OWShare MAIN INDEX

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OWShare v1.1 Features

New Features:

Support for 16-bit and 32-bit applications is included. Only one set of OWShare units need be maintained to service both builds.

Protection has been added which defeats the notorious Shareware NOT clock-setback engine.

Protection has been added to thwart the dodge of setting the clock ahead just before program installation and then returning it to "normal".

Code has been added allowing a "fresh start" for the counters when a program is installed over a previous version of itself. But only on the first occurrence, thus preventing alternating between versions to keep the installation "fresh".

The 32-bit code now places APP.INI in the application directory (as "suggested" by our friends from Microsoft) but only after checking that it is writeable. If run from a CD or write-protected disk, APP.INI is maintained in the WINDOWS directory but is moved to the application directory should it become writeable in the future.

The Name/Number generation applet has been enhanced to allow for generation of codes for up to 50 programs/program revisions from a single instance.

Retained Features:

Provides a complete Shareware Shell incorporating proven, professional registration encouragement techniques.

Supplies a complete set of dialogs including:
>   Infomercial Splash Screen - Advertise your OTHER products, too...
>   Welcome Dialog
>   Initial Reminder Dialog
>   Expired Warning/Reminder Dialog
>   Registration Instruction Dialog
>   Enter Name and Number Dialog
>   PRO version Dialog
>   Thank You Dialogs

Generates and maintains counters returning number of days since installation and number of uses since installation. Code for using this information in your application as shown in the demo is included.

Provides means for extending a customer's evaluation period up to three times in preset, programmable, increments.

Lets you set the following attributes by initializing global variables - no code modifications required:

>   Number of uses that the Welcome dialog is displayed
>   Number of uses that the Nag Screen is initially displayed
>   Number of uses and number of days after which the Nag Screen
>   returns
>   Number of uses and number of days after which the evaluation
>   period expires
>   Number of days extension granted by entering a valid
>   Name/Number extension code
>   Name of the .INI file
>   Name of the .HLP file
>   Context ID of Shareware Info section in .HLP file
>   Context ID of Other Products section in .HLP file
>   Application personalization codes for Name/Number verification
>   algorithm

Handles site licenses by providing ability to run from a single .INI file.

Includes source code for a matching name/number pair registration ID generator with the product.

INTRODUCTION

OWShare has evolved from a Borland Pascal unit written for Open Window's in-house use. The number of "how-do-I..." questions appearing on the various shareware-related on-line forums convinced me that there was a need for a ready-to-use shareware "wrapper". Such a product would allow the shareware author to concentrate on the functionality of his/her program rather than agonizing over the logistics of the shareware interface.

OWShare's demo program illustrates the performance of the code "out of the box". A completely functional shareware program can be released by adding the core functionality to **OWShare**'s code. Swapping in your own icons and text strings for the dialogs is easily accomplished using the visual editors in Delphi or Visual Basic. The product IS source code, so you have complete freedom to extend and improve on the basic concepts. As with any source code product, however, the standard disclaimers apply - simply stated "any fooling you do with the code is your own responsibility". Please see the License section for more detailed information.

The initial release of **OWShare** occurred at a time when the ASP was amending its rules to allow a great deal more freedom for its authors. Because of these new "ASP Author Standards", there is some uncertainty as to what incentives are acceptable.

The OWShare demo was officially reviewed by the ASP and has been approved as meeting the new standards. Please use your common sense here - the demo can certainly be made non-compliant by simply adding "OR WE'LL FORMAT YOUR HARD DRIVE" to one of the text strings. The intent here is to claim that a program which closely follows one of the example incentivization approaches will be compliant with the new ASPAS.

DISCLAIMER - AGREEMENT

Users of **OWShare** accept this disclaimer of warranty: **OWShare** is supplied as is. The author disclaims all warranties, expressed or implied, including, without limitation, the warranties of merchantability and of fitness for any purpose. The author assumes no liability for damages, direct or consequential, which may result from the use of **OWShare**.

