

1. Can I carry out a survey on a whole model?

Yes, but in order to do this the model must be saved first as a Selection Set. If the model is large, the survey report may well exceed the 65500 row limit imposed by Excel, and may therefore be an incomplete survey.

2. How can I control the order in which Properties are reported?

Surveyor will report properties in the order that they are selected under the Full tab. This order can then be changed using the Selected tab.

3. Why is the Preview limited to just 100 rows?

Preview is not a survey report, it is intended to give the user a quick check on whether or not the correct properties have been selected and are arranged in the correct order without the need to generate a full survey report in order to do this.

4. When should the Field Type controls be used?

NavisWorks represents all Property Values as text which means that without the Field Type controls Excel will interpret all data as text although it may also try to interpret some data as numbers with unpredictable results. The Field Type controls enable reports to be generated which represents fields correctly as Excel formatted Text, Numbers and Dates.

5. What does the Filter control do?

Filter enables the user to select a field and define a string which will be used to filter out any data in this field which doesn't match the defined string. This is useful for creating summary lists filtering out duplicated records for example.

6. Why can't the Filter control be used as well as the Unique Layout control?

Filter and Unique are both Excel functions which have been integrated into Surveyor and so if they were used in combination the results would be unpredictable. So if either of these controls is set the other is not available.

7. Why can't the Layout controls be applied to the Preview?

First because the Layout controls are Excel Macros and the Preview is not an Excel file, it is created internally by Surveyor. Secondly it is limited to just 100 records so as to appear almost immediately, and having only 100 records, the Layout controls, if they were available, would give very misleading results on such a small number of records.

8. What does 'Unique row on first column' mean?

This will filter out all repeated entries by reference to the first column only. So the result will be just 1 row for each unique entry.

9. What does 'Unique row on first two columns' mean?

This will filter out all repeated entries by reference to the first two columns only. So the result will be just 1 row for each unique entry against properties described in the first two columns.

10. What does 'Unique row on first three columns' mean?

This will filter out all repeated entries by reference to the first three columns only. So the result will be just 1 row for each unique entry against properties described in the first three columns.

11. What does 'Sort row on first, first two or first three columns' mean?

This will sort all rows on either the first, or first two, or first three columns. The result will be to group all identical entries together across the selected columns. If the Unique and Sort controls are used in combination then this will further refine the report.

12. What information is saved from the Surveyor window?

Save creates a 'Template' of all the Excel Report Generator parameters. So Model Path, Search Set, Title, Description, Comments, Author, Date and Time entries are saved together with any selected Field Type, Filter and Layout buttons. This means that any number of Templates can be saved and re-used on a given model, thereby enabling easy updating of reports as the model changes. The Template is saved as an XML file.

13. Can saved Templates be re-used on different models?

Yes. This means that the templates are powerful tools that can be re-used on different selections and selections incorporating alterations. If there are mismatches between selections then the user is informed about variations and given the option to proceed or not.

14. Why is the size of a report limited to 65500 rows?

This is the limit imposed on a single sheet by all versions of Excel except Excel 2007 which allows up to 1 million rows in a single sheet.

15. What happens if I generate a report with more than 65500 rows?

You will be warned, during the progress of generating the report, that there are more than 65500 rows and given the choice to continue or not. If you continue then the report will be incomplete and will therefore give unreliable results. You will also be advised to reduce the size of the Search or Selection Set in order not to exceed 65500 rows.