Chapter 8 Functions that Work all by Themselves!

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Chapter 8 Single Action Functions

Single action functions are functions that don't need other functions to work. Although these functions are single action there really needs to be another function that will allow you to see the function work.

In the samples in this chapter we will show you the sample and the result of the function. What that means is even though it is a single action function there really needs to be a second function that will show you the result. When you go to the next chapter you will not need to see the result you can just move on to the next function in your code.

We will be using the Pause function for most of these results, we will start with that function first. If you read the syntax for the Pause function then you will have a good idea about where we are heading.

Pause

The Pause command will "pause" the program and display a prompt on the menu line. That prompt can be a predefined prompt or a string developed from variables in the command line.





Auto

The *Auto* function will simply auto size the view port to all geometry and text in the drawing that is displayed in the level list. This is helpful if you want to print all then you can *auto* scale the view port and then print.

Int nVP SET DISPVIEW, 1, nVP

AUTO

EXIT



CallFunc

The CallFunc function gives you the ability to call KeyCreator commands from in side of your KXL program. One thing to remember is that not all KeyCreator commands work well with KXL programs, the problem is that there are two types of KC commands non-immediate mode and immediate mode.

If the function is an immediate function, the KXL will continue after the function finishes unless the user escapes.



There is currently no list of commands that work for the CallFunc function so the best way to "find" them is to record a macro with the function that you need and then open the KXL file and look at the code for the CallFunc command line there you will see the number of the command.



Clear

The clear function must be used with caution. If used by itself then this function will clear all variables at the time of the execution. If you only want to clear one or two variables then you will need to use the clear command with the variable after the command.

```
Double Test

String $strTest

Test = 12

$strTest = "This Is A Test String"

//First Pause Line

Pause "The Pause will Display This Line"

//Second Pause Line

Pause "This Is A Pause With A Double Variable---> %d",Test

Clear

// This Will cause an error since this will empty the variable $strTest

//Third Pause Line

Pause "This Is A Pause With A String Variable---> %s",$strTest

Exit
```

DblScale

The dblscale function is designed to zoom in double the view port size. With the parameters filled you can manipulate just the active view port or all view ports.







Exec

The Exec statement allows external programs or system processes to be accessed and run from inside the KXL program. When executed, this command temporarily suspends the system and executes the requested command. This function can be used with any computer program. Such as the example it will open the internet and go to a page for looking up sheet metal gages then return you back to the KXL program.



Exit

Exit causes an immediate exit from the KXL file being executed. This is a basic function that can be used in conjunction with conditional statements to exit out of the KXL program.

```
Double Test

String $strTest

Test = 12

$strTest = "This Is A Test String"

//First Pause Line

Pause "The Pause will Display This Line"

// This Will Exit The KXL Instantly

Exit

//Second Pause Line

Pause "This Is A Pause With A Double Variable--> %d",Test

//Third Pause Line

Pause "This Is A Pause With A String Variable--> %s",$strTest

Exit
```



GetDBL

The GetDBL function will prompt the user to input a number. Only a number can be input in the field an error will result if you place a letter of anything other than a number. The inputted number will be placed in the variable assigned to the getdbl function line.



GetDisplayView

The GetDisplayView function retrieves the specified system view matrix and stores it in the data array or the system array @dbldat. Use this to get the matrix of a predefined view. Double vData[0] Array vData[15]

```
GetDispView 0, vData
```

| Pause"VData[0] | 15>%.51" ,VData[0] |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Pause"vData[1] | Is>%.5f" ,vData[1] |
| Pause"vData[2] | Is>%.5f" ,vData[2] |
| Pause"vData[3] | Is>%.5f" ,vData[3] |
| Pause"vData[4] | Is>%.5f" ,vData[4] |
| Pause"vData[5] | Is>%.5f" ,vData[5] |
| Pause"vData[6] | Is>%.5f" ,vData[6] |
| Pause"vData[7] | Is>%.5f" ,vData[7] |
| Pause"vData[8] | Is>%.5f" ,vData[8] |
| Pause"vData[9] | Is>%.5f" ,vData[9] |
| Pause"vData[10 |] Is>%.5f" ,vData[10] |
| Pause"vData[11 |] Is>%.5f" ,vData[11] |
| Pause"vData[12 |] Is>%.5f" ,vData[12] |
| Pause"vData[13 |] Is>%.5f" ,vData[13] |
| Pause"vData[14 |] Is>%.5f" ,vData[14] |
| Pause"vData[15 |] Is>%.5f" ,vData[15] |

Note: I have paused each line to have it display to you each matrix variable. In actual KXL code you will not need the Pause lines or to display the variables.

GetLevel

The GetLevel will return a handle to the currently active level. However this function is useless by its self so you will see in the next sample that we are using the get level function just to get the handle for the next called function.

