

# Adding Custom Forms With Form Wizards And The Open Tools API

NIGEL TAVENDALE & JENS FUDGE  
[www.allthingssyslog.com](http://www.allthingssyslog.com)  
[www.archersoft.dk](http://www.archersoft.dk)



# Code Samples

<https://github.com/ntavendale/OpenToolsAPIForms>



# Adding A New Module

## 1. Tell The IDE About The Module



```
procedure RegisterCustomModule (ComponentBaseClass: TComponentClass;  
                                CustomModuleClass: TCustomModuleClass);
```

Found in DesignIntf.pas

## 2. Tell Users About The Module

Create A Form Wizard. Implement Interfaces.

IOTAWizard

IOTAFormWizard

IOTARepositoryWizard

IOTAFile

IOTACreator

IOTAModuleCreator



# IOTAFile

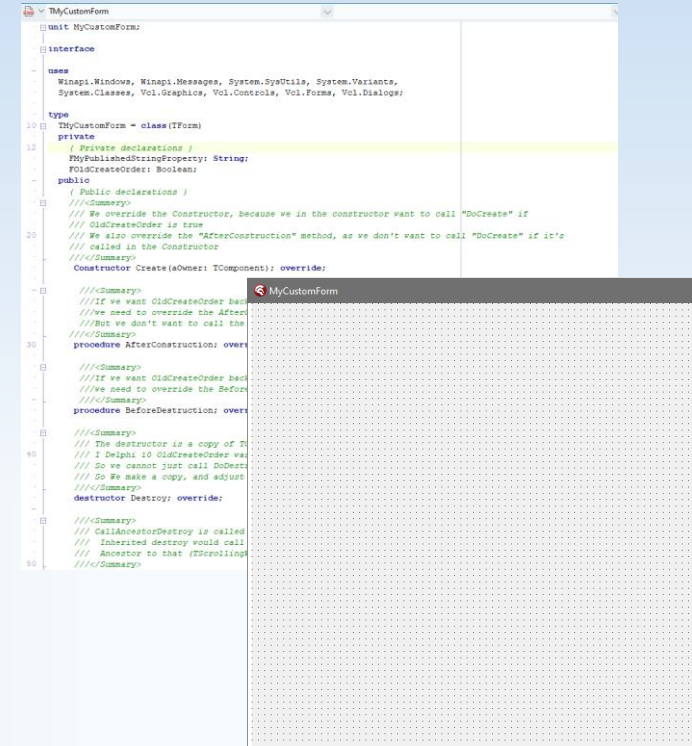
Need to create base .pas and .dfm files for module when we add it to the project.

```
function GetSource: String;
```

Interface implemented twice:

TUnitFile – pascal source

TFormFile – dfm source



# IOTARepositoryWizard

Need to implement this for our module to be in the File->New->Other dialog.

Provides basic info – author, comment. Page is deprecated!

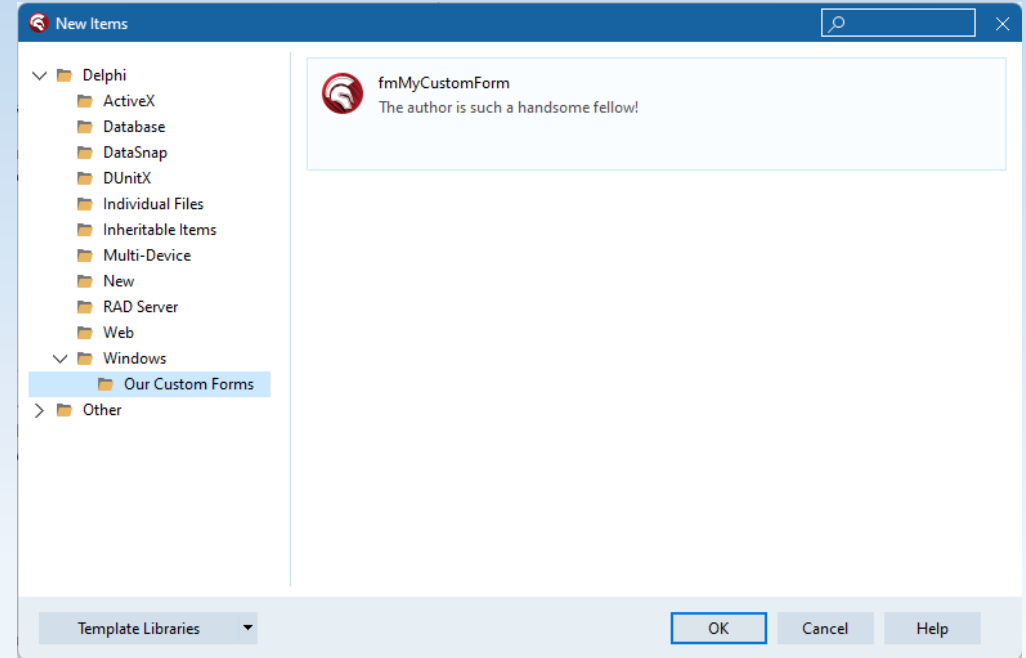
## IOTARepositoryWizard60

Designer – dVCL, dCLX, dFMX, dDotNet etc

## IOTARepositoryWizard80

Gallery Category

Personality – Delphi, CBuilder, DelphiDotNet etc...



# IOTACreator

Tell IDE which project new module was created for.

```
function GetOwner: IOTAModule;
```

## IOTAModuleCreator

Actual class for creating source files and returning file name.

Pascal source and IOTAFile interface to generate source

TFormFile name and IOTAFile Interface to generate dfm source

Form Name

Ancestor Name



# Further Reading

*ToolsAPI.pas* - Most of the documentation is simply the comments in this file. There are almost no help topics either in the IDE help or online.

David Hoyle's GitHub page: <https://github.com/DGH2112/The-Open-Tools-API-Project>

*The Delphi 6 Developer's Guide* – Steve Teixeira & Xavier Pacheco (Chapter 17)



NIGEL TAVENDALE

[nigel.tavendale@allthingssyslog.com](mailto:nigel.tavendale@allthingssyslog.com)

[www.allthingssyslog.com](http://www.allthingssyslog.com)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nigel-tavendale-2a6a723>