**MenuStrips Using Multiple Document Interface (MDI) Part 5**

**Creating a Help Menu**

Windows application standards require an application to contain a Help menu with commands for displaying information about how to use an application. The last command in the Help menu displays a dialog box with copyright, authorship and version information. This command is referred to as the About command. For example, the About Text Editor….command displays and About dialog box similar to:

About Text Editor

Text Editor created by Dyl Pickle

OK

The About dialog box is created by adding a form to the project and setting appropriate form options, adding labels, and an OK button with the appropriate DialogResult property set.

**Creating a Help Menu Application Assignment:**

1. **Add a Dialog Box To The Project**
   1. Select Project 🡪 Add Windows Form. A dialog box is displayed.
      1. In the templets list, click Windows Form, if it is not already selected.
      2. In the Name box, type AboutDialogBox.vb
      3. Select Add. A form named About DialogBox.vb is displayed in a Design window.
   2. Set the text property of the AboutDialogBox form to About TexEditor.
   3. Set ControBox, MaximizeBox, and MinimizeBox properties to False.
   4. Set the FormBorderStyle to FixedDialog.
   5. Use the table below for setting object properties.

About Text Editor

Text Editor created by Dyl Pickle

OK

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Object** | **(Name)** | **Text** | **DialogResult** |
| Label1 | lblInfo | See form |  |
| Button1 | btnOK | OK | OK |

1. **Add A Help Menu To Form1**
   1. Display the Form1 Design window.
   2. Modify the parent form to include a Help Menu. Use the table below for setting object properties.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Object** | **Text** |
| MenuItem1 | Help |
| MenuItem2 | About TextEditor… |

File Edit Format Window Help

About Text Editor…

Type Here

Text Editor

* 1. Check the names of the two new menu items. Change their (Name) properties as appropriate to HelpToolStripMenuItem and AboutToolStripMenueItem, if necessary.

1. **Modify the Application Code**
   1. Display the Form1 Code window
   2. Create a AboutTextEditorToolStripMenuItem\_Click event procedure and then add statements to display the About dialog box:

Dim aboutDB As New AboutDialogBox()

‘Show dialog box

AboutDB.Show.Dialog()

1. **Run The Application**
   1. Save the modified TextEditor project and then run the application.
   2. Select Help 🡪 About TextEditor. A dialog box is displayed.
      1. Note the application information and then click OK. The dialog box is removed.
   3. Quite the TextEditor application.
   4. Get Mr. Pluchino to tick-U-off.