

Morpho - Bug #1453

party editing screen popup hides wizard instructions

04/05/2004 05:14 PM - Chad Berkley

Status:	Resolved	Start date:	04/05/2004
Priority:	Immediate	Due date:	
Assignee:	Dan Higgins	% Done:	0%
Category:	morpho - general	Estimated time:	0.00 hour
Target version:	1.5	Spent time:	0.00 hour
Bugzilla-Id:	1453		

Description

When you are cycling through the wizard and you get to the owner and contact panels, the party editing panel is automatically displayed. This is convenient for people who know what to do already, but if it is your first time using the wizard, the dialog hides the instructions on the wizard panel below so you don't know what information you are supposed to be entering. I think the best solution to this (at this point) is to stop the dialog from popping up automatically.

History

#1 - 04/05/2004 10:56 PM - Matthew Brooke

I brought this up at a meeting, and thought we had decided to do as chad suggested (btu have slept since then, so maybe I'm wrong :-)

Anyway, I agree with chad. Do we have a concensus? If so, it's an easy fix

#2 - 04/06/2004 09:00 AM - Dan Higgins

I disagree. It is so much, much easier for the user to have the party dialog appear automatically than have to click Add every time. (QUESTION: Do we confuse the first time user, or offend someone who has used Morpho several times?)

And I do not believe that the first time user really needs to see instructions for filling out a simple name/address form.

An alternate solution might be to simply move the dialog's location down and to the right so that the instructions on the summary page are visible in the background. (Dan Higgins)

#3 - 04/06/2004 09:21 AM - Chad Berkley

And I do not believe that the first time user really needs to see instructions for filling out a simple name/address form.

The problem is that you can't even see what type of person/org you are supposed to be filling out, e.g. a contact, associated party or owner. Although I agree that it is easier (very slightly) to have that popup, there still needs to be a way to see who's address info you should be entering. I think that simpling moving the dialog over so you can see what is under it is a very non-standard way of doing that.

#4 - 04/06/2004 11:27 AM - Matthew Brooke

Removing one button click does make the flow marginally quicker - I wouldn't agree with "much, much easier" though. The dialog appears only for the first party on each page, and the user still needs to click "add" to enter more parties.

This small gain of removing one click has to be balanced against the undesirable side effects, which are:

- (a) user confusion (let's not under-estimate this - we've all seen the wizard zillions of times, so it's second nature to us), and
- (b) inconsistency with the remainder of the wizard and similar list-type dialogs

- which at best makes morpho seem badly designed, and at worst makes for more user confusion.

c) Another potential source of confusion is that users may have several parties to enter, but are presented with only a single-party dialog; they haven't yet seen the original list that implies they can repeatedly add parties.

A problem with showing the dialog offset is that the current wizard screen fits on our target minimum screen size (800x600). Moving the dialog outside this outline will mean it's off-screen on 800x600 monitors (are there any left?? :-), so would need moving by the user, thus negating any speed gains from the 1-click reduction.

Suggested solutions:

1) not popping up the dialog, but having the keyboard focus placed on the "add" button, so the "power users" can just hit enter to open the dialog

2) not popping up the dialog the first time the wizard is run, but popping it up on subsequent runs? (save a flag in the config). Not too keen on this one, but like it better than always popping up the dialog.

Any other suggestions?

#5 - 04/06/2004 11:57 AM - Matt Jones

I like your solution [#1](#) -- placing focus on the Add button. However, keep in mind that the screen resolution limits are just the minimums. If we detect that a user has a higher res screen, it is certainly legit to adjust our window placement algorithms to allow the user to see appropriate parts of the background screen if it doesn't end up being awkward. But, in this case I think that it is better to not bring up the dialog automatically because of the loss of context that occurs by doing so.

#6 - 04/06/2004 01:17 PM - Matthew Brooke

implemented solution [#1](#) -- placing focus on the Add button

#7 - 03/27/2013 02:17 PM - Redmine Admin

Original Bugzilla ID was 1453