

Another more efficient solution to the problem of a long-running task running on the thread pool persistent thread

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Last time, we broke up a series of operations on the persistent thread pool thread so that the thread pool did the waiting rather than clogging up the persistent thread with a synchronous wait. This does still have the downside of processing the notification on the persistent thread, which could be a problem if that processing is time-consuming.

What we can do is to use the persistent thread pool thread only for things that absolutely must be done on a persistent thread, and move everything else to a thread pool task thread.

Make the highlighted changes to the code we had from last time.

```

// Error checking elided for expository purposes.

void WidgetMonitor::RegisterNotificationWait(
    void* parameter)
{
    WidgetNotificationContext* context =
        reinterpret_cast<WidgetNotificationContext*>(parameter);
    RegisterWaitForSingleObject(&context->waitHandle,
        context->registryEvent,
        WidgetNotificationWaitCallback,
        context,
        INFINITE,
        WT_EXECUTEONCE /*| WT_EXECUTEINPERSISTENTTHREAD */);
    RegNotifyChangeKeyValue(context->hkey, false,
        REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_LAST_SET,
        context->registryEvent, TRUE);
}

void WidgetMonitor::WidgetNotificationWaitCallback(
    void* parameter, BOOLEAN /* TimerOrWaitFired */)
{
    WidgetNotificationContext* context =
        reinterpret_cast<WidgetNotificationContext*>(parameter);

    ... process the change ...

    QueueUserWorkItem(RegisterNotificationWait,
        context,
        WT_EXECUTEINPERSISTENTTHREAD);
}

void WidgetMonitor::StartMonitoring()
{
    auto context = new WidgetNotificationContext();
    context->hkey = ...;
    context->registryEvent = ...;
    QueueUserWorkItem(RegisterNotificationWait,
        context,
        WT_EXECUTEINPERSISTENTTHREAD);
}

void WidgetMonitor::StopMonitoring(
    WidgetNotificationContext* context)
{
    // WARNING! Massive race conditions here need to be addressed.

    if (context->waitHandle) {
        UnregisterWait(context->waitHandle);
        context->waitHandle = nullptr;
    }
    ... clean up other resources ...
}

```

```
delete context;  
}
```

What we did this time was to put only the `RegNotifyChangeKeyValue` on the persistent thread. Everything else runs on a normal thread pool thread. That way, we minimize the amount of code running on the persistent thread.

The last fix we can make is to take advantage of a new feature in Windows 8: The `REG_NOTIFY_THREAD_AGNOSTIC` flag, which turns off the old behavior of stopping the notification when the thread exits. With that change, we don't need the `WT_EXECUTEIN-PERSISTENTTHREAD` flag at all.

```

// Error checking elided for expository purposes.

void WidgetMonitor::RegisterNotificationWait(
    WidgetNotificationContext* context)
{
    RegisterWaitForSingleObject(&context->waitHandle,
        context->registryEvent,
        WidgetNotificationWaitCallback,
        context,
        INFINITE,
        WT_EXECUTEONCEONLY /* WT_EXECUTEINPERSISTENTTHREAD */);
    RegNotifyChangeKeyValue(context->hkey, false,
        REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_LAST_SET |
        REG_NOTIFY_THREAD_AGNOSTIC,
        context->registryEvent, TRUE);
}

void WidgetMonitor::WidgetNotificationWaitCallback(
    void* parameter, BOOLEAN /* TimerOrWaitFired */)
{
    WidgetNotificationContext* context =
        reinterpret_cast<WidgetNotificationContext*>(parameter);

    ... process the change ...

    RegisterNotificationWait(context);
}

void WidgetMonitor::StartMonitoring()
{
    auto context = new WidgetNotificationContext();
    context->hkey = ...;
    context->registryEvent = ...;
    RegisterNotificationWait(context);
}

void WidgetMonitor::StopMonitoring(
    WidgetNotificationContext* context)
{
    // WARNING! Massive race conditions here need to be addressed.

    if (context->waitHandle) {
        UnregisterWait(context->waitHandle);
        context->waitHandle = nullptr;
    }
    ... clean up other resources ...
    delete context;
}

```

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