



Advanced UFT 12 for Test Engineers Cookbook

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Reading a key from the Windows® system registry

Reading registry keys and values is an important task. For example, can assist us in testing the correctness of an application installation process, or in reading specific settings of applications or even operating system environment variables. In this recipe, we will see how to read the value of a key from the registry, specifically the **Java Options** environment variable.

Getting ready

From the **File** menu, navigate to **New | Test** or use the **Ctrl + N** shortcut.

How to do it...

The syntax to retrieve the value of a registry key is as follows:

```
Registry_ReadKey
```

Here, `object` is an instance of the `Wscript.Shell` class and `sKeyPath`, a valid key.

An example of how to retrieve the value of the `_JAVA_OPTIONS` environment variable is as shown in the following code snippet:

```
Dim oWshShell, sKeyVal, sKeyPath, sKeyExpected

sKeyPath = "HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Environment\_JAVA_OPTIONS"
Set oWshShell = CreateObject("Wscript.Shell")
sKeyVal = oWshShell.RegRead(sKeyPath)

Print sKeyVal

Set oWshShell = Nothing
```

We can verify the correctness of the retrieved value using a simple conditional structure (assuming that the expected value appears in the action's local datasheet):

```
sKeyExpected = DataTable("Expected_Key", dtLocalSheet)

If sKeyVal <> sKeyExpected Then
    Reporter.ReportEvent micFail, "Registry Verification", _
        "Actual Key: " & sKeyVal & " differs from Expected Key: " & _
        sKeyExpected
End If
```

Note

The Windows OS stores the names and values of its environment variables (not to be confused with UFT's environment variables) under the registry key `HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Environment`.

How it works...

We simply create an instance of the `Wscript.Shell` class, and use the `RegRead` method to retrieve the value of a valid registry key.

