

Dragging a shell object, part 1: Getting the IDataObject

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The shell gives you the [IDataObject](#); all you have to do is drag it around. (This is the first of a five-part series.)

Start with [the scratch program](#), and add [the function GetUIObjectOfFile from an earlier article](#). Also, change the calls to [CoInitialize](#) and [CoUninitialize](#) to [OleInitialize](#) and [OleUninitialize](#), respectively, since we're now going to be using full-on OLE and not just COM.

In order to initiate a drag/drop operation, we need a drop source:

```

class CDropSource : public IDropSource
{
public:
    // *** IUnknown ***
    STDMETHODIMP QueryInterface(REFIID riid, void **ppv);
    STDMETHODIMP_(ULONG) AddRef();
    STDMETHODIMP_(ULONG) Release();

    // *** IDropSource ***
    STDMETHODIMP QueryContinueDrag(BOOL fEscapePressed, DWORD grfKeyState);
    STDMETHODIMP GiveFeedback(DWORD dwEffect);

    CDropSource() : m_cRef(1) { }
private:
    ULONG m_cRef;
};

HRESULT CDropSource::QueryInterface(REFIID riid, void **ppv)
{
    IUnknown *punk = NULL;
    if (riid == IID_IUnknown) {
        punk = static_cast<IUnknown*>(this);
    } else if (riid == IID_IDropSource) {
        punk = static_cast<IDropSource*>(this);
    }

    *ppv = punk;
    if (punk) {
        punk->AddRef();
        return S_OK;
    } else {
        return E_NOINTERFACE;
    }
}

ULONG CDropSource::AddRef()
{
    return ++m_cRef;
}

ULONG CDropSource::Release()
{
    ULONG cRef = --m_cRef;
    if (cRef == 0) delete this;
    return cRef;
}

HRESULT CDropSource::QueryContinueDrag(
    BOOL fEscapePressed, DWORD grfKeyState)
{
    if (fEscapePressed) return DRAGDROP_S_CANCEL;
}

```

```

// [Update: missing paren repaired, 7 Dec]
if (!(grfKeyState & (MK_LBUTTON | MK_RBUTTON)))
    return DRAGDROP_S_DROP;

return S_OK;
}

HRESULT CDropSource::GiveFeedback(DWORD dwEffect)
{
    return DRAGDROP_S_USEDEFAULTCURSORS;
}

```

As you can see, this drop source is extraordinarily boring. Even the interesting methods are uninteresting.

The `IDropSource::QueryContinueDrag` method is pretty much boilerplate. If the Escape key was pressed, then cancel the drag/drop operation. If the mouse buttons are released, then complete the operation. Otherwise, continue the operation.

The `IDropSource::GiveFeedback` method is even less interesting. It merely returns `DRAGDROP_S_USEDEFAULTCURSORS` to indicate that it wants default drag feedback.

Believe it or not, we now have everything we need to drag a file.

```

void OnLButtonDown(HWND hwnd, BOOL fDoubleClick,
                  int x, int y, UINT keyFlags)
{
    IDataObject *pdto;
    // In a real program of course
    // you wouldn't use a hard-coded path.
    // [comment added 11am because apparently some
    // people thought this wasn't self-evident.]
    if (SUCCEEDED(GetUIObjectOfFile(hwnd,
                                     L"C:\\windows\\clock.avi",
                                     IID_IDataObject, (void**)&pdto))) {
        IDropSource *pds = new CDropSource();
        if (pds) {
            DWORD dwEffect;
            DoDragDrop(pdto, pds, DROPEFFECT_COPY | DROPEFFECT_LINK,
                      &dwEffect);
            pds->Release();
        }
        pdto->Release();
    }
}

HANDLE_MSG(hwnd, WM_LBUTTONDOWN, OnLButtonDown);

```

To drag an object, you need two things, a data object and a drop source. We created our drop source above, and the data object comes from the shell. All that's left to do is start the drag/drop operation by calling the DoDragDrop function.

Notice that we specify that the permitted operations are `DROPEFFECT_COPY` and `DROPEFFECT_LINK`. We specifically disallow `DROPEFFECT_MOVE` because this program doesn't present a folder-like window; the user has no expectation that the drag/drop will result in a Move operation.

Next time, adding Move support, just to see how it works.



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