

WebCallOut

This whitepaper discusses the overview, concept, detailed features and client side extensibility of WebCallOut.

Overview

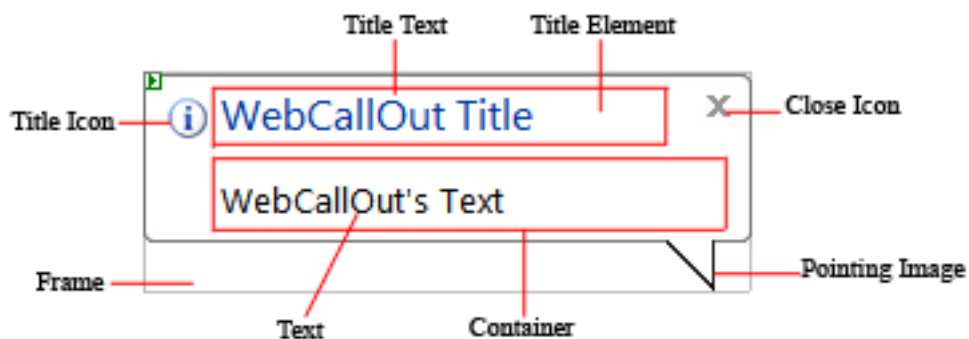
WebCallOut is an ASP.NET server control enabling you to create tooltip or callout that suit your style.

WebCallOut includes most wanted and first of its kind features such as:

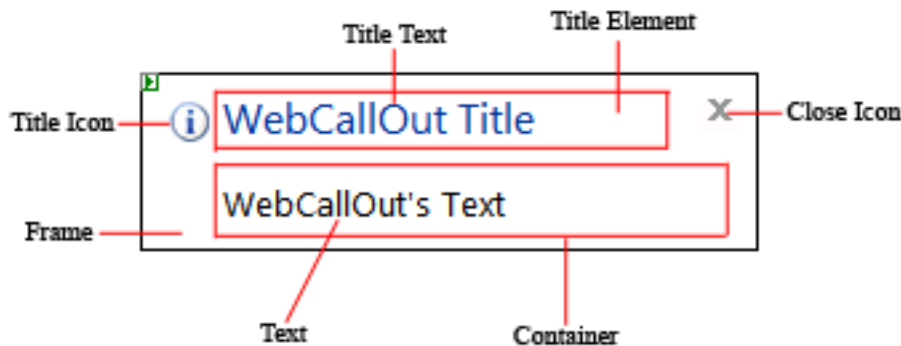
- Automatically adjusting the tooltip and pointing position base on the target control ID.
- AutoDetect position base on target control ID.
- Interactive moving.
- Customizable pointing position.
- Fully customizable layout elements.
- Customizable title icon.
- Animation effects.
- Supports ComplexImages.
- Supports ContentTemplate.
- Comprehensive client side API for construction and manipulation.

Concepts

ComplexImages LayoutMode architecture.



Simple LayoutMode architecture.



- TitleStyle will be applied to the Title Element
- ContainerStyle will be applied to the Container
- FrameStyle will be applied to the Frame

The different between *Simple* and *ComplexImages* layout mode is in the WebCallOut's style. In *ComplexImages*, WebCallOut is using ContainerStyle and the images as the background color whereas *Simple* is using FrameStyle.

WebCallOut supports the following type of controls:

- **Built-in ASP.NET Server control.** You can easily assign ASP.NET server control such as <asp:Button>, <asp:TextBox> or <asp:Panel> to have a WebCallOut. You can specify the server control which attached to WebCallOut by using markup declaratively or via WebCallOut's properties window. The most recommended way to attach a WebCallOut to a standard ASP.NET Server control is via properties window. In the collection editor, you can click on the dropdown button that appear in the *TargetControlID* property, and then quickly select a server control id from the list.
- **Html element.** By default, html elements are not retrieved in the *TargetControlID* editor. However, you can assign html element by its client ID to the *TargetControlID* property directly. For instance, <ISWebDesktop:WebCallOut ID="WebCallOut3" TargetControlId="Div1">.
- **Intersoft controls.** In addition to basic controls like built-in ASP.NET server controls and html elements, WebCallOut is built upon open-architecture leveraging custom interfaces and common/base classes. This enables a tight integration between WebCallOut component and Intersoft WebUI Studio.NET® family products. For instance, the WebCallOut can automatically interact with WebDesktop's component such as toolbar items, WebButton, etc.

