

LabWindows™/CVI™ Core 1 Exercises Manual

Course Software Version 2010

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ASCII Character Code Equivalents

Appendix D

Additional Information and Resources

Distributing LabWindows/CVI Applications

Exercise 4-1 Creating a Distribution for an Executable

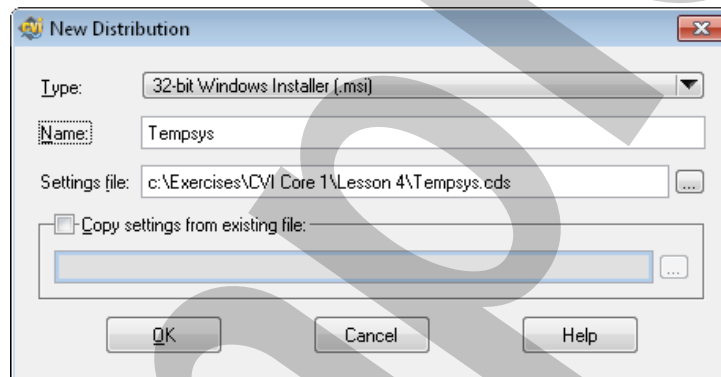
Goal

Create an executable from a project and create a distribution for the executable.

Implementation

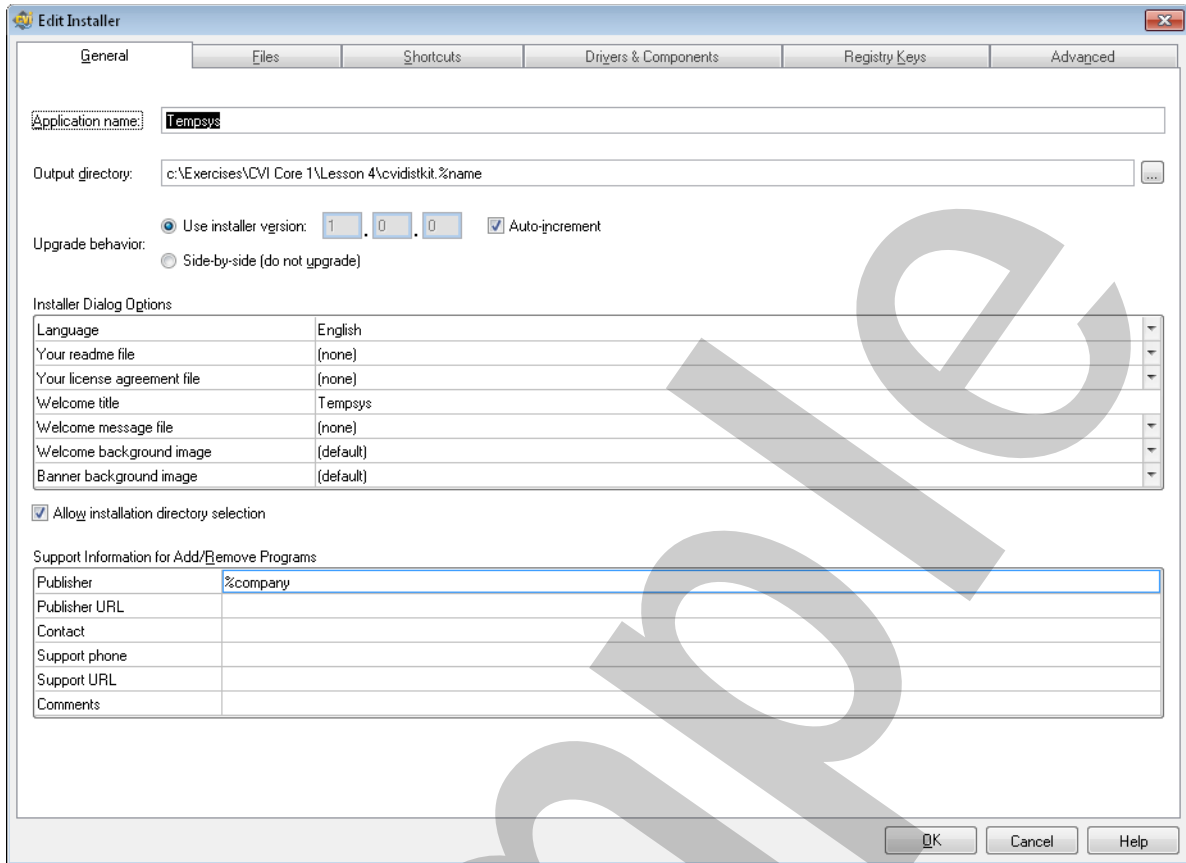
1. Open `Tempsys.prj` located in the `<Exercises>\CVI Core 1\Lesson 4\` directory.
2. Build a release executable.
 - To create an executable suitable for distribution, select **Build»Target Type»Executable** in the Workspace window.
 - Select **Build»Configuration»Release** to change to release mode.
 - To build your executable, select **Build»Create Release Executable**. Remember that you can set different options, such as the icon that your application uses, with **Build»Target Settings**. However, you do not need to change any of these settings for this exercise.
 - When the build completes, a message verifies that LabWindows/CVI built `tempsys.exe` successfully. Click **OK**.
3. Run the release executable.
 - Select **Run»Execute tempsys.exe** or double-click the application from Windows Explorer. You also can right-click the project name in the Project Tree and select **Execute** from the context menu. The program should behave exactly as it did in Exercise 1-1.

