

On The Disk...

A run-down of what's included on the free disk with this issue

Collated and tested by Mike Orriss

Subscribers to The Delphi Magazine receive a free disk with each copy, packed with goodies. This includes the source code and example files for all the articles in the current issue.

But, there's much more too! We've sifted through a great many tools, components and other Delphi add-ons to bring you some of the best shareware and freeware material available, as outlined below. The headings are the directory names where you will find the files on the floppy disk.

➤ ANIMAT32

A 32bit version of Dave Baldwin's free animation component, with complete source code. I used this to create the morphing chess piece in the DTopics About box.

➤ DATEGEN

DateGen is a free utility from Bob Swart used to generate a file called COMPDATE.PAS to be placed on your library path. You just add two lines to AUTOEXEC.BAT and then whenever you reboot, two new versions of the file will be generated (for Delphi 1 and 2):

```
unit CompDate;
interface
Const
    CompiledAt = '1996/8/29';
implementation
end.
```

If you add the unit CompDate to the uses clause of your Delphi projects then you can use the constant CompiledAt to indicate when your project was last compiled.

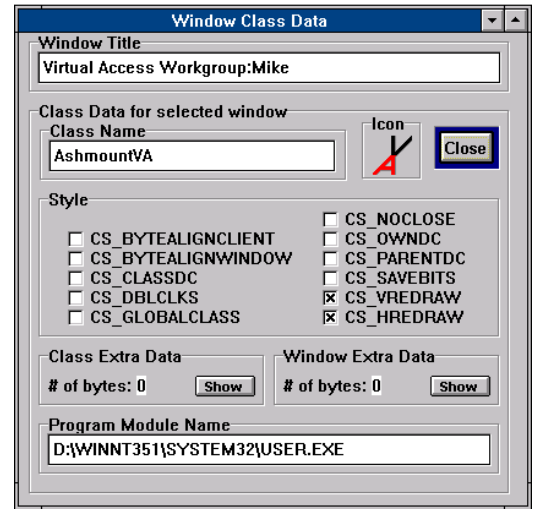
➤ INTERNET

Listing of Delphi-related World Wide Web and ftp sites.

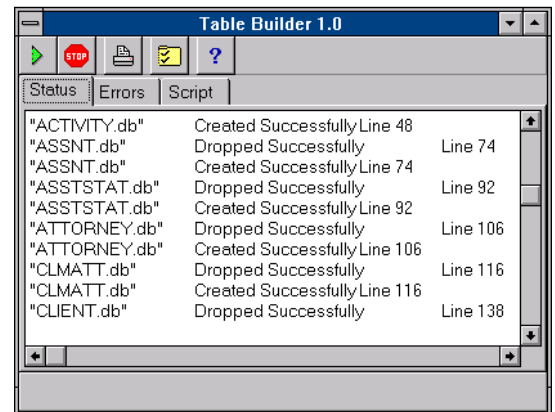
➤ PARSER

The BisonWare file parser component adds powerful parsing

➤ *Right:*
Window Data Finder determines the class data and window data of any top level or child window of a running task



➤ *Right:*
Table Builder makes building new tables a cinch



capabilities to your Delphi applications. Both ASCII text files and text strings in memory may be parsed, with just a few lines of code.

➤ SRWDEMO2

This contains an un-registered version of the Shazam end-user report component. Basically, Shazam is a run-time SQL generator that allows you to provide an end-user reporting function within your program by dropping a component on the form and adding a single line of code.

There are three demo projects provided, one of which generates SRWTOOLS.EXE which can be added to the Delphi IDE Tools menu, enabling you to create bespoke reports to be distributed with your application.

➤ TABL_BLD

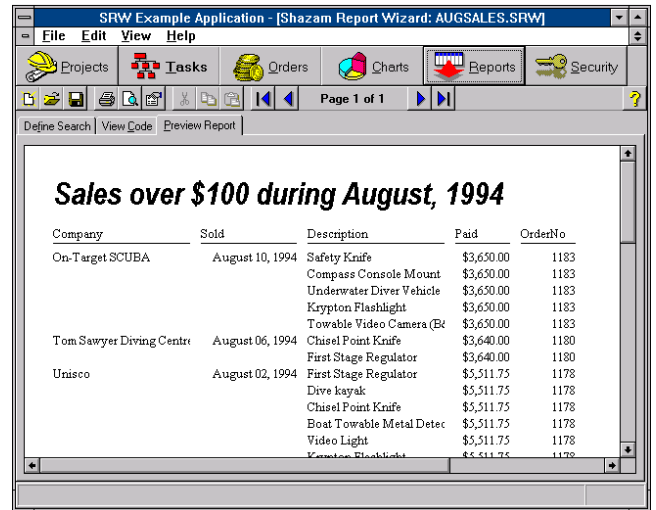
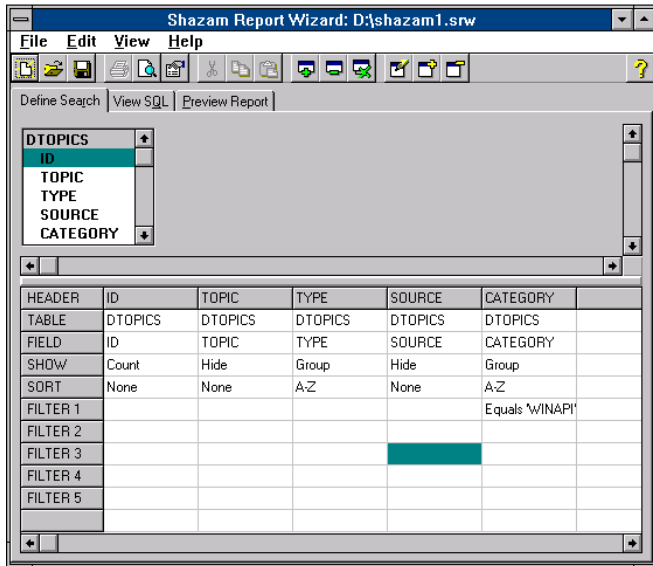
Table Builder is a 32-bit freeware utility that builds a physical database from a text file. The text file should contain a script that contains a series of CreateTable SQL statements. Use the Database Desktop Create Table SQL syntax constraints.

➤ TSERIAL2

TSerial for Delphi 2. This is a no-frills serial component that saves you having to tangle with the Windows Comms API functions to handle a serial port. Only basic serial comms are provided, there are no terminals, protocols etc.

➤ USERGPS

List and contact information for Delphi User Groups.



➤ Left and above: Shazam in action

➤ WINDAT

Window Data Finder is a helpful utility used for determining the class data and window data of any top level or child window of a running task. This info is required when trying to hook into another program with a utility program add on of your own design. Just double click the empty list window or press the Find 'em button and the program will search out all the top level windows.

Important Note!

Always, but **always** make a backup copy of your component library file *before* you take the plunge and

install *any* new component into Delphi! Sometimes component installation can trash your component library and you will then be left with an inoperative Delphi will have to re-add *all* your extra components.

Send In Your Code...

If you have some carefully crafted routines, why not send them in for evaluation by mail or (zipped up) by CompuServe email to our Disk Editor, Mike Orriss, on 100570,121. We do consider *all* submitted files for use on future disks.