



Qlik Deployment Framework

QlikView Exercises

April, 2017





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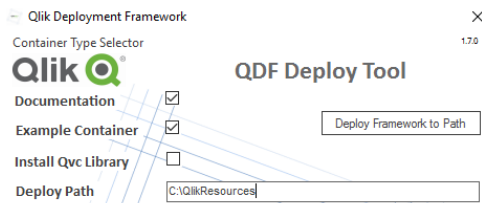
Version 1.7.0

These exercises are intended for QDF version 1.7.0 or later please read *Qlik Deployment Framework- Qlik Sense Getting Started Guide.pdf* first, this document includes more details on how to deploy QDF with Qlik Sense and what containers are used for. These documents are available on Qlik Community as well as extracted during the deployment framework setup.

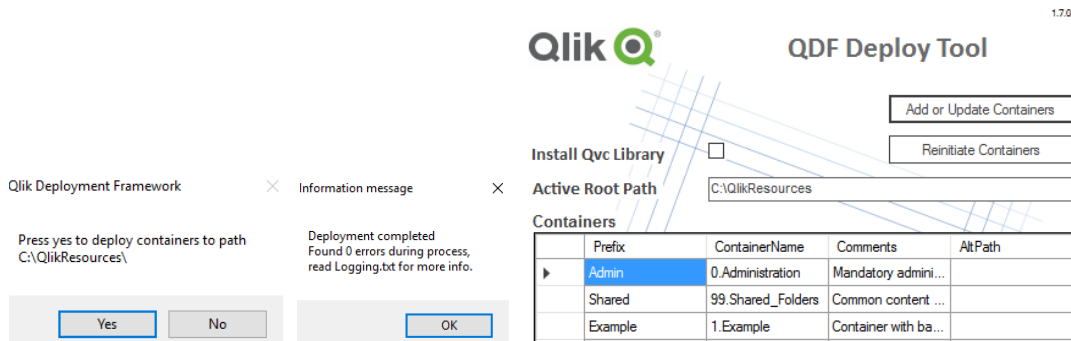
Getting started

Exercise number 1, Extract Qlik Deployment framework and create example containers

1. Unzip *QlikDeploymentFramework_Deploy_Tool.zip*
2. Run *QlikDeploymentFramework.exe* file



3. Modify Extract location if needed, default is *c:\QlikResources*
4. Press *Deploy Framework to Path* and Yes in the popup box, when done an information message will appear. The initial framework will be extracted and presented in the container box.



5. Now we can add additional containers, In Containers box type containers prefix and physical container name.
 - a. Add a container with the prefix *Corp* with container name *4.AcmeCorp*
 - b. Add a system container with the prefix *SAP* with container name *1000.System\1.SAP*
 - c. Add a system container with the prefix *SQL* with container name *1000.System\2.SQL*

Qlik **QDF Deploy Tool**

Add or Update Containers

Reinitiate Containers

Install Qvc Library

Active Root Path C:\QlikResources

Containers

	Prefix	ContainerName	Comments	AltPath
	Admin	0.Administration	Mandator...	
	Shared	99.Shared_Folders	Common ...	
	Example	1.Example	Container ...	
	Store	1.AcmeStore		
	Corp	2.AcmeCorp		
	SAP	1000.System\1.SAP		
	SQL	1000.System\2.SQL		

6. Press *Add/Update*.
7. **Hint!** To open an explorer window in the deploy path location double click on the *Deploy path* box.
8. You can always open the tool again and add additional containers.
9. Close Tool with X.

