

THE Delphi

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iTec, 9a London Road, BROMLEY
Kent BR1 1BY, United Kingdom

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Tel: +44 (0)870 740 7610 Fax: +44 (0)870 740 7611
Email: mail@itecuk.com www.TheDelphiMagazine.com

News

AdaptAccounts Update

The folks at Adapta have been very busy again developing their accounting application framework for Delphi developers. There are now a number of versions.

AdaptAccounts 2000 and AdaptAccounts 6 are Delphi-based and run on Windows NT and Windows 95/98 workstations in network environments with Windows NT, Linux, Unix and Novell servers. AdaptAccounts 2000 for SQL Server is based on Delphi 5 and Microsoft SQL Server 7. AdaptAccounts 6.7 for SQL Server is based on Delphi 4 and Microsoft SQL Server 7. AdaptAccounts 6.75 for InterBase is based on Delphi 5 and InterBase 5. AdaptAccounts 6.6 for Oracle is based on Delphi 3 and Oracle 7 (it has been developed with Adapta's porting partner for Oracle). AdaptAccounts 2000 for Paradox is a file-server version based on Delphi 5 and using Paradox tables. AdaptAccounts 5.8 for Paradox 8 is implemented using Corel's Paradox 8 programming environment.

Visit www.adapta.com or call +1 250 658 8484 for more information and pricing details.

Dr.Bob's Online Poll

Bob Swart (aka Dr.Bob) recently conducted an online poll on his website (www.drbob.com) to gauge developers' feelings about

the merger between Inprise and Corel. When asked about their personal feelings on the merger, respondents said:

<i>Very Positive</i>	9.7%
<i>Positive</i>	31.8%
<i>Not So Positive</i>	34.5%
<i>Negative</i>	17.3%
<i>Don't Care</i>	6.6%

Optimists would say that only 17.3% are against the merger, while pessimists would say that only 41.5% are truly positive about it, commented Dr.Bob. For more detailed results and more comment, check Bob's website.

Inprise Sells Scotts Valley HQ

Inprise/Borland announced it has entered into an agreement to sell its Scotts Valley headquarters to ScalanKemperBard Companies (SKB) for \$47 million.

As part of the agreement, Inprise/Borland will sign a long-term lease, leasing back approximately 44% of the facility. Included in the \$47 million purchase price is a \$2.5 million reserve which can be used by SKB for certain improvements should they be required. The transaction is scheduled to have closed in mid-March.

New ABC Components

Objective Software Technology has released a new version of its component suite for Delphi: ABC for Delphi 5.1.0. This is a free upgrade for registered owners of ABC version 5.0.

New features include support for C++ Builder 5, five new components, integration with DBISAM, ASTA and CodeBase datasets, plus a number of additional updates requested by customers.

Visit www.obsf.com for more details, or call +61 8 8357 1805 (which is in Australia).

Opaque Software WithView Expert

WithView is a Delphi and C++Builder Expert designed to enhance the IDE, making it easier for the developer to navigate around the various IDE windows and designers. It is suitable for Delphi 4 and 5, as well as C++Builder 4 and 5.

Using WithView you can: access every open window using a toolbar, dock the toolbar directly to the main IDE window, make any IDE window a StayOnTop window, place any IDE window onto the Windows Taskbar, bring windows to the front automatically, and more.

You can download a trial version from www.opaquesoftware.com, where you can also find details of Opaque Software's other products. WithView costs just \$19 to purchase.

O&A Productions oaAgent Component

This new product brings Microsoft Agent technology to the Delphi and C++Builder IDEs in the form of a native VCL wrapper of the MS

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UK-BUG Events

Coming up from the **UK Borland User Group** are the following meetings:

University of Dundee, Thursday April 13th. Includes OO design using interfaces and writing socket servers.

London, Tuesday April 18th, focusing on InterBase.

Leamington Spa, Tuesday May 16th. Includes 'bottom up or top down' (that is, how project planning can help you), OO design patterns (Singletons and Iterators), MDSE, Advantage Database Server, ESDirect (a framework for using ASP, Delphi CGI Apps, Email components and file uploading).

