

How to send a message to a specific control on a TForm

QUESTION

Is it possible to send a message to a control on a form? I have the name of the component.

You can send a message to any *TControl* descendant, whether it has a window handle or not, by using the *Perform* method.

Any control owned by a form can be found by searching through the form's *Components* property.

The following method can be added to a form (or frame) to let you send a message to a named control. It will return true if the control was found.

```
function TForm1.SendMessageToCtrl(const Name: string;
    const Msg: Cardinal; WParam, LParam: Integer): Boolean;
var
    Idx: Integer;
    Ctrl: TControl;
begin
    Result := False;
    // scan all components owned by the form
    for Idx := 0 to Pred(ComponentCount) do
        begin
            if Components[Idx] is TControl then
                begin
                    // we have a TControl: check its name (case insensitive)
                    Ctrl := Components[Idx] as TControl;
                    if AnsiSameText(Ctrl.Name, Name) then
                        begin
                            // found it: send message and bail out
                            Ctrl.Perform(Msg, WParam, LParam);
                            Result := True;
                            Exit;
                        end;
                end;
        end;
    end;
end;
```

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Added:	2009-09-14
Last updated:	2010-03-16

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