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How To Use Sharepoint Designer 2007 To Connect To An Access Database

The following describes how using Sharepoint Designer 2007, one can connect to an Access database and then display the data from the database in a grid.

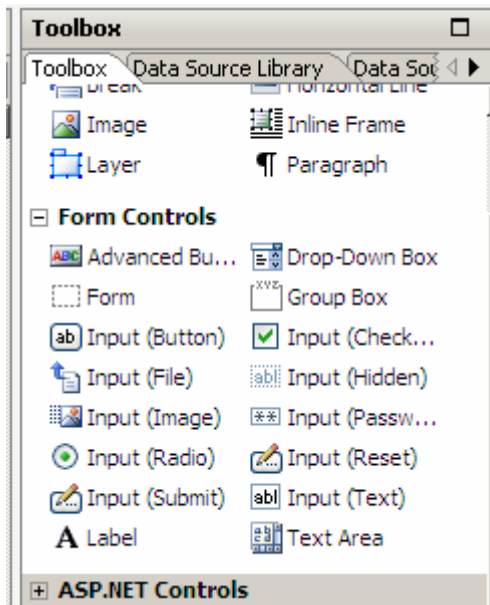
1) From Designer – select New -> Page



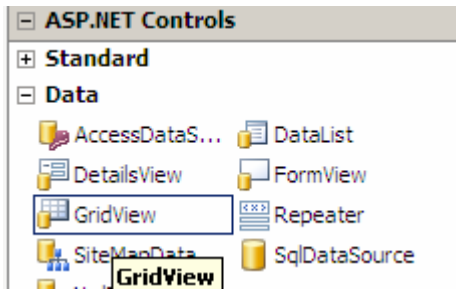
Choose an ASPX page and click OK:



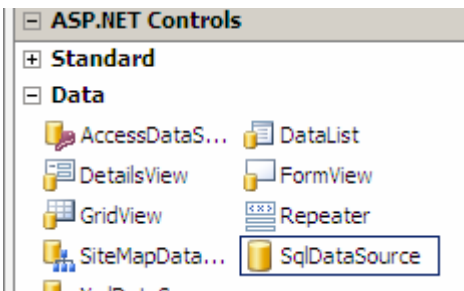
On the right hand side – in the toolbox – scroll down until you are at the ASP.NET Controls:



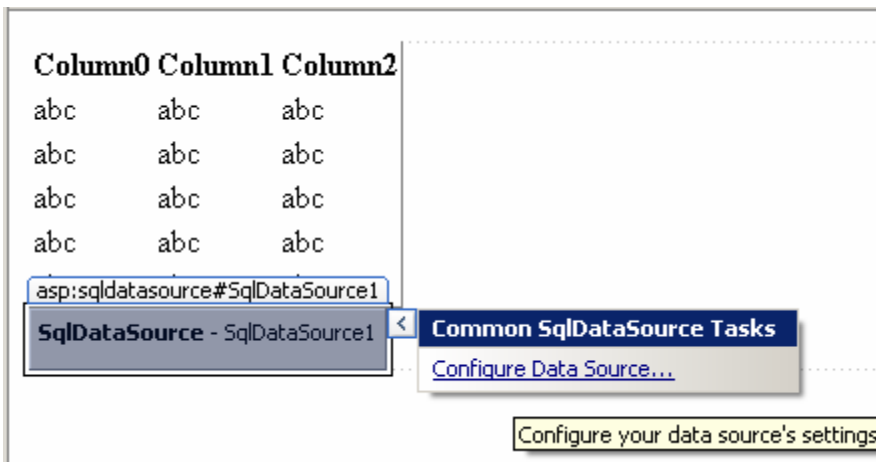
Select a GridView and drag and drop it onto your page:



