

## Smoother operations for uncertain times

Hi there,

With so much uncertainty in the world right now—from tariffs to geopolitical conflicts to economic instability—we know many of our customers are facing challenges, regardless of their industry or location. While we can't solve every obstacle as a niche small business, we can make a difference where it counts: helping you run your Content Server applications more efficiently. By optimizing your system, we free up valuable resources so you can focus on strategy, analysis, and decision-making.

We're excited about the progress we've made over the past few months, bringing new innovations to help our customers. In this edition, explore our latest product, Dynamic Widgets (for Smart View), uncover hidden gems from our Sub-Tag Suite, and get to know Ravenblack's founder and his origin story.

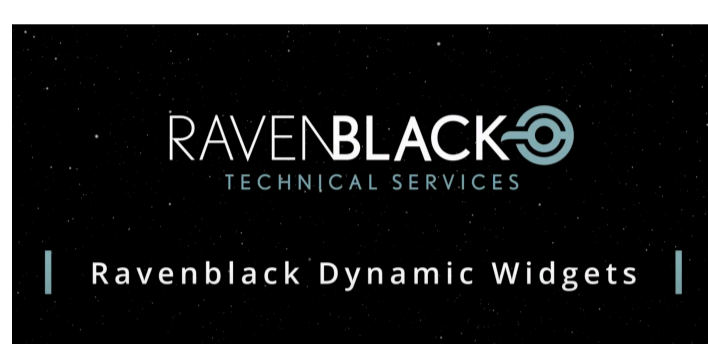
In between newsletters, you can follow us on [LinkedIn](#) where we'll continue to post any new content or product updates. And we're always available at [info@ravenblackts.com](mailto:info@ravenblackts.com).

## On the blog: How Dynamic Widgets improve the Smart View experience

If you've worked with Content Server's Smart View before, you know it offers a redesigned, structured way to present content, but it comes with some significant limitations—especially when it comes to customization, flexibility, and widget interactions.

That's where Ravenblack Dynamic Widgets come in. Our solution makes Smart View more dynamic, customizable, and efficient, but without the headaches of complex and burdensome development. Learn more about how Dynamic Widgets improve the Smart View experience in our [latest blog](#).

You can also see Dynamic Widgets in action in this five-minute video.



## Greatest hits from the Sub-Tag Suite

The [Ravenblack Sub-Tag Suite](#) continues to grow with nearly 50 sub-tags now in our repertoire, and we're recapping some of favourite new and deep cuts from the catalogue.

### RB\_SORT (New!)

The RB\_SORT sub-tag performs all of the functions of the advanced SORT provided by the [LL\_WEBREPORT\_SORT /] content control tag, but in a sub-tag that can be nested in FOR loops and IF statements. It can be used within these tags to cumulatively DEFINE sort parameters and references to build up a complex SORT that is not executed until a RUNSORT option is executed.

#### Use case

*A customer was dynamically building columns in a table based on attributes in a passed category. For this reason, they needed the SORT definition to also be built dynamically, which is not possible with the existing SORT tag. Using RB\_SORT they were able to apply the same logic used to build the columns.*

### RB\_LIST (New!)

We created this sub-tag after spending many years working around the fact that there is no simple way to create and work with Oscript lists in the current WebReports sub-tags. For those who may not know, an Oscript list is the equivalent of an array in other languages, and many database entries include lists. Essentially this allows you to build and manage arrays within your WebReports with actions like: PUSH/POP, SHIFT/UNSHIFT, INSERT, REMOVE, SETADD, SETREMOVE, and SETUNION.

### RB\_FILEINFO/RB\_FILEACTION

This pair of sub-tags manage virtually every possible function you might need to interact with the server file system. They also support a list of "path variables" that automatically resolve to commonly accessed system folder locations. It is also possible to define custom path variables to securely manage any custom paths for your system.

