

Quick Data Base

QDB VCL Components

Overview

Delphi's data-aware controls provide a flexible, powerful, and easy to use method of storing and retrieving data. Unfortunately they also make your executables enormous and involve you in the distribution of two extra floppy disks (the Borland Database Engine) with your applications however tiny they themselves are.

Rather than always cracking a nut with a sledgehammer you can use **QDB** and its easy, lightweight approach to simple data management. QDB is by no means a replacement for the BDE. Rather, in simple cases where the full power of the BDE amounts to overkill, **QDB** offers an alternative.

Specifications

QDB offers two components:

TQDB ~16K has to get	the database component: flat-file, single index, variable-sized records; each record up to ~64K, and up to records; No data-aware controls: the programmer the data onto the screen.
TQDBNavigator	a cut-down version of DBNavigator working with TQDB and offering First, Previous, next, and Last buttons.

They come with full Delphi-installable context-sensitive help and two demonstrations of their use.

Demonstration Examples

QDBDemo1.exe maintains a simple address book using the QDB component. It comes with a help file (QDBDemo1.hlp) and sample database (QDBDemo1.qdb) and index (QDBDemo1.qix). Source code is supplied. The demo runs on its own but to compile the source code you will need to install the TQDB component.

QDBDemo2.exe is a facsimile of Borland's animal.exe demo. It shows how to store bitmaps with the TQDB component and how to use the TQDBNavigator control. The executable file weighs in at half the size of Borland's **and** doesn't need the megabytes of

BDE DLLs! It does involve a little more coding on the part of the programmer.

Files

The zip file (QDB_VCL.ZIP) includes the following files:

QDB.ZIP	containing the QDB components	
	MATCH.DCU	pattern-matching support unit
	NS.DCU	string support unit
	QDB.DCU	the compiled components
	QDB.HLP	the installable help file
	QDB.KWF	the key word file for the help
	QDB.RES	the resource file for QDB
	QDB_INST.DCR	the palette buttons resource file
	QDB_INST.PAS	the registration file for installation
DEMO1.ZIP	the first demo	
	QDBDEMO1.EXE	the first demo - an address book
	QDBDEMO1.HLP	its help file
	QDBDEMO1.QDB	the address database
	QDBDEMO1.QIX	the address index file
DEMOSRC1.ZIP	the source for the first demo	
	MAIN.DFM	the main form
	MAIN.PAS	the main unit
	NAME2KEY.PAS	the subsidiary unit
	QDBDEMO1.DPR	the project file
DEMO2.ZIP	the second demo	
	QDBDEMO2.EXE	the second demo - animals revisited
	QDBDEMO2.HLP	its help file
	QDBDEMO2.QDB	the image database
	QDBDEMO2.QIX	the image index file
DEMOSRC2.ZIP	the source for the second demo	
	BEASTWIN.DFM	the main form
	BEASTWIN.PAS	the main unit
	QDBDEMO2.DPR	the project file
README.WRI	this file	

Installation

Unzip the demos wherever you like. As long as the files for each demo are in the same directory the demos should run fine.

If you like what you see and are interested in the **QDB** components unzip QDB.ZIP to its own directory and follow the installation instructions in QDB.HLP.

Once the **QDB** components are installed you can play with the demo source code.

Distribution

QDB was written for fun as well as utility so I am glad to make these VCL components available free of charge. It should be understood that, although I have attempted to test them thoroughly, they may cause some damage - directly or indirectly - for which I can take no responsibility. Use these components with pleasure but use them at your own risk.

If you like them, have anything to say about them, or just want to make contact you can find me at

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If you like **QDB** and find yourself using it how about making a donation to your favorite charity?