How to Manipulate Federal Bulletin Board Files

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Washington, DC

Topics

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About the FBBS

- Accessible via: Telnet, FTP, WWW, or Modem
- Provides immediate, self-service access to Federal electronic information. Participating Federal agencies add files remotely ensuring that their latest official information is available.
- Offers single files in a variety of formats
- A component of *GPO Access*, it existed prior to the 1993 law (P.L. 103-40). Senate report 103-27 incorporated it into GPO Access.

Background & History

- 1989 - Started under Project HERMES: Supreme Court opinions placed online
- 1992 - Reworked to deliver files for fee via the Federal Bulletin Board. Files were priced based on file size. All users needed a password and account approval.
- December 1995 - All GPO Access products were made free to the public. November 1995, Internet access offered.
- May 1996 - FBBS made available via the Web

Features

- Some agencies use it to meet Americans with Disability Act (ADA) requirements.

(Example, MSPB Summaries)
- Provides modem access to all levels - supports speeds of 300 - 33,600 BPS
- Internet - FTP, Telnet, WWW
- Supports GPO Access with source files, sample questions and helpful hints
- Quick way to make information available via the Web; can also be a secure way

Alternative way to meet employee needs, e.g., forwarding e-mail; file sharing

Who uses the FBBS?

Organizations and/or individuals who:
- Do not need (or do not have) real-time connectivity to the Internet (or a modem).
- Need a quick, inexpensive way to deliver (or retrieve) a single, downloadable file
- Want e-mail capability
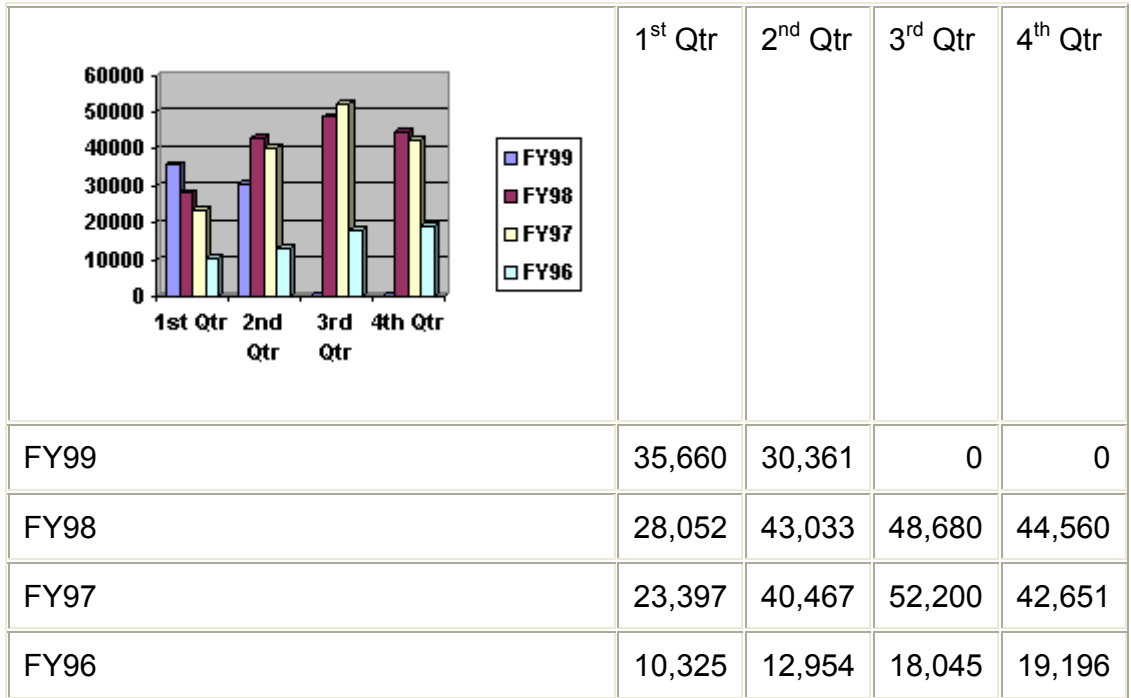- Download files and exchange/or post messages.

FBBS Customers

- General Public
- Federal Depository Libraries
- Shipping Lists, List of Classes, Profiles Database
- GPO Internal Customers
- Library Program Service (LPS)
- Client Agencies:
    - Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB)
    - Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)
    - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Top 20 Libraries, FY 1999

Library	Total
1. Shiplist98	7,318
2. Shipl99	5,411
5. Shipl97	3,834
6. Mfiche98	3,734
7. Class	2,634
10. Paper99	1,886
12. Mfiche99	1,157
18. Separate98	72

- **FBBS Usage Statistics
Downloads by Fiscal Year**

	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
FY99	35,660	30,361	0	0
FY98	28,052	43,033	48,680	44,560
FY97	23,397	40,467	52,200	42,651
FY96	10,325	12,954	18,045	19,196

