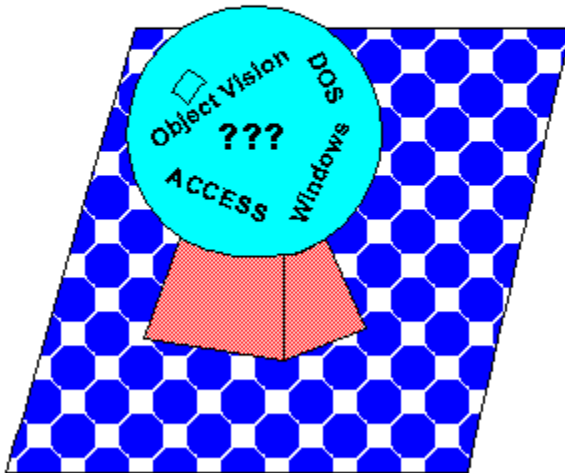




ISSUE #2  
FEBRUARY 1993

## What's in the future?



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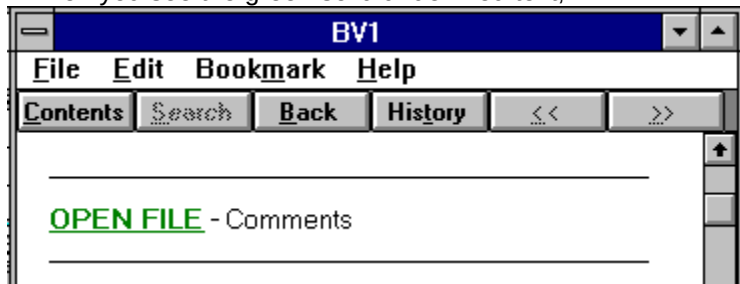
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## OPEN SUB()

Well, I made it. The first issue got out on-time. Only by hours, but it DID get out on time. The response has been very encouraging. People from all over have been downloading the magazine from the various boards that have elected to carry it. I even have had calls from as far away as Sweden on my own board to pick up the magazine. No one has sent in any subscriptions yet, but I haven't given up hope yet. In addition, the comments about the magazine are with out exception, very favorable. The only complaint that I have received (as of January 20) is that the archive is too big. You can read many of the comments in the E-MAIL section. All in all it looks like the magazine will be well accepted.

I did, however, make a couple of goofs. Most of the big ones can be found in the corrections section. There is one big one that I would like to address here. What I forgot in my frenzy to get the magazine out, was to explain to all that the Windows 3.1 Help "edition" is more than just a way to present the text. The Help utility that comes with Win 3.1 is fully a hyper-text viewer. Some readers already know that, but many don't. So let me spend this time giving you an overview of using this special electronic edition. Many of these things were not in the first issue, but have been added into this one.

When you see the green solid underlined text,



it designates that by clicking here, you will be presented with that topic or section.

When you see green broken underlined text, like this, it lets you know that there is a PopUp box waiting for you to click on it. Go ahead. Try it.

The browse buttons at the top right of the help toolbar

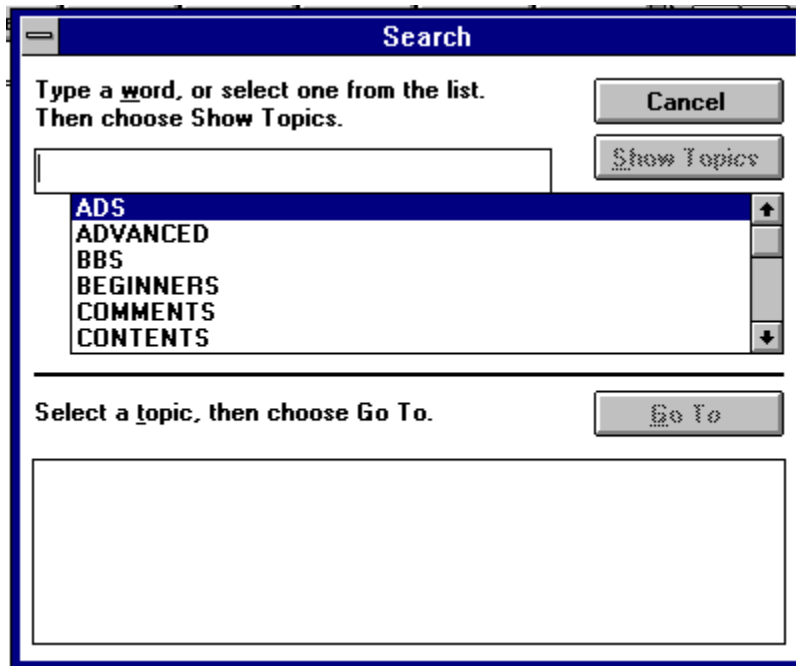


will move you from one article/topic to the next either forward or backward.

The search button...



allows you to use a keyword search to find the general article you are looking for. When this button is pushed, you will be presented with a screen similar to this:



As you can see, instructions are included.

If you find something that you want to include in your program, you don't have to print it out and re-type it. Click on the "Edit" menu item, and select the Copy option. This puts the article/topic into a box that you can mark the section you want and then paste to the clipboard. From there, paste it into your application and you are home free. *For those using VB-DOS, you can paste to notepad and then save it as a text file that can be imported later.*

I have also included a couple of special "hot-spot" graphics that you will see from time to time. These are included where a tip or some special information is called for, but there isn't any specific short text to use as a link. Here is one you will see this issue. Go ahead and try it.



Finally, if you want to print out a specific article/topic, you can do so by selecting [F]ile/[P]rint Topic from the menu.

Now, you should have a pretty good idea of how to use this version of the magazine. We are looking for a good hyper-text reader for the DOS world, since there are a number of you out there who can't or won't run Windows. So for all you DOSer's, hang in there. We REALLY haven't forgotten you.

---

## END SUB()

Well, we come to the end of another issue. I must admit that the last two months have been a REAL challenge. Trying to get a full issue out in 2 weeks was hard, and I let too many things slip on the BBS. Hopefully, now that I have a full month to get things done, I can spend more time with the board and my family. I can also spend some time learning the help system better so we can look even better for you.

We are still looking for other authors to help out. We need a Visual Basic for DOS Advanced author, an Object Vision Advanced author and both levels for Microsoft Access. If you feel you can contribute in these areas, please let us know.

We also would love to get articles from you. Code snippets, some of your tricks, what ever. You don't need to be a professional author. Please help us out.

### ***Coming up next month...***

***Microsoft ACCESS Review***

***Visual Basic for DOS Review***

***New Object Vision Beginner's Column***

***More from Mark, Tony and Greg***

***and much much more!***

Thanks for reading and see you in March...

Greg

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## SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

***Basically Visual Magazine*** is published monthly and distributed via BBS Systems. ***Basically Visual Magazine*** is a shareware concept magazine. If you find the magazine to be useful, the price is \$20.00 US. Funds per year.

To subscribe, please send check or money order to:

**BASICALLY VISUAL MAGAZINE  
PO. BOX 1214  
YORK, PA USA 17405-1214**

The success of the magazine depends on you contributing.

---

## E-MAIL TO THE MAGAZINE

---

We got a great deal of mail this last two weeks about the magazine. Here is just some of the responses...

=====

Greg,

[The magazine] Looks good! Just got back this afternoon and took a look at it. I applaud your use of the Windows help compiler - it makes a very flexible format.

Since you can cut and past from the help file into VB, anything you publish that contains source code can easily be brought into the programming environment without having to resort to some intermediate file format. GREAT!

One problem that I see - SIZE. Most networks that I know of will balk at sending around a half-meg file, especially since the information inside is mostly redundant. How do you feel about distributing only the .HLP file? Since everyone can print help topics (and since the HP and Epson print files are so huge) how about leaving the .PRN files out completely?

I realize that the page headers and table formatting won't look as nice, but the guy sitting out there with a C. Itoh dot matrix or HP Deskjet printer (or any of the other hundreds of Windows supported printers) won't be too happy to find that he just downloaded a massive file of which only 7% is useful.

My suggestion is to break out the .HLP file and only distribute it and adjust the readme.

Jim Harre (sent via Netmail)

{Jim,

*While it is true that most of the people that can use the magazine are already on Windows, there are many people out there that can't or WON't run Windows. Many of the people who use VB-DOS don't have Windows. That is why I decided to include the print image files. I had to make a determination as to the type of printers we would support. The two most supported printers in the world are the HP laser format and the Epson Dot matrix format. Until I can find a DOS viewer good enough for our tastes, I feel that I MUST include the print image files.*

*Any board that distributes the magazine may, at their choice, include all three versions or any of the three. This issue is being distributed as three files so the boards can choose which ones they want to support.*

Greg}

=====

Hi Greg,

Just took a look at BV1 and wanted to let you know how impressed I was with the quality and professionalism evident in this premiere issue. Well done!...

I was wondering how I'd go about putting an add in the next issue for my BBS?

Also had 2 suggestions. First, have the general release only include the .hlp file. The size of BV1 prevents most users here from downloading it, I made a second archive with just the .hlp file (hope you dont mind) and that version is being downloaded regularly. If the user needs to print a section, this can be accomplished under the Win help facility. In all likelihood, users would only want to print a particular section and not the entire magazine.

Second suggestion, have a compressed version of your file list available for freq rather than the raw listing.

Well, that's about all, but keep up the good work! :-)

Mead Himmelstein (from NETMAIL)

{ Mead,

*Thanks. In answer to your second question, the cost of a BBS ad is \$10 per issue or one article per ad. (Maybe this will get some people to send in articles :-)*

*As for your first suggestion, please see my first reply above. As to the second, it is done.*

Greg}

=====

What is BV Mag? How can I get a copy?

Gregory Chang (on the Visual Basic Message Echo - FIDONET)

{Gregory,

*Many boards are picking up the magazine. In fact, thanks to Mark Wisecarver, you can also find the latest issue on CIS. If you are having problems finding the magazine, contact one of the boards shown in this issue.}*

=====

Hi Greg

Do you know of any UK based BBS that carries your mag as I would be very intrested in reading a copy, I am sure many others over here would be too. I do not feel ocnfident enough in BBSing to try to get it 'direct' via netmail.

Best wishes with your new project.

Janet.

Janet Barkaway (on the Visual Basic Message Echo - FIDONET)

{Janet,

*I don't know of any BBS's in the UK that currently carry the magazine. If there are any, let us know and we'll post it here.*

}

=====

More next month!



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## CORRECTIONS

Last issue, I started our rating system by using an eye bitmap. What I forgot to do was tell you what the rating system was...

The minimum rating is 1 eye and the maximum is 5 eyes. There are many things that are taken into consideration when awarding points to a product. In no particular order, they are...

- 1) ease of use
- 2) documentation
- 3) size of the program vs what it does
- 4) ease and options available in installation
- 5) price
- 6) gut feelings.

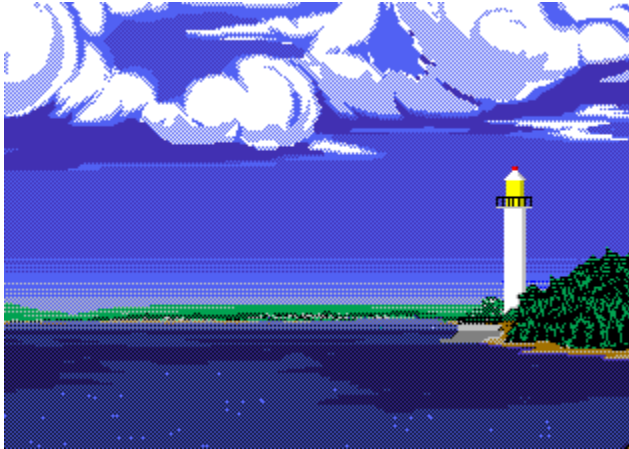
The rating system has been set down by the magazine, but the rating given is that of the reviewer and the magazine WILL NOT override that rating.

