Developing OpenSpan
Solutions and Projects
Pega
ACADEMY

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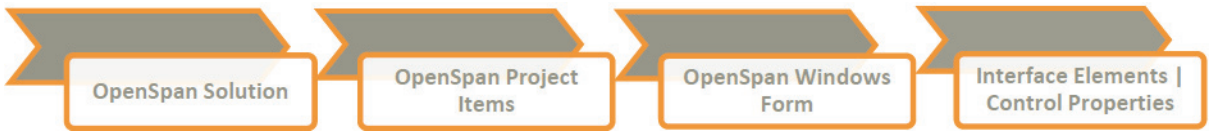
Chapter 3: Developing OpenSpan Solutions and Projects

This chapter describes the basic steps to create an OpenSpan Solution and Project, add a Windows form, add interface elements, and work with renaming Controls Properties in your project.

Building Blocks

While the application and logic are basic, this exercise illustrates the key building blocks in OpenSpan project development. By the end of this chapter you should know how to build the following:



When you finish this chapter, you should know how to do the following:

- Create a solution
- Create a project
- Create a Windows form
- Work with the OpenSpan Toolbox
  - Add interface elements
  - Rename interface elements properties

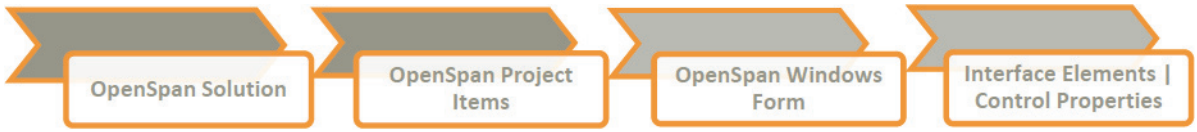
This chapter includes the following topics:

- "Project 1: Building Your First Solution" on page 3-2
  - "Group Exercise 1: Creating a Solution and Adding Project Items" on page 3-2
  - "Group Exercise 2: Creating an OpenSpan Windows Form" on page 3-4
  - "Group Exercise 3: Working with Interface Elements and Control Properties" on page 3-6
  - "Group Exercise 4: Renaming Interface Elements" on page 3-8

Project 1: Building Your First Solution

In this part of the project, you start with building your first solution called the TrainingCertification solution. This consists of the following items and design elements:

- A new solution and project
- Adding a new Windows form to your project
- Working with interface elements and control properties

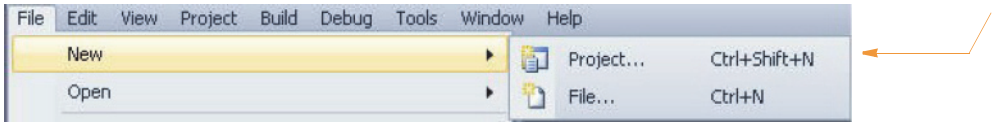


Note The Training Certification solution is used throughout this training.

