Social Media Integration on iOS

Jonathan R. Engelsma, Ph.D.
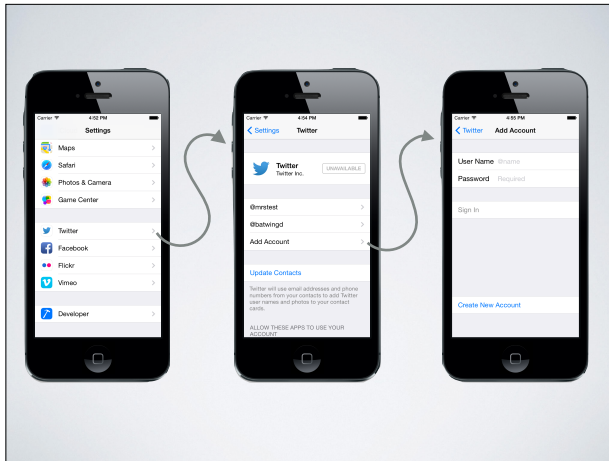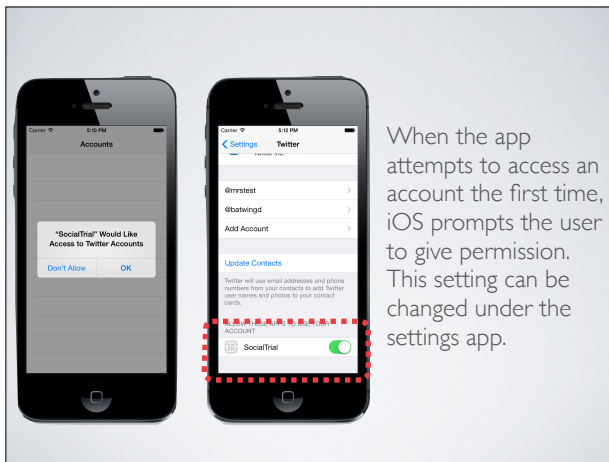

TOPICS

- The Accounts Framework.

- The Social Framework

- UIActivityViewController

SOCIAL INTEGRATION

- Before iOS5, developers had to integrate social media with apps from scratch or using a third party library/SDK.

- Twitter was integrated into iOS with the release of iOS 5.

- Facebook, Weibo, added in iOS6

- Vimeo, Flickr added in iOS7.

When the app attempts to access an account the first time, iOS prompts the user to give permission. This setting can be changed under the settings app.

ADVANTAGES

- Developer:
  - standardizes the integration with popular sites.
  - no need to use 3rd party libraries / SDK's.
- End User:
  - Single sign on! Only provide credentials once!
  - More secure - trust iOS with credentials, not any old app!

ACCOUNTS FRAMEWORK

- Provides apps access with the onboard "accounts database".

- Accounts database stores credentials to popular websites (Twitter, Facebook, etc.).

- If the user doesn't already have an account setup, and new one can be added without leaving the app.

https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/Accounts/Reference/AccountsFrameworkRef/_index.html

SOCIAL FRAMEWORK

- Provides a generalized framework to integrate with popular social media sites:

  - create a network session

  - get activity feed for user.

  - make a new post

  - set properties for a post

  - publish a post

TWITTER INTEGRATION DEMO
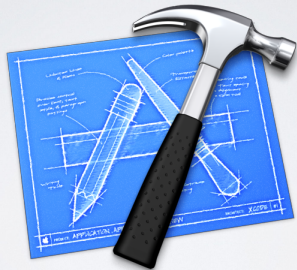
UIACTIVITYVIEWCONTROLLER

- Standard view controller that supports:

  - sharing (SMS, email, social media)

  - Copy, AirDrop, Bookmark

  - Can be customized!

READING ASSIGNMENT

- Chapters 13 & 20: Programming iOS8 (Neuburg - focus on sections for Twitter Post and UIActivityViews)

UIACTIONVIEWCONTROLLER DEMO