

DeskBridge

DeskBridge Developers' Guide

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WHAT IS DESKBRIDGE?

It's an elf development platform. Its main goals are:

- to create a new desktop surface
- to hide all unnecessary information from the screen
- to reduce CPU load
- to increase stability of elves that draw on standby
- to support landscape display on standby

How is this done?

The elf has 2 different modes.

- Legacy: this mode does not create the new desktop, uses the old standby screen. It's important to have this, as many elves are not compatible with the new method.
- Own GUI (/Landscape): this supports many things; the most important one is certainly the landscape view. Additionally it is a totally empty surface, no clock, date, battery... nothing annoying, the internal captions system draws them, the way you like. It can be switched to landscape from standing (and back) with a press of a button (BCFG).

How can it reduce CPU load and increase stability?

There are 2 problems with older elves:

- they apply InvalidateRect(<standby>); when it's not even necessary (see the refresh time in elves' BCFG), this should be done centrally, only one elf should do it, at a certain frame rate.
- they modify the "OnRedraw" function for Standby like this:
 - 1. Get the old redraw function.
 - 2. Modify it to my own.
 - 3. In my own, apply the old redraw

And this goes on forever. When an elf is killed, it restores the old redraw. The redraw that was ok, when the elf itself was loaded. So then any other elf, loaded after the killed one won't be showing up on standby. This is fixed perfectly in Bridge.



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HOW DO I (A DEVELOPER) WORK WITH DESKBRIDGE?

The elf acts like a server. It has its own functions that can be run from any other elf.

```
typedef struct
 BOOK book; //to be able to find it
  int version; //to know if this bridge build is compatible
 int platform; //2010 or 2020 in integer
 int ScreenHeight; //these 2 change when you switch landscape on/off
 int ScreenWidth;
 int sleeping; //the phone is in sleep mode
 int walkman on; //walkman or media player is running
  DATETIME datetime; //current date and time
 BATT battery; //battery info
 int (*Add Draw) (void (*Draw) (DISP OBJ * db,int r1, int r2,int r3),int
refresh time);
  int (*Reset Draw) (void (*Draw) (DISP OBJ * db,int r1, int r2,int r3),int
refresh time);
  int (*Remove Draw) (void (*Draw) (DISP OBJ * db,int r1, int r2,int r3));
  int (*Add OnKey) (int (*OnKey) (void *p, int key, int i2, int i3, int mode));
  int (*Remove OnKey) (int (*OnKey) (void *p, int key, int i2, int i3, int mode));
  int (*Modify View Hook) (int (*proc) (int mode), int mode);
  int (*Modify Walkman Hook) (int (*proc) (int running), int mode);
 void * (*Get Widget) (wchar t * name);
  void (*ShowMessage) (wchar t * message);
}BridgeBook;
```

The thing you see up there is Bridge's book (you must have this in some main.h of your elf) that can be found this way:

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Now you can use Bridge's functions and values from BB. This is also a place to check the version (BB->version==1 in the first release).

DRAWING ON THE SCREEN

The first thing you need to do is add your own **draw function** like this:



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```
void Draw(DISP OBJ * db,int r1, int r2,int r3)
  //here do everything as you used to with onredraw functions, except for one
      thing, no need to execute oldredraw.
  /*you can access details of the phone like
   BB->platform: 2010 or 2020 in (int)
      BB->ScreenHeight and BB->ScreenWidth are for the screen you are drawing
      on, they change when you switch to/from landscape
}
int main(wchar t *elfname, wchar t *path, wchar t *fname)
 BB=(BridgeBook*)FindBook(isBridgeBook);
  if (!BB) //if deskbridge is not running, the book won't be found
   ShowMessage (L"This cannot be run without DeskBridge!");
   SUBPROC (elf exit); //then there's no reason/way to run this elf either
   return(0);
  //here create your elf's book and do everything necessary....
 int refresh time=1000; //in milli second
 BB->Add Draw(Draw, refresh time);
}
static void onMyBookClose(BOOK * book)
  //do what you have to.
 BB->Remove Draw(Draw); //if you don't do this, the phone calls a non-existing
      function and reboots (WSOD).
}
```



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MONITORING VIEW MODE

Not in all cases, but in many, you may want to know if the view changes (from landscape to normal or the opposite).

For this purpose, I made a hook system that works much like the keyhooks of the phone.

Let us continue the example from before, add and remove our **view hook**...

