

sgExcelPages

Action Reference & Help Guide

A VisualNEO Win plug-in that opens Excel workbooks, displays their worksheets in a live, editable grid attached to a Rectangle object, and can import each worksheet as a real VisualNEO page.

Publisher	LIS Software Lab
Build covered by this guide	v65 — real page navigation via nbPlayAction
Platform	VisualNEO Win (Windows), Delphi 13 Plug-In SDK
Actions documented	11

This guide documents every action sgExcelPages registers with VisualNEO Win, what each parameter means, and a worked example of the line VisualNEO writes into the .pub file when you configure that action from its Properties dialog. A short plain-language description of the plug-in as a whole follows on the next page.

1. What sgExcelPages does

sgExcelPages lets a VisualNEO Win publication open a real Microsoft Excel workbook (.xlsx) and show its worksheets on screen the way a spreadsheet program would — as a scrollable grid of rows and columns, with cell selection, in-place editing, per-cell highlighting, and the ability to save changes back to the file or export them to CSV, Text, HTML, an XML Spreadsheet, Word, or PDF.

The grid is not a VisualNEO control. It is a native Win32 window that the plug-in creates and positions exactly over a Rectangle object you place on a page — the Rectangle marks where the grid appears and how large it is; the plug-in draws the actual spreadsheet itself.

There are two ways to use it:

- **Direct viewing** — one action (`sgExcelPagesOpen`) attaches a live workbook viewer to a Rectangle on a single page. The whole workbook stays open behind that one page; Next/Prev switch between its worksheets.
- **Page import** — one action (`sgExcelPagesImport`) reads a workbook and generates a brand-new VisualNEO page for every worksheet you select, each with its own Rectangle and its own open/close actions already wired up. Moving between worksheets then means moving between real VisualNEO pages, with each page's own Enter/Exit actions firing normally.

Both routes share the same built-in action toolbar (Prev/Next, Edit, Highlight, Save) drawn along the top of the grid, which can be shown or hidden per viewer.

2. Quick concepts

The Rectangle

Every viewer needs a Rectangle object already placed on the page. Its name is passed as the first parameter to almost every action, and its size and position define where the grid is drawn. `sgExcelPagesImport` creates this Rectangle for you automatically on each generated page.

The action toolbar

An optional strip along the top of the grid with five buttons: **< Prev**, **Next >**, **Edit**, **Highlight** and **Save**. Its Prev/Next behave differently depending on how the viewer was opened:

- On a page generated by `sgExcelPagesImport` ("Page mode"), Prev/Next perform a genuine VisualNEO page change — leaving the current page and entering the neighbouring generated page, exactly as a hand-placed "Go to next page" button would.
- On a directly-placed `sgExcelPagesOpen` viewer that is not in Page mode, Prev/Next instead switch between worksheets inside the one open workbook, on the same page.

Page mode vs. normal mode

Set by the `ToolbarPlacement` parameter of `sgExcelPagesOpen`. The value "Page" turns on single-worksheet page mode (no worksheet ribbon/tabs — used automatically by generated pages); "Top", "Bottom" or "None" control a classic worksheet ribbon/tab strip for viewing a whole workbook on one page.

Variable name / target worksheet

The third parameter of `sgExcelPagesOpen` is a VisualNEO variable name in normal mode (it receives the current worksheet's name whenever the sheet changes) — but in Page mode it instead names the one worksheet that page should display, since each generated page shows only a single sheet.

3. Action reference

Every action below is exactly as registered with VisualNEO Win, in the order VisualNEO lists them in its Actions picker.

1. sgExcelPagesOpen

Open an Excel workbook and attach a live worksheet viewer to a Rectangle.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle object the grid will be drawn over. Any existing viewer already attached to it is replaced.
ExcelFile	Filename	Path to the .xlsx workbook to open. VisualNEO path tokens such as [PubDir] are expanded automatically.
VariableName	Variable	Normal mode: a VisualNEO variable that receives the current worksheet's name whenever it changes. Page mode ("Page" below): the name of the one worksheet this page should show.
ToolbarPlacement	Alpha	"Top", "Bottom" or "None" for a classic worksheet ribbon/tabs; "Page" for single-worksheet page mode (no ribbon/tabs — used by sgExcelPagesImport-generated pages).
ShowActionToolbar	Alpha	"Yes"/"No". Shows or hides the Prev/Next/Edit/Highlight/Save toolbar drawn along the top of the grid. Only meaningful when ToolbarPlacement is "Page".

