

Computer/Human Interaction

Lecture 11

Overview:

- Visual Basic menus
- Multi-form applications
- About boxes
- Splash screens

Assignments out:

- Visual Basic Prototype

Purple Pizza Parlor, v3

- Create a new VB project on local (C:) drive.
- Rename `Form1.vb` to `pizza3.vb`; save and close solution
- Download all of the files from course webpage into project folder overwriting any original files
- Open project; add the three extra `*.vb` (not `*.Designer.vb`) files to project (Project -> Add Existing Item)

Menu Strip

- MenuStrip is a container for MenuItem, ComboBoxes, TextBoxes. Text of each item is the label in the menu bar.
- Default placement is horizontal across top of form
- Can insert the "standard" items (File, Edit, Tool, Help) through right-click
- Can insert menu items via the form designer

Menu Item

- Menu item also is a container of MenuItem, ComboBoxes, and TextBoxes. Text of each item is the label in the menu list.
- Can also insert a separator
- Properties include shortcut key
- Default handler is Click

Multiple Forms

- Application can have more than one form
- Project -> Add Windows Form
- Choose a template, e.g.,
 - Generic windows form
 - About Box
 - Splash Screen
- Each form's code is in its own files

Using Multiple Forms

- Generally, create an instance, load it and wait for it to exit, then dispose it:

```
Dim frm As New AnotherForm()  
frm.ShowDialog (Me)  
frm.Dispose ()
```

- Initialization is handled in the Load event handler of the form
- Needs to have something that will close the form (`Me.Close ()`) unless run in a separate thread. E.g., OK button.

About Box

- Form template that is implemented to read application data on Load and has an OK button
- Application data is set in MyProject item of solution tree under Assembly Information

Splash Screen

- Another form template that reads assembly data
- Specially attached in Application data of MyProject
- Automatically loaded in a separate thread by system so main program continues to load while it is displayed.

In-class Exercise

- Complete any previous exercises
- Add other menu items and actions
- Add other forms and actions