

Designing Diagrams and Grids for Waste Management and Websites with WPF

Developer Michael Hughes MJH Software Services Ltd. searched for a component vendor that would satisfy his needs for both functionality and support. After researching many companies, a friend referred him to Syncfusion. Although he was not familiar with Syncfusion, he was very happy with what he saw, and has been working with Syncfusion controls ever since.

Hughes works primarily with Syncfusion's Diagram and Grid controls for WPF, and has incorporated them into two recent projects.

Project 1

The Challenge

Vecoplan AG, an international company specializing in the development of timber and recycling technology, asked Hughes to build an application that diagrammed its waste recycling process. The application would then be given to CAD designers to blueprint the process, and ultimately be built by engineers.

The Solution

Hughes' familiarity with the Diagram control for WPF helped him build the foundation of the waste recycling application. The diagram portrayed the recycling process from beginning to end, and was used to design a network of recycling machines connected by conveyor belts.

"The main reason I bought [from] Syncfusion was the Syncfusion diagram and grid controls," Hughes said. The control's intuitive user-interaction model for creating and editing diagrams with XAML, as well as its data-binding support, has enabled Vecoplan AG to see its diagrams come to life with an animated, interactive interface that outlines its processes.

Project 2

The Challenge

Hughes is also involved with a software company that distributes the most widely used A programming language (APL) development platform available. The company did not have the necessary tools in-house to support WPF, and asked Hughes to modify its grid control to improve the usability and aesthetic for both end users and programmers. Many people at the company were well-versed in APL but unfamiliar with C#. Because C# and APL vary in many ways, it was up to Hughes to bridge this gap and bring the company's grids up to date.

The Solution

By inheriting from the Syncfusion Grid control for WPF, Hughes was able to quickly customize the grid and create the APL-friendly functionalities he needed. He employed WPF features such as stack panels, combo boxes, and borders, allowing him to manipulate the rows and columns of the grid very quickly. "Of all the WPF controls I looked at, only the Syncfusion controls had the simplicity with the powerful flexibility I needed," Hughes said. When faced with a problem with the grid gaining and losing focus, Hughes turned to Syncfusion support, and received a solution within nine hours. Hughes is currently working on other complex APL controls that work with Syncfusion's, and has so far been "very impressed."

The Benefits

