FIX: BarcodeReader Misses One or More Barcodes on an Image Containing Multiple Adjacent Barcodes

Background

The Atalasoft BarcodeReader can sometimes get "confused" by multiple barcodes which are a bit too close to each other... this can result in missed barcodes on a page even though the barcode images are completely valid and should have read.

Here are two sample methods (meant to be used together) to perform an iterative read:

```
/ The DotImage barcode reading engine may get confused by multiple barcodes in too-close proximity // to each other... this method will use an iterative process to try and read what it can, then // hide the codes it found and re-read to see if more barcodes can be found... // // It will continue looping until no new barcodes are found. private BarCode[] ReadAllBarcodesFromImage(AtalaImage image, ReadOpts options, bool useThresholding) { // Doing this ensures we are not modifying the image object that was passed in AtalaImage imgCopy = (AtalaImage)image.Clone(); List<BarCode> allCodes = new List<BarCode>(); // the first pass uses an unaltered image so just do that first BarCode[] codes = PerformRead(imgCopy, options, useThresholding); // Now, we will set up the Canvas which we will "white out" found barcodes from the previous run Canvas c = new Canvas(imgCopy); // iterate the results, doing the whilteout.. then try re-reading to see if we get more results while (codes != null && codes.Length > 0) { foreach (var bc in codes) { // Ok, we have a barcode... add it to the return list allCodes.Add(bc); // this code will write out a white rectangle over the location of the found barcode in the image supplied... // that will allow the engine to have a new, fresh view of the page where the already found codes are not present c.DrawRectangle(bc.BoundingRect, new SolidFill(Color.White)); } // once again, we do a read.. if we end up not finding results we're done // if we find any new barcodes, we'll repeat the process, adding barcodes to the already found ones codes = PerformRead(imgCopy, options, useThresholding); } // this is no longer needed, so clean up after ourselves imgCopy.Dispose(); // finally, return the results as an array return allCodes.ToArray(); } // We need this method because even though we're updating the image directly the engine needs a new, updated copy private BarCode[] PerformRead(AtalaImage image, ReadOpts options, bool useThresholding) { BarCode[] results = null; using (BarCodeReader reader = new BarCodeReader(image, useThresholding)) { results = reader.ReadBars(options); } return results; }
```

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Last Update

2026-11-04 - TD - (Code fencing and headings)

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