

Data Entry with Drawing Items

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Data Entry with Drawing Items

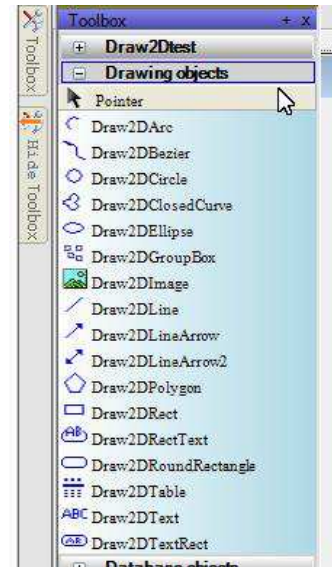
Introduction

Data entry user interface is usually constructed by text box and other controls to get a What You See Is What You Get/Print user interface. Those user interfaces may not be suitable for printing in some cases. User interfaces constructed by Drawing Items are What You See Is What You Print, in addition to What You See Is What You Get. Currently drawing items supporting data entry are Draw2DText, Draw2DTextRect, Draw2DRectText, and Draw2DImage.

For how to use 2D drawings on a form, see <http://www.limnor.com/support/Limnor%20Studio%20-%20User%20Guide%20-%20Part%20VII.pdf>

If data-binding is used then data entered through drawing items are automatically saved to database.

This document shows data entry related properties and usages. When data-binding is used, samples in this document do data entry one database record at a time on a form. For entering multiple records on a form, use drawing repeater. See <http://www.limnor.com/support/DrawGroupRepeater.pdf>

