SFChooseIdentityPanel Class Reference

Security > Cocoa

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SFChooseIdentityPanel Class Reference

Inherits from	NSPanel : NSWindow : NSResponder : NSObject
Conforms to	NSUserInterfaceValidations (NSWindow) NSAnimatablePropertyContainer (NSWindow) NSCoding (NSResponder) NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/SecurityInterface.framework
Availability	Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later
Companion guide	Certificate, Key, and Trust Services Programming Guide
Declared in	SFChooseIdentityPanel.h

Overview

The `SFChooseIdentityPanel` class displays a sheet or panel containing a list of identities and allows a user to select an identity from the list.

An identity is a digital certificate together with its associated private key. This class also allows the user to display the contents of any certificate in the list.

The following figure shows an example of a choose identity panel.

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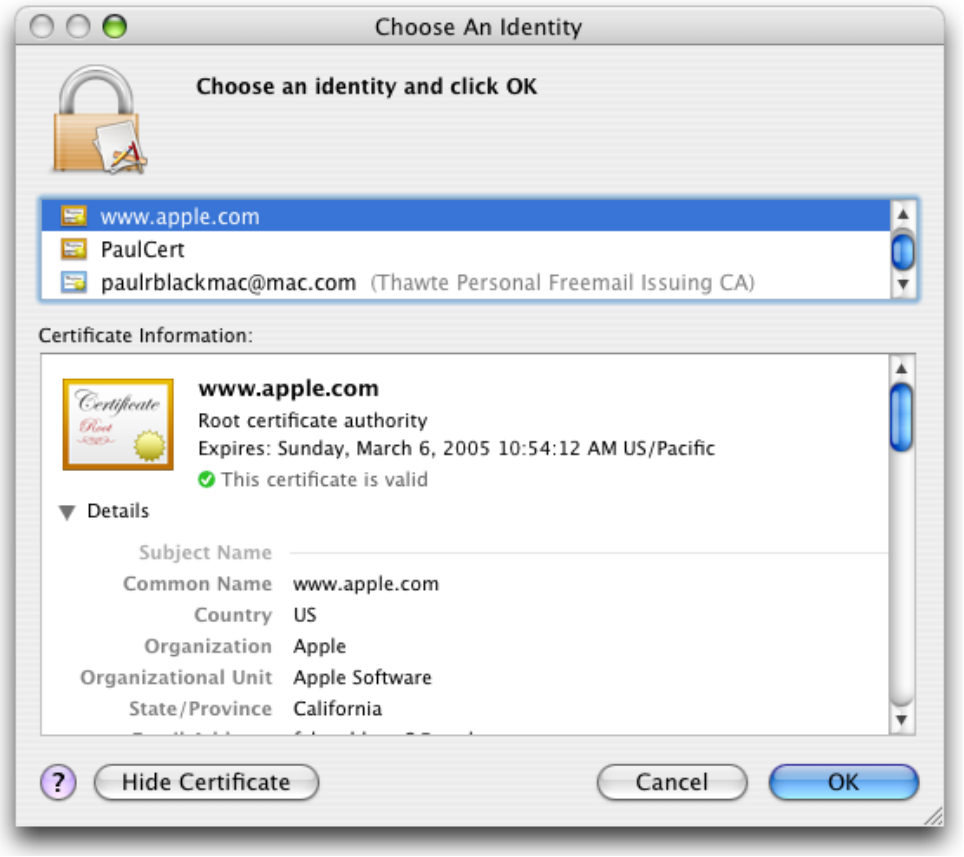
Figure 1 Choose identity panel



Tasks

Returning a Shared Certificate Panel Object

`+ sharedChooseIdentityPanel` (page 10)
: Returns a shared choose identity panel object. If the object has not already been created, this method allocates and initializes the object first.

Providing Help

`- setHelpAnchor:` (page 14)
: Sets the help anchor string for the sheet or modal panel.

`- setShowsHelp:` (page 15)
: Displays a Help button in the sheet or panel.

`- helpAnchor` (page 11)
: Returns the current help anchor string for the sheet or panel.

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- `showsHelp` (page 15)
  Indicates whether the help button is currently set to be displayed.

Customizing the Appearance of the Sheet or Panel

- `setAlternateButtonTitle:` (page 13)
  Customizes the title of the alternate button.
- `setDefaultButtonTitle:` (page 13)
  Customizes the title of the default button.
- `setPolicies:` (page 14)
  Specifies one or more policies that apply to the displayed certificates.
- `policies` (page 12)
  Returns an array of policies used to evaluate the status of the displayed certificates.

Displaying a Sheet or Panel

- `beginSheetForWindow:modalDelegate:didEndSelector:contextInfo:identities:message:` (page 10)
  Displays a list of identities in a modal sheet from which the user can select an identity.
- `runModalForIdentities:message:` (page 12)
  Displays a list of identities in a modal panel.

