WinRT Revealed

Michael Mayberry

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To Grandpa Hyde, thanks for buying my first computer.

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About the Author

Michael Mayberry has been developing software with Microsoft technologies for more than 13 years. Over those years he has consistently adopted new solutions and tools to solve increasingly larger problems.

Michael currently serves as a software architect for a large nonprofit organization in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. He has become an expert in integration, providing solutions that allow new software to interact with existing systems. His experiences range from content management systems to data warehouses to CRM systems.

Michael has always valued team building and sharing his knowledge with others. Recently, he expanded his focus to include writing and reviewing. He has been a technical reviewer for many projects and coauthored one other book.

When he is not working, Michael enjoys spending time with his beautiful wife and four children.

For questions and comments, contact Michael at michaelmayberry@hotmail.com.

About the Technical Reviewer

Jeff Sanders is a published author, technical editor, and accomplished technologist. He is currently employed with Avanade in the capacity of a group manager/senior architect.

Jeff has years of professional experience in the field of IT and strategic business consulting, leading both sales and delivery efforts. He regularly contributes to certification and product roadmap development with Microsoft and speaks publicly on Microsoft enterprise technologies. With his roots in software development, Jeff's areas of expertise include collaboration and content management solutions, operational intelligence, digital marketing, distributed component-based application architectures, object-oriented analysis and design, and enterprise integration patterns and designs.

Jeff is also the CTO of DynamicShift, a client-focused organization specializing in Microsoft technologies, specifically Office365/BPOS, SharePoint Server, StreamInsight, Windows Azure, AppFabric, Business Activity Monitoring, BizTalk Server, and .NET. He is a Microsoft Certified Trainer, and he leads DynamicShift in both training and consulting efforts.

He enjoys non-work-related travel and spending time with his wife and daughter, and he wishes he had more time for both.

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Thank you to everyone at Apress who worked so hard to make this project happen so quickly. I truly appreciate your effort in making this book possible.

Introduction

Windows 8 provides a new and exciting platform for developers. This coming version of Windows promises to run on new hardware, such as tablets, as well as existing laptops and desktops. Microsoft has developed a new layer for accessing and leveraging system resources, including the operating system services. The new Windows Runtime (WinRT) is this layer.

Who Is This Book For?

This book is an introduction to WinRT. With the Windows Runtime being so new, developers of all experience ranges can benefit from this introduction. This book demonstrates how to build Windows 8 Metro style apps, specifically focusing on WinRT.

How This Book Is Structured

There are only four chapters in this book, but each one is packed with information designed to get developers familiar with WinRT.

This short book begins with an overview of WinRT in the first chapter, which explains what WinRT is and answers common questions developers have about the Windows Runtime.

The following chapter demonstrates coding with WinRT. The first examples start simple and show how WinRT components are built.

The final two chapters focus on building Metro style apps. The developer builds apps that use WinRT components to interface with the user. They also extend their app to interact with other apps.

Downloading the Code

The code for the examples shown in this book is available on the Apress web site, www.apress.com. A link can be found on the book's information page under the Source Code/Downloads tab. This tab is located underneath the Related Titles section of the page.