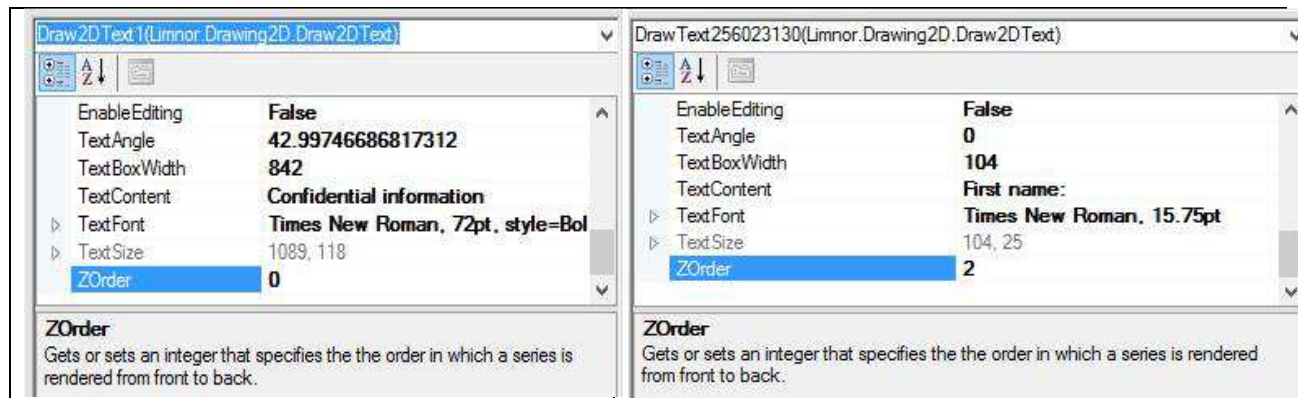


Control of drawing overlap

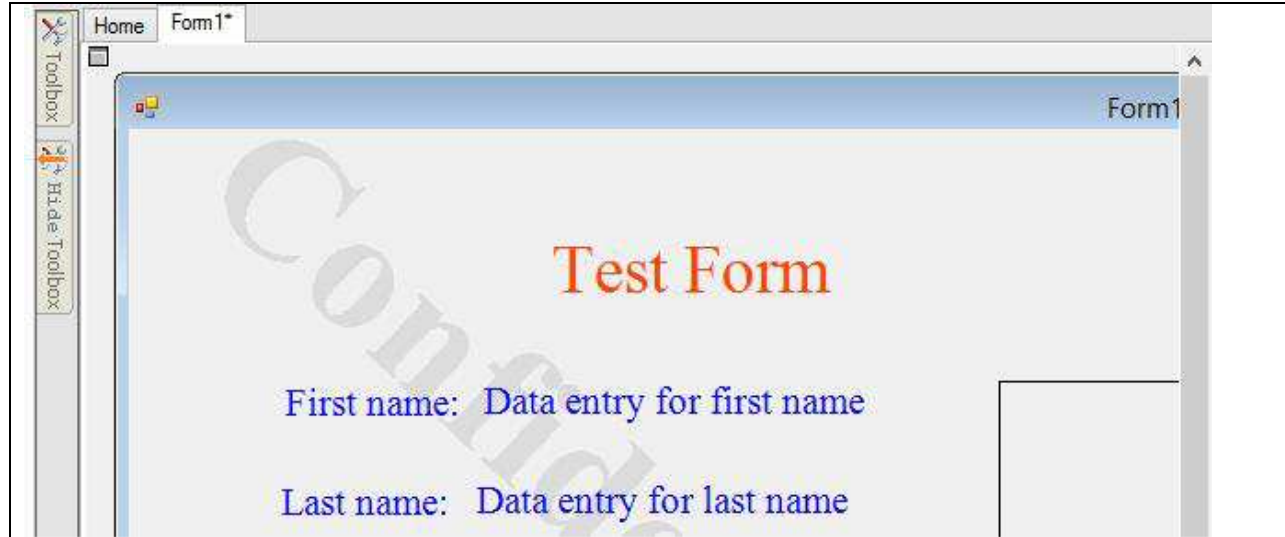
Server drawing items may overlap each other. Display and print effects are determined by order of drawings. The order of drawings is determined by two factors: drawing layers and z-order.

Each drawing item belongs to one drawing layer. For details of using drawing layers, see <http://www.limnor.com/support/Limnor%20Studio%20-%20User%20Guide%20-%20Part%20VII.pdf>

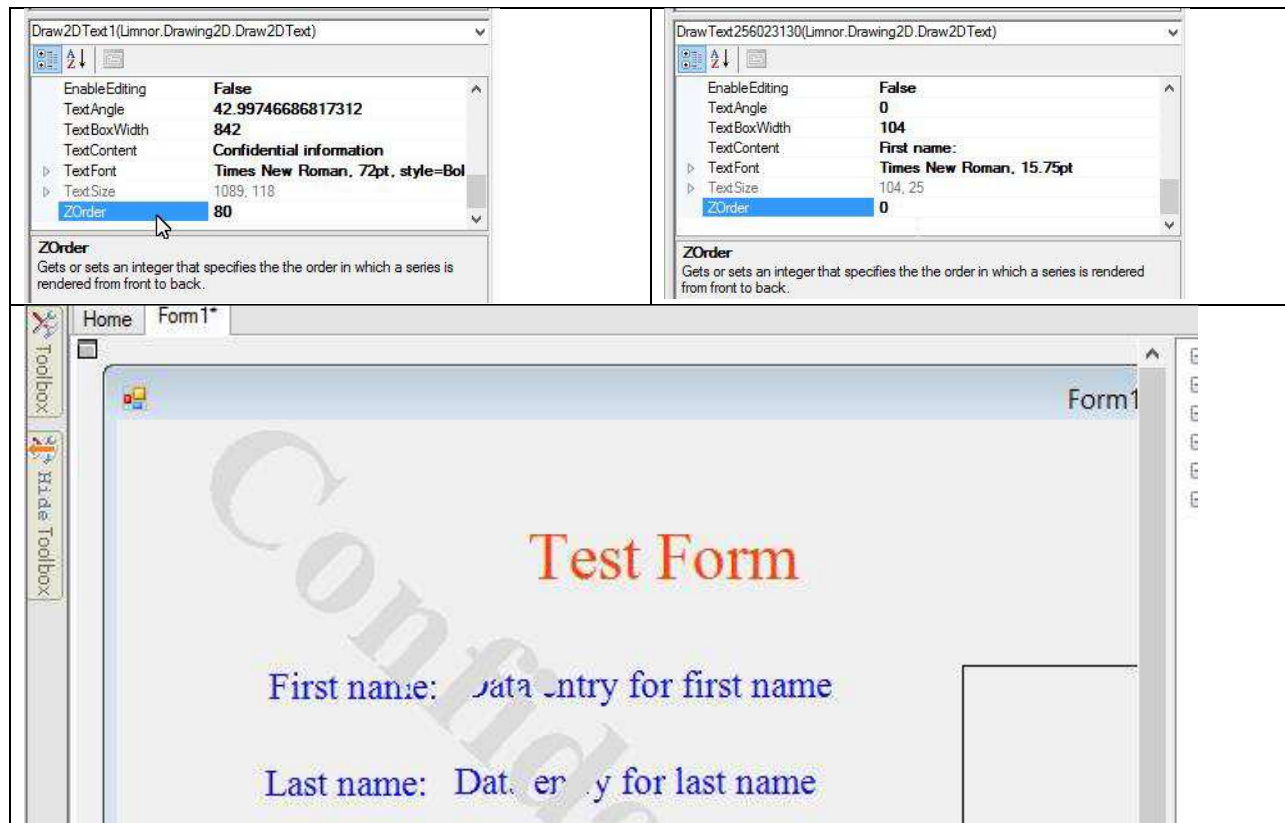
Inside each drawing layer, drawing order is determined by ZOrder property of each drawing item. Following examples show effects of ZOrder.



