Delphi 6

Release Notes

This file contains important supplementary and late-breaking information that may not appear in the main product documentation. We recommend that you read this file in its entirety.

For information on new features in this release, choose "What's New" in the online Help contents.

CONTENTS

OTHER RELEASE NOTES INCLUDED WITH THIS PRODUCT

- INSTALL contains system requirements and product installation information.

- DEPLOY contains information about redistributing your applications.

- LICENSE contains information on licensing allowances and limitations for this product and other Borland software that is bundled with it.

  The three files listed above, along with this file, are installed to your main product directory (default: C:\Program Files\Borland\Delphi6).

  You can also find detailed information about new features and compatibility issues in DEL6NEW.HLP, which is part of the main online Help system (look for "What's New" in the Help contents or index).

- BDEREADME, BDEINST and BDEDEPLOY contain release notes, installation, and deployment information about the Borland Database Engine (BDE) and Borland SQL Links products. These files are located in your main BDE directory (installation default: c:\Program Files\Common Files\Borland Shared\Bde).

  IMPORTANT: Any BDE-related information in this README overrides any corresponding information provided in the BDE release notes.

  Additional notes about existing issues with BDE and utility applications supplied with BDE are covered in the KNOWN ISSUES section later in this document.

ABOUT EDITING THE WINDOWS REGISTRY

Warning:

> Registry edits are performed at your own risk.

Several items in this document and in other parts of the documentation that accompany this product describe how to edit your Windows registry. In most cases, we recommend that you use the Microsoft Regedit tool to perform your editing. Whatever tool you use, however, you should, before making any edits, make backups of your registry and thoroughly familiarize yourself with the editing tool and the registry editing process. The registry is a critical component of your operating system, and any mistakes made while editing it can cause your machine to stop functioning.

NOTES AND ISSUES:
GENERAL

Compatibility issues

- Design-time packages that used ToolsAPI now also require designide.

- Comma-delimited string handling

  When assigning comma-delimited values to a TStringList using the CommaText property, a trailing comma in the source string will result in a blank item in the StringList. For example, if CommaText is set to:

  ```
  "String1, String2, String3,"
  ```

  The StringList will contain:

  ```
  String1

  String2

  String3

  <Blank>
  ```

  This is a change in behavior from previous releases.

Other compatibility issues between Delphi 6 and earlier versions of Delphi, as well as between Delphi 6 and other products, are described in the What's New section of your online Help system (search for "Compatibility" in the Help Index).

Common controls library version note

Outdated versions of the Windows common controls library (COMCTL32.DLL) can result in various graphical and behavioral problems when using Delphi and any programs you develop with Delphi. To help you avoid such problems, Delphi provides a separate (and redistributable) common controls library updater. Running the updater will refresh an outdated common controls library, but will not replace later versions of the library that may have been installed on your system by other products released after Delphi 6. Before running the updater, be sure to read the readme.txt and license.txt files that accompany it. And if you redistribute the updater to your customers, be sure to include the readme and license files in the deployment.

The common controls updater can be run directly from your CD at:

```
\info\extras\comctl\50comupd.exe
```

Note:

> You can also keep your common controls library current by installing Internet Explorer 5.5 or later. If you'd rather install the full browser than the common controls updater, run
>
> ```
> \ie55\i386\ie5setup.exe
> ```

Environment options/environment variable usage

You can now use operating-system environment variables to specify directory paths in certain IDE dialogs. Use of environment variables is available on the Directories/Conditionals page of the Project Options dialog and on the Library page of the Environment Options dialog. The syntax is $(VariableName). For example, under Search Path, you can now enter

```
$(TEMP);$(DELPHI)\source
```

The $(DELPHI) macro, used to specify directory paths, still points by default to the directory immediately above Delphi's bin directory. But you can override this by creating an environment variable called DELPHI.

The Environment Options dialog now has an Environment Variables page that you can use to set OS environment variables.

Working with the sample imported automation server wrappers for MS Office

Delphi installs a package with pre-imported wrapper components for either Office 97 or Office 2000. If you need to change the sample automation server packages after installation:

1. Choose Component | Install Packages and remove the current server package. The package descriptions are:

- Microsoft Office 2000 Sample Automation Server Wrapper Components
- Microsoft Office 97 Sample Automation Server Wrapper Components

2. Add the other automation server package by clicking the Add button and browsing to your \delphi\bin directory. The package names are:

- dcloffice2k60.bpl (for Office 2000)
- dclaxserver60.bpl (for Office 97)

Note that the Office automation server demos found under \Demos\ActiveX are written for Office 97 but can be compiled for Office 2000 with slight modifications.

