

Re: Will an ActiveX control serve this purpose?

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Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet/2005-06/msg04114.html>

- *From:* "bradley" <someone@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 22 Jun 2005 12:10:29 -0400
-

An ActiveX control is basically a COM component, typically with GUI elements, that can be hosted by a container, such as a Windows Form or web page, and scripted. It is similar in concept to a Java applet, except that there are no restrictions about accessing the client's resources and file system. It is a full blown Win32 executable, but with the extension OCX. The client's browser security settings will need to be configured to allow this. I think that by default IE will allow, but displays a confirmation dialog before downloading the control.

Below are some MSDN articles..

HOW TO: Host ActiveX Controls in a Web Form

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb:en-us:317392>

PRB: Cannot Develop DHTML Applications, ActiveX Documents, and IIS Applications in Visual Basic .NET

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb:en-us:311300>

Visual Basic 6.0 is the best (most user friendly) tool for building ActiveX controls. The client will need to have the VB6 runtime installed on their PC, but Windows 2000/XP comes bundled with this.

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/library/en-us/vbcon98/html/vbconcreatingolecomponents.asp>

However, if it were me, I would first try to implement a solution that involved building WSH scripts dynamically on the server and then have the client click on an execute them. A few lines of VB Script is much more simple to program and maintain than delving into ActiveX control building, especially if you haven't built one before.

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/scripting>

You didn't say what type of documents you are wanting to print, so I'm assuming MS Word or Adobe PDF. You can find example script on the web for automating MS Word and perhaps Adobe using WSH.

http://www.vandyke.com/support/crt/scripts/run_word_vbs.txt

Just like ActiveX controls, the client's browser security settings will

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probably need modifying to execute .vbs or .js scripts from the web.

If you get this working, then reply back to the group with details.

"Shawn" <bossman100@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:%237yz6eydFHA.1384@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

> Hi.
> I've never created an ActiveX control before, so I know little about what
it
> is capable of and what its limitations are. My problem is this: I have to
> create a way to send multiple documents from the web server to a printer
on
> the user's network. The way it works today the user has to manually
> download each document and send it to his printer, but now they want me to
> create an automated process.
> Will I be able to download documents to the user's temp catalogue with an
> ActiveX control? If I can do that I can just send them to his default
> printer using ShellExecute.
>
> Need to know if this is possible before I start researching :-)
> If anyone can provide me with a good tutorial that would be great!
>
> Thanks,
> Shawn
>
>

• **Follow-Ups:**

- ◆ **Re: Will an ActiveX control serve this purpose?**
◇ From: Shawn

• **References:**

- ◆ **Will an ActiveX control serve this purpose?**
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