

**NAME**

UI\_new, UI\_new\_method, UI\_free, UI\_add\_input\_string, UI\_dup\_input\_string,  
 UI\_add\_verify\_string, UI\_dup\_verify\_string, UI\_add\_input\_boolean, UI\_dup\_input\_boolean,  
 UI\_add\_info\_string, UI\_dup\_info\_string, UI\_add\_error\_string, UI\_dup\_error\_string,  
 UI\_construct\_prompt, UI\_add\_user\_data, UI\_get0\_user\_data, UI\_get0\_result, UI\_process, UI\_ctrl,  
 UI\_set\_default\_method, UI\_get\_default\_method, UI\_get\_method, UI\_set\_method, UI\_OpenSSL,  
 ERR\_load\_UI\_strings - New User Interface

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <openssl/ui.h>

typedef struct ui_st UI;
typedef struct ui_method_st UI_METHOD;

UI *UI_new(void);
UI *UI_new_method(const UI_METHOD *method);
void UI_free(UI *ui);

int UI_add_input_string(UI *ui, const char *prompt, int flags,
char *result_buf, int minsize, int maxsize);
int UI_dup_input_string(UI *ui, const char *prompt, int flags,
char *result_buf, int minsize, int maxsize);
int UI_add_verify_string(UI *ui, const char *prompt, int flags,
char *result_buf, int minsize, int maxsize, const char *test_buf);
int UI_dup_verify_string(UI *ui, const char *prompt, int flags,
char *result_buf, int minsize, int maxsize, const char *test_buf);
int UI_add_input_boolean(UI *ui, const char *prompt, const char *action_desc,
const char *ok_chars, const char *cancel_chars,
int flags, char *result_buf);
int UI_dup_input_boolean(UI *ui, const char *prompt, const char *action_desc,
const char *ok_chars, const char *cancel_chars,
int flags, char *result_buf);
int UI_add_info_string(UI *ui, const char *text);
int UI_dup_info_string(UI *ui, const char *text);
int UI_add_error_string(UI *ui, const char *text);
int UI_dup_error_string(UI *ui, const char *text);

/* These are the possible flags. They can be or'ed together. */
#define UI_INPUT_FLAG_ECHO 0x01
#define UI_INPUT_FLAG_DEFAULT_PWD 0x02

char *UI_construct_prompt(UI *ui_method,
const char *object_desc, const char *object_name);

void *UI_add_user_data(UI *ui, void *user_data);
void *UI_get0_user_data(UI *ui);

const char *UI_get0_result(UI *ui, int i);

int UI_process(UI *ui);

int UI_ctrl(UI *ui, int cmd, long i, void *p, void (*f)());
#define UI_CTRL_PRINT_ERRORS 1
#define UI_CTRL_IS_REDOABLE 2
```

```

void UI_set_default_method(const UI_METHOD *meth);
const UI_METHOD *UI_get_default_method(void);
const UI_METHOD *UI_get_method(UI *ui);
const UI_METHOD *UI_set_method(UI *ui, const UI_METHOD *meth);

