

ScrollDir

By Paul S. McCarthy and Eric Sunshine
Copyright ©1995,1996,1997,1998 by Paul S. McCarthy and Eric Sunshine
March 25, 1998

Overview

This program demonstrates the use of the MiscTableScroll object in *eager* mode by acting as a simple directory browser. Basic operations such as *open*, *delete*, *rename*, and *change directory* can be performed on the listed files and directories.

Notable Features

Eager Mode

This example uses an *eager* mode MiscTableScroll which creates and fills all cells immediately. This differs from a *lazy* mode MiscTableScroll where the data-delegate is responsible for managing the cells. *Eager* mode is useful for fairly small data sets and data sets for which data retrieval time is small. *Eager* mode is usually easier to program than *lazy* mode.

Color

The example shows how cells can inherit color from the MiscTableScroll itself, as well as maintain their own colors independently. Color swatches can be dragged from the *Color Panel* and dropped onto the browser window. The background of the MiscTableScroll is set to the color of the dropped swatch. All cells which inherit their color from the MiscTableScroll *implicitly* take the same

background color. All cells which have had their color set *explicitly* retain their own color.

The *highlight directories* switch on the browser window demonstrates that cells can maintain their own colors instead of inheriting them. When toggled *on* the rows for directories are highlighted in a color independent of the MiscTableScroll.

Font

When the MiscTableScroll is first-responder, the *Font Panel* can be used to change its font. Cells which inherit their font from the MiscTableScroll display the newly selected font.

Users Preferences

This program demonstrates how to save and restore the user's column order and width preferences. Additionally, all other user preferences -- *font, color, switch settings, and window size* -- are also saved and restored.

Sorting

A switch on the browser window controls whether or not rows are automatically sorted as columns are rearranged. This demonstrates the very powerful built-in sorting capability of MiscTableScroll. Sorting can be fine-tuned right in the *nib* file by adjusting the criteria on a column-by-column basis. For instance, columns may contribute *stringValue, title, intValue, tag*, etc. to the row-wise comparisons.

Icon Display

One column in the browser displays the file's icon. This demonstrates how to use *icon* columns in addition to *text* columns.

Image Dragging

MiscTableScroll allows images to be dragged directly out cells. In this example, the file's icon can be dragged directly from the directory browser into any other application which accepts *dragged filenames*, such as File Viewer, Mail, Edit, etc. A button controls whether or not the scaled or full-size image is used during the dragging operation. This illustrates how the delegate can optionally substitute an image in place of the one already contained in the cell.

Text Editing

MiscTableScroll supports *in-cell* text editing. This example program uses the editing feature to allow the user to rename files. Double-clicking with the mouse on the file name in the *Name* column initiates editing.

Buttons

This example illustrates how to use *ButtonCells* with the MiscTableScroll. One column contains a *ButtonCell* configured as a toggle switch. It displays a padlock in either a locked or unlocked state and clicking on it toggles its state. The padlock indicates whether or not the file can be renamed. When *unlocked*, renaming is allowed, and double-clicking on the file name in the *Name* column initiates an edit session. When *locked*, renaming is not allowed. If you do not have permission to rename a file the browser displays a *locked* icon and disables the *ButtonCell*.

Saving (Exporting)

MiscTableScroll can export its contents in dBASEIII (.dbf) format and also a number of ASCII formats via the *Save* menu item on the *Directory* menu.

Printing

MiscTableScroll respects the various page layout options, such as shrink-to-fit, spill, crop, centering,

etc.

Conclusion

ScrollDir was written by Paul S. McCarthy and Eric Sunshine and is copyright ©1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 by Paul S. McCarthy and Eric Sunshine. It is included in the MiscKit by permission from the authors and is governed by the MiscKit license found in the file License.rtf in the MiscKit distribution.

Please direct comments, questions, and complaints to:

- Paul S. McCarthy <zarnuk@mcgh.org>
- Eric Sunshine <sunshine@sunshineco.com>

NeXT, MIME, and ASCII mail accepted.