – get params on report modified or report changed via SharePoint connector during runtime.

This can be used in dev/test and while reports are being frequently updated by Report Authors

- ◇ do\_not\_get – do not get params in run time

This is the recommended production environment setting.

- ◇ get\_intractv\_change – do a get when a report is loaded via SharePoint connector (e.g. when the ReportViewer connected to CM Tree).

- ◇ get\_modified\_change – do get when a report spec modified change is detected during run-time

The QvtDynConfig.xml file is being used for this configuration parameter as this allows change of the parameter to be picked up immediately on changing the file without restarting SharePoint.

**The consequence of using “do\_not\_get”** is if a report’s parameter specifications change, then the following steps will have to be made by the SharePoint Administrator to update the Report parameters stored in the Report Viewer

- Put the SharePoint page containing the ReportViewer web part in edit mode
- Select “Edit Web Part” from the Web Part menu (top right of web part)
- (optional) Make any other changes to the web part configuration, including changing the report
- Click Apply, then OK or OK
- Exit edit mode

This will cause the report properties, including the parameter specifications, to be updated and saved in the web part.

### 3. QVTDYNCONFIG.XML

The following shows use of the GetParamSpecOption parameter in the QvtDynConfig.xml file:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<DynamicConfigurationProperties xmlns="http://tempuri.org/Config2.xsd">
  <DocumentInfo customerName="customerName1" customerDescription="customerDescription" customerVer:
  <CrnServerSection schemaVersion="1.0">
    <MaintenanceMode>
      <InMaintenance>false</InMaintenance>
      <MaintenanceMessage>Cognos Report Server is unavailable due to Maintenance</MaintenanceMessage>
    </MaintenanceMode>
    <CognosServerUnavailable>
      <Message>Cannot connect to Cognos Server</Message>
      <AllowManualRedirect>false</AllowManualRedirect>
    </CognosServerUnavailable>
  </CrnServerSection>
  <ShrPntSection schemaVersion="1.0">
  </ShrPntSection>
  <NameValuePairSection schemaVersion="1.0">
    <NameValuePair>
      <Name>GetParamSpecOption</Name>
      <Value>do_not_get</Value>
    </NameValuePair>
  </NameValuePairSection>
</DynamicConfigurationProperties>
```