4 Design-Time Controls

A Design-Time Control is an ActiveX control that lets you configure the content of your page, or an object of some type that is embedded in the page.

> **Note** While the DTCs that are discussed in this chapter are used for configuring HTML, applets, and scripts in Web pages, DTCs can also be created for more general purposes. There may be other DTCs registered on your system which come from other companies and are used for purposes besides editing Web pages.

When you insert a DTC with the HoTMetaL PRO Editor, two things are inserted in your page:

1. The object or markup that the DTC configures.
2. The some code referring DTC itself, so that you can open it at a later time to reconfigure the object that was inserted. (This code is only displayed in HTML source view.)

To insert a Design-Time Control in your document:

- Choose Design Time Control... from the Insert menu.

A dialog box that lists the Design-Time Controls registered on your system appears.

- Double-click on a control in the list, or select a control and click on Insert .

A dialog box in which you can configure the applet, script, or Dynamic HTML script using the DTC will appear. The Properties dialog for the DTCs that ship with HoTMetaL PRO will automatically be launched when you insert them. For other DTCs, you may need to click on Properties when you insert the DTC to access the DTC's Properties dialog.

If a DTC has been inserted into your document, you can re-open the Properties dialog for the DTC at any time.

To re-open the DTC Properties dialog:

- Select the object or code inserted by the DTC and choose Design Time Control... from the Insert menu, or right-click inside the DTC and choose DTC Properties from the pop-up menu.

To delete the DTC and the code that it inserted:

- Right-click inside the object or code inserted by the DTC and choose Delete DTC from the pop-up menu.

You can also insert DTCs using the HoTMetaL FX chooser .

The DTCs described in the sections that follow were created by SoftQuad for use with the HoTMetaL PRO Editor. There are other DTCs that come with HoTMetaL PRO; please refer to the brief descriptions of the DTCs in the HoTMetaL FX Chooser for details on what they are used for.

New Window Button

The NewWndButton (new window button) DTC creates a JavaScript that is called by clicking a button. When the button is clicked in the browser a new browser window, displaying a specified page, will appear.

To configure the new window:

- Turn on the desired New Window Features.
- Specify the width and height of the new window, in pixels.

Button Label specifies the text that will be displayed on the button. To specify the page that will be opened when the button is pressed:

- Drag and drop a link to the Page to Open box or browse for a file by clicking on Browse... .

Shopping Cart

Two DTCs configure the *Shopping Cart*. This is a quick and easy method of setting up a page from which users can 'shop' on your system: they can select from products or services that you specify, and fill their own 'shopping cart'. Users have control over their own shopping cart: they can delete items, add items, etc. When a user is finished loading up their cart, they can click on a button that activates a CGI script, which could, for example, send an acknowledgment to the user, and send the order to your order-processing department.

There are four steps involved in setting up a Shopping Cart:

- Use the Shopping Cart DTC (this page) to create the Shopping Cart *kiosk*.
- Use the Shopping Cart Form DTC (page 24) one or more times to create a *form* for each product that you want to offer.
- Create a CGI program (page 26) to handle the data submitted by the Shopping cart form.
- Finally, you can run the shopping cart (page 27) to check whether you got the results you wanted.

