



METAOPTION

CASE STUDY

Flickr ID Plugin For Andromeda Software

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Flickr ID Plugin

The Client

Andromeda Software is a graphics software engineering company that specializes in multi-platform, quality engineered products. Andromeda creates distinctive plug-ins and provides superior web and print based image manipulation services.

The Challenge

Andromeda required a plug-in that would allow users quick and easy access to images in their Flickr accounts for use in the InDesign workspace.

A Few Solutions

MetaOption designed a GetFrom Flickr Plug-in allowing users direct Flickr account access from within InDesign. This is an easy-to-use interface. Users may select and adjust individual images or entire sets, and GetFrom does the rest. GetFrom also pulls image tags and places them into the document's XMP Keywords for easy reference.

Architecture

InDesign is a small host application with features implemented through client plug-ins. InDesign defines an architecture that determines how a plug-in interacts with the host. It also provides the building blocks from which each plug-in is made.

Object Models: set of rules or conventions that describes how objects are created and handled within a system. The C++ language implements an object model, describes an object as a contiguous block of memory (at its most basic level), and defines how that object is instantiated, behaves during its lifetime, and can be destroyed.

Object models can be used to map out the behavior of complex systems. The Microsoft® COM (Component Object Model) defines objects with functionality, accessible through interface, making it possible to have distributed components.

Model-View-Controller (MVC): formalizes the relationships among input, output, and data processing.

InDesign Plug-ins uses COM Object Model, MVC architecture and various Design Patterns including, Observer, Façade, Chain of Responsibility, and Command.

Technology

- Adobe InDesign CS2/CS3 SDK
- C++
- Development Environment
 - Visual Studio .Net 2003 or Later for Windows version.
 - CodeWarrior 9.0 for CS2 version and XCode 2.4.1 for CS3 version.
- Operating System
 - Windows: Windows XP or later
 - Macintosh (Power PC/MacIntel): Mac OS X 10.4.9 or later