ARCHIVE FILE CONTENTS

The OWShare demo program is delivered as an archive file, OWSHR_11.ZIP (OWSHR.ZIP on CompuServe - the VB demo has a V instead of an R) containing the following files:

> FILE_ID.DIZ - Brief text description of OWShare
> HELPFILE.WRI - The help documentation in Windows Write format
> REGISTER.TXT - Order form
> OWSHR_11.EXE - The executable demo program
> OWSHR_11.HLP - The help file supporting **OWShare v1.1**
> VENDINFO.DIZ - Partially encoded file containing information on distribution policy

An additional file, OWSHARE.INI, will be created by the program in your Windows directory (if it does not already exist) the first time the program is executed. This file contains the information relating to your default option settings and should be considered part of the **OWShare** file set after its creation.

INSTALLATION

To install OWShare:

1. If you can't install the demo without instructions it's highly unlikely that you would be able to use the product <g>...

ABOUT THE DEMO PROGRAM

OWShare's demo program illustrates the performance of the code "out of the box". A completely functional shareware program can be released by adding the program's core functionality to **OWShare**'s code. A brief description of each demo mode is given below. The **OWShare** demo can be "registered" using the Name/Number pair:

Joe C. Doe
53187849

Notice that after **OWShare** is registered the "Registration Info" menu item is removed from the menu and the usage counter information in the title bar is replaced with "Program Registered To Joe C. Doe". This provides both an ego-gratifying personalization for the customer and a deterrent to the distribution of

registered copies.

Initial Startup Sequence

In this operation, the initial counter entries are written, the "Infomercial" flash screen is displayed, advertising your other programs to the customer, and the opening Welcome dialog is displayed. Registration information may be reviewed from this dialog or the customer may continue on to the main program.

"Welcome" Phase

Until the number of uses indicated by the EndWelcome value in the initialization record, the program will display the Welcome dialog ahead of program startup.

"Initial Reminder" Phase

After the number of uses indicated by EndWelcome and until the number of uses indicated by the EndInitialNag value in the initialization record, the program will display the IntroNag dialog ahead of program startup.

Interim "No Nag" Phase

After the number of uses indicated by EndInitialNag and until the number of uses indicated by the StartFinalNagUses and StartFinalNagDays value in the initialization record, the program will operate without any nag screens - simply displaying the value of the usage counters in the title bar. Authors electing to use only reminder screens as incentives may wish to set End = Start so that the screens are always present.

"Final Reminder" Phase

After the number of uses indicated by the StartFinalNagUses and StartFinalNagDays value in the initialization record, the program will again display the IntroNag dialog. In this phase the value of the usage counters in the title bar will flash.

"Expired Phase" - Three Scenarios

After the values in ExpiredDays and ExpiredUses is exceeded the string "Your Evaluation Period Has Expired - Please Register Now" is displayed flashing in the title bar of the application.

In the "Stronger Nag" scenario, a firmer nag screen is displayed on startup AND exit which requires guessing which of four buttons to press in order to continue.

In the "Add Grayed Menu On Help|About" scenario, the same screens are

displayed as in the "Stronger Nag" scenario AND the menu selection About under Help is grayed. This is to illustrate how certain features could be disabled at this stage of the evaluation without totally shutting down the program.

In the "Disable All Except Ordering Info" scenario, the nag screen is NOT displayed (since the program itself is totally inoperative, this additional "incentive" would be redundant). Instead, ALL menu choices other than Help, Exit and Ordering Information are disabled.

"PRO" Behavior

This demo illustrates the opening behavior of a "PRO" program version - requiring the entry of a valid Name/Registration Number pair in order to bring up the main program at all.

Enter ID Number

This allows direct access to the Name/Number pair entry dialog. This mode is necessary if the user obtains his ID pair during the "Interim No-Nag Phase" of the evaluation.

UnRegister Program

This unregisters the OWShare demo, itself, so you can experiment with the sequence of entering name and registration ID.

