

"Quite simply, this book is a must-have for any serious MFC developer."
—Dean McCrory, MFC Development Lead

MFC Internals

*Inside the Microsoft® Foundation
Class Architecture*

GEORGE SHEPHERD
SCOT WINGO





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Inside the Microsoft® Foundation
Class Architecture

George Shepherd and Scot Wingo

Foreword by Dean D. McCrory



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To Kris, for putting up with the long hours, CT years,
loud music, and me—and, most importantly, for being a great
friend and wife.

—S.W.

To my mother, Elizabeth Shepherd, and to the memory of
my father, George R. Shepherd.

—G.S.



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As you can see, MFC's `IDataObject` classes (`COleDataSource` and `COleDataObject`) wrap Clipboard data transfers very well. They also do a great job implementing OLE drag-and-drop. In fact, doing drag-and-drop is very similar and only takes a little bit more work to implement.

OLE Drag-and-Drop

Like OLE Clipboard transfers, OLE drag-and-drop involves getting an `IDataObject` from a data producer to the consumer. Clearly, the data producer has to implement `IDataObject`, and the data consumer has to know how to deal with an `IDataObject` pointer.

In addition to `IDataObject`, OLE drag-and-drop involves two other interfaces: `IDropSource` and `IDropTarget`. Here's the `IDropSource` interface.

IDropSource

`IDropSource` handles the user interface for drag-and-drop operations. It's the data producer's job to implement this interface. Here's the actual interface definition:

```
interface IDropSource : public IUnknown {
public:
    virtual HRESULT QueryContinueDrag(BOOL fEscapePressed,
                                      DWORD grfKeyState) = 0;
    virtual HRESULT GiveFeedback(DWORD dwEffect) = 0;
};
```

- `QueryContinueDrag()` determines whether to continue or to cancel a drag-and-drop operation.
- `GiveFeedback()` changes the mouse cursor according to the drop effect flags (`DROPEFFECT_NONE`, `DROPEFFECT_MOVE`, `DROPEFFECT_COPY`, and others).

IDropTarget

As its name indicates, `IDropTarget` handles the target end of a drag-and-drop operation. COM objects that wish to be drop targets implement `IDropTarget`. At the raw COM level, an OLE API function called `RegisterDragDrop()` associates a window handle to the COM object implementing `IDropTarget`. Once a drop target has been registered, OLE can notify the drop target whenever mouse dragging action is occurring

over the window specified in RegisterDragDrop through one of IDropTarget's four member functions, as shown in Listing 12-3.

Listing 12-3. The IDropTarget interface

```
interface IDropTarget : public IUnknown {
public:
    virtual HRESULT DragEnter(IDataObject *pDataObj,
                             DWORD grfKeyState,
                             POINTL pt,
                             DWORD *pdwEffect) = 0;

    virtual HRESULT DragOver(DWORD grfKeyState,
                             POINTL pt,
                             DWORD *pdwEffect) = 0;

    virtual HRESULT DragLeave( void);

    virtual HRESULT Drop(IDataObject *pDataObj,
                         DWORD grfKeyState,
                         POINTL pt,
                         DWORD *pdwEffect) = 0;
};
```

- OLE calls IDropTarget::DragEnter() whenever a mouse cursor involved in a drag-and-drop operation enters the window.
- OLE calls IDropTarget::DragOver() multiple times as the mouse cursor representing a drag-and-drop operation moves around over the window.
- OLE calls IDropTarget::DragLeave() whenever the drag-and-drop mouse cursor leaves the window.
- OLE calls IDropTarget::Drop() when the mouse button is released over a drop target window.

Finally, OLE has an API function called DoDragDrop(), which commences the drag-and-drop operation. Once called, DoDragDrop() enters a modal loop, monitoring changes in the mouse and keyboard (especially the ESCAPE key, which cancels it) until the user finishes the drag-and-drop operation by either releasing the mouse button or by pressing the Escape key.

MFC provides a very convenient way to do drag-and-drop transfers: you'll use COleDataSource, COleDataObject, and two other classes, called COleDropTarget and COleDropSource.

