

CDS Solutions

Key Features:

- Highly customizable CDS providing application specific tools
- Increased productivity by eliminating the need to manually enter contextual data
- Customizable drop-down lists allow for increased efficiency, reduction of errors, and uniform and consistent data entry

Empower[®] 3 Software: Creating Custom Drop-down Lists

Using Enumerated Custom Fields in Empower[®] 3 Software

A busy laboratory may use multiple analytical columns to optimize chromatographic separations. In order

to simplify data management, it is important to automatically associate sample information.

Waters[®] Empower[®] 3 Software, with its integrated relational database, makes it easy to create a drop-down list for assigning an analytical column, or any other information you need to track, such as location, department, sample matrix, or client name, for each sample. Tracking and managing analytical columns and other results are easily accomplished through the creation of custom fields.

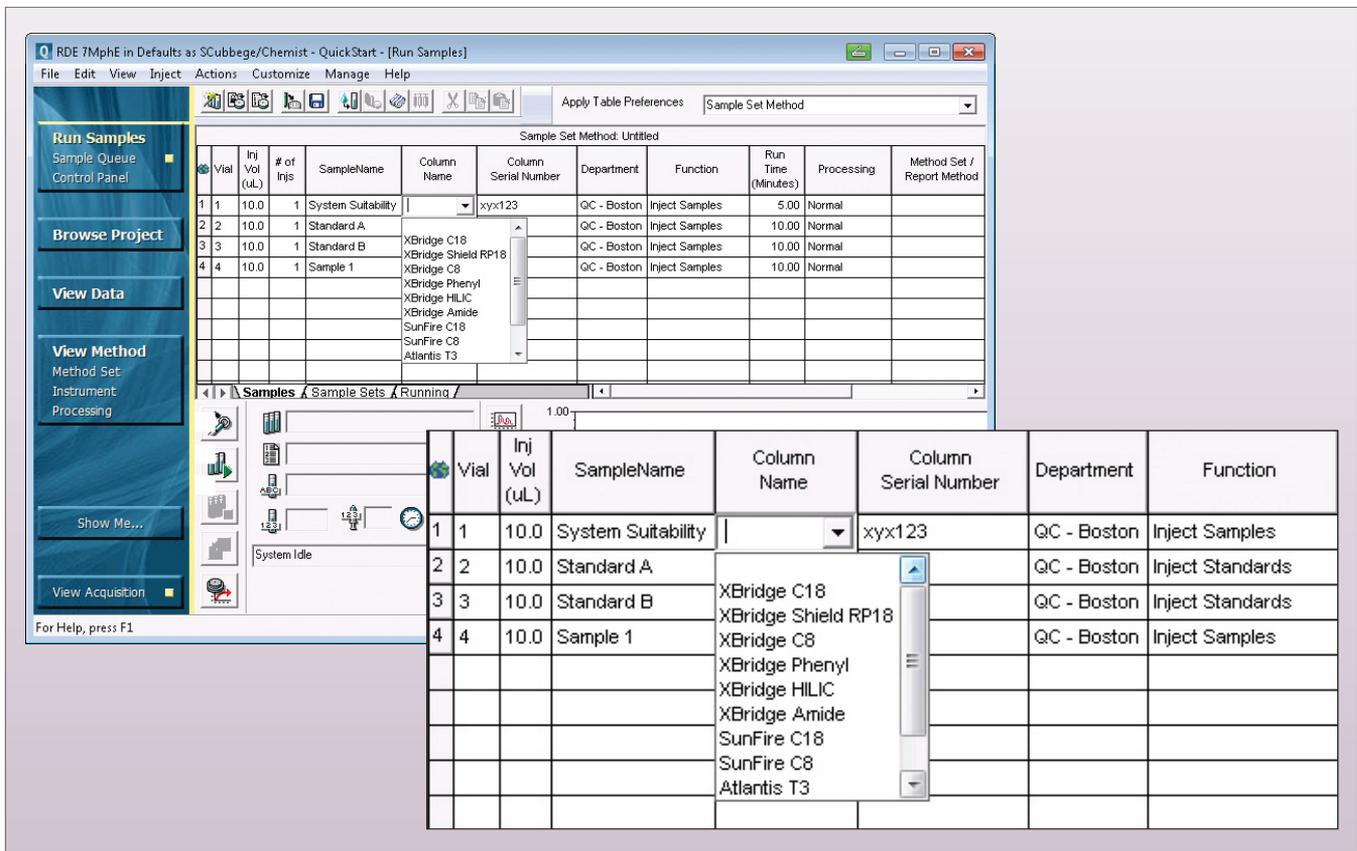
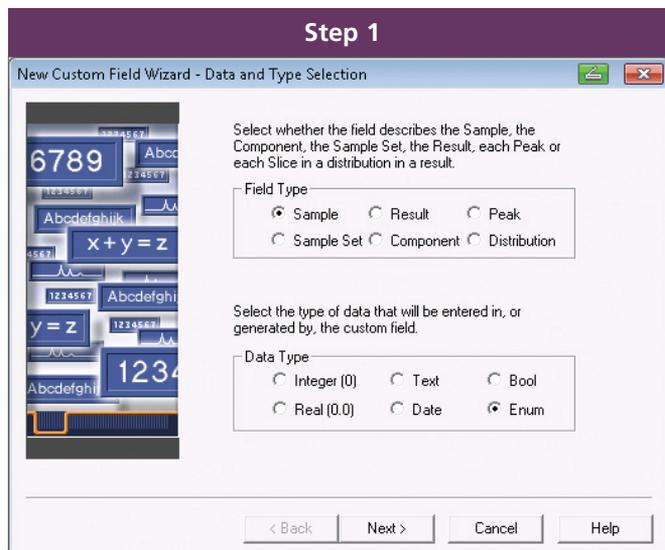
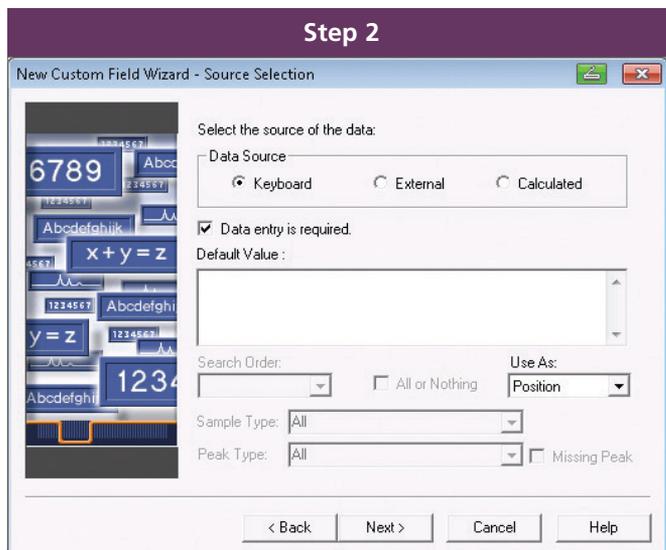