We try to assign reviews to people who actually use the product or similar products. This way, you will get a more honest review that you can really use, and what you can expect ... both good and bad.

Last month, I said that we would have a review of Visual Basic for DOS and a disk labeling program in this issue. I under-estimated the amount of time required for these articles and I just flat ran out of time. I just couldn't finish them before we "went to press". They WILL be included in the March issue.

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## LIGHTHOUSE FILE SYSTEM



The Light House is located in Flatrock, MI and is a Programmer's support system. While it is not a BBS in the standard sense of the word, it is a very good place to get any kind of Visual Basic support files. The Light House is a FREE system that accepts NO MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS. If you have FREQ abilities, give us a call.

The Light House is a PKWARE Liscensed distributor.

For more information on how to gain access to this system contact Mark Wisecarver at:

FIDONET 1:2380/410 USR HST 14.4 COURIER

CIS: 72400,505 (All Microsoft forums)

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# VB DOS KICKSTART

## *Visual Basic for DOS - Beginner's Level*

**BY Anthony V. SEO**

### ***Learning to crawl***

---

The intent of this column is to help new users of Visual Basic for DOS (hereafter referred to as VB/DOS) get familiar with the IN's and out's of the package. If you are a long time Basic programmer, just making the move to the forms driven environment of VB/DOS or even a novice, starting out for the first time, this column hopefully will be of some interest to you. I am going to make the assumption that the readers at least have some familiarity with some of the Basic keywords.

In the last installment, we started reviewing some of the differences between the sequential programming methods used with the Basic language over the years and the Forms driven programming style of Visual Basic. We created a form called DATA1.FRM, that we used a simple example to illustrate some of the basic techniques of VB/DOS. This article will expand on that and introduce a couple of new items as well.

First fire up VB/DOS and load the form called DATA1. In the box titled Project on the right hand side of the screen, you should see DATA1.FRM followed by the word data1 in parenthesis. Click your mouse one time on the Data1.FRM line to highlight it, then click the Form button to switch back to the Forms Designer. Using your mouse go to the Tools list and again select the tool called Text Box. This time the box that appears will have the word Text2 in it. First use your mouse to drag the Text2 box to where you want it on the screen. Then using the Properties menu, find the line that says Text and delete the word Text2. Pretty much the same as last time. Now notice that it is hard to tell what box is what. That calls for a new object called a Label. The label is a text box that displays what is entered into the Caption property. So Click on the Label tool, and then using the Property menu, change the caption from Label1 to Month. Then drag it along side of the first Text box. Next add a second label, change the name to Year, then move it along side of the second text box, which we just added.

Now we have the beginnings of a real data entry form. If you have been following the script, there should be two command buttons, two text boxes, and two labels. Now press F12 to save the form and get to the Event Procedures menu. First thing we want to do is to setup the same kind of data validation that we used in the Text box, where we checked for a number between 1 and 12, but change it so that we can test for a range of years to be entered. So at the Event Procedures menu, click on Text2, then select LostFocus. Then enter the following.

```
SUB Text2_LostFocus ()
  IF Text2.Text = "" THEN
    oops% = MSGBOX("Year not entered", 5, "Warning")
    SELECT CASE oops%
      CASE 4
        Text2.SETFOCUS
      CASE 2
        Command1.SETFOCUS
    END SELECT
  END IF
  If VAL(Text2.Text) < 1992 Or Val(Text2.Text) > 2002 Then
    oops% = MsgBox("Invalid Year entered", 5, "Warning")
    SELECT CASE oops%
      CASE 4
        Text2.Text= ""
        Text2.SETFOCUS
      CASE 2
        Command2.SETFOCUS
    END SELECT
  END IF
END SUB
```

```

        END SELECT
    END IF
    Command2.SETFOCUS
END SUB

```

**SHORTCUT:** Press F2 to display a list of all of the subroutines. Go to to Text1\_LostFocus, then using the mouse or the Shift and the arrow keys, highlight everything under the subroutine name, and to just above where it says END SUB. While it is still highlighted, press <CTRL><INSERT>. This will copy the text. Then jump back to the Text2\_LostFocus subroutine and put the cursor under the first line, then press <SHIFT><INSERT>. This will paste the text into this area. Then just make the necessary changes.

Now you also have to make a change to Text1\_LostFocus. At the end of the routine, where it says Command2.SETFOCUS, between the END IF and END SUB, change that to say Text2.SETFOCUS. This means that after we enter a month, that pressing <TAB> will take us to the Text2 box.

So now we have a form that should allow us to enter a month (1 - 12) and a year (1992 - 2002). Now for some fancy stuff. Sometimes it can be hard to follow the cursor around on a form, especially a crowded one. So, we are going to use the GOTFOCUS event procedure and a new command word called BACKCOLOR. All of the properties available to the Tools (or objects), such as color, event size and position, can be manipulated within the program itself. BACKCOLOR simply refers to the item's background color. To get started, press F12, then select the Text1 object, then click on the GotFocus event. A GotFocus event occurs any time an object is selected, or is now the current cursor position. Then type the following:

```

SUB Text1_GotFocus ()
    Text1.BACKCOLOR = 14
    Label1.BACKCOLOR = 14
END SUB

```

Now what will happen is that when you click on the Add button, the background color of the Text1 box and the Month label, become bright Yellow. Do the same for Text2\_GotoFocus. Then at the top of the Text1\_Lostfocus procedure (where we did the month validation), insert the following lines:

```

Text1.BACKCOLOR = 7
Label1.BACKCOLOR = 7

```

Then do the same for Text2\_LostFocus, changing the Text1 and Label1 to Text2 and Label2.

What happens here is that when the Text1 box is selected, it is yellow, when you press tab to move to Text2, Text1 turns back to gray, and Text2 turns yellow. You can use the same principles with the Command buttons as well.

This ability to change the property of an object is a very important tool in VB/DOS programming. For those of you with the Professional Edition of VB/DOS, the SETUP.MAK, which is a nice software installation tool, (Microsoft style, of course). Take a close look at how the properties of the various boxes, color size, shape, etc., are manipulated. One working example of this would be to have the name of the month that we selected in Text1, to appear in another box, which does not become visible until we enter a valid month. For starters, go back to the DATA1 form and add another Text box (should be Text3). Delete the Text3 line from the Text property. NOTE: You can easily do this at the start of the program, by setting Text1.Text="", etc. However for the sake of speed, and program size, I prefer to set as many of the properties as I can in the Form Designer. Then from the Property menu select the Visible property, and change it to False (for Text3).

Press F12, then go back to the Text1\_LostFocus event. What we will do here is build a separate subroutine to assign the name to the month. Then we call that subroutine and make Text3 visible with the correct month. First build the subroutine. Type SUB month\_name (m%, mname\$) and hit enter. A

new subroutine will be created (still part of the Data1.FRM), then enter the following:

```
SUB month_name (m%, mname$)
  SELECT CASE m%
    CASE 1
      mname$ = "January"
    CASE 2
      mname$ = "February"
    CASE 3
      mname$ = "March"
    CASE 4
      mname$ = "April"
    CASE 5
      mname$ = "May"
    CASE 6
      mname$ = "June"
    CASE 7
      mname$ = "July"
    CASE 8
      mname$ = "August"
    CASE 9
      mname$ = "September"
    CASE 10
      mname$ = "October"
    CASE 11
      mname$ = "November"
    CASE 12
      mname$ = "December"
  END SELECT
END SUB
```

Press F2 and go back to the Text1\_LostFocus subroutine. Right before the line that says Text2.SETFOCUS (which should be at the end of your routine). Type in the following:

```
m% = val(Text1.Text)
Call month_name (m%, mname$)

Text3.Text = mname$
Text3.VISIBLE = -1
```

Now run the program. When you type in month number into Text1 and <TAB> or click on Text2, the Text3 box with the month name should appear.

That's all for this issue. Next time we will start working with the concept of a Project, and the basics of working with multiple forms. Remember that if you have any questions or suggestions (except for an early expiration), please send them care of this magazine. Till the next time.

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## THE PROGRAMMER'S PIT BBS

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<b>BV-HLP</b>	Windows 3.1 Help version
<b>BV-HP</b>	HP Laser Print image version
<b>BV-EPS</b>	EPSON Dot Matrix Print image version
<b>CD-ROM</b>	FILE LISTS OF CD-ROMS

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**FIDONET** ADDRESS - 1:270/612

**SPEAKEASY** ADDRESS - 18:18/10

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## VISUAL BASIC DEPOT

*Advanced Visual Basic for Windows programming*

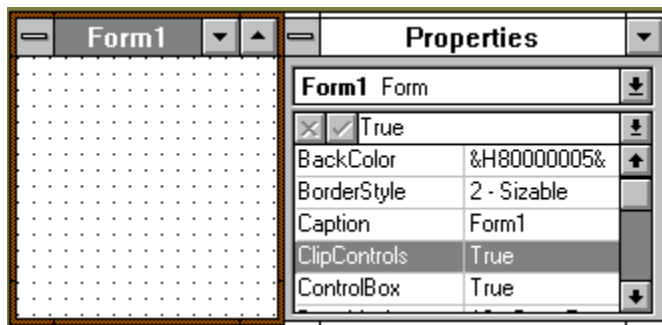
*BY Mark Wisecarver*

*Development made easy (well, easier)*

---

Welcome back gang. In Issue One of Visually Basic Magazine I mentioned that this column would be going into some of the new features in Visual Basic 2.0, (a revolutionary product), in this the second press release of the Visual Basic Depot. So throw another log on the fire and kick up your slippers while I go into some of those new features for you right now.

One of the best enhancements is a hidden change in version 2.0, and that being the smaller and faster applications you create with the new VB. Code is loaded on demand rather than all at once which was the case with the earlier version, allowing your applications to load and run much faster. There is also a new form property, ClipControls, which eliminates the creation of control masks, speeding up the form painting event in your application. I'd go into more on the properties of the Form.ClipControls here but Microsoft has included a very good help base with version 2.0 which explains the ClipControls in much detail. (which allows us to cover more items in this issue)



Arrays are much improved also. You remember the horrors of the limitations for Huge arrays, well now they are gone, limited only by available memory. Arrays can now be declared in Type declarations for data structures also. Plus there is the addition of the Preserve option in the Redim statement which let's you change the size of a dynamic array without losing its contents. You can now therefore read from a file into a string array, re-dimensioning the string array as you go, without having to know ahead of time how large to make the array. Application capacity has been greatly increased. Huge arrays blow the limits off application size, and string space is limited only by available memory. Also, strings can be compared to a pattern using another new function called Like. If the given string matches the pattern string, then this function returns the Boolean value True, otherwise it returns False.

Probably the first thing you will notice about VB 2.0 is the new Properties Window. It is scrollable, sizeable, and you can hide it out of site if you don't need it. All at your leisure. Debugging is enhanced with Watch options to keep tabs on the contents of variables and properties, and the value of expressions. You can set multiple breakpoints, and single step through your program.

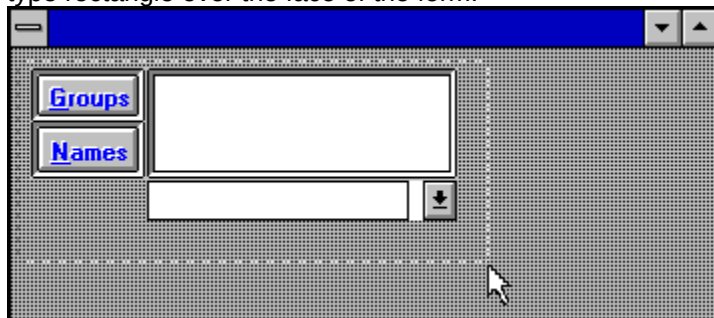
Microsoft also added another new feature, AUTOLOAD.MAK, which can be customized to load only the files that you want to start each new project with. Another new keyword, Private, makes subprograms and functions visible only to routines in the same source code module.

