

## Re: Previous Instance

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*Source:* <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VB/microsoft.public.vb.winapi/2005-05/msg00390.html>

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- *From:* "Michael C" <[mculley@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:mculley@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 16 May 2005 10:17:37 +1000
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"Lindsay" <[me@xxxxxxx](mailto:me@xxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:4287a124\\$0\\$39068\\$ed2e19e4@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:4287a124$0$39068$ed2e19e4@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)  
> I found some code in the API-Guide using DdeConnect which works well but  
> has a bug.

DDE is outdated and probably should be avoided.

- > When you click the icon a second time, although the first instance becomes  
> visible, I cannot get it to be the foreground window.

This is not a bug, it's a feature in win2k and XP that stops apps popping to the foreground

- > It will be active but have no keyboard focus. All APIs have failed trying  
> to give it focus. It seems the window with the icon keeps the focus. If  
> the first instance is minimized (i.e. at the bottom of the z-order) and  
> you have other windows visible, when the app becomes visible, it remains  
> at the bottom of the z-order. I could use SetWindowPos to get it to the  
> top, but it still doesn't have keyboard focus.
- >
- > Any ideas?

Goto [www.buygold.net](http://www.buygold.net) and have a look at one of the tips of the month that should solve your problems, called Forward Command Line. It is designed to pass on the command line args to the previous instance of the app but you could modify it to pass anything you wanted. It also gets around the foreground problem by having the new instance of your app bring the previous instance to the front (the foreground app is permitted to do this but the background app can't bring itself to the front).

Michael

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- *References:*
    - ◆ *[Previous Instance](#)*

Re: Previous Instance

◇ *From: Lindsay*

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