Getting Identity Information from a Sheet or Panel

- `identity` (page 12)
  Returns the identity that the user chose in the panel or sheet.

Providing help

- `chooseIdentityPanelShowHelp:` (page 16) *delegate method*
  Implements custom help behavior for the modal panel.

Getting identity information from a sheet or panel

- `chooseIdentitySheetDidEnd:returnCode:contextInfo:` (page 16) *delegate method*
  The delegate method called when the sheet is closed.

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Class Methods

sharedChooseIdentityPanel

Returns a shared choose identity panel object. If the object has not already been created, this method allocates and initializes the object first.

```
+ (SFChooseIdentityPanel *)sharedChooseIdentityPanel
```

Discussion
Use this method if your application displays a single choose identity panel or sheet at a time. If your application can display multiple choose identity panels or sheets at once, you must allocate separate object instances (using the `alloc` class method inherited from `NSObject`) and initialize them (using the `init` instance method, also inherited from `NSObject`) instead of using this class method.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

See Also
`+alloc(NSObject)`
`-init(NSObject)`

Declared In
`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

Instance Methods

beginSheetForWindow:modalDelegate:didEndSelector:contextInfo:identities:message:

Displays a list of identities in a modal sheet from which the user can select an identity.

```
- (void)beginSheetForWindow:(NSWindow *)docWindow modalDelegate:(id)delegate
    didEndSelector:(SEL)didEndSelector contextInfo:(void *)contextInfo
    identities:(NSArray *)identities message:(NSString *)message
```

Parameters

docWindow
The parent window to which the sheet is attached.

delegate
The delegate object in which the method specified in the `didEndSelector` parameter is implemented.

didEndSelector
A method selector for a delegate method called when the sheet has been dismissed. Implementation of this delegate method is optional.

contextInfo
A pointer to data that is passed to the delegate method. You can use this data pointer for any purpose you wish.

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identities
: An array of identity objects (objects of type `SecIdentityRef`). Use the `SecIdentitySearchCopyNext` function (in Security/SecIdentitySearch.h) to find identity objects.

message
: A message string to display in the sheet.

Discussion
Use the `identity` method to obtain the identity chosen by the user.

The delegate method has the following signature:

```
-(void)createPanelDidEnd:(NSWindow *)sheet
       returnCode:(int)returnCode
       contextInfo:(void *)contextInfo
```

The parameters for the delegate method are:

sheet
: The window to which the sheet was attached.

returnCode
: The result code indicating which button the user clicked: either `NSFileHandlingPanelOKButton` or `NSFileHandlingPanelCancelButton`.

contextInfo
: Client-defined contextual data that is passed in the `contextInfo` parameter of the `beginSheetForDirectory:...` method.

The delegate method may dismiss the keychain settings sheet itself; if it does not, the sheet is dismissed on return from the `beginSheetForDirectory:...` method.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

See Also
`SecIdentitySearchCopyNext` (Security/SecIdentitySearch.h)
`- identity` (page 12)
`- runModalForIdentities:message:` (page 12)

Declared In
`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

helpAnchor

Returns the current help anchor string for the sheet or panel.

```
- (NSString *)helpAnchor
```

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also
`- setHelpAnchor:` (page 14)

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Declared In
SFChooseIdentityPanel.h

identity

Returns the identity that the user chose in the panel or sheet.

```
- (SecIdentityRef)identity
```

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared In
SFChooseIdentityPanel.h

policies

Returns an array of policies used to evaluate the status of the displayed certificates.

```
- (NSArray *)policies
```

Discussion
This method returns an autoreleased NSArray containing one or more objects of type `SecPolicyRef`, as set by a previous `setPolicies:` call, or the Apple X.509 Basic Policy if `setPolicies:` has not been called. See "AppleX509TP Trust Policies" in *Certificate, Key, and Trust Services Reference* for a list of policies and object identifiers provided by the AppleX509TP module.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also
`- setPolicies:` (page 14)

Declared In
SFChooseIdentityPanel.h

runModalForIdentities:message:

Displays a list of identities in a modal panel.

```
- (NSInt)runModalForIdentities:(NSArray *)identities message:(NSString *)message
```

Parameters

identities
: An array of identity objects (objects of type `SecIdentityRef`. Use the `SecIdentitySearchCopyNext` function (in Security/SecIdentitySearch.h) to find identity objects.

message
: A message string to display in the panel.

Discussion
This method returns `NSOKButton` if the default button is clicked, or `NSCancelButton` if the alternate button is clicked.

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Use the `identity` method to obtain the identity chosen by the user.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

See Also
`SecIdentitySearchCopyNext` (Security/SecIdentitySearch.h)
`- identity` (page 12)
`- beginSheetForWindow:modalDelegate:didEndSelector:contextInfo:identities:message:` (page 10)

Declared In
`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

setAlternateButtonTitle:

Customizes the title of the alternate button.

```
- (void)setAlternateButtonTitle:(NSString *)title
```

Parameters
title
The new title for the alternate button. If this method is not called, or if `title` is set to `nil`, the button is not shown.

