

STP (Software Training Package) v.1.00 is a simple, yet powerful, system to build demo and training scripts for Windows software packages.

To build a training (or a demo) script you just record all the keystrokes, mouse movements etc.. for your application; when you want to insert a message for the user press a key, normally is F6 but this may be changed, and insert your message.

Then you tune the training script: just replay it and 'tune' every message modifying his position, size, style; increasing or decreasing playback speed; eliminating messages; etc..

As a result in few minutes you obtain a training package that may be run either from inside your application than from an help file.

To record a demo the proceeding is exactly the same.

Note that a Context Sensitive Help is in place on the package.

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To record a new session start the record program from program manager then:
Select File: New session.

The following window appears:

Give The Registration Name

Registration Name

Name of the executable: write.exe

Path of the executable; please give path relative to the training package

Return to continue string Return To Continue, ESC to qui Accept Escape

Message at start up
 Demo Training None Continuously display?

Stop Key
 F1 F2 F3 F4 F5 F6 F7 F8 F9

Information Key
 F1 F2 F3 F4 F5 F6 F7 F8 F9

OK Cancel

Insert here the following information:

- The name of the session;
- Name and default directory of the executable p.e. demo.exe directory ..
- The string you want to appear on the bottom of the STP messages
(this has been added to allow to write training packages in other languages)
- The key to be used to STOP registration
- The key to be used to insert a message.
- If the registration may end with an ESC.
- A little box that allow you to pass to your product WinMain the string "DEMO" or "TRAINING" in the lpszCmdLine parameter.

When you select OK the product the training is for starts.
Click over his main window bar with the mouse.
Select again OK.

This is done to capture the dimension information of the playback session.

Two message

```
#define START_PLAYBACK_LT WM_USER+8977  
#define START_PLAYBACK_BR WM_USER+8976
```

are sent to your application;

START_PLAYBACK_LT message:

wParam = 0

LOWORD(lParam) = rect.left

HWORD(lParam) = rect.top

START_PLAYBACK_BR message:

wParam = 0

LOWORD(lParam) = rect.right

HWORD(lParam) = rect.bottom

where rect is the application bounding rect.

From now on you may start to record your script; to interrupt recording and insert a message press the key selected to insert a message; to end the registration press the key selected as STOP key.

Using the training script as a Demo.

If you want to use a training script as a demo (i.e. continuous playing)

A) register the training;

B) copy with a new name the tr-name.tsp and tr-name.tra files;

C) check the continuous playing button.

Insert a message

When you press the 'insert a message' key the following dialogue appears:

The dialog box is titled "Insert Interrupt Information". It features a "Type of Interrupt" section with two radio buttons: "Message" (selected) and "Window Procedure". Below this is a large, empty text area with vertical scrollbars. To the left of the text area are four input fields for "Left", "Right", "Top", and "Bottom". To the right is a "Message Properties" section with two radio buttons: "Interrupted by return" (selected) and "Fixed time (sec.)" with an adjacent input field. At the bottom is a "Message Style" section with four radio buttons: "3D Button", "Frame", "Hotspot" (selected), and "Gray Hotspot". The dialog concludes with "OK" and "Cancel" buttons.

Here you may:

Select if the message is an actual message or you want to start a window procedure (see the cut and paste example).

The text of the message.

The position and dimension of the message bounding rectangle (these are optional and may be inserted later)

The style of the training message.

The message properties: a message may be 'interrupted' i.e. the user may continue after reading a message, with a carriage return or may last x thousands of second

Insert your value and select ok.

Note that the message texts are inserted in an external text file (.tsp) that may be modified at leisure with a standard ASCII editor.

So you do not need to write the entire message upfront; you may just write a reminder and then update offline the .tsp file.

Tuning a session

Start the recording utility and double click on the session you want to tune; first of all you are asked if you want to modify the starting information.

At the message 'do you want to modify your header' answer NO.

If you answer Yes you enter on the header dialogue were you may modify the info.

The system will play back your script stopping at every message.

When the system stops you may:

- 1) Reposition the message (with arrows or SHIFT-arrow)
- 2) Resize the message (with CTRL-Arrow)
- 3) Modify message style etc.. pressing F3.

If You press F3 this dialogue appears.

Modify Interrupt Information

Type of Interrupt
 Message Window Procedure

notepad.exe

Left Right
Top Bottom

Message Properties
 Interrupted by return
 Fixed time

Message Style
 3D Button Frame Hotspot Gray Hotspot

Thousands of seconds For the procedure

Delete This Message OK Cancel

Note that, apart from modifying the style etc.. of the message you may:

A) modify the playing time of the previous sequence: e.g the playback is done at the same speed of the record; if you want to slow or increase the play speed modify the number of seconds that the playback must take.

B) Delete the message and the keystroke recorded from the previous message.

The playback continues till the end; at this point you may decide to continue regitering or not.

Important note

Due to its characteristic you must be careful in not define permanent environment change during a training session.

For example if you need to show how to insert a new record in a DB end the session removing that record.

If you create a new document delete it before quitting. etc.. .

This training package may work well ONLY if the environments are identical every time it is used.