Creating the Shopping cart kiosk

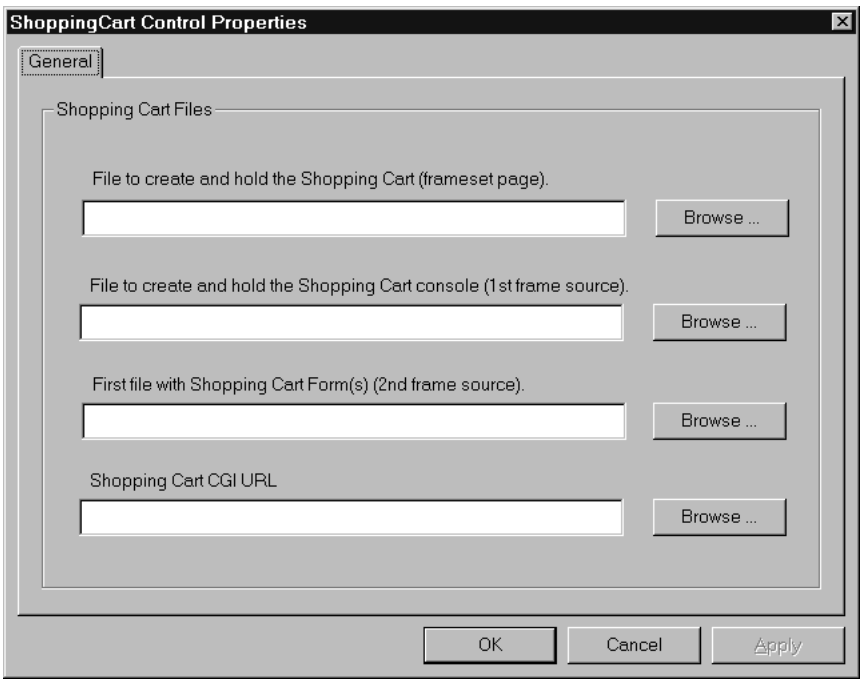
Choose the Shopping Cart DTC to create the kiosk. The kiosk is a frameset document consisting of two frames.

The upper frame will contain the Shopping Cart *console* document, which is also created by the Shopping Cart DTC. The lower frame will contain one or more forms for individual products, which you create using the Shopping Cart Form DTC.

The console document consists of a JavaScript; when this page is displayed in the browser, it shows a list of all items selected. When a user selects an item from one of the product forms in the lower frame, this choice is added to a list in the console, and a running total of purchases is updated. The console also has buttons for clearing the list, deleting specific items, and for indicating that the user has finished selecting items.

The JavaScript in the console document also generates an HTML form that is displayed in the lower frame of the kiosk when the user clicks on the button indicating that they have finished selecting items. This form

lists all of the user's selections, and the total cost. When the user submits this form, the form's data will be submitted to the CGI script that you specified.



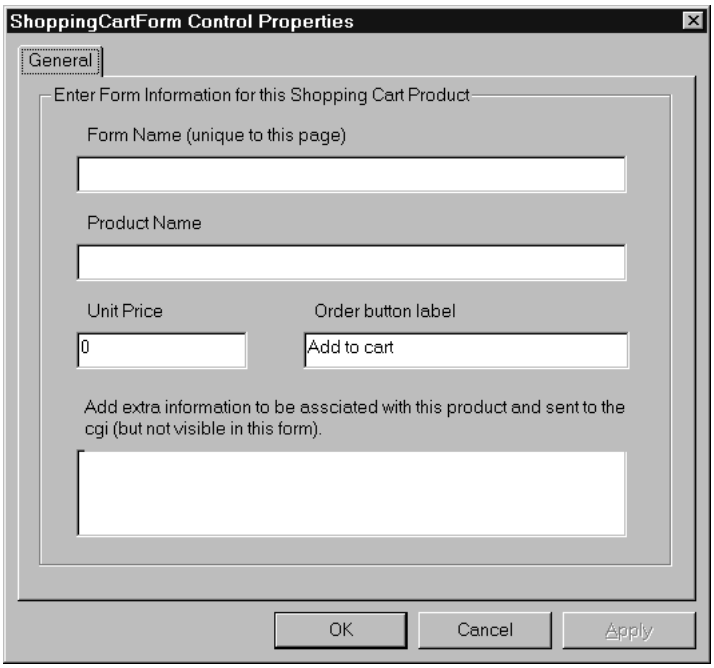
- Enter the filename of the frameset page for the kiosk in the first text box. The DTC will create this page automatically. If you enter an existing filename, that file will be overwritten; for this reason, if you wish to create a customized kiosk page, you should do so after running this DTC.
- Enter the filename for the console page in the second text box. The DTC will create this page automatically.
- Enter the filename of a page containing (or containing links to) forms for the individual products that you wish to offer in the third text box. These forms are generated using the Shopping Cart Form DTC.

