Changing the active theme using Symbian C++

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The article is believed to be still valid for the original topic scope.

Overview

Changing the active theme

Description

The S60 3rd Edition SDK does not provide a way to activate a specific theme from 3rd-party applications.
However, the required API (Skin Server API) is part of the Extensions plug-in package for S60 3rd Edition SDK.

Solution

To change the active theme:

1. Connect to Skin Server.
```
#include <AknSSrvClient.h> // link against aknskinsrv.lib
RAknsSrvSession skinsSession;
User::LeaveIfError( skinsSession.Connect( this ) );
CleanupClosePushL( skinsSession );
```
2. Fetch the package ID of the current skin.
```
#include <centralrepository.h> // link against centralrepository.lib
#include <AknSkinsInternalCRKeys.h>
void CMyThemeManager::StoreCurrentSkinIdL()
  {
  TAknsPkgIDBuf pidBuf;
  CRepository* repository = CRepository::NewL(KCRUidPersonalisation );
  TInt retVal = repository->Get( KPslnActiveSkinUid, pidBuf );
  delete repository;
  repository = NULL;
  iOriginalSkinPid.SetFromDesL( pidBuf ); // iOriginalSkinPid is of type TAknsPkgID
  }
```
3. Get a list of installed skin packages.
```
CArrayPtr<CAknsSrvSkinInformationPkg>* skinInfoArray =
        skinsSession.EnumerateSkinPackagesL();
CleanupStack::PushL( skinInfoArray );
```
4. Go through installed packages and switch to the first available new skin.
```
TInt retValue( KErrNone );
if ( skinInfoArray->Count() > 0 )
  {
  for ( TInt i = 0; i < skinInfoArray->Count(); i++ )
    {
    TAknsPkgID pkgId = skinInfoArray->At( i )->PID();
    if ( pkgId != iOriginalSkinPid )
      {
      // Activates a complete skin package
      retValue = skinsSession.SetAllDefinitionSets( pkgId );
      if ( retValue == KErrNone )
        {
        SetNewSkinIdL( pkgId );
        }
```


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```
            break;
            }
        }
    }
```

5. Save the new skin package ID in Central Repository.

```
void CMyThemeManager::SetNewSkinIdL( TAknsPkgID aPkgId )
    {
    TAknsPkgIDBuf pidBuf;
    aPkgId.CopyToDes( pidBuf );
    CRepository* repository = CRepository::NewL( KCRUidPersonalisation );
    TInt retVal = repository->Set( KPslnActiveSkinUid, pidBuf );
    // KPslnActiveSkinLocation value needs to be updated
    // if the new skin resides on memory card and the
    // previous one resided in phone memory (and vice versa)
    delete repository;
    repository = NULL;
    }
```


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