Playing back from Windows

STP is provided with 2 executable: Register and Playback. To play back a training just start playback with the name of the training session as parameter.

At start up Playback send to your application the messages:

START_PLAYBACK_LT

START_PLAYBACK_BR

when Playback finish the message

END_PLAYBACK_MESS

:

I suggest to use a directory structure as the one in the Telephone demo and to call the Playback program from inside WinHelp as:

or you can use a RegisterRoutine WinHelp macro:

```
RegisterRoutine("stpredis","Playback","S")
```


Playing back from inside your program.

To play back from inside your program call the Playback(training session name) routine that is inserted in STPREDIS.DLL as

```
extern "C" BOOL FAR PASCAL Playback(LPSTR fileName,BOOL continuous,BOOL  
endRegWParam);
```

Where LPSTR is the training name

continuous can switch the playing automatically to continuous playing

endRegWParam = TRUE send the END_REGISTRATION message to the parent window (identified with the SetHwnd function)) with wParam = 1

endRegWParam = FALSE send the END_REGISTRATION message to the parent window (identified with the SetHwnd function)) with wParam = 0

When the training ends it sends a END_REGISTRATION message with wParam = endRegWParam to the parent window

The parent Window or training issuing window is set using the SetHwnd(HWND hwnd) exported function.

SetHwnd(HWND hwnd)

Set the handle of the window to which the END_REGISTRATION message is sent.

Distribution

When distributing the software you must always include:

The *.tra files

The *.tsp files

The stpredis.dll

Optionally the Playback.exe executable.

Examples

The products came with three examples:

Internationalisation Library Demo

Write Demos

STP Demo

The Telephone demo demonstrates the telephone library (another of my products)

STP is called from inside Demo.exe (refer to demo.cpp).

The Write Demos demonstrate some Write functionality.

The STP Demo just show some of the capabilities of the package.

Checked if the message is a message on the screen

Checked if you want to run a Windows program

The Text of the message or the name of the windows program. It is stored in a .tsp file.

Message Up-Left Corner Left

Message Up-Left Corner Top

Message bottom-right Corner Right

Message bottom-right Corner Bottom

Checked is the message must last till is interrupted by a return.

Checked is the message must last x milliseconds.

Shows the message as a 3-D button

Shows the message as a 3-D Frame

Shows the message as a Hotspot

Shows the message as a Gray Hotspot

How many thousand of seconds may be used to playback the previous keystrokes.

Click On this Button delete the message and the previously registered keystrokes.

If You want the user to be able to terminate the demo - trianing session with escape check this button.

If you want the demo-training session to continuously play, disregarding the actual messages setup, check this button

This is a training session

At start insert DEMO in the lpszCommandLine (used to control your application when started from Windows)

At start insert TRAINING in the lpszCommandLine (used to control your application when started from Windows)

At start Do not insert anything in the lpszCommandLine (used to control your application when started from Windows)

Select the key used to end recording

Select the key used to insert a message recording

The name of the executable (used to control your application when started from Windows)

Your executable path (used to control your application when started from Windows)

The string you want to appear at the bottom of your executable.

The name of your registration

Order

STP is sold for 70 US\$ through PsL.

The registered Package is FREE of distribution royalty. To Order:

1. Use a CREDIT CARD to register with PSL (ORDERS ONLY!): PsL accepts MC/VISA, AMEX, and DISCOVER. Call 800/2424-PSL or 713/524-6394 or fax your order to 713/524-6398. PsL also accepts orders via CompuServe at CIS# 71355,470 or by mail to PsL, P. O. Box 35705, Houston TX 77235-5705. These numbers are for ORDERING ONLY!! For information about dealer pricing, site licenses, shipping of products, returns, latest version numbers or other technical information contact Maurizio Maccani.

* PSL charges \$4 for shipping, PSL also accepts international orders, charging \$15 for shipping.

* Any comments, suggestions or information:

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PRICE

STP is sold for 70 US\$ through PsL.

ShareWare

Most money back guarantees work like this: You pay for the product and then have some period of time to try it out and see whether or not you like it. If you don't like it or find that it doesn't do what you need, you return it (undamaged) and at some point - which might take months - you get your money back. Some software companies won't even let you try their product! In order to qualify for a refund, the diskette envelope must have an unbroken seal. With these "licensing" agreements, you only qualify for your money back if you haven't tried the product.

How absurd!

Shareware is very different. With shareware you get to use it for a limited time, without spending a penny. You are able to use the software on your own system(s), in your own special work environment, with no sales people looking over your shoulder. If you decide not to continue using it, you throw it away and forget all about it. No paperwork, phone calls, or correspondence to waste your valuable time. If you do continue using it, then - and only then - do you pay for it.

Shareware is a distribution method, NOT a type of software. Shareware is produced by accomplished programmers, just like retail software. There is good and bad shareware, just as there is good and bad retail software. The primary difference between shareware and retail software is that with shareware you know if it's good or bad BEFORE you pay for it.

The shareware system and the continued availability of quality shareware products depend on your willingness to register and pay for the shareware you use. It's the registration fees you pay which allow us to support and continue to develop our products.

