

SKILLBUILDERS MODAL PAGE

A DYNAMIC ACTION PLUG-IN FOR ORACLE APPLICATION EXPRESS (APEX)

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Overview

Intro

Modal windows are very popular these days – and for good reason. They can help focus users' attention without disturbing the overall context of the user in the application. The SkillBuilders Modal Page plug-in was designed to display entire APEX pages as modal dialogs. Because the plug-in displays entire pages, it is possible to utilize all of the standard page components within the dialog including processes, computations, dynamic actions, validations, and more.

The SkillBuilders Modal Page plug-in was designed to make creating modal dialogs as declarative and simple as possible. In some cases JavaScript methods have been created to provide programmatic control of the plug-in as well. The plug-in also adds custom events to the Dynamic Action framework in APEX. When the modal page closes, one of two events is triggered. These events allow other Dynamic Actions to respond in any number of ways, such as refreshing a report or showing a success message.

Features at a Glance

1. Displays entire APEX pages in a modal window
2. Loading image and closing effects provide instant feedback and orientation
3. Automatically closes modal via Success Message detection
4. Built in events allows other Dynamic Actions to respond to the modal

Version History

- 1.0.0 – 8/31/2011
 - Initial release

Feature Requests and Bugs

If you would like to see additional functionality added to the plug-in, or if you have found a bug, please let us know by emailing support@skillbuilders.com.

License

The SkillBuilders Save Before Exit plug-in is currently available for use in all personal or commercial projects under both MIT and GPL licenses. This means that you can choose the license that best suits your project and use it accordingly. Both licenses have been included with this software.

Legal Disclaimer

The program(s) and/or file(s) are supplied as is. The author disclaims all warranties, expressed or implied, including, without limitation, the warranties of merchantability and of fitness for any purpose. The author assumes no liability for damages, direct or consequential, which may result from the use of these program(s) and/or file(s).

Installation and Configuration

Installation

With this installation package there is a plug-in installation file named:

- `dynamic_action_plugin_com_skillbuilders_modal_page.sql`

Navigate to “Shared Components > Plug-ins” and click **Import >**. From there you can follow the menu to upload and install the plug-in using the file above. After installing the plug-in you will be redirected to the plug-in edit screen.

Configuration

Once installed, this plug-in can be used as a native APEX component. When creating a new dynamic Action, select the “SkillBuilders Modal Page” option for the Action.

See Configuration Settings for details on how the application and component settings affect the plug-in.

Configuration Settings

Application Settings

Application settings are used to configure all instances of a plug-in within an application. These settings are accessed by editing the plug-in within the Shared Components. This plug-in has the following application settings:

Loading Image Type

Use this attribute to select the type of loading image you would like displayed when the dialog is opening for the first time. The plug-in comes with a number of default images but you can use your own by selecting custom.

Loading Image

Use this attribute to select the image you would like displayed when the dialog opens.

Initial Height

Use this attribute to specify the initial height (in pixels) of the modal page when it opens but before the main content loads.

Initial Width

Use this attribute to specify the initial width (in pixels) of the modal page when it opens but before the main content loads.

Component Settings

Component settings are used to configure an individual instance of a plug-in within an application. These settings are accessed by editing the component as you would a native APEX component. This plug-in has the following component settings:

Dialog Title

Use this attribute to specify the title displayed in the modal page.

URL Location

Use this attribute to specify whether the URL for the modal page is static or dynamic. Dynamic values are passed through an attribute of the triggering element.

Static URL

Use this attribute to specify a static URL for the modal page.

Attribute Name

Use this attribute to specify which attribute of the triggering element contains the URL for the modal page. This is often the href attribute of anchor elements.

Auto-close On Element Selector

Use this attribute to specify a jQuery selector used to close the modal page automatically. The selector is executed when the modal page is loaded. If the selector selects anything, the modal page will close and the Auto Close event will be triggered. Typically this is only used for modal pages that are submitted for processing. The success message is used to auto-close the modal page.

Dialog Height/Width Mode

Use this attribute to control the size of the modal page. The default value of "Auto" will try to automatically determine the appropriate size of the page based on the content. However, if you need more control, this attribute allows you set the height and width as a percentage of the total window size or by a fixed number of pixels.

Height

Use this attribute to set the height of the modal page. This value can be used to specify a percentage of the total screen or specific number of pixels which is determined by the Dialog Height/Width Mode attribute.

Width

Use this attribute to set the width of the modal page. This value can be used to specify a percentage of the total screen or specific number of pixels which is determined by the Dialog Height/Width Mode attribute.

Modal Page ID

Use this attribute to associate an identifier, such as "create-customer-page", with the modal page that has been opened. When the modal page closes this identifier will be passed back with the event object so that the closing of one modal page can be differentiated from another. The value can be accessed from the data object of "this" in a Dynamic Action with: `this.data.modalPageId`

About SkillBuilders and the Authors

About SkillBuilders

SkillBuilders is known for excellent IT training and consulting. Our instructors are always industry-tested experts and outstanding teachers who have set an unsurpassed standard of excellence. SkillBuilders' roots can be traced to 1985 when our founder, Dave Anderson, embarked on his career as an independent IT consultant, instructor and author. Dave and his colleagues built a small, energetic and growing company, headquartered in South Kingstown, RI.

About the Authors

Dan McGhan



Dan is a Senior Developer and Instructor with SkillBuilders. He suffers from Compulsive Programming Disorder which is believed to be linked to his balding. Having started his development career in the land of MySQL and PHP, he was only too happy to have stumbled upon APEX. Since then, he's dedicated his programming efforts to learning more about Oracle and web based technologies in general.

Dan is an Oracle Application Express Certified Expert, an Oracle PL/SQL Developer Certified Associate, as well as an Oracle ACE. In addition to his "day job", he is one of the top contributors to the APEX forum, maintains his own Oracle and APEX blog, and is a regular presenter at various events and user group meetings including ODTUG Kaleidoscope and APEXposed, the New York, New England, and Suncoast Oracle User Groups. His most recent addiction, as you may have guessed, is developing plug-ins for APEX.

When not programming, Dan may be found studying languages other than those used for development, notably Spanish. He's also been sighted at various venues dancing Salsa with his wife, Sonia, and even enjoying an occasional cigar, a time when Sonia prefers not to be around.

Jason Lyle



Jason graduated in 2006 from Bowling Green State University with a degree in computer science. For him, coding is more of a puzzle to be solved rather than work to be done. He has dabbled in PHP, MySQL, Java, C++, TCL/TK, web technologies, PL/SQL (quite obviously), and anything else he can get his hands on. Right now, Jason is focusing most of his time on Oracle Databases and APEX applications.

Outside of the world of code, Jason enjoys trying almost anything. However, mostly he enjoys snow skiing, snowboarding, white water rafting, canoeing, kayaking, volleyball, cooking, reading sci-fi or

fantasy books, and traveling. In his international travels, he has only made it to a couple countries in South America, but hopes to keep increasing his list of places visited. He also hopes to learn to surf, water ski, and wake board.