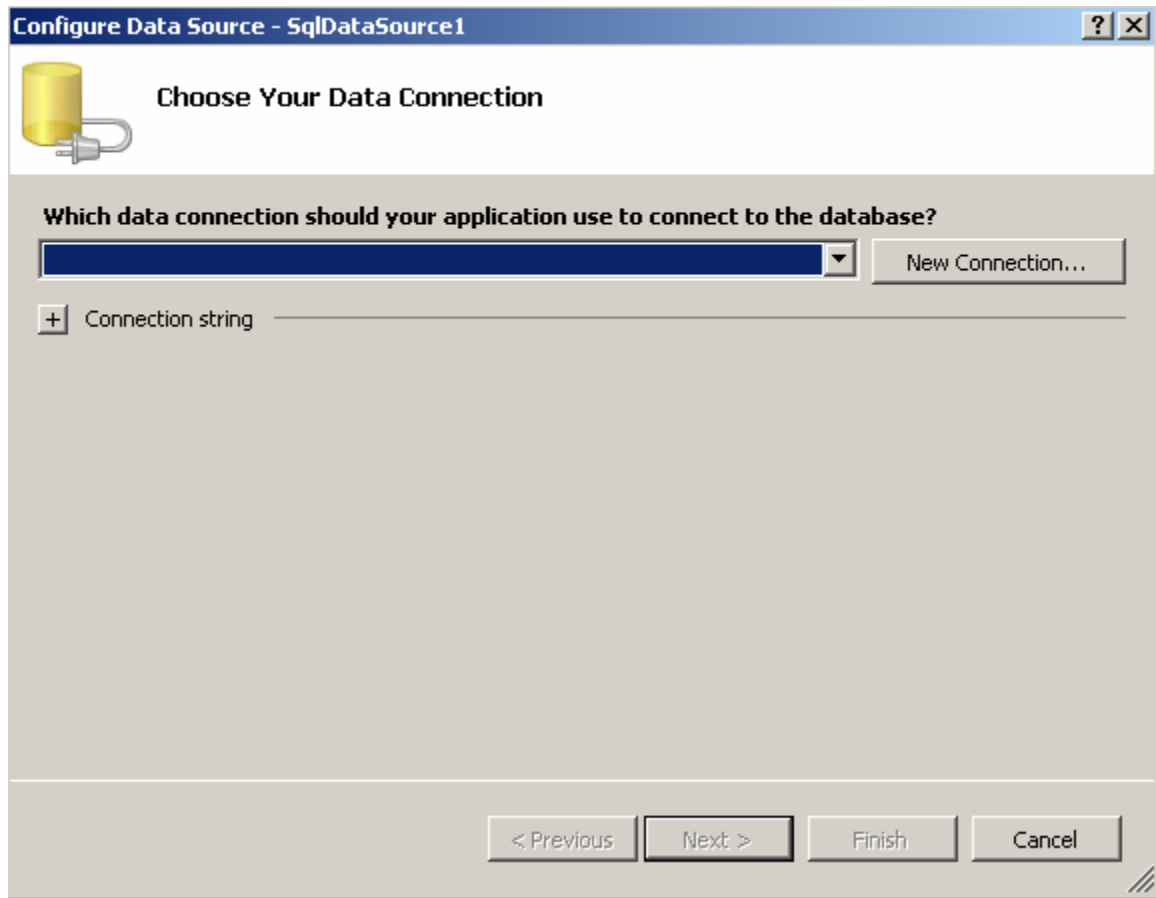
Select a SqlDataSource and drag and drop it onto your page:



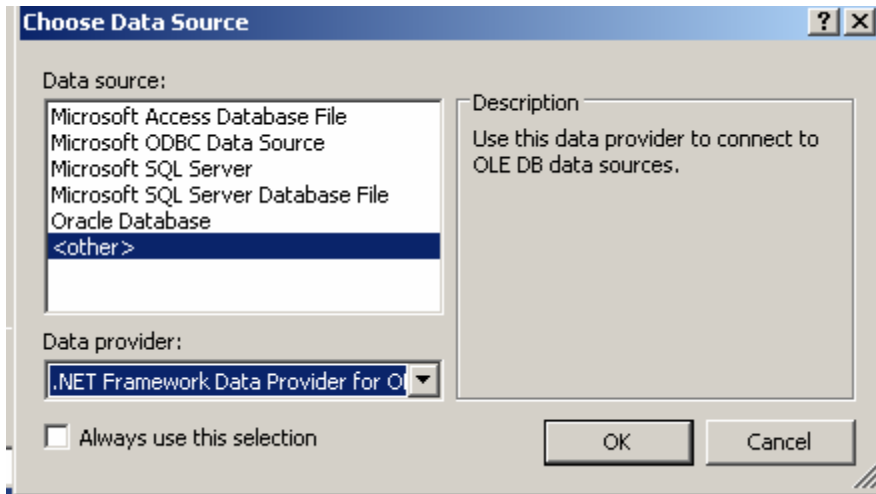
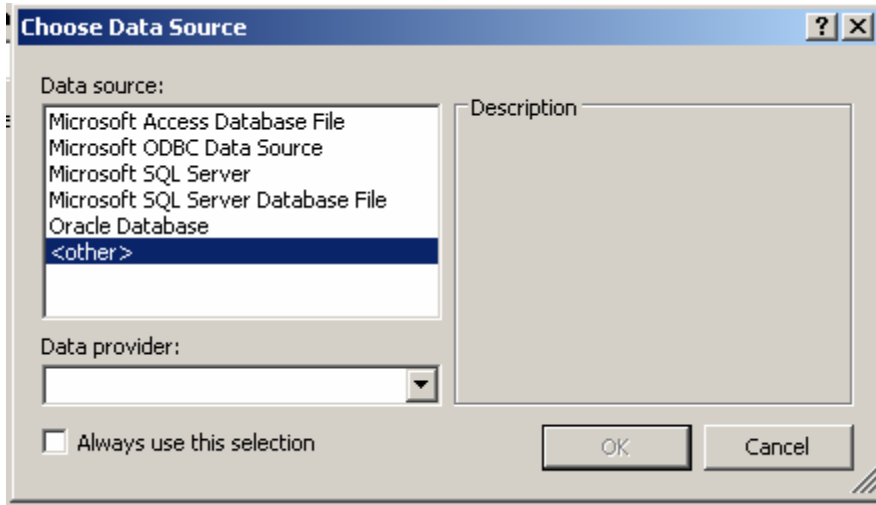
In the SqlDataSource item click the arrow and select Configure Data Source:



Select New Connection:



Select <other> and uncheck “Always use this selection” and the select .Net Framework Data Provider for OLE DB and select OK:



Select Microsoft Office 12.0 Access Database Engine OLEDB and enter in where the Access DB is and check Blank password and click OK

The screenshot shows the 'Connection Properties' dialog box. The 'Data source' is set to '.NET Framework Data Provider for OLE DB'. The 'OLE DB Provider' is set to 'Microsoft Office 12.0 Access Database Engine OLEDB'. The 'Server or file name' is 'c:\CartesianProductDates.accdb'. The 'Log on to the server' section has 'Use a specific user name and password' selected, with 'Blank password' checked. The 'Initial catalog' is empty. Buttons for 'Test Connection', 'OK', 'Cancel', 'Advanced...', and 'Data Links...' are visible.

Connection Properties

Data source:
[.NET Framework Data Provider for OLE DB] Change...

OLE DB Provider:
[Microsoft Office 12.0 Access Database Engine OLEDB] Data Links...

Enter a server or file name
Server or file name: [c:\CartesianProductDates.accdb]
Location: []

