e-CourtReporter Presents:

e-Tips Newsletter

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"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle."

Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

Wil Wilcox: The Default WAV Audio Player Keith Vincent: A Google Search of Marked Text in Eclipse

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Wil's e-Tip

The Default WAV Audio Player

This tip is about how to restore the Windows Media Player as the default WAV audio player if it's changed on you. When you install any multimedia programs that play audio and video, they like to change the icon for your WAV sound files and associate themselves with that file. In other words, if you install a program such as MusicMatch JukeBox, RealOne Player, QuickTime Player, etc., the WAV file icon may be changed along with the default program for playback. You will usually first be asked if you want this program to automatically play your WAV sound files. Don't click "yes" if that's not what you want. If you do say "yes," when you double click on WAV file icons afterwards, this new program you've installed will then automatically open up and start playing as opposed to the Windows Media Player.

If you've already had your file associations change, it's easy to correct. Simply open Total Eclipse's File Manager and click on any icon for a WAV sound file to select it. Then click on the button labeled "Properties" on the left-hand side of the Total Eclipse File Manager. Then click on the button that says "Change." Next choose which program you'd like to use for playing your audio files using the Browse button. Then click "Always use the selected program to open this kind of file" and click "OK,"

Alternatively, if you prefer using the Windows Explorer for file management, simply right click on the file and select "properties" from there. The remaining steps are as outlined above. You'll have your audio files playing back in Windows Media Player once again.

Keith's e-Tip

A Google Search of Marked Text within Total Eclipse

http://www.google.com. It's certainly one of my favorite internet addresses. If I'm the least bit curious about anything, I use Google to do a quick search. Wow, do I ever wish constantly connected high-speed internet access had been available when I had to write term papers in college.

Recently Jeremy Thorne, our great programmer, posted a CR-NET tip for a fast way to perform a Google search on text that's highlighted in Total Eclipse.

He said there is a way to "invoke a search engine or webpage of your choice from within Eclipse. In the script processor, there's an 'execute' command (indicated with the letter "x") that will open any program or file, including a webpage. If you make a script command, put in xlObjectName and then move to the next line and hit F12 to send the script command. ObjectName can be anything that you can type into the 'run' command."

I tried the macro that Jeremy suggested. Naturally, it worked. So I can press F7 (or Hyperkey m) to mark the text for which I want to perform a Google search. I then use the speedkey that I've selected to run the macro that Jeremy suggested. Shift+Alt+Ctrl+G (as in Google) wasn't being used for anything, so that works for me.

To save you some trouble, I've created the macro Jeremy suggested and made it available on the E-Tips page of my website, www.KVincent.com. Just go to the description for E-Tip #33, where you see it says: "To download macro, right-click here and 'Save Target' as a file on your Windows Desktop."

Once you've downloaded the macro from my website, remember to go to the "Edit" section of your User Settings and select "Macros." You'll want to import the macro that you've downloaded so that it becomes a part of your user settings. Your list of macros will then include "Google Search." Find that name in your list of macros and press "Edit" so that you can assign whatever speedkey you want. As I said, I'm using Shift+Alt+Ctrl+G, as in Google.

There are just two small drawbacks to all this. First, after you finish your Google search, a harmless script will be left in your document. If you searched for "Total Eclipse," the script line would look like this: Sc: xlhttp://www.google.com/search?q=Total Eclipse. It won't affect printing or anything like that, and you can always place your cursor on the script line and press Ctrl Y to yank (delete) the line. This is just a temporary drawback. Jeremy will eventually add a more elegant interface to this search procedure.

What's the second drawback? You might have too much fun using Google. Try not to get lost in cyberspace.

Who Are We?

Wil Wilcox is a freelance court reporter in Los Angeles, California, and has been a technology consultant for reporters since 1995. Since 1998, he and Robert Denos have been the Advantage Software representatives for Southern California.

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