

Default Download Directory

Friday, July 7, 2006

Have you ever wondered how to access the user's default download directory/folder (as used by Safari for example) using Cocoa? You cannot directly. So we wrote a category for `NSWorkspace` calling into the legacy `InternetConfig` library which is now part of Carbon - so do not forget to link against Carbon when using this code.

Thanks to [Uli Kusterer](#) for the original! @implementation `NSWorkspace (OPExtensions)` -
(NSString*) downloadDirectory /*" Returns the user's std. download directory path taken from
Internet Config. */ { // Code modified from Uli Kusterer's UKPathUtilities: ICInstance inst =
NULL; ICFileSpec fSpec; long length = kICFileSpecHeaderSize; FSRef fref; unsigned
char fpath[PATH_MAX] = { 0 }; if (ICStart(&inst, 0L) != noErr) goto cleanup; ICGetPref(inst,
kICDownloadFolder, NULL, &fSpec, &length); ICStop(inst); if (FSpMakeFSRef(&fSpec.fss,
&fref) != noErr) goto cleanup; if (FSRefMakePath(&fref, fpath, 1024) != noErr) goto cleanup;
cleanup: ; if (fpath[0] == 0) return [NSHomeDirectory() stringByAppendingPathComponent:
@"Desktop"]; return [NSString stringWithUTF8String: (char*)fpath]; } @end

Have fun!

Dirk