



TIPS AND TRICKS ADDON DEVELOPMENT EPISERVER

Custom Views for an Interface



Allan Thraen | 1 Years Ago | PDF | 0 | f | t | p | e | r | l

Ever played around with adding custom views in Episerver CMS? It's a really powerful way to extend the UI. But why does it work when you register your view for a model class, but not for an interface implemented by that model? I had a look and found out.

Dont get your hopes up - this is just a short blog post to remind myself of a fun little detail that would otherwise cause me to probably waste an hour again some day looking for exactly the same issue.

It's a neat and pretty common thing to add custom views for your content. I've done it in a dozen integrations of various kinds, and it's described in many (!) blog posts:

- <https://world.episerver.com/blogs/Duong-Nguyen/Dates/2013/12/Custom-views-and-plugin-areas-in-EpiServer-75/>
- <https://world.episerver.com/blogs/Linus-Ekstrom/Dates/2014/4/Adding-custom-views-to-your-content/>
- <http://jondjones.com/learn-episerver-cms/episerver-developers-guide/episerver-customizing-episervers-ui/displaying-a-custom-on-page-editing-view>

Today, I was once again using the views, but I needed to have them work for an interface rather than the specific model class. Something like this:

```
[ContentType(GUID = "EE3BD195-7CB8-4756-AB5F-E5E223CD9820")]
[MediaDescriptor(ExtensionString = ".pdf,docx")]
public class GenericMedia : MediaData, IMyContentInterface
{
    /// <summary>
    /// Gets or sets the description.
    /// </summary>
    public virtual String Description { get; set; }
}
```

But when I changed it to be an interface it stopped showing up. That seemed a bit odd, so instantly I fired up dotPeek and took a look at how the Episerver views are registered. And they are registered towards IContentData and IContent - so why won't it work for me? Here's my view:

```
[ServiceConfiguration(typeof(Episerver.Shell.ViewConfiguration))]
public class MyView : ViewConfiguration<IMyContentInterface>
{
    public MyView()
    {
        Key = "myView";
        Name = "My View";
        Description = "A view with my stuff";
        ControllerType = "epi-cms/widget/IframeController";
        ViewType = VirtualPathUtility.ToAbsolute("~/mypathomycontroller/myview");
        IconClass = "myIcon";
    }
}
```

Turns out to be stupid simple: Views needs to match up their types with the proper UIDescriptors. If you don't have a UI Descriptor, then get one - even if you don't plan to use it.

This fixed the issue:

```
[UIDescriptorRegistration]
public class MyUIDescriptor : UIDescriptor<IMyContentInterface>
{
    public MyUIDescriptor()
    {
        //Potentially set the default view or disable some other views
    }
}
```

TIPS AND TRICKS

ADDON DEVELOPMENT

EPISERVER



Previous Post
Admin Mode Plugin to Manage
Content Type Suggestions



Next Post
Webcast: Addons In Real Life @
CodeArt

Blog posts

2019

November

October

September

August

July

June

May

April

March

February

January

2018

December

November

October

September

August

June

Available Topics

.NET DEVELOPMENT

ADDON DEVELOPMENT

AI

API BUILDING

AZURE

BEHAVIOR ANALYTICS

BIG DATA

C#

CMS

CONTENTFUL

DIGIZUITE

ELASTICSEARCH

EPISERVER

FREELANCING

INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

INTEGRATIONS

LIFE AS A CODER

MICRO SERVICES

OFFSHORE DEVELOPMENT

PRODUCT MANAGEMENT

TECH TALK

TIPS AND TRICKS

VISION DEMOS & PROTOTYPES

About Allan

I'm a freelance software architect / developer and Episerver expert (EMVP) based in Copenhagen Denmark. I've worked for Episerver for more than 10 years before going freelance and understand both your business needs as well as the technical possibilities.



I love solving real business problems with innovative and creative coding!

Learn more about my skills and specialities, reach out to me at info@codeart.dk or use this form to contact me.



Post Comments (0)

0 Comments CodeArt.dk

Login

Recommend Tweet Share

Sort by Best

Start the discussion...

LOG IN WITH



OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS

Name

Be the first to comment.

ALSO ON CODEART.DK

VS2017 Debugger Timeout

3 comments · a year ago

Mark van Dijk — Ah great, ran into this a couple of times lately. Hope this will fix it.

Content Report Generator

8 comments · a year ago

Marcus Babajews — what Nic and Knudson said! nice example, Allan

Design Pattern: Tag Pages instead of Categories

3 comments · a year ago

Scott Reed — We use https://github.com/Geta/Epi... for our tagging, it replaces the inbuilt category management with

Gist Content Provider

1 comment · a year ago

davidknipe — Nice! Thanks for sharing, this may well be getting integrated into david-tec.com soon ;)

Subscribe Add Disqus to your site Disqus' Privacy Policy

DISQUS



Recommended for you

CodeArt

Error: No parameterless constructor defined for this object

Episerver Forms: Adding Datasource for hidden field with Profile Store data

CodeArt ApS

Frederiksdalsvej 198, 2830 Virum, Denmark

Phone: +45 26 13 66 96

CVR: 39680688



Tweets by @athraen

Allan Thraen @athraen New blog post on #Episerver World: Use MemoryCache in your project - for fun and profit world.episerver.com/blogs/Quan...

Embed

View on Twitter