Data Entry with Drawing Items



Change ZOrder, the drawing order changes:



Data Entry with Drawing Items

Enable Data Entry

Enable Text Data Entry

Draw2DText, Draw2DTextRect, and Draw2dRectText can be used for text data entry by setting EnableEditing to True:



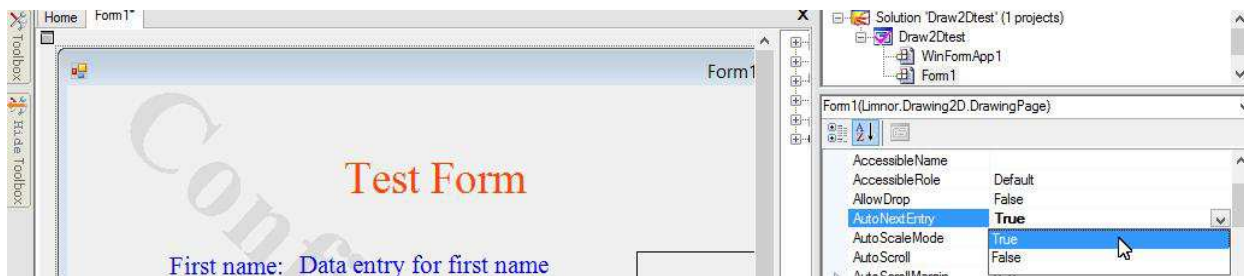
Enable Image Data Entry

Draw2DImage can be used for image data entry by setting AllowFileSelectByClick to true:

