

Re: Newline in Text Property

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.vb/2004-04/4036.html>

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"Tom Shelton" <tom@mtogden.com> schrieb

> *In article <408551a9\$0\$26139\$9b622d9e@news.freenet.de>, Armin Zingler*

> *wrote:*

>> *"Tom Shelton" <tom@mtogden.com> schrieb*

>>>

>>> *New lines are platform specific.*

>>

>> *There is no platform specific standard.*

>

> *I'm not sure what you mean be standard?*

I guess, by saying "platform specific" you want to say that on platform X char Y is always used as the line separator. This is what I'd call a "standard".

> *If your talking about a*

> *formal standards body – then no, there isn't. But traditionally on*

> **nix a newline is a single lf (I know I said CR earlier). It's one*

> *of those issues that tends to bite people when writing cross platform*

> *code. *nix progams will almost always assume that a line terminates*

> *on LF, windows/dos expects a cr/lf.*

Where does "it" expect it? This sounds as if on my system everywhere CRLF is always used, but this is not true. Consequently I can not always expect CRLF. Consequently it doesn't make sense to prefer one of the constants over the others because you have to decide it in each individual case. Moreover, even if you read the /same/ file (e.g. using CRLF as the separator) on two different platforms, and on both systems Environment.newline is expected as the separator when reading the file, it doesn't help you at all. The opposite is the case because on one system the wrong char is expected and the file will be read wrong. Consequently, you always have to know which separator has been used for writing exactly this file that you are reading. In addition, even if you know that CRLF had been used, do you know that the programmer writing the file used Environment.NewLine? Or did he use vbNewLine? In the end it is out of interest. The only reason to prefer one constant over the other is that you defined your own standard or your

company's standard that says that "we use environment.newline to write files". But you could also say "we use vbNewline" – or whatever. None is preferable. Also, other companies might use other standards – or other platforms. That's why I think that saying "new lines are platform specific" is not right.

- > *I'm really not sure what the argument is about. The fact is that*
- > *it unless you have specific reasons, I find that it is better not*
- > *to hardcode your line termination to a specific value –*
- > *ControlChars.CrLf – but to use System.Environment.NewLine. That way,*
- > *I don't have to worry about the difference because it will just do*
- > *the right thing based on the underlying platform. Look in the VB6*
- > *docs for vbNewLine – it is essentially the same thing.*

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Armin