4. Bundle the executable into a distribution. Use the Manage Distributions dialog box to add, edit, or remove the distributions in the current workspace.
 - Select **Build»Distributions»Manage Distributions** to open the Manage Distributions dialog box.
 - In the Manage Distributions dialog box, click **New** to open the New Distribution dialog box.
 - In the New Distribution dialog box, specify the **Name** and **Settings file** for the new installer as shown in the following figure.



The **Name** you specify is used *only* to identify this distribution; it is not displayed in the installer you build. The settings (.cds) file contains the information LabWindows/CVI uses to build the installer. You can share .cds files between workspaces. By default, LabWindows/CVI saves the .cds file in the same directory as the workspace file.

- Click **OK** to exit the New Distribution dialog box.
- LabWindows/CVI opens the Edit Installer dialog box automatically. By default, LabWindows/CVI adds the project output, project DLL dependencies, and any other project files, excluding .h, .c, .fpp, and .lib files, to the installation. The Edit Installer dialog box appears as shown in the following figure.



For this application, the default settings are sufficient.

- Click **Help** to view detailed help about the distribution settings.
- Click **OK** to return to the Manage Distributions dialog box.
- In the Manage Distributions dialog box, right-click the **Tempsys** distribution and select **Build** to build the installer. You also can close the Manage Distributions dialog box and select **Build» Distributions»Build Tempsys** to build the installer.

All stand-alone NI drivers or components are included as Windows installer files (.msi) from the original source distributions used to install the component on your system. You will be prompted to insert any necessary CDs during the distribution build process. Note that this may include more or different CDs than expected because of components included by dependency.



Note LabWindows/CVI displays the Distributions Needed dialog box when you build an installer that includes additional components that LabWindows/CVI cannot find.

- When LabWindows/CVI finishes building the installer, click **Close**.

5. Install the application. By default, LabWindows/CVI creates the installation files in a `cvidistkit.Tempsys` folder, which is in the same folder as the workspace file. LabWindows/CVI uses the Microsoft Windows Installer (MSI) technology, which is native to the Windows environment. LabWindows/CVI creates a single `.msi` file for all application files, registry keys, shortcuts, third-party merge modules, and so on. LabWindows/CVI creates the `.msi` file under the `Volume\bin\dp` folder in the installer output directory. This `.msi` file installs the application on the target machine. Refer to the Microsoft Developer Network Web site at www.msdn.com for more information about `.msi` technology.
 - Open the `<Exercises>\CVI Core 1\Lesson 4\cvidistkit.Tempsys\Volume` folder and run `setup.exe` to install the Tempsys application.
 - When you have completed the installation process, select **Start»All Programs»Tempsys»Tempsys** to run the program.

End of Exercise 4-1

Notes

Sample

Notes

Sample