ActiveX Wizard/licensing issue

[Enterprise, Professional editions only]

Delphi does not directly support the licensing of ActiveX controls for Web deployment. License package (.LPK) files, which are required for runtime licensing of ActiveX controls, can only be generated by LPK_TOOL.EXE, a utility available in Microsoft's Internet SDK. For more information on the license-creation tool and how it is used, visit http://support.microsoft.com and search for "LPK".

NOTES AND ISSUES:
CLX

About the CLX libraries

Delphi 6 includes the new CLX libraries for cross-platform development. CLX maintains the architecture and class hierarchy of the original VCL for Windows. The most obvious difference is that the VisualCLX GUI components call the Qt libraries for drawing graphics--which run on both Linux and Windows--instead of the Windows API.

CLX source can be found in /Delphi6/Source/VCL/CLX. The compiled versions are in your /Delphi6/Lib directory.

The names of CLX Units that link with Qt (VisualCLX GUI units) now begin with "Q" and the locations of some classes are different in CLX. TWidgetControl replaces the VCL's TWinControl; other components (e.g. TScrollingWidget) have corresponding names. The type declaration

```
    TWinControl = TWidgetControl;
```

appears in QControls to simplify sharing of source code.

Message loops and events work differently in CLX applications, but this will primarily affect component writing. Most component and property editors will port easily. TObject.Dispatch and message method syntax on classes still work; in CLX Applications, however, OS notifications are not sent through Windows-style messaging.

To create applications that are easily portable between Windows and Linux, remember to

- reduce or IFDEF WinAPI calls.
- eliminate Windows messaging (PostMessage, SendMessage) within an application.
- use TIniFile instead of TRegIniFile.
- observe case-sensitivity in file and directory names.

NOTES AND ISSUES: WEB AND DISTRIBUTED APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

MSXML.DLL required for SOAP, WSDL, and XMLMapper

The MSXML.DLL library must be present and registered in order to use the new SOAP, WSDL, and XMLMapper features included with this product. If the library is not present on your machine, you can obtain it as part of an XML Parser package from the Microsoft Download Center at:

```
http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/search.asp?
```

Choose the "Keyword Search" option, then search for "MSXML".

To register the library from a command prompt, cd to the location where the MSXML.DLL file is installed (e.g. \winnt\system32), then type

```
REGSVR32 MSXML.DLL
```

WebServices notes

- The THTTPRIO component used for client SOAP connections can be lifetime-managed as either a component or as an interfaced object. It is managed as a component when its owner is non-nil, such as when it is placed on a form or on a data module. In such cases, be sure to nil out any interface references that are not local variables before the owner is destroyed.

  For example:

```
TForm1 = class(Tform)
    HTTPRIO1:THTTPRIO;
. . .
private
    MyInterface:IMyInterface;
. . .
end;

TForm1.SomeMethod;
begin
    MyInterface:=HTTPRIO1 as IMyInterface;
end;

TForm.FormDestroy(Sender: TObject);
begin
    MyInterface:=nil;
```

```
  end;
```

Using the Web App Debugger with Delphi 5 projects

To run Delphi 5 Web Server Applications using the Delphi 6 Web App Debugger, it is necessary to create a new Web Server Application, selecting "Web App Debugger executable" as the server type. Then remove the default WebModule and add your existing WebModules to the new application. For each WebModule you add, add the following code to the unit's initialization section:

```
if WebRequestHandler <> nil then

  WebRequestHandler.WebModuleClass := TWebModule2;
```

Note that "TWebModule2" should be replaced with the name of the actual WebModule.

WebSnap notes

- Environment options:

  The Internet tab is used to set some WebSnap configuration options.

  An external HTML editor must be specified in order to enable the HTML editor command in the Internet toolbar.

- InterBase 6 implementation note

  If you are using a WebSnap application with InterBase 6, a local database connection is not recommended. Instead, use a client/server connection specified by a protocol-specific prefix to the path to the database.

  Examples:

  Local connection (not recommended):

```
C:\PathTo\Database\DBName.gdb
```

TCP/IP connection on Windows:

```
saturn:C:\PathTo\Database\DBName.gdb
```

TCP/IP connection on UNIX:

```
jupiter:/usr/PathTo/Database/DBName.gdb
```

NetBEUI connection:

```
\\venus\C:\PathTo\Database\DBName.gdb
```

IPX/SPX connection:

```
mars@vol2:\PathTo\Database\DBName.gdb
```

If the WebSnap application is on the same machine as the server, you can use localhost:

```
localhost:C:\PathTo\Database\DBName.gdb
```

NOTES AND ISSUES: DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

DB2 notes for dbExpress

- The provided DB2 driver is certified for DB2 version 6 and 7. The client version and server version must be the same. BDE also supports both DB2 versions.