CLEAR hLev HLEVEL hLev GETLEVEL hLev Exit

GetLevelInfo

The GetLevelInfo uses the previous function getLevel. This function returns all information pertaining to a Level.





GetLevelNumber

The GetLevelNumber is just like the GetLevelInfo Function only that it will only retrieve the level number string. If the level is on a sub level it will not retrieve the parent level but the complete level string.



GetLWidth

The GetLWidth displays a text string on the prompt line along with a window of line width icons and waits for a line width to be selected. You can use this as a way to graphically let the user select the line width. Use this in conjunction with the SetLWidth.





GetMenu

The GetMenu displays a text string on the prompt line and a menu in the menu area, then waits until a menu item is selected. The menu item chosen is returned in the system variable @KEY.

| GetMe | enu "Select One!","1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11",3 | 7 |
|-------|--|--|
| Pause | e "You Selected Button #> %i",@key | |
| | 4 | 🛛 🖾 Kubotek KeyCreator 5.0.0 - [NewFile1.ckd [Part1]] |
| Exit | | 🗷 Efe Edt Yew Greate Modify Detail Transform Layout Assemblies Iools Add-Ins Window Hele 🚫 🚫 🚿 🏷 🏈 |
| | | |
| | Kubotek KeyCreator 5.0.0 - [NewFile1.ckd [Part1]] | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 Accept Backup Esc |
| | 🗷 Ele Edit View Greate Modify Detail Transform Layout Assemblies Tools Add-Ins Window Help 🚫 🛞 🚿 🍑 🏹 | Select One! |
| | | Madeling × Level Name L Active Di |
| | You Selected Button # -> 3 | |
| i i | Modeling × Level Name L Active Di | |

The number in the third variable is for the default menu item. You can set this to any menu position you need to point to the preselected menu item.

GetPath

Use the GetPath to retrieve the current value of a registered path. You can use this or each path that you want to get or multiples, you will just have to store each path in its own variable.



Exit

I have only showed you three screen shots however this sample will display all paths in the tools > options > directories page.



GetSTDPropFile

This function gets the standard properties for the active design FILE. This function works nicely for creating bill of materials or even placing notes in your drawings. In order for this sample to work properly you will have to fill in the fields in the standard part properties dialog box.



Exit

Once again I have only shown three screen shots however you can get just one field or multiples. If you are only going to get one field value then you will need to place the proper number of commas in the command line up to the field variable you are wanting.

GetSTDPropPart

This function gets the standard properties for the active design PART. This function works nicely for creating bill of materials or even placing notes in your drawings. In order for this sample to work properly you will have to fill in the fields in the standard part properties dialog box.



This is just like the GetstdPropFile function I have only shown three screen shots however you can get just one field or multiples. If you are only going to get one field value then you will need to place the proper number of commas in the command line up to the field variable you are wanting.



GetSTR

This function is just like the GetDBL function except it is of Alfa-numeric values. The GetStr displays a text string on the prompt line and a menu in the menu area then waits for either a menu item to be selected or a text string to be entered. If a menu item is selected, the number is returned in the system variable @KEY. If a text string is entered instead, its value is stored in the specified string variable.



GetLStyle

The GetLStyle is like the GetLWidth function. This function displays a text string on the prompt line along with a window of line style icons and waits for one or more line types to be selected.





GetTextAttribs

This function will return the active system text attributes used for any newly created text.

Array adTxtAtt[13]

GetTextAttribs adTxtAtt

```
Pause "Angle between baseline of text and the x axis Is-->%.4f", adTxtAtt[0]
Pause "Text height of one line of text Is-->%.4f", adTxtAtt[1]
Pause "Aspect ratio of the text characters Is-->%.4f", adTxtAtt[2]
Pause "Distance between text lines as percent of text height Is-->%.4f", adTxtAtt[3]
Pause "Text slant in degrees Is-->%.4f", adTxtAtt[4]
Pause "Alignment of the text Is-->%d", adTxtAtt[5]
Pause "Text direction: Is-->%d", adTxtAtt[6]
Pause "Horizontal alignment Is-->%d", adTxtAtt[7]
Pause "Vertical alignment Is-->%d", adTxtAtt[9]
Pause "The text is mirrored Is-->%d", adTxtAtt[9]
Pause "Filled text Is-->%d", adTxtAtt[1]
Pause "The text is underlined Is-->%d", adTxtAtt[1]
Pause "The text is strike through Is-->%d", adTxtAtt[12]
```



Angle between baseline of text and the \times axis Is-->0.0000



Customizing KeyCreator 5.0 with KXL Programming

GetUserPropFile

This function will "get" the user properties for the active design file. The function will place the field name and the corresponding value in the same array number. Example, the first field name will be in \$\$aNames[0] and the first value will be in \$\$aValues[0]. Caution should be used since if the value for the name field is empty then it is possible that the first value may actually become the second value.



