

Lab 5.5: Adding a Time Pane to the Status Bar

Objectives

At the end of this lab, you will be able to:

- Add a pane to a status bar.
- Provide a handler to update the displayed text.

Prerequisites

Familiarity with the topics covered in this chapter.

Lab Setup

To run the solution to this lab, click this icon.



To see a demonstration of the solution to this lab, click this icon.



Estimated time to complete this lab: **45 minutes**.

Exercises

The following exercises provide practice working with the concepts and techniques covered in this chapter.

Exercise 1: Building the Framework for an SDI Application

In this exercise, you will build the simplest possible MFC application: an SDI frame window. All of the limited functionality in this application is provided by the AppWizard-generated classes.

Exercise 2: Adding a Time Pane to the Status Bar

In this exercise, you will add a new pane to the status bar and set its text to the current time. You will also add a command handler to provide updates to the status bar.

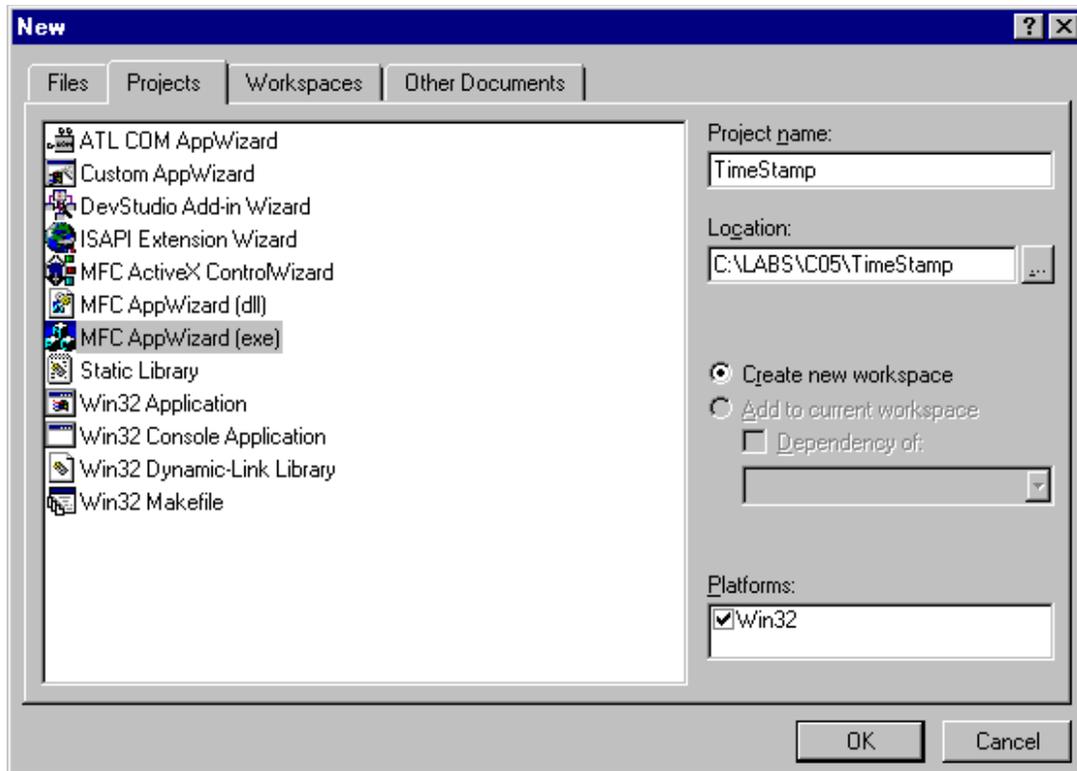
In this lab, you create a project. The first exercise creates a framework. The main exercise of modifying the status bar builds upon this framework. The completed code for these exercises is in `\Labs\C05\Lab05\Xxx`, where Xxx is the exercise number.