Exercise number 1, basic 1.Init load for QlikView

1. Open example application:
1.Example\1.Application\2.LoadIncludeExample\LoadIncludeExample.qvw
2. Open the Editor, remark or remove everything.
3. Check in the Relative Path box
Create a first Tab called Qlik Deployment framework and Paste in the initiation script code below.

```
Let vL.InitLinkPath = Left(DocumentPath(), Index(DocumentPath(),  
'\1.Application')) & 'InitLink.qvs';  
$(Must_Include=$(vL.InitLinkPath));
```

4. Run app and check *Variable Overview*, have any Global Variables (*vG.xxxPath*) been created?

Variable Name	Value	Comment
vG.BasePath	C:\Users\mbg\Documents\QlikViewDeployment\	
vG.TemplatePath	C:\Users\mbg\Documents\QlikViewDeployment\	
vG.BaseVariablePath	C:\Users\mbg\Documents\QlikViewDeployment\	
vG.SubPath	C:\Users\mbg\Documents\QlikViewDeployment\	
vG.RootPath	C:\Users\mbg\Documents\QlikViewDeployment\	
vG.ApplicationPath	C:\Users\mbg\Documents\QlikViewDeployment\	
vG.DocumentationPath	C:\Users\mbg\Documents\QlikViewDeployment\	
vG.QVDPath	C:\Users\mbg\Documents\QlikViewDeployment\	

Global variables are used during developing instead of “hard” or “relative” paths. The benefit is that applications can be moved in all directions without breaking the script and move between QlikView and Qlik Sense.

Function library in combination with Global Variables

QDF has a built in and very powerful function library, these exercises will show some of these functions. Documentation of the functions and syntax can be found in *Qlik Deployment Framework-Function Reference Guide.pdf*.

Exercise number 1. DoDir function

DoDir will list files and/or folders in a table (table name is optional), syntax is

Call DoDir (*Scan Path*, [*Table Name*], [*Folders Only*], [*Single Folder*], [*Qualified Felds*], [*Hide QDF Templates*])

Scan Path It the folder/file structure to scan

Table Name Is the Table name, optional default name is *DoDirFileList*

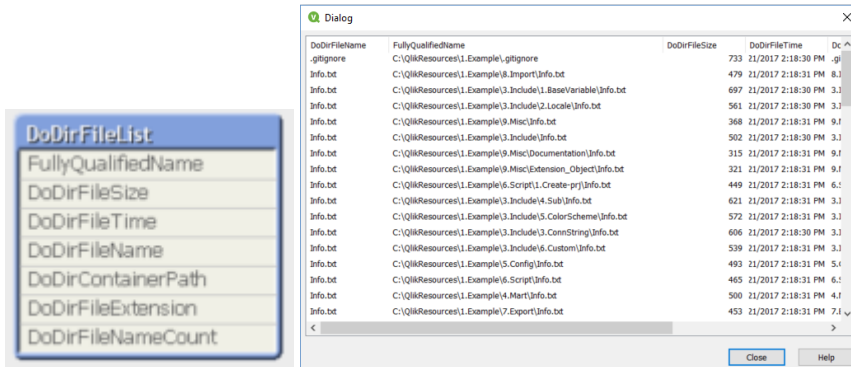
Folders Only Is an optional switch if set to 'true' only folders will be returned

Single Folder Is an optional switch if set to 'true' only one single folder will be indexed

Qualified Felds Is an optional switch if set to 'true' all field named will be Qualified based on the Table Name

1. Reopen *LoadIncludeExample.qvw* example application we just created. In the script below initiation (*InitLink*) add the command: *Call DoDir* ('\$(vG.BasePath)');
2. The global variable *vG.BasePath* represents the base of your home container and should thereby list all files in the *0.Administration* container as we have not states a particular home.

3. Open *Table Viewer* to see the *DoDirFileList* Table (default).



4. Change the operators to Call DoDir ('\$(vG.BasePath)', 'MyTable', 'True');
 You should now get a table named MyTable, the third parameter (True) will only load folder names instead of files.



Exercise number 2, Link containers (mount)

One of the main pillar in QDF is to section content into containers. Containers can be reorganized (moved) without breaking any script code. That's why we are linking (or mounting) from the home container to any other containers (I have security access to) using the LCGV function. LCGV creates one or more global variables pointing to the remote container location.

Call LCGV ('Container Prefix', [' Specific folder [;Additional folders separated by ;]);

In this example you are an administrator that want to collect QVD data from the *Example* container.

