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Subject: LaunchWebBrowser() problem and perhaps not the best solution

Posted by [koldo](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2012 10:40:41 GMT

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Hello all

In my XP LaunchWebBrowser() does not work because of ShellExecute.

A possible solution proposed here (

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/1193873/which-reasons-could-make-shellexecute-fail>) is to create a separate thread for executing ShellExecute.

The reason could be this one(Calling Shell Functions and Interfaces from a Multithreaded Apartment: <http://support.microsoft.com/?scid=kb%3Ben-us%3B287087&x=16&y=15>).

The solution works for me. First call to ShellExecuteOpen() fails but second one in a separate thread, works.

However I am not sure if it is a right implementation. Please check it before approve.

```
#if defined(PLATFORM_WIN32) && !defined(PLATFORM_Wince)
bool ShellExecuteOpen(const char *str)
{
    return 32 < int(ShellExecuteW(NULL, L"open", ToSystemCharsetW(str), NULL, L".",
    SW_SHOWDEFAULT));
}

void LaunchWebBrowser(const String& url)
{
    if (!ShellExecuteOpen(url)) {
        HANDLE handle = CreateThread(NULL, 0,
        (LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE)&ShellExecuteOpen, (LPVOID)~url, 0, NULL);
        if (handle == NULL)
            return;
        WaitForSingleObject(handle, 500);
        CloseHandle(handle);
    }
}
#endif
```

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Subject: Re: LaunchWebBrowser() problem and perhaps not the best solution

Posted by [mirek](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2012 21:37:33 GMT

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koldo wrote on Wed, 14 March 2012 06:40Hello all

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        if (handle == NULL)
            return;
        WaitForSingleObject(handle, 500);
        CloseHandle(handle);
    }
}
#endif
```

Looks quite OK with me. Maybe the WaitForSingleObject is not needed...

Mirek

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Subject: Re: LaunchWebBrowser() problem and perhaps not the best solution  
Posted by [koldo](#) on Thu, 15 Mar 2012 07:41:51 GMT

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Hello Mirek

In fact WaitForSingleObject() is useless as it always wait the timeout.

However I realized that sometimes the string passed is released BEFORE the thread is really run so second call to ShellExecuteW() fails as LaunchWebBrowser() has ended before .

The proposed solution is this one:

```
void ShellExecuteOpen(char *str)
{
    ShellExecuteW(NULL, L"open", ToSystemCharsetW(str), NULL, L".", SW_SHOWDEFAULT);
    free((void *)str);
}

void LaunchWebBrowser(const String& url)
{
    if (int(ShellExecuteW(NULL, L"open", ToSystemCharsetW(url), NULL, L".",
    SW_SHOWDEFAULT)) <= 32) {
        char *curl = (char *)malloc(url.GetLength()+1);
        strcpy(curl, url);
        HANDLE handle = CreateThread(NULL, 0,
        (LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE)&ShellExecuteOpen, (LPVOID)curl, 0, NULL);
        if (handle == NULL)
            return;
        CloseHandle(handle);
    }
}
```

The thread receives the string and releases it.

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Subject: Re: LaunchWebBrowser() problem and perhaps not the best solution  
Posted by [koldo](#) on Sun, 08 Apr 2012 14:15:18 GMT  
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Hello Mirek

Could you check this?

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Subject: Re: LaunchWebBrowser() problem and perhaps not the best solution  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Sun, 08 Apr 2012 15:02:34 GMT  
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I have found a bug, IMO you should not have to use ToSystemCharsetW in thread, if you want this to work in U++ single-threaded mode...

After fixing this, committed.

Also used new "raw thread support".

Please check.

Mirek

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Subject: Re: LaunchWebBrowser() problem and perhaps not the best solution

Posted by [koldo](#) on Sun, 08 Apr 2012 16:30:11 GMT

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Curious the "raw thread support".

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Subject: Re: LaunchWebBrowser() problem and perhaps not the best solution

Posted by [mirek](#) on Sun, 08 Apr 2012 17:10:13 GMT

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koldo wrote on Sun, 08 April 2012 12:30Curious the "raw thread support".

Will add note to development blog...

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