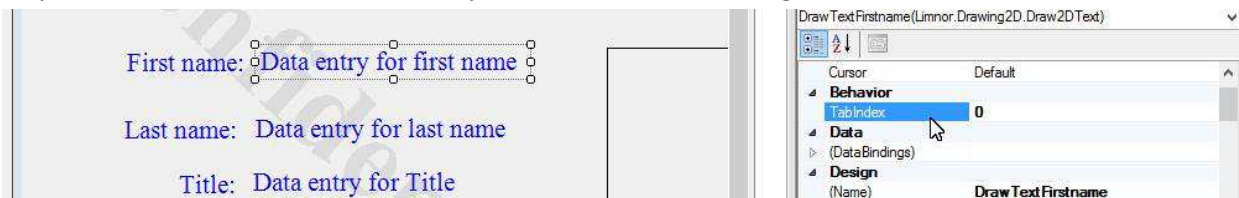


Automatic Next Text Entry

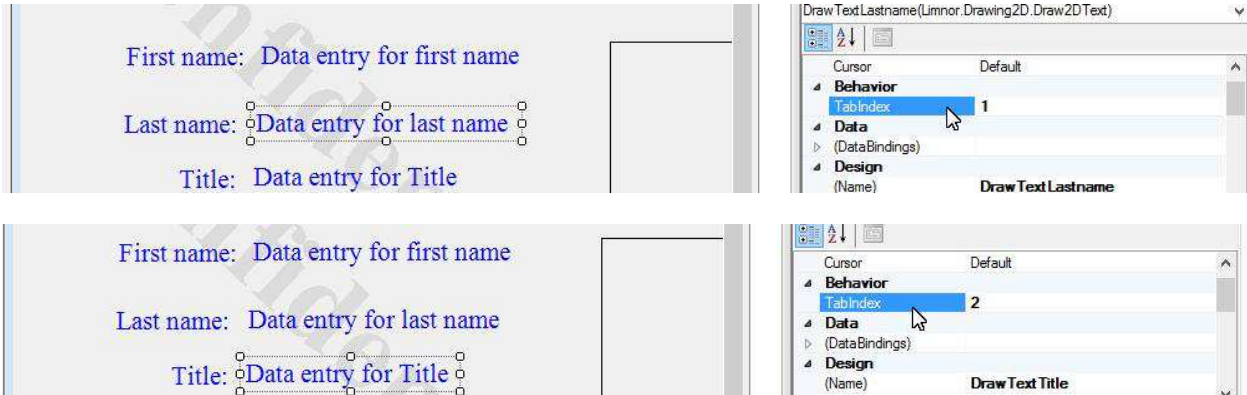
When doing multiple text data entry, one convenient way is to allow the user to press ENTER key to finish entering current data entry and automatically start entering the next data entry. This feature can be enabled by setting AutoNextEntry of the form to true:



Sequence of text fields is determined by TabIndex of each drawing item:



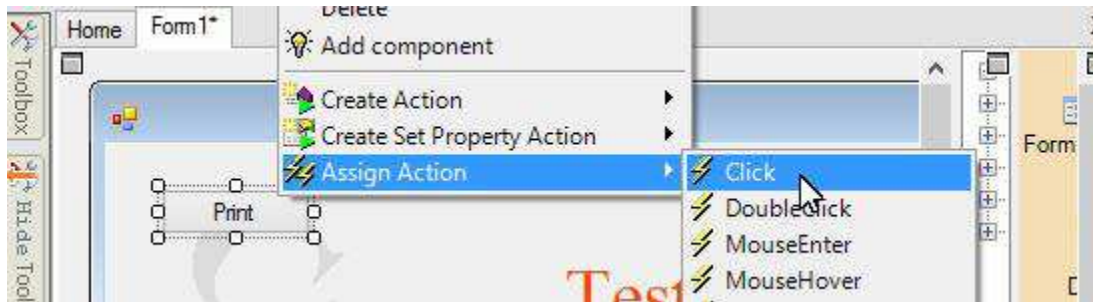
Data Entry with Drawing Items



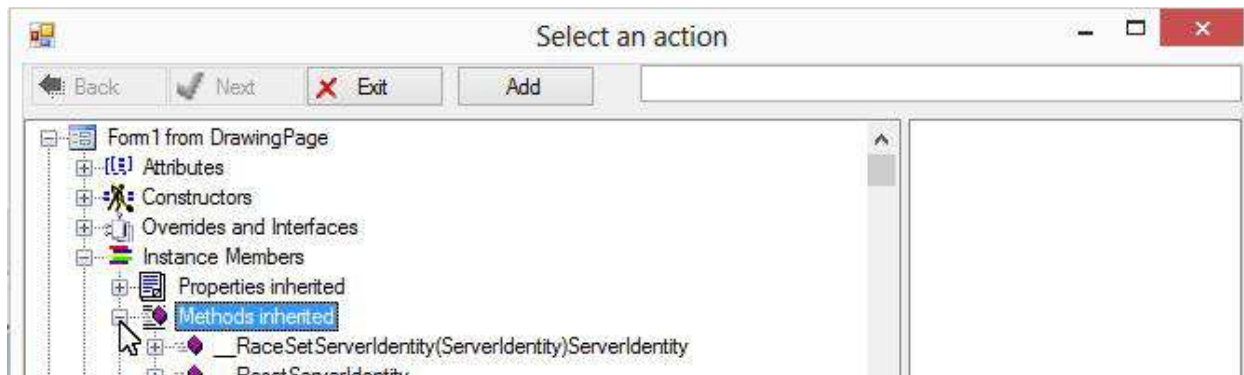
Print

Usually a Print menu can be used for invoking printing. For this sample we simply use a button to invoke printing. Note that the button is not a drawing item and thus it will not appear on the printing.