GetUserPropPart

This function will "get" the user properties for the active design file. The function will place the field name and the corresponding value in the same array number. Example, the first field name will be in \$\$aNames[0] and the first value will be in \$\$aValues[0]. Caution should be used since if the value for the name field is empty, then it is

possible that the first value may actually become the second value. SList \$\$aNames, \$\$aValues





Half

This function is like the auto function in that it will manipulate the display view. The Half function will automatically half the scale of a viewport.



LevelMod

This function sets the attributes of a list of levels or all active mode levels. This example is undisplaying level #1 and then waiting 5 seconds then turning level #1 back on.





LoadDimFile

This function will load a dimension settings file (*.dim) into the active part! This will NOT change dimensions that have already been placed in your drawing.

```
LoadDimFile "C:\\KeyCreator5.0\\Dim File1.dim"
Exit
```

Note: For this to work correctly you must first create the Dim File1.dim file in the root Keycreator5.0 folder. Again this will NOT change dimensions that are in your drawing it will only work for newly created dimensions.

To create the dim file you will need to go to the Detail menu bar then go to the settings and again settings. Change the items you need changed for the new file then use the save button when you have changed all of your settings.

NewLayout

This function will create a new empty layout in the part, with the given parameters.

```
CLEAR hLay12
NEWLAYOUT hLay12, "Test Layout", 17.0000, 11.0000, 1, 2, "",0,1
LOADLAYOUT hLay12
```

Exit

LoadLayout

This function has two purposes the first is to load a layout in the part window with a predefined layout handle the second is to return from Layout to Model mode.

For this sample to work correctly you will need to "get" the handle of the layout. Before we get to that function we will show you the basics first. The simple way to do this is to create the layout with a given handle then load the layout with the handle we gave.

```
//We are using the layout handle form the above example LOADLAYOUT hLay12
```

Exit

LoadPart

This is a function that will open the named file/part. If only one part exists in the file then the command will open the file and the part. If there is more than one part in the file and you leave off the second value then you will get a prompt to select the part to open. If there is only one part then the command will open the file and the part.

| LoadPart "TestFile.ckd", , 1, 0 | This will open the file with a part prompt! |
|--|---|
| LoadPart "TestFile.ckd", "Part1", 1, 0 | This will open the file and the part |

MaskEntity

The MaskEntity command allows for the setting the selection mask to particular entities. This is a replacement for the "SET MASK", and "SET MASKENT" commands. When an entity is masked it is selectable and other entities are not, see below for a list of entity types and their mask flags.

To remove an entity from a mask set the negative of the entity's number.

```
MaskCkear

MASKENTITY 2,3

CLEAR hEnt, hEnts, hEntp, hEnti

HENTITY hEnt

INT hEnts

DOUBLE hEntp

HDRAWINST hEnti

GETENT "Select Any Entity", hEnt, hEnti, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0

Exit
```

MaskClear

This is a function to clear all current selection masks. This is very useful if you have a large KXL program and you have masked in previous commands then you will need to clear the masking.

MASKENTITY 2,3

MaskClear

```
CLEAR hEnt, hEnts, hEntp, hEnti
HENTITY hEnt
INT hEnts
DOUBLE hEntp
HDRAWINST hEnti
GETENT "Select Any Entity", hEnt, hEnti, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0
Exit
```

In this sample you see that you can select any entity even though you masked for entities number 2,3 if the maskClear was above the MaskEntity 2,3 then you would only be able to select entity types 2 and 3.

NewPart

This function has two functions, it can create a new design file or part within an existing design file.

```
NewPart "TestFile.ckd", 0, "New Part Test", 1
Exit
```

This sample will place a new part in the active file of TestFile.ckd, the part name will be the New Part Test. It will also load and display the part if you do not want the new part displayed the last variable needs to be replaced with a "0" and it will be created but not shown.



Customizing KeyCreator 5.0 with KXL Programming

NoteState

This is a function that you will be very familiar with! This will place a notestate in the database. This should be used after an action that causes the database to be altered. Geometric entities that are created may not display until a NoteState command has been issued.

```
LEVELMOD nDISP,"1"
notestate
Wait 5
LEVELMOD DISP,"1"
notestate
EXIT
```

This will also set an undo/redo state as well so if you create several items at once then notestate after all are creates then the undo will undo all items.

PanDown

This is a simple command that will pan a viewport DOWN by a percent of the view port. The amount is based on the view port size as the sample shows the .25 will be 25% of the view port size to be paned.