Dublin, Friday May 26th. Includes Delphi does ASP, and an introduction to Microsoft's Remote Data Services.

London, Tuesday May 23rd. Includes Wizards and Experts, Actions and Action Lists, CDONTS (sending email from your Delphi application) and Life Without Data-Aware Controls.

For more information call UK-BUG on +44 (0)1980 630032.

Delphi and C++ Builder. The new versions can be found at <http://spis.co.nz>.

Extended Pascal 3.2

Prospero Software's Extended Pascal provides the complete Extended Pascal language, including the object oriented additions, together with object-style exception handling using try statements.

Pascal programs have access to an extensive library of additional routines, and can make direct calls on API functions. Standard conformance can optionally be checked.

The package includes a 32-bit Extended Pascal compiler and linker, a programmer's workbench IDE, a symbolic debugger, library manager, Pascal run-time libraries, make and conversion utilities, plus over 400 pages of documentation.

Extended Pascal 3.2 is available for £185 plus VAT from Grey Matter. Visit www.greymatter.co.uk or call +44 (0)1364 655111.

Got Some News?

Please send all news and press releases *by email only*, preferably in plain text format, to the Editor at press@itecuk.com. Thanks!

Agent COM Server. Until now, these IDEs were limited to using the MS Agent ActiveX control.

MS Agent is Microsoft's implementation of the type of Avatar known as an Agent. An Agent is a character, or 'bot', a graphical personification of a computer or process running on a computer. If you have a Microsoft Office product then you will be familiar with the animated paperclip Agent, say the developers [*Aaarrghhhh! Editor runs screaming from the office...*].

'We also added a number of frequently requested enhancements to MS Agent behaviour and included a highly extensible scripting component,' said company president Alec Bergamini. 'We took the core MS Agent server COM object and wrapped this in native VCL. Then we enhanced it with a bunch of much requested features like persistent voice commands and custom context menus, and finally topped it off with some cool component and property editors. We didn't stop there though. We also created a scripting component to make the creation of MS Agent presentations really easy. You can even add your own custom commands to the scripting language'.

Visit www.o2a.com/agent.htm for more information on the oaAgent component, or call O&A Productions on +1 858 618 1904.

TCompress And TCompLHA 5.1

South Pacific Information Services Ltd (SPIS) have announced the release of new versions of their TCompress and TCompLHA compression component suites, which now support C++ Builder 5.

With the release of v5.1, both product lines now include native support for all released versions of

In This Month's Issue Of Developers Review

Brian Long reviews the latest version of Borland's visual C++ development environment: **Borland C++ Builder 5.0**. With the forthcoming Borland Kylix for Linux (which will compile both C++ and Delphi code), could this herald the return of Borland to mainstream C++ development?

David Sutherland checks out a bunch of **general component libraries for Delphi**, including **Express Grids** from Developer Express, **ABC 5**, **Infopower 2000** and **FirstClass 2000**, **TurboPower Orpheus 3**, **Raise Components 2.5** and Greg Lief's **Glad 2**.

Julian Templeman has been immersing himself in Java and has a round-up of some key contenders in the **Java development tools** market. He presents his findings on Borland **JBuilder 3**, **Sybase Power J**, **KAWA** from Tek-Tools, **Sun's Java Workshop** and IBM's **VisualAge for Java**.

Dave Jewell continues his **Platforms Column** with news, views and reviews on non-Windows development.

David McAmis reviews data-aware ActiveX controls from **Apex Software: True DBGrid Pro 6.0**, **True DBInput Pro 6.0** and **True DBList Pro 6.0**.

Dave Jewell evaluates **QTime**, a new performance testing tool for Delphi developers from Developer Express.

Julian Templeman has been checking out what **Visio Enterprise** can do for software developers: the answer seems to be a surprising amount.

Plus, we keep you up to date with all the **news** from the software development world, Will Watts is there with his **Snobol** column of comment and gossip, more **book reviews** and the **GaGaSoft Inc** cartoon strip too!

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