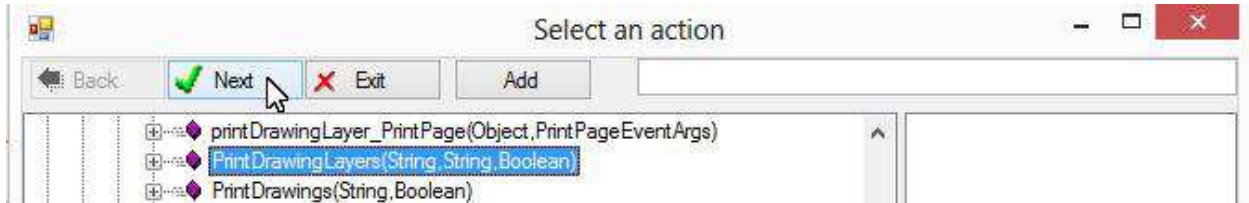
We want that when the button is clicked a PrintDrawingLayers action will be executed. To make this programming, right-click on the button, choose "Assign Action", and choose Click event:



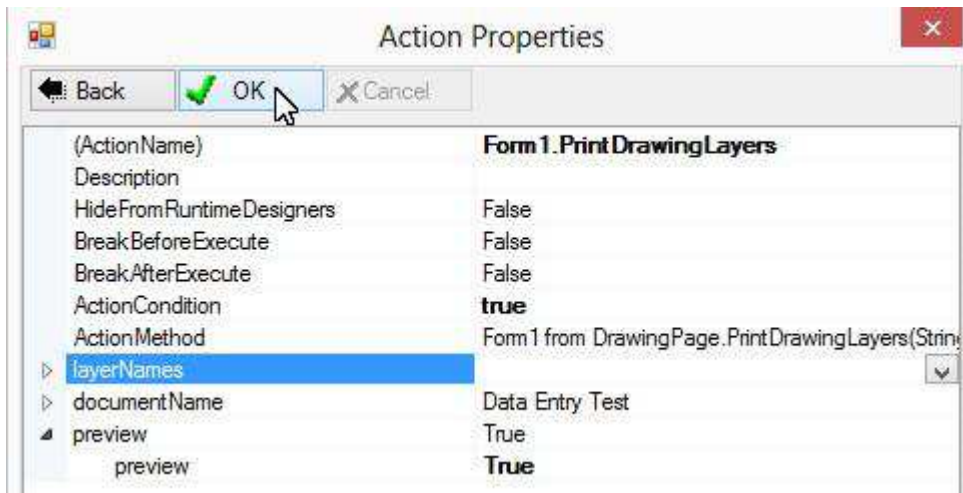
Select PrintDrawingLayers method of the form:



Data Entry with Drawing Items



A dialogue box appears for setting action parameters:

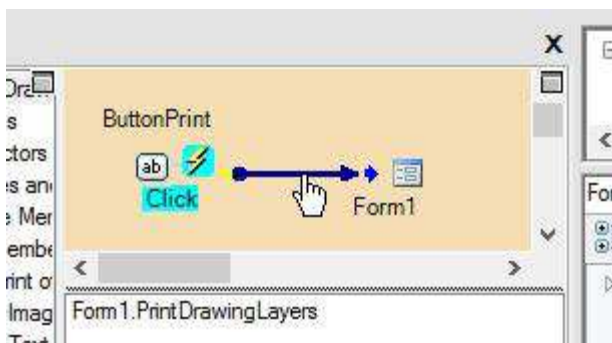


layerNames is a semicolon delimited layer names. Leave layerNames blank to print all drawing layers.

documentName is print job name.

