

Copycode 3.0

VB source code copy utility for VB 3.0

One problem of VB is that you can only open one project at a time. If (like me) you have a lot of projects with great functions that you would like to use in a new project, there is always the possibility of adding the source file that contains the source you need. Provided that you don't already have a duplicate procedure name in the project.

Well, ok, you could try Notepad, or MS-Write, but that would leave you with a lot of unstructured and unneeded code (your forms descriptions).

Copycode comes to your rescue. It allows you to open a second project next to your VB environment.

Installing Copycode

In order to use Copycode you do need to have:

- VBRUN300.DLL (not included, as it belongs to VB 3.0)
- CMDIALOG.VBX (not included)
- COMMDLG.DLL (not included)
- MDICHILD.VBX

in your \windows\system directory or in the directory that contains Copycode.exe.

Copycode creates a .INI file in your \windows directory (it contains the 4 most recent files you edited in Copycode).

MDICHILD.VBX is included in the archive with Copycode and this Readme30.wri file.

MDICHILD was included because several Copycode users reported that they did not have this VBX installed.

When installing MDICHILD.VBX: make sure that you only install this VBX if you do not already have it installed, or if this version is a more recent one!

Running Copycode

Opening files

After choosing the File-Open command (either from the menu or by clicking the FileOpen icon) the Windows common open file dialog appears. Standard file-extensions are *.MAK, *.BAS and *.FRM. By choosing a *.MAK file you open all relevant *.BAS and *.FRM files. You can also open *.FRX files. In this case Copycode reads the information from the FRX file.

You can also open a file from the recent-files menu within the File-menu. Copycode remembers the last 4 projects/files you opened. These files are read from the Copycode.ini file (in your Windows subdirectory).

Resizing Windows

Use the maximize and minimize buttons in every window to make more or less room available for editing. After resizing the main window the child windows are not automatically resized. The reason being that after resizing the main window all child windows are cascaded, which is not pleasing to the eye or usefull.

Editing Visual Basic source code files

Cut, Copy and Past

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Just like all Windows programs Cut, Copy and Paste can be chosen from the Edit menu or by clicking of of the icons in the buttonbar (only when a file is available).

There is no Save-file option, so you can only use Paste and Copy for reorganising your files prior to copying a large amount of code.

Once in a sourcecode window, you can reach a quick-menu by pressing the righthand mouse button, which allows for cut, copy, paste and Select all Text actions.

Finding text

There is a Find text option (within the Edit menu). After pressing the Find-button in the Find-window, Copycode will show a listbox with all the procedures that contain the text you're looking for. Double-clicking on one of these routines lets you see the procedure. The text you searched for is highlighted. You can of course select all text and copy and paste the text, these functions are available from the menu. By keeping open the listbox containing the referenced text after double_clicking a line, you can access multiple instances of the text.

Fonts and Colors

VB doesn't offer it, Copycode does: the option to change the font and color in a child window. By choosing a small font, you can view more code in a line.

Choose Font or Color from the Options menu and play for a while.

Copying Graphics files data

When all VB-forms are saved as Ascii, VB creates FRX files, that contain the graphics information from the forms. This includes the Forms-Icon and all icons and bitmaps in PictureBox controls and Image controls. By using the Spy:FRX technique it is possible to read these graphics.

After opening an FRX file, Copycode reads the file and displays the information in the two listboxes in the main window. The left hand listbox shows all BMP's and WMF's. The right hand listbox shows all Icons within the FRX file. The names shown are fictional.

By choosing one of these graphics names, the relevant graphic is shown.

At this time you can choose to:

- copy a BMP or WMF to clipboard (by pressing the Copy-button or Menu Edit-Copy)
- save a BMP (choose from the File menu the Save Bitmap option)
- save an icon (choose from the File menu the Save Icon option)

Optimizing your source code

The advantage of reusing sourcecode from existing projects (by using existing forms or modules) is that you do not need to do a lot of extra work. The disadvantage is that you could end up with a lot of code you actually do not need. So, CodeAdvisor was built for you.

What it does?

Not very much. It just reads your code and checks for procedures, constants and declarations which are never actually called in your code. When it finds these, CodeAdvisor creates a report on screen, mentioning all these procedures, constants and declarations. CodeAdvisor never touches your code!

You can save the report (as an Ascii-file) by pressing Menu File-Save CodeAdvisor Info.

CodeAdvisor doesn't look for procedures with an Underscore character (it might be a custom event not known by Copycode or myself for that matter).

If CodeAdvisor finds an obsolete procedure and you decide to delete it, I advise you to rerun CodeAdvisor: there could be constants or calls to procedures that are no longer present in your project after deleting the procedure.

Before actually deleting anything, be sure to make a back-up of your project. I tested this function, but I will not accept any claims for lost code...

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You can find this CodeAdvisor option after loading a Project. It is situated in the Edit menu. I even created a nice button for it, it is the one with the two ovals and a small arrow pointing from the large oval to the small one.

Project Information

Copycode shows:

Project information: shows statistical information about your project. The indicated number of Constants and delarations shows a question mark unless you run CodeAdvisor.

The Make-file: You guessed it

About...: Copyright information and registration details.

These data are available form the File-menu

Any comments?

Please E-mail in, I like your responses and try to cope with them.

Revision history

Version 1.0. There is also a version in the Dutch language.

Version 1.1: Loads all files

Version 1.2: Includes a Recent-files option.

Version 2.0: Bye bye 32 Kb-limit (I killed the dutch language version too, to much effort)

Version 2.1: Removed two 'bugs':

- inability to read single files (error 64, invalid path).
- Copycode now shows source code of the upper file in the listboxes after loading a project.

Added:

Copycode now shows the number of subs and functions in the Project info window.

Version 2.2: Removed two more 'bugs'

- inability to read files with a path different from the default path of the project (would result in an Error 64 message). It it the same error as the one mentioned above, but I forgot to look at it, as I seldom create projects with shared modules.
- Copycode didn't recognise the Gotfocus-event. It would find the Getfocuss event, but that would never occur as this event doesn't exist.

Added: _Sel* event.

Version 3.0: Spy:FrX (ability to copy graphics from FRX-files).

CodeAdvisor.

Project Info shows number of declarations and constants (after running CodeAdvisor).

Recent files accessible via quick-keys (underscored numbers).

Registration bits.

Copycode has a **limit** of 32 Kb per procedure (due to the limit for VB Text-boxes)

Copycode So far:

Over 1500 downloads from Compuserve!

Included on (at least) 2 CD-Roms.

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Planned for the current version:

-On-line Help (I use the Help Magician from Software Interphase, great tool!)

Possibilities for a future version:

-Printing sourcecode (but why on earth would you want to?)

-Make-Lib (creates a VB-module with your favorite procedures)

Technical issues:

I received a few reactions (thanx) after submitting version 1.x. Everyone seemed pleased and agreed that the 32K problem would have to be addressed somehow, but nobody could offer a solution.

I found one. I decided to try to understand the User Defined Type. Every procedure is stored in a UDT and I use a dynamic array to store the UDT's. VB knows how to handle UDT-arrays and dynamically creates Huge arrays.

The UDT and array looks like this:

```
Type codetype
    naam As String
    tekst As String
End Type
```

```
Global copycode() As codetype
```

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