Implementing Drag-and-Drop Data Transfer Using MFC

Drag-and-drop is a shortcut for doing Clipboard transfers. Drag-and-drop data transfer is interactive, so its requirements are different from those of Clipboard data transfers. The basic idea behind drag-and-drop data transfers is that you can select the data you want by pressing the left mouse button. Then, as you continue to hold down the left button, you move the mouse cursor (dragging the data) into another window (the one to contain the new data). Once the mouse cursor is over the second window, you drop the data by releasing the left mouse button.

You can further control the kind of transfer by using one or more of the control keys:

<i>Key Pressed</i>	<i>Type of Transfer</i>
No control keys	Move data
CONTROL	Copy data
CONTROL-SHIFT	Link data
ALT	Move data

As with Clipboard data transfers, drag-and-drop transfers involve both a data source and a data destination—a data producer and a data consumer. In both cases, the data producer uses a `COleDataSource` to originate the data transfer and the data consumer uses a `COleDataObject` to retrieve the data. In fact, the code for pasting from the Clipboard and that for receiving data in a drag-and-drop operation are usually identical. Many times you can use the same code for retrieving data from a drag-and-drop operation as you would use for a Clipboard paste operation. However, there are a few subtle differences between Clipboard data transfers and drag-and-drop data transfers.

Originating a Drag-and-Drop Transfer

Drag-and-drop data transfers usually begin when the user presses the left mouse button. So, to initiate a drag-and-drop transfer, simply handle the `WM_LBUTTONDOWN` message.

The mechanics for the data producer are very similar: copy some data into a `COleDataSource` object using `CacheData()` or `CacheGlobalData()`. However, instead of calling `COleDataSource::SetClipboard()` to set the data to the Clipboard, call `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()`, which handles the data transfer automatically. The following snippet demonstrates how to initiate a drag-and-drop operation:

```

COleDataSource cods;

LPCSTR source = GetString();
HGLOBAL h =
    GlobalAlloc(GHND | GMEM_SHARE, strlen(source) + 1);
strcpy(LPSTR(GlobalLock(h)), source);
GlobalUnlock(h);
cods.CacheGlobalData(CF_TEXT, h);

DROPEFFECT de =
    cods.DoDragDrop(DROPEFFECT_COPY | DROPEFFECT_MOVE);
if ( de == DROPEFFECT_MOVE ) {
    // Do any special stuff depending on drop effect
}

```

Notice how `DoDragDrop()` accepts a combination of `DROPEFFECT...` values. Those values indicate what kind of transfer operations are allowed. In this example, the program allows copy and move transfer operations.

By calling `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()`, you hand off the data to OLE. `DoDragDrop()` does not return until the user has dropped the data somewhere else (by releasing the left mouse button) or has canceled the transfer by pressing the `ESCAPE` key.

Implementing a Drop Target

The data consumer of a drag-and-drop operation is called a drop target. Implementing a drop target using MFC is very straightforward. The two classes usually involved in creating one: `COleDropTarget` and `CView`. You can also use a `CWnd` for the target, but you get less default functionality, like no automatic scrolling, for example.

The steps necessary to enable a `CView` to be a drop target are these: (1) register a `COleDropTarget` with a `CView` and (2) override four virtual functions—`OnDragEnter()`, `OnDragOver()`, `OnDragLeave()`, and `OnDrop()`.

To register a view as a drop target, declare a member variable of type `COleDropTarget` in your view class. Then handle the view's `OnCreate()` method (called right after a view is created). Inside `OnCreate()`, call `COleDropTarget::Register()`, sending it the view's this pointer. Underneath the hood, `COleDropTarget()` calls the `RegisterDragDrop()` function, which registers a window handle as a drag-and-drop target within OLE.

Once a window is registered with OLE to be a drop target, it becomes eligible to receive notifications that correspond to `CView`'s `OnDragEnter()`, `OnDragOver()`, `OnDragLeave()`, `OnDrop()` functions. These functions are important because they allow the user interface to be updated during the drag-and-drop operation.