Group Exercise 1: Creating a Solution and Adding Project Items

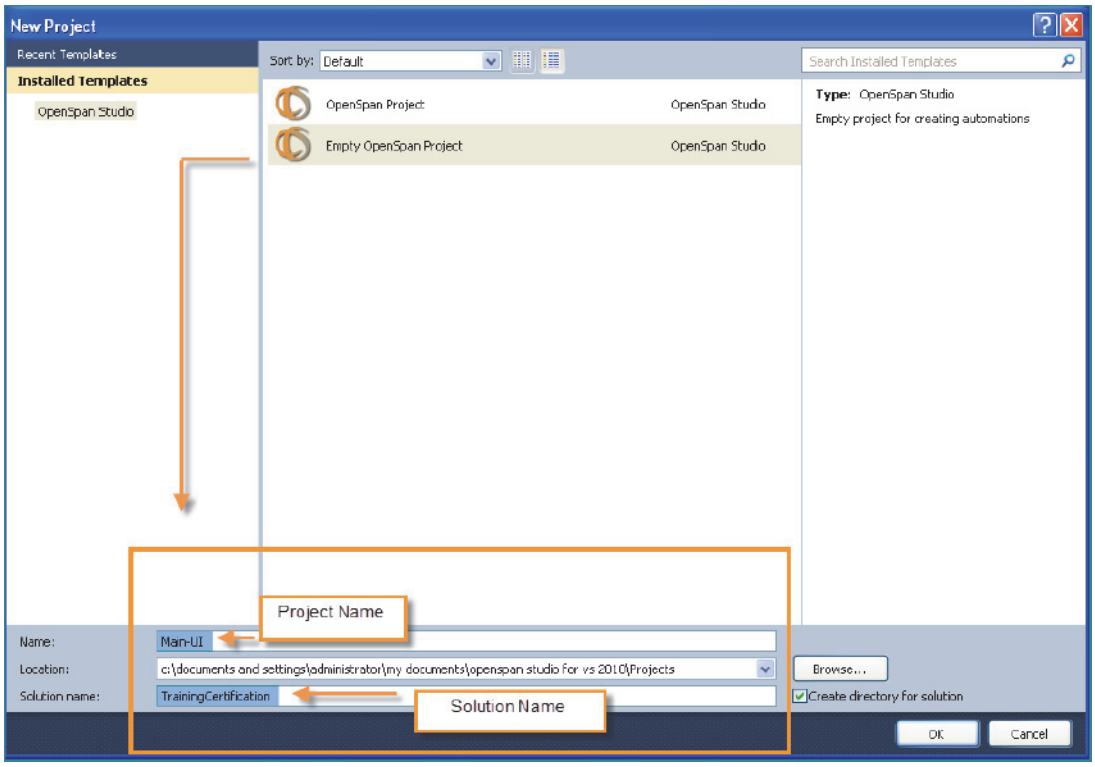
Follow these steps to build your first OpenSpan Solution and Project:

1. Start OpenSpan Studio.
2. Select **File | New | Project**.



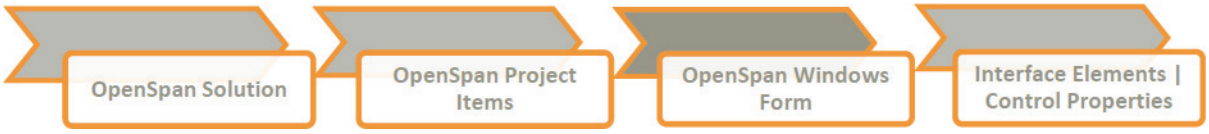
Note You create the name of the Solution at the File | New | Project step.

3. Select **Empty OpenSpan Project** and type **Main-UI** in the Name field. Type **TrainingCertification** in the Solution Name field. Enter a folder location or accept the default and click **OK**.



Note The location of the solution folder should be on the same computer as the OpenSpan Studio or Plug-In installation. Do not save working solutions on partitioned or network drives.

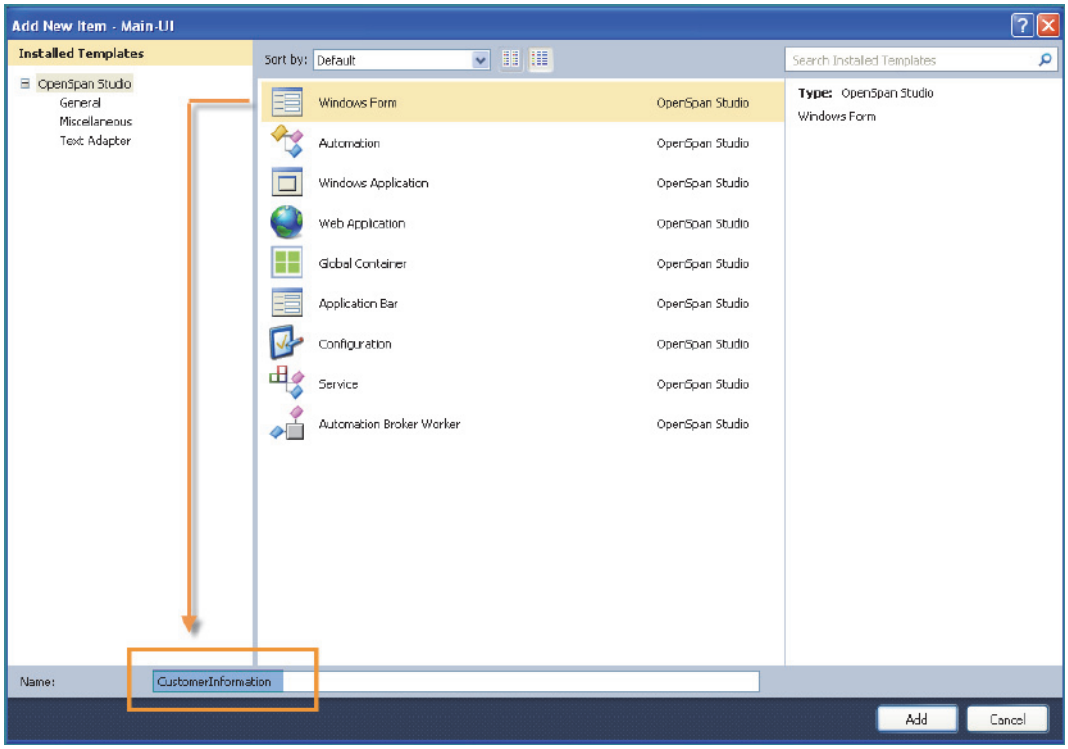
Group Exercise 2: Creating an OpenSpan Windows Form



