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easyUpdater

Documentation

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Introduction






easyUpdater is a tool which is integrated into software to update it. easyUpdater is written in Python 3 and therefore very easy to understand. In addition, easyUpdater does without complex functions and emphasizes on being easy to use. So, if you need an update tool without much effort, you can use easyUpdater. easyUpdater is open source and can be used in any software, if you mention the creator of easyUpdater.

Basics

Update routine (easy explanation)

1. Getting the version from the Server
2. Check if the version of the installed version is outdated
3. Update if the installed version is outdated
4. Run the program

Files of easyUpdater

<input type="checkbox"/> Name	<input type="checkbox"/> Name
1.  eUfiles	1.  enableupdate.txt
2.  easyUpdater.pyc	2.  version.txt
3.  exampleprogram.exe	

1. The “eUfiles” folder contains necessary files for easyUpdater. The path for the files in the folder can be changed in the configuration of easyUpdater. In this case the folder is no longer needed.
2. The file “easyUpdater.pyc” is called “easyUpdater.py” in its non-final form. This is the main file of easyUpdater. The file contains the script to update the software. Furthermore this is the file which is executed when the software to be updated is started. The actual software is started after the update routine (if no update is available or the updates are deactivated, the software is started directly).
3. The “exampleprogram.exe” is, as the name suggests, an example program and is not required. It is for testing purposes only and can be replaced by the program that will be updated later.
4. The “enableupdate.txt”, as the name suggests, is used to enable or disable updates. There is exactly one value in the file, true or false. If the value is “true”, updates are downloaded. If the value is “false”, no updates are downloaded.
5. The version of the software is stored in the “version.txt” file. If this version is higher or equal to the version available on the server, no updates are downloaded. If the version on the server is higher than the version in “version.txt”, the file (the update) is downloaded from the server and installed.
6. There is also a temporary file called onlineversion.txt which appears when easyUpdater is currently active. This file is downloaded from the server to compare the versions. More about this in the detailed explanation of the update process.

Functionality and more detailed update process

1. The software is started by the user. The link starts easyUpdater. It opens.
2. easyUpdater checks whether the updates in the “enableupdate.txt” file are activated. If the value in the file is “true”, it continues with the next step, if the updates are not activated, it continues with step x.
 - 2.1. easyUpdater downloads the file “onlineversion.txt” from the specified http server. The server can be found in the configuration with the name “onlineversionfile”.
 - 2.2. The file “onlineversion.txt” is read and its value stored in a variable.
 - 2.3. In the file “onlineversion.txt” the value 0 is now set to prevent errors. The variable value “onlineversion”, however, remains the version that was previously in the file.
 - 2.4. Now the local/offline version file “version.txt” is read. Its value is set into the variable “currentversion”.
 - 2.5. Update process

- 2.5.1. At this point it is checked whether an update is available. If the variable "onlineversion" has a higher value than the variable "currentversion", the update process continues (step 2.5.2). Otherwise it continues with step 2.6.
- 2.5.2. The update zip archive "update.zip" is downloaded to the "downloadpath" directory, which can be set in the configuration.
- 2.5.3. The update zip archive "update.zip" is unpacked. The old files are overwritten and the new files are inserted. The software is now updated.
- 2.5.4. The local/offline version file "version.txt" is edited and the new version number is inserted.
- 2.5.5. The update zip archive "update.zip" is deleted because it is no longer needed.
- 3. Run the software. The path of the program to be executed defines the variable "executeableprogramfile" in the configuration.

Can I remove the print commands?

Yes.

Configuration, Files and Server

Configuration

downloadpath

This variable determines where the update.zip file that contains the update downloads from. This must be a URL. The file must be located on an http server.

onlineversionfile

This variable determines where easyUpdater should get the "onlineversion.txt" file from. Here again a link to a file on a http-server must be inserted.

versionfile

This variable determines the directory where the "version.txt" file is stored. This is the local/offline version file. So a relative local path must be set here.

enableupdatefile

This variable determines the directory where the "enableupdate.txt" file is stored. This file determines whether updates are to be downloaded or not. This is a local file, so a local relative path must be set here.

programdirectory

This variable determines the directory of the program / software. Usually this is the same directory where the easyUpdater.py / easyUpdater.pyc is located. Therefore the relative path "." is usually sufficient here. Otherwise it can be changed here.

executeableprogramfile

This variable specifies the file to run after the update. This is usually the actual software.

Files

easyUpdater.py/easyUpdater.pyc

This is the main file of easyUpdater. By default it comes as "easyUpdater.py". But as soon as easyUpdater is configured, it is recommended to convert it to a ".pyc" (Python compiled file) so that no more changes can be made. This file contains the configuration, which defines the paths for the other files and the download servers for the updates. In addition, this file contains the source code of easyUpdater.

enableupdate.txt

This is the file that determines whether easyUpdater updates should be downloaded. It is a simple .txt file, which simply contains the value "true" or "false". The file path of this file is defined in the configuration with the variable "enableupdatefile".

version.txt

The "version.txt" is the local/offline version file in which the current version of the installed software is stored. The "version.txt" only contains the version number, which is specified according to the following scheme: "x.x". The version number must be a decimal number! No letters, no special characters, only numbers! Otherwise the update process will not work and easyUpdater will show an error message. The path of this file can be changed in the configuration with the variable "versionfile".

onlineversion.txt

The file "onlineversion.txt" is a temporary file. It always appears in the same directory where the file "easyUpdater.py" is stored. It is the online version file. The "onlineversion.txt" is downloaded from the update server when easyUpdater is started and the updates are activated. The file contains the version number of the software version on the server. The file is used to compare the version from the server with the installed version. The download path is specified in the configuration with the variable "onlineversionfile". The "onlineversion.txt" is deleted after use.

Exampleprogram and Folders???

The files "exampleprogram.exe", "exampleprogram.bat", "executeable.bat", etc... or the folder "eUfiles", etc... are not shown here because they are examples. The executable file and its path are specified in the configuration.

Server

The server of easyUpdater is basically a normal http web server like apache2. There are 2 files on this server. The "serverversion.txt", and the "update.zip" file, which contains the update.

serverversion.txt

The "serverversion.txt" is the file that is downloaded every time the program starts, if the updates are activated. It is saved on the PC as "onlineversion.txt". It contains the version number of the update on the server, which is given in the same way as in "version.txt".

update.zip

The file "update.zip" contains the actual update and is only downloaded if an update is available. This zip archive contains the updated files