

Introduction

Many Windows CE devices are developed as stand alone device and perform a set of specific tasks. Typically, these Windows CE devices automatically launch an application during startup. This article explains how to configure Windows CE to automatically launch an application at startup.

Auto Launch Application at Startup

To configure Windows CE to automatically launch an application during start up, the following registry entries are required.

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\init]
    "Launchxx"=<your_application.exe>
    "Dependxx"=hex:0A,00,14,00,1E,00
```

Note: The registry entries above should work with Windows CE 4.2, 5.0 and 6.0

Add the registry entries to the OS Design project's Project.reg registry file. Project.reg are registry entries specific to the active OS Design project. Change and modification made to the Project.reg does not affect the BSP and/or common code.

Warning: Unless you know exactly what you are doing, do not add or modify registry entries to the Platform.reg file. Platform.reg is part of the BSP. When changes are made to Platform.reg, all subsequent Windows CE OS Design created using this BSP will be affected by the changes.

Working example using an x86 Windows CE device (eBox-2300) with IDE flash storage

By default, the IDE storage device shows up as "Hard Disk" in the final image.

- Create a folder at the root of the IDE storage and name this folder \Startup
- Copy the application, MyApp.exe, to the \Startup in the IDE storage's root directory.

Enter the following registry entries to Project.reg

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\init]
    "Launch90"="\\Startup\MyApp.exe"
    "Depend90"=hex:0A,00,14,00,1E,00
```