Drag-and-drop transfers involve changes in the user interface. The normal feedback for drag-and-drop operations is represented by one of several standard cursors. If a

window cannot accept a data drop, then the program should display a circle with a slash through it to show that the window is not a drop target. If the window can accept a drop and the data is being moved (as opposed to being copied), then the cursor should appear as the regular arrow cursor but with a small square (representing data) to the lower right of the arrow. If the window can accept a drop and the data is being copied, then the program should show the same cursor it does when data is being moved, except that there should be a small plus sign to the upper right of the arrow. Fortunately, MFC handles the cursor changes very easily through the return values of the drag-and-drop handler functions. Here's how the four drag-and-drop notification functions work.

Whenever the mouse cursor enters a window registered as a drop target, the framework calls `OnDragEnter()`. The framework calls the view's `OnDragOver()` function as the mouse cursor is dragged over a drop target.

`OnDragEnter()` and `OnDragOver()` are very closely related. Both accept three parameters: a pointer to a `COleDataObject`, a `DWORD` indicating the state of the control keys, and a `CPoint` object indicating the location of the mouse. Both functions return a `DROPEFFECT...` value, which indicates the type of data transfer occurring. There are five different `DROPEFFECT...` values, which indicate the following drag-and-drop transfer states:

- `DROPEFFECT_NONE`—A drop is not allowed.
- `DROPEFFECT_COPY`—A copy operation is pending.
- `DROPEFFECT_MOVE`—A move operation is pending.
- `DROPEFFECT_LINK`—A link from the dropped data to the original data is pending.
- `DROPEFFECT_SCROLL`—A drag/scroll operation is about to occur or is occurring in the target.

`OnDragEnter()` and `OnDragOver()` can use the information in the `COleDataObject`, the key press mask, and the `CPoint` parameters to determine what kind of operation is being performed. For example, if the drop target accepts only `CF_BITMAP`-formatted data and the Clipboard contains only `CF_TEXT`-formatted data (which you can find out by querying the `COleDataObject`), the view cannot accept the data. In this case, `OnDragEnter()` and `OnDragOver()` would return `DROPEFFECT_NONE` to indicate that the view cannot accept a drop. By returning the appropriate `DROPEFFECT...` value, these functions tell the framework which cursor to display.

In addition, the `OnDragEnter()` and `OnDragOver()` functions can check the key mask (the `DWORD` parameter) to find out if any control keys are pressed. To change the cursor, the drop target need only return the appropriate `DROPEFFECT...` value and MFC does the rest.

The view's `OnDragLeave()` function is called when the mouse cursor leaves the view. It takes no parameters and returns void. This is a good place to put any needed drag-and-drop clean-up code.

The final function, `OnDrop()`, is called whenever the user releases the left mouse button inside a view that is a drop target. `OnDrop()` takes the same parameters as `OnDragEnter()` and `OnDragOver()`: a pointer to a `COleDataObject`, a `DWORD` indicating the state of the control keys, and a `CPoint` object indicating the location of the mouse. `OnDrop()` also returns a `DROPEFFECT...` value that indicates the type of transfer operation that actually occurred. This is the value passed back to `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()`. Again, the code for dropping data and that for pasting it from the Clipboard are virtually identical. Many developers decide to implement one body of code for both pasting from the Clipboard and accepting a data drop.

Inside MFC's Drag-and-Drop Classes

In summary, MFC's drag-and-drop data transfers are really an extension of the Clipboard transfer. As with Clipboard transfers, drag-and-drop transfers start off with the `COleDataSource`. A data producer either caches or promises a rendering later (using `DelayRenderData()`). However, instead of calling `SetClipboard()`, the data producer calls `DoDragDrop()`. On the data consumer side, the application registers one of its views with a `COleDropTarget`. Then the view receives drag-and-drop notifications. Here's a closer look at MFC's drag-and-drop-related classes.

COleDataSource

In addition to holding a data cache and providing support for Clipboard transfers, `COleDataSource` has a function called `DoDragDrop()`. `DoDragDrop()` wraps the OLE function `DoDragDrop()`, which has this prototype:

```
DROPEFFECT DoDragDrop(
    DWORD dwEffects = DROPEFFECT_COPY|DROPEFFECT_MOVE|DROPEFFECT_LINK,
    LPCRECT lpRectStartDrag = NULL,
    COleDropSource* pDropSource = NULL);
```

Notice that `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()` takes three parameters: (1) a `DROPEFFECT` indicating which drag-and-drop operations are allowed, (2) a rectangle that determines when the drag-and-drop operation actually starts, and (3) a pointer to a `COleDropSource` that handles the user interface aspects of the drag-and-drop operation. If the last parameter is `NULL`, `DoDragDrop()` uses a standard `COleDropSource` implementation already provided by MFC.