Helpful Hints
- Contact the systems operator about problems with the system - connecting, downloading, etc.
- Contact the agency representative or library operator with problems or questions about file content
- Refer to available online guides about adding helpers, readers, etc. to Web browsers
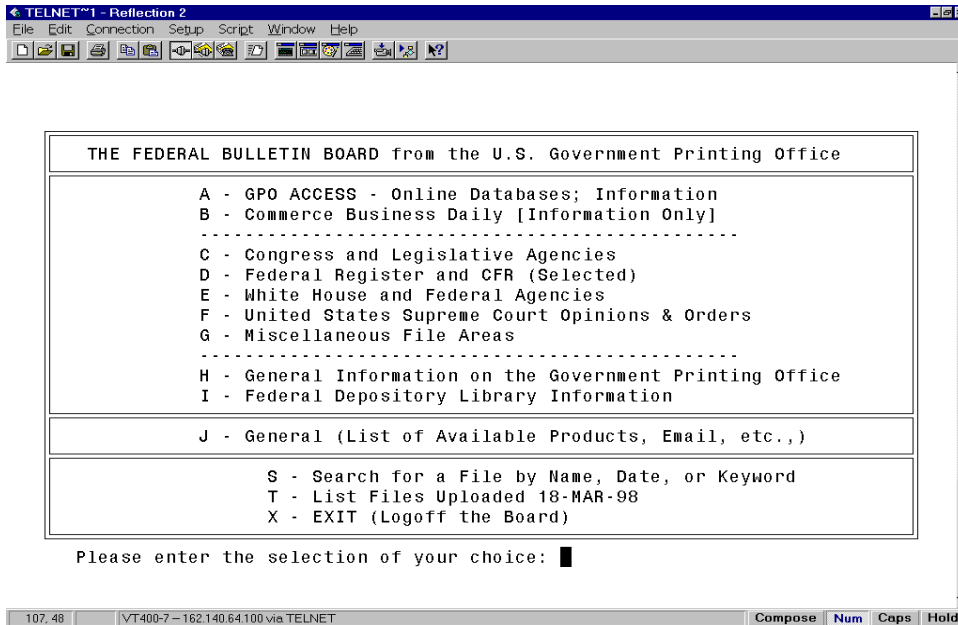- New software version offers an online keyword search capability

Access to the FBBS

Dial-up: (202) 512-1387 -- Settings: 8, N, 1

Telnet: fedbbs.access.gpo.gov

FTP: fedbbs.access.gpo.gov

WWW: **http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov**

Main GPO Access Web Sites:

GPO: <**www.access.gpo.gov**>

SuDocs: <**www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs**>

Telnet or Dial-up Screen

```
TELNET~1 - Reflection 2
File  Edit  Connection  Setup  Script  Window  Help

   THE FEDERAL BULLETIN BOARD from the U.S. Government Printing Office

            A - GPO ACCESS - Online Databases; Information
            B - Commerce Business Daily [Information Only]
          -----------------------------------------------
            C - Congress and Legislative Agencies
            D - Federal Register and CFR (Selected)
            E - White House and Federal Agencies
            F - United States Supreme Court Opinions & Orders
            G - Miscellaneous File Areas
          -----------------------------------------------
            H - General Information on the Government Printing Office
            I - Federal Depository Library Information

            J - General (List of Available Products, Email, etc.,)

                S - Search for a File by Name, Date, or Keyword
                T - List Files Uploaded 18-MAR-98
                X - EXIT (Logoff the Board)

        Please enter the selection of your choice: █


 107, 48        VT400-7 — 162.140.64.100 via TELNET          Compose  Num  Caps  Hold
```

Telnet Address: fedbbs.access.gpo.gov Modem Number: (202) 512-1387

FBBS: FTP Screen

FTP Address - ftp://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov

```
Index of / - Netscape
File  Edit  View  Go  Communicator  Help
Bookmarks   Location: ftp://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov/

   Name                Last modified        Size


   cbd/                24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   class/              24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   congmisc/           24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   crime/              24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dll/                26-Feb-98 11:27        -
   doj_ada/            26-Feb-98 11:27        -
   dts0198/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dts0298/            24-Feb-98 15:19        -
   dts0398/            17-Mar-98 14:51        -
   dts0498/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dts0598/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dts0698/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dts0798/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dts0898/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dts0998/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dts1098/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dts1198/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -
   dts1298/            24-Feb-98 06:36        -

   Document: Done
```

FBBS Home Page

URL -- http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov

Federal Agency Files on the FBB

URL -- http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov/agencies.htm

FBB: Sample Agency Web Page

URL -- http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov/oge01.htm

The Federal Bulletin Board Online via *GPO Access*

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE)

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) issues informal advisory letters and memoranda and formal opinions on how to interpret and comply with conflict of interest, post-employment, standards of conduct, and financial disclosure requirements in the executive branch. The OGE distributes information in 2 file libraries on the Federal Bulletin Board. The file areas listed below are: *OGE Advisory Letters and Memoranda and Formal Opinions for 1978-1995* **and** *OGE Policy Memoranda - DAEOGRAMS.*

OGE Opinions
OGE DAEOGRAMS
Office of Government Ethics Home Page

Questions or comments regarding this service? Contact the *GPO Access* User Support Team by Internet e-mail at gpoaccess@gpo.gov; by telephone at (202) 512-1530 or toll free at (888) 293-6498; by fax at (202) 512-1262.

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User Support

GPO Access User Support Team
Toll-free and local telephone:
- Local: (202) 512-1530
- Toll-free (888) 293-6498
- Fax: (202) 512-1262
- E-mail: gpoaccess@gpo.gov
- Hours: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, excluding all Federal holidays

Summary

- A component of *GPO Access* (Public Law 103-40)
- Existed since 1990 (prior to *GPO Access)*
- Systems Operator - Selene Dalecky,
  (202) 512-1608
  E-mail: sdalecky@gpo.gov
- LPS Library Operator - James Mauldin, (202) 512-1698
  E-mail: jmauldin@gpo.gov
- User Support - Provided by the *GPO Access* User Support Team via e-mail
  (gpoaccess@gpo.gov), phone toll-free at (888) 293-6498 or local at (202) 512-1530.

