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*Home (/) / WiX Toolset v3 Tutorial (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial/) / User Interface (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial/user-interface/) / New Link in the Chain

New Link in the Chain

Although the WixUI interface libraries can handle most usual setup scenarios, modifications or additions are sometimes required. To handle these cases, the WiX source code (https://github.com/wixtoolset/wix3/archive /refs/heads/master.zip) has to be downloaded, too, because we will need to take a peek at some source files.

In our sample (/system/files/samples /SampleWixUIAddDlg.zip), we will modify the WixUI_Mondo library, adding a new dialog to collect registration information (name, organization, serial number) from the user. The new dialog will appear between the License Agreement and Setup Type dialogs.

To achieve this, we have to provide a new UserRegistrationDlg.wxs file describing this new dialog. You can start with an existing dialog, modifying it, or writing your dialog from scratch. A later lesson (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial/user-interface-revisited) describes how to create dialogs and use various interface elements in WiX. Here we only mention a few remarks:

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='windows-1252'?>
<Wix xmlns="http://schemas.microsoft.com/wix/200
6/wi">
```

We have to author the new dialog as a separate fragment:

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Now you can install with confidence. FireGiant arms you with accurate support from the creators of WiX.

Because there are no questions we can't answer or problems we can't solve, you can unleash the full functionality of WiX without a doubt.

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 - Getting Started (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial /getting-started/)
- ▼ User Interface (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial /user-interface/)

```
<Fragment>
    <UI>
        <Dialog Id="UserRegistrationDlg" Width="</pre>
370" Height="270" Title="[ProductName] Setup" No
Minimize="yes">
            <Control Id="NameLabel" Type="Text"</pre>
X="45" Y="73" Width="100" Height="15" TabSkip="n
o" Text="&User Name:" />
            <Control Id="NameEdit" Type="Edit" X</pre>
="45" Y="85" Width="220" Height="18" Property="U
SERNAME" Text="{80}" />
            <Control Id="OrganizationLabel" Type</pre>
="Text" X="45" Y="110" Width="100" Height="15" T
abSkip="no" Text="&Organization:" />
            <Control Id="OrganizationEdit" Type</pre>
="Edit" X="45" Y="122" Width="220" Height="18" P
roperty="COMPANYNAME" Text="{80}" />
            <Control Id="CDKeyLabel" Type="Text"</pre>
X="45" Y="147" Width="50" Height="10" TabSkip="n
0">
                 <Text>CD & amp; Key: </Text>
             </Control>
            <Control Id="CDKeyEdit" Type="Masked</pre>
Edit" X="45" Y="159" Width="250" Height="16" Pro
perty="PIDKEY" Text="[PIDTemplate]" />
```

The dialog will be inserted into the original chain of dialogs. We have to specify which dialogs it will step forward or backward to in this chain: License Agreement and Setup Type. We can learn the actual identifiers of these dialogs if we look into the source file of <code>WixUI_Mondo</code>: src\ext\UIExtension\wixlib \WixUI Mondo.wxs in the download source package. The

- First Steps (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial /user-interface/first-steps/) Custom Settings (/docs/wix/v3 /tutorial/user-interface/customsettings/) UI Wizardry (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial /user-interface/ui-wizardry/) Do You Speak English? (/docs/wix/v3 /tutorial/user-interface/do-you-speakenglish/) New Link in the Chain (/docs /wix/v3/tutorial/user-interface/newlink-in-the-chain/) Think Localized (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial /user-interface/think-localized/)
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- ► COM, Expression Syntax, Miscellanea (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial/com-expression-

names are *LicenseAgreementDlg* and *SetupTypeDlg*, so this is how we refer to them from this new dialog:

syntax-miscellanea/)

- ► SQL (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial/sql/)
- User Interface Revisited (/docs/wix/v3

/tutorial/user-interface-revisited/)

► Transforms (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial

/transforms/)

▶ Standard Libraries (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial

/standard-libraries/)

▶ Localization (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial

/localization/)

```
<Control Id="Back" Type="PushBut</pre>
ton" X="180" Y="243" Width="56" Height="17" Text
="&Back">
                    <Publish Event="NewDialog" V
alue="LicenseAgreementDlg">1</Publish>
                </Control>
                <Control Id="Next" Type="PushBut</pre>
ton" X="236" Y="243" Width="56" Height="17" Defa
ult="yes" Text="&Next">
                     <Publish Event="ValidateProd
uctID" Value="0">1</Publish>
                     <Publish Event="SpawnWaitDia
log" Value="WaitForCostingDlg">CostingComplete =
1</Publish>
                    <Publish Event="NewDialog" V
alue="SetupTypeDlg">ProductID</Publish>
                </Control>
                <Control Id="Cancel" Type="PushB</pre>
utton" X="304" Y="243" Width="56" Height="17" Ca
ncel="yes" Text="Cancel">
                    <Publish Event="SpawnDialog"
Value="CancelDlg">1</Publish>
                </Control>
                <Control Id="BannerBitmap" Type</pre>
="Bitmap" X="0" Y="0" Width="370" Height="44" Ta
bSkip="no" Text="WixUI_Bmp_Banner" />
                <Control Id="Description" Type="</pre>
Text" X="25" Y="23" Width="280" Height="15" Tran
sparent="yes" NoPrefix="yes">
                     <Text>Please enter your cust
omer information</Text>
                </Control>
                <Control Id="BottomLine" Type="L
ine" X="0" Y="234" Width="370" Height="0" />
                <Control Id="Title" Type="Text"</pre>
```

It is rather easy to incorporate the dialog into the original user interface. Instead of simply referencing <code>WixUI_Mondo</code> as we did earlier, we build our own interface with the <code>UI</code> tag. However, we still want to use the bulk of <code>WixUI_Mondo</code>, so we start by calling it with <code>UIRef</code> and only add our modifications: first, we refer to our new <code>UserRegistrationDlg</code> dialog.

Then we have to specify the remaining two links. The License Agreement dialog used to point to the Setup Type dialog as its successor and vice versa. Now that our own dialog is inserted between them, we have to modify their *Next* and *Back* links correspondingly. The easy way is to copy the relevant Publish tags from WixUI_Mondo.wxs and modify the Value attribute to point to our new dialog, without changing anything else:

The main file will need to define the property we referred to. MaskedEdit controls use various characters (https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa369797.aspx) to determine what and how will appear in the control, what kind of input the control will accept and how the final data assigned to the receiving property will be formed.

```
<Property Id="PIDTemplate"><![CDATA[12345<### ##
#>@@@@@]]></Property>
```

And this is all there is to it. Now we can build our modified installer with the following commands:

candle.exe SampleWixUIAddDlg.wxs UserRegistratio
nDlg.wxs

light.exe -ext WixUIExtension -out SampleWixUIAd
dDlg.msi SampleWixUIAddDlg.wixobj UserRegistrati
onDlg.wixobj

< Do You Speak English? (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial/user-interface/do-you-speak-english/)</p>

up (/docs/wix/v3/tutorial/user-interface/)

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