
UIAccessibilityFocus Protocol Reference

User Experience



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UIAccessibilityFocus Protocol Reference

(informal protocol)

Adopted by	NSObject
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/UIKit.framework
Companion guide	Accessibility Programming Guide for iOS
Declared in	UIAccessibility.h

Overview

The `UIAccessibilityFocus` informal protocol provides a way to find out whether an assistive technology, such as VoiceOver, is focused on an accessible element.

VoiceOver and other assistive technologies place a virtual focus on elements, which allows users to inspect an element without activating it. If you know the current location of the virtual focus, you can optimize the user experience for assistive technology users. For example, if your application expects people to tap once to select an object and then double-tap to activate it, VoiceOver users must make an extra tap to focus VoiceOver on the object before tapping to select it. To improve the VoiceOver user's experience, you can move selection to an element at the same time VoiceOver focuses on the element. In this way, the user can activate the element without having to tap again to select the element.

Tasks

Getting Focus Information

- [accessibilityElementDidBecomeFocused](#) (page 6)
Sent after an assistive technology has set its virtual focus on the accessibility element.
- [accessibilityElementDidLoseFocus](#) (page 6)
Sent after an assistive technology has removed its virtual focus from an accessibility element.
- [accessibilityElementIsFocused](#) (page 6)
Returns a Boolean value indicating whether an assistive technology is focused on the accessibility element.

Instance Methods

accessibilityElementDidBecomeFocused

Sent after an assistive technology has set its virtual focus on the accessibility element.

- (void)accessibilityElementDidBecomeFocused

Discussion

Override `accessibilityElementDidBecomeFocused` if you need to know when an assistive technology has set its virtual focus on an accessibility element.

Availability

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

Declared In

UIAccessibility.h

accessibilityElementDidLoseFocus

Sent after an assistive technology has removed its virtual focus from an accessibility element.

- (void)accessibilityElementDidLoseFocus

Discussion

Override `accessibilityElementDidLoseFocus` if you need to know when an assistive technology has removed its virtual focus from an accessibility element. Note that `accessibilityElementDidLoseFocus` is sent before [accessibilityElementDidBecomeFocused](#) (page 6).

Availability

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

Declared In

UIAccessibility.h

accessibilityElementIsFocused

Returns a Boolean value indicating whether an assistive technology is focused on the accessibility element.

- (BOOL)accessibilityElementIsFocused

Return Value

YES if an assistive technology is virtually focused on the element; otherwise, NO.

Availability

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

Declared In

UIAccessibility.h

Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *UIAccessibilityFocus Protocol Reference*.

Date	Notes
2010-05-18	New document that describes a way to discern when an assistive technology, such as VoiceOver, has virtual focus on an element.

REVISION HISTORY

Document Revision History