



Tech Info Library

Apple Media Tool 2.0: How to Create an Idle Command (4/96)

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TOPIC -----

In Apple Media Tool 1.x there was an Idle command that would cause the title to link back to a specific screen after a specified time of inactivity. This was useful for projects that played in kiosks. This article describes how to do this same thing with Apple Media Tool 2.0?

DISCUSSION -----

Here is one example of how you can achieve this same functionality in Apple Media Tool 2.0.

In this example, you are setting a duration for a background and for a text field (timeout.txt). These objects are the timers. The timeout.txt object is a text object that asks the user "Do you need more time? Click here to continue".

Note:

This article assumes you already know how to import media, create a screen, change actions, create commands, change commands, and other basic media tool procedures. If you do not know how to do this, please refer to the Apple Media Tool User's Manual.

Step 1 - Set Background Duration Time

Set a duration, in ticks*, for the background.

* 60 ticks = 1 second

The duration should be fairly long. When the duration elapses, the assumption is your audience has lost interest or walked away from the kiosk.

Step 2 - Assign Commands for the Background

Here is a chart of the event/action for the background.

Begin_Table

Background Object	Events	Actions
	After Display	Start Itself
		Go To Beginning Itself
	Finished	Show Timeout.txt
		Start Timeout.txt

End_Table

Step 3 - Set Timeout.txt Duration Time

Set a duration, in ticks*, for the background.

* 60 ticks = 1 second

Step 4 - Assign Commands for Timeout.txt

Here is a chart of the event/action for Timeout.txt

Begin_Table

Timeout.txt Object	Events	Actions
	Before Display	Hide Itself
		Hide Itself
		Stop Itself
	Mouse Up	Go To Beginning Itself
		Start Background
	Finished	Go To XXX (screen preferred)

End_Table

If timeout.txt finishes, meaning nobody clicked to continue, then it links back

to the main screen, or wherever you want.

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