The next steps show you how to add a Windows form to your project and work with the control Properties window. The OpenSpan Windows form project item lets you represent a window or dialog within an OpenSpan project.

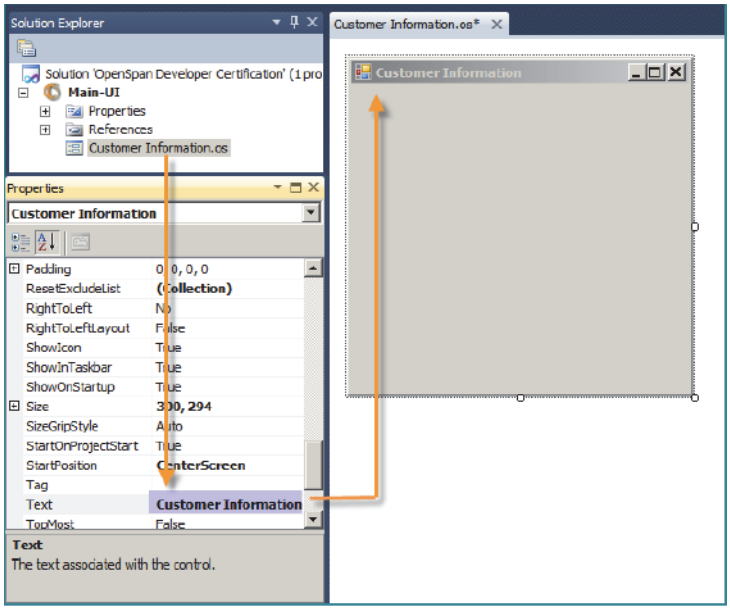
The Windows form you are creating holds key data related to your customers and inquiries used in the OpenSpan Developer Certification solution you are building.

1. In Solution Explorer, right-click the **Main-UI** project and select **Add | New Item**.
2. Select the **Windows Form** option under **Installed Templates**. Type CustomerInformation in the Name field and click **Add**.



The CustomerInformation.os window appears in the OpenSpan Studio Designer window.

3. Next, rename the default name (Design Form) for the Windows Form. In Object Explorer, double-click the **CustomerInformation.os** to display the full list of available properties in the Properties window. Locate the **Text** property field and change its name to Customer Information. Click **Enter.**

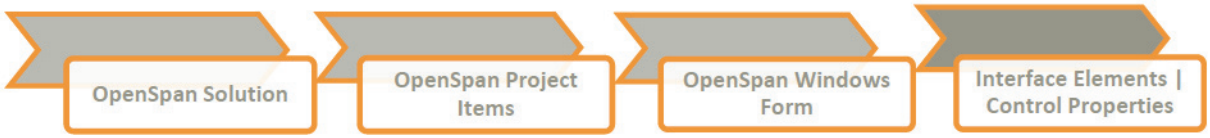


4. In the Properties window for the Customer Information window, set the **TopMost** property to **True**. This will allow the Customer Information window to display as the top most application during debugging.

Select **File | Save CustomerInformation.os**.

You can also click the **Save All** (Ctrl+Shift+S) icon from the toolbar.