Example — open a workbook on a Rectangle named ExcelGrid_1, showing the "Budget" sheet as a single page with the action toolbar visible

```
sgExcelPagesOpen "ExcelGrid_1" "[PubDir]data.xlsx" "Budget" "Page" "Yes"
```

2. sgExcelPagesNext

Show the next worksheet in an Excel viewer.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle whose attached viewer should move to the next worksheet.

Example — move ExcelGrid_1's viewer to the next worksheet

```
sgExcelPagesNext "ExcelGrid_1"
```

Equivalent to clicking "Next >" on the toolbar when the viewer is not in Page mode.

3. sgExcelPagesPrev

Show the previous worksheet in an Excel viewer.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle whose attached viewer should move to the previous worksheet.

Example — move ExcelGrid_1's viewer to the previous worksheet

```
sgExcelPagesPrev "ExcelGrid_1"
```

4. sgExcelPagesGoto

Jump directly to a specific worksheet by name or by its 1-based position.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle whose attached viewer should jump to the given worksheet.
SheetNameOrNumber	Alpha	Either the worksheet's exact name (e.g. "Q4") or its 1-based sheet number (e.g. "3").

Example — jump straight to the sheet named "Q4"

```
sgExcelPagesGoto "ExcelGrid_1" "Q4"
```

5. sgExcelPagesClose

Remove an Excel viewer previously attached to a Rectangle, releasing the workbook.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle whose attached viewer should be removed.

Example — close the viewer on ExcelGrid_1 (typically placed on the page's Exit action)

```
sgExcelPagesClose "ExcelGrid_1"
```

sgExcelPagesImport wires this automatically into every generated page's Page Exit action, so leaving a generated page always releases its workbook.

6. sgExcelPagesSave

Save any edits made in an Excel viewer back to a file.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle whose attached viewer's edits should be saved.
FileName	Filename	Destination .xlsx path. Leave blank to overwrite the workbook that was originally opened.

Example — save changes back over the original file

```
sgExcelPagesSave "ExcelGrid_1" ""
```

Equivalent to clicking “Save” on the toolbar.

7. sgExcelPagesExport

Export the workbook shown in an Excel viewer to another file format.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle whose attached viewer should be exported.
FileName	Filename	Destination file path for the export.
FormatStr	Alpha	One of: CSV, Text, HTML, XMLSpreadsheet, Word, PDF (case-insensitive).
ScopeStr	Alpha	“CurrentSheet” to export only the sheet currently shown, or “AllSheets” to export the whole workbook.

Example — export the whole workbook to a Word document

```
sgExcelPagesExport "ExcelGrid_1" "[PubDir]report.docx" "Word" "AllSheets"
```

The PDF export uses a standard, non-embedded font that only renders Latin-script text correctly; use HTML or Word for non-Latin content.

8. sgExcelPagesImport

Import selected worksheets of an Excel workbook as real VisualNEO pages, one page per worksheet. Existing pages in the target publication are preserved.

Parameter	Type	Description
ExcelFile	Filename	Path to the source .xlsx workbook.
SheetSpec	Alpha	"ALL" (or blank) to import every worksheet, or a list of worksheet names separated by the pipe character, e.g. "Sheet1 Sheet3", to import only those.
TargetPub	Filename	"CURRENT" to add the generated pages into a copy of the publication currently open in VisualNEO (the original is never overwritten — a new .pub is written and its path is returned in [sgExcelPagesImportedPub]), or a path to a different .pub file to update directly.

Example — import every worksheet of data.xlsx into the current publication

```
sgExcelPagesImport "[PubDir]data.xlsx" "ALL" "CURRENT"
```

Each generated page gets its own Rectangle and its own Page Enter/Exit actions (sgExcelPagesOpen with ToolbarPlacement="Page" and ShowActionToolbar="Yes", and sgExcelPagesClose) already wired up — no manual setup is needed after import.

