

Tips unit
Version 1.03 6-Oct-97

Here is another Tips system to take look at. In this one Ive added some features I havent seen in others. Here your user has full control over the Tips system. That means user can customize the tips in any way he/she wants to. Tips can be added, removed, hidden etc.

Components in this package:

<u>TBitListBox</u>	List box with glyphs before each item.
<u>TTips</u>	Tips component itself.

Types in the package:

<u>TTipsOption</u>
<u>TTipsOptions</u>

Additional information

<u>Installation</u>
<u>Tips Editor</u>
<u>Release history</u>
<u>Copyright</u>
<u>Ordering Tips</u>
<u>Contact the Author</u>

TBitListBox

Only one new property Glyph - bitmap to be shown with list boxes items.

TTips

Properties

Events

Methods

Description

You can use the TTips component as standard Tips system. See Options property. But why dont you let your users to modify the list of available tips? Perhaps they has their own notes about your program or something also...

TTips lets user hide, show again, delete, add, the tips. Please not that all these operations are available only in run-time.

Properties

Title
Options

TipsHelp
TipsPicture

TipsToShow
PanelsColor

TipsToHide

Events

OnBtnNextClick

OnBtnEditClick

OnBtnHelpClick

OnBtnCloseClick

Title property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property Title: **string**;

Title (caption) of the Tips form

TipsHelp property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property TipsHelp: **string**;

String to be shown under the tips. (Usually Did you know...)

TipsToShow property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property TipsToShow: TStringList;

List of tips to show in the Tips form.

TipsToHide property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property TipsToHide: : TStringList;

List of tips to be hidden. Available in the Tips to hide section of the Tips Editor.

Options property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property Options: TTipsOptions

Value	Meaning
ofShowAtStart	Checks appropriate check box in the Tips form,
ofShowBtnEdit	Shows Edit button in the Tips form (and lets user edit tips)
ofShowBtnHelp	Shows Help button in the Tips form
ofCustomPicture default.	Should be True if you going to use custom image instead of
OfRandomFirstTip	If True then first tip will be shown in random order. Otherwise first tip will be always the same.

OnBtnNextClick property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property OnBtnNextClick: TNotifyEvent;

Occurs when user hits Next button.

OnBtnEditClick property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property OnBtnEditClick: TNotifyEvent;

Occurs when user hits Edit button.

OnBtnHelpClick property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property OnBtnHelpClick: TNotifyEvent;

Occurs when user hits Help button.

OnBtnCloseClick property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property OnBtnCloseClick: TNotifyEvent;

Occurs when user hits Close button.

TipsPicture property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property TipsPicture: TPicture;

Picture to draw in Tips form instead of default one. See also Options

PanelsColor property

Applies to TTips

Declaration

property PanelsColor: TColor;

Color of all panels/list boxes etc in Tips system.

Methods

Execute

SaveToStream

SaveToFile

SaveToRegistry

LoadFromStream

LoadFromFile

LoadFromRegistry

Execute method

Applies to TTips

Declaration

function Execute : Boolean;

No parameters. Executes Tips dialog.

SaveToStream method

Applies to TTips

Declaration

procedure SaveToStream(Stream: TStream);

Writes Tips (from both sections) to given stream.

LoadFromStream method

Applies to TTips

Declaration

function LoadFromStream(Stream: TStream): Boolean;

Reads Tips (both sections) from given stream. Returns True if successful.

SaveToFile method

Applies to TTips

Declaration

procedure SaveToFile(FileName: TFileName);

Writes Tips (from both sections) to given file.

LoadFromFile method

Applies to TTips

Declaration

function LoadFromFile(FileName: TFileName): Boolean;

Reads Tips (both sections) from given file. Returns True if successful.

SaveToRegistry method

Applies to TTips

Declaration

procedure SaveToRegistry(FKey: **string**);

Saves tips to registry (Win32) or INI file (Win16). Under Win32 FKey is a registry key to store data to. Under Win16 its INI file name.

LoadFromRegistry method

Applies to TTips

Declaration

function LoadFromRegistry(FKey: **string**; MustOverride: Boolean): Boolean;

Loads tips from the registry (Win32) or INI file (Win16). Under Win32 FKey is a registry key to read data from. Under Win16 its INI file name. If MustOverride is True current tips lists will be cleared no matter FKey exists or not. If False - only if FKey exists. Returns True if successful.