PanLeft

Panleft .25, 0

This is a simple command that will pan a viewport LEFT by a percent of the view port. The amount is based on the view port size as the sample shows the .25 will be 25% of the view port size to be paned.

```
Exit
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Before
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          After
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PanRight

This is a simple command that will pan a viewport RIGHT by a percent of the view port. The amount is based on the view port size as the sample shows the .25 will be 25% of the view port size to be paned.

PanRight .25, 0

Exit





PanUp

This is a simple command that will pan a viewport UP by a percent of the view port. The amount is based on the view port size as the sample shows the .25 will be 25% of the view port size to be paned.



PrintDirect

Sometimes you will need to print using the KXL functions. This function will start the print interaction using the given viewport. You can use the active display view port or a predefined display view port.

PrintDirect 0 Exit

This function will use the default printer and the default KeyCreator printing setup in the Tool> Options> Plotting/Printing Tab. This will Print the "0" view port (Active View Port).

PrintPreview

This will let you preview your print with the option to select the printer and printer options and let you print after the preview. This function will start the print interaction using the given viewport. You can use the active display view port or a predefined display view port.

```
PrintPreview 0
Exit
```

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PrintVPort

This function is a combination of the previous two commands in that it will let you print with the option to select the printer and printer options. This function will start the print interaction using the given viewport. You can use the active display view port or a predefined display view port.

PrintPreview 0 Exit

Prompt

Displays a text string on the prompt line but does not pause for user input. A format control string must be supplied, additional value parameters are optional. The resulting text string must not exceed 68 characters or truncation will occur. Pause"This will test the prompt command"

```
Double dTime
dTime = 10
Prompt "Hello There! This will be displayed for %d
seconds", dTime
```

Wait dTime Exit

You can use this as a prompt if your functions are going to take awhile to complete and still let the user know what is going on.

RotateCCW

This function will rotate a viewport COUNTER-CLOCK-WISE! This is a simple function just like the pan functions. This is very useful in KXL's that will "Fly" through or around your part with one button click.

```
RotateCCW 10, 0
Exit
```



Note:

One thing to remember this will rotate in the Zaxis of the view port. The first variable is the angle to rotate the view by and the last one is the view port number!



RotateCW

This function will rotate a viewport CLOCK-WISE! This is a simple function just like the pan functions. This is very useful in KXL's that will "Fly" through or around your part with one button click.

```
RotateCW 10, 0
Exit
```



Note:

One thing to remember this will rotate in the Zaxis of the view port. The first variable is the angle to rotate the view by and the last one is the view port number!

RotateDown

This function will rotate a viewport DOWN! This is a simple function just like the pan functions. This is very useful in KXL's that will "Fly" through or around your part with one button click.

RotateDown 25, 0

Exit



Note:

One thing to remember this will rotate in the Xaxis of the view port. The first variable is the angle to rotate the view by and the last one is the view port number!



RotateLeft

This function will rotate a viewport to the LEFT! This is a simple function just like the pan functions. This is very useful in KXL's that will "Fly" through or around your part with one button click.

```
RotateLeft 15, 0
Exit
```



Note:

One thing to remember this will rotate in the Yaxis of the view port. The first variable is the angle to rotate the view by and the last one is the view port number!

RotateRight

This function will rotate a viewport to the RIGHT! This is a simple function just like the pan functions. This is very useful in KXL's that will "Fly" through or around your part with one button click.

```
RotateRight 15, 0
```

Exit



Note:

One thing to remember this will rotate in the Yaxis of the view port. The first variable is the angle to rotate the view by and the last one is the view port number!



RotateUp

This function will rotate a viewport UP! This is a simple function just like the pan functions. This is very useful in KXL's that will "Fly" through or around your part with one button click.

```
RotateUp 25, 0
```

```
Exit
```



Note:

One thing to remember this will rotate in the Xaxis of the view port. The first variable is the angle to rotate the view by and the last one is the view port number!

SavePart

This function serves as two functions in one, first it can save the active file, second it can optionally save with a different filename.





Scale

Rescales the system part displayed. This performs the same function as using the system's Immediate Mode command, or activating the Scale option in the Status Window.

Scale 0, .5

Exit



This function can also scale the view port from a location. Simply place the locations to scale from, in the last two variable fields.

UpdateDetailEnts

This is a simple function that has no variables or other formats. This will update the attributes of the detail entities in the selection list to the currently active settings of the part. Just this one line!

UpdateDetailEnts

Wait

As you have seen in some examples in this book this function will suspend a KXL file execution for a specified number of seconds. This is very useful if you need to wait for an external function in another program such as executing the "DateTime.exe" program that will write the date and time to a file then WAIT for the file then open it and read the file into KXL variables.

Pause"This will test the prompt command" Double dTime dTime = 10 Prompt "Hello There! This will be displayed for %d seconds", dTime Wait dTime Exit

In this sample, the same as the prompt command, I am showing that you can use a value or a variable for the wait command.