To show print preview, set preview to True.

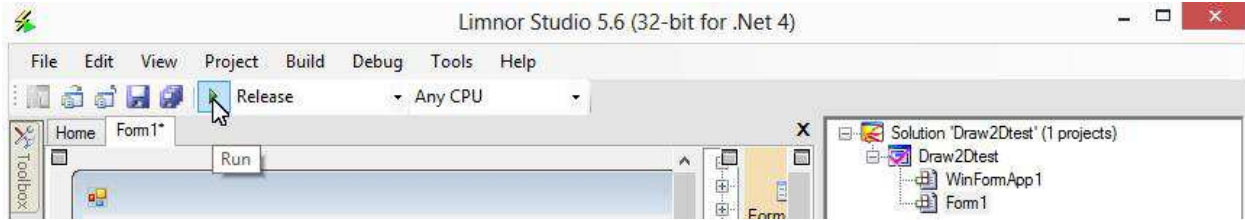
Click OK to finish creating the action and assigning it to Click event of the button:



Test

Click Run button to compile the project and launch result EXE:

Data Entry with Drawing Items



The form appears:



Enter text

Click on a text entry field to start entering text data:



Enter text data and press ENTER key, data entry focus goes to the next data entry field:

Data Entry with Drawing Items

First name:

Last name: Data entry for last name



Form1

Print

Test Form

First name: Mike

Last name:

Title: Data entry for Title

Note that Draw2DText is for single line text. For multiple line text, use Draw2DTextRect.

Select image file

Click on the photo image to select an image file:



Form1

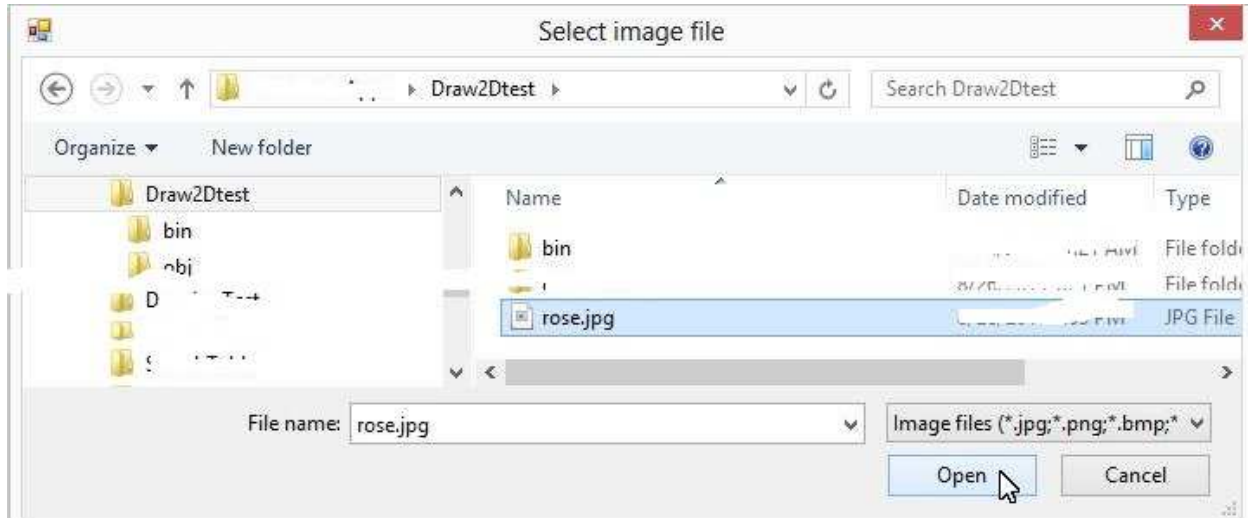
Print

Test Form

First name: Mike

Last name: Jackson

Data Entry with Drawing Items



The image appears on the form:



Print

Click Print button to print the drawings:



A print preview window appears:

Data Entry with Drawing Items



Note that the Print button is not on the print page because the button is not a drawing item. You may add other non-drawing-items to the form for various programming needs and not affecting the printing result.

Feedback

Please send your feedback to support@limnor.com