Exercise 1: Building the Framework for an SDI Application

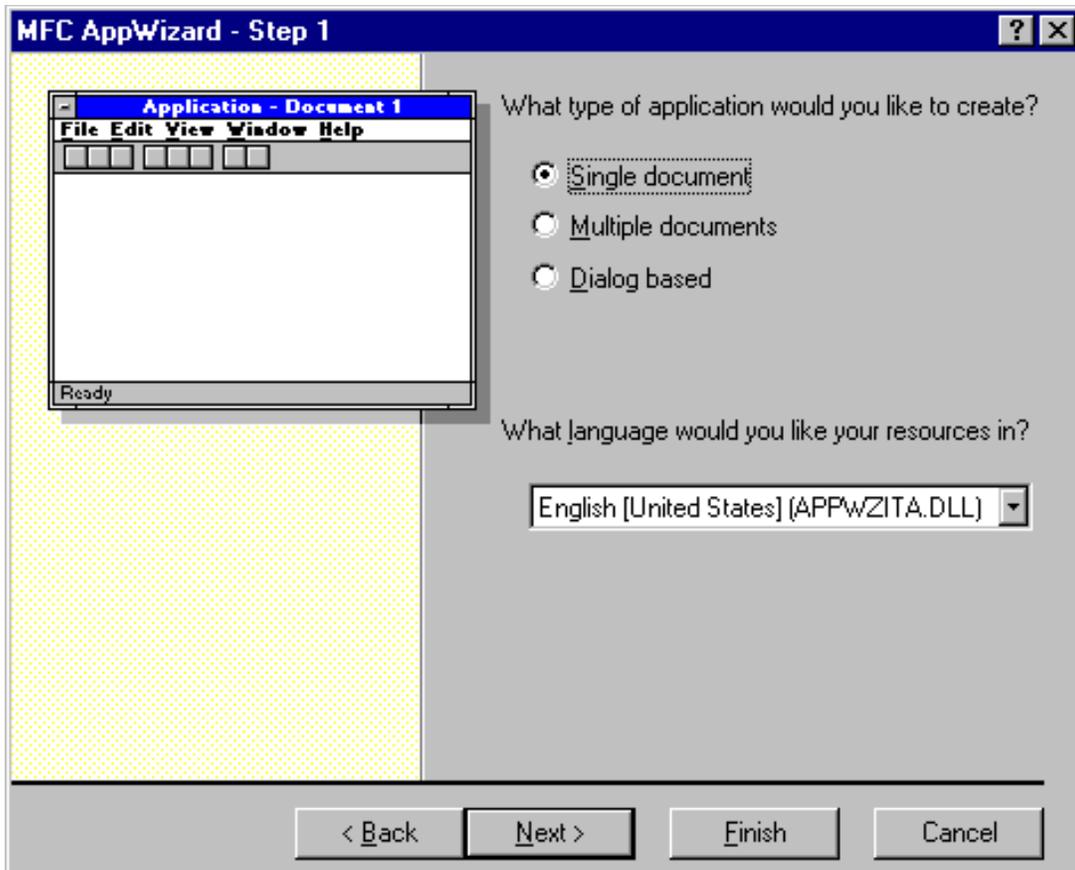
In this exercise, you will build the simplest possible MFC application: an SDI frame window. All of the limited functionality in this application is provided by the AppWizard-generated classes.

➤ Create a new AppWizard project

1. Start Microsoft Developer Studio.
2. From the File menu, choose New.
3. In the Projects tab, choose MFC AppWizard (exe).
4. Name the project TimeStamp.



5. Set the location for your project.
6. Click OK to create the new workspace.
7. MFC AppWizard will start. In Step 1, choose Single Document application and English language support. Click Next to go to the next page.



