

Search and Replace

Intro

Demonstrates how to use regular expressions with WordWriter to easily search and replace text.

This sample uses the WordApplication class to open an [existing document](#) on the server and perform search and replace actions on it. First, view the stored document to determine which patterns to search for (search terms that work well are *WordWriter*, and *template*). Remember that Regular Expressions are case sensitive. So, to search for "WordWriter" "Wordwriter", use this pattern: Word[Ww]riter.

Code

```

string SearchPattern = "[Ww]ord[Ww]riter";
string replaceWith = "SoftArtisans";
string docPath = @"..\..\WordTemplateFiles\SearchReplace.doc";

/// <summary>
/// Searches a document for a Regular Expression search term
/// and replaces all instances of that term with a new string.
/// The revised document is then saved.
/// </summary>
public void SearchDocument()
{
    /// Open the document you wish to search

    WordApplication wordApp = new WordApplication();
    Document doc = wordApp.Open(docPath);

    // Execute the replacement by specifying the search term
    // as a Regular Expression string, and the replacement string.
    // SearchAndReplace will return the number of replacements made.

    int numReplacements = doc.SearchAndReplace(SearchPattern, replaceWith);

    // If no occurrences of the search pattern were found in the doc, display
    // a message and return.

    if(numReplacements == 0)
    {
        Console.WriteLine("Note: No occurrences of \"{0}\" were found in the
document. " +
                                "Please try another search pattern.", SearchPattern);
        return;
    }

    // Prepend a message to the beginning of the document noting
    // how many replacements were made.
    string text =
        String.Format("Replaced {0} instances of \"{1}\" with \"{2}\"",
            numReplacements, SearchPattern, replaceWith);

    // Create a new paragraph and insert the note
    Paragraph pg = doc.InsertParagraphBefore(null);
    pg.InsertTextAfter(text, false);

    // Save the edited document
    wordApp.Save(doc, @"..\..\WordOutputFiles\Replaced_out.doc");
}
}

```

Downloads

Initial Document: [SearchReplace.doc](#)

