### odso (Office Data Source Object Settings)

This element specifies a [group](group.docx) of additional settings for the mail merge information which comprise an extension to the standard settings stored with a mail merge which performs two functions:

* First, it provides additional information about the mail merge data source, specifically: information about how to map the columns in the data source to [MERGEFIELD](MERGEFIELD.docx) fields and information about records which shall be included and excluded when creating merged documents, and column delimiters used in text data sources. This information may be used regardless of the value of the [dataType](dataType.docx) element (§) when it is present.
* Second, it provides an alternate set of connection information which should be used when the [dataType](dataType.docx) element (§) specifies a value of native. This alternate connection string provides additional connection information for applications which choose to support the ODSO connection string syntax. If the [dataType](dataType.docx) element (§) specifies that the data [type](type.docx) of the current mail merge is not native, then the second [group](group.docx) of settings specified within this element shall be ignored in favor of their non-ODSO equivalents.

[Example: Consider the WordprocessingML for a source document whose mail merge includes mail merge information including ODSO settings as follows:

<w:odso>
 <w:[udl](udl.docx) w:val="…" />
 <w:[table](table.docx) w:val="Sheet1$" />
 <w:[src](src.docx) r:id="rId1" />
 <w:[colDelim](colDelim.docx) w:val="9" />
 <w:[fHdr](fHdr.docx) w:val="1" />
 <w:[fieldMapData](fieldMapData.docx)>
 <w:[type](type.docx) w:val="dbColumn" />
 <w:name w:val="Title" />
 <w:[mappedName](mappedName.docx) w:val="Courtesy Title" />
 <w:[lid](lid.docx) w:val="en-US" />
 </w:[fieldMapData](fieldMapData.docx)>
 <w:[recipientData](recipientData.docx) r:id="rId2" />
 …
</w:odso>

The odso element and its child elements provide all of the information specified above that is needed to carry out a mail merge with the current document. This includes alternate connection information using the [udl](udl.docx), [table](table.docx), and [src](src.docx) elements, and additional mail merge information in the other child elements. end example]

|  |
| --- |
| Parent Elements |
| [mailMerge](mailMerge.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Child Elements | Subclause |
| [colDelim](colDelim.docx) (Column Delimiter for Data Source) | § |
| [fHdr](fHdr.docx) (First Row of Data Source Contains Column Names) | § |
| [fieldMapData](fieldMapData.docx) (External Data Source to Merge Field Mapping) | § |
| [recipientData](recipientData.docx) (Reference to Inclusion/Exclusion Data for Data Source) | § |
| [src](src.docx) (ODSO Data Source File Path) | § |
| [table](table.docx) (Data Source Table Name) | § |
| [type](type.docx) (ODSO Data Source Type) | § |
| [udl](udl.docx) (UDL Connection String) | § |

The following [XML](XML.docx) Schema fragment defines the contents of this element:

<complexType [name](name.docx)="CT\_Odso">

 <sequence>

 <element [name](name.docx)="[udl](udl.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_String" minOccurs="0"/>

 <element [name](name.docx)="[table](table.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_String" minOccurs="0"/>

 <element [name](name.docx)="[src](src.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_Rel" minOccurs="0"/>

 <element [name](name.docx)="[colDelim](colDelim.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_DecimalNumber" minOccurs="0"/>

 <element [name](name.docx)="[type](type.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_MailMergeSourceType" minOccurs="0"/>

 <element [name](name.docx)="[fHdr](fHdr.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_OnOff" minOccurs="0"/>

 <element name="[fieldMapData](fieldMapData.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_OdsoFieldMapData" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>

 <element name="[recipientData](recipientData.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_Rel" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>

 </sequence>

</complexType>