PowerShell Form Generator

Disclaimer

This SOFTWARE PRODUCT is provided by El Condor "as is" and "with all faults." El Condor makes no representations or warranties of any kind concerning the safety, suitability, lack of viruses, inaccuracies, typographical errors, or other harmful components of this SOFTWARE PRODUCT. There are inherent dangers in the use of any software, and you are solely responsible for determining whether this SOFTWARE PRODUCT is compatible with your equipment and other software installed on your equipment. You are also solely responsible for the protection of your equipment and backup of your data, and El Condor will not be liable for any damages you may suffer in connection with using, modifying, or distributing this SOFTWARE PRODUCT.

You can use this **SOFTWARE PRODUCT freely, if you would you can credit me in program comment:**

El Condor – CONDOR INFORMATIQUE – Turin

Comments , suggestions and criticisms are welcomed: mail to rossati@libero.it

Conventions

Commands syntax, instructions in programming language and examples are with font `COURIER NEW`. The optional parties of syntactic explanation are contained between `[square parentheses]`, alternatives are separated by `|` and the variable parties are in *`italics`*.

Contents table

1 Form generator

Form generator, briefly *FormGen*, is a script for PowerShell which allows to build and handle forms data; it is a preliminary version a nutshell for create a sufficiently generalized script useful for a wide use.

1.1 Using the form generator

FormGen script contains a function which needs a field description (and possibly some others parameters):

```
.\formgen.ps1 -widgets parameters
```

```
$parm = "Title,,Titolo;Text,User name,,25;Psw,Password"
.\formgenBase.ps1 -widgets $parm
```

1.1.1 Parameters

1.1.1.1 Background

The `Ground` or `Background` parameter is the background color in the form.

The colors are string in hexadecimal notation with two digit for every component: `"#RRGGBB"`, or with the symbolic name:

```
$p = "Psw,psw,txt password;cmb,combo,,,g,a:alfa|beta|g:gamma|delta"
$p += ";Chk,check,Check box,,"
.\formgenbase.ps1 -widgets $p -title "Form Generator" -background "lightgreen"
```

1.1.1.2 Caption

Is the form caption.

1.1.1.3 Title

Is the form title displayed above the widgets.

1.1.1.4 Widgets

This is a mandatory parameters see below a description.

1.2 Data description

Every view (or widget) is characterized by a list of attributes (comma separated) in this order: Type, Field Name, Field Label, Length, Default Value and Extra. Views are separated by semicolon.

1.2.1 View Type

The Types are indifferent to case.

- **CKB** check box;
- Combo box and lists:
  - **CMB** Combo box with text associated for insert values not in Combo box;
  - **L** or **LIST** drop down list;
- Text fields:
  - **P** or **PSW** password field, the data entered are masked;
  - **T** or **TEXT** text field;

1.2.2 Field Name

Is the name of the field, which, when the form is closed, is returned with the value associated; the name is case-sensitive and it is used to access data in the hash variable `$fg_data`.

1.2.3 Field Label

Label of widget or caption of button; if omitted it is used the Field Name instead.

1.2.4 Length

The length of the widgets in characters; it is meaningful for non texts widgets.

If the length is omitted it is assumed the maximum from 20 and the length of the possibly default value.

1.2.5 Default value

Is the value proposed in the widget; the form is restored with the defaults values when the `Reset` button is pushed.

1.2.6 Extra

Extra Field is used for add information to the widget.

1.2.7 Summary by type

1.2.7.1 Buttons

Form Generator inserts the `Ok` button, the `Cancel` button and the `Reset` button depending on the views contained in the form:

- no buttons if there is only one list (type **L**),
- the `Reset` button is present if there are data fields (e.g. Type **T**, **P**, **CKB),**

1.2.7.2 Check box

For checked box insert into **default** field `checked` or `on` (case independent).

The value returned of check box is a string containing `On` or `Off`.

1.2.7.3 Combo boxes and Lists

CMB type is a Combo box with Text associated for insert a value not in Combo box,

The **extra** field contains the item list separated by `|`. For get a key instead the description, the item must have the form: `key:value`.

The **default** value can be the data showed or the possible key.

If there is only one list (**LIST** type) in the form, the form has no buttons and it is exited when a list item is selected.

1.2.7.4 Text fields

TEXT and **PSW** are synonym of **T** and **P** respectively.

1.2.8 Returned Values

The data are accessible in the global variable `$fg_data`, a hash table where the keys are the widgets name plus the `fg_button` which contains the name of the button pushed.

□If `cancel` button was pressed or the form is closed in the menu bar, there is only `fg_button` element.