AMShellScriptAction Class Reference

Apple Applications > Automator

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AMShellScriptAction Class Reference

Inherits from	AMBundleAction : AMAction : NSObject
Conforms to	NSCoding (AMBundleAction) NSCopying (AMBundleAction) NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/Automator.framework
Availability	Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.
Companion guide	Automator Programming Guide
Declared in	AMShellScriptAction.h

Overview

Instances of the `AMShellScriptAction` class own Automator actions whose runtime behavior is driven by a shell script or by a Perl or Python script.

When you create a Shell Script Automator Action project in Xcode, the project template supplies an `AMShellScriptAction` instance as File's Owner of the action bundle. This ready-made instance provides a default implementation of the `AMActionrunWithInput:fromAction:error:` method that uses the logic defined in the script. You can substitute your own subclass of `AMShellScriptAction` for File's Owner if you need to.

Tasks

Handling the I/O Separator Character

- `inputFieldSeparator` (page 6)
  Returns the character that is used as the delimiter between items in the string passed in through standard input.
- `outputFieldSeparator` (page 6)
  Returns the character used as a delimiter in the string output of the receiver.
- `remapLineEndings` (page 6)
  Returns whether you want automatic remapping of carriage return (`\r`) to newline (`\n`) characters in the input string.

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Instance Methods

inputFieldSeparator

Returns the character that is used as the delimiter between items in the string passed in through standard input.

```
- (NSString *)inputFieldSeparator
```

Discussion
The Automator framework converts the output from the previous action (which is usually in the form of a list or array) into a single string in which the array elements are concatenated by the input field separator. By default this separator is the newline character (@"\n"). You could, for example, override this method to return a null character (@"\0") to provide null-terminated strings for `xargs -0`.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later, Xcode 2.1 and later.

Declared In
`AMShellScriptAction.h`

outputFieldSeparator

Returns the character used as a delimiter in the string output of the receiver.

```
- (NSString *)outputFieldSeparator
```

Discussion
The Automator framework converts this string into an array (or list) whose elements are derived from the fields delimited by the separator character, and then passes the array (or list) to the next action in the workflow. The default value is the separator character returned by `inputFieldSeparator` (page 6). Override this method if you want a different delimiter for output.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later, Xcode 2.1 and later.

Declared In
`AMShellScriptAction.h`

remapLineEndings

Returns whether you want automatic remapping of carriage return (`\r`) to newline (`\n`) characters in the input string.

```
- (BOOL)remapLineEndings
```

Discussion
The default is `NO`. Override to return `YES` if you want the remapping to occur.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later, Xcode 2.1 and later.

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Declared In
`AMShellScriptAction.h`

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Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *AMShellScriptAction Class Reference*.

Date	Notes
2006-10-26	Minor modifications for Automator changes in Mac OS X version 10.5.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

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Document Revision History

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I

`inputFieldSeparator` instance method 6

O

`outputFieldSeparator` instance method 6

R

`remapLineEndings` instance method 6

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