

THE Delphi

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The Delphi Magazine
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News

OLE Automation

We have some late-breaking news on the `TOLEAutomationClient` component from Bill Raike reviewed by Micha Somers in this issue. Version 1.1 is now released, which offers support for in-process servers, the ability to control a running instance of a server, improved error reporting etc. A trial-run version is available for download from the CompuServe Delphi forum as file `OLEAUTTR.ZIP`. A 32-bit version for Delphi 2.0 will be released soon.

Bill Raike can be contacted by email at raike@swdev.co.nz

Sax Webster Control

This new 32-bit OCX (which you can use with Delphi 2.0) is a browser which you can build into your applications to include seamless World Wide Web connectivity. Features include the ability to pre-scan page contents before displaying it (to allow screening out of unsuitable material for school use, for example), automated displays, menus, forms etc.

The UK recommended price is £110. For more details in the UK, contact the distributors, Contemporary Software, Tel: 01727 811999, Fax: 01727 848991.

Wise Goes 32-Bit

The very popular Wise Installation System is now available in a 32-bit version. Version 4.0 operates on

both 16- and 32-bit platforms. New features include: a full graphics editor, more advanced text file processing (including INI files, plus `CONFIG.SYS` and `AUTOEXEC.BAT`), automatic replacement of in-use files, advanced installation support, selectable fonts throughout the installation process, full support for sharing files across components, timed bitmaps and enhanced Windows 95 support.

You can get a copy from QBS Software in the UK (Tel: 0181 956 8000) for £149 plus VAT, or most fine software tools retailers!

Calling Budding Authors!

We are continually on the lookout for new material for The Delphi Magazine, so if you think you have something which will be of interest

to your fellow developers, why not get in touch?

We are more interested in good technical content than sparkling prose (we can tidy it up for you), so don't worry if you have never written for publication before. If you want to dip a toe in the water to see how things go, you could submit some Tips & Tricks. As far as topics go, we prefer you to suggest to us things that you are interested in and would like to write about.

If you are interested send an email message to the Editor at 70630.717@compuserve.com with your ideas. We do pay for all printed contributions, so you could earn a bit extra for this year's holiday fund (or your partner's birthday present...).

EDSSpell Update

This spell checker, which was included on the disk with Issue 5 of The Delphi Magazine, has now been upgraded to Version 2.0.

Highlights of the new version include: 100% VCL (no DLL), automatically spell check all fields on a form, Orpheus support, new expanded dictionaries (including medical and legal), faster and smaller engine, more languages supported, more suggestions, etc.

For more details contact the authors, Eminent Domain Software in Laredo, Texas, Tel: +1 210 729 0123, Fax: +1 210 729 0011, Email: CompuServe 70600,3451

Borland Developers Conference London

If you live in Europe (or elsewhere but your boss has a progressive view on professional development budgets!), reserve April 28th to May 2nd in your diary, for the Borland Developers Conference London '96, taking place at the Royal Lancaster Hotel.

The event is organised by Dunstan Thomas, Desktop Associates and the Paradox Users Group. It includes separate tracks on Delphi Intro, Delphi Advanced, Delphi Database, Paradox and a final catch-all for C++, Client/Server and General topics. There will be plenty for all you hardened Delphi fans out there, speakers include our very own Bob Swart, plus Marco Cantù (who have a joint article in this issue), Jeroen Plumiers, Sundar Rajan (this is starting to sound like our author list!) and many more.

There are tutorials and training on 28th April and 1st/2nd May, with the main conference on 29th/30th April. We'll be there of course and look forward to meeting many of you.

For more details and a booking form, contact Desktop Associates Ltd, Tel: +44 (0)171 381 9995/9996, Fax: +44 (0)171 381 9777.

Java Debugger From Borland

The world seems to be running after Sun's Java language in a big way. I nearly said 'new' language there, but actually it's was around for quite some time before it got renamed to Java!

Well, Borland have, as you will I'm sure know, licensed Java and are working on a product called Latte, for visual development in Java. They have just announced the availability of a beta version of a Java debugger, written in the language itself. The pre-release version is available on CompuServe in the BND-10 forum or on Borland's web site at www.borland.com.

Delphi's Popularity

In a December 1995 survey of readers, WinTech Journal from the USA found that 41.2% developed in Delphi, 42.2% in a BASIC dialect, 64.7% in C, 90.2% in C++, 29.4% in SQL, 25.5% in a 4GL and 11.8% in Ada (with much smaller percentages for other less fashionable languages like Cobol and Fortran). Now before anyone tells me that adds up to over 100%, I should say that any one reader will often write in more than one language!

Whilst C/C++ are clearly still very popular (though I can't understand why!), Delphi is also clearly becoming a very strong contender. I wonder how long it will be before it overtakes the much longer established Visual Basic and leaves it *well* behind in the usage figures?

Software Tools Catalogue Now On The Web

QBS Software in the UK (Tel: 0181 956 8000) have placed their entire software development tools catalogue online at www.qbss.com. Details of over 400 tools are included, plus demos to download, news and suchlike. Plans for the future include online purchasing.

Delphi 2.0 MasterClass

The UK Delphi Developers' Group (DDG) will be holding a one-day Delphi 2.0 MasterClass on 29th March in Hammersmith, London. Designed to help developers get a quick start in the new version, the class will be led by Brian Long, who

will be well known to you all through his regular contributions to the magazine.

Topics to be covered include: compatibility with Delphi 1.0x, 32 bit compiler, Borland Database Engine 3.0, Database Explorer, the new components, Object Repository, form inheritance, OCX, OLE, threads and the Win95/NT API.

The day costs £150 plus VAT for non-members and just £75 plus VAT for members (as membership is just £100 you might as well join up too!). Demand is expected to be high.

DDG also run regular one day Object Pascal courses, at standard and advanced levels, especially designed for Delphi developers who are new to Pascal, and they are also starting a new component writing course.

For further details contact DDG on Tel: +44 (0)1980 630032, Fax: +44 (0)1980 630602 or Email them at CompuServe 100016,355

Speak To Me...

GeoMEM software (located in the wilds of Blairgowrie, UK) have developed a vocabulary of Delphi commands, words and constructs for the Shakespeare Office Speak Lite product which allows you to control Delphi by voice!

As well as the obvious commands such as 'compile!', it will

also generate code structure templates (eg `if..then..else`) for you.

Pricing is £449 plus VAT, with a special offer until 31st March of £399. For more details an contact GeoMEM on Tel: +44 (0)1250 872284, Fax: +44 (0)1250 873290 or Email: central@geomem.win-uk.net

Clean Up Your Addresses

AFD Software, who produce the PostCode Plus software which we have featured previously, have a new product out which promises to clean up your dodgy address lists.

Using the same Royal Mail PAF (Postcode Address File) data as PostCode Plus, it uses drag and drop to automatically check UK addresses.

For more details contact AFD on Tel: +44 (0)1924 823221, or Fax: +44 (0)1924 822905. The price is £950 plus VAT.

Information Please!

If your company has products or services which are relevant to Delphi developers we want to hear about them! Our deadline for news is about the 8th day of the month preceding the cover date. Send your information for the attention of the Editor, by email if possible, to:

70630.717@compuserve.com

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