Multiple instances of an application are now allowed. The App.PrevInstance property is used to determine

if a previous instance of an application is already running. Another new keyword, Me, refers to the current form when a form name is passed to a function or subprogram. If you are creating MDI applications, (Multiple Document Interface), there is a new method available to you called ZOrder, which sends controls or forms to the front or back in the overlapping order that you assign to them.

Visual Basic 2.0 also shares a new concept in variables. called variants, with Microsoft's new Windows database Access. In previous versions of BASIC, variables defaulted to single precision floating point values if not explicitly declared otherwise. Now, variables default to the new variant type. A variant adjusts automatically to whatever is stored in it.

It is now easy to select and move a group of controls on a form by clicking and dragging a rubber band type rectangle over the face of the form.



Among all of the new controls that come with both the Standard and Professional versions my favorite among them is the CMDialog control which creates five types of commonly used dialog boxes in a style consistent with other Windows applications. With the Action property you set the type of dialog to be created, and other properties allow you to customize any of the dialog boxes as you desire.

The following table lists the Action settings:

- 0 No action
- 1 File Open Dialog Box
- 2 File Save Dialog Box
- 3 Color Dialog Box
- 4 ChooseFont Dialog Box
- 5 Printer Dialog Box
- 6 Invoke WINHELP.EXE

The Professional edition also comes with a very good Help compiler that uses the Rich Text Format (RTF). All control and form objects have a new property called HelpContextID. The setting of this property matches with a section in your help file, letting the Windows Help engine pop up context sensitive help for whichever control has focus in your application.

All of this started in 1991 when Microsoft introduced Visual Basic. The Visual Basic programming system packaged up the complexity of Windows in a truly amazing way. Combining the proven capabilities of Basic language with the new visual design tools. The initial release of Visual Basic was a runaway success, selling tens of thousands of copies and winning awards from most of the major computer magazines. Now with the release of Visual Basic version 2 we can add these important new strengths and features to the list:

- Improved performance
- New properties, events, methods, and keywords
- New debugging tools
- Greater flexibility for declarations
- Multiple selection of objects in forms
- Color-coded program elements
- Support for 256-color displays and improved graphics support
- Support for advanced Windows features such as OLE (object linking and embedding)



- and MDI (multiple document interface)
- The addition of ODBC (Microsoft open database connectivity programming interface).

There are a lot of new features in both the Standard and Professional editions of Visual Basic version 2.0, and I could keep writing on and on about them but it's time to get into some programming for this month's readers. One thing is obvious, Microsoft listened to its customers and came out with one of the best upgrades we have ever seen.

And now let's get into this month's questions from our readers.

**BG:** Mark, I think there must be a way to drag controls on a form during run-time but for some reason I can't figure it out. Can you help? *signed desperate*

**MW:** Dear "desperate", truthfully I'm glad you asked this question. Many VB programmers may have heard or have felt there was a way to do exactly what you have asked, and it's easier than you think. Load up Visual Basic cause you are going to love this example.

First let's have some fun. Start a new form and place a Command button on it. Now the only change I want you to make is from the Properties Window. Change the DragDrop property of Command1 to Automatic and then start the form. Now use your mouse to drag the Command button. Something very interesting is happening right now. The Command button can be moved during runtime but jumps back to its original location. This is because you have not moved the Command button, you have only dragged its outline around on the form. To actually move it, add a Move method to the form's DragDrop procedure.

**Sub Form\_DragDrop** (Source As Control, X As Single, Y As Single)

**Source.Move** X, Y

**End Sub**

Now the DragDrop event occurs whenever a control is dragged over a form (or other control) and dropped. The *Source* argument contains the name of the control (the Command button) that was dragged over and dropped on the form. The *X* and *Y* arguments contain the location of the mouse pointer when the control was dropped. The *Move* method is used here to actually move the control to the new coordinates. Now run the application and notice again what happens to the control that is being dragged. The control being dragged does not respond like an object that was dragged and dropped. This is because the upper-left corner of the control is moved to the *X, Y* location supplied by the DragDrop procedure. Therefore the *X, Y* location is not the upper-left corner of the outline being dragged around on the form but the location of the mouse pointer on that outline.

Interesting isn't it? I'm sure by now you are aware that we need to change the coordinates that the DragDrop procedure is using if we are going to do this correctly. We are going to have to capture the *X, Y* coordinates of the *MouseDown* event on the control and then subtract that location from the *X, Y* coordinates in the *DragDrop* procedure.

'Place this code in the form's General procedure and define the variables we need for the offsets.

**Dim XOffset As Single** 'This is for later use

**Dim YOffset As Single** 'Again, for later use

**Const StartDrag = 1**

**Const Drop = 2**

'Now place this code in the controls MouseDown procedure

**Sub MyControl\_MouseDown** (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As Single, Y As Single)

'Now we need to store the location of the MouseDown event and initiate the Drag method.

**Sub Form\_DragDrop** (Source As Control, X As Single, Y As Single)

**Source.Drag Drop** 'Remember we defined a constant for this earlier.

**Source.Move** X - XOffset, Y - YOffset 'Here we are calling the variables we defined.

**End Sub**

This procedure ends the manual dragging and actually moves the control for you. The procedure then offsets the move by the location of the initial MouseDown event of the control. Remember to change the DragMode of your control back to **0 - Manual**. (The default setting)

Now run your application again and DragDrop with your control. Allot better isn't it? This example should be of use to many of the programmers reading this magazine, and this type of user control over a well developed application gives it a very professional appearance. Remember, most people buy a car on looks and feel, not driveability. The method I have shown you will work with any control that has a

MouseDown event, which includes list boxes, labels, file list boxes and picture boxes. Now remember, you can insert a custom icon in your controls DragIcon property. The custom icon is always centered on the mouse pointer so you can manually insert the size of the offset.

Well, that's it for my article this month. Next month I promise to do allot less verbiage and allot more coding. Get those entries in for the Visual Basic for Windows contest, the deadline for all entries is March 15th and the winner will be announced in the April issue of this magazine. Until next month, Happy programming.

Mark Wisecarver

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## BASIC BEGINNINGS

### *Visual Basic for Windows - Beginner's Level*

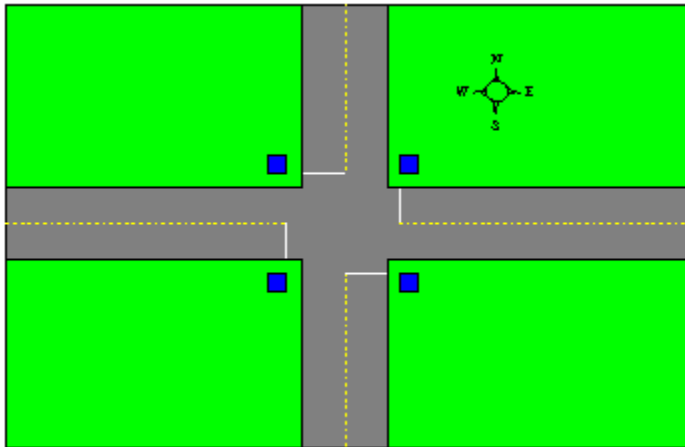
*by Greg Walters*

#### STEPPING BACK

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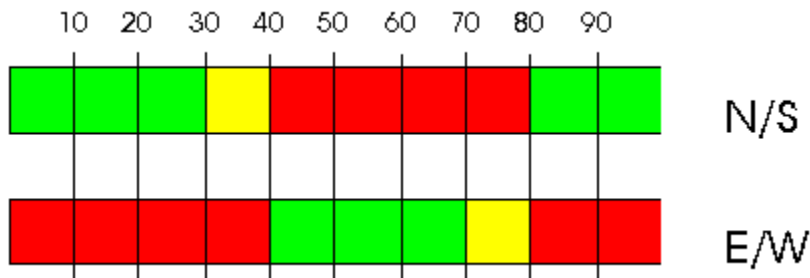
Last month we did a very simple program, but we didn't talk much about the processes behind it. So, let's step back a bit and talk about programming in general. When we finish this month, we will create a traffic light simulation. I know that this sounds silly, but the principles behind the program are sound.

The first thing you should do when writing a program, is to try and understand as much about the task that you want the program to do as possible. If you can do it on paper, you should be able to write the code for the program. With this in mind, let's look at our simulation.



Here is a simple street layout. Traffic flows North/South and East/West. The blue squares are traffic signals. There are no turn signals for this simulation. **[Editors note: For those in England and other countries that drive on the left, look at this in a mirror. :-)]**

Now let's look at the timing of the lights...



As you can see, the E/W side light is red thru both the green and yellow lights for the N/S side. Only when the yellow cycle is over, do the lights change from red to green on the other side. Then the whole thing starts over again. We can use this fact in our program. We will need two timing cycles. One for green and one for yellow. Since the red light time is a sum of the two of these, we don't really need a red cycle. (Remember...this is a VERY simple simulation. There are many traffic systems where the light cycles are different.)

We also need a flag of some sort that marks when the N/S side is active (Green&Yellow) and one that marks when the E/W side is active. Thankfully, this is easy. We can use a BINARY switch. If the switch is TRUE, the N/S side is active. If the switch is FALSE, the E/W side is active.

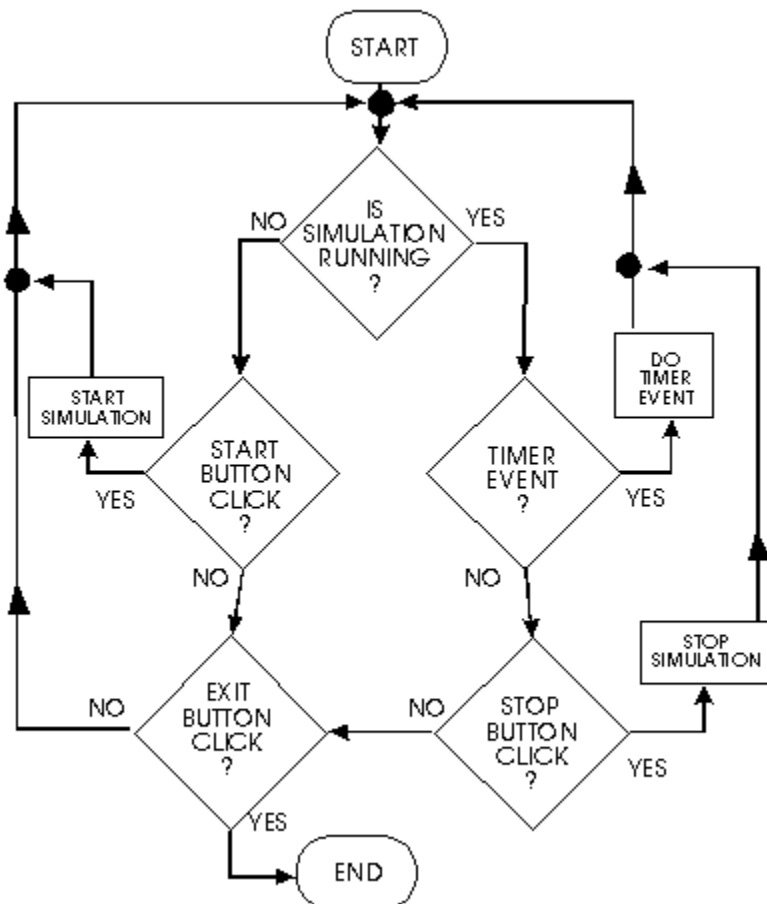
Now this sounds great, but what does it mean for the program? Well, it means that we need a Binary variable for our N/S flag and we need two time intervals, one for green and one for yellow.