Group Exercise 3: Working with Interface Elements and Control Properties

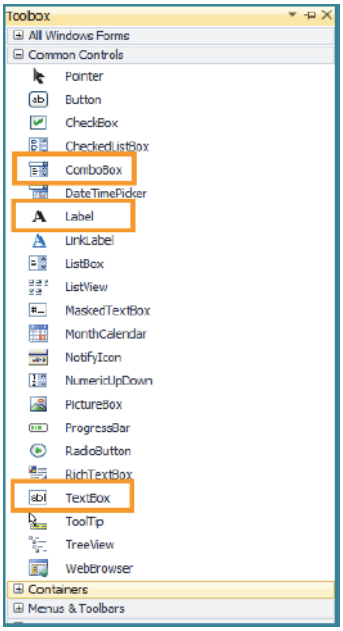


As displayed in the Designer Window, the Customer Information form has no interface elements. You add interface elements (OpenSpan or .NET controls textbox, labels, combo box, and so on) from the Toolbox window.

Adding Toolbox Items — Use the Choose Toolbox Items dialog to add .NET components, OpenSpan components, and OpenSpan Static Members to the Toolbox. Refer to the Adding Toolbox Items topic in OpenSpan Help for additional information.

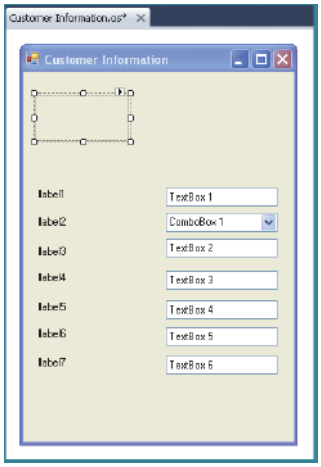
Note If your Toolbox window is not displayed in the OpenSpan IDE, open it from **View | Toolbox**.

1. The controls you need for the Customer Information window are in the Common Controls section of the Toolbox, so expand the **Common Controls** section of the **Toolbox**. For this exercise, add these controls:
   - Label
   - Textbox
   - ComboBox



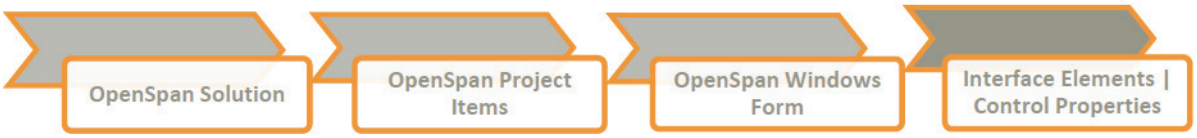
For this project, drag and drop the following controls onto the **Customer Information** window and arrange as shown in the following example:

- 1 PictureBox control
- 7 Label controls
- 6 Textbox controls
- 1 ComboBox control



2. Select **File | Save CustomerInformation.os.**

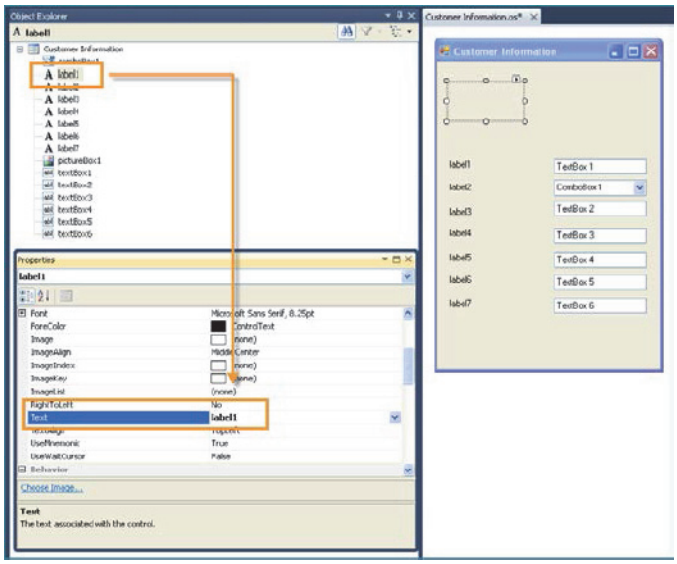
Group Exercise 4: Renaming Interface Elements



Establishing a standardized naming convention for controls and components is an important OpenSpan Recommended Practice. Whether you are building an automation, debugging a solution, or troubleshooting match rules, quickly identifying the controls simplifies the task.

