

Re: WinINET API... Yay or Nay?

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VB/microsoft.public.vb.controls.internet/2004-08/0018.html>

From: George (nospam_at_here.com)

Date: 08/11/04

Date: Tue, 10 Aug 2004 23:46:30 -0700

Hi Randy,

Thanks for the pointers. I checked the resources you mentioned and they have been a big help.

To be a little more specific about the project requirements:

- it would be nice to be able to indicate the progress of the downloads, although not required.
- the downloads need to support basic Proxy authentication (this is a must)

>From what I have looked at so far, it looks like going with the WinInet API is my best choice. I have spent a bit of time with Mr. Morcillo's code, and it looks like a good starting point for what I am trying to accomplish. However, I ran into some very serious memory problems when downloading large files (>5MB). I contacted Mr. Morcillo by email in the hopes that he can help me with it.

Thanks again for your comments. If you can think of anything else, please let me know!

Regards,

GSM

"Randy Birch" <rgb_removethis@mvps.org> wrote in message news:ef08UK0fEHA.1656@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl...

- > What prerequisites do you have for downloading the files? If you need to*
- > indicate progress, and want to completely control the download, then for*
- the*
- > APIs the inet apis are the way to go. If you want to provide the user with*
- > the standard single-file download dialog that IE uses, you can call the*
- > DoFileDownload API of IE ...*
- > <http://vbnet.mvps.org/code/internet/dofiledownload.htm>. If this is an*
- > option, this 'enhanced' demo shows how to specify the folder the file*
- should*
- > be downloaded to, although the end user can still change it ...*
- > <http://vbnet.mvps.org/code/internet/dofiledownloadcustom.htm>.*

>
> *If your app design provides for downloading without user interaction, and*
> *without a progress dialog, you can use URLDownloadToFile to retrieve any*
> *type of file – both HTTP and FTP...*
> *<http://vbnet.mvps.org/code/internet/urldownloadtofile.htm>. If you need to*
> *ensure the file is downloaded and not retrieved from the cache, use this*
> *instead ...*
> *<http://vbnet.mvps.org/code/internet/urldownloadtofilenocache.htm>.*
>
> *Finally, I believe Eduardo has a URLDownloadToFile method wrapped in a*
> *typelib that does provide a means to view the download progress. His site*
is
> *<http://www.mvps.org/emorcillo/>*
>
> --
>
> *Randy Birch*
> *MVP Visual Basic*
> *<http://vbnet.mvps.org/>*
> *Please respond only to the newsgroups so all can benefit.*
>
>
> *"GSM" <gsm00@hotmail.com> wrote in message*
> *news:#WMW5jzfEHA.1048@tk2msftngp13.phx.gbl...*
> *: Hi,*
> *:*
> *: A few years ago, I looked into accessing files over the internet (HTTP*
and
> *: FTP protocols, specifically) using the WinInet API functions. However,*
> *after*
> *: looking into this for a while (and reading a few horror stories), I*
> *: determined that the WinInet API was too unstable and unreliable to use.*
> *: Eventually, the project was dropped.*
> *:*
> *: Fast-forward to three years later (now) I need to write an application*
> *that*
> *: will download files over HTTP and FTP. Is the WinINET API still*
considered
> *: buggy, or is it pretty reliable?*
> *:*
> *: One difference is that this time around, we will not support Windows 95.*
> *: Windows 98 or later will be required. If I remember correctly, a good*
> *number*
> *: of problems with WinInet occurred on machines running Windows 95...*
> *:*
> *: This brings me to my second question, regarding deployment. The other*
> *reason*
> *: that using WinInet posed a problem three years ago is that it would have*
> *: made the deployment of our app a real nightmare. Because we will only be*
> *: supporting Windows 98 (which I believe ships with Internet Explorer 4.0)*
> *and*

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> : *up, would this still be an issue? would we need to redistribute any
DLL's*
> : *(or anything else) with our app if we went the WinInet route this time*
> : *around?*
> :
> : *Thanks so much for your help. I appreciate any advice/pointers you can*
> *give*
> : *or experiences you can share.*
> :
> : *Best regards,*
> :
> : *GSM*
> :
> :
>