### RB\_UNZIP

Soon to be accompanied by an RB\_ZIP sub-tag, RB\_UNZIP sub-tag already provides some great functionality by taking the file path for a zip file and unzipping its contents to a specified destination. This sub-tag can also be used in conjunction with the RB\_FILEINFO sub-tag.

In the next issue of our newsletter, watch for a customer case study showing how RB\_FORMDBWRITE provides significant performance benefits over a form destination approach.

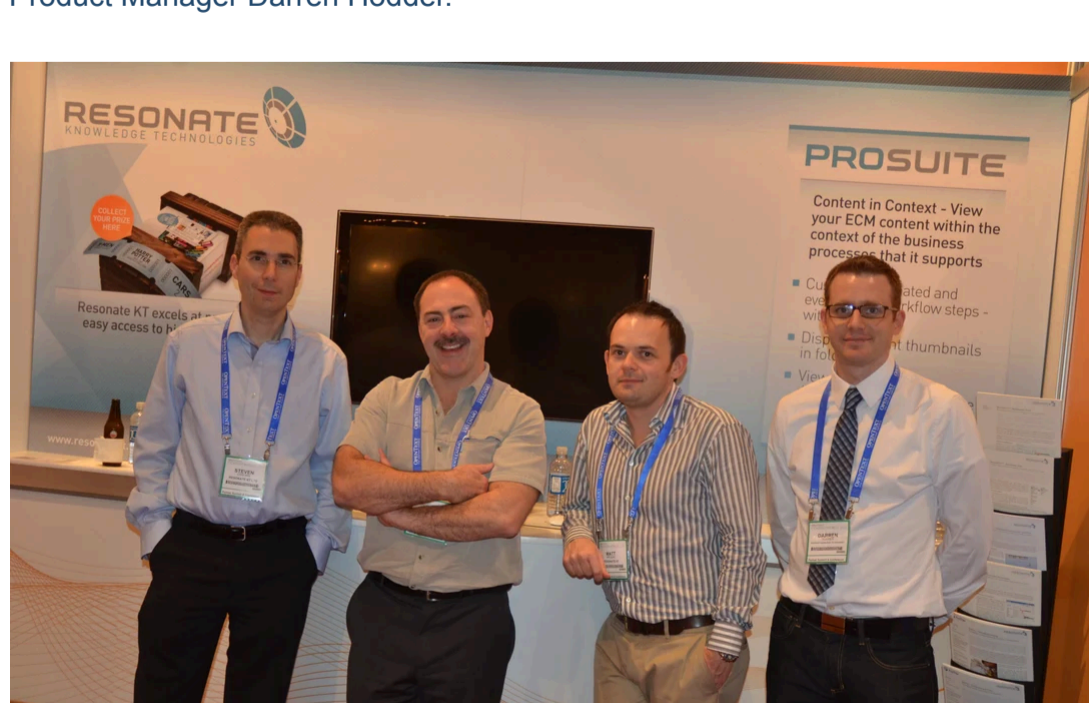
The Sub-Tag Suite is available for purchase on its own or as part of the [Ravenblack Productivity Suite](#), which also includes the Application Analyzer and Sub-Tag Loader. Want to know how to build your own sub-tags? We provide advanced training courses on demand!

## Get to know our founder

You know those MasterClass lessons where you can learn about cooking from Gordon Ramsay, or space exploration from Chris Hadfield or writing from James Patterson? Well, if there was a master class on WebReports, it would be taught, and sometimes is, by Greg Petti.

Did you know that Greg, Ravenblack's founder, is one of the original creators and developers behind OpenText WebReports? And in the more than 20 years since [launching WebReports](#), Greg has provided professional services, training, support and general advice to Content Suite customers around the world.

We scoured the archives to find some photos from the early days of WebReports. Here's the Resonate KT crew (Greg's first company) at an OpenText conference circa 2010. From left: Steven Osborn, Greg Petti, Matt Brooks and Ravenblack Product Manager Darren Hodder.



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