Module 3

"Data Binding Collections [Foundation]"





Agenda

- Data Binding to Collections
- Data Templates
- Change Notification



Binding Item Controls

- ▶ Item controls can be bound to a collection of objects
- ▶ ItemsControl.
 - ItemsSource
 - DisplayMemberPath
 - IsSynchronizedWithCurrentItem
 - Is ItemControl.CurrentItem synchronized with ICollectionView.CurrentItem?
 - ItemTemplate
- Can also just bind a single property to a list



Collection Views

- A collection view manages data currency for collection
 - Is automatically generated behind the scenes
 - Retrieve via CollectionViewSource.GetDefaultView()
- ▶ ICollectionView
 - CurrentPosition, CurrentItem
 - MoveCurrentTo, MoveCurrentToFirst, MoveCurrentToLast, MoveCurrentToNext, MoveCurrentToPrevious, MoveCurrentToPosition
 - IsCurrentBeforeFirst, IsCurrentAfterLast
- ▶ ICollectionView
 - IList
 - IBindingList

CollectionView
ListCollectionView
BindingListCollectionView



Master-Detail Binding

- Master-Details view can be created by
 - Binding primary ItemsControl to master collection
 - Binding secondary **ItemsControl** to property (or relation) between master and details collection
 - Synchronizing on current items
- Remember to set IsSynchronizedWithCurrentItem = true on primary ItemsControl



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Data Templates

- Data Templates are XAML-fragments determining how bound data is displayed
- DataTemplate
 - Can be set via **ContentControl.ContentTemplate** property
 - Can be set via **ItemsControl.ItemTemplate** property
 - Mutually exclusive with DisplayMemberPath property!
 - Can be defined
 - Directly in bound control
 - In Resources
- Data template can be automatically applied to all elements of a certain type
 - Set DataTemplate.DataType
 - Don't specify an x:Key for data template!



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INotifyPropertyChanged

- Implement INotifyPropertyChanged to propagate modifications to a single element through data binding
 - PropertyChanged event
 - Raise event with CLR property name whenever it is changed



ObservableCollection<T>

- Implement collections by inheriting ObservableCollection<T>
 - Located in WindowsBase.dll!
- Automatically propagates adding and removal of elements to collection
- Handling change notifications overall
 - Implement INotifyPropertyChanged on single elements of type T
 - Inherit collection storage class from ObservableCollection<T>



Summary

- Complex Data Binding
- Data Templates
- Change Notification