1. Open Qlik Sense QDF_Exercise example application we just created. In the script below initiation (*InitLink*) add **call LCGV** ('Example', 'QVD');
2. Run the script, you should get this line:

```
'### DF Info, found Example container, mounting as vG.ExampleBasePath'  
'### DF Info Container with basic examples'
```
3. In Variables check that the Global Variables for Example container and QVD storage is available.

```
vG.ExampleQVDPath      C:\QlikResources\1.example\2.QVD\
```
4. Also check that the URL is correct
5. Delete the variables
6. Last try **call LCGV** ('Example', 'QVD;Custom'); this will create two global variables, one for QVD and the other for Custom, pointing to folders in the Example container.

```
vG.ExampleQVDPath      C:\QlikResources\1.example\2.QVD\  
vG.ExampleCustomPath   C:\QlikResources\1.example\3.Include\6.Custom\
```
7. Last run the DoDir function in the *Example* QVD repository to search for any available qvd files. **Call DoDir** ('\$(vG.ExampleQVDPath)*.qvd');
8. As we are adding wildcard in the path there is a potential risk that if *vG.ExampleQVDPath* is missing the entire filesystem would be scanned. This could be avoided by using if statement to validate the global variable.

Exercise number 3, IndexAdd

There are some very powerful qvd indexing functions available in QDF, these exercises will dig deeper into this.

IndexAdd is a function that creates and maintains a central index based on meta-data from available qvd files. This metadata can afterwards be used to load and monitor data.

Call IndexAdd(['QVD path and name'], ['Index folder name'], ['Container name'], ['Tags'], ['Alternative Index path'])

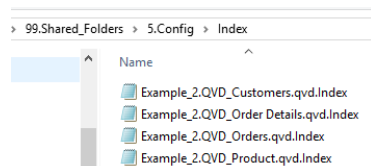
- **QVD path and name** (Optional) Path and name of QVD file to Index, wild card (*) is supported
- **Index folder name** (Optional) Place the Index in a specific folder, default is to use qvd folder name
- **Container name** (Optional) Specify the QVD files container name, this is usually identified automatically
- **Tags** (Optional) Add index tag, recommendation is to use the *comment table* function instead as this will be more persistent.

1. Open Qlik Sense QDF_Exercise example application we just created

In the script after `call LCGV('Example', 'QVD;Custom');` (that we added the last exercise), add

```
call IndexAdd('$(vG.ExampleQVDPath)\*');
```

2. Run the load script, *you* should have no errors
3. Open the 99.Shared_Folders container and drill under 5.Config\Index, you should see 4 index files



4. This is the index that was created using `IndexAdd` (one index file for each qvd file), open one index file and you can read the qvd meta-data.
5. In 0.Administration container under 1.Application\3.IndexMonitor folder there is a `IndexMonitor.qvw` file, open this file, load and you will see the qvd meta-data.

Deployment Framework Index Monitor 0.1

Data Tags:

Source Container Name:

Index Storage Name:

Table Name:

Field Name:

File Name	Table Name	Source Container Name	Relative Container Path	Nbr of Fields	Total nbr of records	Creation Date
Customers.qvd	Customers	Example	2.QVD\	11	91	2016-08-19 10:58:02
Order Details.qvd	Order Details	Example	2.QVD\	5	2,155	2016-08-19 10:58:03
Orders.qvd	Orders	Example	2.QVD\	14	830	2016-08-19 10:58:03
Product.qvd	Product	Example	2.QVD\	10	77	2016-08-19 10:58:01
					3,153	

Exercise number 4, IndexLoad

The second index function is `IndexLoad` that loads data based index criteria's like tags and field names.