Manipulating the Files

Examples
Hints
Exporting/Importing Data

Designing a database

- Before you use any software to actually build the tables, forms, and other objects that will make up your database, it is important to take time and design your database. A good database design is the keystone to creating a database that does what you want it to do effectively.

Hints for Database

- Determine the purpose of your database
- Determine the tables you need in the database
- Determine the fields you need in the tables
- Identify fields with unique values
- Determine the relationship between tables
- Refine your design
- Add data and create other database objects

Example - Creating a database
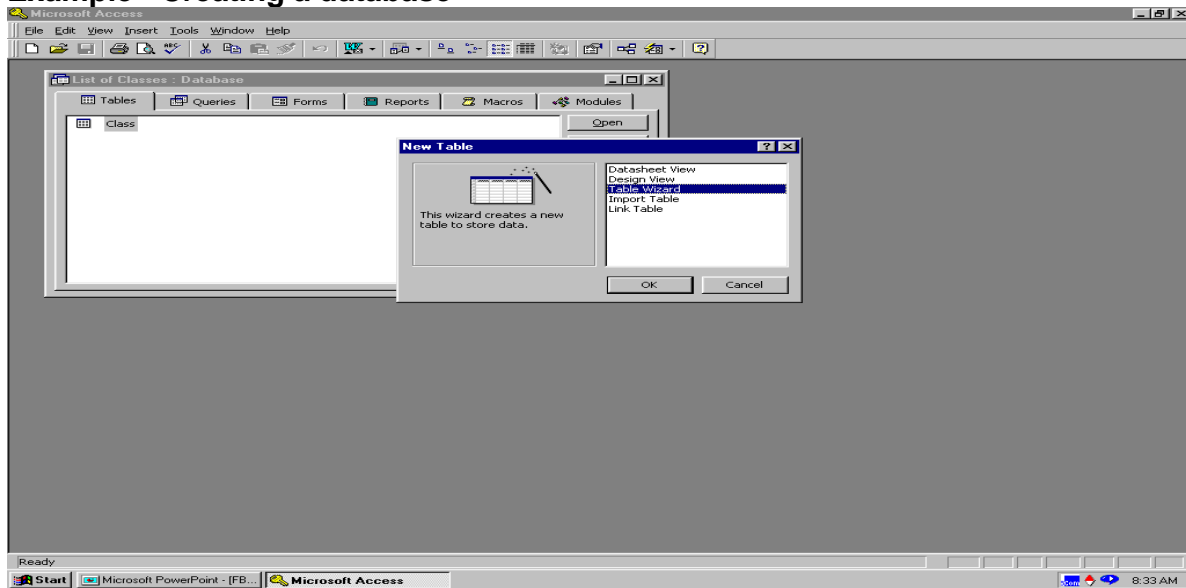
Create field headings
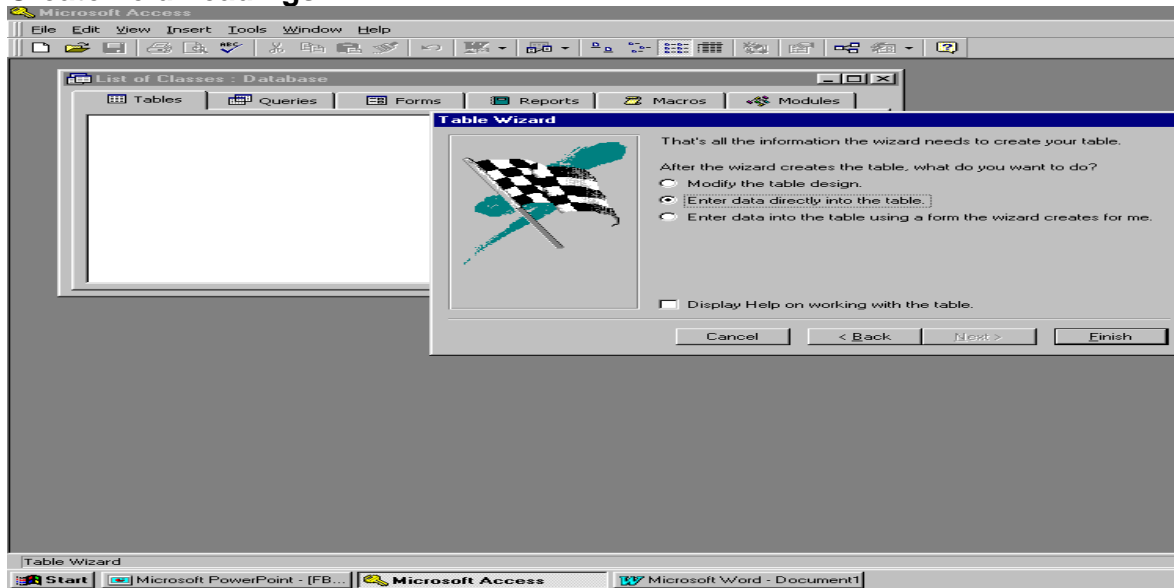
Headings for a List of Classes database
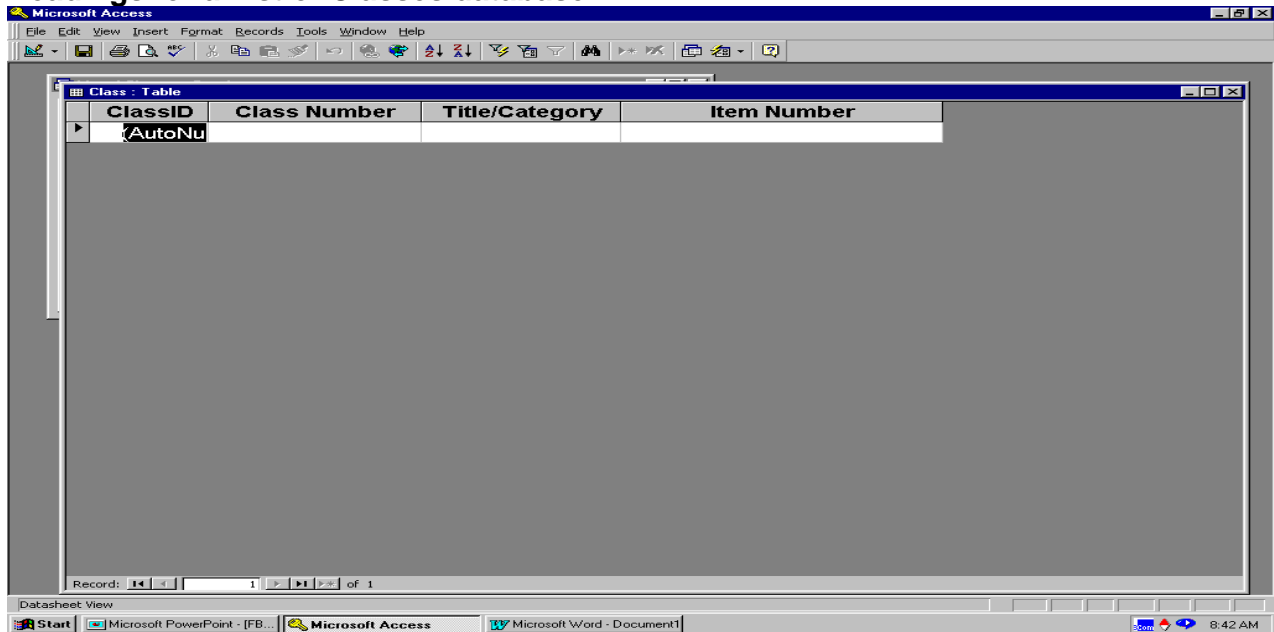
Importing the List of Classes into your database
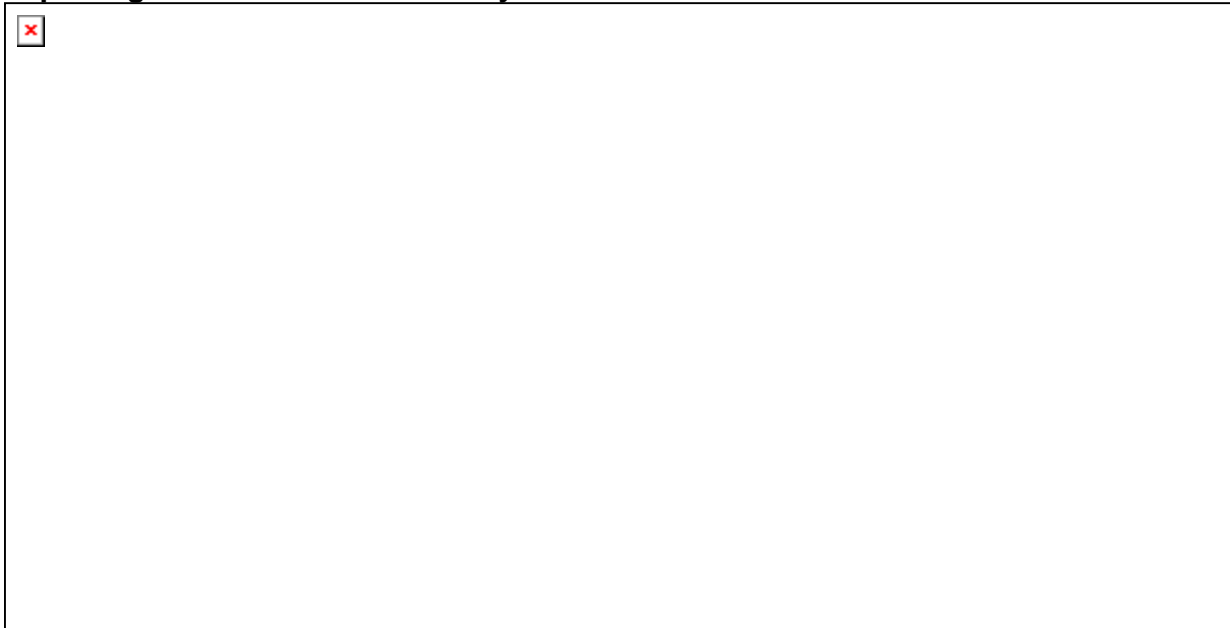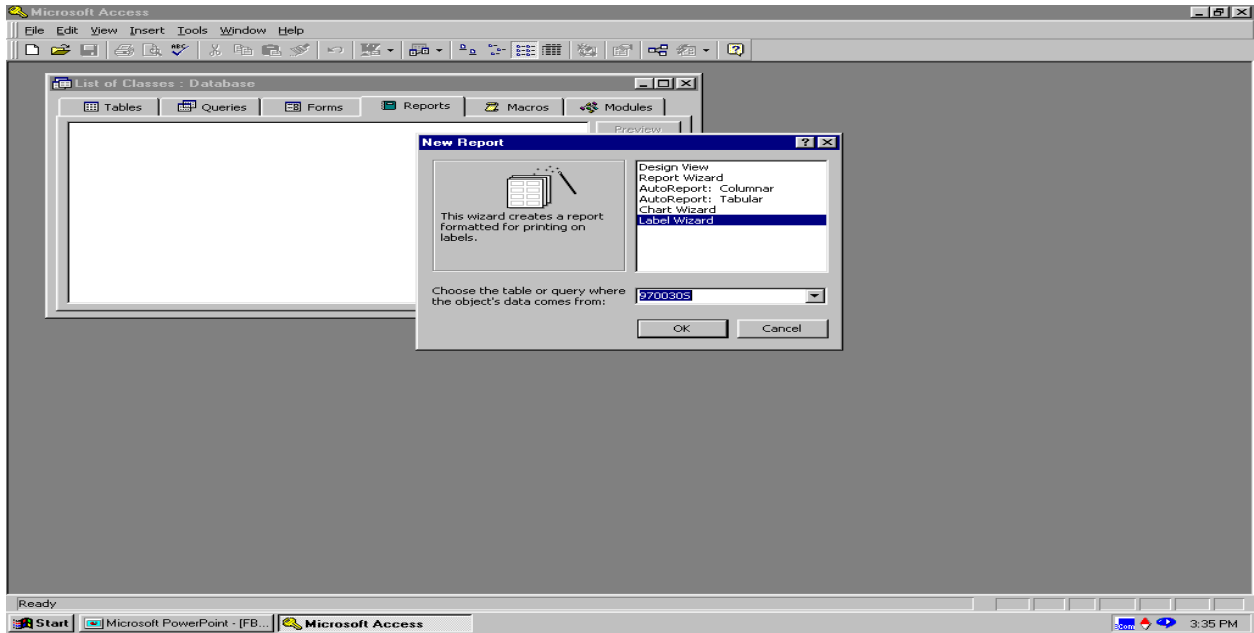

