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Thread: [Get Default Browser + URL](#)

frapppp - July 17, 2014, 5:29 am

I posted something somewhere on here a while ago and a few people contacted me asking me for help dealing with browsers. I forgot I had this and found it earlier, so figured I could post it up here for anyone that'd find it useful.

Code class browserHandler

```
{
    genericHandler gHandler = new genericHandler();

    public string getBrowser()
    {
        const string userChoice =
@ "Software\Microsoft\Windows\Shell\Associations\UrlAssociations\http\UserChoice";
        string progId;

        using (RegistryKey userChoiceKey = Registry.CurrentUser.OpenSubKey(userChoice))
        {
            if (userChoiceKey == null)
            {
                return "unsupported";
            }
            object progIdValue = userChoiceKey.GetValue("ProgId");
            if (progIdValue == null)
            {
                return "unsupported";
            }
            progId = progIdValue.ToString();
            switch (progId)
            {
                case "IE.HTTP":
                    return "iexplore";
                case "FirefoxURL":
                    return "firefox";
                case "ChromeHTML":
                    return "chrome";
                default:
                    return "unsupported";
            }
        }
    }
}

public string getFFURL()
{
    DdeClient dde = new DdeClient("Firefox", "WWW_GetWindowInfo");
    dde.Connect();
    string url = dde.Request("URL", int.MaxValue);
}
```

```

    dde.Disconnect();
    return url;
}

public string getIEURL()
{
    genericHandler gHandler = new genericHandler();
    string fileName;

    foreach (InternetExplorer ie in new ShellWindows())
    {
        fileName = Path.GetFileNameWithoutExtension(ie.FullName).ToLower();
        if ((gHandler.isInteresting(ie.LocationURL.ToString()) && (fileName.Equals("iexplore"))))
        { return ie.LocationURL.ToString(); }
        else { continue; }
    }

    return null;
}

public string getChromeURL()
{
    Process[] procsChrome = Process.GetProcessesByName("chrome");
    foreach (Process chrome in procsChrome)
    {
        // the chrome process must have a window
        if (chrome.MainWindowHandle == IntPtr.Zero)
        {
            continue;
        }

        // find the automation element
        AutomationElement elm =
AutomationElement.FromHandle(chrome.MainWindowHandle);
        AutomationElement elmUrlBar = elm.FindFirst(TreeScope.Descendants,
new PropertyCondition(AutomationElement.NameProperty, "Address and search bar"));

        // if it can be found, get the value from the URL bar
        if (elmUrlBar != null)
        {
            AutomationPattern[] patterns = elmUrlBar.GetSupportedPatterns();
            if (patterns.Length > 0)
            {
                ValuePattern val = (ValuePattern)elmUrlBar.GetCurrentPattern(patterns[0]);
                if (!val.Current.Value.Contains("https"))
                {
                    string link = "http://" + val.Current.Value;
                    // gHandler.logMsg("Found [" + link + "]");
                    return link;
                }
            }
            else
            {
                gHandler.logMsg("Found [" + val.Current.Value + "]");
            }
        }
    }
}

```

```

        return val.Current.Value;
    }
}
else { return "error"; }
}
}

return "error";
}
}

```

Ignore my logging stuff. Any questions feel free to post.

sh@rp - July 18, 2014, 12:59 pm

partly copied from this link :

<http://en.lmgty.com/?q=Get+default+browser+C%23>

Quote: DdeClient dde = new DdeClient("Firefox", "WWW_GetWindowInfo");
dde.Connect();

you don't understand the code and you have forgotten to copy the half ---> where is the DdeClient class ???

camelCase - September 7, 2015, 2:59 pm

This way works but is horribly efficient. There is no proper way that I am aware of without hooking, which for modern browsers requires an extension to be added into the browser for that program.

My apologies for ing an old thread.