DateControl

Release: 1.1
January 16, 2001

Contact: Keith DeLong
Redcort Software
keith@redcort.com

Download: http://redcort.com/rb/files

Overview

DateControl 1.0 consists of two REALbasic classes that simplify the display and modification of Dates and Time in REALbasic. The DateControl classes approximate the look and functionality of the DateControls used by the Mac OS in the Date & Time Control Panel.

The TimeField and DateField classes open by default with the current system date or time. This can be easily modified in the Open event, allowing them to be deployed any place a date/time display or entry is required.

Features

* Sub-tabbing forward or backward through the items in the field
* Automagic filtering of or manually entered data
* Incrementing of values using either the arrowkeys or ‘+’ and ‘-‘ keys.
* Easy methods to integrate LittleArrows controls for incrementing items
* International savvy - all date and time formats supported
* Field display and function controlled by the Date and Time control panel settings.

Compatibility & Use

REALbasic version 3 only (last tested on 3.0b1)
Initially Mac Only (I am still resolving several Windows display issues)

Cost

$20 See enclosed registration form for details.

Unregistered Versions

Unregistered classes are fully functional when run in the IDE.
Unregistered versions of these classes will not work in compiled applications.

Installation

To install these classes in your REALbasic 3.x project, drag the DateControl folder (containing the DateField and TimeField classes) into your open project window.

Use

After installation, there are two basic means to deploy a DateField or TimeField classes in your REALbasic project:

1. Drag a class from project window to an open window.

or

1. Drag an EditField from the REALbasic tools to your open project window.
2. Select the field in the window
3. Select either DateField or TimeField from the Super dropdown list in the Properties window.

To create a LittleArrows control for either class:

* Place the LittleArrows control 3 pixels from the right edge of the date/time field
* Set the LittleArrows control Height to 23 in the IDE Properties window.
* Disable the LittleArrows control in the IDE Properties window.
* Enter an Increment method in the up and down subs of the LittleArrows control (see above or the example project included with the classes).
* Enter enable/disable methods for the LittleArrows in the GotFocus/LostFocus subs of the Time/DateField associated to the LittleArrows control. See the examples section on page 4 or the sample project included with these classes for details).

Notes

1. DO NOT set the text of a DateField/TimeField using the .text property! You must always set the text using .display (date), passing a valid date object.

2. To make the classes as simple as possible to configure, both classes default to display the system font, using a 12 point characters, and a field height of 22 pixels. As these override IDE Properties window settings, changes to these defaults must be made programmatically using the open event of the field.

3. When setting SysDatesOnly to false, the .date method is nil since RB date objects are limited to the system date range. Retrieve non system dates (before 1904 and after 2039) as a string using the .text

4. These classes will work great using the Run command in the IDE. Please note: **Left unregistered, these classes will not function in a compiled application**.

Super Class
EditField

Properties

CLASS	NAME	Type	DESCRIPTION
DateField	.User	string	name of the registered user.
	.SerialNumber	string	serial number for the class.
DateField	.User	string	name of the registered user.
	.SerialNumber	string	serial number for the class.

Methods

CLASS	NAME	Parameters	DESCRIPTION
DateField	.Display	date object	displays the passed date in short date format
	.Increment	integer	1 or -1 increments selected value used with LittleArrows control
	.Date		returns a standard RB date object of the currently displayed date
	.SysDatesOnly	boolean	true = field only uses Mac OS date range of 1904 -2039 false = field only any valid date (.date is nil if SysDatesOnly = false)
TimeField	.Display	date object	displays the passed date in short date format
	.Increment	integer	1 or -1 increments selected value used with LittleArrows control
	.Time		returns a standard RB date object of the currently displayed time

Examples

Used in a DateField's open handler:

```
Sub Open()
   dim d as date
    d = new date
    d.year = 1941
    d.month = 12
    d.day = 7
    me.display(d)
End Sub
```

Used in a LittleArrows object associated with a TimeField:

```
Sub Down()
  TimeField1.Increment(-1)
End Sub

Sub Up()
  TimeField1.Increment(1)
End Sub
```

Used in a PushButton's Action handler:

```
msgbox "Long Date  = " + DateField1.Date.LongDate
msgbox "Year = " + DateField1.Date.Year
msgbox "Day of Week  = " + nthfield(DateField1.Date.LongDate,",",1)

msgbox "Time Entered = " + TimeField1.Time.ShortTime
msgbox "Hours = " + TimeField1.Time.hour
msgbox "Minutes  = " + TimeField1.Time.Minute
```