

BICMS 4.0 Must-Know Developer Tips

General

- To delete a node with children, add a custom property named "Delete" with value "1"
- To delete a folder in Library that has contents add in the custom field the word "Delete"
- To clear the BICMS cache, go to CMS Tools -> Miscellaneous -> Clear Cache
- To Check-in a single page, if you are logged in as admin, just right click the page and you can use the "Check In" option
- To hide a set of nodes from the admin tree, go to CMS Tools -> Miscellaneous -> Bulk hide in admin tree

Placeholders

- Each HTMLPH.ascx control on a template must have a unique **PlaceholderName** property
- To enable auto generation of thumbnails for image placeholders, any image field that you add to a content type will allow you to provide the following information
 - o Thumb1Width
 - o Thumb1Height
 - o Thumb2Width
 - o Thumb2Height

So any image placeholder that has the above values set, in its content type, will have auto-generated thumbnails related to it (maximum 2 thumbnails) with the above widths and heights.

- To get the image placeholder thumbnail, you can refer to it in one of the following ways
 - o Admin/dynamicimage.aspx?PHName=[phname]&PageID=[pageid]&published=1
 - o admin/Img.ashx?pageid=[pageid]&phname=[phname] (Recommended way)
- To define the maximum dimensions for an image PH field, in the content type containing this field, you can set the "Max Image Width" and "Max Image Height" fields.

Zones and Portlets

- Each BICMSZone.ascx control should have a unique ZoneID property value
- The first BIZCMSZone.ascx should have the ZoneID=1
- To make a user control a portlet usable in BICMS:
 - o Let it inherit from BICMSPortletBase class
 - o You can use the Arguments property that it inherits in order to read the values of arguments that are passed from the portlet properties page in BICMS. (Arguments is an array of PagePortletArgument objects)
 - o Add the portlet in Library -> Portlets
 - o To define the properties that you need to allow the user to set for a portlet from the CMS, add these as arguments to the portlet

Custom Menus

To add your own custom menu to BICMS Admin menu, you can have an XML file named "CustomMenus.xml" and located inside the "Admin" folder. The format of this XML file is depicted below.

```
<menus>
  <menu name="parent1" href="href1" haschildren="1" newwindow="1">
    <menu name="test" href="href2" newwindow="1" ></menu>
  </menu>
</menus>
```

You can have as many menu items as needed and as many second menu items within each main menu item. Note that it will only display up to 2 levels

Forms

- There is a field when creating a form named "Columns" where you can select if your form should be on 1 or 2 columns
- The form is rendered as a table with special class names for every kind of cell so that producers can set styles as needed
- The auto-response capability form a form sends the email to the user based that there is a field named "Email" in the form itself
- To disable showing the validation messages within each validator separately and show them within a validation summary as a pop-up, add a property named "ValidationSummary" with value = 1

Web.Config Keys

- Use the "DefaultFilter" key to set the default node in the filter drop down list
- To hide the "All" from the filter drop down, use the key "ShowAllFilter" = 0
- To force the password changing for any newly created user account , use the key "ForcePasswordChange" = 1
- To define the lifetime of a password validity, use the "PasswordLifetime" key
- To disable a user after a certain period of not accessing the CMS, use the key "DisableUserForInactivity"; the value is in days. (A recommended value should be 60 days)
- Use the "ComplexPassword" key to enforce complex passwords on the CMS users.
- Use the "AttemptstoDisable" key to disable a CMS user account after trying to login without success for a specific number of times
- Use the "StatsArchiveSpan" key to define the number of days that the CMS waits before archiving statistics
- Use the "404PageID" key to set the ID of the CMS page that should be the 404 page
- Use the "GoogleAnalyticsPeriod" key to define the default number of days to get the Google Analytics data.
- Use the "GoogleDefaultSiteURL" key to define the default website for which Google Analytics will show on the BICMS administration home page
- Use the "GlossarySource" key to define the source from which to get the explanation of the keywords. 3 possible values can be used, "BICMS", "Wikipedia" or "none"

- "EnableSSL"; when set to 1 then the admin access will enforce https protocol otherwise it will use http as usual
- Use the Mode key to define the BICMS version that should be used. Here are the 4 different values available:
 - AdvancedMultiple -> MN%GH\$PO87F3
 - AdvancedSingle -> QSWBBVG\$#23H
 - ProfessionalMultiple -> MKJ#YHG45FDE
 - ProfessionalSingle -> NJHTKGF\$%\$RF

API

- General

- All control classes methods are Shared so you can call them directly using the class name without needing to create an instance
- If NL is a list of nodes then use the following syntax `NL.Contents.GetContent("FieldName")` to get the content of the field "FieldName" within the collection of contents related to this node. This function will return Nothing if the specified field name is not existing or if it is empty.

- Full Text Search

- Use the NodeControl function called "SearchPublicContentFullText" to run a full text search on the content (This, off course requires configuring the full text catalog on the SQL Server level)

- Ordering Nodes within a list of nodes by a field within the contents collection of that node

- `Node.SortBy = "Title-Content"` ("Title" is the name of the content field and "-Content" must always be there)
`NL.Sort()` (Will sort the nodes in ascending order)
`NL.Reverse()` (Only use if you want to have them sorted in descending order)

- Filtering Nodes within a list of nodes by fields within the node contents collection

- Example 1

```
Dim NL2 = NL.Where(Function(N) (N.Contents.GetContent("Date1") >= "1/1/2011") And  
(N.Contents.GetContent("Date1") < "7/1/2011") And (N.Contents.GetContent("Title") IsNot Nothing  
AndAlso N.Contents.GetContent("Title").ToString.Contains("any  
text"))).OrderByDescending(Function(N) N.Contents.GetContent("Date1"))
```

- Example 2

```
Dim NL2 = NL.Where(Function(N) N.Contents.GetContent("Title") IsNot Nothing And  
N.Contents.GetContent("Title").ToString.Contains("Any text "))
```

- Example 3 (Same as the above but using normal LINQ syntax)

```
Dim NL2 = From N As Node In NL Where N.Contents.GetContent("Title") IsNot Nothing AndAlso  
N.Contents.GetContent("Title").ToString.Contains("Any text") Select N
```

- Custom Paging for a list of nodes within a specific node

"TotalRecords" variable will return the total number of nodes needed for custom paging

```
Dim TotalRecords As Integer  
NL = NodeControl.GetAllNodeInOrderOfContentFieldWithCustomPaging("Title",  
General.PlaceHolderType.Text, 10, 1, TotalRecords, "Desc", False, "ParentID in (1,2,3)")
```

- Get nodes by custom property in order of node property

- Get by Custom property name only

```
NL = NodeControl.GetNodesByCustomProperty("test",3049 , 3, "MenuOrderInParent", , "Asc")
```

- Get by custom property name and value

```
NL = NodeControl.GetNodesByCustomProperty("test", "123", 3049, 3, "MenuOrderInParent", , "Asc")
```

- **Get nodes by custom property in order of a content field within the nodes contents collection**

- Get by Custom property name only

```
NL = NodeControl.GetNodesByCustomProperty("test", 3049, 3, "Title",  
BICMS4.General.PlaceHolderType.Text, "Asc")
```

- Get by custom property name and value

```
NL = NodeControl.GetNodesByCustomProperty("test", "123", 3049, 3, "Title",  
BICMS4.General.PlaceHolderType.Text, "Asc")
```