

THE Delphi

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The Delphi Magazine
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shipping (a couple were due out as we went to press): General Ledger, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Order Entry, Inventory/Purchasing, Payroll, Check (or Cheque if you are British!) Reconciliation and finally Human Resources.

Planned enhancements include Interbase support (soon) and, later, VAT support to allow use in Europe.

For more information contact ColumbuSoft on Tel: +1 614 885 7789, Fax: +1 614 885 2077 or on CompuServe as 76702,556.

News

Virtual Pascal For OS/2

fPrint have recently announced that VP/2 (for short) is due for release at the beginning of April. It is a 32-bit development environment for OS/2 which aims at substantial compatibility with both Delphi and Borland Pascal.

We hope to be able to review VP/2 soon, but in the meantime for more information contact fPrint in the UK at Tel: +44 181 563 2359, or Fax: +44 181 563 2361.

Advantage Database Server

Using dBase table files, this is another replacement database engine system designed for client/server use. It can be used with a number of other development environments as well as Delphi. More details in the UK from QBS on Tel: 0181 956 8000 or email them at orders@qbss.com.

Dr.Bob On The Web

It had to happen... Bob Swart has completed the first draft of his Web pages and you can now check out *Dr.Bob's Delphi Clinic* at <http://www.pi.net/~drbob/> (he says don't forget the / at the end!), with files, articles, tips, updated versions of The Delphi Magazine Book Review Database, plus information on back issues of The Delphi Magazine.

As some of you have pointed out, and here your Editor's face turns a bright shade of embarrassed pink,

our own Web pages have not been updated for a while, so while we are getting our act together (read: while we're still working too many hours than makes sense!), you may well find the Delphi Magazine information you are looking for at Bob's site.

Accounting For Delphi

This is a suite of Delphi source code modules for a double entry batch-oriented accounting system from ColumbuSoft. We understand that eight modules should now be

WebHub - Unleashing The Power Of Delphi On The Web!

WebHub is produced by HREF and their Early Experience Package version 8.3 has now shipped. You can get yourself a free trial copy from

<http://www.href.com/trywhub.html>
This latest release includes:

- > A gallery project and form to help you start your own web-app quickly.
- > A Java demo that shows how easily WebHub can pass parameters to a java applet.

It's Here...

Many of you will now be happily playing with your new copy of Delphi 2, which started shipping at the end of February. In the UK, copies were reportedly selling well at the Windows Show. There have been some reports of delays in shipment of upgrades, but all should be OK now.

Third party toolkits will be being upgraded for Delphi 2 now, although with some you may well find that a recompile of the source works fine. It's always worth checking with the vendor first. A good source of upgrade availability information are developer tools retailers, who generally get this kind of data first. When ordering toolkits, make sure you check that they are for the correct version...

Some of you have asked whether we will be continuing to cover Delphi 1. Well, since a great many 16-bit applications are continuing to be developed, we intend to cover both versions, at least for the present. Some upcoming articles will be specific to Delphi 2 and some will be largely aimed at Delphi 1 applications. Of course, we'll make sure the article tells you which version it's relevant to! Where possible, we will try to ensure that material is relevant to both versions, with conditional compiles in code where relevant.

It seems that Delphi 2 may break more Delphi 1 code than we had at first hoped and of course we'll keep you updated on this. Our authors are busy looking for all the gotchas! If you need help with specific problems, don't forget that you can contact our Delphi Clinic Editor, Brian Long, by email (at CompuServe 76004,3437) or through the magazine offices.

Chris Frizelle, Editor

- More free demo applications to help you learn how to handle queries, graphics on the fly, slide shows, frame syntax...
- 32-bit code for registered users.
- Netscape runner for registered users.
- Support for high-traffic sites. Media server cycling lets you serve large graphics and audio files from multiple machines instead of dragging down a single box. The new Maitre d'Hub lets you bounce requests to additional machines to distribute even the cgi processing. The Hub queues page requests across multiple instances of your .exe, giving support for multiple simultaneous surfers.

Samples and demos are linked from www.href.com/sample/. Technical support is available even if you haven't yet purchased the product; email ann@href.com with your questions. WebHub EEP is still \$573.75 (\$300 for the Hub System and \$273.75 for the 70+ components), including 12 months of upgrades and both the 16- and 32-bit versions, plus support for WebSite, Netscape and Spry web servers.