ColeDropSource

ColeDropSource implements the IDropSource interface. Listing 12-4 shows the definition of ColeDropSource.

Listing 12-4. The ColeDropSource class

```
class ColeDropSource : public CCmdTarget {
// Constructors
public:
    ColeDropSource();

// Overridables
    virtual SCODE QueryContinueDrag(BOOL bEscapePressed, DWORD dwKeyState);
    virtual SCODE GiveFeedback(DROPEFFECT dropEffect);
    virtual BOOL OnBeginDrag(CWnd* pWnd);

public:
    BEGIN_INTERFACE_PART(DropSource, IDropSource)
        INIT_INTERFACE_PART(ColeDropSource, DropSource)
        STDMETHOD(QueryContinueDrag)(BOOL, DWORD);
        STDMETHOD(GiveFeedback)(DWORD);
    END_INTERFACE_PART(DropSource)

    DECLARE_INTERFACE_MAP()

    CRect m_rectStartDrag;
    BOOL m_bDragStarted;
    DWORD m_dwButtonCancel;
    DWORD m_dwButtonDrop;

    // metrics for drag start determination
    static AFX_DATA UINT nDragMinDist;
    static AFX_DATA UINT nDragDelay;

    friend class ColeDataSource;
};
```

ColeDropSource implements the IDropSource interface via the normal MFC interface maps. IDropSource::QueryContinueDrag() and IDropSource::GiveFeedback() map directly to the virtual functions ColeDropSource::QueryContinueDrag() and ColeDropSource::GiveFeedback(). Because these functions are virtual, you can safely override them.

There are several reasons you might want to override MFC's default implementation of ColeDropSource. If you're unhappy with the default cursors provided by MFC, all you need to do is derive a class from ColeDropSource and override the GiveFeedback() function. In addition, ColeDropSource maintains variables for identifying the key for canceling the drag-and-drop operation (m_dwButtonCancel) and

for specifying the mouse button that identifies the drop operation (`m_dwButtonDrop`).

`ColeDropSource` also has static members for specifying the time delay before the drag-and-drop operation starts (`m_nDragDelay`) and for specifying the number of pixels the mouse must move before the drag-and-drop operation starts. `ColeDropSource`'s constructor initializes these variables. The drag distance and drag delay variables are read in from the `WIN.INI` file. The drag distance's key is "DragMinDist" and the drag delay's key is "DragDelay". If these entries aren't in the initialization file, then the drag distance's value is set to 2 and the drag delay's value is set to 0.

To change any of the user-interface characteristics for a given drag-and-drop operation, just derive your own class from `ColeDropSource`. Then feed your newly derived class into `ColeDataSource::DoDragDrop()`.

ColeDropTarget

`ColeDropTarget` wraps the `IDropTarget` interface. `ColeDropTarget` is a real COM object implemented using MFC's interface maps. Listing 12-5 shows its declaration.

