NSServicesRequests Protocol Reference

Cocoa > Interapplication Communication

2007-01-30

Apple Inc.
© 2007 Apple Inc.
All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, mechanical, electronic, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission of Apple Inc., with the following exceptions: Any person is hereby authorized to store documentation on a single computer for personal use only and to print copies of documentation for personal use provided that the documentation contains Apple's copyright notice.

The Apple logo is a trademark of Apple Inc.

Use of the "keyboard" Apple logo (Option-Shift-K) for commercial purposes without the prior written consent of Apple may constitute trademark infringement and unfair competition in violation of federal and state laws.

No licenses, express or implied, are granted with respect to any of the technology described in this document. Apple retains all intellectual property rights associated with the technology described in this document. This document is intended to assist application developers to develop applications only for Apple-labeled computers.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this document is accurate. Apple is not responsible for typographical errors.

Apple Inc.
1 Infinite Loop
Cupertino, CA 95014
408-996-1010

Apple, the Apple logo, Cocoa, Mac, and Mac OS are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the United States and other countries.

Simultaneously published in the United States and Canada.

Even though Apple has reviewed this document, APPLE MAKES NO WARRANTY OR REPRESENTATION, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WITH RESPECT TO THIS DOCUMENT, ITS QUALITY, ACCURACY, MERCHANTABILITY, OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. AS A RESULT, THIS DOCUMENT IS PROVIDED "AS IS," AND YOU, THE READER, ARE ASSUMING THE ENTIRE RISK AS TO ITS QUALITY AND ACCURACY.

IN NO EVENT WILL APPLE BE LIABLE FOR DIRECT, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM ANY DEFECT OR INACCURACY IN THIS DOCUMENT, even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

THE WARRANTY AND REMEDIES SET FORTH ABOVE ARE EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHERS, ORAL OR WRITTEN, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. No Apple dealer, agent, or employee is authorized to make any modification, extension, or addition to this warranty.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of implied warranties or liability for incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

Contents

NSServicesRequests Protocol Reference 5

Overview 5
Tasks 5
  Working with Pasteboards 5
Instance Methods 5
  readSelectionFromPasteboard: 5
  writeSelectionToPasteboard:types: 6

Document Revision History 7

Index 9

2007-01-30 | © 2007 Apple Inc. All Rights Reserved.

2007-01-30 | © 2007 Apple Inc. All Rights Reserved.

NSServicesRequests Protocol Reference

(informal protocol)

Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework
Companion guide	System Services
Declared in	NSApplication.h

Overview

This informal protocol consists of two methods, `writeSelectionToPasteboard:types:` (page 6) and `readSelectionFromPasteboard:` (page 5). The first method provides data to a remote service, and the second receives any data the remote service might send back. Both respond to messages that are generated when the user chooses a command from the Services menu.

Tasks

Working with Pasteboards

- `readSelectionFromPasteboard:` (page 5)
  Reads data from the pasteboard and uses it to replace the current selection.
- `writeSelectionToPasteboard:types:` (page 6)
  Writes the current selection to the pasteboard.

Instance Methods

readSelectionFromPasteboard:

Reads data from the pasteboard and uses it to replace the current selection.

```
- (BOOL)readSelectionFromPasteboard:(NSPasteboard *)pboard
```

Parameters

pboard

The pasteboard containing the data to read.

Return Value

`YES` if your implementation was able to read the pasteboard data successfully; otherwise, `NO`.

2007-01-30 | © 2007 Apple Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Discussion
You implement this method to replace your application's current selection (that is, the text or objects that are currently selected) with the data on the pasteboard. The data would have been placed in the pasteboard by another application in response to a remote message from the Services menu. A `readSelectionFromPasteboard:` message is sent to the same object that previously received a `writeSelectionToPasteboard:types:` (page 6) message.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared In
`NSApplication.h`

writeSelectionToPasteboard:types:

Writes the current selection to the pasteboard.

```
- (BOOL)writeSelectionToPasteboard:(NSPasteboard *)pboard types:(NSArray *)types
```

Parameters

pboard
The pasteboard to receive your data.

types
An array of `NSString` objects listing the types of data that you should write to the pasteboard. You should write data to the pasteboard for as many of the types as you support.

Return Value
`YES` if your implementation was able to write one or more types to the pasteboard; otherwise, `NO`.

Discussion
A `writeSelectionToPasteboard:types:` message is sent to the first responder when the user chooses a command from the Services menu, but only if the receiver didn't return `nil` to a previous `validRequestorForSendType:returnType:` message.

After your method writes the data to the pasteboard, a remote message is sent to the application that provides the service the user requested. If the service provider supplies return data to replace the selection, the first responder will then receive a `readSelectionFromPasteboard:` (page 5) message.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also
`- validRequestorForSendType:returnType:` (NSResponder)

Related Sample Code
iSpend

Declared In
`NSApplication.h`

2007-01-30 | © 2007 Apple Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *NSServicesRequests Protocol Reference*.

Date	Notes
2007-01-30	Updated for Mac OS X v10.5.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

2007-01-30 | © 2007 Apple Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Document Revision History

2007-01-30 | © 2007 Apple Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Index

R

`readSelectionFromPasteboard:` <NSObject> instance method 5

W

`writeSelectionToPasteboard:types:` <NSObject> instance method 6

2007-01-30 | © 2007 Apple Inc. All Rights Reserved.