Note that Step 1 gives you three choices:

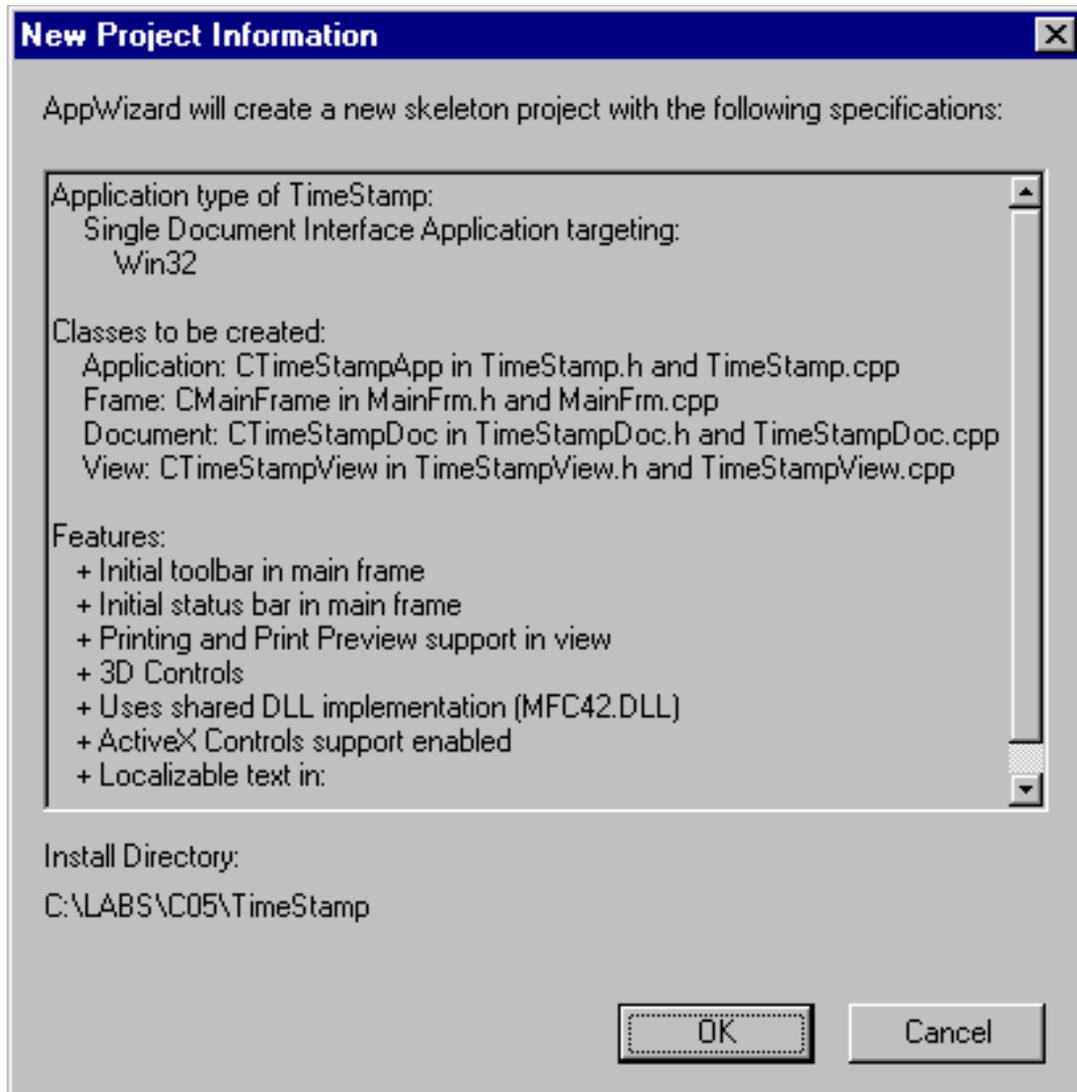
- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Single document | Single Document Interface (SDI): Only one document window is displayed at a time. |
| Multiple documents | Multiple Document Interface (MDI): Multiple document windows are displayed at a time. |
| Dialog-based | The application runs as a dialog box rather than a stand-alone window system. |

This lab focuses on the status bar, so there is no need for multiple documents. Choose the SDI .

