

VANTIQ ACADEMY

WIDGET BEST PRACTICES

WWW.VANTIQ.COM

Vantiq Procedures Elective Class

TOPIC OBJECTIVES

- To Learn Recommended Ways to Use Widgets in the Client

AGENDA

- Why Conventions?
- Client Naming Convention
- Widget Naming Conventions

WHY CONVENTIONS?



- Consistency is key
- Err on the side of too much information
- Vital to project maintenance over time!

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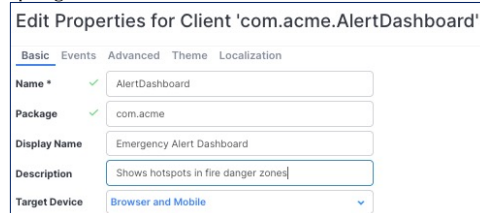
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Vantiq's naming conventions were developed from long experience with all aspects of the product and have been proven to make it easier for a developer to understand what's in the project and how it works. A standards following well-organized application saves a lot of time over its maintenance life.

CLIENT & PAGE NAMING CONVENTIONS

- Clients should be in packages
- Clients and Pages should have names in Pascal Case, e.g.:
 - Client: com.acme.AlertDashboard
 - Standard Page: AlertPage
 - Popup Page: AlertDetailsPopupPage
- Useful Display Name, too:



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Edit Properties for Client 'com.acme.AlertDashboard'". It has five tabs: "Basic", "Events", "Advanced", "Theme", and "Localization". The "Basic" tab is selected. It contains the following fields:

Field	Value
Name *	AlertDashboard
Package	com.acme
Display Name	Emergency Alert Dashboard
Description	Shows hotspots in fire danger zones
Target Device	Browser and Mobile

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We discuss package naming conventions at length in the Service Development Best Practices class, but here we'll just concentrate on Clients within packages. At every opportunity, do take advantage of the many Description entry points for VantIQ resources; the more that's explained, the easier it is to ramp up another developer to this project.

LAYOUT & BUTTON WIDGET NAMES

<WhatItIs>:<WhatItDoes>

- vrLayoutOrder
- hrLayoutOrder
- accordPeople
- fxdLayoutFloorplan
- flLayoutCards
- grLayoutPeople
- tbLayoutAlerts
- scrLayoutAlertData
- btnSubmitOrder
- mBtnGotoPageInvoice
- mBarTopMenu
- mItemSave

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In naming widgets, the general name construct is an abbreviated widget type, followed by a descriptive name in Pascal Case. So on the left we have examples from the layout widgets: vertical and horizontal, accordian, fixed, flow, grid, tab and scroll, followed by names that provide a clue of their function. On the right, a simple in-line button is designated with be tee en, where as the menu buttons in accordians, or menu bar with menu items, all start with m, and then btn.

DISPLAY WIDGET NAME CODES

<WhatItIs>:<WhatItDoes>

Widget	Name Abbreviation
Text	txt
Icon	icon
Image	img
List	lst
Number	nbr
Viewer	view
Document	doc
HTML	html
Markdown	md

Widget	Name Abbreviation
Map	map
Plan	plan
Table	tbl
Label	lbl
Chat	cht
Conversation	conv
Calendar	cal
Canvas	cnvs

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Now that you've seen the pattern, we'll dispense with the name function part of the convention to focus on the widget identity abbreviations. I should stress that developers do not need to explicitly name each and every widget in their Client, but only those that will be referenced from somewhere else. Thus, if I have an image widget on the page to display different company logos as needed, I'd probably name it "imgLogo" so that I know what it is and have a clue what it's for.

CHARTS, MOBILE & INPUT WIDGET CODES

<WhatItIs>:<WhatItDoes>

Chart Widget	Abbr
Gauge	gauge
Line	line
Column	col
Bar	bar
Pie	pie

Mobile Input Widget	Abbr
Audio	aud
Video	vid
Camera	cam
Barcode	bcode
Map	map
Markup	mrk
Signature	sig

Input Widget	Abbr
Date	date
DateTime	dt
Currency	curr
Integer	int
Real	real
Decimal	dec
String	str
MultiLine	multi
Checkbox	chkBox
Droplist	drpLst
ComboBox	cmbBox
Radio	radio
Object	obj

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These are yet more widget codes for the naming convention. This slide can be used for future reference.

DATASTREAMS & DATA OBJECTS

Data Streams: <WhatItIs>:<WhereItIs_WhatItDoes>

Stream Type	Abbr
Client	ce<PageName_Name>
Data	ds<DatatypeName>
Publish	pb<TopicName>
Resource	re<ResourceName>
Service	se<ServiceName_EventName>
Timed	tm<TimedName>
Paged	pg<DatatypeName_Paged>

Data Objects: use CamelCase, e.g: **customerName**, **statusArray**

The naming convention for Datastreams is a little different from widget names. In the name, where useful, we're also including information about where or how it's being used. Data Objects, being essentially variables, are named in CamelCase.

SUMMARY

- Vantiq's naming and coding conventions are common-sense guidelines for making projects understandable for later application maintenance work.

Every successful application needs maintenance over time. Following the conventions listed in this video will make updates much easier.

KEY URLS/RESOURCES

- Client Builder User's Guide
 - <https://dev.vantiq.com/docs/system/cbuser/>
- Client Builder Reference Guide
 - <https://dev.vantiq.com/docs/system/cbref/>
- Layout Management User's Guide
 - <https://dev.vantiq.com/docs/system/layout/>
- Client Styling User's Guide
 - <https://dev.vantiq.com/docs/system/cbstyling/>

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THANK YOU

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