Listing 12-5. The `ColeDropTarget` class

```
class ColeDropTarget : public CCmdTarget {
// Constructors
public:
    ColeDropTarget();

// Operations
    BOOL Register(CWnd* pWnd);
    virtual void Revoke(); // virtual for implementation

// Overridables
    virtual DROPEFFECT OnDragEnter(CWnd* pWnd, COleDataObject* pDataObject,
        DWORD dwKeyState, CPoint point);
    virtual DROPEFFECT OnDragOver(CWnd* pWnd, COleDataObject* pDataObject,
        DWORD dwKeyState, CPoint point);
    virtual BOOL OnDrop(CWnd* pWnd, COleDataObject* pDataObject,
        DROPEFFECT dropEffect, CPoint point);
    virtual DROPEFFECT OnDropEx(CWnd* pWnd, COleDataObject* pDataObject,
        DROPEFFECT dropDefault, DROPEFFECT dropList, CPoint point);
    virtual void OnDragLeave(CWnd* pWnd);
    virtual DROPEFFECT OnDragScroll(CWnd* pWnd, DWORD dwKeyState,
        CPoint point);

// Implementation
public:
    virtual ~ColeDropTarget();

protected:
    HWND m_hWnd; // HWND this IDropTarget is attached to
```

```

LPDATAOBJECT m_lpDataObject; // != NULL between OnDragEnter, OnDragLeave
UINT m_nTimerID;             // != MAKEWORD(-1, -1) when in scroll area
DWORD m_dwLastTick;          // only valid when m_nTimerID valid
UINT m_nScrollDelay;         // time to next scroll

// metrics for drag-scrolling
static AFX_DATA int nScrollInset;
static AFX_DATA UINT nScrollDelay;
static AFX_DATA UINT nScrollInterval;

// implementation helpers
void SetupTimer(CView* pView, UINT nTimerID);
void CancelTimer(CWnd* pWnd);

// Interface Maps
public:
    BEGIN_INTERFACE_PART(DropTarget, IDropTarget)
        INIT_INTERFACE_PART(ColeDropTarget, DropTarget)
        STDMETHOD(DragEnter)(LPDATAOBJECT, DWORD, POINTL, LPDWORD);
        STDMETHOD(DragOver)(DWORD, POINTL, LPDWORD);
        STDMETHOD(DragLeave)();
        STDMETHOD(Drop)(LPDATAOBJECT, DWORD, POINTL pt, LPDWORD);
    END_INTERFACE_PART(DropTarget)

    DECLARE_INTERFACE_MAP()
};

```

`ColeDropTarget`'s most important members are `Register()`, `DragEnter()`, `DragOver()`, `DragLeave()`, and `Drop()`.

The other important class in MFC's drag-and-drop implementation is `CView`. `ColeDropTarget` works in concert with `CView` to make it very easy to program OLE drag-and-drop.

CView

You may remember that `CView` also has `OnDragEnter()`, `OnDragLeave()`, `OnDragOver()`, and `OnDrop()` functions. But wait—these are normally handled by `IDropTarget`. What are they doing in `CView`? How are these functions ever called? Let's follow MFC's drag-and-drop operation from start to finish to see exactly what happens.

How MFC Drag-and-Drop Works

The best way to see how MFC does OLE drag-and-drop is to examine each side separately: the data producer side and the data consumer side. On the producer side, there's `ColeDataSource` and `ColeDropSource`. On the data consumer side, there's `ColeDataObject` and `ColeDropTarget`. Let's examine the data producer side first.

The Data Producer

To be a drag source, a data producer has only to either cache the data (or use `DelayRenderData()` to set up delayed rendering) and then call `DoDragDrop()`.

At the surface, `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()` appears to be more or less a wrapper for the API function `::DoDragDrop()`. However, `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()` does a bit more than just act as a wrapper for `::DoDragDrop()`.

When the data producer calls `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()`, MFC examines the `COleDropSource` passed in by the caller. If the caller has provided a `COleDropSource`, `DoDragDrop()` uses that `COleDropSource` to manage the user interface (that is, change the cursors and determine under which conditions the drag-and-drop operation can continue or is canceled). If the caller doesn't provide a `COleDropSource`, `DoDragDrop()` uses the default implementation of `COleDropSource` provided by MFC.

If the caller provides a rectangle parameter, `DoDragDrop()` copies that rectangle into its own member rectangle (called `m_rectStartDrag`). `COleDataSource` uses this rectangle to know when to start dragging. That is, the actual dragging won't commence until the cursor leaves this rectangle. If the data producer passes a `NULL` pointer, `DoDragDrop()` creates its own empty rectangle around the current position of the cursor.

Before starting the drag operation, `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()` calls `OnBeginDrag()`. This function is virtual, so you can override it if you'd like. The default implementation of `OnBeginDrag()` first captures mouse input and then sets up a loop that acts as a timer. `OnBeginDrag()` watches the tick count go down.

Then `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()` uses `GetInterface()` to retrieve the `IDataObject` and the `IDropSource` interfaces from the `COleDropSource` that was passed in. `COleDataSource::DoDragDrop()` uses these interface pointers to call the API function `::DoDragDrop()`.