- Enter the URL of the CGI script that will be called when the user submits the Shopping Cart form.

When you click on [OK] , the DTC inserts a link in the current document, pointing to the kiosk (frameset) document. You can choose to keep this link to refer to the kiosk, or set up another link in another document. If you wish to run the DTC again to edit the values you entered above, you have to do so by clicking inside this link, and then choosing DTC Properties... from the pop-up menu, or Design Time Control... from the Insert menu.

Creating the Shopping Cart forms

Use the Shopping Cart Form DTC to create forms for individual products that will be offered in the Shopping Cart kiosk. You have to run the DTC once for each form you wish to create; the form will be inserted into the current document, but you can copy it to a different document later. The forms must be in, or be in documents linked to, the 'Shopping Cart Form' document that you specified in the Shopping Cart DTC. How you arrange the pages and forms is up to you; the important thing is that on each page, each form must have a unique name, as explained below.



- Each product's form must be given a unique name (one that is not used for another form in the same page). Enter the name for the current form in the Form Name text box. (This value becomes the value of the NAME attribute of the corresponding FORM element).
- Enter the name of the product in the Product Name text box.
- Enter price of the product in the Unit Price text box. This value must be a number without a currency symbol (such as '$').
- The text in the Order button label will appear on the button for this product in the order form.
- You can optionally enter some extra information about the product. Do not surround this text with quotes. This text not be displayed in the form but will be sent to the CGI script.

Setting up the CGI script

The back-end CGI script to do the shopping cart processing is not supplied with HoTMetaL PRO—there are many different types of Web servers, each of which need slightly different scripts configured in different ways.

This script must process the data from the final order form. This data is in the standard format for form data—that is, as a sequence of name/value pairs, where the name and value are separated by '=', and the pairs are separated by '&'. For example:

```
name1=value1&name2=value2&name3=value3
```

The data is organized as follows:

- For each product in the final order, two name/value pairs are submitted:
  1. The name in the first pair is the 'product name' for that product, as entered in the Shopping Cart Form DTC.
  2. The value in the first pair is the quantity of that product that was ordered.
  3. The name in the second pair is the same as the name in the first pair, but with '.hidden' appended. For example, 'redshoes.hidden'.
  4. The value in the second pair is the 'extra information' for that product, as entered in the Shopping Cart Form DTC.
- The order in which the product data is submitted cannot be predicted ahead of time, since it depends on which products were chosen, and in which order.
- After the product data, a pair with name 'total', and value equal to the total value of the order, is submitted.

Please see the links on CGI scripts on the 'Technical Reference' page, accessible from the 'Help' menu, for some places to go for more information on using and configuring CGI scripts.

> **Note** Creating pages that can do online transactions with credit cards and security is beyond the scope of this manual. Please contact your Internet Service Provider for more information.