Retrieve the downloaded file
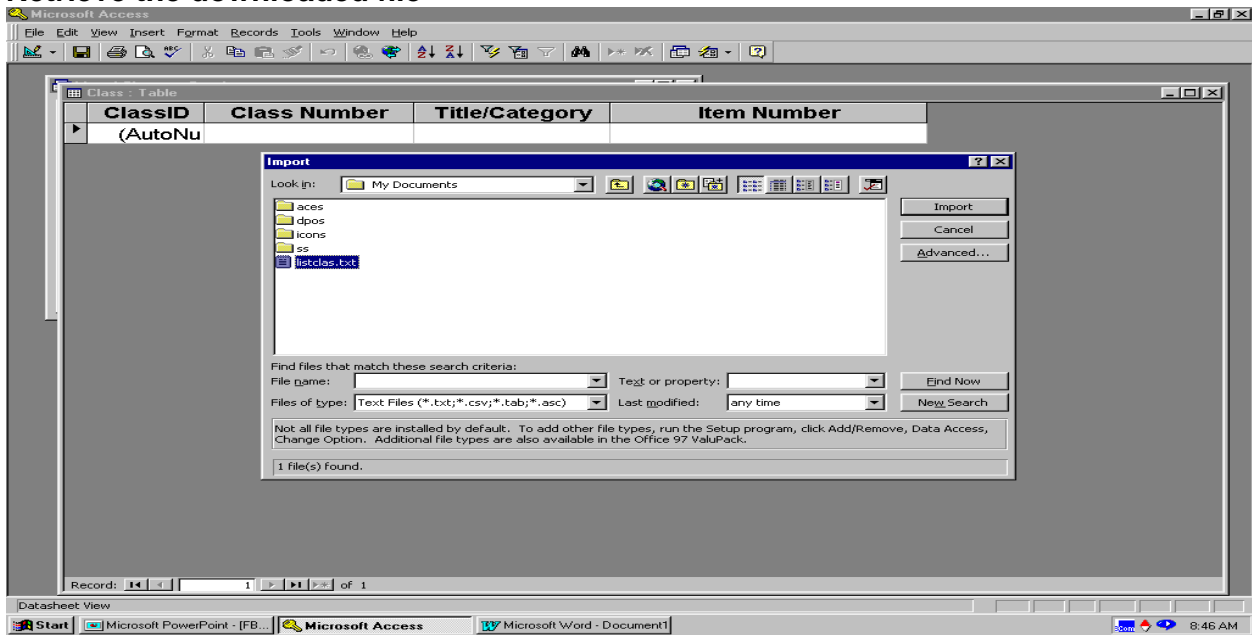
Import to newly created database
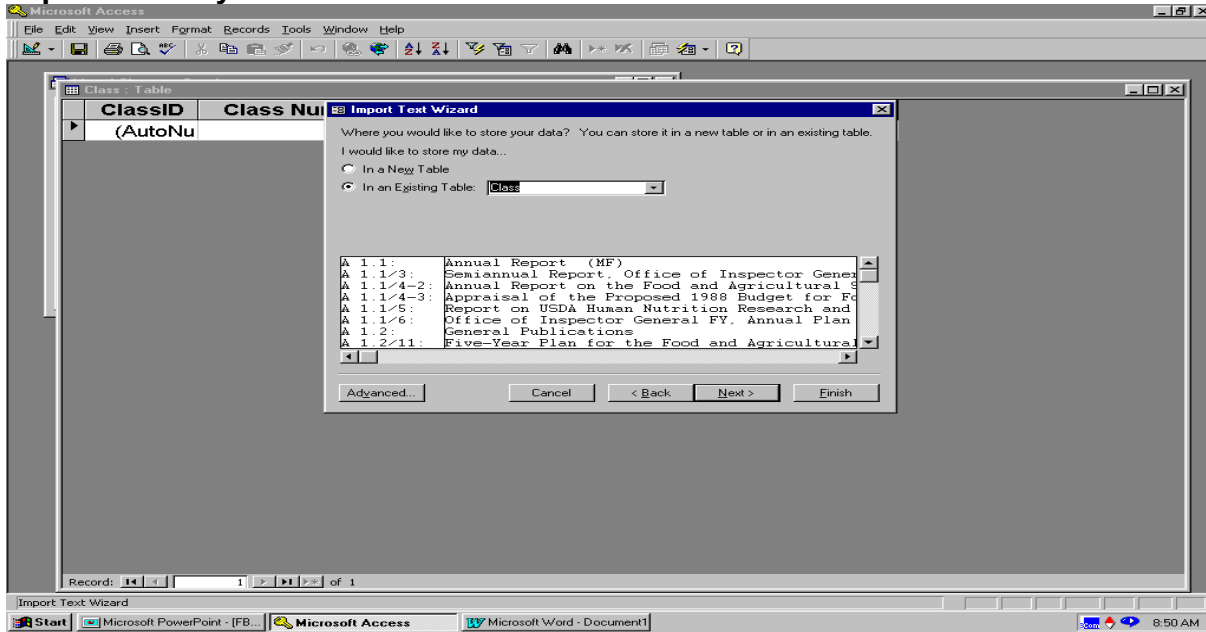
List of Classes database