8. Because no database support is needed, accept the default "None" for database support in Step 2.
9. In Step 3, accept the default (None). Do not check the ActiveX boxes since it is not supported in this application.
10. Accept the defaults in Step 4 (Docking toolbar, Initial status bar, Printing and print preview, 3D controls, and 4 files in the recent list). There are no changes in the Advanced options.
11. In Step 5, generate source file comments. Choose either static or shared DLL for MFC support.

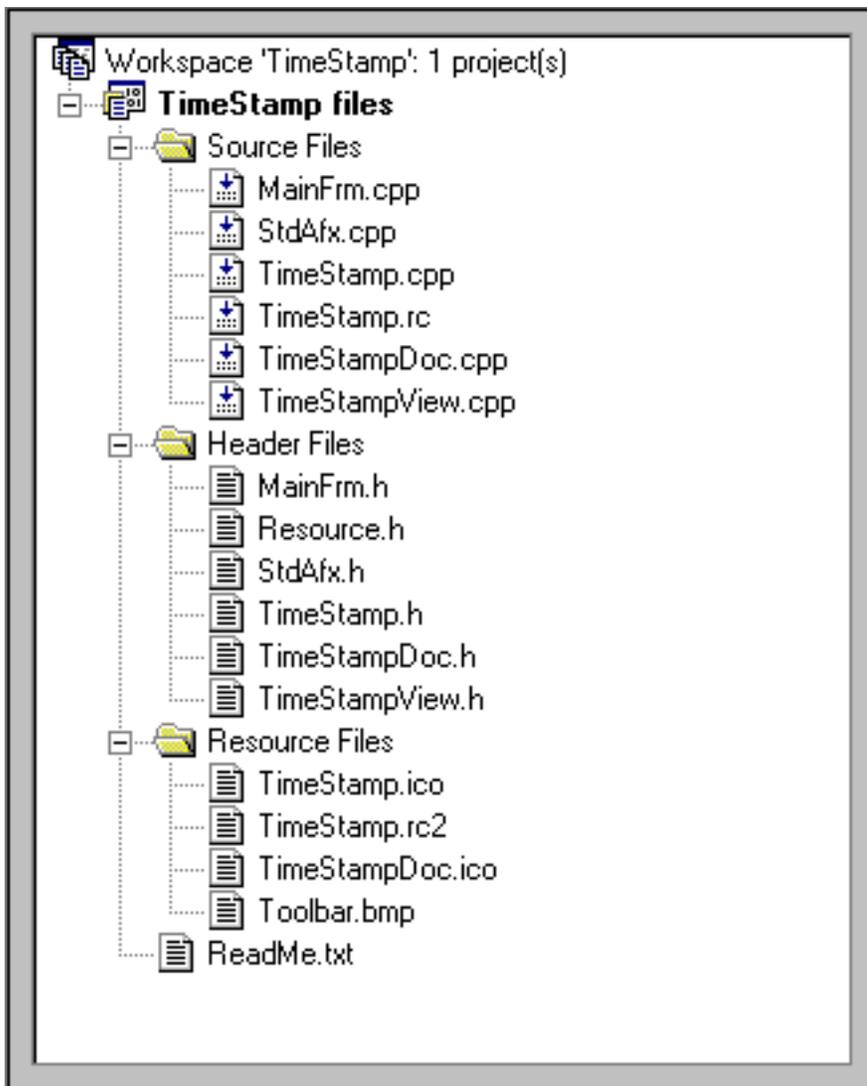
Note When you choose to support MFC in a statically linked library, you can include the relevant code from the MFC libraries. Your .Exe is larger because of this. When you choose to support MFC as a shared DLL, your .Exe is smaller, but you need to include Mfc40.Dll as part of your distribution. For the purposes of this course, it makes sense to use shared DLLs to keep file size smaller.

