

The following information regarding user input parameters (properties) is now included in the [NinjaScript Programmer's Launch Pad](#) ebook:

Changing the Display Name and Order of Properties

Sometimes, the name you choose for a property works well for the code, but isn't suitably descriptive for the user who sets the property in the Indicators dialog box. For example, let's say you have a property called `OpenTime`, but it really refers to the time that the trading session opens. Of course, in this example, you could just change the name to `SessionOpenTime`, and that would work fine, but let's illustrate another way.

You can leave the property name alone, but change the way it appears in the dialog box. To do this, you use the `[Gui.Design.DisplayName]` tag above the property definition. Here's how it would look:

```
#region Properties
/// <summary>
/// </summary>
[Description("Time of the session open (HHMM)")]
[GridCategory("Parameters")]
[Gui.Design.DisplayName ("Session Open Time")]
public string OpenTime
{
    get { return openTime; }
    set { openTime = value; }
}
#endregion
```

Notice that you can use spaces in the display name as well.

Rearranging the Order

This same `Gui.Design.DisplayName` tag can be used to rearrange the order in which the properties appear in the Indicators dialog box. Normally, they appear in alphabetical order.

It's a simple trick that involves using the escape character, `\t`, in the beginning of the display name. To illustrate, let's say we have three properties that we want to appear in our own designated order. The property that we want to appear first will have three `\t` escape characters before the actual name. The second one in line will have two, and the last one will have one. Here's what the tags might look like:

```
[Gui.Design.DisplayName ("\tThis appears last")]
...
[Gui.Design.DisplayName ("\t\t\tThis appears first")]
...
[Gui.Design.DisplayName ("\t\tThis appears second")]
```

The `\t` will not display in the dialog; only the printable characters will.

Note: You can use the same technique for ordering different `GridCategories`. Instead of just "Parameters" as in the example shown above, you can group your properties in different

categories, and use the same \t method to force the categories to appear in your desired order.

For additional details on custom properties, go to the NinjaTrader Support Forum and then go to the Tips section. Look for the following three topics by NinjaTrader_Josh:

- Creating User Defined Input Parameters
- User Defined Color Inputs
- Parameter sequencing