WebCallOut.NET component and all its unique features listed in Features are fully supported in the following browsers:

- Internet Explorer 6.0+
- Optimized for Internet Explorer 7.0
- Firefox 2.0
- Other Mozilla-based variants.

Events and Life Cycle

The following list describes the available client side events and the life cycle in order:

1. OnInitialize
This event will be invoked during WebCallOut initialization.
2. OnShow.
When WebCallOut is shown then OnShow client side event will be invoked
3. OnClose.
If the user intentionally closes the WebCallOut or WebCallOut close automatically then OnClose client side event will be invoked.

Features

Customizable DisplaySettings.

WebCallOut provides several display settings that can be set base on user interest.

- DisplayTitleIcon
Show/Hide WebCallOut's title icon.
- DisplayTitleText
Show/Hide WebCallOut's title text.
- DisplayCloseIcon
Show/Hide WebCallOut's close icon.

ComplexImages.

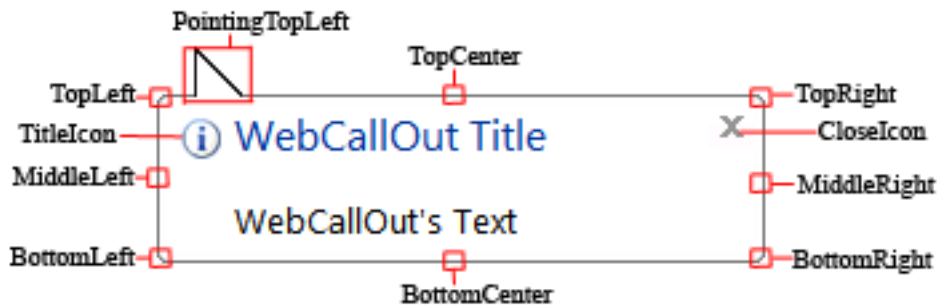
With this features, you can build your own design for WebCallOut. The ComplexImages allow you to specify the images that needed by WebCallOut to render the component. In order to create your own design for WebCallOut, 15 images are needed. You can specify the images in *ImagesSettings*. Some of the design probably requires the pointing position images to be placed higher or lower in the WebCallOut's form. You can specify the suitable position for the pointing position images by set *OffsetBottomPointingPosition* and *OffsetTopPointingPosition*.

By default *ComplexImages* is the default *LayoutMode*.

FrameStyle	
ImagesDirectory	/CommonLibrary/Images/WebDes
ImagesSettings	
BottomCenter	Vista/BottomCenter.gif
BottomLeft	Vista/BottomLeft.gif
BottomRight	Vista/BottomRight.gif
Close	Vista/CloseIcon.gif
CloseHover	Vista/CloseIcon2.gif
MiddleLeft	Vista/MiddleLeft.gif
MiddleRight	Vista/MiddleRight.gif
PointingBottomLeft	Vista/PointingBottomLeft.gif
PointingBottomRight	Vista/PointingBottomRight.gif
PointingTopLeft	Vista/PointingTopLeft.gif
PointingTopRight	Vista/PointingTopRight.gif
Title	Vista/TitleIcon.gif
TopCenter	Vista/TopCenter.gif
TopLeft	Vista/TopLeft.gif
TopRight	Vista/TopRight.gif
OffsetBottomPointingPosition	-1
OffsetTopPointingPosition	1

This image will be used as a hovered close icon

Design concept illustration:



CloseBehaviors

WebCallOut provides several close behaviors.

- Latency
Automatically and by default the WebCallOut will disappear in 30s after shown. You can change the fading time in *Latency*. Beside that, WebCallOut will disappear if user click the close icon or click on the WebCallOut.
- MouseOut
WebCallOut will disappear if user mouse out from the *TargetControlId* or WebCallOut area.
- ClickOutsideCallOut
WebCallOut will disappear if user clicks outside of the WebCallOut.