Call `IndexLoad(['QVD file name'], ['Table Name'], ['Index Folder Name'], ['Tags'], ['Fields'], ['Index Only'], ['Load Max Rows'], ['Alternative Index path'], ['Load Expressions'])`

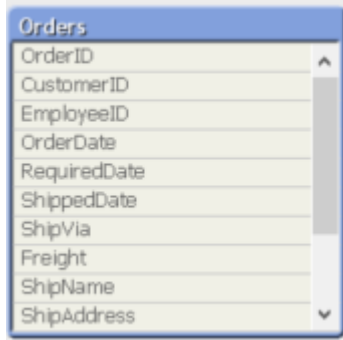
- **QVD file name** (Optional) Name of QVD to load, wild cards (*01-2015*) is supported
- **Table Name** (Optional) Load in a table, can be combined with **QVD file name**
- **Index Folder Name** (Optional) use this specific index only, can be combined with **QVD file name**
- **Tags** (Optional) load data containing a specific tag, can be combined with **QVD file name**
- **Fields** (Optional) load selected fields separated by comma (,) can be combined with **QVD file name**
- **Index Only** (Optional) will only load in the Index, true will use default table name (`vL._QVDIndexTable`).
Type table name from default `vL._QVDIndexTable`. This is used when developing apps where the Index is needed.
- **LoadMaxRows** (Optional) will limit how many rows that can be loaded. This will only stop sequential QVD file to load a big QVD will probably load above this limit.
- **Alternative Index path** (Optional) will change the default Index path (`$(vG.SharedConfigPath)/Index`) This is not recommended as all functions would need the alternative path specified
- **Load Expressions** (Optional) If set to true it will load related expressions based on tags and container collected from Index, this operator calls the `LoadVariableCSV` function.

Try these exercises below based on the Index function:

1. Replace the *IndexAdd* statement with *IndexLoad*, in this first example we will load in the Orders table.

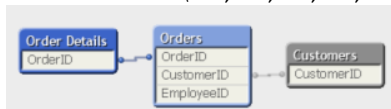
`call IndexLoad('', 'Orders');`

2. Open Data model viewer, *Orders table* should have been loaded



3. No lets load in some field data, replace above function with this one you should get the below data model with only the fields OrderID, CustomerID and EmployeeID

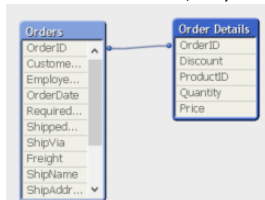
`call IndexLoad('', '', '', '', 'OrderID, CustomerID, EmployeeID');`



4. By using *data tags* stored in the meta-data (using comment table) we can group and load data models and time periods. More on this in Exercise no 5.

5. Run the function below to load tagged data, *OrderData*.

`call IndexLoad('', '', '', 'OrderData');`



BONUS Exercise number 5, Add data tags

Data tags is a way of grouping qvd data files into data models or/and time periods. Multiple tags can be added and used with the *IndexLoad* function. First let's add some data tags, for this we need to *comment* tables and after store to qvd files, last we need to index the stored qvd files to collect the metadata.

1. Open Qlik Sense QDF_Exercise example application, keep the function `call IndexLoad("", "", "OrderData");` that we added in the last exercise.
2. Add comment table on both Orders and Order Details tables, we add the data tag MyDatamodel, here we can add multiple tags.

`Comment Table [Orders] with 'MyDatamodel';`

`Comment Table [Order Details] with 'MyDatamodel';`

3. Store the tables as qvd files in home qvd path

`Store [Orders] into '$(vG.QVDPATH)\MyData1.qvd';`

`Store [Order Details] into '$(vG.QVDPATH)\MyData2.qvd';`

- Last index the qvd files:
`call IndexAdd("$(vG.QVDPATH)*");`
- To load in the indexed qvd files run the IndexLoad function below, remember to clear or comment out the earlier commands.
`call IndexLoad("", "", 'MyDatamodel');`

Exercises on Custom Global Variables

In the QDF you can create variables that are reusable across several applications, these variables are called custom global variables. Custom global variables should use the prefix (*vG.*) this to separate global variables against application specific variables.

Exercise number 1, Create Custom Global Variables

Custom Global Variables are stored in *Custom.Variable.csv* (default) and loaded in during initiation, observe that it's only 'your home container' custom variable file that is loaded in. Variable files are stored under *3.Include\1.BaseVariable* within each container. The *Custom.Variable.csv* file under *Shared* container is loaded in by all applications within the framework during initiation.