Shipping list database

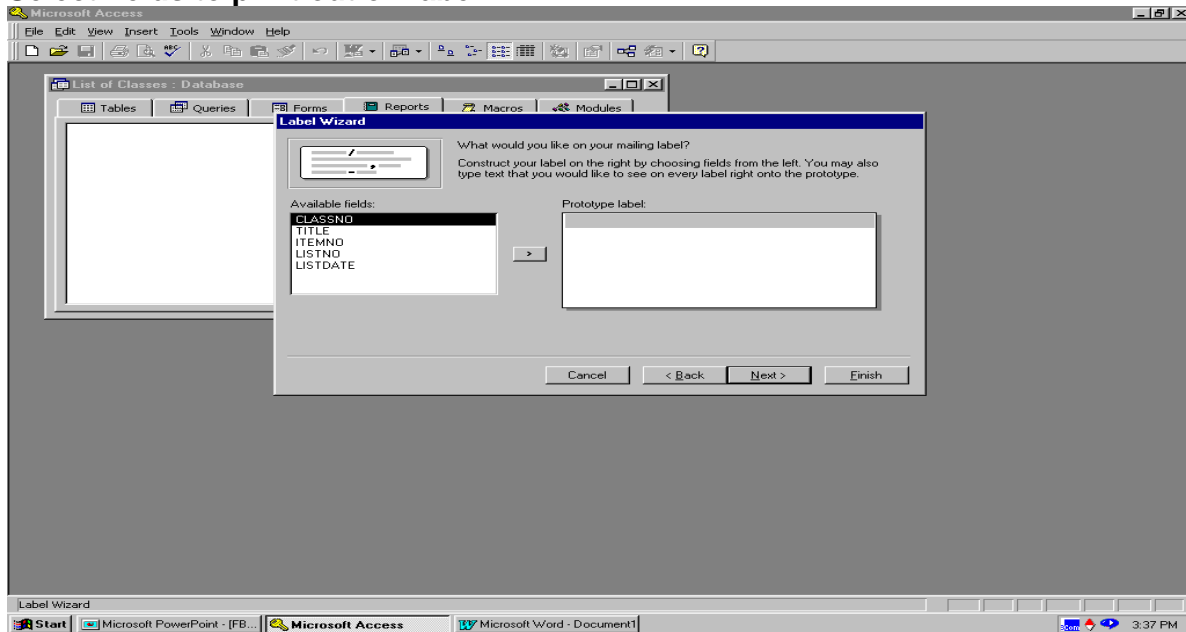| CLASSNO	TITLE	ITEMNO	LISTNO	LISTDATE
C 55.418/7:14926/996	United States - Great Lakes, Michigan - Indiana - Illinois, Recreational Chart	0191-B-16	970028S	970321
HE 20.3952:M 66/PACK	National Institute on Drug Abuse, Student Magazine, If You Chane Yor	0467-A-01	970028S	970321
Y 1.1/2:SERIAL 14074	102-1: United States Congressional Serial Set, House Reports Nos. 61-106,	1008-E	970028S	970321