12. In Step 6, accept the files and classes proposed in Step 6, and click Finish.
13. Visual C++ will display the New Project Information dialog box that summarizes your choices.



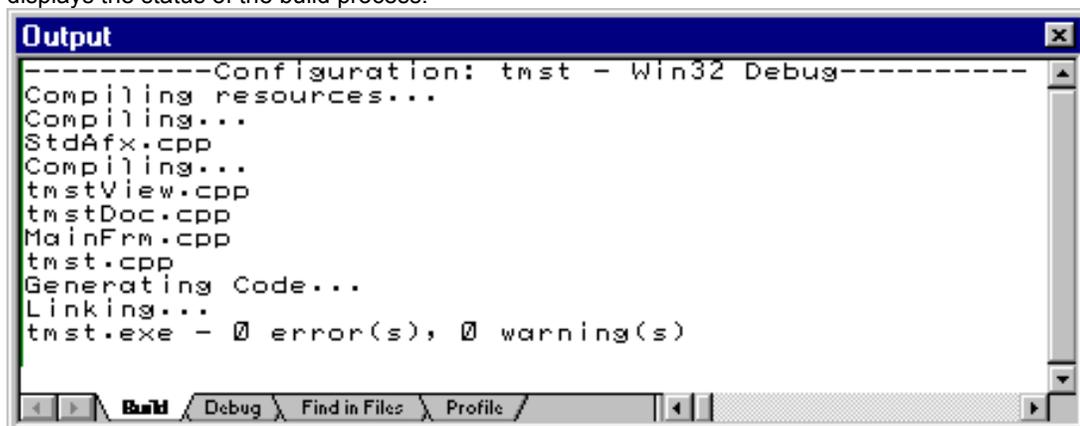
If you click Cancel, you return to the AppWizard to change your choices. If you click OK, AppWizard creates the application files for you.

14. Click OK to return to the Developer Studio. Choose the file view icon to see the files that AppWizard created.

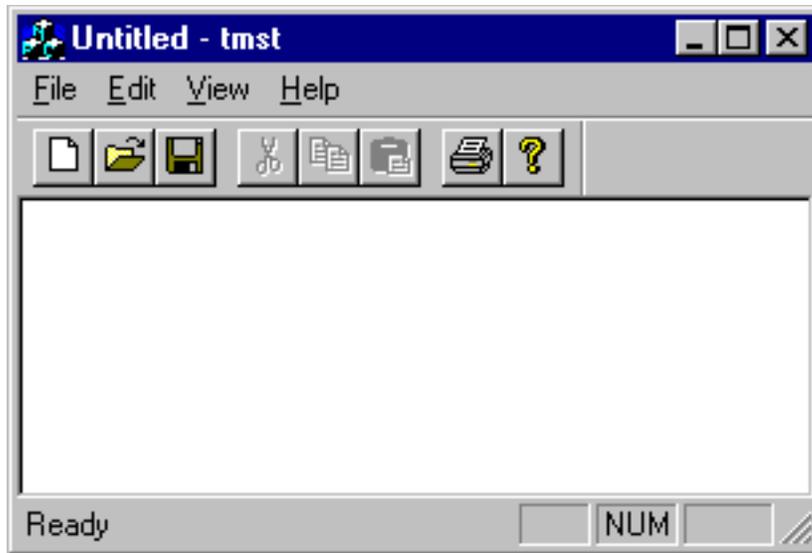


➤ **Build the project**

1. From the Build menu, choose Build TimeStamp.Exe, or press SHIFT+F8. The Developer Studio displays the status of the build process.



2. After the build is complete, from the Build menu, choose Execute TimeStamp.Exe or press CTRL+F5. TimeStamp will start.



There is not much functionality in the TimeStamp application right now, but many of the basics are in place: menus, toolbar, status bar, and window frame. These serve as the foundation for adding a new pane to the status bar, which you will do in Exercise 2.

The completed code for this exercise is in \Labs\C05\Lab05\Ex01.

