XtraAppleEvent

XtraAppleEvent

Version 1.00

Copyright by Jesper Storm Bache, February 1998.

jesper@bache.com

Latest version always found at www.bache.com/sgml.html

See section for 1.2 info. about "price"

1.1 Introduction

XtraAppleEvent is a FrameMaker/FrameMaker+SGML enhancement, that expands the possibility to control FrameMaker via AppleScript/AppleEvents.

The module includes the ability to:

· Add text to background flows
· Start / Stop updating the document display
· Set the contents of a variable
· Get paragraph number of current insertion point
· Delete markers from a paragraph

Notice!
XtraAppleEvent runs only on PPC or 68K Macintosh machines. XtraAppleEvent requires FrameMaker or FrameMaker+SGML version 5.5 or greater.

Warning!
THE USE OF THIS MODULE IS AT YOUR OWN RISK. IT HAS NOT BEEN TESTED THROUGHLY

1.2 Price

The module is "Helpware". If you find it useful please donate $5 - $10 to your favorite grassroot organization and send a mail to donations@bache.com. Subject: HelpWare. Contents: amount and organization.

1.3 Installation

To use the module do the following:

Quit FrameMaker or FrameMaker+SGML

Move the files "XtraAppleEvent" to the modules folder in the Frame-folder.

1.4 How to use

To use the XtraAppleEvent do as follows:

· Start FrameMaker or FrameMaker+SGML
· Open a document.
· Start the Script Editor

The following sections explain how to use the different functions.

The reason for the cryptic AppleScript syntax is, that the AppleScript editor only reads the syntax description from the FrameMaker application. I didn't want to mess with the FrameMaker resources, so we'll have to live with the ugly syntax.

An example FrameMaker document & AppleScript is enclosed in the download. To use the demo: open the document with FrameMaker. Open and run the AppleScript.

1.4.1 Add text to background flow

A background flow does not have a tag, so it must be referenced in an other way. XtraAppleEvent identifies background flows by the number that is entered in the flow.

Only the active document is affected.

To create an identifiable background flow do the following:

· Switch to master page
· Create a background flow
· Position the cursor in the flow and enter a number.

To insert text in to this background flow from AppleScript use the following code:

```
tell application "FrameMaker+SGML 5.5"

«event AEXTTBcF» given «class Txt »:"This is the background flow", «class Flow»:"0"

end tell
```

The text after «class Txt » will be put in to the text flow. Note the class is "Txt "with a trailing blank. The id after «class Flow» is the number that was entered in the text flow.

1.4.2 Start / Stop displaying

When you have finished debugging your AppleScript, you can increase the execution speed, but telling Frame not to format changes while processing the AppleScript.

To stop and start displaying use the code:

```
tell application "FrameMaker+SGML 5.5"

-- Stop displaying
```

```
«event AEXTNoDp»

--- Do something here

-- Start displaying again

«event AEXTDpOn»

end tell
```

1.4.3 Setting the contents of a variable

To set the contents of a FrameMaker variable in the active document do:

```
tell application "FrameMaker+SGML 5.5"

«event AEXTzVar» given «class Name»:"myVariable", «class vlue»:"the contents"

end tell
```

The text after «class Name» is the name of the variable to be changed. The text after «class vlue» is new contents of the variable.

1.4.4 Get paragraph number of insertion point

This routine returns the number of the paragraph, that the beginning of the current text selection belongs to. It relates to the text selection in the active document.

To use:

```
tell application "FrameMaker+SGML 5.5"

set theRes to «event AEXTGpar»

end tell
```

After the call theRes is the paragraph number. First paragraph in the flow is number 1.

1.4.5 Deleting markers

Using XtraAppleEvent it is possible to delete markers from a specific paragraph.

To delete markers do:

```
tell application "FrameMaker+SGML 5.5"

set theRes to «event AEXTRmMk» given «class type»:{-1}, «class para»:3

end tell
```

The list after «class type» is a list of the marker types, that are to be deleted. -1 means: "delete every marker". {3,5} would mean delete only markers of type 3 or 5. The id after «class para» is the number of the paragraph that should have it's markers deleted.

1.5 Version history

1.5.1 Version 1.00

Initial release