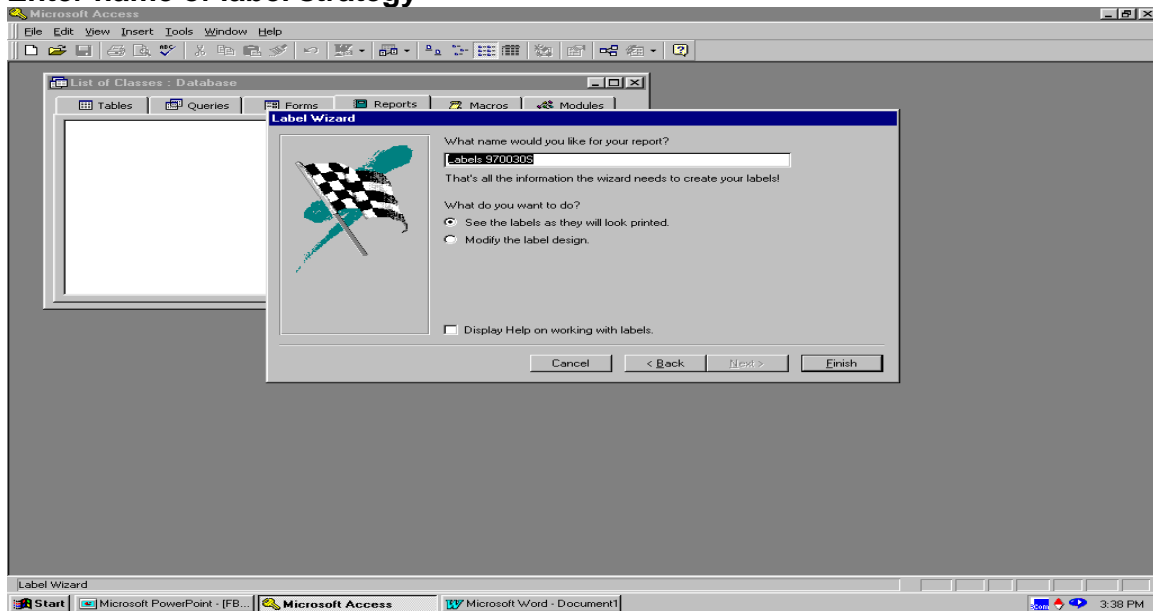Record: 1 of 5
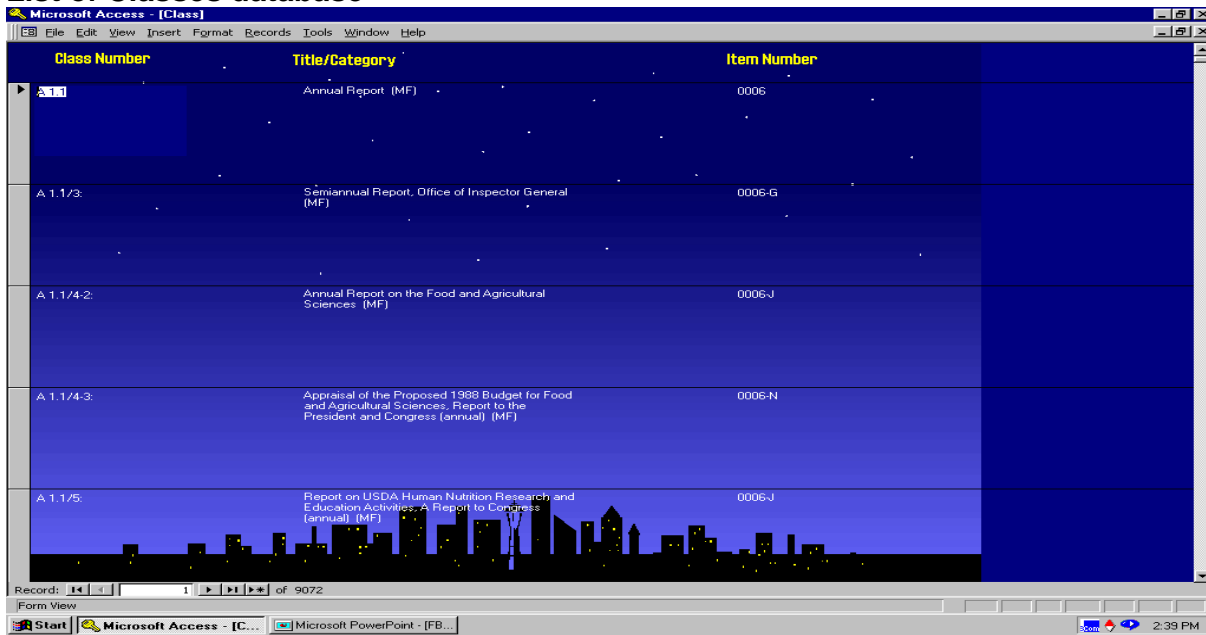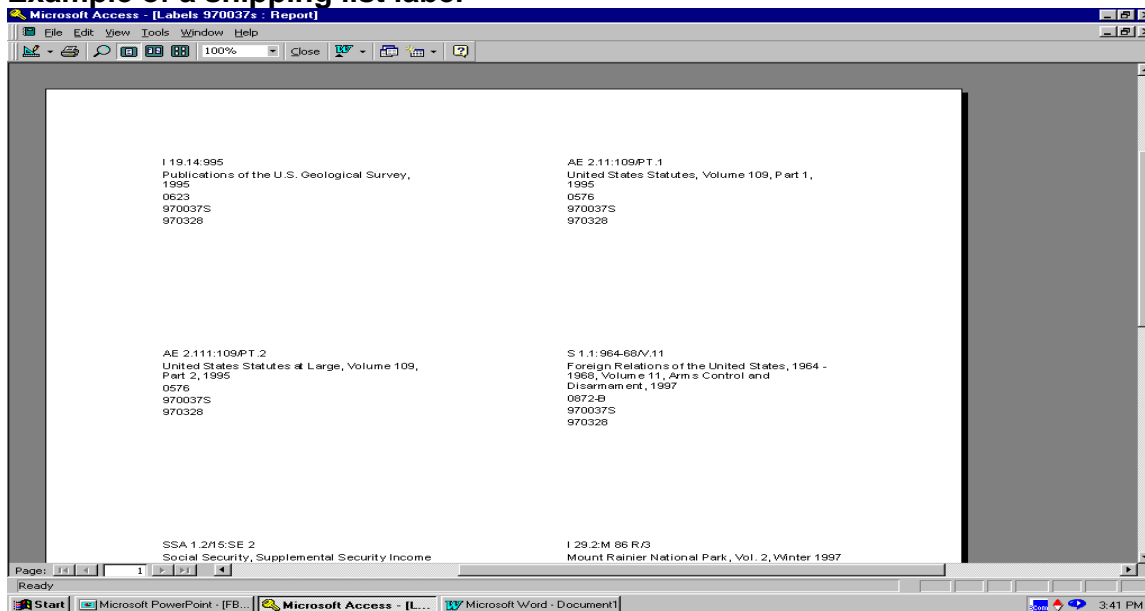
Labels