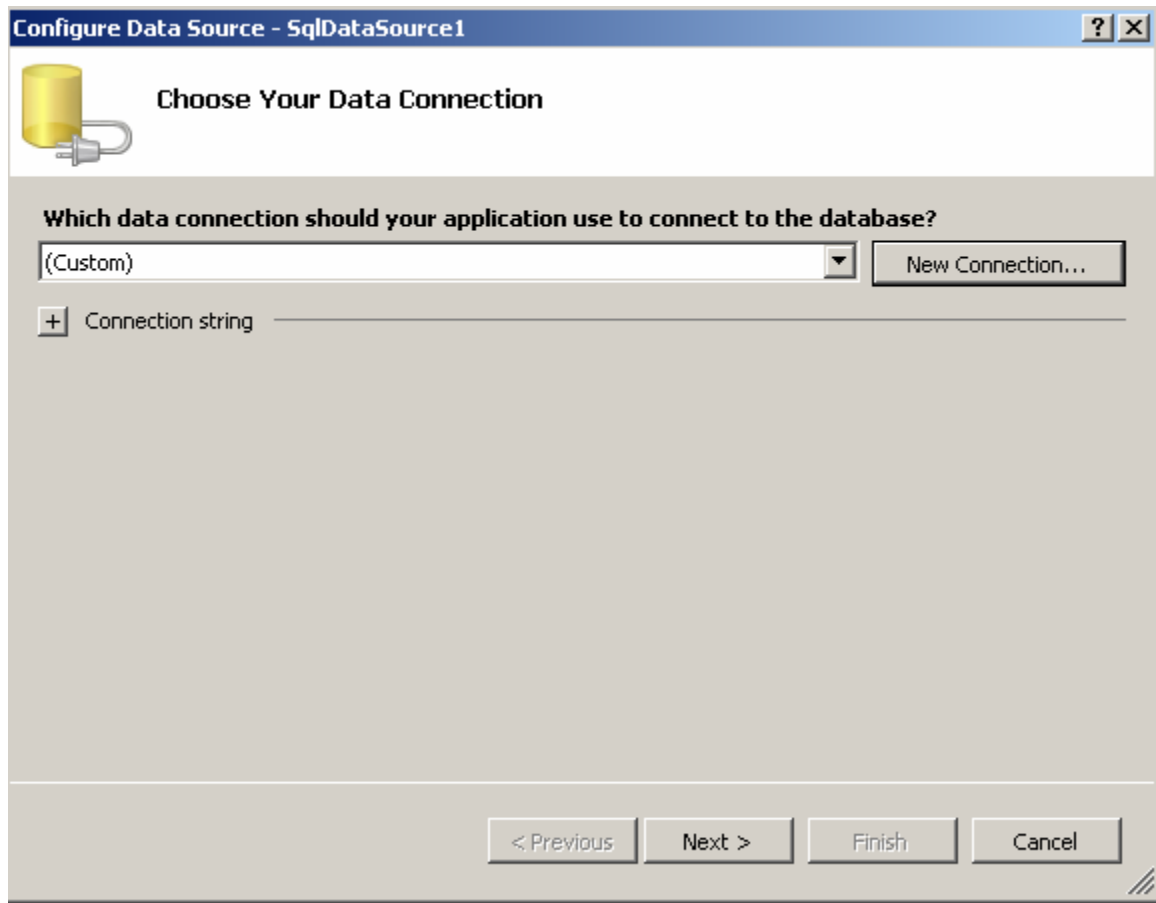
Log on to the server
 Use Windows NT Integrated Security
 Use a specific user name and password:
User name: []
Password: []
 Blank password Allow saving password

Initial catalog:
[]

Advanced...


Test Connection OK Cancel

Select Next:



Name the Connection and click Next:

Configure Data Source - SqlDataSource1 ? X

 **Save the Connection String to the Application Configuration File**

Storing connection strings in the application configuration file simplifies maintenance and deployment. To save the connection string in application configuration file, enter a name in the text box and then click Next. If you choose not to do this, the connection string is saved in the page as a property of the data source control.

Do you want to save the connection in the application configuration file?

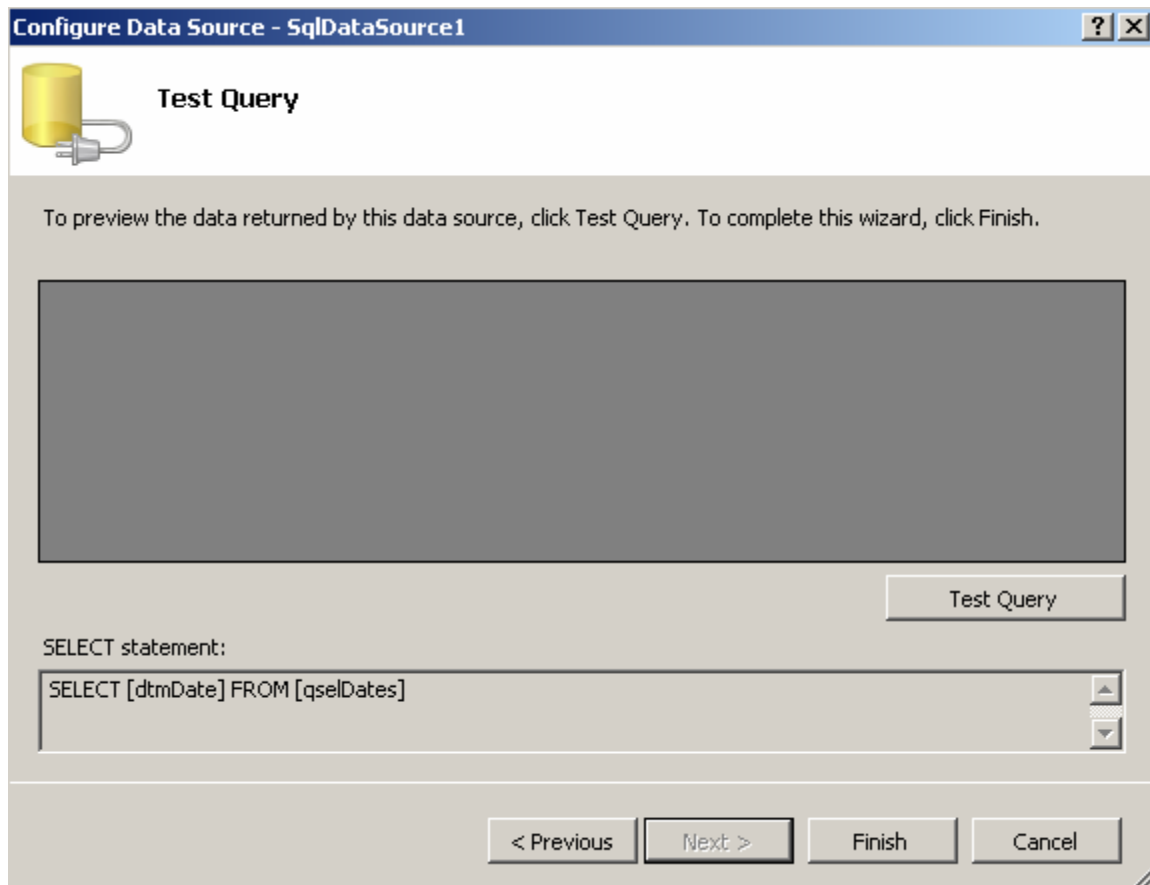
Yes, save this connection as:

< Previous Next > Finish Cancel

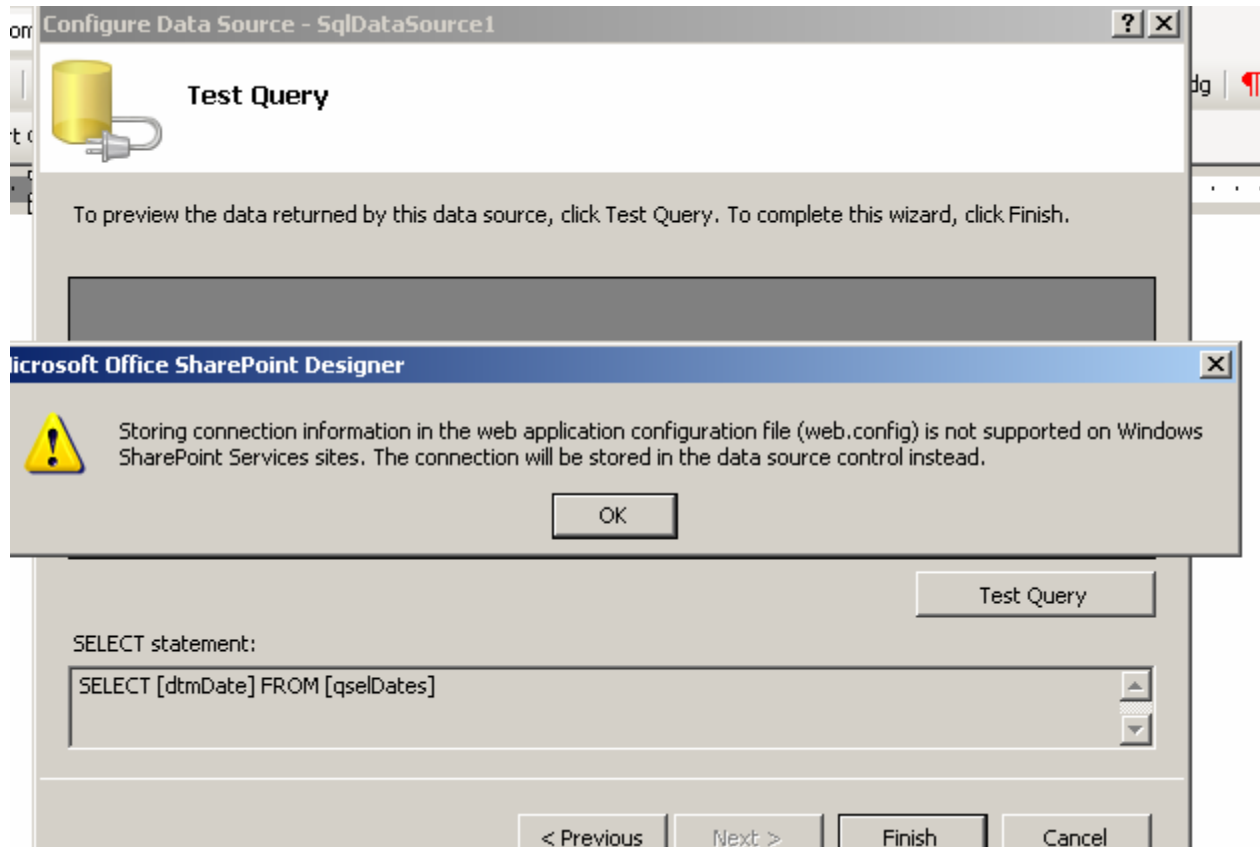
Select the table(s) you want to query and click Next:

The screenshot shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "Configure Data Source - SqlDataSource1". The main heading is "Configure the Select Statement". Below this, the question "How would you like to retrieve data from your database?" is followed by two radio button options: "Specify a custom SQL statement or stored procedure" (unselected) and "Specify columns from a table or view" (selected). Under the selected option, there is a "Name:" dropdown menu containing "qselDates". Below that is a "Columns:" list box with two entries: "*" (unchecked) and "dtmDate" (checked). To the right of the list box is a checkbox for "Return only unique rows" (unchecked) and three buttons: "WHERE...", "ORDER BY...", and "Advanced...". At the bottom of the dialog, there is a "SELECT statement:" text box containing the SQL query "SELECT [dtmDate] FROM [qselDates]". At the very bottom, there are four navigation buttons: "< Previous", "Next >", "Finish", and "Cancel".

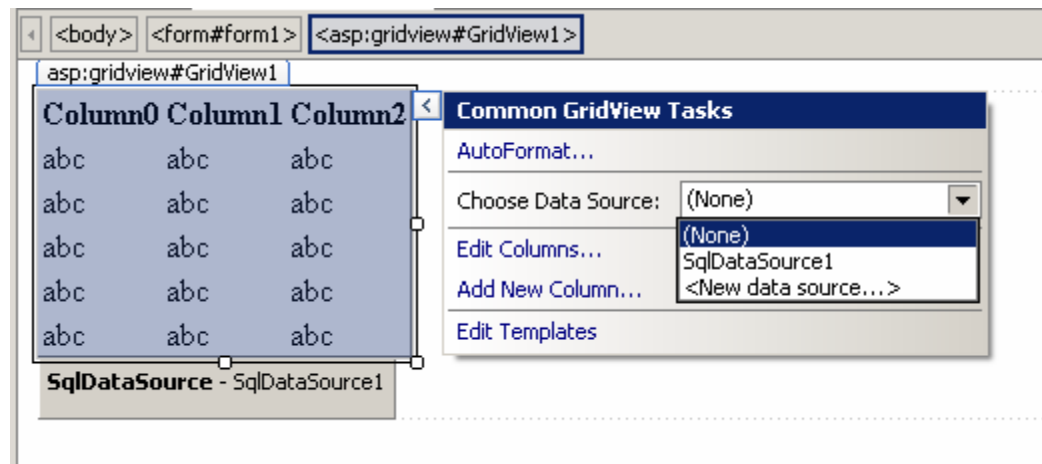
Click Finish:



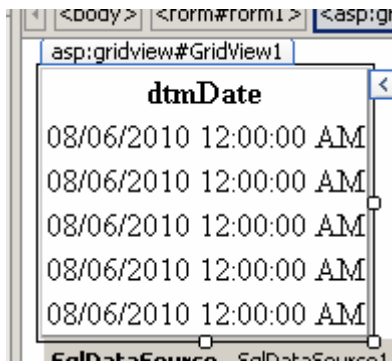
Click Ok at this warning since likely you don't have a web.config to write to locally:



In the grid on your page select the Source by default it is: SqlDataSource1



The data is then pulled in:



The screenshot shows a web browser window with a table. The table has a header row with the text 'dtmDate' and a left-pointing arrow. Below the header are five rows, each containing the text '08/06/2010 12:00:00 AM'. The browser's developer tools are visible at the top, showing the HTML structure: <body> <form#form1 > <asp:gridview#GridView1 >.

dtmDate
08/06/2010 12:00:00 AM
08/06/2010 12:00:00 AM
08/06/2010 12:00:00 AM
08/06/2010 12:00:00 AM
08/06/2010 12:00:00 AM