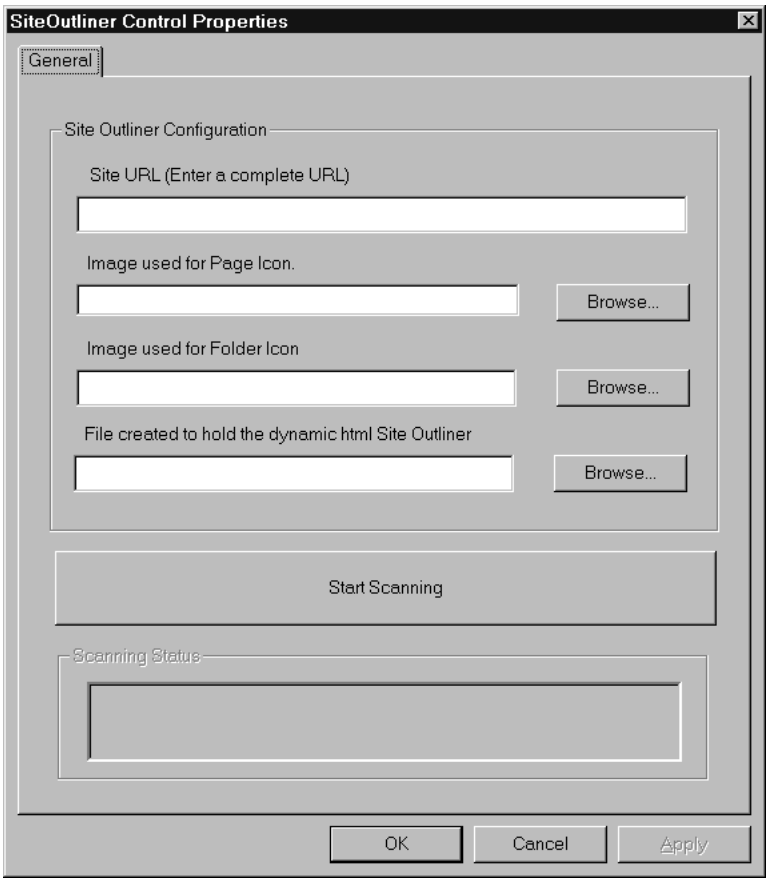
Running the Shopping Cart

A user accesses the Shopping Cart by opening the kiosk document in a browser. Initially, the kiosk contains the console form in the top frame, and the order form in the lower frame.

- To select a product, enter the quantity in the order form and click on the corresponding button. The selection is added to the list in the console.
- To delete a selection, select it in the console and click on Delete Item
- To delete all selections, click on Clear All Items in the console.
- If you wish to change the quantity of a product in your order, enter the new quantity in the order form and click on the button again. The new quantity *replaces* the previous selection. For example, if you initially selected two of something, and want to increase this to five, enter '5' and click on the button again.
- When you have finished selecting items, click on End Shopping Trip . This displays the final order form in the bottom frame.
- If you are happy with your order, click on Accept in the final order form. This send the form's data to the CGI script.

Site Outliner

Site Outliner is a dynamic HTML DTC, which is only supported by Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0. This DTC will create an HTML file containing an outline of a Web site in a format similar to the way that Windows Explorer displays the contents of a folder. It uses SoftQuad's Web scanning technology to determine the format of the site and then produces dynamic HTML to create an outline.



To configure the Site Outliner DTC:

- Enter the base URL from which the scan starts in the Site URL text box.
- Specify the icon image used for each page in the outline in the Page Icon Image text box.
- Specify the icon image used for each folder in the outline in the Folder Icon Image text box.
- Specify the file name of the page created to hold the generated HTML of the outline in the Page for Outline text box.

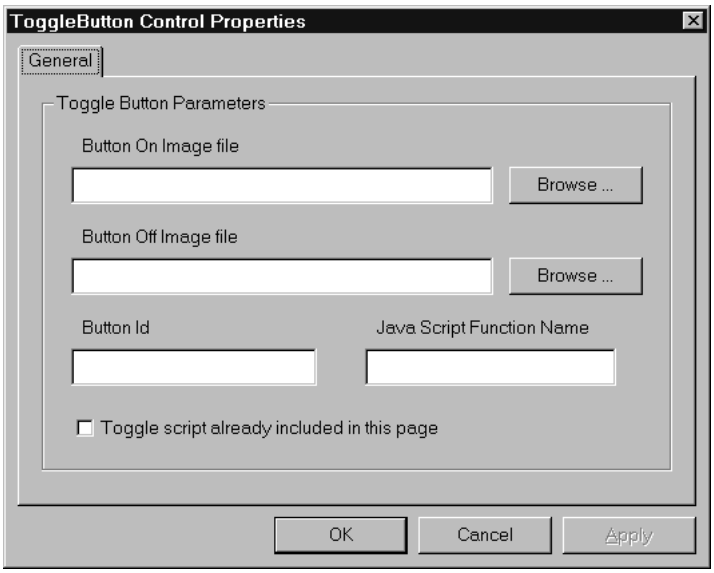
Once the text boxes are filled in:

- Select Start Scanning to do the scan.