Since Visual Basic doesn't support a Boolean (Binary) variable directly, we use an INTEGER type of variable. An Integer is a whole number between -32,768 and 32,767. Integers can NEVER have fractional parts. An integer type variable is useful for timer intervals, counters and Binary variables.

So, now we have three things our program will need...two timer intervals and a Binary value. Now that that is decided, we need to decide what our program will actually do.

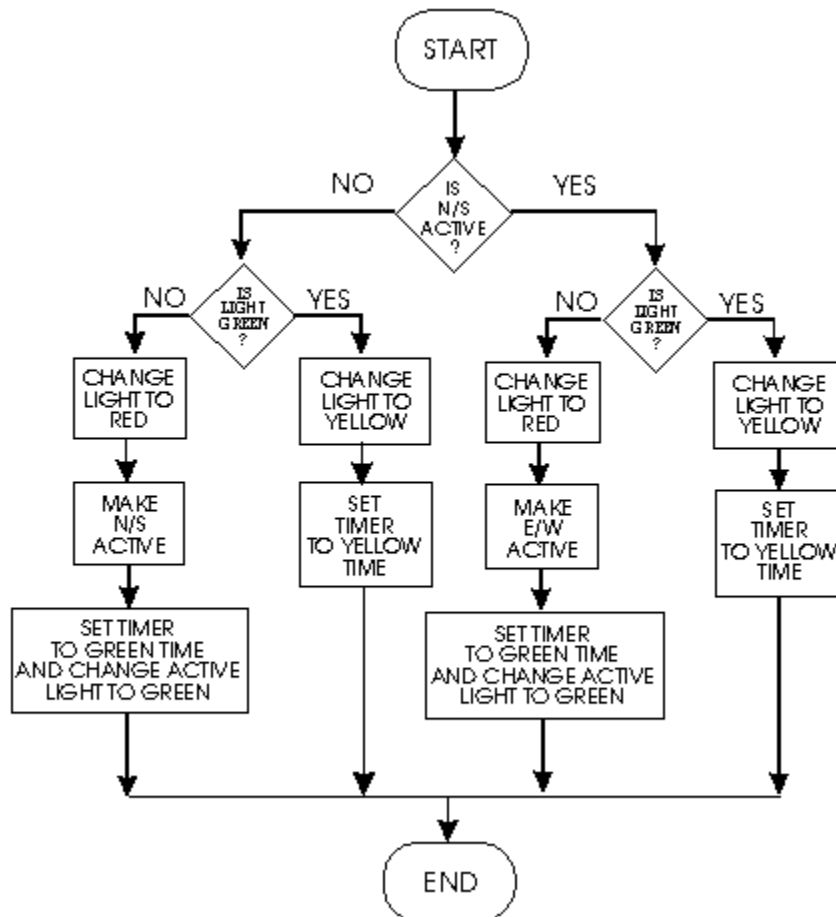
We want our program to show two traffic lights...one for the N/S side and one for the E/W side, showing the proper lights, switching from green to yellow to red and back to green. We should have a way to start and stop the simulation. We also should have a way for the user to find out a little bit about the program, an about box is standard in Windows applications. There also should be an exit button, so the user can quit the simulation.

Here is a VERY simple flow chart of how the main program loop should run...



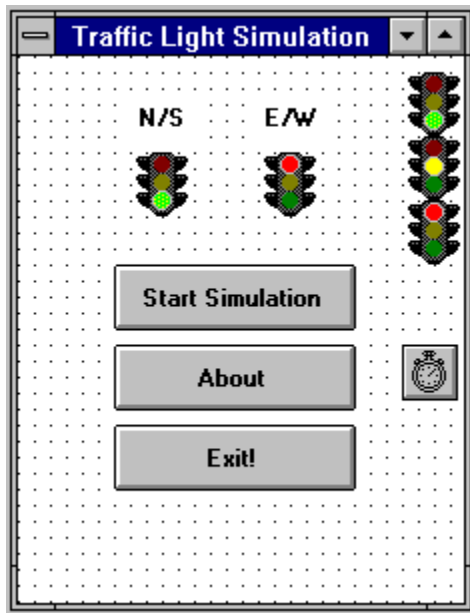
Now for the real work of our program. How should the timer event work? In fact, what is a timer event? We touched on that last month, but let's go into it a bit further.

When we include a timer into our program, we can set the amount of time that goes by until the system flies a red flag that says "THE TIMER HAS GONE OFF!!! DO SOMETHING!!" It's like an alarm. We set the amount of time between these "flags" by setting the interval property in the timer control. This time is expressed in milliseconds. (1000 milliseconds = 1 second) When the timer event occurs, the system looks in the timer subroutine to see what to do. Here is the flow of the timer event...



Notice that the two sides of the flow chart are exactly the same with the exception of the line that makes one side or the other the active side.

Where do we go from here? Well, we have to design our forms and then write the actual code that glues the controls and forms together into a single application. For this program, we will use two forms. One for the main simulation and one for the about box. (No, I didn't forget the about box click on the first flowchart...Just ran out of room for the graphic. It can be put before the "Exit Button Click?" box.) Let's do our main form.



You will need to place two labels (shown as "N/S" and "E/W") and make the CAPTION property N/S and E/W. Next place 5 image controls. Place them as shown. Change the NAME and PICTURE properties as follows:

NAME	PICTURE	WHICH IMAGE
=====	=====	=====
N_S	Trffc10a.ico	Far Left Image
E_W	Trffc10c.ico	Next Image to the right
Green	Trffc10a.ico	Top right Image
Yellow	Trffc10b.ico	Center right Image
Red	Trffc10c.ico	Bottom right Image

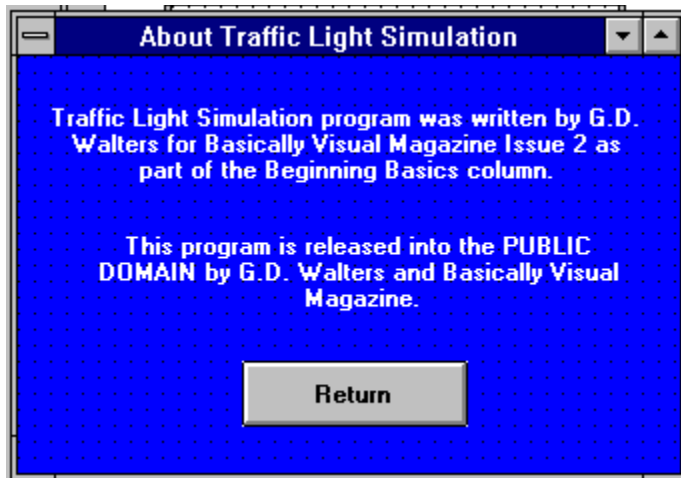
(Now, I know that there is a great scream from those who are super-duper programmers out there, that there is a "better" way to do this...but remember, we are teaching beginners. We'll get into that later)

Next place 3 control buttons on the form and change the CAPTION and NAME properties as follows (top to bottom):

NAME	CAPTION
=====	=====
Toggle	Start Simulation
About	About
EXIT	Exit!

Place a timer control on the form. Change the VISIBLE property of the three image controls on the right to FALSE. Finally, change the CAPTION property of the form to TRAFFIC LIGHT SIMULATION and change the NAME property to TRAFFIC.

Now let's create our About box. This is a simple form with two labels and one control button. Set it up like the picture below and change the NAME property to ABOUTBOX. Make the form background Blue and the label foreground white. The label BackStyle should be made Transparent. Then type the text shown into the Label controls.



Now we are almost ready to write the code to glue all of this together. Notice that, in the first flow chart, there is a reference to a Start Button Click and a Stop Button Click. In our form, however, we don't have enough buttons...right? WRONG! We will use the same button for both. That's why we named the first button "Toggle". Let's look at the logic behind this. We will need another BINARY flag. One called ToggleFlag. When we start the program, we will set this flag to FALSE. When the user clicks on button #1, we will change this to TRUE. When the user clicks on the button again, we will reset it to FALSE. We will do some other things in the same code, but we'll look at that in a bit. Now we start coding. On the PROJECT window, highlight the TRAFFIC form and click on the "View Code" button. This brings up the declarations section of our code window. Here is where we will declare all the variables used in the program. We need to make all the variables available to our main form so we have to declare them as SHARED. We use the DIM keyword to reserve memory space for them. Type the following...

```
DIM SHARED ToggleFlag As Integer
DIM SHARED NS_Go As Integer
DIM SHARED LightState As Integer
CONST GreenTime = 5000
CONST YellowTime = 2000
```

Remember earlier I said that we need a binary flag that will show which direction is active? That is what NS\_Go is. We have already talked about ToggleFlag, but what about this LightState variable? This is used to give us a quick way to tell if the light is green or not. A "1" here says that the light is green. A "2" says it is yellow.

The CONST keyword defines a CONSTANT value to a name. Once declared, you can't change it from inside the program. I've set the length of a green light to 5 seconds and the length of a yellow light to 2 seconds. Not real world, but you would have to wait too long to see anything happen. Feel free to change these numbers as you wish. REMEMBER 1 second is 1000 milliseconds.

Now let's set up the FORM.LOAD procedure. When the program starts, this routine will be run. We will use this to set the defaults for our program. Click on the "Object" pulldown and select Form. Make sure you are in the FORM\_LOAD procedure and type...

```
Timer1.Enabled = FALSE
Toggle.Caption = "Start Simulation"
ToggleFlag = FALSE
```

The first line turns off the timer. The second line makes sure that the caption of our first button is set to "Start Simulation". The last line sets ToggleFlag to FALSE. Now go to Toggle object and in the Toggle\_Click procedure type...

```
IF ToggleFlag = FALSE Then
    ToggleFlag = TRUE
    Toggle.Caption = "Stop Simulation"
    Timer1.Interval = GreenTime
    NS_Go = TRUE
```



```

        LightState = 1
        N_S.Picture = Green.Picture
        E_W.Picture = Red.Picture
        Timer1.Enabled = TRUE
    ELSE
        ToggleFlag = FALSE
        Timer1.Enabled = FALSE
        Toggle.Caption = "Start Simulation"
    END IF

```

From top to bottom...

We check to see if the ToggleFlag variable is set to FALSE. If so, we set it to TRUE. We then change the CAPTION to "Stop Simulation". This gives us the two buttons in one. We set the timer interval to the GreenTime constant we defined earlier, set the NS\_Go flag to true, set the LightState to 1 (green). We then make the image controls show the pictures we want. The N\_S image to Green and the E\_W to Red. We do this by assigning the PICTURE property to that of the PICTURE property of the hidden control we want to show. Of course we could load the picture off of disk, but this takes time and we would have to include the pictures when we distribute the files. This way is much quicker and easier on us. Next we turn on the timer to start the simulation (Timer1.Enabled = TRUE). If the ToggleFlag was set to TRUE, then we ignore all of that and set it to FALSE, turn off the timer and reset the caption to "Start Simulation".

Now let's do the code for the other two buttons. For the About\_Click procedure...

```
AboutBox.Show
```

causes the AboutBox form to be loaded and shown. For the Exit\_Click procedure ...

```

Unload ME
END

```

will unload the main form and end the program.

Now for the real meat of the program. The Timer1.Timer function. Type...

```

IF NS_Go = TRUE THEN
    IF LightState = 1 THEN
        LightState = 2
        N_S.Picture = Yellow.Picture
        Timer1.Interval = YellowTime
    ELSE
        LightState = 2
        N_S.Picture = Red.Picture
        E_W.Picture = GreenPicture
        Timer1.Interval = GreenTime
        NS_Go = FALSE
    END IF
ELSE
    IF LightState = 1 THEN
        LightState = 2
        E_W.Picture = Yellow.Picture
        Timer1.Interval = YellowTime
    ELSE
        LightState = 2
        E_W.Picture = Red.Picture
        N_S.Picture = GreenPicture
        Timer1.Interval = GreenTime
        NS_Go = TRUE
    END IF
END IF

```

Between the flow chart and the previous code, you should be able to follow this code by now. Finally, change to the ABOUTBOX form and under the Command1\_Click procedure, type...