ShowBehaviors

WebCallOut provides two approach as the ShowBehavior.

- Default
By default WebCallOut will appear and disappear with fading animation
- NoFading
WebCallOut will appear and disappear without fading animation

Customizable pointing position

- AutoDetect
WebCallOut will adjust the pointing position base on the control position that is specified in *TargetControlId*'s, *PreferrableVerticalPosition*, and *PreferrableHorizontalPosition* properties.
- PointingTopLeft
WebCallOut will appear on the TopLeft of control specified in *TargetControlId*.
- PointingTopRight
WebCallOut will appear on the TopRight of control specified in *TargetControlId*.
- PointingBottomLeft
WebCallOut will appear on the BottomLeft of control specified in *TargetControlId*.
- PointingBottomRight
WebCallOut will appear on the BottomRight of control specified in *TargetControlId*.

Except *AutoDetect*, the others options will not depend on *PreferredVerticalPosition* and *PreferredHorizontalPosition* properties.

Preferred Position

Preferred position means in which position you want the WebCallOut to be shown related to control specified in *TargetControlId*. There are 2 properties that refer to preferred position, *PreferredVerticalPosition* and *PreferredHorizontalPosition*. The default value for *PreferredVerticalPosition* is Top and *PreferredHorizontalPosition* is Left. For instance, if the *PreferredVerticalPosition* is Bottom and *PreferredHorizontalPosition* is Right then WebCallOut will be shown at the BottomRight of the control specified in *TargetControlId*.

These properties will be applied if *PointingPosition* is set to **AutoDetect**.

InteractiveMoving

WebCallOut can move depending on mouse cursor position of the control specified in *TargetControlId*. For instance, the control specified in *TargetControlId* is an image then when your mouse inside the image, WebCallOut will appear and the position will follow the mouse cursor. To enable this feature simply set *EnableInteractiveMoving* property to True.

ContentMode

WebCallOut supports 2 kinds content mode.

- UseText
In this mode, WebCallOut will use the *Text* as the content.

- UseTemplate

In this mode, WebCallOut will use user's custom made template as the content. Simply set the LayoutMode that you want in *LayoutMode* property. By default WebCallOut's LayoutMode is UseText.

DisplayLatency

When you mouse over to the control specified in *TargetControlId*, the WebCallOut will not directly appear. WebCallOut will appear if you hover to the control and wait for several milliseconds (default is 500ms). If the default *DisplayLatency* does not suit your scenario then you can change it by simply set your desire *DisplayLatency* in the WebCallOut's properties

Client Side Reference

Methods

- **GetElement**
Gets the HTML element associated to this WebCallOut.
- **GetContentElement**
Gets the HTML element associated to the WebCallOut's content.
- **SetTitle**
Sets WebCallOut's Title.
Parameters:
Title (string)
- **SetText**
Sets WebCallOut's Text.
Parameters:
Text (string)
- **SetPosition**
Sets WebCallOut's position.
Parameters:
X (pixel)
y (pixel)
- **SetTitleIcon**
Sets WebCallOut's TitleIcon.
Parameters:
Filename (the image's name)
- **Show()**
Performs show WebCallOut.
- **Hide()**
Performs hide WebCallOut.
- **SetHeight**
Sets WebCallOut's Height.
Parameters:
Height (pixel)
- **SetWidth**
Sets WebCallOut's Width.
Parameters:
Width (pixel)
- **SetCursorTopLeft**

Sets cursor / pointing position to top left.

Parameter:

Callout (WebCalloutObject)

- SetCursorTopRight
Sets cursor / pointing position to top right.
Parameter:
Callout (WebCalloutObject)
- SetCursorBottomLeft
Sets cursor / pointing position to bottom left.
Parameter:
Callout (WebCalloutObject)
- SetCursorBottomRight
Sets cursor / pointing position to bottom right.
Parameter:
Callout (WebCalloutObject)