When the Scanning Status box displays Done scanning, click on OK .

Toggle button

The Toggle button DTC creates a JavaScript that toggles between two images when you click on it. You can also link another JavaScript into this button so that it will be triggered on the mouse click.



To configure the Toggle Button DTC:

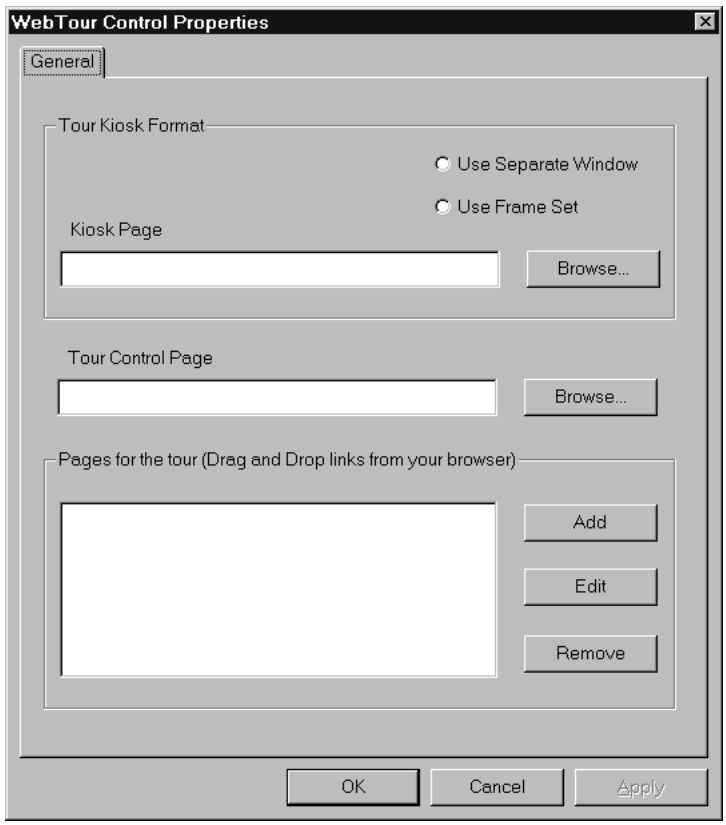
- Enter the path to the 'on' and 'off' images in the text boxes provided.
- Give this control a Button ID so that it can be invoked by JavaScript.
- In the Java Script function name text box, you can enter the name of another JavaScript that is called when you click on the toggle button.

The check box at the bottom of the dialog tells the DTC not to insert another copy of the the Toggle Button script if you already have a

toggle button script in your page.

Web Tour

With the Web Tour DTC, you can create an automated tour—a kind of Web page slide show—for any collection of files that can be displayed in a Web browser (HTML, GIF, JPEG, etc.). You need to specify a *kiosk* page; that is, the page that hosts the Web tour and defines its format.



To configure the Web Tour DTC:

- Enter or browse for the page where the tour script will be inserted, in the Tour Control Page text box.
- Select the format for the tour in the Tour Kiosk Format section of the dialog. The tour can be formatted in one of two ways:
  1. A frame set, with the controls in one frame and the pages in another.
  2. A floating window with controls, and the tour pages and images appearing in the main window.
- Select the appropriate radio button and enter the file name for the kiosk page.
- Add URLs to the Pages for the tour list.
- Click on Add and Remove to specify which pages are in the tour by editing the Pages for the tour list.

When you click on the Edit button, a dialog for entering information specific to that page appears. You can specify a delay time—the amount of time the page will be displayed, in seconds (the default is 10)—and a caption.