UI_METHOD *UI_OpenSSL(void);

```

## DESCRIPTION

UI stands for User Interface, and is general purpose set of routines to prompt the user for text-based information. Through user-written methods (see *ui\_create(3)*), prompting can be done in any way imaginable, be it plain text prompting, through dialog boxes or from a cell phone.

All the functions work through a context of the type `UI`. This context contains all the information needed to prompt correctly as well as a reference to a `UI_METHOD`, which is an ordered vector of functions that carry out the actual prompting.

The first thing to do is to create a UI with *UI\_new()* or *UI\_new\_method()*, then add information to it with the `UI_add` or `UI_dup` functions. Also, user-defined random data can be passed down to the underlying method through calls to `UI_add_user_data`. The default UI method doesn't care about these data, but other methods might. Finally, use *UI\_process()* to actually perform the prompting and *UI\_get0\_result()* to find the result to the prompt.

A UI can contain more than one prompt, which are performed in the given sequence. Each prompt gets an index number which is returned by the `UI_add` and `UI_dup` functions, and has to be used to get the corresponding result with *UI\_get0\_result()*.

The functions are as follows:

*UI\_new()* creates a new UI using the default UI method. When done with this UI, it should be freed using *UI\_free()*.

*UI\_new\_method()* creates a new UI using the given UI method. When done with this UI, it should be freed using *UI\_free()*.

*UI\_OpenSSL()* returns the built-in UI method (note: not the default one, since the default can be changed. See further on). This method is the most machine/OS dependent part of OpenSSL and normally generates the most problems when porting.

*UI\_free()* removes a UI from memory, along with all other pieces of memory that's connected to it, like duplicated input strings, results and others.

*UI\_add\_input\_string()* and *UI\_add\_verify\_string()* add a prompt to the UI, as well as flags and a result buffer and the desired minimum and maximum sizes of the result. The given information is used to prompt for information, for example a password, and to verify a password (i.e. having the user enter it twice and check that the same string was entered twice). *UI\_add\_verify\_string()* takes an extra argument that should be a pointer to the result buffer of the input string that it's supposed to verify, or verification will fail.

*UI\_add\_input\_boolean()* adds a prompt to the UI that's supposed to be answered in a boolean way, with a single character for yes and a different character for no. A set of characters that can be used to cancel the prompt is given as well. The prompt itself is divided in two, one part being the descriptive text (given through the *prompt* argument) and one describing the possible answers (given through the *action\_desc* argument).

*UI\_add\_info\_string()* and *UI\_add\_error\_string()* add strings that are shown at the same time as the prompt for extra information or to show an error string. The difference between the two is only conceptual. With the builtin method, there's no technical difference between them. Other methods may make a difference between them, however.

The flags currently supported are `UI_INPUT_FLAG_ECHO`, which is relevant for *UI\_add\_input\_string()* and will have the users response be echoed (when prompting for a password, this flag should obviously not be used, and `UI_INPUT_FLAG_DEFAULT_PWD`, which

means that a default password of some sort will be used (completely depending on the application and the UI method).

*UI\_dup\_input\_string()*, *UI\_dup\_verify\_string()*, *UI\_dup\_input\_boolean()*, *UI\_dup\_info\_string()* and *UI\_dup\_error\_string()* are basically the same as their *UI\_add* counterparts, except that they make their own copies of all strings.

*UI\_construct\_prompt()* is a helper function that can be used to create a prompt from two pieces of information: an description and a name. The default constructor (if there is none provided by the method used) creates a string `Enter description for name:`. With the description "pass phrase" and the file name "foo.key", that becomes "Enter pass phrase for foo.key:". Other methods may create whatever string and may include encodings that will be processed by the other method functions.

*UI\_add\_user\_data()* adds a piece of memory for the method to use at any time. The builtin UI method doesn't care about this info. Note that several calls to this function doesn't add data, it replaces the previous blob with the one given as argument.

*UI\_get0\_user\_data()* retrieves the data that has last been given to the UI with *UI\_add\_user\_data()*.

*UI\_get0\_result()* returns a pointer to the result buffer associated with the information indexed by *i*.

*UI\_process()* goes through the information given so far, does all the printing and prompting and returns.

*UI\_ctrl()* adds extra control for the application author. For now, it understands two commands: *UI\_CTRL\_PRINT\_ERRORS*, which makes *UI\_process()* print the OpenSSL error stack as part of processing the UI, and *UI\_CTRL\_IS\_REDOABLE*, which returns a flag saying if the used UI can be used again or not.

*UI\_set\_default\_method()* changes the default UI method to the one given.

*UI\_get\_default\_method()* returns a pointer to the current default UI method.

*UI\_get\_method()* returns the UI method associated with a given UI.

*UI\_set\_method()* changes the UI method associated with a given UI.

## SEE ALSO

*ui\_create(3)*, *ui\_compat(3)*

## HISTORY

The UI section was first introduced in OpenSSL 0.9.7.

## AUTHOR

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