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Subject: Re: OLE Automation

Posted by [Xemuth](#) on Mon, 04 Mar 2019 09:35:48 GMT

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Hello Pradip,

Response 1 :

Error : E:\UPP\_Projects\Testing\main.cpp (33): error C2065: 'CP\_ACP': undeclared identifier

E:\UPP\_Projects\Testing\main.cpp (33): error C3861: 'WideCharToMultiByte': identifier not found

Maybe you need one of this both header : #include <windows.h> #include <ole2.h>

Response 2 :

Using CLSIDFromProgID is Ok. I forgot to speak about it in my first post.

Response 3 :

If you need to catch an STAAD Instance instead of create one you can use GetActiveObject  
But you will MAYBE need to cast your IUnknown\*\* to something like an IID\_IDispatch  
using QueryInterface function of IUnknown.

Here is one example :

```
CLSID clsApp;  
VARIANT App = {0};  
IUnknown* punk;  
HRESULT hr = CLSIDFromProgID(appName, &clsApp);  
if(!FAILED(hr)){  
    HRESULT hr2 =GetActiveObject( clsApp, NULL, &punk );  
    if (!FAILED(hr2)) {  
        hr2=punk->QueryInterface(IID_IDispatch, (void **)&App.pdispVal);  
    }  
}
```

After this code my IUnknown representing the application we caught (here is STAAD) will be 'cast' into a VARIANT using QueryInterface.

But be carefull not every OLE Object need to be cast to VARIANT, it depend on the application which you want to interact.

Response 4 :

Indeed, it's a bit more complicated to read String from VARIANT. First, you must know String is stored into yourVariant.bstrVal

but this one is a not a char\* or std/Upp string type. This one is a BSTR (it's the same thing as a wchar\*). so here is a function to cast it into Upp::String :

```
//conversion BSTR to CHAR  
//Don't forget #include <stdio.h>
```

```
Upp::String BSTRtoString (BSTR bstr)
{
    std::wstring ws(bstr);
    std::string str(ws.begin(), ws.end());
    return Upp::String(str);
}
```

and here is how to use it :

```
Upp::String valueOfVariant = BSTRtoString(myVariant.bstrVal);
```

"And how about using properties which perhaps return arrays of int or double (the getbeamlength in fact returns an array of double)." To this one I have no idea... it never happen to me.

but here seems to be a good exemple of how to do it :

[https://www.codeguru.com/cpp/cpp/cpp\\_mfc/arrays/article.php/c767/Functions-for-Setting-and-Retrieving-Values-from-Varian t-Safe-Arrays.htm](https://www.codeguru.com/cpp/cpp/cpp_mfc/arrays/article.php/c767/Functions-for-Setting-and-Retrieving-Values-from-Varian-t-Safe-Arrays.htm)

Hope it helped you.

have a good day.