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Chapter 5: Introduction to threading and background processing

This chapter describes how to build a simple application that runs in a background process.
5.1 Develop an application that runs in a background process.

In this exercise, you will build a simple runnable class that runs in a background process.

1. Extract BackgroundThread.zip.

2. In the IDE, import the BackgroundThread_Incomplete.jdp.

3. Note the following items already completed in the source file:
   a. The BackgroundThread class is part of the com.samples.complete.backgroundthread package.
   b. The BackgroundThread class imports the net.rim.device.api.system package.
   c. The BackgroundThread class inherits from the Application class.
   d. The BackgroundThread class has a private inner class named BackGroundApp. The BackGroundApp class inherits from the Thread class.
   e. A private global object variable in the BackgroundThread class for the BackGroundApp class.
   f. The main() method of the BackgroundThread class does the following:
      — Declares a new instance of the BackgroundThread class and call its constructor method.
      — Makes the new object the Main Event thread.

4. Configure the project’s properties so that the application auto runs on startup and does not have an icon on the BlackBerry home screen.

5. Do the following in the provided while statement in BackGroundApp run() method:
   a. Output the text Application is running to the console.
   b. Put the thread to sleep for 5 seconds.
   c. Encapsulate the thread sleeping code to handle any exceptions that might occur. If an exception occurs, output the text Could not sleep and the exception name to the console.

6. Override the default constructor method for BackgroundThread class that does the following:
Chapter 5: Introduction to threading and background processing

a. Instantiates the `BackGroundApp` class and equates it with the previously declared variable.

b. Calls the `start()` method of the new object.

7. Test and compile the code. Correct any syntax errors.
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Notes