Exercise 2: Adding a Time Pane to the Status Bar

Continue with the files you created in Exercise 1 or, if you do not have a starting point for this exercise, the code that forms the basis for this exercise is in \Labs\C05\Lab05\Ex01.

In this exercise, you add a new pane to the status bar and set its text to the current time. Use an `UPDATE_COMMAND_UI` handler to provide updates to the status bar.

CStatusBar includes support for adding panes to the status bar. The framework stores indicator information in an array with the leftmost indicator at position 0. When you create a status bar, you use an array of string IDs that the framework associates with the corresponding indicators. You can then use either a string ID or an index to access an indicator.

By default, the first indicator is "elastic": It takes up the status bar length not used by the other indicator panes, so that the other panes are right-aligned.

If you examine **CMainFrame::On Create**, you can find the creation code for the status bar:

```
if (!m_wndStatusBar.Create(this) ||
    !m_wndStatusBar.SetIndicators(indicators,
    sizeof(indicators)/sizeof(UINT)))
```

CStatusBar::SetIndicators uses the strings identified by the constants in the indicators array to size and initialize the text that displays in the indicators. To add a pane, you need to add a string to the string table and a constant to the indicators array.

➤ Add a pane to the status bar

1. In the ResourceView, open the String Table folder and open the String Table resource.
2. Double-click the empty line at the end of the table, or select it and choose Properties from the Edit menu.
3. Set the ID of the string to `ID_INDICATOR_TIME`.
4. Set the Caption of the string to `HH:MM AM`. Note that if you use `II:II II`, your time display is clipped to a smaller space.
5. Save TimeStamp.Rc.

6. Open MainFrm.Cpp.

7. Add ID_INDICATOR_TIME to the indicators[] array. Save MainFrm.Cpp. The array follows:

```
static UINT indicators[] =
{
    ID_SEPARATOR,           // status line indicator
    ID_INDICATOR_CAPS,
    ID_INDICATOR_NUM,
    ID_INDICATOR_SCRL,
    ID_INDICATOR_TIME
};
```

► Update the time pane

Whenever the framework finishes processing all the pending messages for the MainFrame window, it sends itself a WM_IDLEUPDATECMDUI message. This message is one of the generators of the UPDATE_COMMAND_UI message that is sent by the system to CCmdTarget-derived objects such as **CStatusBar**. Use this message to force the update of the time pane.

1. Because the ClassWizard does not recognize the indicator ID that you created in the previous steps as a message target, you have to edit the message map by hand. Open MainFrm.Cpp and scroll to the **CMainFrame** message map.
2. After `//}}AFX_MSG_MAP`, but before the `END_MESSAGE_MAP` macro, add a map for `UpdateCommandUI` and `ID_INDICATOR_TIME`.

```
ON_UPDATE_COMMAND_UI (ID_INDICATOR_TIME, OnUpdateTime)
```

3. Save MainFrm.Cpp. The complete message map follows.

```
BEGIN_MESSAGE_MAP(CMainFrame, CFrameWnd)
//{{AFX_MSG_MAP(CMainFrame)
    // NOTE - the ClassWizard will add and remove mapping macros here.
    //      DO NOT EDIT what you see in these blocks of generated code !
    ON_WM_CREATE()
//}}AFX_MSG_MAP
    ON_UPDATE_COMMAND_UI (ID_INDICATOR_TIME, OnUpdateTime)
END_MESSAGE_MAP()
```

4. Open MainFrm.H. In the protected message map section, declare `OnUpdateTime` outside the `//{{AFX_MSG` block, and before the `DECLARE_MESSAGE_MAP` macro.

```
void OnUpdateTime(CCmdUI *pCmdUI)
```

5. Save MainFrm.H.

6. Open MainFrm.Cpp. Code the **OnUpdateTime** function by creating a `CTime` object and initializing it to the current system time as follows.

```
CTime time = CTime::GetCurrentTime();
```

