Subject: File locking and Serialization
Posted by nixnixnix on Tue, 15 May 2012 22:46:03 GMT
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Hi,

I am realising that I don't really know how File Streams and Serialization works.

In UPP is there a mechanism to lock a file while my app runs and then release it when I either close the app or load a new file please?

Also, there isn't much of a preamble to the Serialization section in the documentation. I thought I knew how that works but some of my users tell me that sometimes when openWind crashes it mangles the file that it was loaded from. This makes me think there might be more to Serialization than I realise. Or are they making it up?

Cheers,

Nick

Subject: Re: File locking and Serialization
Posted by koldo on Wed, 16 May 2012 07:33:36 GMT
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Hello Nixnixnix

AFAIK U++ serialization classes only touch the files when you call the Load... (for reading) and Store... (for writing) functions.

Personally I prefer Xmlize and Jsonize over Serialize because they are more robust to class changes and because it is very easy to check problems. If I do not want the user to read the file I just encrypt it. If it is too large I zip it (before encrypting it).

Now, what happen if more than one user can access a ...lize file at the same time for reading and writing... IMHO you leave them at their fate.

I think in that case you should design a blocking system.

Subject: Re: File locking and Serialization
Posted by mirek on Wed, 16 May 2012 10:03:05 GMT
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nixnixnix wrote on Tue, 15 May 2012 18:46Hi,

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Well, this is only likely if it crashes during Serialize, or if Serialize has done something wrong before (and perhaps it crases BECAUSE files are mangled).

About locking, FileOut (used by serialization) is locking the output file by default.

Subject: Re: File locking and Serialization
Posted by nixnixnix on Wed, 16 May 2012 16:00:50 GMT
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Thanks Koldo and Mirek, that is what I thought.

If there is no way to lock a file without having it open (which would seem to invite problems) then I can just write another file to disk to stop it being read I guess. Just wondered if there was something more sophisticated already in UPP.

Thanks,

Nick