```
enum {LEGACY,OWN GUI,LANDSCAPE};
int myhook(int mode)
 switch (mode)
  case LEGACY:
   //...
     break;
  case OWN GUI:
     break;
  case LANDSCAPE:
    //...
     break;
}
int main(wchar t *elfname, wchar t *path, wchar t *fname)
{
 BB->Modify_View_Hook (myhook,1);
}
static void onMyBookClose(BOOK * book)
  BB->Modify View hook (myhook, 0);
```

The function *myhook* will be executed whenever the user changes the view mode.

MONITORING WALKMAN

You can do the same thing with Walkman or Media Player on non-W series. A hook like this is installed the same way with *Modify_Walkman_Hook*. int hook(int running)'s running==1 if Walkman is started, 0 if closed.



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HANDLING KEY INPUT

The last important thing is using **OnKey functions**.

Now the original (should I say conventional?) OnKey functions are like this:

```
void OnKey(void *p, int key, int i2, int i3, int mode)
{
  void (*OldOnKey) (void *, int, int, int);
  OldOnKey=(void(*) (void *, int, int, int)) oldOnKey;

  if (key==KEY_ENTER)
  {
    //do what you wish
    return;
  }

  //if nothing works ...
  OldOnKey(p,key,i2,i3,mode);
}
```

Where you had to save the old onkey function of the standby to a pointer, and execute it if your own elf doesn't use the actual key. This was a nice thing, working all right but all elves on exit restored the onkey that was actual when they were launched, just like draw functions did. I wanted to make them like KeyHooks though, to have a return value (which the original onkey does not have). See the example (still continuing that example):

```
int OnKey(void *p, int key, int i2, int i3, int mode)
{
   if (key==KEY_ENTER && mode==KBD_SHORT_PRESS)
   {
        //do whatever
        return(-1); //returning -1 or any non-zero value will keep Bridge from
   executing all the other onkey functions
   }
   //check all the keys you want to
   return(0); //if no keys were ok, the function will return 0 (zero) and so
   Bridge will be told to move on to the next onkey
}

int main(wchar_t *elfname, wchar_t *path, wchar_t *fname)
{
   //...
   BB->Add_OnKey(OnKey);
   //...
}

static void onMyBookClose(BOOK * book)
{
   //...
   BB->Remove_OnKey(OnKey);
   //...
}
```



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DISPLAYING MESSAGES

You can use DeskBridge's built-in messagebox gui to show messages to the user like this:

```
BB->ShowMessage(L"my message");

//or you can use a more complex way to print any variable...
wchar_t * buf[100];
snwprinf(buf,99,L"%s: %d","some_str",92);
BB->ShowMessage(buf);
```

WIDGETS

A very important new feature in this elf is the widget support. Widgets (or gadgets in Windows) here are small elf applications, written in c++. The difference between normal elves and them is mainly that they don't create a book, DeskBridge loads and unloads them. And their name is *.widget.

You can start learning how to make them by reading my sources. If you do so, you'll see, that: (in widget.cpp and widget.h) the widget first looks for the DeskBridge book, if it's not found, it unloads. Then asks Bridge for the WIDGET in the memory. It stands for the current widget, like stores its settings (position, size). If it's not found, again it exits.

If everything's fine, you can initialize, like load pictures. Then it assigns its Draw and kill_widget fuctions, so that Bridge will know what to call. If you load a picture, you must also unload it in kill widget() function.

You can also use ActiveStrings, it's like captions in Bridge, you enter \$d1.\$d2.\$d3 and it will make them 2009.12.07 or so. For more info on usage, see Calendar.wiget.

If you do so, you'll also see:

```
int scale=0;
void Draw(DISP OBJ * db,int r1, int r2,int r3)
  if (scale!=widget->scale)
    scale=widget->scale;
    font big=0;
    FONT DESC *fonts=GetFontDesc();
    for (int i=0, max=*GetFontCount(); i<max; i++)</pre>
      if (fonts[i].name[wstrlen(fonts[i].name)-1]==L'R')
        SetFont(fonts[i].id);
        if (GetImageHeight(' ')<=WidgetHeight*0.5)</pre>
          font big=fonts[i].id;
        else
          break:
      }
    }
  }
```

This code can set up fonts (font_big) to go with the widget size, according to scale. For it to work, you also need:

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```
#define WidgetWidth GetImageWidth(bg->ImageID)*scale/100
#define WidgetHeight GetImageHeight(bg->ImageID)*scale/100
```

It's quite obvious what they do.

```
IMG bg[1];
putchar(get_DisplayGC(),widget->x,widget->y,WidgetWidth,
GetImageHeight(bg[0].ImageID)*scale/100,bg[0].ImageID);
```

You should always draw images like this, so that the scaling will work.

To set up the about box, simply:

```
widget->about_widget=L"my about info";
```

To have BCFG support, do what you always do when you add bcfg to an elf... except: it must be in /usb/other/ZBin/BirdgeWidgets directory, named as the widget itself but with bcfg extension (this is set up in conf_loader.cpp).

See Calendar or Clock widget for more info.

In IAR, right click on project's name on the left, hit *Options*. Go to *Linker* on the left, select Override default and name your elf like *MyWgt.widget* (use .widget extension). Move this widget file to /usb/other/ZBin/BridgeWidgets. You can use directories but the folder's name must be the widget's name, so for *MyWgt.widget*, the full path will be /usb/other/ZBin/BridgeWidgets/MyWgt.widget.

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DOCUMENT HISTORY

- 2009.07.09. Creation
- 2009.12.07. Added info on ShowMessage and Widgets.
- 2009.12.12. Added info on new widget features (about box and bcfg), removed no longer actual data
- 2009.12.18. Actualized BridgeBook info
- 2009.12.23. Implemented Walkman hooks and also added them