



Advanced UFT 12 for Test Engineers Cookbook

Recent

Topics

Tutorials

Highlights

Settings

Feedback (<http://community.safaribooksonline.com>)

Sign Out

PREV
Deleting a key

AA



NEXT
works

Running a process using the Windows[®] system shell

In [Chapter 8, Utility and Reserved Objects](#), we described the `SystemUtil` object and learned how to open an application using the `Open` method. In this recipe, we will describe how to accomplish the same task using the `Wscript.Shell` object.

Getting ready

From the **File** menu, navigate to **New | Test**, or use the `Ctrl + N` shortcut. You can use the same test as in the previous recipe.

How to do it...

The syntax to run an application (or an external script) is as follows:

```
object.Run sApplicationPath, [intWindowState], [bWaitOnReturn]
```

Here, `object` is an instance of the `Wscript.Shell` class, and `sApplicationPath` is a valid application path. The `intWindowState` (refer to the following table) and `bWaitOnReturn` variables (`True/False`) are optional. By default, the script does not wait until the external application finishes and returns `0`.

The following table enumerates the possible values of `intWindowState` (this is sourced from the Help file on the Microsoft Windows Scripting Technologies website):

Value	Description
0	This hides the current window and activates another window.
1	This value activates and displays a window. If the window is minimized or maximized, the system restores it to its original size and position. An application should specify this flag when displaying the window for the first time.
2	This value activates the window and displays it as a minimized window.
3	This value activates the window and displays it as a maximized window.
4	This value displays a window in its most recent size and position. The active window remains active.
5	This value activates the window and displays it in its current size and position.
6	This value minimizes the specified window and activates the next top-level window in the Z order.
7	This value displays the window as a minimized window. The active window remains active.

8	This value displays the window in its current state. The active window remains active.
9	This value activates and displays the window. If the window is minimized or maximized, the system restores it to its original size and position. An application should specify this flag when restoring a minimized window.
10	This value sets the show state based on the state of the program that started the application.

For example, to open the Notepad application, use the following code snippet:

```
Dim oWshShell, sApp

sApp = "notepad.exe"
Set oWshShell = CreateObject("Wscript.Shell")

oWshShell.Run sApp

Set oWshShell = Nothing

ExitTest
```

How it works...

We simply create an instance of the `WScript.Shell` class and use the `Run` method to invoke an application of our choice (in this case, Notepad).

