CNXPreference(<# of comparison item>, <comparison item #1>, <comparison item #2>, … <value item #1>, <output item #1>, <value item #2>, <output item #2>, …)

The CNXPreference function enables users to prepare a SQL statement that tests multiple similar fields, in order of preference, against a list of criteria in order to return a single value.
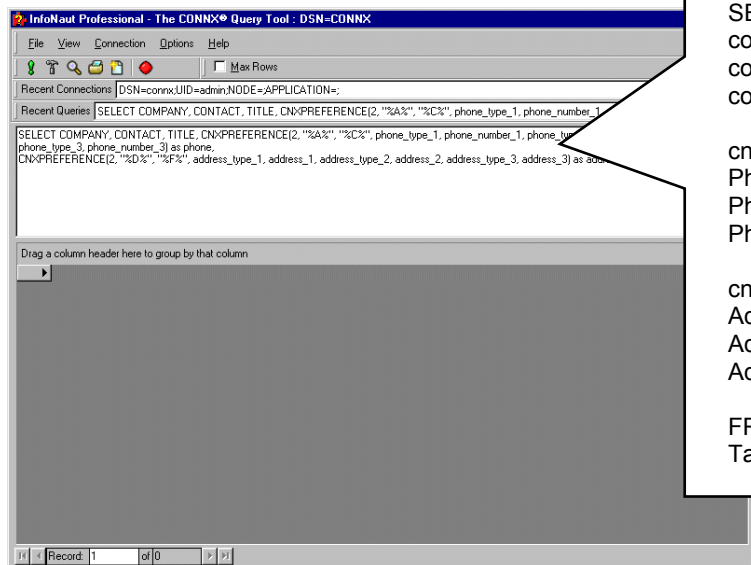
Example
File or Table Structure

File	Field
Contacts	Company
	Contact
	Title
	Phone_Type_1
	Phone_Number_1
	Phone_Type_2
	Phone_Number_2
	Phone_Type_3
	Phone_Number_3
	Address_Type_1
	Address_1
	Address_Type_2
	Address_2
	Address_Type_3
	Address_3

Desired Resultset
This resultset returns the contacts address and phone information. The address should be the contacts mailing address (type 'M'); if a mailing address does not exist, it uses the permanent address (type 'P'). The phone number should be their office phone number (type 'O'); if an office phone number does not exist, it uses the assistant's phone number (type 'A').

The CNXPreference SQL statement, below to the right, typed into InfoNaut – The CONNX Query Tool, returns five columns (Company, Contact, Title, Address, Phone), as shown on the following page.


```
SELECT
contacts.Company,
contacts.Contact,
contacts.Title,

cnxpreference(2, "%A%", "%C%",
Phone_Type_1,Phone_Number_1,
Phone_Type_2,Phone_Number_2,
Phone_Type_3,Phone_Number_3) as Phone,

cnxpreference(2, "%D%", "%F%",
Address_Type_1,contacts.Address_1,
Address_Type_2,contacts.Address_2,
Address_Type_3,contacts.Address_3) as Address,

FROM
Table1
```
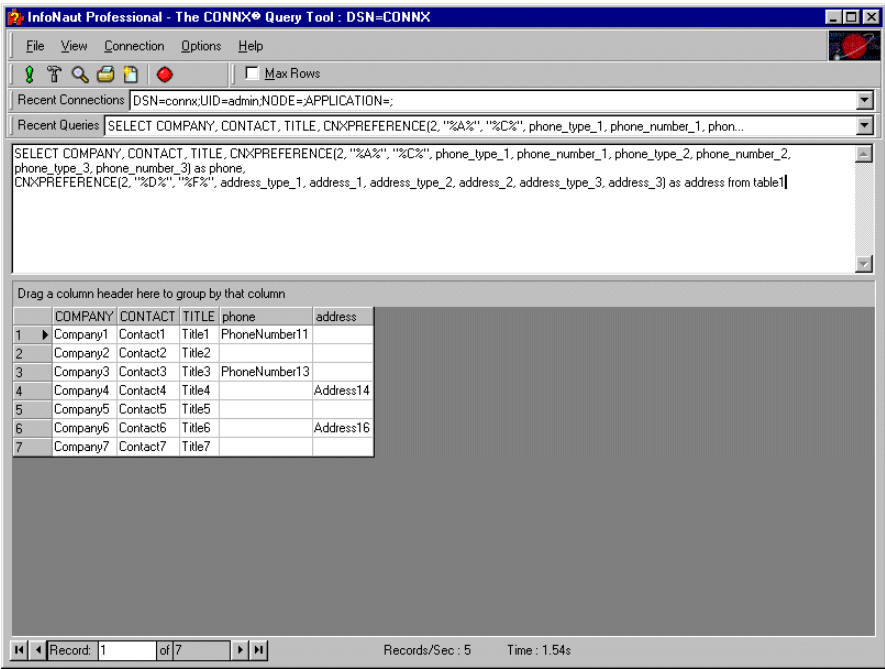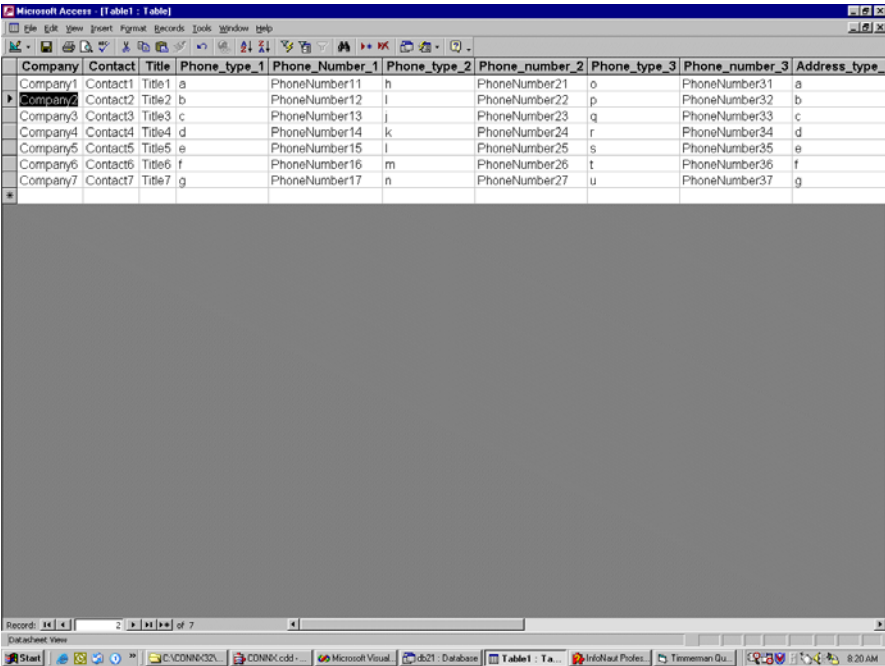
Compare the above with the original table, as shown in Microsoft Access.

Note: CNXPreference is a special CONNX function.
It can only be used in CONNX views, or in passthrough queries.