

Command line tool to manage Windows 7 Libraries, with source code

 devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20120828-01

August 28, 2012



Raymond Chen

A customer asked if there was a command-line tool for managing Windows 7 Libraries so that they could create and deploy libraries across their organization.

Not only is there such a tool, it even comes with source code.

The [Shell Library Command Line Sample](#) shows how to manage Windows 7 libraries programmatically via the `IShellLibrary` interface. And it's actually a useful program on its own.

Usage: `shlib.exe SUBCOMMAND`

Displays and modifies the attributes of Shell Libraries.

Supported commands:

<code>create</code>	Creates a library at the specified path.
<code>info</code>	Prints info about the given library.
<code>enum</code>	Enumerates the folders in the library.
<code>setattrib</code>	Modifies the attributes of the library.
<code>add</code>	Adds the specified folder to the specified library.
<code>remove</code>	Removes the specified folder from the library.
<code>setsaveloc</code>	Sets the default save location of the library.
<code>resolve</code>	Resolves the specified folder in the library.
<code>resolveall</code>	Resolves all locations in the library in bulk.
<code>manage</code>	Displays the Manage Library Dialog for the library.

For example, to see all the folders that are part of your Documents library, use the command

```
shlib enum FOLDERID_DocumentsLibrary
```

Each of the commands has further sub-options.

Usage: create shlib.exe [OPTIONS] [...]

Creates a library at the specified path.

Options:

-create[:ARG]	Specifies that a new library should be created.
<none>	Fail if the library already exists.
overwrite	Overwrite any existing library.
uniquename	Generate a unique name in case of conflict.

The library may be specified by a file system path,
or by a KNOWNFOLDERID (e.g. "FOLDERID_DocumentsLibrary").

And the source code shows how to perform each of these actions programmatically.

The `IShellLibrary` interface is also supported by the [Windows API Code Pack for .NET](#),
so you C# folks can use it too.

(One thing I noticed that is missing from the sample is a `setIcon` command. Shouldn't be
hard to implement. You just call `IShellLibrary::SetIcon`.)

[Raymond Chen](#)

Follow

