

MDB->BAS Read Me

MDB->BAS v 3.6 - Dec 94

This is a simple VB app that reads the structure of a MS Access MDB database file and produces the necessary VB code to create the file.

It handles all of the usual field and table attributes including attached tables, version 1.0, 1.1 & 2.0, query defs etc.

It optionally produces documentation of the MDB in the form of a seperate text file.

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Requirements

The following files are required to run MDB->BAS. These files are not distributed because of their size, they are available elsewhere and most MDB->BAS users will probabky alreday have them:

VBRUN300.DLL
VBDB300.DLL
CMDIALOG.VBX
MSAES110.DLL
MSABC110.DLL

For version 2.0 MDB's you will need the Jet 2.0 compatability layer installed. This includes:

MSABC200.DLL
MSAJT112.DLL

To use the generated code you will of course need VB 3 Professional, Access 2.0 or some other product that understands Microsoft SQL.

Poor-mans Data Dictionary

Also included is the ability to create an INI file description of the MDB. This can be used with the supplied sample code to create the database.

The next major version will add the feature for automatically updating the database structure if the MDB does not match the INI file.

Access 2.0 MDB's

This version has been tested with the Jet 2 compat. layer for VB 3. I have found only one possible problem thus far. I tried it on our customer database which is an Access application. It read the structure ok but for some reason, one of the tables has two primary key indexes.

When the data dict. code tries to create the table with these indexes it fails.

SQL

Version 3.0 can now optionally generate code that uses SQL CREATE TABLE and CREATE INDEX rather than the horrible Object stuff. SQL does make the code much smaller and maybe faster. However, Query Defs cannot be created using the SQL and there is also a bug in the compatability layer with Query Defs.

Registration

MDB->BAS can be registered in three ways:

- Compuserve SWREG 3070 for EXE only.
- Compuserve SWREG 3738 for EXE & Source Code.
- EMail your Visa Card details to the author listed above.

The charge is \$US20 for EXE or \$US40 for source & EXE. Files will only be EMailled so don't bother trying snail mail or phone/fax.

Disclaimer

I take no responsibility for anything that doesn't work and full responsibility for everything that does! And if you think you can sue me then think again! I run faster than any lawyer I know!

Revision History

- [Version 1.0, June 1994](#)
- [Version 1.1, July 20 1994](#)
- [Version 1.2, September 14, 1994](#)
- [Version 2.0, October 1, 1994](#)
- [Version 3.0, October 25, 1994](#)
- [Version 3.1, October 28, 1994](#)
- [Version 3.2, October 30, 1994](#)
- [Version 3.3, November 5, 1994](#)
- [Version 3.4, November 18, 1994](#)
- [Version 3.5, November 23, 1994](#)
- [Version 3.6, December 13, 1994](#)

Wish List

Please feel free to send me any suggestions or requests. This is what I have so far. The % figure in the title is the likelihood of the item being done. The higher the %, the sooner it will get done.

Expand Data Dictionary (95%)

- Use the data dictionary to check the structure of a database and to update it should it be necessary.

Support Foreign Keys (90%)

- Assuming this is possible with VB in the near future - and I can learn what a foreign key REALLY is.

Create Database (80%)

- After generating SQL to screen, it should be possible to alter the statements and then click a Create button to make the database. What about the data?. Should the data in the original table be copied also?

Version 1.0 - June 1994

- Initial public release.

Version 1.1, July 20 1994

- Altered code generation to use a single set of arrays rather than two arrays for each table. This fixed memory problems.
- Added language support combo box.
- Minor fixes to generated code.
- SWREGification.

Version 1.2, September 14, 1994

- Altered status display for speed!

Version 2.0, October 1, 1994

- Added INI file generation.
- Tested with Jet 2 compat. layer.
- Added sample code for data dictionary - to be expanded later.
- Added connect string prompt.
- Added check boxes for various file generation.

Version 3.0, October 25, 1994

- Added SQL code generation as an option to the object based method.
- Added Access code generation.
- Added SQL statement generation.
- Removed version 1.0 option - now defaults to engine version.
- Reworked code substantially for new options. Speed and fixes.
- Changed pricing structure - source code is now a separate registration.
- Internet-a-fied.

Version 3.1, October 28, 1994

- Improved error handling when generating Query Defs on tables that no longer exist. Errors are now trapped, reported and code comments are generated.
- Cleaned up help file. Fixed help index page... I killed it! Used pop-ups etc.
- Altered filename controls to automatically reflect the name of the database file.
- Fixed occasional chr(0) in code and documentation files. This was caused by Query Defs ending in a NULL.

Thanks to Randy Parker for the gamma testing!

Version 3.2, October 30, 1994

- Fixed bug when Query Defs option was turned off.
- Remove "WITH OWNERACCESS OPTION" from Query Defs when not generating VB code as VB spits on this.
- More code tidy-ups.

Version 3.3, November 5, 1994

- Removed forcing upper case to connect string.
- Fixed bug when Query Defs option was off.

Version 3.4, November 18, 1994

- Changed file creation to handle larger files. Saving the generated text to strings before writing was causing string space problems on very large databases.
- Finally fixed bug that was stopping file writing!

Version 3.5, November 23, 1994

- Only generate PRIMARY index for first primary index found in each table. This works around the problem of the Jet 2.0 engine reporting more than one primary key index. Hopefully, the first primary key index will usually be the right one...
- Correctly bracketed field list in index clauses. Fields with spaces and other non alpha characters were causing problems.
- Removed reference to MB_ICONSTOP as most Access programmers are probably not going to have this defined by default.

Version 3.6, December 13, 1994

- Fixed index field correction code for descending indices.