- Open the 99.Shared_Folders container and drill under *3.Include\1.BaseVariable*, open *Custom.Variable.csv* with your favorite editor (Sublime or Notepad++ works best) **do not use Excel as it distorts the variable file.**
- You should see an empty file with 4 columns.

```
1 VariableName,VariableValue,Comments,Priority
2 ,,,
3 ,,,
4 ,,,
5 ,,,
6 ,,,
7
```

- On line two Enter the Variable Name LET *vG.TestVariable1*

- Add Variable Value *10+10* (no space) it should look like this:

```
1 VariableName,VariableValue,Comments,Priority
2 LET vG.TestVariable1,10+10,,
```

- Enter second Variable Name *LET vG.TestVariable2*
- Enter Variable Value *vG.TestVariable1+10* (no space) and save

- Load Qlik Sense *QDF_Exercise* example application

- vG.TestVariable1* and *vG.TestVariable2* should have the values 20 and 30

```
vG.TestVariable1      20
vG.TestVariable2      30
```

- Add a third variable, *SET vG.TestVariable3* and Variable Value *10+10* Load,

```
vG.TestVariable1      20
vG.TestVariable2      30
vG.TestVariable3      10+10
```

`vG.TestVariable3` have value 10+10 as we used **SET** instead of **LET**

- Try a more advance expression, add the variable and value below into *Custom.Variable.csv*. (**SET** is default operator so we can leave that out)

```
vG.TestVariable4 = "TextBetween('$ (vG.ApplicationPath)', '\') & '_&Left(DocumentName(),len(DocumentName())-4)'"
```

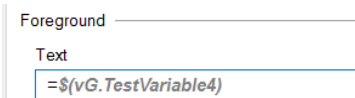
The variable file should now look something like this:

```
1 VariableName,VariableValue,Comments,Priority
2 LET vG.TestVariable1,10+10,,
3 LET vG.TestVariable2,vG.TestVariable1+10 ,,
4 SET vG.TestVariable3,10+10 ,,
5 vG.TestVariable4,"TextBetween('$ (vG.ApplicationPath)', '\') & '_&Left(DocumentName(),len(DocumentName())-4)'"..
```

After reloading the Qlik Sense application `vG.TestVariable4` should look something like this:

```
TextBetween ('$ (vG.ApplicationPath) ', '\', '\') & '_&Left (DocumentName () , len (DocumentName ()) -4)'
```

- Add a Text Object and put in the variable `$(vG.TestVariable4)` as measure



- In the text box you should see something like *Administration_QDF_Exercise* where the first concatenation is our home container.

Exercise number 3, attach global expression to a data model

We will continue by loading in some data and add expression to this data based on tags, this is possible to do in one single line.

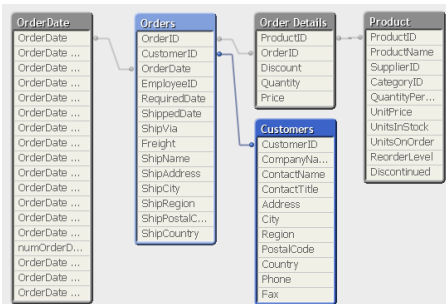
- Replace the earlier functions (except the `InitLink` initiation) with an **IndexLoad** statement that will load data based on **Sales** criteria (data tagged as **Sales**) and at the same time load in expressions based on the same criteria (expressions using the **Sales** tag).

```
call IndexLoad("","','Sales','","','Sales');
```

*This command will load **Sales** tagged qvd data and add **Sales** tagged expressions*

- Also lets add a calendar into the data model using another built-in function **CalendarGen**
call `CalendarGen('OrderDate');`

- This should create a data-model looking something like this.



- The **Indexload** statement above will also load variables within the Example container that are tagged as **KPI**.

