

THE Delphi

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News

Delphi 4 Update Pack 3

The third Update Pack for Delphi 4 is now available from the borland.com website. The new patch updates a number of different areas, including MIDAS (Socket Server, TProvider, TSocketConnection and TClientDataSet), CORBA and the VCL (TMainMenu, TToolBar, TImageList and TCoolBar). There is also, at last, a fix for the Diamond/S3/Virge graphics card problem with the ImageList in the Delphi IDE.

See Dr.Bob's Delphi 4 Clinic (www.drbob42.com) for a more detailed list of bug fixes and a direct link to the patches themselves.

ConduitDB SDK

This new tool from German company envi.con KG allows the exchange of data between the Borland Database Engine on a PC and the 3Com Palm Pilot handheld computer. This could be used to send data from a Delphi address book application on the desktop to the Palm Pilot address book and vice versa.

The developers say that Delphi programmers can now offer a handheld solution without any knowledge of Palm Pilot software development or the complicated development of a data conduit. Visit www.envicon.de/conduitdb for more information, or call envi.con KG on +49 30 349 02670.

DBEdit With Buttons And Checkboxes

New from Benny Otten, TboEdit is a TDBEdit replacement component which features multiple integrated buttons and checkboxes, including toggle buttons and grouped buttons. It includes a property editor, a speedbutton component which supports images from resource files and a data-aware speedbutton to toggle between several values.

Visit www.fadel.com/editbox for more information and to download a demo version.

Cocolsoft Delphi Grammar

New from Cocolsoft Computer Solutions this is one of the grammars in the latest release of the Cogencee compiler generator for Delphi (see News in the December 1998 issue). Uses of the grammar, in conjunction with Cogencee, include creating JavaDoc-like documentation for Delphi code, creating code metrics, pretty printing and code formatting tools.

Point your browser at www.cocolsoft.com.au/cogen.htm for a demo program which allows you to test the grammar against your own code, plus more detailed information on the product. Cogencee is available for Delphi 1 and Delphi 4. The Standard version costs \$300 and the Professional is \$500.

Innoview Multilizer Supports The Euro

For developers creating financial software for use in Europe, the new Euro currency is now an important factor. Innoview have announced new updates to their Multilizer

localisation software which allows you to include Euro support in Delphi applications. Existing Multilizer users can visit www.multilizer.com/download to download the update.

During the transition period (up to the end of 2001) the participating countries will use both the Euro and their national currency: Multilizer adds a Euro property to the Dictionary component to allow the user to choose the currency used. Not all European Union countries are participating: Multilizer includes the IsEMUMember function which can be used to determine this. Finally, there are different phases of moving to the Euro: Multilizer includes the getEMUPhase function to provide information on this.

General information on the Euro and Windows updates can be found at www.microsoft.com/typography/faq/faq12.htm, whilst the site www.xe.net/currency/euro.htm has more specific information.

Multilizer supports Delphi 1, 2, 3 and 4, C++Builder 1, 3 and 4, as well as Visual Basic and various Java development environments. Visit www.multilizer.com for additional information and demos.

Renderlight Freeware 3D

The Renderlight Delphi library for 3D graphics has now been released as a semi-Beta version. It supports

➤ *Innoview's Multilizer now supports the Euro*



all 32-bit versions of Delphi and allows users to specify geometry in their applications, either by procedural definition or by loading in 3DS files and passing them into the rendering engine. After setting up lights and cameras in as little as five lines of code, you can then call one of the included rendering engines. The rendering options include gouraud shaded, ray traced or scan line methods, with or without anti-aliasing.

Once the renderer requires a pixel to be shaded, event handlers within the main component handle the actual procedural shading of the surfaces using techniques such as phong shading, procedural texture mapping, reflections, shadows, soft shadows. The developer comments that the components should provide a firm shot in the arm for Delphi users who feel left out by the lack of 3D graphics support for Delphi compared to the level of OpenGL, DirectX and other support on the web for users of other languages.

Visit the author's website, which is at www.gibsona.demon.co.uk/renderlightindx.htm, for more information.

Lingscape

Multi Language Designer 2.0

This new version of Lingscape's localisation tool allows easy translation of forms, components, dialogs, resources and locales in Delphi and C++Builder, say the developers.

There are five Translator components (for buttons, forms, resources, locale and common dialogs) and an expert interface to automate localisation tasks.

The product supports all grammatical language aspects, such as inflections, gender and context differences, as well as pictograms (Chinese, Japanese etc) and contextual analysed scripts such as Arabic. Localisation of the VCL is also supported (allowing for translation of VCL-embedded error messages, for example).

To provide support for two or more user interface languages at runtime, the developers say that developers merely need to drop

Translator components onto one or more forms: no code is required.

Visit www.lingscape.com for more details and trial versions. Multi Language Designer costs \$175 and includes all five Translator components, which are also available separately for prices ranging from \$39 to \$98. Full source code is included and there are no royalty fees. The products support all versions of Delphi and C++Builder.

TCompLHA

Component Set 4.01

South Pacific Information Services have released a new version of their LHA/LHarc archive management components for Delphi and C++Builder, which now support C++Builder 4.0.

The components allow you to create and manage multi-file archives, with one-step methods for most operations, compressing files, memory, database BLOBs and more. Archives are read/write compatible with LHarc archives and are WinZip readable. No DLLs or OCXs are required and full source is included.

Visit www.spis.co.nz for details and an evaluation version of this and other software from South Pacific.

News Please!

Send your news on products and services for software developers to the Editor, Chris Frizelle, *by email only*, to chrisf@itecuk.com. Please keep your press releases brief and to the point and be sure to include pricing and contact information. Thanks!

Paradox File Corruption Update

An updated version of Brian Long's hugely popular article in the February 1999 issue on Paradox File Corruption (much of which also applies to other data storage architectures) is included on the disk with this issue, in the PARADOX folder. The article is in HTML format and includes Brian's Delphi Clinic item from Issue 17, as well as full source code.

A Really Special Offer From The Delphi Magazine

For a *limited time only*, if you order a copy of our *Collection '98* back issues CD-ROM you will also receive, completely free, a copy of the February 1999 edition of the UK Inprise/Borland User Group *Developers Information Library* double CD-ROM (*DIL*).

DIL comes out 4 times a year and contains thousands of tips and tricks, hundreds of trial components and tools, over 4,000 bitmaps, over 350 JavaScripts and a complete set of Linux How-Tos. It is indispensable for all developers using Inprise tools. Single issues normally retail at £35 each, but by taking advantage of our special offer you get this current edition free!

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