Please show your support for shareware by registering those programs you actually use and by passing them on to others.

Shareware is kept alive by YOUR support!

Ombudsman Statement

This program is produced by a member of the Association of Shareware Professionals (ASP). ASP wants to make sure that the shareware principle works for you. If you are unable to resolve a shareware-related problem with an ASP member by contacting the member directly, ASP may be able to help. The ASP Ombudsman can help you resolve a dispute or problem with an ASP member, but does not provide technical support for members' products. Please write to the ASP Ombudsman at 545 Grover Rd., Muskegon, MI USA, or send a CompuServe message via CIS MAIL to ASP Ombudsman 72050,1433.

How to use:

Link (or Load at run-time) the telephon.dll. When distributing your package remember to distribute also the .dat files.

Other Shareware Products by Maurizio Maccani

Internationalization Library, V.1.0 <ASP> -

Time, Date, Number and Currency formatted controls library for Windows.
INTLB010.ZIP

Time, Date, Number and Currency formatted controls library for Windows;
the formatting rules are read from the control panel setup.

The date control is 'multilingual' (answers in various language) and
'smart' (accepts partial entries as W: this week Wednesday or F 4: the forth
of February); the date control includes a monthly calendar control.

The Time control may be used as a clock with second or minute precision.

The Currency control formats to positive, negative amounts.

Full sources included - Royalty free

US\$ 30

Internationalization VBX, V.1.0 <ASP> -

The Internationalization control as a Visual Basic Library.

Forecasted release date March 1995

INTVB010.ZIP

Telephone Control, V.1.0 <ASP> -

A smart formatted telephone number control. Automatically formats/dial
telephone numbers.

TELLB010.ZIP

Contains an user updatable Data Base with the main country / area telephone
codes;

It allows telephone number dial with a simple keystroke; the dialling is 'smart'
i.e. area and international prefix may automatically be added when the
product is used from a different town or country (as happen with portable).

Full sources included - Royalty free

US\$ 50

Telephone VBX, V.1.0 <ASP> -

The telephone library as a Visual Basic Library.

Forecasted release date March 1995

Window Analyser V1.0 <ASP> -

A tool for Windows programmers. With WA it is possible to analyse all
the principal characteristics of a Windows control.

WA010.ZIP

Window Analyser reports:

- Control Class properties and styles
- Control Characteristics
- Control Properties
- Control Extra Memory (Dump included)
- Control Styles
- Control Parent and Childs..

US\$ 30

Software Training Package V1.0 <ASP> -

A tool to quickly build Training and Demo packages for software products.
STP010.ZIP

It allows To quickly build training and demo scripts for Your software package.
No programming skills are needed: start the product; register your demo/training
play it again to tune it; release it. Training may be called from inside your
product or from an Help File.

Very small add just a 10K to your application

Royalty free

US\$ 70

SuperSpy V1.0 <ASP> -

An advanced spy utility.
SSPY010.ZIP

- Allows to include your Own mnemonics i.e. if you defined a WM_DO_MY_STUFF
message as WM_USER + 124 Superspy shows a WM_DO_MY_STUFF message not a
WM_USER+124

- Interpret wParam and lParam; if it is possible extracts the structure
pointed by lParam and get the values or display the values in a meaningful way.

p.e. the WM_ACTIVATE parameters are shown as :

```
wParam = WA_INACTIVE  
window was inactive  
window de-activated 12345
```

US\$ 30

Easy Context Sensitive Help V1.0 <ASP> -

Build your context sensitive help.

ECS010.zip

With just 4 call you enable your application to provide context sensitive

help.

- SetMenuHelp(menuHandle,helpTopic)
- SetWindowHelp(windowHandle,helpTopic)
- SetDefaultHelp(helpTopic)
- SetHelpFile(helpFileName)

This library will automatically manage all the details of building a Context Sensitive Help from intercepting F1 to searching the help for the parent window if no help for the current window / menu item is encountered.

FREEWARE - BANNERWARE

Royalty free

Maurizio Maccani Productivity Pack V.1.0 <ASP>
MMPP010.ZIP

Contains all the above products at a discount price: US\$ 149
Special Offer if ordered before July 95 US\$ 99 .

The Productivity pack will contain, when released, the two VBX controls.

All these package grant free upgrade to Window 95 version.

All these packages may be copied from:
the major BBS and FTP sites.
CompuServe
CICA, SimTel, Garbo and their mirror sites.

All these products may be ordered to PsL

*PsL accepts MC/VISA, AMEX, and DISCOVER.
Call 800/2424-PSL or 713/524-6394 or
fax your order to 713/524-6398. PsL also accepts orders
via CompuServe at CIS# 71355,470 or by mail to PsL, P. O.
Box 35705, Houston TX 77235-5705. These numbers are for
ORDERING ONLY!! For information about dealer pricing, site
licenses, shipping of products, returns, latest version
numbers or other technical information contact Maurizio Maccani.*

SUPPORT

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Copacabana

RIO DE JANEIRO

BRASIL

I believe in software quality; I will try to solve ALL the users problems (registered and not registered users).

