Feed Reader Code Example

This code example allows you to set up and retrieve Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds from various news sources through a web forms interface. Visit this link to learn more about RSS (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSS_(file_format)).

Description

FeedReader is an application that lets you create RSS Tags and then associate RSS feeds to those tags. The zip file contains one target: a .NET Web Forms target. If you use the .NET target provided, open the project object in the Project painter and modify paths as necessary.

Setting Up Your Environment

Ensure that the Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0 is installed on your computer. For Web Forms applications, IEWebControls must be installed in your IIS path: \Inetpub\wwwroot\.

If the components are not installed, see "Overview and Configuration of .NET Targets" in Chapter 1 of the book *Deploying Applications and Components to .NET* in the PowerBuilder 11 Compiled HTML Help file (accessible from Start>Programs>Sybase>PowerBuilder 11.0<Compiled HTML Help File or from the HTML Books link in the online Help).

IIS 5.0 or higher must be installed on the computer and configured to use ASP.NET 2.0.

Detailed Instructions

Follow these steps to open the sample in PowerBuilder 11.0:

1. In PowerBuilder 11.0, select File>Open Workspace.

2. In the Open Workspace dialog box, navigate to the n:\Program Files\Sybase\PowerBuilder 11.0\Code Examples\FeedReader folder

3. Select *FeedReader.pbw* and click Open.

4. Create the ODBC System DSN "feed" for the sample SQL Anywhere database provided in the database subfolder. You must have SQL Anywhere 10.0 or higher installed to create this DSN successfully.

5. Create a database profile using the feed DSN and make sure you can connect to it:

    > Database configuration:
    >
    > DBMS = "ODBC"
    >
    > DBParm = "ConnectString='DSN=feed;UID=dba;PWD=sql'"

6. Right click on the feedreader_webform target and select Properties from the pop up menu. Click on the .NET Assemblies tab and add the Atom.Net.dll, RSS.Net.dll, and TortugaDN.dll to the list of .NET assembly references. (Note you should only have to do this if you are not running the code example from the default install location. Delete the existing assemblies listed if they do not point to the correct location.)

7. Open the p_feedreader_webform project and make sure that the path information on the Resource Files and Library Files tabs is correct.

8. Save the project and click the Deploy button in the PainterBar. If the project is successfully deployed, click the Run button to launch the sample in Internet Explorer.

9. Once the application displays you will notice a TreeView DataWindow on the left hand side of the page containing some tags and associated feeds. Click on a feed in the TreeView to see a list of items available on that feed in the right hand DataWindow. Click on one of the links to see the associated article appear in a new browser window.

Notes:

- The feeds database consists of two tables. Tag and Feed. There is a primary-foreign key relationship defined between the tag column in the Tag table and the tag column in the Feed table. This key is set up with a cascade delete so that if you delete a tag, all feeds associated with that tag will also be deleted.

- d_feed_content_brief is an external source DataWindow, populated by the feed .NET assemblies described above. The s_title column and the p_link picture object on the DataWindow have DataWindow expressions defined on their link properties on the HTML tab.

- To find RSS web feeds to add to the application, enter RSS Feeds in a search engine, or search for a keyword followed by RSS. For example, PowerBuilder RSS, or Baseball RSS. Copy the URL from the web page and paste it into the Add Feed URL field in the Feed Reader application.

For more information

For more information, including troubleshooting information, please refer to the Deploying Applications and Components to .NET book in the HTML Help.