Unload ME

Well, now you are on your own. If you want to do more with this project, you might try two things...

1) Add a Walk/Don't Walk picture to each side and change them at the proper times.

2) Allow the user to change the times for Green and Yellow. (You will have to remove them from CONST status, and assign them as variables.)

Below is quick access to the full source code. You can copy the code to the notepad, save it as a text file and pull it into VB that way. The code is written to be under a subdirectory named "TRAFFIC". You will need to change this for the pictures if you don't use that directory name.

Until next month...Have fun...

Click here for the Main form Code



Click here for the AboutBox form code



Click here for the Makefile code



---

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

### ***G.D. Walters***

Greg Walters has been working with computers and programming since 1972. He has worked as a freelance programmer and a MIS Director. He has written articles for Modules & Definitions Magazine and has worked as a freelance technical editor for Osborne/McGraw-Hill on a number of books. He is currently a programmer for St. Onge Company in York, PA. He is also the editor of Basically Visual Magazine and runs The Programmer's Pit BBS.

### ***Mark Wisecarver***

Mark is a senior programmer for a major corporation and lives in Flat Rock, Michigan. He has been a programmer since 1979. He has background in Basic, GWBasic, Quick Basic, Microsoft C, Assembly Language, JCL, Turbo Pascal and Visual Basic programming. He runs an online service free to all specializing in Visual Basic code.

### ***Anthony V. Seo***

Tony has been working in the personal computer area for 14+ years. He has a background in Basic and Xenix/Unix programming. Tony runs Marketing & Automation Resource Company, a systems consulting company and software publishing company in Camp Hill, PA. He also runs the M.A.R.C. Information System BBS System.

### ***L. John Ribar CCP***

John has been a programmer since 1978, and is the author of several books, including ***C DiskTutor*** and ***FORTRAN Programming for Windows*** from Osborne/McGraw-Hill. He is the president of Picasso Software Group Ltd., a software development firm in York, PA, specializing in the creation of Windows-based applications and tools. John has written articles for Computer Language, the C Users Journal, Modules & Definitions, and Micro Cornucopia magazines.

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TIP: Use your mouse to highlight the ClipControls setting in the properties window and then press F1 to call up Visual Basic's on-line help for this property.

Here is an example of a PopUp. Extra information will be place here in the form of text and sometimes graphics.

TIP: When you see this button, press on it for more information about the subject. 😊

---

## Starting Out with ObjectVision

### SOFTWARE REVIEW

*by L. John Ribar*

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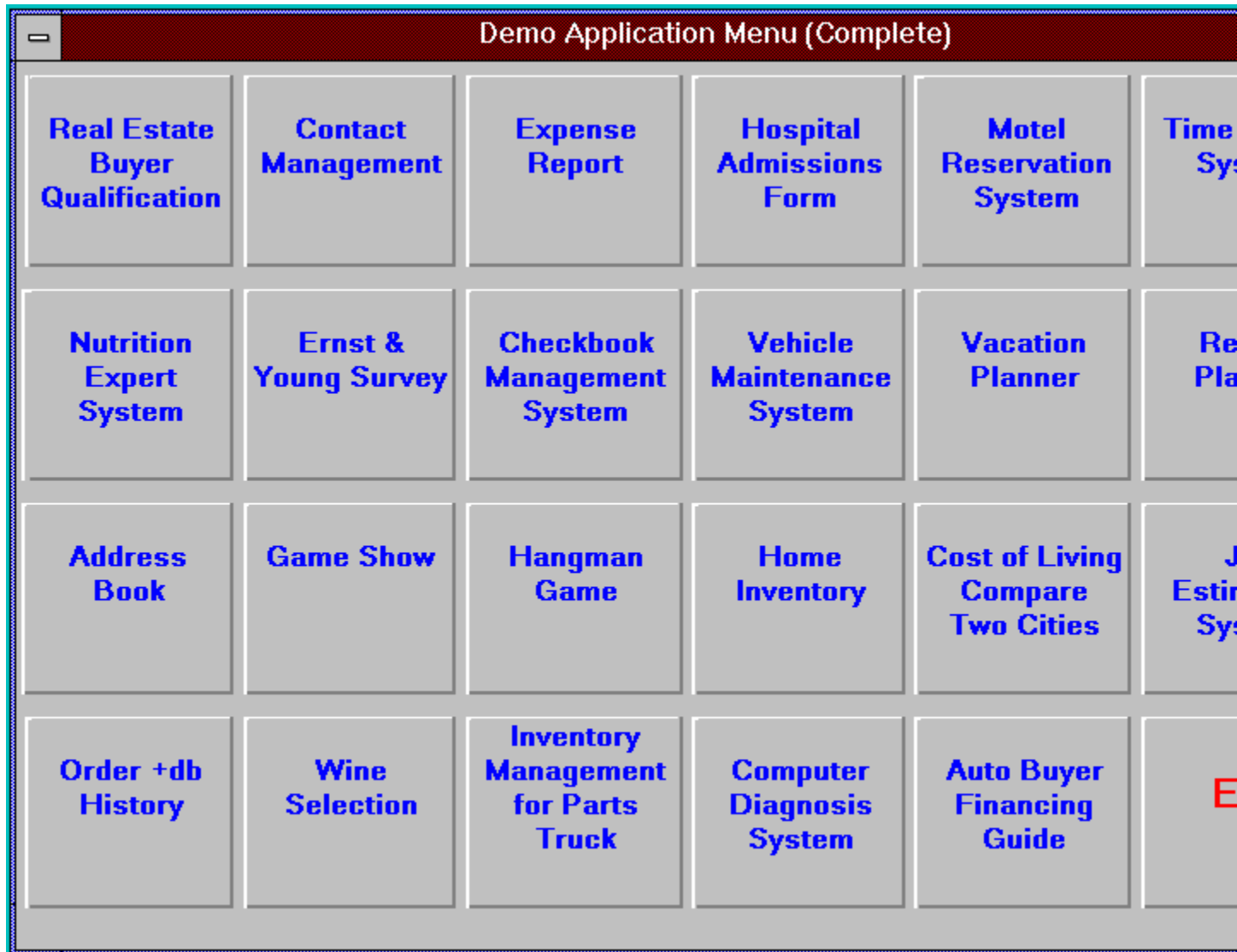
Basically Visual Magazine rating---

It's been a long time since the first version of ObjectVision hit the market. It was billed as the next great frontier in programming, using "objects" and "pointing" to develop programs. Programmers not required!

Well, the first few revisions didn't help OV's reputation as not needing programmers. In fact, most programmers I know didn't even want to play with it. With the newest release of Object Vision Pro (version 2.1), there may be more reasons to take a look. And now, finally, the market has caught up with the vision and promise that ObjectVision offered.

When you are getting started with OV, Borland has assembled a vast array of examples, including a checkbook manager, address book, time tracking and billing, and more. Just look at the menu of demos, shown here:





The "Pro" version of OV includes Crystal Reports, a graphical report writing program, and Turbo C++ for Windows. Using these tools, a complete package can be written with minimal coding. OV is used to draw and "animate" the user screens, menus, etc. Crystal Reports allows you to quickly draw your reports. Turbo C++ allows you to write your own DLLs (dynamic link libraries), for any functions that OV forgot to include. If you want to work with OV, I would suggest the "Pro" version of the package.

The screens that can be created are quite exciting in the Borland demos. Here is an address book application, with pages that look like an address book!

Address Book (Goal)

Name

Philippe Kahn

Title/Position

President/CEO

Company

Borland International, Inc.

Address

1800 Green Hills Road

Address2

P.O. Box 660001

City

Scotts Valley

State

CA

Zip Code

95067-0001

Country

Relationship

☒ Business
☐ Personal

Work Telephone

Ext

Home Telephone

(408) 438-5300

Fax Telephone

Birthday

Anniversary

Notes

Borland makes the hottest Windows development products, including ObjectVision and Turbo Pascal for Windows. Stay in touch to get all info on product updates!

Top

Previous

Next

Bottom

Lookup...

Find...

Birthdays

Store

Clear

Delete

Help

Exit

And the following is an application for managing your recipes. While these types of demos can also be created in other environments, I was impressed that Borland included useful, tasteful, and well designed applications to show off the capabilities available in OV Pro.

Recipe Planner (Complete)

New England Clam Chowder

Recipe Planner

**Meal(s)** ☐ Breakfast ☒ Lunch ☒ Dinner

**Course(s)** ☐ Appetizer ☒ Side Dish ☒ Main Dish ☐ Dessert

Serves **4**    Quantity to Serve **4**    Preparation Time (hours) **0.75**

Line	Amount	New Amt	Measure	Ingredient
1	2.00	2.00	Tbs	Clarified Butter
2	3.00	3.00		Hearts of celery, Chopped
3	3.00	3.00		Leeks, white part only, chopped
4	1.00	1.00		Spanish onion, chopped
5	1.00	1.00		Idaho potato, peeled and diced
6	3.00	3.00	tsp	White flour
7	20.00	20.00		Top neck clams, shelled, chopped, strained, and juice reserved
8	1.00	1.00	cup	Heavy cream
9	1.50	1.50	cup	Water

About...

Delete Line

Service Temperature ☐ Cold ☐ Room Temp ☒ Hot  
Source of Recipe Bill Blass Dining in Manhattan

Back

Next

Clear

Delete

Store

Print

Lookup

Instructions...

### The Review

There are a lot of things I like about OV itself. The designer is a little simpler than Visual Basic. There aren't many add-ons though. There are direct connections BUILT-IN for database management. These include support for Paradox, dBase, ASCII, and other file types.

If the database doesn't exist, you can create it inside OV. Any of the file types are supported. Once the database is designed (in or out of OV), you simply point to the database field that should be used for each of your screen fields. The link is then complete.

But OV is not finished! Once the database links are specified, OV will automatically add Next, Previous, Top, Bottom, Update, Clear, Store, and other buttons to your window, if you so desire (you get to pick which ones you want, if any).

In about 10 minutes, I built a simple document tracking program, shown below. While it just tracks the data, with no searching or reporting yet, we'll add those functions starting next issue!

