

# New Features in Panther 5.10

***Prolifics.***



This document describes the new features in Panther 5.10.

## **Windows, Motif, Character Mode**

- Support for Microsoft Visual Studio 2005 is now available
- Support for .NET 2005 is now available
- Ability to call a Panther Timer Hook function

Support for a Timer hook function will be called after a user specified time interval. Similar to the Timeout function but the interval is not restarted after keyboard input.

```
struct fnc_data timer_funcs[] =
{
  { TF_MINUTES, my_timer, 0, 0, 2, 0}
};
static int tcount = sizeof ( timer_funcs )/sizeof(struct fnc_data)
```

- Added support for licensed COM objects
- Enhanced support for viewing Panther Report in Crystal Reports

```
sm_obj_create_server()
More information below in Library Functions.
```

- Speed up field searching when using Panther Transaction Manager
- Added a new property to set GUI screen position , using `start_row` and `start_column`
- Ability to turn off tooltips
- Added support for tooltips for occurrence of a field

```
field_name[i]->tooltip_text = "text"
where i is the occurrence number
```

- Ability to retrieve cursor position using `PR_CURSOR_OFFSET`

This property is only available for widgets where the cursor position is meaningful (i.e., SLT, MLT, combobox, and JAM 5.) Use the following syntax:

```
values = field_name->cursor_offset
```

- Allow ActiveX status text messages to appear on the status line
- Ability to search Widget List by name

- Ability to search by date boundaries in Library Table of Contents
- Added a Close button in the Library Table of Contents menu
- Ability to sort widgets in Widget List menu
- Ability to support Latin-2 for XML Encoding, ISO-8859-2, windows-1250 and UTF-8.
- 2 new application properties have been introduced:
  - `PR_FILL_CHARACTER`  
If a UTF-8 character is found during import that cannot be converted to the current codeset, it is replaced by the `PR_FILL_CHARACTER`. If `PR_FILL_CHARACTER` has the value zero, the invalid character will be ignored.
  - `PR_UTF8_DATA`  
When XML is imported to a field, this property will contain the original `PR_UTF8_DATA`. Its value can be longer than 255 bytes. When a field is updated or cleared, the `PR_UTF8_DATA` property is cleared. When a field is exported to XML, the value of the `PR_UTF8_DATA` property (if it is set) will override the value of the field.
- Enhanced support for members of a library: i.e. added `-z formlib` option to recover lost members.

The `-z` option in `formlib` attempts to recover deleted library members. It will scan the free blocks in a library looking for Panther format files (forms; JPL; menus; etc.) and will recover each deleted member that is found. If there is already a file of the same name in the library, the member name will have '\_recovered' and if needed, a number appended to create a unique member name.

- Enhanced support for arrowing trailing and leading blanks using `sm_option` (`IN_HARROW`, `OK_SKIPTB`)

Provide a way to allow the right arrow key to skip trailing blanks in text fields. The left arrow key should then skip leading blanks in right justified fields.

Add `IN_HARROW=OK_SKIPTB` in `smvars` OR add the following JPL at startup time.

```
global OK_SKIPTB      = 8
global OK_SKIPTBNXT = 9
sm_option (IN_HARROW, OK_SKIPTB)
```

## Web

- Enhanced support for multiple Web servers sharing a cache file

Support including the jserver's hostname and process id in cache file names. This will reduce the chance of cache name collisions when Panther Web Servers are sharing a single cache file directory.

This feature is enabled by setting "UniqueCacheFileNames" in the Web initialization file. Valid values are:

0 (default) - current operation.

1 - include the jserver process ID in cache file names.

2 - include the jserver process ID and hostname in cache file names.

## Reports

- Ability to go to the first and last page in Report Writer Viewer using menu buttons.
- Added support for cursor connection pooling for SQL Server.
- Panther Report Writer PostScript output now supports Latin-2

## Databases

- Added support for Oracle 10
- Added support for Informix 10/CSDK2.9
- Added support for ODBC 3.0
- Added XA support for Informix DBI
- Added support for multithreaded calls from Panther EJB to using MSSQL and Sybase Transaction Manager
- Added support for cursor connection pooling for SQL Server

## Library Functions

### sm\_obj\_create\_server

Instantiating a COM server

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```
sm_obj_create_server (name);  
char *name;
```

---

**Description**      `sm_obj_create_server` instantiates a COM server component. Before invoking this function, you must set the `current_component_system` property to `PV_SERVER_COM` in order to specify the type of components currently in use.

**Example:**

```
vars applicationObj =  
sm_obj_create_server("CrystalRuntime.Application")
```