Lab 05: Walkthrough of Custom Branding

**Lab Time**: 20 Minutes

**Lab Directory**: C:/Student/Labs/05\_Branding

**Lab Overview**: You will not be required to write any code in this walkthrough. You will just be required to deploy a WSS solution for a custom branding feature and to use this solution to apply branding to a site collection.

# Exercise 1: Open and Build the project

1. Launch Visual Studio. Open the project named **CustomBranding.sln** located inside the **\Student\Demos\05\_Branding\CustomBranding** directory.
2. Take a moment to familiarize yourself with all the source files inside this project.
3. Open and inspect the batch file named **Install.bat** so you can see what it does.
4. Rebuild the project. This will rebuild **CustomBranding.dll** and then run **Install.bat**. After this, you can go to a site and test it out.

# Exercise 2: Activating and using the Custom Branding feature on a site

1. Go to any top-level site such as the one located at **http://litwareinc.com**. Go to the **Site collection features** management page (**\_layouts/ManageFeatures.aspx?Scope=Site**). Remember that this is different from the Site features management page (**\_layouts/ManageFeatures.aspx**).
2. Find the feature with the title of **A Sample Feature: Custom Branding**. Activate this feature.
3. Now, when you drop down the Site Actions menu you should see a new command with a title of **Custom Branding**. Click on the **Custom Branding** menu to navigate to the custom application page named **CustomBrand.aspx**.
4. Once you are at the application page named **CustomBrand.aspx**, click on the command button named **Apply Custom Litware Brand**. Now go to various pages within the current site to see the branding changes.
5. Navigate back to the page named **CustomBrand.aspx** and click the command button named **Remove Custom Litware Brand**. This should remove the branding changes and put the site's look and feel back to its original state.
6. Go back to Visual Studio and open the file named **CustomBrand.aspx** in code view. Note that this file contains inline code which programs against the WSS object model to apply and remove the branding changes. Review all this code so you can understand how it is able to apply and remove branding for the entire site collection.
7. If you have time, inspect these other source files within the project to see how they add to this branding solution.
   1. **\TEMPLATE\FEATURES\CustomBranding\feature.xml**
   2. **\TEMPLATE\FEATURES\CustomBranding\elements.xml**
   3. **\TEMPLATE\FEATURES\CustomBranding\Litware.master**
   4. **\TEMPLATE\LAYOUTS\1033\styles\Litware\LitwareBrand.css**