Earlier versions of MFC called `DoDragDrop()` directly. However, now MFC maintains a list of pointers to functions that implement OLE-specific features. For example, here's the code MFC uses to call `DoDragDrop()`:

```
#ifdef _AFXDLL
    _afxOLE.pfnDoDragDrop[0](lpDataObject, lpDropSource, dwEffects,
                             &dwResultEffect);
#else
    ::DoDragDrop(lpDataObject, lpDropSource, dwEffects, &dwResultEffect);
#endif
```

In MFC4, Microsoft combined all the separate MFC DLLs into one mondo DLL. If the applications linked directly to various DLLs (like `OLE32.DLL`) the application would load OLE even for very simple apps. For this reason, Microsoft loads all non-essential DLLs dynamically using a very clever technique. Most of these instances

are hidden by macros, except where not possible, as in this case. MFC40.DLL only binds directly to KERNEL32.DLL, GDI32.DLL, USER32.DLL, and MSVCRT20.DLL. All other DLLs are loaded at runtime when the first function in them is called. OLE32.DLL, OLEAUT32.DLL, SHELL32.DLL, ADVAPI32.DLL, COMCTL32.DLL, ODBC32.DLL, WINSPOOL.DLL, are all examples of DLLs that are loaded at runtime. This allows MFC to maintain one giant DLL but with no performance hit for applications that don't use all these DLLs.

The Data Consumer

Again, like Clipboard data transfers, drag-and-drop operations culminate in the production of a COleDataObject. However, instead of pulling an IDataObject pointer off the Clipboard using OleGetClipboard(), MFC provides a fully loaded COleDataObject whenever data is dropped on a view.

Registering with OLE

To receive drag-and-drop notifications, a view must first register itself with a drop target. That is, the view must declare an instance of COleDropTarget and call the Register() function. The standard place for calling Register() is during the view's OnCreate() function, because that's the first place you can provide any initialization for a window. The following code snippet shows how to do this:

```
class CMyView: public CView {
...
    COleDropTarget m_dt;
...
};

CMyView::OnCreate() {
    m_dt.Register(this);
}
```

So just what does Register() do? Before doing anything, Register() calls CoLockExternalObject() to place a strong lock on the drop target object. That way, the drop target object is guaranteed to remain in memory even if the data consumer calls Release() enough times to balance the AddRef(s). If CoLockExternalObject() weren't called, the drag-and-drop operation would work once but fail every time thereafter.

Next, Register() calls the OLE API function RegisterDragDrop(). The API function takes two parameters: (1) the handle of the window that is to receive drag-and-drop notifications and (2) a pointer to an IDropTarget interface. Once this information is registered with OLE using RegisterDragDrop(), then OLE will be able to call the

IDropTarget functions (that is, OnDragEnter(), OnDragOver(), OnDragLeave(), and OnDrop()) as the mouse cursor moves in and around the window specified by the window handle. Before leaving, COleDropTarget::Register() saves both the CWnd object and the window handle passed to Register(). COleDropTarget uses the CWnd object to implement OnDragEnter(), OnDragOver(), OnDragLeave(), and OnDrop(). COleDropTarget needs the window handle to implement its Revoke() member function.

Finally, CWnd has a pointer to a COleDropTarget member. In addition to saving the CWnd object and the window handle, COleDropTarget::Register() sets the CWnd's COleDropTarget member to point to the COleDropTarget's this pointer. CWnd uses the pointer to the drop target to revoke drag-and-drop registration when the window is destroyed.

Revoking Drag-and-Drop Registration

COleDropTarget contains a complementary function that revokes a window's drag-and-drop registration. The function is called Revoke() (surprisingly enough!). COleDropTarget::Revoke() calls the OLE API function RevokeDragDrop() and frees the external lock on the COleDropTarget. As a developer, you'll rarely find yourself calling this function. As part of its OnNcDestroy() handler, CWnd calls COleDropTarget::Revoke() if the CWnd has a pointer to the COleDropTarget.

Handling the Notification

Once a window is registered with OLE to receive drag-and-drop notifications, it'll start receiving those messages as soon as the mouse cursor enters the boundaries of a window. In the case of MFC, the drag-and-drop notifications are handled by the CView class. So, though you can pass a plain-vanilla CWnd when registering a window to be a drop target, it's the CView that already has handlers for OnDragEnter(), OnDragOver(), OnDragLeave(), and OnDrop(). MFC's drag-and-drop won't work if you register the drop target with something other than a CView.