Select label format
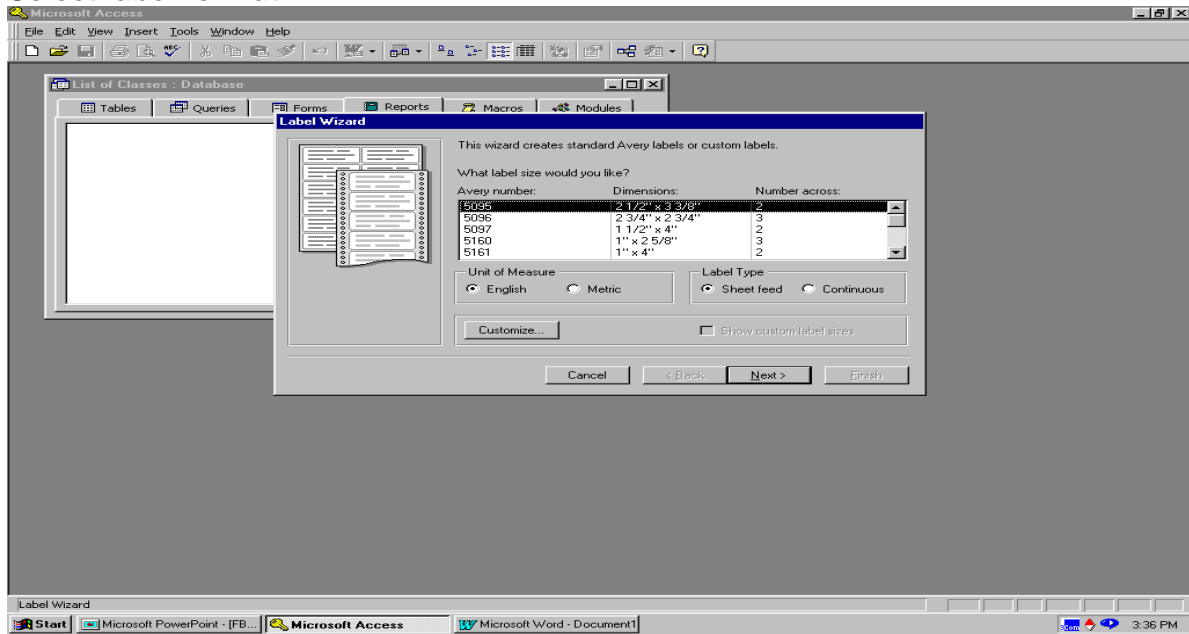
Select font & appearance
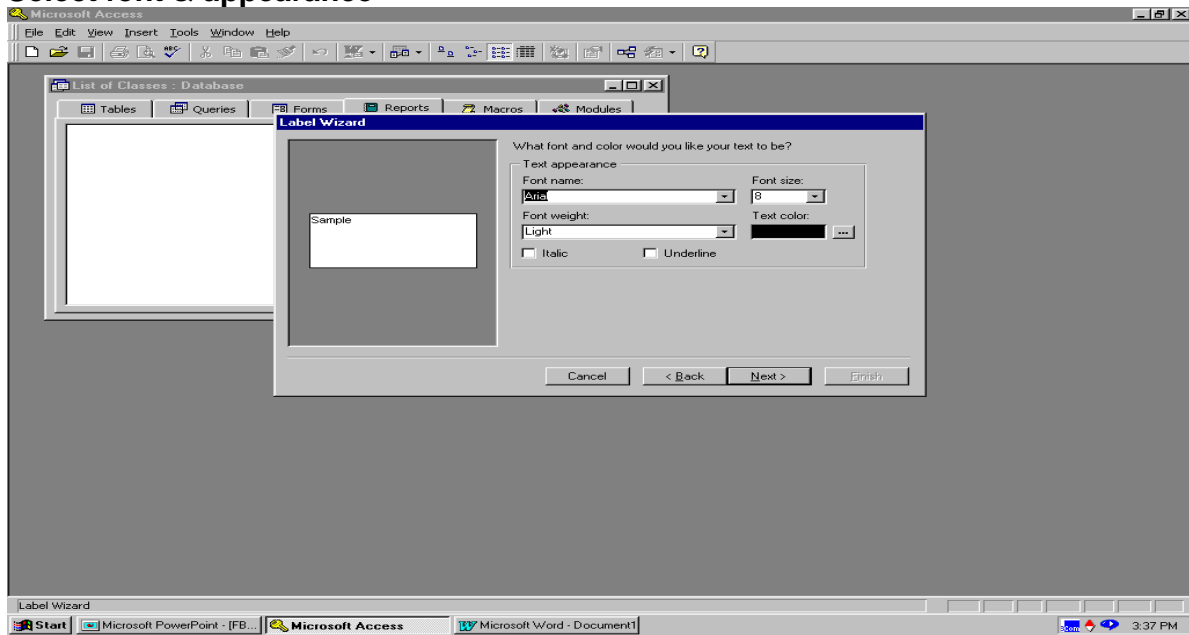
Select fields to print out on label

Enter name of label strategy

Example of a shipping list label

Summary

- The files contained on the FBBS can be manipulated to provide local value added services to each library or individual who chooses to download these files.

Questions/Contacts

- James Mauldin (Publications Management Specialist)