LICENSE INFORMATION

The OWShare product is provided as licensed source code for the target development environment specified in the order. One license must be purchased for EACH DEVELOPER who writes shareware for the licensee using the target development environment. If you have three VB developers in your shop working on shareware, you need THREE OWShare licenses, even if only one developer "specializes" in "wrapping" the shareware shell onto the product functionality.

Conversely, a one-person shop requires only ONE copy of OWShare, even if they release ten programs a year.

The licensee is free to use and to modify for use the product source code EXCEPT to produce a "shareware shell" product in competition with OWShare.

In addition, the licensee agrees not to divulge the methods used in the OWShare code to unlicensed third parties.

To clarify, this means you will not introduce a product which competes with OWShare after having obtained the OWShare source code - even if the OWShare code is not actually used in the competing product. If you do not wish to agree to this condition, please don't order the product!

DISCLAIMER - AGREEMENT

Users of **OWShare** accept this disclaimer of warranty: **OWShare** is supplied as is. The author disclaims all warranties, expressed or implied, including, without limitation, the warranties of merchantability and of fitness for any purpose. The author assumes no liability for damages, direct or consequential, which may result from the use of **OWShare**.

OPEN WINDOW GUARANTEE

A registered user of any Open Window program is entitled to a full refund of their registration fee if they are not satisfied with the program they have registered. Send a letter to Open Window requesting a refund (we'd like to hear why, but that's not a requirement) and stating that you will discontinue all use of the program upon receipt of your refund. It's as simple as that - no questions asked.

OBTAINING SUPPORT

Users of **OWShare** may obtain support by contacting the author via e-mail at:

America Online: DickBryant
CompuServe: 75236,3243
Internet: 75236.3243@compuserve.com

WorldWideWeb: http://www.openwindow.com

or via US Mail:

Dick Bryant
Open Window
P.O. Box 49746
Colorado Springs, CO 80949-9746

SHAREWARE INFORMATION

NOTE: Since this demo is meant to show the full workings of a program built using the OWShare Shell, this section has been left intact. We realize that you are probably well aware of the principles of Shareware by now <g>....

Following the hotlinks below WILL produce a valid registration form with which to obtain the OWShare Shell, however.

IF YOU ARE ORDERING NOW...

Please read the information below. When you are finished, click on Fill Out Order & Registration Form here or at the end of this topic and a registration form will be displayed ready for you to complete in NotePad. After completing and printing out the form (or saving to a file for transmittal by fax or e-mail), continue using OWShare via the Continue Unregistered sequence until your Registration ID arrives. Thank you for registering OWShare!!

DEFINITION OF SHAREWARE

Shareware is a distribution method, not a type of software. By allowing free distribution of the Shareware version of a program, its distributor gives users a chance to try the software before buying it. This distribution method has continued to grow in popularity since its introduction and is being used today by some of the industry's giants including Intuit, IBM and Microsoft.

If you try a Shareware program and continue to use it, you are expected to purchase the program. This purchase is often referred to as "registration" in the documentation. This use of the term "registration", however, does NOT have the same implication of being optional that sending in the registration card for a program purchased at retail carries. Individual programs differ on details but most specify a maximum period and/or number of uses during which you may evaluate the program. If you continue to use the program after the stated evaluation

period, you are legally obligated to complete the purchase.

Copyright laws apply to both Shareware and regular commercial software, and the copyright holder retains all rights. The author specifically grants the right to copy and distribute the software, either to all and sundry or to a specific group. For example, some authors require written permission before a CD-ROM vendor may distribute their Shareware. Shareware authors are accomplished programmers, just like commercial authors, and the programs are of comparable quality - in both cases, there are good programs and bad ones!

You should choose software that suits your needs and budget, whether it's a retail commercial program or a Shareware program. The Shareware approach makes meeting your needs easier, because you can try before you buy.

Shareware has the ultimate money-back guarantee -- if you don't use the product, you don't pay for it!