Document Information (Goal)

Picasso Document Tracker

Document Title:

Author(s):


Received:

Assigned To:

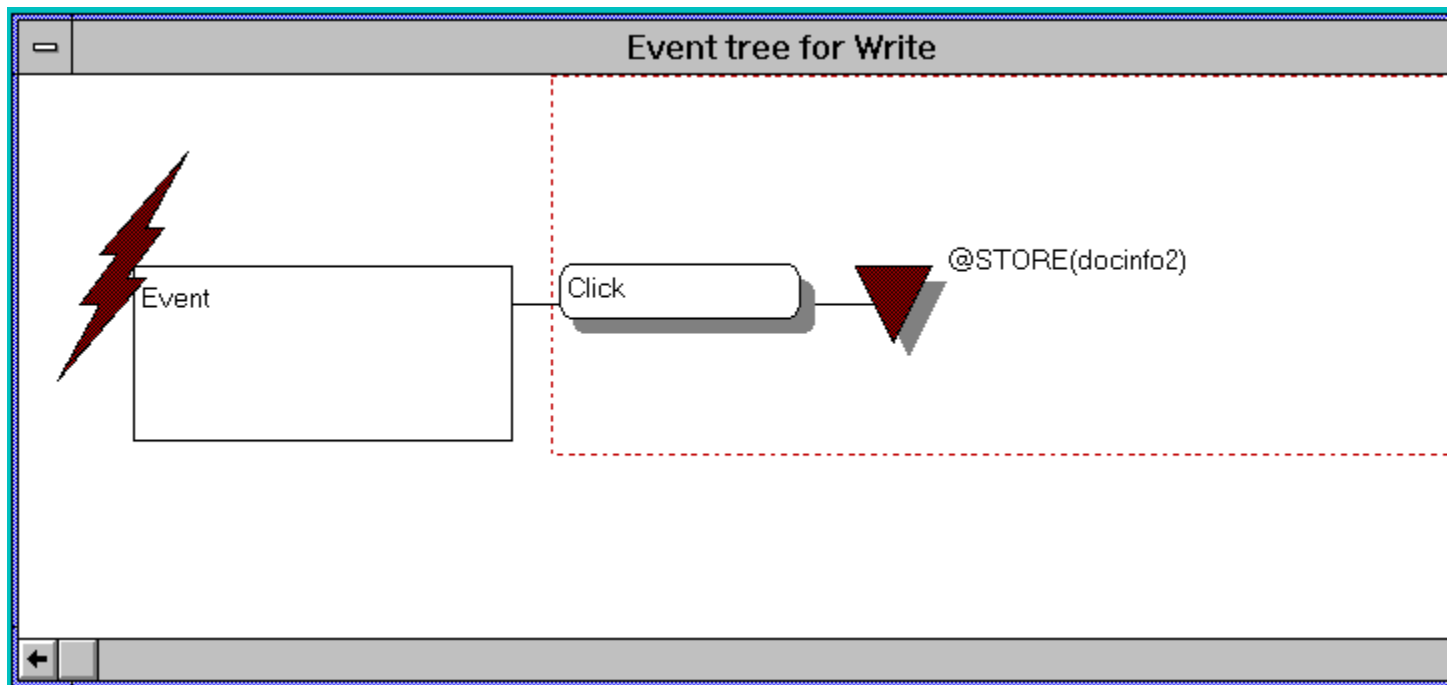
Due Date:

Completed:

Document Type:



The big concept to get used to in OV is Event Trees. In Visual Basic, you can assign functions to button clicks, etc. In OV, you build an Event Tree, that is a graphical representation of what happens when a button is clicked, for instance. This concept is rather straightforward once you have dealt with other similar environments, but might take a few minutes to understand if this is your first try. As an example, here is the event tree for the button marked "WRITE" in the document tracking program shown above:



This "tree" shows that an EVENT occurred, in this case a CLICK, which calls the function STORE() with the name of the database. This is about as difficult as it gets.

ObjectVision is coming into it's own, and with the addition of Crystal Report, to write your reporting functions, and Turbo C++ to add in your own functionality (via DLLs), this should become a serious contender in the Visual Programming Environment wars.

As a side note, there are other many other features available from the OV functions (used in the trees), including DDE links, file manipulation, and graphic objects (the fire-breather in my window above was included with IV, and added with a simple click!).

Probably the only thing I really don't like about OV is the way end-user applications are distributed. Unlike Visual Basic (and others), there is no "EXE" version of an OV file. You must distribute the run-time version of OV. Depending on the type of license you buy, there may be additional costs required for the copies that you sell. Ask your Borland rep, as this may change by the time you read this.

---

### *Coming Up*

---

It's hard to review these types of products, because of the change in thinking patterns that they represent. In the next few issues, I'll walk you through the development of the document tracking program I mentioned previously. In this effort, we'll add outside functionality (through DLLs), talk to other programs with DDE, and print reports with the Crystal Reports program, all of which are included in the OV Pro package. This should give you a better idea about how well OV will fit into your needs as a programmer, non-programmer, or manager.

***[EDITOR'S NOTE: John will be joining the staff of Basically Visual Magazine and will be doing the Object Vision Beginner's column - Object Vision 101. Look for it soon!]***

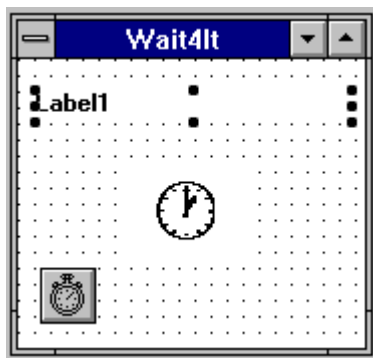
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## TIPS, TRICKS AND GOTCHA'S

I don't know quite what to call this first one, so we'll just jump into it.

Many times when I write programs, I have to access rather large databases. When this happens, the user ends up waiting sometimes 2-3 minutes or more. I like to show that something is happening, rather than just showing a box that says "Searching the database...Please wait." Users get impatient and think that the machine has hung up, when in reality, it's just trying to get all the data in. So I've come up with a short little re-usable form that I use called Wait4It.Frm. While digging through the WingDing font that comes with Window 3.1, I found the clock faces, and got the idea that this would make a good way to show something is happening.

The form is self-contained and calls to it are easy. I've included a simple form to start the Wait4It form and stop it either by the user pressing a control button or waiting for a 10 second timer event. Here is what the Wait4It form looks like...



There are two Label controls...One named Prompt and the other named Clock. The Clock label box has a FontSize of 32 and a FontName of "WingDings". There is also a timer that is set for a 500 ms. interval (1/2 second). The Prompt label box allows you to display what ever you want to the user. Here is the code for the Wait4It form...

Start with declaring a shared variable called showchar that is an Integer type

```
Dim Shared showchar As Integer
```

Next under the Form\_Load routine, set the default value of showchar tochr\$(183), then put that value into the caption of the labelbox named Clock.

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    showchar = 183  
    Clock.Caption = Chr$(showchar)  
End Sub
```

Whenever a timer event occurs, add one to the showchar value and check to see if we have overrun the clock faces. If so, reset it to the first clockface. Then show it by displaying that as the caption for the label box called Clock.

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()  
    showchar = showchar + 1  
    If showchar > 194 Then  
        showchar = 183  
    End If  
    Clock.Caption = Chr$(showchar)
```

End Sub

Now to use it. Here is the code for the demo program...

VERSION 2.00

Begin Form Form1

Caption = "DEMO"  
Height = 4170  
Left = 1740  
LinkTopic = "Form1"  
ScaleHeight = 3765  
ScaleWidth = 2715  
Top = 1620  
Width = 2835

Begin CommandButton Command2

Caption = "Exit Demo"  
Height = 495  
Left = 720  
TabIndex = 2  
Top = 2505  
Width = 1215

End

Begin CommandButton Command1

Caption = "Start Demo"  
Height = 435  
Left = 645  
TabIndex = 0  
Top = 1710  
Width = 1395

End

Begin Timer Timer1

Interval = 10000  
Left = 1110  
Top = 1050

End

Begin Label Label2

Alignment = 2 'Center  
Caption = "From Basically Visual Magazine Issue #2"  
Height = 480  
Left = 225  
TabIndex = 3  
Top = 3135  
Width = 2250

End

Begin Label Label1

Alignment = 2 'Center  
Caption = "This demo shows the use of the Wait4It module."  
Height = 765  
Left = 345  
TabIndex = 1  
Top = 150  
Width = 1950

End

End

First I setup a shared variable called toggle. This is used for the "Start Demo" button.

```
Dim Shared toggle As Integer
```

Here's what happens when the user clicks the button...

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    If toggle = False Then
        toggle = True
        Command1.Caption = "Stop Demo"
        Wait4It.Prompt.Caption = "Searching Data..."
        Wait4It.Show
        Wait4It.Timer1.Enabled = True
        Timer1.Enabled = True
    Else
        toggle = False
        Command1.Caption = "Start Demo"
        Wait4It.Hide
        Wait4It.Timer1.Enabled = False
    End If
End Sub
```

As you can see, the Wait4It form is brought forward and the timer on that form is enabled, starting it. I also start a timer on this form just to end it in 10 seconds. You can do this from any code, not just a button click event. To stop the Wait4It form, the timer.Enabled property is set to FALSE, stopping the timer from doing anything else... and the form is hidden.

```
Sub Command2_Click ()
    Unload Wait4It
    Unload Me
End Sub
```

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    toggle = False
End Sub
```

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()
    toggle = False
    Command1.Caption = "Start Demo"
    Wait4It.Hide
    Wait4It.Timer1.Enabled = False 'Stop the timer
    Timer1.Enabled = False
End Sub
```

The rest of the code is pretty self-explanatory. Hope this helps someone out there.

### ***HOW TO GET A SINGLE LINE TEXT BOX TO RESPOND TO THE ENTER KEY***

It's not unusual to have a number of text boxes for data entry on a form. One of the biggest problems for new Windows users, is getting used to pressing the TAB key rather than the ENTER key to move to the next field.

To get a text box to respond to the ENTER key is a simple matter. In the KeyPress method simply add the following code...

```
Sub Text1_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)
    If KeyAscii = 13 Then
        KeyAscii = 0 'reset the entered key stroke so we don't
```



```
        'get a beep back.  
    Text2.SetFocus ' move to the next field  
End If  
End Sub
```

If you don't want to make a call directly setting the next field to go to, you can fake Windows into thinking the user pressed the tab key by using this routine instead...