Note: We are looking to include coverage of Internet/Web development using Delphi in the magazine as this is an area which has seen an explosion of interest. If you have experience in this field, do get in touch with the Editor!

DialogPros

This large collection of dialogs, components and code templates allows you to create Experts easily and quickly. More details in the UK from QBS on Tel: 0181 956 8000 or email them at orders@qbss.com.

TurboPower Update

TurboPower are busily working on Delphi 2 versions of their product line. You can now get early experience versions of both Orpheus and Async Pro for Delphi 2.

For Orpheus, new features include a data aware array editor and table, formatted data aware picture label and alarm components. For Async Pro, fax send, receive, viewing and printing support is

Opus DirectAccess for MS Access

You're going to love this one... Getting into and working with MS Access tables has been a source of angst for many Delphi developers. Saying 'use Paradox tables then' is not much help if your corporate standard is Access! Well, help is in sight.

Opus DirectAccess is a replacement for the Borland Database Engine (BDE) for Delphi 2 developers (ie it's 32-bit only) using the Microsoft Jet database engine. It uses Microsoft's Data Access Objects (DAO) to interface to the Jet database engine. It does not support the full range of BDE functionality, but rather only those parts that are necessary for the Delphi database components and the Delphi design environment to run.

The developers claim that DirectAccess is much faster than using ODBC, as well as more complete, smaller and simpler. It's also possible to access ODBC data sources through DirectAccess, giving better results than using the BDE's ODBC support, to quote: *"DirectAccess is significantly faster in many cases and never slower. In addition, many operations that are impossible with the BDE can be done with DirectAccess, for instance index access."*

The developers also point out: *"Both the BDE and Jet have rich interfaces. Both support, for instance, direct index access. ODBC, being a pure SQL interface, is not as rich. It does not support direct index access. Because the BDE must access Jet via ODBC, it cannot efficiently use all of Jet's functionality. Replacing the BDE and mapping the BDE interface directly to Jet, DirectAccess can expose a far wider range of Jet's functionality, including index access."*

To distribute applications you will need to distribute DAO, for which you need a distribution license. This license is included with the Access Development Toolkit, with Visual C++ 4.0, and with Visual Basic 4.0 Professional. End user installation requires DAO installation plus one extra DLL.

DirectAccess is distributed by Philog AG, located in Switzerland. Contact Roland Strauss for questions and orders, at Tel: +41 (0)56 634 31 41, Fax: +41 (0)56 634 31 51 or on CompuServe at 100034,3165

The developers, Opus Software GmbH, are on Tel: +41 (0)1 930 76 36, Fax: +41 (0)1 930 34 10, internet e-mail: opussoftware@access.ch or on CompuServe: 101560,2152

We await developments with considerable interest.

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.

included, along with components for converting various bitmap and text files to fax format. They are also looking for new developers if you fancy a new job! For more information contact TurboPower on Tel: +1 719 260 9136, Fax: +1 719 260 7151 or email info@tpower.com

Visual Programming 96

Organised by the Gloucestershire (England) and Florida (USA) based developer training company Database Programmers Retreat, this is a 2-day conference aimed at developers who need to evaluate Windows programming tools. As well as Delphi, it covers Visual Basic, Visual Objects and FoxPro.

All the locations are in the UK and the dates are 11-12 April in London, 15-16 April in Manchester and 18-19 April in Edinburgh. The cost is £595 plus VAT. For more details Telephone 01452 814303.

Version Control For The Web

Mortice Kern Systems (MKS) are shipping MKS Integrity Engine 1.0 to provide version control for the

development of World Wide Web applications. Netscape are apparently to include the product in their newly announced Netscape Enterprise Server for Intranet and Internet publishing.

You can obtain more details from MKS' newly established UK office on Tel: +44 171 624 0100, Fax: +44 171 624 9404 or email them on uk@mks.com

Information Please!

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

70630.717@compuserve.com
or failing that by fax to:
+44 181 460 0650
or by snail mail if you really must!

Calling Budding Authors!

If you are interested in writing for The Delphi Magazine we want to hear from you...

Drop an email to Chris Frizelle on CompuServe at 70630,717 with your ideas and we'll get back to you with guidelines.

Oh, by the way, we'll pay you if we print your material too!

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