MSDN content is also available as a Web service

devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20100723-01

July 23, 2010



Raymond Chen

Unless you've been living under a rock, by now you know about MSDN's <u>low bandwidth view (aka ScriptFree)</u> and <u>lightweight</u> view. But there are other views too, like PDA view (for when you want to look up MSDN documentation on your phone?), Robot view, printer-friendly view, unstyled HTML view... (See that first link above for more details.)

But in addition to all the views, you can go directly to the back-end that drives all the data: The <u>MSDN/TechNet Publish System (MTPS) Content Service</u>. With that interface, you can request the back-end data and format it any way you like. Here's <u>an MSDN Magazine article which builds a documentation viewer</u>, and <u>the author of that article</u> also developed <u>a command-line tool which returns the content as a man page</u>. (Update: Looks like the command-line tool no longer exists. Sorry, all you retro-heads out there.)

Raymond Chen

Follow