```
Sub Text1_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)  
    If KeyAscii = 13 Then  
        KeyAscii = 0  
        SendKeys "{TAB}" 'Send a tab to go to the next control.  
    End If  
End Sub
```

---

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## BBS WATCH

This month, I thought that we'd look at some of the shareware and freeware code that's available on various boards around the country. This is just a small sample. Contact your local Visual Basic Support board for more information.

23PICK.ZIP	14476 11-16-92	Source code for Computer/Player game
256PB2.ZIP	28595 11-16-92	How to load 256 colors in VB picture box
3D4VB.ZIP	16741 11-16-92	3D effect subroutine library (FramesBoxesBorders)
3DDEM.ZIP	19763 11-16-92	Demo of 3D for VB
ABCSLOTS.ZIP	9872 11-16-92	Code for Slot machine game
ACCRD1.ZIP	30520 11-16-92	Code for Accordion Solitaire
ADIALR.ZIP	23787 11-16-92	Code for Phone dialing program
AFFIRM.ZIP	39729 11-16-92	Code for positive thinking program
AHELP.ZIP	5468 11-16-92	Code for Windows help (Add Help)
ALARM-D.ZIP	4441 11-16-92	VB/DOS Alarm clock example
ALTFONT-D.ZIP	11455 11-16-92	VB/DOS Alternate font graphics example
ANIMT-D.ZIP	4398 11-16-92	VB/DOS Graphics animation example
APIHELP.ZIP	64818 11-16-92	Help with Win API
APIREF.ZIP	6962 11-16-92	Xref of Win API calls to their defining DLL
APIX.ZIP	256 11-16-92	Gives instant access to Windows API declares
API_FU.ZIP	57270 11-16-92	Windows API call descriptions in cardfile format
APMMET.ZIP	24633 11-16-92	MetaFile library support (ViewPrint)
APPKT11A.ZIP	45386 11-16-92	Replacement for Program manager (Shell)
APPSHL.ZIP	33827 11-16-92	Application Shell (Includes mini Text editor)
AREACO.ZIP	9328 11-16-92	Area code program in VB
ARRANG.ZIP	6117 11-16-92	Code to arrange icons at bottom of screen
More [Y,n,t,=]? =ARRAY-D.ZIP	4278 11-16-92	VB/DOS Arrays example
ARRAY.ZIP	8641 11-16-92	Code for using API fast I/O routines
ASCII-D.ZIP	4008 11-16-92	VB/DOS ASCII graphics example
ASSOC.ZIP	12643 11-16-92	List associations between File/App
AUTOV10.ZIP	56889 11-16-92	Code for Auto maintenance
BAR-D.ZIP	3921 11-16-92	VB/DOS Pro Bar chart example
BARS3.ZIP	45857 11-16-92	BarCode printing code
BASECVRT.ZIP	13268 11-16-92	Converts numbers between bases
BC_CDK.ZIP	10224 11-16-92	Doc using BC++/IDE w/MS VBASIC Control Dev.kit
BDEMO.ZIP	24219 11-16-92	Code to create buttons containing pics
BINARY-D.ZIP	4439 11-16-92	VB/DOS Binary tree example
BITS_DLL.ZIP	13561 11-16-92	DLL supplies bit operations
BLNKBLNK.ZIP	45725 11-28-92	Screen Blanker/Out to lunch program w/Src (VB WIN)
BMPKIT.ZIP	25215 11-16-92	Routines for .BMP files within Visual Basic
BOOKS_VB.ZIP	4472 11-16-92	Text file listing 22 VisualBasic books
BTDEMO.ZIP	47413 11-16-92	Demo of 3D custom tools
BTRTES.ZIP	50984 11-16-92	Code to access Btrieve files
BTVB.ZIP	6524 11-16-92	Code for BTRIEVE files in Visual Basic
BURGLR.ZIP	15586 11-16-92	Examples of how to animate ICO's
BUTTON.ZIP	13169 11-16-92	Make different buttons
BV0442.ZIP	36837 11-16-92	Huge array support for MicroSoft Visual Basic
BV0447.ZIP	45215 11-16-92	WINAPI.TXT: Win 3.0 API Declarations for VB
CALC-D.ZIP	4137 11-16-92	VB/DOS Windowed calculator example
CALLBT.ZIP	27260 11-19-92	Btrieve example code for VBasic
CARD10.ZIP	38842 11-16-92	DLL for Card game programming in VB
CBLIST.ZIP	32576 11-16-92	Custom Control to create groups in single control
CCFACT.ZIP	76250 11-16-92	Interactive development tools
CFIXVB.ZIP	7043 11-16-92	DLL to fix decimal places in currency values

CHK4EXE.DIZ	3911 12-12-92	How to check for instance of same program being loaded twice
CHOYCE.ZIP	17977 11-16-92	Associate several programs with one extension
CLBOX1.ZIP	3567 11-16-92	Incremental list box
CLOCK-D.ZIP	3888 11-16-92	VB/DOS Vector graphics example
CLOCK.ZIP	23543 11-16-92	Another VB clock
CLP25610.ZIP	17910 11-16-92	BitMap viewer
CLPSIB.ZIP	15380 11-16-92	Set WS_CLIPSIBLINGS style bit for all forms
CLPTL.ZIP	194398 11-16-92	Save/Load/Print/Display from ClipBoard
CM01.ZIP	63579 11-16-92	Phone/Address manager in VB
COLCLIP.ZIP	9380 11-16-92	Select RGB Fore/Background pasting with Clipboard
COMDEM.ZIP	53951 11-16-92	Terminal program with code
COMPS.ZIP	120820 11-16-92	Store and retrieve real estate info
COPYDESK.ZIP	3997 11-16-92	Example of how to copy DeskTop to Visual Basic
CRC32-VB.ZIP	8742 11-16-92	DLL w/DOC's to check file CRC
CRISPY.ZIP	22855 11-16-92	Solitaire variation (Need VBCARDS.DLL from CARDS10.ZIP)
CURLIBM.ZIP	28440 11-16-92	Libraries of cursor animations. (Create you own)
CURSMAN.ZIP	11512 11-16-92	How to control the cursor in VB
CUSCON.ZIP	65500 11-16-92	3 custom controls (GaugeListState)
DB-D.ZIP	6978 11-16-92	VB/DOS DataBase example
DB_HDR.ZIP	13166 11-16-92	HowTo read dBase file structure for QEVb
DD1A.ZIP	6031 11-16-92	Drag/Drop how to for VB
DDEUTI.ZIP	7097 11-16-92	VB tool to test DDE code
DLAYDR.ZIP	11556 11-16-92	Code to time Mouse Drag/Drop event
DLL4VB.ZIP	6158 11-16-92	How to write simple DLL and use it in VB
DLLMGR.ZIP	15385 11-16-92	Load/Unload DLL,VBX,FON,EXE,DRV files
DODOS.ZIP	30344 11-16-92	Utility to provide runtime arguments for DOS
DOSBUT.ZIP	4282 11-16-92	Code for drop to DOS from Windows
DOSHEL-D.ZIP	4529 11-16-92	VB/DOS System shell example
DRAGFO.ZIP	5834 11-16-92	Code to drag a Form or TextBox
DROPDO.ZIP	6669 11-16-92	Code for Combo drop down box
DRWSCR.ZIP	7718 11-16-92	Text on how to direct printed text
DSCAN.ZIP	6822 11-16-92	VB Code to scan dir's for File.Name
DSL100.ZIP	13670 11-16-92	VB Code for Shell to DOS
DXFDLL.ZIP	56322 11-16-92	DLL to create AutoVAD DXF format files
EDITDEMO.ZIP	22887 11-16-92	Code for several methods of In/Output
ENDPRN.ZIP	5264 11-16-92	Code to control PrintManager
ENUMFONT.ZIP	22495 11-16-92	Call Windows API Font functions
ETDEMO.ZIP	3906 11-16-92	Code for EditTool, which creates custom controls
EZHELP.ZIP	14243 11-16-92	Visual Basic adjunct to add outline help without MS Editor
FBR12C.ZIP	50626 11-16-92	Code for Application launcher
FILBX2.ZIP	11152 11-16-92	Code for FileOpen box like VB's environment
FILEBO.ZIP	5337 11-16-92	Example of old style Dir/File list
FILEBOX.ZIP	11810 11-16-92	FileBox example for VB
FILEBOX2.ZIP	5876 11-16-92	MAK Windows style File_Open box
FILER1.ZIP	19060 11-16-92	Code for Find/View/Delete of files
FINDAP.ZIP	12045 11-16-92	Multiple instance presentation with code
FNDWND.ZIP	6448 11-16-92	Code to find a form
FNTS43.ZIP	256863 11-16-92	Font viewing and cataloging
FNTVIEW.ZIP	18300 11-16-92	Code to control/View Fonts
FOC001.ZIP	16554 11-16-92	How to control focus
FOC002.ZIP	15109 11-16-92	Version 2 of Focus code with new features
FONTRO.ZIP	6410 11-16-92	Print text sideways from VB
FOPEN.ZIP	11549 11-16-92	Advanced FileOpen code
FRAME.ZIP	12441 11-16-92	Draw 3D frames around controls
FVIEW3.ZIP	111538 11-16-92	Font viewer
FXLAUN.ZIP	8670 11-16-92	Code for Metz software menu system

GRAF20.ZIP	53394	11-16-92	Display .BMP and .PCX files 2/16/256 color
GRDRTN.ZIP	11474	11-16-92	Code for grid manipulation
GRID.ZIP	25071	11-16-92	Code to test the properties of controls
GRID2.ZIP	24472	11-16-92	Enhancement to MS's GRID.VBX with better control
GRPH11.ZIP	9833	11-16-92	Custom control, displays clr.bmp
HEADERS1.ZIP	119738	11-16-92	WIN v3.1 Header files for calling Win API's
HLPKEY.ZIP	6229	11-16-92	Sets task-specific F1 hook
HOWTO.ZIP	101312	11-16-92	Very good "how to's" for VB
HPENV.ZIP	24568	11-16-92	Code for advanced Envelope printer
HPESC.ZIP	5348	11-16-92	Text on sending printer esc seq to HP
HUGE.ZIP	24039	11-16-92	VB & DLL for creating Arrays <64
HUGE2.ZIP	24302	11-16-92	Mod's to MS's Huge Array DLL
HUGEARRAY.ZIP	19377	11-16-92	DLL with functions for creation and more
HUGEARR.ZIP	23184	11-16-92	HUGEARR.DLL functions for array manipulation <> 64k
HUGSTR.ZIP	43374	11-16-92	Mod to MS's Huge Array DLL to support large strings
HYPER-D.ZIP	4657	11-16-92	VB/DOS Hyper text example
ICBROW.ZIP	4479	11-16-92	Code to control USER.EXE DrawIcon
ICOBMP.ZIP	10591	11-16-92	Convert ICO to BMP in VB
ICONDLL2.ZIP	11766	11-16-92	Program to build Icon DLL of your own
ICONMAK.ZIP	4261	11-16-92	Demonstration of Icon drawing in VB
ICONVIEW.ZIP	7406	11-16-92	Code for Icon viewing and save to ClipBrd
ICONWRKS.ZIP	101297	11-16-92	MAK files to edit and save ICON's
ICOTIMER.ZIP	3514	11-16-92	How to animate the ICON in a minumized form.
ICOXTR.ZIP	4235	11-16-92	Use API to control Icons
IDVB.ZIP	11309	11-16-92	Determine ID's of controls during Dev process
INPOUT.ZIP	7427	11-16-92	InpOut.dll: INP and OUT Replacement
INPUT.ZIP	20480	11-16-92	Custom text box for VB
ISAM-D.ZIP	4584	11-16-92	VB/DOS IndexedSequentialAccessMethod Dbase example
IVB9112.ZIP	7624	11-16-92	VB examples
IVB9201.ZIP	5691	11-16-92	VB examples
IVB9202.ZIP	6912	11-16-92	VB examples
IVB9206.ZIP	13889	11-16-92	Even more good examples
JEOPKE.ZIP	14382	11-16-92	Code for Jeopardy TV show scoring program
JNAL10.ZIP	164097	11-16-92	Information manager
KEYTEST.ZIP	5372	11-16-92	Code for HexaDecimal keypress display
KWI.ZIP	25502	11-16-92	Printer routines
LABTAB.ZIP	8654	11-16-92	Code to use label controls to display data
LANDAU.ZIP	22273	11-16-92	Code for Drag/Drop Cut/Copy/Paste
LBSRCH.ZIP	8964	11-16-92	Code to search list box for match
LB_FUN.ZIP	8011	11-16-92	Code to demonstrate Send/Message API commands
LFORM-D.ZIP	4547	11-16-92	VB/DOS Load form example
LINE-D.ZIP	3924	11-16-92	VB/DOS Line chart example
LISTDR.ZIP	8596	11-16-92	Code to drag text line from location/location
LOOKHERE.ZIP	11453	11-16-92	Font control/Print code
LTBDEM.ZIP	11378	11-16-92	Create linked TextBox/ListBox code
LZSSLI.ZIP	21472	11-16-92	Code for compression of files
METASTUF.ZIP	28672	11-16-92	MetaFile tidbits
METER.ZIP	24251	11-16-92	Shows disk space left
METER1.ZIP	5551	11-16-92	Gauge scroll code
METRIX.ZIP	62353	11-16-92	Custom control analog meter with code
MHCOMM.ZIP	105030	11-16-92	Code for Comm transfers up to 19,200bps with protocols
MHELP.ZIP	7669	11-16-92	DLL with PEEK/POKE/INP/OUT and more
MODAL.ZIP	3881	11-16-92	Example of Windows Modal
MOREAPI.ZIP	13092	11-16-92	Code for additional API functions
MOUREL-D.ZIP	4295	11-16-92	VB/DOS Graphics mouse and keyboard handling example
MOVEFORM.DIZ	908	12-12-92	How to locate a form to the Lower RH screen corner

MOVTXT.ZIP	8709	11-16-92	How to move Pic control / Drag Text control
MSGBOX.ZIP	24957	11-16-92	VB MsgBox Places corresponding code on Clipboard
MSGFIX.ZIP	2983	11-20-92	Advanced MsgBox example
MSJ0992.ZIP	68555	11-16-92	MicroSoft Visual Basic journal September 1992
MSJV6-1.ZIP	236122	11-16-92	MSJ source code vol 6 no 1
MSJV6-4.ZIP	303782	11-16-92	MSJ source code vol 6 no 4
MULPIK.ZIP	8582	11-16-92	Multiple selection Listbox for VB
MULTIPIC.ZIP	10736	11-16-92	Code/.BMPs/ICOs for 3-D buttons
MULTIPIK.ZIP	11993	11-16-92	Multiple selection List box for Visual Basic
MULTSEL2.ZIP	10114	11-16-92	VBX/Code add on for ListBox control (Multi)
MYMEM1.ZIP	40861	11-16-92	Code for memory game
NETPRN.ZIP	12604	11-16-92	Code for linking LAN printers
NOCRUN.ZIP	15196	11-16-92	Code for numbers game with timers
NST14S.ZIP	60648	11-16-92	Code to change startup RLE file
NUMBER.ZIP	5441	11-16-92	Additional math routines for VB
NUMFUN.ZIP	4204	11-16-92	Fun with numbers (Text code)
NUMGAME.ZIP	17416	11-16-92	Code for childrens number game
ORDER.ZIP	7688	11-16-92	Code for professional looking Order form
PAD-D.ZIP	5130	11-16-92	VB/DOS NotePad example
PAINT-D.ZIP	5053	11-16-92	VB/DOS Graphics paint example
PANEL-D.ZIP	4290	11-16-92	VB/DOS Popup control panel example
PDOXDE.ZIP	17783	11-16-92	Two routines for working with PDOX Engine
PDOXENG.ZIP	17919	11-16-92	Example of howto use the Paradox DBF engine w/VB
PHONE-D.ZIP	4356	01-08-93	VB/DOS Phone book example
PIE-D.ZIP	3924	01-08-93	VB/DOS Pie chart example
POLYGO.ZIP	7795	11-16-92	Code for Polygon drawing in sizes/colors
PRCLP2.ZIP	6122	11-16-92	Print contents of ClipBoard
PRNTCB.ZIP	13089	11-16-92	Print clipboard (MicroSoft source)
PROADD.ZIP	91904	11-16-92	Efficient way to use MS's Pro Toolkit
SCROLL2.ZIP	19580	11-16-92	Scrolling Demonstration
VBCTRL10.ZIP	137524	11-16-92	Set of custom controls (Includes VBX's and Code)
VBDB.ZIP	81540	11-16-92	Data Base engine that supports dBase files in VB
VBDB110.ZIP	82401	11-16-92	VB dB engine w/src
VBDEVERS.ZIP	11419	11-16-92	List of developers and publishers
VBDIA.ZIP	9564	11-16-92	Arrow control(DLL and Code included)
VBDOS.ZIP	12474	11-16-92	DLL to call DOS functions with source code
AGIGO2.ZIP	6276	01-17-93	VBWIN-How to search records in VB 1.0 / 2.0
MATCH.ZIP	6162	01-17-93	VBWIN - How to do extensive pattern matching in VB
MHCTL.ZIP	3432	01-17-93	VBWIN-How to get a menu's ControlHandle
NOMO3.ZIP	6953	01-17-93	VBDOS-Resident int 104 BIOS extension for VBDOS v1.0
OVLRUN.ZIP	5388	01-17-93	VBDOS-Bug Fix, Use of "RUN ProgramName\$" w/Overlays
VB-OOP.ZIP	10206	01-17-93	VBWIN-OOP for VB (Object VB)

VERSION 2.00

Begin Form Traffic

Caption = "Traffic Light Simulation"  
Height = 4500  
Icon = TRAFFIC.FRX:0000  
Left = 2175  
LinkTopic = "Form1"  
ScaleHeight = 4095  
ScaleWidth = 3345  
Top = 1395  
Width = 3465

Begin Timer Timer1

Left = 2880  
Top = 2160

End

Begin CommandButton Exit

Caption = "Exit!"  
Height = 495  
Left = 720  
TabIndex = 4  
Top = 2760  
Width = 1815

End

Begin CommandButton About

Caption = "About"  
Height = 495  
Left = 720  
TabIndex = 3  
Top = 2160  
Width = 1815

End

Begin CommandButton Toggle

Caption = "Start Simulation"  
Height = 495  
Left = 720  
TabIndex = 2  
Top = 1560  
Width = 1815

End

Begin Image Red

Height = 480  
Left = 2880  
Picture = TRAFFIC.FRX:0302  
Top = 1080  
Visible = 0 'False  
Width = 480

End

Begin Image Yellow

Height = 480  
Left = 2880  
Picture = TRAFFIC.FRX:0604  
Top = 600  
Visible = 0 'False

