

microsoft.public.vb.general.discussion: Keycodes that might be appropriate here...

Keycodes that might be appropriate here...

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VB/microsoft.public.vb.general.discussion/2004-05/2227.html>

From: YYZ (*not applicable*)

Date: 05/13/04

Date: Thu, 13 May 2004 15:55:16 -0500

What would be a good "start of transmission" one character delimiter that won't interfere with other things on a computer when sent via SendKeys? I need 2 of them — one for start and one for end (yeah, I could get away with one, but I would prefer different characters for each. Chr\$(1) and Chr\$(2)? That's the basic question. Here's the long explanation.

Strange situation, but please give some thoughts if you feel so inclined.

There is a 3rd party application that our company uses for doing what we call takeoff. Takeoff is basically measuring the lengths of walls on blue prints and turning that into lineal footages. So, I'd look at my blueprints, and measure all of the outside walls, and that would end up being 400 LF for example.

How our estimators do this is by laying all the plans out on a digitizer (big flat thing connected via serial port) and marking the start and stop point of wall segments. We have a 3rd party app that takes that distance, applies a scale to it, and comes up with LF.

The estimator then presses a special button on their menu card (don't get bogged down on that) and the 3rd party program uses findwindow api (I'm assuming) and sendkeys to send that value to our application, into the active control (in this case it is a cell in far point grid, but it can also be a textbox or any control that takes user input).

Now we have a chance to have the 3rd party programmers create a set of special functions just for our company. So, we have decided that we'd like to receive the data from this other app in this kind of form:

(special delimiter)#A#R#S(special delimiter). The # means any number — 123.34 for example. The A, R and S are Add, Replace, and Subtract respectively.

For the special delimiters, I'm wondering what characters to use. I'd like to use a different one for starting and ending (so it's easier on us to know exactly what's happening), and I want to make SURE that I don't use characters that will confuse Windows. For example, previously, they were using F10 as one of the delimiters (in a different kind of text sending scheme), which will possibly mess up an application that has a File menu. Doesn't F10 put the focus on the File menu if one exists? I kind of remember that...

Keycodes that might be appropriate here...

microsoft.public.vb.general.discussion: Keycodes that might be appropriate here...

Anyone have any ideas for me on this?

Thanks in advance for any responses.

Matt