Discussion
The alternate button is typically labelled "Cancel". The alternate button dismisses the sheet or panel and returns a value of `NSCancelButton`.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also
`- setDefaultButtonTitle:` (page 13)

Declared In
`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

setDefaultButtonTitle:

Customizes the title of the default button.

```
- (void)setDefaultButtonTitle:(NSString *)title
```

Parameters
title
The new title for the default button. The default title for this button is "OK".

Discussion
The default button dismisses the sheet or panel and returns a value of `NSOKButton`.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

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See Also
- `setAlternateButtonTitle:` (page 13)

Declared In
`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

setHelpAnchor:

Sets the help anchor string for the sheet or modal panel.

```
- (void)setHelpAnchor:(NSString *)anchor
```

Parameters

anchor

The new help anchor string.

Discussion
You may call this function to set a help anchor string if you display a help button in the sheet or modal panel and do not implement the delegate method `certificatePanelShowHelp:`, or if the delegate method returns `NO`. If you display a help button, do not set a help anchor string, and do not implement a delegate, the certificate panel displays a default help page ("What is a digital identity?").

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also
- `setShowsHelp:` (page 15)
- `chooseIdentityPanelShowHelp:` (page 16)
- `helpAnchor` (page 11)

Declared In
`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

setPolicies:

Specifies one or more policies that apply to the displayed certificates.

```
- (void)setPolicies:(id)policies
```

Parameters

policies

The policies to use when evaluating the certificates' status. You can pass either a `SecPolicyRef` object or an NSArray (containing one or more `SecPolicyRef` instances) in this parameter. If `policies` is set to `nil`, the Apple X.509 Basic Policy is used.

Discussion
The `SFChooseIdentityPanel` class evaluates trust for the certificates it displays. Applications typically display certificates in the context of a specific use, such as SSL or S/MIME. You should set only the policy references that apply to your intended use. See "AppleX509TP Trust Policies" for a list of policies and object identifiers provided by the AppleX509TP module.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

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See Also
- `policies` (page 12)

Declared In
`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

setShowsHelp:

Displays a Help button in the sheet or panel.

```
- (void)setShowsHelp:(BOOL)showsHelp
```

Parameters

showsHelp

Set to `YES` to display the help button. The help button is hidden by default.

Discussion
When a user clicks the help button, the choose identity panel first checks the delegate for a `certificatePanelShowHelp:` method. If the delegate does not implement such a method, or the delegate method returns `NO`, then the `NSHelpManager` method `openHelpAnchor:inBook:` is called with a `nil` book and the anchor specified by the `setHelpAnchor:` method. An exception is raised if the delegate returns `NO` and there is no help anchor set.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also
- `chooseIdentityPanelShowHelp:` (page 16)
- `setHelpAnchor:` (page 14)
- `openHelpAnchor:inBook:` (`NSHelpManager`)
- `showsHelp` (page 15)

Declared In
`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

showsHelp

Indicates whether the help button is currently set to be displayed.

```
- (BOOL)showsHelp
```

Discussion
This method returns `YES` if the help button is currently set to be displayed.

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also
- `setShowsHelp:` (page 15)

Declared In
`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

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Delegate Methods

chooseIdentityPanelShowHelp:

Implements custom help behavior for the modal panel.

```
- (BOOL)chooseIdentityPanelShowHelp:(SFChooseIdentityPanel *)sender
```

Parameters

sender

The choose identity panel for which to implement custom help.

Discussion

You can use this delegate method to implement custom help if you call the `setShowsHelp:` method to display a help button in the sheet or panel. If you are not implementing custom help, do not implement this method.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also

`- setShowsHelp:` (page 15)

`-setDelegate:` (`NSWindow`)

Declared In

`SFChooseIdentityPanel.h`

chooseIdentitySheetDidEnd:returnCode:contextInfo:

The delegate method called when the sheet is closed.

```
- *)sheet
    returnCode:(int)returnCode  contextInfo:(void *)contextInfo
```

Parameters

sheet

The parent window to which the sheet is attached.

returnCode

An indication of which button the user clicked: either `NSOKButton` or `NSCancelButton`.

contextInfo

A pointer to data that is passed in the `contextInfo` parameter of the `beginSheetForWindow:modalDelegate:didEndSelector:contextInfo:identities:message:` method. You can use this data pointer for any purpose you wish.

Discussion

Modal delegates in sheets are temporary and the relationship only lasts until the sheet is dismissed. The `SFChooseIdentityPanel` object does not retain the modal delegate.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

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See Also

`- beginSheetForWindow:modalDelegate:didEndSelector:contextInfo:identities:message:` (page 10)

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Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

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