```

        Width          = 480
    End
    Begin Image Green
        Height          = 480
        Left             = 2880
        Picture          = TRAFFIC.FRX:0906
        Top              = 120
        Visible          = 0 'False
        Width            = 480
    End
    Begin Label Label2
        Alignment        = 2 'Center
        Caption          = "E/W"
        Height           = 255
        Left             = 1800
        TabIndex         = 1
        Top              = 360
        Width            = 495
    End
    Begin Label Label1
        Alignment        = 2 'Center
        Caption          = "N/S"
        Height           = 255
        Left             = 840
        TabIndex         = 0
        Top              = 360
        Width            = 495
    End
    Begin Image E_W
        Height           = 480
        Left             = 1800
        Picture          = TRAFFIC.FRX:0C08
        Top              = 720
        Width            = 480
    End
    Begin Image N_S
        Height           = 480
        Left             = 840
        Picture          = TRAFFIC.FRX:0F0A
        Top              = 720
        Width            = 480
    End
End

'Here is where we set our variables.
'The Dim Shared statement allows these variables to be called
'from anywhere in this form module

Dim Shared ToggleFlag As Integer    'Boolean True/False (Is the simulation running?)
Dim Shared NS_Go As Integer        'Boolean True/False (Is the North/South light the active
one?)
Dim Shared LightState As Integer    'Green = 1 Yellow = 2

'Here we set two constant values. These numbers can not be changed
'by the program. Constants are nice because you can simply refer
'to them by name. This makes much more sense when you are trying

```



```

'to read the code (if you give them meaningful names).

Const GreenTime = 5000           'Time a green light is on
Const YellowTime = 2000         'Time a yellow light is on

Sub About_Click ()
'This event is called whenever the user clicks on the second
'button.

    AboutBox.Show           'Show the about box
End Sub

Sub Exit_Click ()
'This event is called whenever the user clicks on the third
'button --- End the program!

    Unload Me               'Unload the form and release the memory
                           'The "Me" in the above statement refers to
                           'the current form. This is new in VB 2.0
    End                     'End the program
End Sub

Sub Form_Load ()
'Here we set our program defaults. This routine is run whenever
'we load the form. Since this is the first form in our program,
'everything is setup here.

    Timer1.Enabled = False    'Turn off the timer
    Toggle.Caption = "Start Simulation" 'Set the caption for button1
    ToggleFlag = False        'Set ToggleFlag to the default FALSE
End Sub

Sub Timer1_Timer ()
'This is the timer event. This event is called when the
'number of milliseconds set in the TimerX.Interval property
'has been reached.

    If NS_Go = True Then      'If the North/South light is
                              'the active light
        If LightState = 1 Then 'Green Light
            LightState = 2     'Set up for Yellow
            N_S.Picture = Yellow.Picture 'change the light to yellow
            Timer1.Interval = YellowTime 'set the timer to YellowTime
        Else                  'LightState MUST = 2 (Yellow)
            LightState = 1     'Reset LightState to 1 (Green)
            N_S.Picture = Red.Picture 'Turn the N_S light to Red
            E_W.Picture = Green.Picture 'and the E_W light to green
            Timer1.Interval = GreenTime 'Reset the timer to GreenTime
            NS_Go = False      'Set East/West as the active light
        End If
    Else
        If LightState = 1 Then 'Green Light
            LightState = 2     'Set up for yellow
            E_W.Picture = Yellow.Picture 'Change the light to Yellow
            Timer1.Interval = YellowTime 'Set the timer to YellowTime

```

```

Else
    LightState = 1
    E_W.Picture = Red.Picture
    N_S.Picture = Green.Picture
    Timer1.Interval = GreenTime
    NS_Go = True
End If
End If
End Sub

Sub Toggle_Click ()
'This event is called whenever the user clicks on the
'"Start Simulation/Stop Simulation" button.
    If ToggleFlag = False Then
        ToggleFlag = True
        Toggle.Caption = "Stop Simulation"
        Timer1.Interval = GreenTime
        NS_Go = True
        LightState = 1
        N_S.Picture = Green.Picture
        E_W.Picture = Red.Picture
        Timer1.Enabled = True
    Else
        ToggleFlag = FLASE
        Timer1.Enabled = False
        Toggle.Caption = "Start Simulation"
    End If
End Sub

```

VERSION 2.00

Begin Form Aboutbox

```
BackColor      = &H00FF0000&
Caption        = "About Traffic Light Simulation"
Height         = 3525
Left           = 1020
LinkTopic      = "Form2"
ScaleHeight    = 3120
ScaleWidth     = 4965
Top            = 1770
Width          = 5085
```

Begin CommandButton Command1

```
Caption        = "Return"
Height         = 495
Left           = 1680
TabIndex       = 2
Top            = 2280
Width          = 1695
```

End

Begin Label Label2

```
Alignment      = 2 'Center
BackColor      = &H00FF8080&
BackStyle      = 0 'Transparent
Caption        = "This program is released into the PUBLIC DOMAIN by G.D. Walters and
```

Basically Visual Magazine."

```
ForeColor      = &H00FFFFFF&
Height         = 735
Left           = 600
TabIndex       = 1
Top            = 1320
Width          = 3975
```

End

Begin Label Label1

```
Alignment      = 2 'Center
BackColor      = &H00FFC0C0&
BackStyle      = 0 'Transparent
Caption        = "Traffic Light Simulation program was written by G.D. Walters for
```

Basically Visual Magazine Issue 2 as part of the Beginning Basics column."

```
ForeColor      = &H00FFFFFF&
Height         = 855
Left           = 240
TabIndex       = 0
Top            = 360
Width          = 4455
```

End

End

'This is the ABOUTBOX variable declaration area...

'We have none to declare!

Sub Command1\_Click ()

'Unload the form and release the memory

Unload Me    '"Me" refers to the current form.   New in VB 2.0

End Sub

```
TRAFFIC.FRM
ABOUTBOX.FRM
ProjWinSize=152,402,248,215
ProjWinShow=2
Title="TRAFFIC"
ExeName="TRAFFIC.EXE"
Path="C:\VB"
```

BINARY is a 1 or 0. Another way to look at it is TRUE (1) and FALSE (0). Visual Basic defines TRUE as -1 and FALSE as 0. However, if you simply think in TRUE and FALSE, you will be OK.

## Enter our first Ca\$h contest

Show off your code and take a chance at winning our first Cash contest. The contest is open to any Visual Basic for Windows programmer. You must create your application using Visual Basic for Windows v1.0 or v2.0, and all code submitted must be your own original work.



Here are the rules, and legalities:

- > The application must be your own work.
  - > It must be created in Visual Basic for Windows version 1.0 or 2.0.
  - > You may use only one Form, and or one Module for the application.
  - > The compiled EXE must be 20k or less in size. You do not have to include the EXE with your entry.
- \* Original source code remains the property of its creator.

We are not sure how big the Cash pot will be as of this printing because it is still growing. Every effort is being made to make this pot attractive and we assure you there will be a handsome cash award for the winner. The Winner will be selected by a panel of Visual Basic for Windows developers from several parts of the U.S.. Entry deadline is March 15th 1993 and the Winner will be announced in the April 1993 issue of Basically Visual Magazine.

note: The contest is void where prohibited by law. Taxes on the prize money is the sole responsibility of the prize winner.

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1:2380/410 USR HST 14.4  
Flatrock, MI

or

The Programmer's Pit BBS  
1:270/612 V32Bis  
York, PA

or MAIL YOUR ENTRY TO:

The Light House  
23260 Woodruff Suite #4

Flatrock, MI 48134

OR

The Programmer's Pit BBS

P.O. Box 1214

York, PA 17405-1214



