

## **All About QSetup**

copyright (c) 1994 Stillwater Systems

Have you ever noticed how slow the setup of an application takes using the setup kit routines that come with Visual Basic? Well, we have so developed a simple solution that reduces the setup time for an application by at least 60-70%. No kidding!

Here's what we discovered. The most time consuming part of installing an application is when the system scans a file on your distribution diskette looking for the version stamp. Now, version number checking is very important so we came up with the following alternative.

Our solution calls for some minor changes to the SETUP1.BAS file as found in your C:\VB\SETUPKIT\SETUP1 sub-directory. A new version of this file is included in the qsetup.zip file you obtained from CompuServe. The difference in our version of SETUP1.BAS and the original is that we wrote a new function called GetInFileVersion that handles obtaining the version number of all the files on the source/distribution diskettes from a different source. The version number of the file in the destination directory is still obtained using the original GetFileVersion routine. Oh yah, we added a bit of code that skips the version number checking all together if the file being copied doesn't exist in the target directory. Kind of basic, but it wasn't there.

If you look at the code in the GetInFileVersion function you will see that the version numbers for the files on the source/distribution diskettes are pulled from an .INI like file called FILEEVERS.LOG. Here is a sample printout of a FILEEVERS.LOG file:

```
[File Versions]
MSAJT112.DL_ =1.99.1523
TRUEGRID.VB_ =2.00.079
BWCC.DL_ =1.03
EASYNET.VB_ =1.40.00
PDSODBC.DL_ =3.0.1.3
WBTRCALL.DL_ =none
PDBBND.DL_ =3.0.1.3
CTL3D.DL_ =2.01
UXFSEPV.DL_ =1.0.0.1
MSAJT200.DL_ =2.49.0914
```

Basically, this log file is formatted like an INI file with a single section named "File Versions" and an entry for every file on a given diskette that carries the version number of the file. The standard GetPrivateProfileString API function can retrieve a version number from this file MUCH, MUCH faster than the standard function that scans the file on the diskette. (we all know how slow floppy disk drives are.)

I know what you're thinking; "I don't want to take time to obtain the version numbers for my distribution files and then create this FILEEVERS.LOG file.", right? Well, if you register QSetup we will EMail you the password that enables the filevers.exe program that came with this download. The program automatically builds the log file for you. Just point the program to the sub-directory that contains your distribution files (compressed or not) and it will generate the FILEEVERS.LOG file in a snap. We have our distribution files stored on a hard drive so the program that builds our FILEEVERS.LOG files can obtain the version numbers pretty fast.

Take this scenario: You have the distribution routine for an application named MYUTIL stored in two sub-directories, C:\APPS\MYUTIL\SETUP\DISK1 and C:\APPS\MYUTIL\SETUP\DISK2. All the files for your disk#1 are stored in the first sub-directory and the files for your disk#2 are stored in the second sub-directory. If you execute our "File Version Stamp Fetcher" program, providing the path to files, it will quickly build the appropriate FILEEVERS.LOG file in the named sub-

directory. Now, re-compile the SETUP1 program using the SETUP1.BAS that we provided and make your distribution diskettes. Don't forget to include the appropriate FILEVERS.LOG file on each diskette.

We hope this all makes sense. EMail us with any questions at the CompuServe address provided below.

Good luck in your development efforts!

Sincerely,

Stillwater Systems  
CompuServe ID: 72643,604

To register your copy of QSetup and receive password to enable the "File Version Stamp Fetcher" program (filevers.exe), go online into the SWREG forum and register product id# 4337.

Or send a check for US \$10.00 to:

**Stillwater Systems**  
32248 N.E. 94th Street  
Carnation, WA 98014

Please include you CompuServe address with your check so that we can EMail you the password to the filevers.exe program.

#### **LIMITED WARRANTY**

EXCEPT AS PROVIDED ABOVE, STILLWATER SYSTEMS DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WITH RESPECT TO THE PRODUCT. SHOULD THE PROGRAM PROVE DEFECTIVE, THE PURCHASER ASSUMES THE RISK OF PAYING THE ENTIRE COST OF ALL NECESSARY SERVICING, REPAIR, OR CORRECTION AND ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. IN NO EVENT WILL STILLWATER SYSTEMS BE LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGES WHATSOEVER (INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF BUSINESS PROFITS, BUSINESS INTERRUPTION, LOSS OF BUSINESS INFORMATION AND THE LIKE) ARISING OUT OF THE USE OR THE INABILITY TO USE THIS PRODUCT EVEN IF STILLWATER SYSTEMS HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

Use of this product for any period of time constitutes your acceptance of this agreement and subjects you to its contents.

#### **U.S. GOVERNMENT RESTRICTED RIGHTS**

Use, duplication, or disclosure by the Government is subject to restrictions as set forth in subdivision (b)(3)(ii) of the Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software clause at 252.227-7013. Contractor/manufacturer is Stillwater Systems.