ORDERING INFORMATION

PRICE LIST

Item #	*Item*	*Quantity*	*Each*	*Line Total*
101	Registered Copy Of WinFlash v4.0		$24.95	
201	Registered Copy Of WinJottr v1.0		$ 9.95	
301	Registered Copy Of WinUpD8R v4.2		$29.95	
401	OWShare Source code for (please indicate) VB Delphi		$59.95	
403	Unregistered Versions Only		$5.95	

	Sub-Total
Colorado Residents Add 6% Sales Tax	CO Sales Tax
$3.00 US&Canada; $5.00 All Others	Shipping & Handling
Add $2.00 for 5 1/4 disk format**	Extra S&H For 5 1/4 Disk
	Total

TO ORDER BY PHONE

Dial 1-800-531-0403 and be ready with the following information:

Your Name
Your Address
Your Phone Number
Item(s) You Are Ordering (State VB or Delphi version for OWShare)
Your Credit Card (Visa or MC only) Number
Credit Card Expiration Date

TO ORDER VIA COMPUSERVE'S SWREG

CompuServe members may order OWShare through the SWREG service (GO SWREG) using ID#13384 (OWShare For Delphi) or ID#13387 (OWShare For VB) for an additional $10.00 charge.

TO FAX, MAIL OR e-MAIL YOUR ORDER

Select Fill Out Order & Registration Form   Fill out/print out the order form and:

fax to:

1-800-531-0403

or mail to:

Open Window
P.O. Box 49746
Colorado Springs, CO 80949-9746

or e-mail to:

Internet: 75236.3243@compuserve.com
America Online: DickBryant
CompuServe: 75236,3243

OTHER OPEN WINDOW PRODUCTS

WINFLASH ™ v4.0

This do-it-yourself Windows flash card system adds fonts, colors, .BMP graphics and .WAV sounds to your palette. A powerful "Auto Learn" mode is included that customizes the selection of questions to focus on those not yet learned.

Questions and answers can be up to 1000 characters and can be edited from within the program. The new WYSIWYG editor makes creation of your own decks a snap! Memorize coursework and professional material fast!!

A new timed mode allows you to work "against the clock" - develop your own "Trivia-style" games for family fun and entertainment. WinFlash is easy for children to use - no computer experience needed.

WinFlash was nominated for BOTH the Shareware Industry Award and the PCMagazine/Ziff-Davis Award for Best Educational Shareware Program in previous years and was a finalist in the 1996 People's Choice Awards.

More About WinFlash v4.0

Open Window has succeeded in combining ease-of-use with power and flexibility in this major upgrade to WinFlash, their award-winning Windows flashcard program. Using WinFlash's built-in editing, browsing and viewing capabilities, users can construct anything from simple, text-only decks for a quick pre-quiz review to complex, multi-media, computer-based-training applications for corporate use.

Beginners easily create their own card decks "in a flash" with the built in WYSIWYG editor. The editor's layered organization helps you browse your collection of video (.AVI), audio (.MID and .WAV) and graphics (.BMP) files, preview them in the editor and then add them as integral components of a Question or Answer. You can test cards under construction from the editor using the actual WinFlash displays to see exactly how they will perform in use. V4.0 also lets you print your deck, including graphics, for use when you're away from your computer.

WinFlash continues to offer the field's most advanced learning algorithms, with four primary learning modes each providing many options for customization. V4.0 lets you choose from Fill-In-The-Blank or Multiple-Choice Q&A pair types for auto-scored results as well as free-format pairs which are user-scored.

Numeric and named ranges are both supported to allow you to focus on portions of your card deck. The program has excellent zoom and full-screen capabilities allowing closer inspection of detailed graphics. A new AutoPilot feature displays cards continuously with independently-settable Question and Answer dwell times. Great for that quick review or to run as a "screen-saver"

The on-line Help has been expanded and provides three step-by-step learning exercises to help you quickly master the creation of new card decks. The learning interface is very straightforward, even for young children -- no computer experience is necessary to use the program once you have created the card deck. A number of freeware decks are already available for WinFlash, including Times Table, Add & Subtract, Chemical Elements, US Capitols, World Explorers and many others. Most of these are available for download from the Open Window web site.

