

Re: Determine name and path of dropped object?

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Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.modulesdaovba/2008-01/msg00911.html>

- *From:* "Stephen Lebens" <ForEmailGotoMy.WebSite.-WWWdotlebensdot...@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 30 Jan 2008 00:59:40 -0400
-

"ThomasAJ" <ThomasAJ@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:E26B114A-66DE-4C39-865B-323146E3D962@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I have a Bound Object Frame in a form into which I drop a JPG image which then is stored in the table. All works OK.

Because Access stores images very inefficiently I want to NOT store the image but save the object name and its location in the table and of course display the image on forms. How do I achieve this?

—
Regards
Tom

Tom, unfortunately Access does not expose this functionality. Most developers will pop open the standard Windows File Dialog window and allow the user to select the desired file. Drag and Drop is great in theory but very complex to implement in Access. Since A2K, there has been a bug which can cause problems for inline subclassing code. It is generally recommended to place all such code within an external DLL. Unless you are distributing MDE I would really suggest the use of external DLL to hold the subclassing code.

Felix posted the necessary code to implement Drag and Drop several years ago. I've pasted it below my SIG.

—

HTH
Stephen Lebens
<http://www.lebens.com>
Access Code, Tips and Tricks
Please respond only to the newsgroups so everyone can benefit.

here is an earlier reply from Felix of MS on this very subject.

From: Felix Lima (felixl[MS]@online.microsoft.com)

Re: Determine name and path of dropped object?

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Subject: RE: Get FileName from Drag and Drop
Newsgroups: microsoft.public.access.formscoding
View this article only
Date: 2002-02-21 09:33:57 PST

Hi Justin,

In order to do this effectively in Access, you will need to use subclassing and API calls. Subclassing in Access is not really recommended and may cause significant problems. Q278379 explains some problems with subclassing:

"Because of problems with subclassing windows after loading the Microsoft Office Visual Basic Editor, Microsoft highly recommends that you use Microsoft Visual Basic or Microsoft Visual C++ to create an ActiveX DLL, and that you then reference the DLL from your Microsoft Access application."

Basically, In order to successfully get this to work, you need to subclass the window and then call the DragAcceptFiles() API. When the user drops files from explorer, the window is sent the WM_DROPFILES message. This can be accomplished in Access by first creating a VB dll and then calling the dll from Access.

I was able to create a VB 6 dll which can be referenced in Access to successfully get the file path from windows explorer to a textbox on an access form. (It is a modification of a post by Stoil Marinov in comp.lang.basic.visual 19/11/1999):

Here are the steps I took:

a) Create a VB6 dll with a module (basDragDrop) and a class (clsDragDrop)

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b) Add the following code to the basDragDrop module:

Option Compare Text
Option Explicit

```
Public CDrag As CDragDrop
Public lpPrevWndProc As Long
Public Const GWL_WNDPROC = (-4)
Public Const WM_DROPFILES = &H233
Public Const GetNumOfFiles = &HFFFF
```

```
Public Declare Function CallWindowProc Lib "user32" Alias _
"CallWindowProcA" (ByVal lpPrevWndFunc As Long, _
ByVal hWnd As Long, _
ByVal Msg As Long, _
ByVal wParam As Long, _
ByVal lParam As Long) As Long
```

```
Public Declare Function SetWindowLong Lib "user32" Alias _
"SetWindowLongA" (ByVal hWnd As Long, _
ByVal nIndex As Long, _
ByVal dwNewLong As Long) As Long
```

```
Public Declare Sub DragAcceptFiles Lib "shell32.dll" _
(ByVal hWnd As Long, _
ByVal fAccept As Long)
```

```
Public Declare Sub DragFinish Lib "shell32.dll" _
(ByVal hDrop As Long)
```

```
Public Declare Function DragQueryFile Lib "shell32.dll" _
Alias "DragQueryFileA" (ByVal hDrop As Long, _
ByVal lFile As Long, _
ByVal lpFileName As String, _
ByVal cbLen As Long) As Long
```

```
Public Function WindowProc(ByVal hWnd As Long, ByVal Msg As Long, ByVal
wp
As Long, ByVal lp As Long) As Long
If Msg = WM_DROPFILES Then
'Files have been dropped
CDrag.AcceptDroppedFiles wp
Else
```

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```
WindowProc = CallWindowProc(lpPrevWndProc, hWnd, Msg, wp, lp)
End If
End Function
```

c) Add the following code CDragDrop:

```
Option Compare Text
Option Explicit
Private frm As Object
Private txt As Object
```

```
Public Property Set Form(frmIn As Object)
Set frm = frmIn
End Property
```

```
Public Property Set textbox(txtin As Object)
Set txt = txtin
End Property
```

```
Public Sub SubClassHookForm()
```

```
Call DragAcceptFiles(frm.hWnd, 1)
```

```
lpPrevWndProc = SetWindowLong(frm.hWnd, GWL_WNDPROC, _
AddressOf WindowProc)
```

```
Set CDrag = Me
```

```
End Sub
```

```
Public Sub SubClassUnHookForm()
```

```
Call SetWindowLong(frm.hWnd, GWL_WNDPROC, lpPrevWndProc)
```

```
Call DragAcceptFiles(frm.hWnd, 0)
```

```
End Sub
```

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```
Sub AcceptDroppedFiles(hDrop As Long)
```

```
Dim INumOfFiles As Long
```

```
Dim IReturn As Long
```

```
Dim sFilename As String
```

```
Dim lm As Long
```

```
'Get the number of dropped files
```

```
INumOfFiles = DragQueryFile(hDrop, GetNumOfFiles, 0&, 0)
```

```
For lm = 0 To INumOfFiles
```

```
'Allocate buffer for the name of the file
```

```
sFilename = String$(257, Chr$(0))
```

```
'Get the name of the file
```

```
IReturn = DragQueryFile(hDrop, lm, sFilename, Len(sFilename))
```

```
'Add the file name to the list
```

```
If IReturn > 0 Then
```

```
txt.Text = txt.Text & Left$(sFilename, IReturn) & vbCrLf
```

```
End If
```

```
Next lm
```

```
'Tell Windows to free the memory allocated to store the dropped files
```

```
DragFinish hDrop
```

```
End Sub
```

c) Compile the dll in VB

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d) Add the following to a form in Access that has a textbox called Text1 and a reference to the compiled dll above:

```
Option Compare Database
Option Explicit
```

```
Dim CDrag As New CDragDrop
```

```
Private Sub Form_Load()
```

```
'Subclass the form
Set CDrag.TextBox = Me.Text1
Set CDrag.Form = Me
CDrag.SubClassHookForm
```

```
End Sub
```

```
Private Sub Form_Unload(Cancel As Integer)
'UnSubclass the form
```

```
CDrag.SubClassUnHookForm
Set CDrag.Form = Nothing
Set CDrag.TextBox = Nothing
Set CDrag = Nothing
```

```
End Sub
```

HTH

Félix Lima
Microsoft Online Support Engineer

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