Help for MSlot

Properties

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Description

The Mailslot control provides simple interprocess communication between programs running on the same or different computers running Windows for Workgroups.

This control enables you to create and use Windows for Workgroups mailslots.   A mailslot is an application-defined buffer that receives and holds messages.   Applications create mailslots so that they can receive text or data from other applications on one or more computers in a network.

File Name

MSLOT1.VBX

Object Type

VBMailslots

Distribution Note   When you develop and distribute an application that uses MSlot, you should install the file MSLOT1.VBX into the users Windows SYSTEM directory.   MSlot has version information built into it.   So, during installation, you should ensure that you are not overwriting a newer version of MSlot.

Properties

All of the properties that apply to this control are in this table.   Properties that have special meaning for this control or that only apply to this control are marked with an asterisk (*).

*Action	Name
Align	*NextPriority
Enabled	*NextSize
Left	*Priority
*MailslotName	Tag
*MailslotSize	*Timeout
*Message	Top
*MessageSize	

Enabled is the default value for the control.

Action Property

Description

Specifies the type of mailslot function to execute.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*]**Action**[= *integer*]

Remarks

The action property settings are:

Value	Description
0	No Action
1	Create - Create a mailslot
2	Delete - Delete a mailslot
3	Write - Write to a mailslot
4	Read d - Read from a mailslot
5	Peek - Determine a mailslots status

This property is not available at design time.

Data Type

Integer (enumerated)

Create Action

Creates a new mailslot on the local computer.

Before executing the Create action, you must first set the MailslotName, MailslotSize, and MessageSize properties.

Delete Action

Deletes a mailslot specified by <u>MailslotName</u>.　　An error occurs if the mailslot has not been created.

Write Action

Writes a message to the mailslot specified by MailslotName.   Before invoking the Write action, you must first set the MailslotName and Message properties.

Read Action

Reads a message from the mailslot specified by
MailslotName.   Before invoking the Read action, you
must first create the mailslot.

Peek Action

Checks to see if there are any messages waiting for themailslot specified by <u>MailslotName</u>. Before invoking the Read action, you must first create the mailslot.

See Also

Properties:
   Timeout
   MailslotName
   Message

MailslotName Property

Description

Specifies the name of the mailslot.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*]**MailslotName**[= *string*]

Remarks

This specifies the name of the mailslot managed by this control.   The mailslot name can have one of the following formats:

Value	Description
\mailslot*mailslotname*	This format represents a mailslot name mailslot name on the local computer.
\\computername\mailslot\mailslotname	This format represents a mailslot named mailslotname on the computer specified by computername.
\\workgroupname\mailslot\mailslotname	This format represents a mailslot named mailslotname on all ocmputers in the workgroup specified by workgroupname. If workgroupname is an asterisk (*), this format creates a mailslot on all computer in the workgroup of the local computer.

Data Type

String

See Also

Properties:
Action
MailslotSize

MailslotSize Property

Description

Specifies the maximum number of bytes available in the mailslots buffer.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*]**MailslotSize**[= *integer*]

Remarks

This property specifies the size, in bytes, of the mailslot. This parameter must be zero, or it must be equal to of exceed the size of the MessageSize property. If this value is zero, the Create Action sets a value based on MessageSize.

Data Type

Integer

See Also

Properties:
Action
MailslotName

Message Property

Description

Buffer in which data in is transferred.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*]**Message**[= *string*]

Remarks

This property contains the most recently read message after invoking the Read Action.

It is also the buffer where information should be written prior to invoking the Write Action.

Data Type

String

See Also
  Properties:
    Action
      MailslotName
      MailslotSize
      MessageSize
      Priority

MessageSize Property

Description

Specifies the maximum size that can be written to a mailslot.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*]**MessageSize**[= *integer*]

Remarks

This property is only used when the mailslot is created (see the Create Action).

Windows for Workgroups places a limit of 400 bytes on the message size.

Data Type

Integer (1-400)

See Also

Properties:
Action
MailslotSize
Message

NextPriority Property

Description

Gives the priority of the next message, if any, in the mailslot.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*]**NextPriority**

Remarks

Contains the priority (0 through 9) of the next message in the mailslot.   This propertys value is only valid if the NextSize property is greater than zero.

This property is updated each time a Read or Peek Action is invoked.   This property is read-only and available at run-time only.