Oracle notes for dbExpress

- The Oracle driver provided for dbExpress components is certified for Oracle 8.1.6. BDE and ADO also support Oracle 8.1.5. In all cases, the client version and server version must be the same.

- When qualifying a table name with a user name, you must use quotes around the table name when CommandType is set to ctTable.

Static linking DataSnap clients

It is now possible to eliminate the need to deploy the TClientDataSet runtime module (MIDAS.DLL). This can be done for DataSnap clients and other applications requiring this module by including MidasLib in the uses statement of any unit in the project. DataSnap servers still require MIDAS.DLL.

Static linking of dbExpress drivers

The dbExpress driver DLLs can be linked directly into an application by including the appropriate unit in the uses clause of the application or any unit:

- dbexpint (InterBase)
- dbexpORA (Oracle)
- dbexpdb2 (DB2)
- dbexpmys (MySQL)

Only one dbExpress driver can be linked into each client application.

InterBase 6 Dialect 3

To use the new InterBase 6 Dialect 3 features, add an entry to your Windows registry under

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\
    Borland\Database Engine\Settings
    \Drivers\Intrbase\Db Open\SQLDIALECT
```

and set the value to "3".

When an InterBase alias is created, the new entry will be available in the .CFG file.

To use InterBase 5.6, SQLDIALECT can be set to "1" (existing IB aliases which do not have the SQLDIALECT entry default to SQLDIALECT=1 or to the registry setting when the SQLDIALECT entry is added to the registry).

Other database development notes

- Delphi 6 supports both InterBase 5.6 and 6.0. The client version and server version must be the same.

- Delphi 6 installs sample database files that are compatible with the provided InterBase 6.0.1. Sample databases which are compatible with older versions of InterBase are on your CD in the Info\Extras directory.

- Enterprise edition only: Microsoft Data Access Components (MDAC) components are available for separate installation by running MDAC_TYP.EXE from the \MDAC directory on your product CD.

- A VCL hierarchy change involving TClientDataSet and TCustomClientDataSet causes incompatible parameter lists and affects the behavior of a number of types and events. For details, see What's New Help and search the index for the phrase "compatibility".

- The MySQL driver has been tested with MySQL version 3.22.32.

- The Borland Database Engine CAB file (BDEINST.CAB) is no longer digitally signed. This CAB file is provided for backward compatibility. For new applications, we recommend deploying the BDE with the BDE merge modules.

NOTES AND ISSUES: INTERNATIONAL/LOCALES

Menu Shortcut Conflicts

Menu shortcuts in the IDE may conflict with system shortcuts and international character key combinations. If you want to disable the Ctrl+Alt hot keys in the IDE, set this DWORD registry key:

```
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Borland\Delphi\6.0\
    Editor\Options\NoCtrlAltKeys
```

to "1".

Resource DLL Wizard and Windows 2000 locales

The Resource DLL wizard requires a distinct two- or three-letter file extension for each translated version of a project it maintains. For some languages that are written in both Latin and Cyrillic characters, however, Windows 2000 uses the same default extension regardless of the character set (as shown in the table below). If you want to maintain both Latin and Cyrillic versions for such languages, change the extension for one of the translations when you run the Resource DLL wizard.

Language	***Locale ID***	***Extension***
Azeri (Cyrillic)	82C	AZE
Azeri (Latin)	42C	AZE
Uzbek (Cyrillic)	843	UZB
Uzbek (Latin)	443	UZB

NOTES AND ISSUES: VISIBROKER/CORBA

VisiBroker 4, CORBA, and IDL-TO-PAS

VisiBroker 4 lets you create CORBA clients and servers that can interoperate with other CORBA applications written in C++ and Java. The product includes an IDL-to-Pascal compiler capable of compiling CORBA IDL into Delphi Pascal stub and skeleton code, and the associated runtime library required to interface between this code and the VisiBroker 4 C++ ORB. This implementation supports simple and complex data types in IDL, along with callbacks, the COSNaming Service and the COSEvent Service.

Many examples are provided to illustrate the different features of the VisiBroker 4 for Delphi implementation. These examples are located in your

Delphi6/Demos/Corba/IDL2PAS directory.

IDL-to-Delphi Pascal Language Mapping is specified in chapter two of the VisiBroker 4 for Delphi manual (installed to your Delphi6/Doc/IDL2PAS directory). The manual is in PDF format; a viewer is also provided.

CORBA compatibility notes

The TypeLib interface and CorbaConnection component are only compatible with the VisiBroker 3.3 ORB. The Corba Wizards, located on the CORBA tab of the File | New | Other tab of the projects dialog box, are compatible with both VisiBroker 3.3 and VisiBroker 4.1.

NOTES AND ISSUES:
ONLINE HELP

How to disengage CLX Help Reference linking

[Applies to Enterprise and Professional editions only]

The default Help installation for Delphi 6 includes documentation for two component libraries: the familiar Visual Component Library (VCL) for Windows development, and the new CLX library documentation for cross-platform development. As a result, you'll often be presented with a choice of two titles when seeking information on a specific object or property--one title from the VCL reference, and the other from the CLX reference. If, however, you are doing Windows platform development only and you'd like to forego the library choice when summoning Help, you can easily disengage the CLX reference from the main Help system's linking mechanisms. Here's how:

1. If Delphi Help is running, close it (no need to close the Delphi IDE, though).

2. Using any text editor, open the files DELPHI6.OHL, DELPHI6.OHI, and DELPHI6.OHC (all are located in your Delphi\Help directory).

3. In each file, comment out each line containing the string "DLX1CLX" by entering a semicolon as the first character on the line.

4. Save each file.

5. In your Delphi\Help folder, delete any hidden files with the extension "GID". Also delete any files with an extension beginning with "F".

Note:

All of these files are automatically generated by Help, and will be restored the next time Delphi Help is run. The GID is a General Index file, and the "F" files are generated when you run a full-text search from the Help Topics dialog. Deleting these files--always recommended when you alter the Help system configuration or install updated Help files--will assure proper indexing and database searching when you restart Help.

6. Restart Help, either by running DELPHI6.HLP directly from your Delphi\Help folder, or by starting it from the IDE using the Help menu or F1. The DLX1CLX.HLP topics should now be excluded from your searches and indexes.

If you also delete the DLX1CLX files from your Delphi\Help folder and later decide to restore them (from CD), remember to uncomment the DLX1CLX lines in your *.OH? files to allow the files to be linked back into your larger Help system.

You can also use the DELPHI6.OH* file set to disengage any other part of the Help system (apart from the core DELPHI6.* set), or add your own Help files to the system.

Windows Help index limitation on Windows 98/ME

The Windows Help engine on Windows 95, 98, and Millennium uses a 16-bit list box in the Help Topics dialog's Index tab, and can display no more than 32,767 keywords. If this limitation is exceeded, the Index is blank. If you are using one of these operating systems, you may note that the Help Index control file (Delphi6.ohi) has been modified to exclude a number of Help files from the Index. This modification does not affect other Help system functionality--such as crossfile linking or F1 accessibility--and you can expand the index or modify it further to include or exclude any Help file reference by adding or removing semi-colon comment marks before ":Index" entries. When modifying the .OHI file, however, you must keep the WinHelp viewer limitation in mind to avoid the "blank index" problem.

Keeping your Help Index pointers current

Whenever your Delphi Help system is modified or reconfigured, be sure to delete any hidden *.GID files in your Delphi6/Help directory before restarting Help.

SHED and MRBC utilities not included

The Help file for the Help Compiler Workshop (HCW) product states that two utilities--SHED.EXE and MRBC.EXE--are included with HCW. We do not, however, ship these utilities with our distribution of HCW. They are included in the full HCW distribution, available free from the Microsoft Web site.

Help may include references to features not available in your edition

Your Help system may include references to features or functionality that is not available in your edition of Delphi. For example, the Help system included with the Personal Edition includes topics that describe cross-platform development and WebSnap features. These sections of the Help system may be ignored. If you'd like more information about such features and the advantages of upgrading to a version of Delphi that includes them, however, check the Delphi home site at http://www.borland.com/delphi/.

PRODUCT INFORMATION ON THE WEB

In addition to numerous private sites that offer information, instruction, and samples, the following Borland Web-based resources provide a continuous stream of news, product information, updates, code, and other materials. You can connect to many of these resources directly from the Help menu.

Delphi Direct [Help|Delphi Direct]

This IDE add-in resource provides an automatically updated list of links to the latest news, downloads, and other information about Delphi and Borland.

Code Central

The CodeCentral Repository is a free, searchable database of code, tips, and other materials of interest to developers. For details and registration information, visit http://community.borland.com/codecentral

The Borland Web site

Borland Software Corporation home page:

http://www.borland.com

[IDE: Help|Borland Home Page]

Delphi home page:

http://www.borland.com/delphi/

[IDE: Help|Delphi Home Page]

Delphi developer support:

http://www.borland.com/devsupport/delphi/

[IDE: Help|Delphi Developer Support]

Delphi updates and other downloads:

http://www.borland.com/devsupport/delphi/downloads/

Delphi documentation site:

http://www.borland.com/techpubs/delphi

Newsgroups:

http://www.borland.com/newsgroups/

Worldwide offices and distributors:

http://www.borland.com/bww/

FTP site (anonymous access):

ftp.borland.com