Import writes a diagnostic log, sgExcelPages_import.log, beside the publication, and reports the generated file's path in the VisualNEO variable [sgExcelPagesImportedPub] on success.

9. sgExcelPagesEdit

Begin editing the currently selected cell in an Excel viewer, as if the user had double-clicked it.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle whose attached viewer's selected cell should enter edit mode.

Example — start editing the selected cell

```
sgExcelPagesEdit "ExcelGrid_1"
```

Equivalent to clicking "Edit" on the toolbar or double-clicking a cell directly.

10. sgExcelPagesHighlight

Highlight (or clear the highlight on) the currently selected cell. This is a viewer-only overlay — it is never written back into the workbook file.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle whose attached viewer's selected cell should be highlighted.
ColorName	Alpha	One of: Yellow, Green, Red, Blue, Orange. Any other value (e.g. "None") clears an existing highlight on that cell.

Example — highlight the selected cell in yellow

```
sgExcelPagesHighlight "ExcelGrid_1" "Yellow"
```

11. sgExcelPagesSettings

Customize the appearance of an Excel viewer — toolbar/header/selection colors, grid font, row height and column width.

Parameter	Type	Description
RectangleName	Alpha	Name of the Rectangle whose attached viewer's appearance should be changed.
SettingsStr	Alpha	One or more key=value pairs separated by semicolons. Recognized keys: ToolbarColor, HeaderColor, SelectionColor (each a 6-digit hex RGB, e.g. #1A5FB4), GridFont (a font name), FontSize (6–36), RowHeight (14–80), ColumnWidth (30–400). Unrecognized keys are ignored.

Example — set a blue toolbar, a larger grid font and taller rows

```
sgExcelPagesSettings "ExcelGrid_1"  
"ToolbarColor=#1A5FB4;GridFont=Calibri;FontSize=11;RowHeight=26"
```

4. How page-to-page navigation works

When the action toolbar's Prev/Next buttons are clicked on a page in Page mode, the plug-in does not simply switch worksheets — it plays a genuine VisualNEO page-navigation command, exactly as if a real “Go to next page” button had been clicked:

```
Gotonextpage  
GotoPrevpager  
Gotofirstpage  
Gotolastpage
```

These are VisualNEO's own built-in commands (confirmed against a real hand-authored publication), not sgExcelPages actions — they take no quotes and no parameters. sgExcelPages plays Gotonextpage/GotoPrevpager internally when you click Next/Prev on a generated page's toolbar, so the outgoing page's own Page Exit action (sgExcelPagesClose) and the incoming page's own Page Enter action (sgExcelPagesOpen) fire exactly as they would for a hand-placed navigation button. Gotofirstpage and Gotolastpage are not currently wired to a toolbar button, but you can add your own PushButton with either action anywhere in your publication if you want first/last shortcuts.

5. Typical workflow

- **To browse or edit one workbook on one page:** place a Rectangle, then call sgExcelPagesOpen on that page's Page Enter action with ToolbarPlacement set to “Top” or “Bottom”, and sgExcelPagesClose on its Page Exit action.
- **To turn a whole workbook into browsable pages:** call sgExcelPagesImport once (e.g. from a button or the page-open action of a setup page) with SheetSpec set to “ALL” or a specific pipe-separated list, and TargetPub set to “CURRENT”. Open the generated .pub file it reports in [sgExcelPagesImportedPub] and the pages, Rectangles and actions are already in place.
- **To let users edit and save:** turn on the action toolbar (ShowActionToolbar=“Yes”, automatic on imported pages) so Edit, Highlight and Save are available without any extra buttons.
- **To hand data to another program:** call sgExcelPagesExport with the format and scope you need.

sgExcelPages is developed by LIS Software Lab. This guide reflects the action set as of build v65 (real page-to-page navigation via nbPlayAction). Parameter names and behavior are taken directly from the plug-in's registered action list and source.