Figure 1. Custom fields not only make it simple to enter information, they also ensure that the format is consistent. There is no need to type information into a custom field created with a drop-down list. Simply choose the appropriate choice from the pre-defined list. Such fields minimize the need for manual documentation, and also make searching for your data simple, since spelling errors, case consistency, and other variables are not an issue.

Steps to Create Drop-down Lists



From the Configuration Manager window, start the New Custom Field Wizard by right-clicking on a project to view its properties, and choose "New" in the Custom Fields tab in the Properties dialog. Since this field is a Sample Type, enumerated field, select "Sample" and "Enum" in the Field Type and Data Type areas, respectively.



The next dialog is the Source Selection dialog. In this dialog, accept the default Data Source of "Keyboard" because the user will enter this information via the computer keyboard. In our example, we selected "Data entry is required." This means that Empower will not allow the user to forget to fill in this information when acquiring data.

Step 3

Translation Definition:

Value	Translation
1	0 XBridge C18
2	1 XBridge Shield RP18
3	2 XBridge C8
4	3 XBridge Phenyl
5	4 XBridge HILIC
6	5 XBridge Amide
7	6 SunFire C18
8	7 SunFire C8
9	8 Atlantis T3
10	9 Atlantis HILIC

The next dialog allows you to define your choices for the drop-down list. In this example, we defined our analytical column choices. You can make unlimited entries here.

Step 4

Enter the name of the new field.

Field Name :

Create this field in

- Project:Defaults
- Multiple Projects

Finally, the Name Entry dialog appears, which lets you name the custom field. The name you choose is displayed for this field in the Run Samples window, the Alter Sample window, on reports, and throughout the software.

In Empower® 3, the Column Name custom field is an out-of-the-box field where choices can be customized as necessary. Other fields containing drop-down lists can be created as desired. With the easy-to-use Enumerated Custom Field function and its unlimited applications, you will always have accurate, searchable, and traceable metadata.