TTipsOption

Declaration

TTipsOption = (ofShowAtStart, ofShowEdit, ofShowPrint, ofCustomPicture, ofRandomFirstTip);

TTipsOptions

Declaration

TTipsOptions = set of TTipOption;

Release history

Version 1.03 6-Oct-97

- + Added ofRandomFirstTip Options flag to show random first tip.
- + Added methods to save/load tips to/from Registry (Win32) or INI files (win16).
- + Added BCB version.

Version 1.02 30-Jul-97

- * Fixed small bug with show next time feature.
- + Added TipsPicture property.
- + Added PanelsColor property
- + Added version for D3.

Version 1.01 6-Jun-97

- + Added Tips Editor and all the related features.
- + More properties, Options etc.
- + Added events for buttons.

Version 1.00 14-Mar-97

Initial release.

Copyright

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Shareware

Tips is being distributed as shareware. This means you can try it out for free, but if you like it you'll have to register it with the author.

The only difference between the unregistered and registered versions is that the registered one has not those hidden tips.... ;-)

There are two registration types: Registering **with** and **without** sources.

Registration **without** sources will cost you \$ US 8. You will receive a copy of Tips *with all the additional components* all via email. You will have the opportunity to receive updated versions for free via email.

Registration **with** sources will cost you \$ US 16. You will receive all the above plus sources.

Im use ShareIt! service to process registrations. If you would like to register TTips, you can do the registration online on the Internet at <http://www.shareit.com/programs/100365.htm>. Alternatively, you can go to <http://www.shareit.com> and enter the program number there: 100365.

If you do not have access to the Internet, you can register via phone, fax or postal mail. Please print out the following form, and fax or mail it to:

Reimold&Schumann Internet Services
ShareIt!
Jahnstrasse 24
50676 Koeln
Germany

Phone: +49-221-2407279
+49-172-7229837
Fax: +49-221-2407278
E-Mail: register@shareit.com

Registration form for TTips (it can be found also in order.txt file).

Program No.: 100365

Last name: _____

First name: _____

Company: _____

Street and #: _____

City, State, postal code: _____

Country: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

How would like to receive the registration key/full version?

e-mail - fax - postal mail

How would you like to pay the registration fee of \$8/16:

credit card - wire transfer - EuroCheque - cash

Credit card information (if applicable)

Credit card: Visa - Eurocard/Mastercard - American Express - Diners Club

Card holder: _____

Card No.: _____

Date of Expiration : _____

Date / Signature _____

If you live in Ukraine or Australia and prefer some other way to register please Contact me . If you in USA and need some other way - contact me also.

Contact the Author

Artem A. Berman

Ukraine
325000, Kherson
Kotovskiy 4-10

art@aber.kherson.ua
art@ukrcom.kherson.ua
<http://www.ukrcom.kherson.ua/~art/>

Obtain new versions of these components and many others (mostly FREEWARE) from
<http://www.ukrcom.kherson.ua/~art/delphi.html> Your feedback is welcome!

Tips Editor

Two list boxes here. Above one contains tips to be shown in the main tips form, hidden tips are below. The tool to move items between list boxes is :



Move selected item from Tips to be shown to Tips to be hidden.



Move all items from Tips to be shown to Tips to be hidden.



Move selected item from Tips to be hidden to Tips to be shown .



Move all items from Tips to be hidden to Tips to be shown.



Delete selected item in active list box.

Also your user can add own tips (Add button) and change order of tips (using Drag and Drop).

Installation

For Delphi 1 and Delphi 2

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1. All files should be copied to the same place.
2. You need to install in the Delphi Tips.dcu file.

For Delphi 3

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1. All files should be copied to the same place.
2. Open in Delphi TipsSystem.dpk package (File -> Open -> in the dialog choose "files of type" - "Delphi package source").
3. Press "Install" speed button.
4. Make sure that folder with Tips System is in your library path:
Tools -> Environment Options -> Library -> Library Path

For C++ Builder

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1. All files should be copied to the same place (\$\BCB\lib directory)...
2. In the C++ Builder menu: Component -> Install...
3. Install files tips.OBJ

