

The logo for the Omnis Developer Conference 2026. It features a stylized 'O' with an orange dot inside, followed by 'DC' in blue. The year '2026' is positioned to the right, with '20' in blue and '26' in orange.

ODC 20
26

Omnis Developer Conference

Not in the Manual

Explore undocumented features and hidden capabilities in Omnis Studio that can give you an edge in development

Lasse Holch
Jr. Consultant



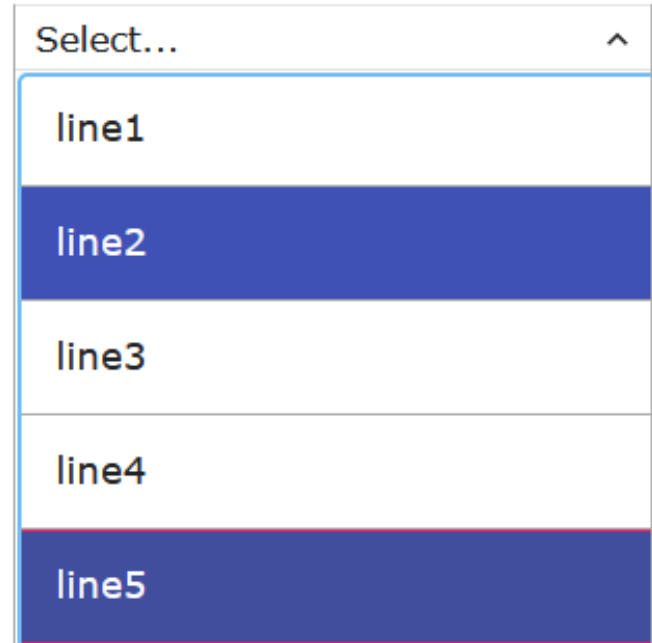
Multi Select in JS Droplists

Droplists in Remote Forms do **not** support selecting multiple items in the expanded list.

If a Dropdown List with multi select is required:

- Use a **Subformset Panel** with only one panel and expand/collapse button
- Display a **Data Grid** within the Subformset Panel

→ Looks similar to a Droplist, but provides the desired functionality



The image shows a multi-select dropdown menu. The header is "Select..." with an upward-pointing arrow on the right. The menu is expanded to show five items: "line1", "line2", "line3", "line4", and "line5". The items "line2" and "line5" are highlighted in a dark blue color, indicating they are selected. The other items are in white with a light blue border.

Print a PDF directly to the printer

There is no built-in way in Omnis to print a PDF file directly to the printer from code

Possible Approaches:

macOS

-use the native lp printing system and Apple Script

Windows

-Adobe Acrobat ActiveX control
-provides methods such as \$::print() and \$printall()

Calculate **script** as `con('lp -o fit-to-page ',kSq,pdfFilePath,kSq)`

Begin text block

Text:set command to "[**script**]"(Carriage return)

Text:do shell script command(Carriage return)

End text block

Get text block **script**

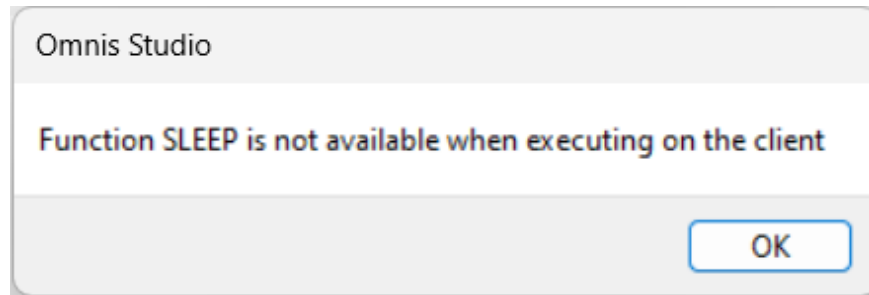
Do `$root.$runapplescript(script,result,errText)` Returns **errNr**

JS Client - Bypassing Client-side restrictions with server methods

Some Omnis functions are **not allowed in client-side methods**.

Examples: **sleep()** & **iconurl()**

Calling them directly in a methods executed on the client results in an error:



JS Client - Bypassing client-side restrictions with server methods

Solution / Workaround:

1. Call a **server-side method** from the **client-side method**:

```
Do $cinst.$sleep()
```

2. Execute the restricted function on the server (in \$sleep):

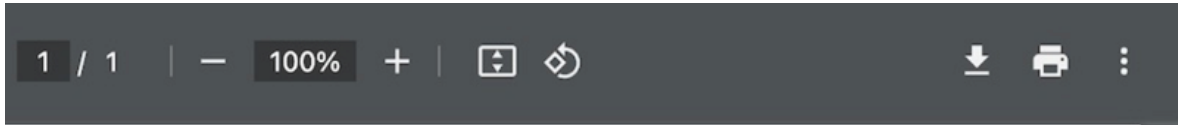
```
Do sleep(2000)
```

3. Continue working in the **client-side return method** (\$sleep_return):

```
JavaScript:alert("finished");
```

Removing the PDF Toolbar in oBrowser

Displaying a PDF in **oBrowser** automatically shows the built-in viewer toolbar (navigation, zoom controls, etc.)



- Takes valuable screen space
- Makes embedded PDFs harder to read

Removing the PDF Toolbar in oBrowser

Solution:

Use **PDF Open Parameters** directly in the URL (e.g. #toolbar)

Instead of: file:///C:\temp\my.pdf
use: file:///C:\temp\my.pdf**#toolbar**

... in the **\$urlorcontrolname** property of oBrowser control

Other useful parameters: #page #zoom #scrollbar

Debugging the Omnis PDF Device

The Omnis PDF Device internally uses Node.js to generate PDF files

When a PDF is created, Omnis automatically generates:

- a JavaScript file (.js)
- PNG image files (only if the report contains images)

These files are then processed by the **embedded Node.js** runtime to produce the final PDF.

Debugging the Omnis PDF Device

The Omnis PDF Device internally uses Node.js to generate PDF files

Do `$devices.PDF.$setparam(kDevOmnisPDFParamKeepScriptAndPNGs,kTrue)`

-> the generated files are being kept in the omnispdf folder

Run the script manually by opening a command prompt and changing to the Omnis nodejs folder. Then execute: **node.exe path\to\script**

This allows you to:

- Inspect the generated script,
- Reproduce rendering issues,
- See error messages in the console.

Code Editor: List all available commands

In the Code Editor (**Modify** menu) set **Filter Commands** to **No Filter**

-> press **CTRL-Space** or **Shift-Space** ('fuzzy' search)



Code Editor: List all available commands

Other useful keyboard shortcuts:

Resize window in design mode without edge floats being triggered:

- Hold down **ALT** key on Windows, or **CONTROL** key on macOS

Open Window or RemoteForm class from Code Editor:

- Press **F3** key (or **CTRL-T** to open an instance)

In the Code Editor: navigate to a method called in your code

- Press **F8** key (and **F10** to go back)

Increase or decrease integer property values in Property Manager:

- Press **Shift+Up** or **Shift+down Arrow** keys



Many thanks

Omnis.net