7. Use **CTime::Format** to format the time in HH:MM AM format and assign that string to a new **CString**.

```
CString sTime = time.Format ("%I:%M %p");
```

8. Set the text of the pane to the time.

```
pCmdUI->SetText (sTime);
```

9. Save MainFrm.Cpp. The complete function is as follows.

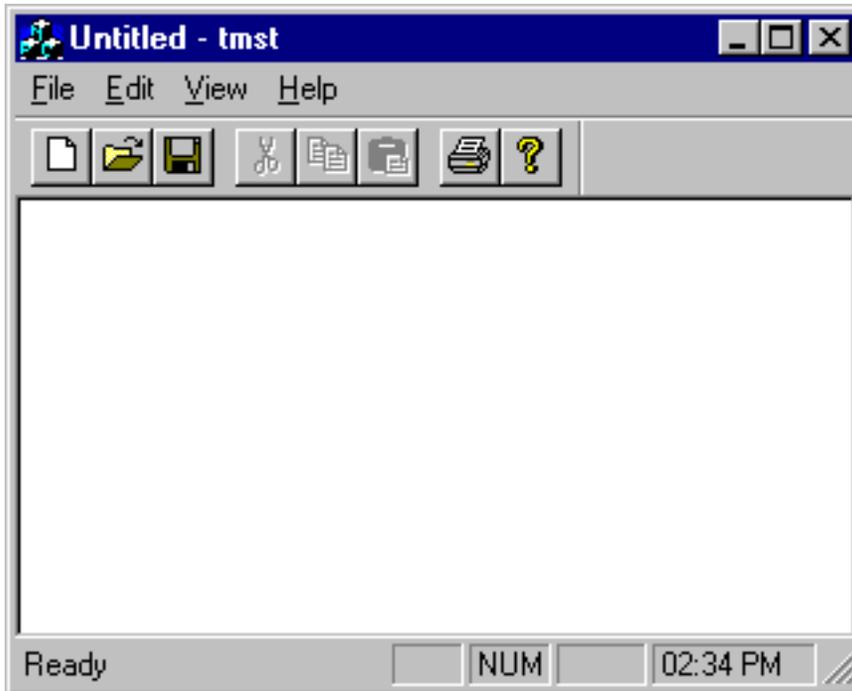
```
void CMainFrame::OnUpdateTime(CCmdUI *pCmdUI)
{
    CTime time = CTime::GetCurrentTime();
    CString sTime = time.Format ("%I:%M %p");
```

```

        // Now set the text of the pane.
        pCmdUI->SetText(sTime);
    }

```

10. Build and run the TimeStamp application. You will see the current time displayed in the fifth pane of the status bar.



➤ Use a timer to cause background updating

The TimeStamp application will show the time and update itself as long as there are messages for its frame window to process. However, TimeStamp is little more than a clock in a status bar. Without messages, an `WM_IDLEUPDATECMDUI` message is not sent to update the time pane. In this section, you can set up a timer for TimeStamp to process and update time.

1. Open `MainFrm.Cpp`. At the end of the `OnCreate` function and before the `return` statement, set a timer that will send a message once a second. The ID of this timer is irrelevant and can therefore be any value; there is no callback function.

```
SetTimer(1234,1000, NULL);
```

2. Choose `ClassWizard` from the `View` menu, or press `CTRL+W`.
3. In the `CMainFrame` class, add a function for `WM_TIMER`. Even though you cannot add functionality to the default behavior, you must map the message through a function for the message pump to empty the queue and send the `UPDATE_COMMAND_UI` message. You can leave the `OnTimer` handler as provided or you can comment out the call to the default function.
4. Save `MainFrm.Cpp`. Build and run `TimeStamp.Exe`. You will notice that the timer pane updates properly whether or not `TimeStamp.Exe` is in the foreground or background and whether or not there has been activity in the window.

The completed code for this exercise is in `\Labs\C05\Lab05\Ex02`.