In Example container under *1.Example\3.Include\1.BaseVariable* open the variable file named *Sales.Variables.csv*, here we have some variables tagged as **Sales**

```
1 VariableName,VariableValue,Comments,Priority
2 vKPI.SumYear1997,"Sum(If(Year(OrderDate)=1997, Quantity*UnitPrice))","Sum last year",Sales
3 vKPI.SumYear1998,"Sum(If(Year(OrderDate)=1998, Quantity*UnitPrice))","Sum this year",Sales
4 vKPI.OrderValue,"Sum(Quantity*UnitPrice)","Sales & Avg order value",Sales
5 vKPI.SalesIndex,"($ (vG.SumYear1998)/$(vG.SumYear1997))","Sales Index summary",Sales
```

5. In the application check the variable view for these KPI variables, for example:

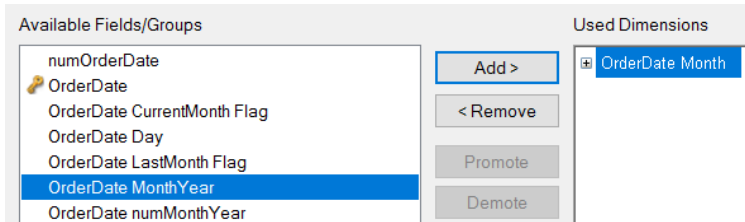
```

vkPI.SumYear1997          Sum(IIf(Year(OrderDate)=1997, Quantity*Unit)
vkPI.SumYear1997_Comments Sum last year
vkPI.SumYear1998          Sum(IIf(Year(OrderDate)=1998, Quantity*Unit)
  
```

Notice that an additional variable (`_comments`) have been added for each comment, this can be used for labels.

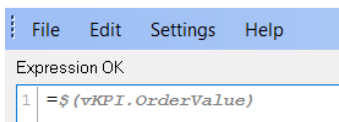
6. Let's add a **line chart** object based on the expressions loaded in. Create a new chart select Line Chart and give it a name.

7. Add **OrderData Month** that we created earlier as Dimension

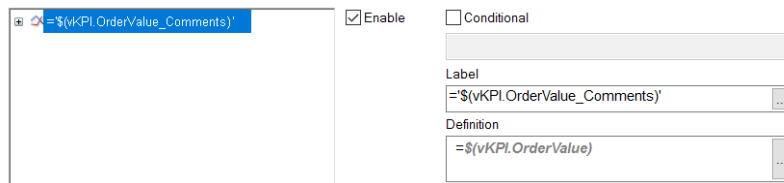


8. When the expression box appears type `=$ (vkPI.OrderValue)` variable dollar expansion as expression.

Edit Expression

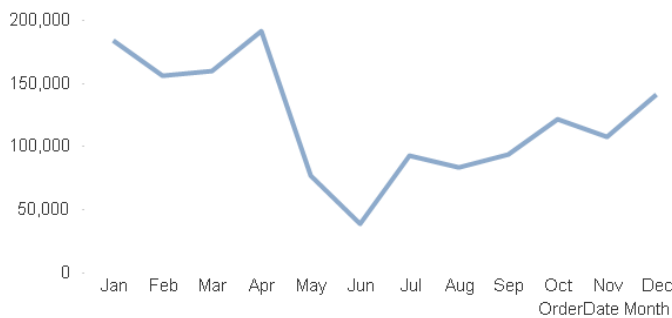


9. Last the comment variable `='$(vkPI.OrderValue_Comments)'` as Label using dollar expansion inside quotas (as this is text field).



When done the **line chart** should look something like below:

Sales & Avg order value



BONUS! Exercise number 3, create a new Global Variables file

1. Create a new Variable file in `99.Shared_Folders` container by adding the file `Test.Variable.csv` under `99.Shared_Folders\3.Include\1.BaseVariable`.

2. We need to copy the field names from `custom.variables.csv` as well into your new `Test.Variable.csv`.

3. Add some variables and values, last in the *Priority* field type *Sales* as shown below

```
VariableName,VariableValue,Comments,Priority
LET vG.TestVariable5,10+10,,Sales
LET vG.TestVariable6,vG.TestVariable1+10,,Sales
```

4. To use this variable file in your scripts run the sub function call below that will search for the Sales identifier within the Shared container.

```
call LoadVariableCSV("','Sales','Shared');
```