WINJOTTR ™ v1.0

New! Different!! WinJottr v1.0 is designed EXCLUSIVELY to streamline your note-taking. Easy to use; position anywhere - uses < 10% of an SVGA screen. Short-cut keys for DateStamp functions and all standard Windows edit commands. Searchable, 30K capacity is ideal for holding a month or more of that important random data.

More About WinJottr v1.0

Open Window has developed a new desktop notetaking utility for Microsoft Windows. Unlike other "notepad" products, WinJottr has been designed to remain open and ready to use at all times. Its small window (less than 10% of the area of an SVGA display) can be positioned unobtrusively in a corner and its Always On Top option allows it to be instantly accessible for capturing that quick thought or important phone number.

The paradigm guiding the development of WinJottr was the concept of the physical notepad designed to use a roll of adding machine tape. Notes can be added continuously as the tape is rolled by, but are always available for later reference if necessary. WinJottr successfully emulates this handy, real world device.

WinJottr can be put to excellent use as an informal journal - Date Stamp and Time Stamp short-cut keys are provided. The 30K capacity of the .JOT files produced by WinJottr allows most users to go a month or more before starting a new file. A series of monthly .JOT's in the vein of: MAR93.JOT, APR93.JOT, etc. allows for the orderly binning of the user's note history.

WinJottr has robust editing capabilities, supporting all of the commonly used short-cut keys as well as a standard Edit menu. An AutoSave option is provided, allowing for continuous usage on always-powered computers without the worry of losing important data in the case of a crash or power outage. WinJottr supports

Find and Find Next capabilities for searching your entries for that important scrap of information.

WINKILLR ™ v1.1

"Terminate" Windows & DOS programs under automatic program control. WinKillr "triggers" on elapsed time, clock time or time and date. Will Save open files and "Save As" open unnamed files. Don't let that e-mail client you forgot to "kill" at the office lock you out again!!

More About WinKillr v1.1

Open Window has released an indispensable new utility for Microsoft Windows 3.1 and Win95. It's a Windows program, but it has no window of its own. Instead it acts as a background "terminator" for any application to which it is assigned. When the application's time is up, either in elapsed time or when the computer clock reaches a specified time or date/time, the application is "killed".

Don't worry about leaving your files open and losing data by mistake. WinKillr can be set to save your open files before shutting down the program. It's even smart enough to save files that you haven't given a name to yet!

While WinKillr is gentle to your Windows programs, it can be firm with DOS programs and with Windows programs whose File/Save sequences aren't standard. WinKillr can be set to terminate these applications unconditionally, although new data in unsaved files will be lost.

You assign WinKillr to an application by editing the command line in the Program Item Properties dialog associated with the application's icon. Shutting down a comm program if it is running after 6:30 PM would be achieved by editing the command line:

        C:\QMODEM\QMOD.EXE

 to read instead:

        C:\WINKILLR\WINKIL11.EXE /AC:\QMODEM\QMOD.EXE

Running the application under the control of WinKillr for the first time brings up a dialog box which allows you to set all of the shut down parameters for the application including, in the example, the shut down time.

While we've created WinKillr for serious use, its potential for the practical joker

can't be overlooked. To show we have a sense of humor, we've made the warning dialogs optional. 'Nuff said...

WINUPD8R ™ v4.2

Finalist in previous year's PC Magazine's Shareware Awards, WinUpD8R automatically keeps multiple PCs 'UpD8ed' to the most current file versions using floppy disks (or any other removable media) as the transfer medium - also works across Windows networks and the new Win '95 Direct Cable Connection. Ideal for keeping work and home (and laptop) machines "in synch". This major upgrade adds new power, flexibility and pizzazz to WinUpD8R.

More About WinUpD8R v4.2

WinUpD8R v4.2 - A "Better Briefcase" From Open Window

The latest release of Open Window's popular file synchronization program adds Win '95 Long File Name (LFN) handling to its capabilities. Using WinUpD8R instead of Briefcase to move and synchronize your files between your computers greatly reduces your exposure to the "mismatched alias" problem associated with Win '95 LFN's (see discussion below). WinUpD8R's greatly expanded filtering and automation capabilities also make it easier than Briefcase to use on a regular basis. Once set up, WinUpD8R will maintain your data files "in synch" with a single click of the mouse!

