

# Dynamically Controlling UpdatePanel Animations

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## Overview

The Animation control in the ASP.NET AJAX Control Toolkit is not just a control but a whole framework to add animations to a control. For the contents of an **UpdatePanel**, a special extender exists that relies heavily on the animation framework: **UpdatePanelAnimation**. It can also work together with **UpdatePanel** triggers.

## Steps

The first step is—as usual—to include the **ScriptManager** in the page so that the ASP.NET AJAX library is loaded and the Control Toolkit can be used:

```
<asp:ScriptManager ID="asm" runat="server" />
```

The animation in this scenario will be applied to a display of the current time. This information can be written into a label using the **Page\_Load()** method, or (for the sake of simplicity) the following inline code is used:

```
<%= DateTime.Now.ToLongTimeString() %>
```

Also, a button to trigger updating the time is created:

```
<asp:Button ID="Button1" runat="server" Text="Update" />
```

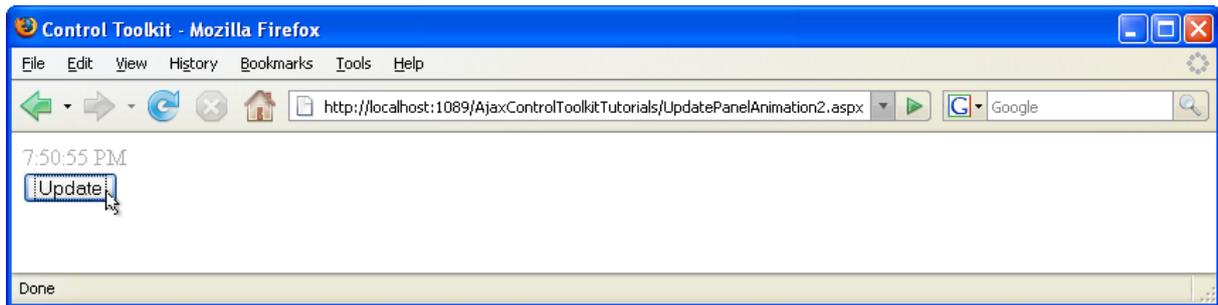
This code is then put into the **<ContentTemplate>** section of an **UpdatePanel** element. The panel's **UpdateMode** attribute must be set to **"Conditional"**, since only triggers may update the panel's contents. In the **<Triggers>** section of the **UpdatePanel**, an asynchronous postback trigger is created and tied to the **Click** event of the button. Thus, if the user clicks on the button, the **UpdatePanel** is refreshed. Here is the markup for the **UpdatePanel** control:

```
<asp:UpdatePanel ID="UpdatePanel1" runat="server"
  UpdateMode="Conditional">
  <ContentTemplate>
    <%= DateTime.Now.ToLongTimeString() %>
  </ContentTemplate>
  <Triggers>
    <asp:AsyncPostBackTrigger ControlID="Button1"
      EventName="Click" />
  </Triggers>
</asp:UpdatePanel>
```

Finally, the **UpdatePanelAnimationExtender** must be configured: Set the **TargetControlID** attribute to the ID of the panel, and define an animation within the extender. Fading in makes sense, which creates a nice visual emphasis on the updated time. Your extender markup may then look like this:

```
<ajaxToolkit:UpdatePanelAnimationExtender ID="upae" runat="server"
  TargetControlID="UpdatePanel1">
  <Animations>
    <OnUpdated>
      <FadeIn Duration="1.0" Fps="24" />
    </OnUpdated>
  </Animations>
</ajaxToolkit:UpdatePanelAnimationExtender>
```

Run the file in the browser. Whenever you click on the button, the current time is shown in the panel, always fading in for the duration of one second.



**The current time is fading in**