Data Type

Integer (0-9)

See Also

Properties:
   Action
    MailslotSize
    NextSize

NextSize Property

Description

Specifies the size of the next message, if any, in the mailslot.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*]**NextSize**

Remarks

This property contains the size, in bytes, of the next message in the mailslot.   If the mailslot does not contain another message, the NextSize property is set to zero.

This property is updated each time a Read or Peek Action is invoked.   This property is read-only and available at run-time only.

Data Type

Integer

See Also

Properties:
Action
MailslotSize
NextPriority

Priority Property

Description

Priority of the next message sent, or the previous message read.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*]**Priority**[= *integer*]

Remarks

Contains the message priority (0 through 9).   High-priority messages are generally placed ahead of previously stored messages that have lower priority.

This property is available at run-time only.

Data Type

Integer (0-9)

See Also

Properties:
  Action
  NextPriority

Timeout Property

Description

Sets the maximum amount of time to wait for a message to be written or read.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*]**Timeout**[= *integer*]

Remarks

This property specifies how many milliseconds to wait if a message is not immediately available for a Read Action, or how many milliseconds to wait on a Write Action if the mailslot is full.

If this value is set to zero, Read and Write actions dont wait.   If this is set to -1, an action will wait indefinitely.

Data Type

Integer

See Also

Properties:

[Action](#)

Registration Information

Credits

JoyStk was written by Zane Thomas.   He can be reached on CompuServe at 72060,3327 or on Internet at 72060.3327@compuserve.com.   His mailing address is:

Zane Thomas
Post Office Box 300
Indianola, WA   98342

Inquiries, tech support, comments should be sent to James Shields.   His address is 71231,2066 on CompuServe, or mabry@halcyon.com on Internet.   If you must send something via U.S. Mail, the address is:

Mabry Software
Post Office Box 31926
Seattle, WA   98103-1926

Registration

You can register this program by sending $30 ($32 for international orders) and your address. CompuServe members may register by sending $25 and their account number (the registered version will be E-mailed to you).   CompuServe members may also register this package by going to the SWREG forum.   MSlot is registered there.   MSlots registration ID number is 1848.

For your convenience, an order form has been provided that you can print out directly from help.

Source Code and Registration

Source code (which includes a registered copy) to this control is available for $50 ($55 for international orders).   With source code you get a registered version of the control.   If you are a CompuServe member, you may get the source code in the Software Registration forum (GO SWREG) for $45.   It's registration number is 1849.

Credit Card Orders

You can order this program with Mastercard, Visa, American Express, or Discover from Public (software) Library by calling 800-2422-PsL or 713-524-6394 or by FAX to 713-524-6398 or by CompuServe E-mail to 71355,470.   You can also mail credit card orders to PsL at Post Office Box 35705; Houston, TX 77235-5705.   THESE NUMBERS ARE FOR CREDIT CARDS ONLY.

MSlot's ID number for this service is 11099.   This is good for both the normal registered version, and the source code version.

Any questions about the status of the shipment of the order, refunds, registration options, product details, technical support, volume discounts, dealer pricing, site licenses, etc., must be directed to Mabry Software at 206-634-1443 or FAX at 206-632-0272.

To ensure that you get the latest version, PsL will notify us the day of your order and we will ship the product directly to you.

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MSlot Order Form

Mail this   Mabry Software
form to: Post Office Box 31926
              Seattle, WA   98103-1926

              Phone: 206-634-1443
              Fax: 206-632-0272
              BBS: WinDev BBS 206-634-0783
              CompuServe: 71231,2066
              Internet: mabry@halcyon.com

Where did you get this copy of MSlot?

_____

Ship to: _____

              _____

              _____

              _____

              _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Disk Size: (circle one)   3½   5¼

   qty ordered ____   REGISTRATION
                         $30 each, postpaid (check or money order in hard currency).   Foreign
                         addresses add $2.00 shipping.   No additional shipping charges to Canada or
                         Mexico.

   qty ordered ____   SOURCE CODE AND REGISTRATION
                         $50 each, postpaid (check or money order in hard currency).   Foreign
                         addresses add $5.00 shipping.   No additional shipping charges to Canada or
                         Mexico.

Getting Custom Controls Written

If you or your organization would like to have custom controls written, you can contact me at the following:

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