Developed for people working with multiple computers, WinUpD8R makes it easy to keep the latest file versions available on all your machines - without the hassle of cable hookups or modem transfers. WinUpD8R also works across any Windows-compatible network. You'll no longer have to worry about leaving that "one necessary file" at the office, preventing the completion of a project in the comfort of your home. The extensive on-line help walks you through each step in setting up and using the program. It's easy to see why WinUpD8R was a previous finalist in the PCMagazine/Ziff-Davis Shareware Awards in the Best Windows Utility category.

Other Features added to the new version include:

        * A new /O (overwrite) switch which allows overwriting any file in the target directory (including read-only files). The file attributes associated with the source file are applied to the target file after the copy is completed.

        * A novel feature which filters files by age AND automatically removes these files from the shuttle disk has been implemented. This greatly increases

the size of the directory   structure which you can support with a single floppy.

        * Capability to specify filtering by file attribute (read-only, hidden, system, archive) has been added in the Inc/Exc dialog.

The "Mismatched Alias" Problem - This problem arises from Win '95's need to form an 8.3-style filename, called an "alias", for each LFN file in order for the file to be usable with the still-prevalent 16-bit applications and on non-LFN compatible systems. Unfortunately, Win '95 does not track aliases across directories. This means that the file ThisIsALongFileName.TXT may have the alias ThisIs~1.TXT in its original directory, but, when copied to another directory or to a second PC, may have the alias ThisIs~2.TXT. This could happen if the second directory already contains a file such as ThisIsAnotherLongFileName which has already used the ~1 slot. WinUpD8R contains code that checks for this situation as well as special code that will, if possible, assure that the LFN's and their aliases remain "in sync" across different directories and/or PC's.

WinUpD8R v4.2 remains affordably priced at $29.95 plus $3.00 S&H. Requires Microsoft Windows v3.1 or Win '95. WinUpD8R is available on CompuServe in the WINUTIL Forum, Library 18 - Sponsored Vendors, as file UPD8R.ZIP; from America Online in the Windows Forum as UPD8R_42.ZIP; and from Open Window's web site at http://www.openwindow.com.

OWShare REVISION HISTORY

OWShare v1.1 adds the following new features:

        Support for 16-bit and 32-bit applications is included. Only one set of OWShare units need be maintained to service both builds.

        Protection has been added which defeats the notorious Shareware NOT clock-setback engine.

        Protection has been added to thwart the dodge of setting the clock ahead just before program installation and then returning it to "normal".

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generation of codes for up to 50 programs/program revisions from a single instance.

OWShare v1.0

Is the initial release of the software, providing a complete Shareware Shell incorporating proven, professional, registration encouragement techniques.

Supplies a complete set of dialogs including:

Infomercial Splash Screen - Advertise your **OTHER** products, too...
Welcome Dialog
Initial Reminder Dialog
Expired Warning/Reminder Dialog
Registration Instruction Dialog
Enter Name and Number Dialog
PRO version Dialog
Thank You Dialogs

Generates and maintains counters returning number of days since installation and number of uses since installation. Code for using this information in your application as shown in the demo is included.

Provides means for extending a customer's evaluation period up to three times in preset increments.

Lets you set the following attributes by initializing global variables - no code modifications required:

Number of uses that the Welcome dialog is displayed
Number of uses that the Nag Screen is initially displayed
Number of uses and number of days after which the Nag Screen returns
Number of uses and number of days after which the evaluation period
        expires
Number of days extension granted by entering a valid Name/Number
        extension code
Name of the .INI file
Name of the .HLP file
Context ID of Shareware Info section in .HLP file
Context ID of Other Products section in .HLP file
Application personalization codes for Name/Number verification algorithm

Handles site licenses by providing ability to run from a single .INI file.

Includes source code for a matching name/number pair registration ID generator with the product.