



ALLAN THRAEN | 15 years ago | PDF |

CODEMANIA: GEEKY PAGEPROVIDERS



At EPiServer Day 2009 I had the pleasure of entertaining a crowded room filled with the best developer brains in the community of developers working with EPiServer CMS. As promised, I will use a couple of blog posts on providing the code we showed at the event.

First, I showed how to use the DCPlugin to make easy Dynamic Content out of User Controls. I already blogged about that, so I'll let that be for now.

Later, it was time to turn geeky with some crazy page providers.

I based all my page providers on the MappedPageProvider.

Here's the File System Provider:

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Linq;
using System.Web;
using System.IO;
using EPiServer.Core;
using EPiServer.Research.PageProviders;

namespace EPiServer.Templates.PageProvider
{
    // ...
}
```

It's set up in web.config like this:

```
<pageProvider>
  <providers>
    <add name="File" type="EPiServer.Templates.PageProvider.FileProvider,EPiServer.Templates.Public"
    entryPoint="28" rootFolder="d:\templ\" capabilities="Edit,Create" />
  </providers>
</pageProvider>
```

It works by using the path to the files as the unique key for the mappings. Make sure that the ASPNET / Network Service has read/write access to your root folder. Also, it uses the Standard page type from the default site – change that if needed.

After that part, I turned really geeky with the Page Provider To Admin mode...A page provider that exposes PageTypes, Categories and Tabs from Admin mode as page in edit-mode. Somewhat funny to work with a PageType that describes a PageType.

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Linq;
using System.Web;
using EPiServer.Research.PageProviders;
using EPiServer.DataAbstraction;
using EPiServer.Core;

namespace EPiServer.Templates.PageProvider
{
    public class CoreProvider : MappedPageProvider
    {
        // ...
    }
}
```

This needs to have a couple of new PageTypes defined.

Also, register it in web.config like this:

```
<add name="Core" type="EPiServer.Templates.PageProvider.CoreProvider,EPiServer.Templates.Public"
entryPoint="30" capabilities="Edit,Create" />
```

Since it doesn't really make sense to see "preview" of any pages of this type, you might want to disable preview entirely for them and instead show the edit-tab. This is done by this plugin:

```
using System;
using System.Linq;
using System.Web;
using System.Web.UI;
using System.Web.UI.WebControls;
using System.Xml.Linq;

using EPiServer.Core; // addref: EPiServer.dll
using EPiServer.Plugin; // addref: EPiServer.dll
using EPiServer.DataAbstraction; // addref: EPiServer.dll
using EPiServer.UI.Edit; // addref: EPiServer.UI.dll
using EPiServer.UI.WebControls; // addref: EPiServer.UI.dll
```

Enjoy!

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