From Object Explorer, you can see each of the controls you added to the Customer Information window. To simplify working with the controls, rename them to something descriptive of their function. When working with controls from the Main-UI adapter, using the Main prefix in the control name helps identify where the control resides.

3. In Object Explorer, select the **label1** control. The label1 control is automatically selected in the **Properties** window because it is selected in Object Explorer.

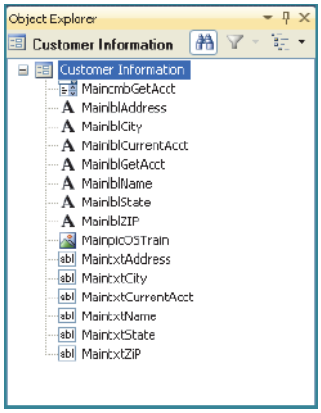


4. Using the **Properties** window, rename each control's **Text** and **Design (Name)** properties as seen in the following table:

Control | Object Name	Text Name	Design Name
Customer Information	BackColor - **Window**	
label1	**Current Account** Font – **Bold (True)** Font | ForeColor - **Highlight**	MainlblCurrentAcct

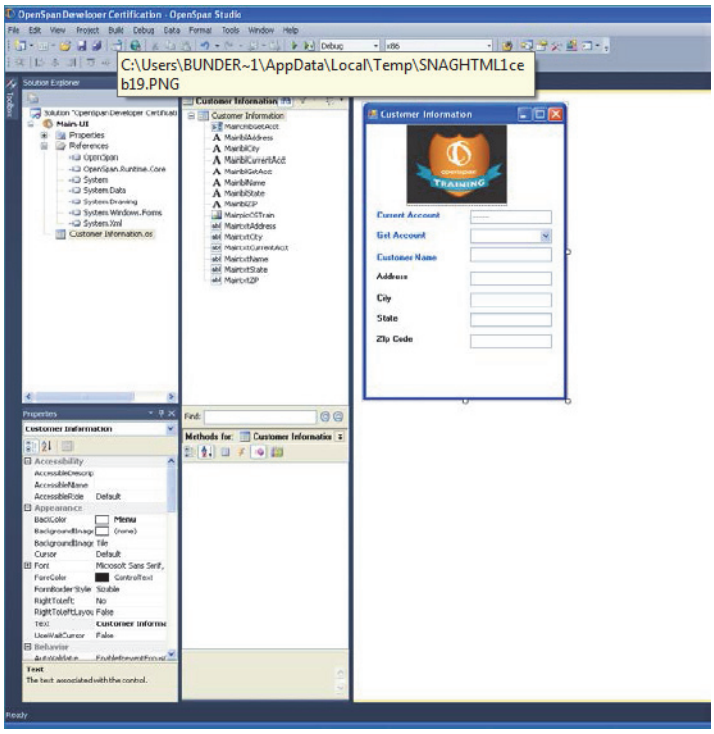
Control | Object Name	Text Name	Design Name
label2	Get Account Font – Bold (True) Font | ForeColor - Highlight	MainlblGetAcct
label3	Customer Name Font – Bold (True) Font | ForeColor - Highlight	MainlblName
label4	Address Font – Bold (True)	MainlblAddress
label5	City Font – Bold (True)	MainlblCity
label6	State Font – Bold (True)	MainlblState
label7	ZIP Code Font – Bold (True)	MainlblZIP
combobox1	(blank) MaxDropDownItems – 100 Sorted - True	MaincmbGetAcct
textbox1	-------- (eight dashes)	MaintxtCurrentAcct
textbox2	(blank)	MaintxtName
textbox3	(blank)	MaintxtAddress
textbox4	(blank)	MaintxtCity
textbox5	(blank)	MaintxtState
textbox6	(blank)	MaintxtZip
pictureBox1	Image – Desktop | OpenSpan Training folder | OpenSpan Training Shield	MainpicOSTrain

The Object Explorer window should look as follows:



5. Select **File | Save CustomerInformation.os**.

   Your TrainingCertification solution should look similar to the following example:



In this chapter, you learned how to:

- Create a new solution called *TrainingCertification.*
- Create a new project that will be defined as the main project within the solution.
- Create a Windows form called *CustomerInformation.*
- Work with the OpenSpan Toolbox.
- Add a combo box, labels, and text fields components.
- Rename Design (Name) and Text field properties for interface elements properties