Whenever the mouse cursor passes over a window that is registered to receive drag-and-drop notifications, OLE starts sending notifications to the drop target. The first message called during dragging is OnDragEnter(). Remember, COleDropTarget implements IDropTarget. If the window and the IDropTarget pointer are registered with OLE, OLE calls IDropTarget::DragEnter(). When OLE calls the IDropTarget's DragEnter() function, OLE passes the fully loaded IDataObject (the one provided by the data producer) and the window handle of the window over which the cursor was dragged. COleDropTarget's implementation of DragEnter() attaches the loaded IDataObject to a COleDataObject and looks up the window handle by calling CWnd::FromHandle(). COleDropTarget's DragEnter() simply delegates to the OnDragEnter() member function passing the CWnd and the COleDataObject. Inside

`COleDropTarget::OnDragEnter()` checks to see if the window attached is a view. If the attached window isn't a view, then `OnDragEnter()` exits, returning `DROPEFFECT_NONE`. Otherwise, `COleDropTarget::OnDragEnter()` tries to cast the `CWnd` pointer to a `CView`. If the cast is successful, `COleDropTarget::OnDragEnter()` delegates to `CView::OnDragEnter()`. At that point, the target view can examine the data, determine if it's useful, and update the user interface accordingly.

The other `IDropTarget` functions work in a similar way. When OLE calls the `IDropTarget` interface function represented by `COleDropTarget`, `COleDropTarget` takes the `IDataObject` pointer, attaches it to a `COleDataObject`, finds the `CWnd` object representing the window, casts it to a view, and calls the corresponding `CView` function (that is, `OnDragOver()`, `OnDragLeave()`, or `OnDrop()`).

As you can see, a lot of work goes into implementing drag-and-drop in a safe, robust way. Fortunately, MFC's implementation does most of the work for you.

Conclusion

Uniform Data Transfer in OLE is simpler than you might expect—especially when you use the MFC wrappers for `IDataObject`. Programming data transfers using the Microsoft Foundation Classes means that you can cut down your exposure to the OLE gunk (the low-level API). The information provided in this chapter gives you a good start in understanding how to use UDT to implement Clipboard and drag-and-drop data transfer techniques. In the next chapter, we cover OLE documents. For more information, be sure to check the `DNEDIT.EXE` example on the diskette. `DNEDIT` shows how to use UDT within the context of a simple Notepad-type text editor.

MFC Internals

Inside the Microsoft® Foundation Class Architecture

"This book is definitely not a rehash of existing documents. It is not a 'how-to' book—it is a 'how does it work' book." —Dean McCrory, MFC Development Lead

Finally, a book on MFC that fills the gaps between "Using the Wizards" Visual C++ books, product documentation, and MFC source code. *MFC Internals* is a guide to what goes on inside the Microsoft® Foundation Classes: It gives you unique and in-depth information on undocumented MFC classes, utility functions and data members, useful coding techniques, and critical analysis of the way various MFC classes work and fit together.

The first half of the book covers core Windows® graphical user interface classes and their supporting classes; the second half covers subjects like OLE that are extensions to the basic Windows support. You'll become an expert at understanding MFC implementation details by:

- exploring under the hood of MFC's document/view architecture to learn about view synchronization, printing, and even print preview
- diving deep into undocumented aspects of MFC serialization and undocumented classes like CPreview, CPreviewDC, CMirrorFile, CDockBar, and so on
- *finally* learning how MFC and OLE work together, and how OLE controls are implemented
- building the skills that help you investigate and understand MFC source code on your own.

MFC Internals focuses on MFC 4.0 for Windows 95 and Windows NT. Most key "internal" concepts also apply to previous versions, but where they don't the authors warn you with a version note. The book's disk contains example code and the MFC FAQ file. Be sure to check out Appendix A, a handy MFC source code field guide.

MFC Internals is an essential guide to tapping MFC's rich and robust application framework and applying advanced MFC knowledge in world-class Windows applications.

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