How to force launch of VKB in CEikEdwin

Overview

Some developers would like the virtual keyboard to be displayed automatically, rather than requiring the user to first tap on the editor. The article describes how to force launch VKB in CEikEdwin by simulating a touch operation.

Solution

The solution of the specified problem is simulating a touch operation on the CEikEdwin object

```
void CHelloWorldContainer::LaunchVBKL()
 {
 if(iEdit1!=NULL)
  {
  TCursorSelection sel = iEdit1->Selection(); // remember the selection

  const TInt KBorderWidth = 2;
  const TInt KBorderHeight = 2;
  TPointerEvent event;
  event.iType = TPointerEvent::EButton1Down;
  event.iParentPosition =
iEdit1->PositionRelativeToScreen()+TPoint(KBorderWidth,KBorderHeight);
  event.iPosition = iEdit1->Position()+TPoint(KBorderWidth,KBorderHeight);
  iEdit1->HandlePointerEventL(event); // simulate a pointer down event
  event.iType = TPointerEvent::EButton1Up;
  iEdit1->HandlePointerEventL(event); // and then simulate a pointer up event to
complete the touch operation

  iEdit1->SetCursorPosL(sel.iAnchorPos, EFalse);
  iEdit1->SetCursorPosL(sel.iCursorPos, ETrue); // restore the selection
  }
 }
```

Note that it is impossible to use the method to launch VKB right after the construction of the iEdit1 (in the ConstructL of the container), so if you'd like to show the VKB as soon as the container is constructed, you should run a AO and call the method in the RunL()

```
void CHelloWorldContainer::ConstructL(
  const TRect& aRect,
  const CCoeControl* aParent,
  MEikCommandObserver* aCommandObserver )
 {
 ...
// begin by chen
 iAsyncCallBack = new(ELeave) CAsyncCallBack(TCallBack(AsyncCallBack, this),
CActive::EPriorityStandard);
 iAsyncCallBack->CallBack(); // AO that runs only once
// end by chen
 }
...
```


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```
TInt CHelloWorldContainer::AsyncCallBack(TAny* aParam)
 {
 if(aParam==NULL)
  {
  return KErrNoMemory;
  }
 CHelloWorldContainer* self = static_cast<CHelloWorldContainer*>(aParam);
 TRAPD(err, self->LaunchVBKL());
 return err;
 }
```

Full example: HelloWorld(LaunchVKB).zip

Related articles (and discussions):

VKB

How to force launch of VKB in FEP-aware custom control

"How to pop up virtual keyboard when view is shown"

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