
Subject: How to isolate Layouter to layout for custom export files /drag,resize Ctrl's at runtime

Posted by [kohait00](#) on Wed, 30 Sep 2009 10:29:50 GMT

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hi there

beeing in need of dragging and resizing controls at runtime, i had a look at the LayDesigner class in ide/LayDes package. i hope to find there some answers, how it is done its quite difficult.

with some digging i managed to compile a test program that just starts up the class, it remains somewhat empty, loading a file there, i only get some kind of wierd behaviour, while i can see the surrounding margins only (some Ctrl's).

??? is there any info/help available on how i could resize/change alignment of controls at runtime elsewhere?

??? is it possible to extract the LayDesigner class (and with it the LayDes class, that resembles the function)??

thx

PS: background is, is got some custom controls library and export their type and alignment through a factory to XML and import it also back..now the app just needs to load the xml through the factory. hence, i'd like to change appearance of the used controls and export it back to xml. (well that's much like the layouter itself in some ways, its exactly what it does, but i need this function at runtime of application). i dont want to change to .lay format, my xml is just fine for that...

Attached is a short testproject, that starts a LayDesigner..but that's all i accomplished so far

File Attachments

1) [IdeLayTest.zip](#), downloaded 538 times

Subject: Re: How to isolate Layouter to layout for custom export files /drag,resize Ctrl's at runtime

Posted by [kohait00](#) on Fri, 19 Nov 2010 09:36:46 GMT

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is there any news available on this topic?

i'd be great to have a cool widget placer / editor that can serialize its layout info in a custom way..

btw: in the GUI Design docu, point 21, creating and using custom widgets

[http://www.ultimatepp.org/srcdoc\\$CtrlLib\\$Tutorial\\$en-us.html](http://www.ultimatepp.org/srcdoc$CtrlLib$Tutorial$en-us.html)

it is not very clear what to do with the *.usc file, to make TheIDE actually use it.

by chance, i named the usc file after the MyCtrl, "MyCtrl.usc" and restarted the ide. boom, it uses it in designer. maybe this is important for the documentation.

and another point:

is there any possibility to define what things can be edited for the custom Ctrl?

a simple User Class is offered SetFont, SetInk, SetFrame, wheras it will not compile, if defining anything of them, when the class has no methods names like that.

the usc based thing does not offer anything so far, except for class name and instance name..

any infos? i'd love to have a customizable designer

Subject: Re: How to isolate Layouter to layout for custom export files /drag,resize
Ctrl's at runtime

Posted by [kohait00](#) on Fri, 19 Nov 2010 10:33:50 GMT

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digging a bit more i found the 'UscCtrl' example, which uses the 'Counter.usc' to have TheIDE understand it. it seems to even react on changes on the usc script immediately, seems like TheIDE is aware of changes to the file. great.

it names the properties to Edit

```
Frame SetFrame = BlackFrame() @2;
Font SetFont = StdFont();
Color Ink = :SBlack;
Color Paper = :SWhite;
```

and by playing around i found the syntax for '>'

```
ctrl MyCtrl {
  > EditInt;
  ..
};
```

indicates TheIDE to use the properties from EditInt..cool.

now the biggest point for me now is, to make changes to the layout output possible..with the goal to be able to edit live properties from controls.. since now, the usc infos are used to build the '.lay' code, which is static and compile time for the used Ctrl's.

what would be the approach?
