News

VB To Delphi Translator

Eagle Research of San Francisco, California, have released a new version of VB2D, for translating Visual Basic projects to Delphi.

The new version can now produce code for Delphi 2, from VB Versions 3.0 or 4.0. It also claims nearly 100% conversion of most database code, automatic replacement of commonly used VBX controls, higher quality output and progress reporting.

VB code using the JET database engine (eg for Access databases) is automatically translated to use Eagle's JETset controls, which connect directly to the JET engine for high performance.

The standard version costs $150 and the professional version (which includes a copy of JETset, plus enhanced reporting and source code) costs $450. For details visit http://www.xeaglex.com or call +1 415 495 3136, fax: +1 415 3638.

Wise Up...

The popular Wise installer (apparently this means WIndows Self-installing Executable – don't you just *love* those clever acronyms...) has now been upgraded to version 5. It now has a Windows 95 multilingual Wizard look and feel which claims to be even easier to use. Languages supported are English, German, French, Italian and Spanish. Wise can install program files, graphics, components, make file associations, edit INI files, edit the Registry, add devices and services plus edit AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files. It also does a nice cappucino in case you get thirsty... well, no, not really, but maybe in version 6?

Typical UK price for the UK version is £149 plus VAT, with an upgrade from v3.0 costing £79 and from v4.0 £39. For more details call QBS Software on 0181 956 8000. They are doing a special offer until the end of December: get the SmartPATCH for Wise add-in for £75 if you order an upgrade. Of course your favourite local software tools retailer will also be delighted to help.

SiteXtras

HyperAct of Des Moines, Iowa, has released a public beta of a new tool which enables Web site developers to add keyword searching and an automatic table of contents to their sites. Also included are management tools for Web sites and there are plans for lots more in the final release, planned for November.

To obtain the free beta, visit http://www.hyperact.com. The list price on release will be $345.

Free Orpheus Upgrade

Users of TurboPower's Orpheus 2.0 can now obtain a free upgrade to version 2.1. The update has six new components, including incremental database search fields and data-aware listboxes.

To obtain the upgrade patch, visit http://www.tpower.com or on CompuServe GO TURBOPOWER.

Also available for free download is an upgrade patch for Async Pro for Delphi from 2.0 to 2.01. We are working on a review of this comms and fax product, which we hope to bring to you soon.

If you've been waiting for news of FlashFiler, the high performance native Delphi database engine TurboPower are working on, by the time this reaches you the Early Experience version should be ready, so call them on +1 719 260 6641 or fax: +1 719 260 7151.

Display Corel DRAW! And AutoCAD Drawings

ImageFX have released VectorFX, an exciting new ActiveX control which allows your Delphi 2 applications to display a variety of vector graphics formats. These include: CDR, CGM, DRW, DXF, GEM, PLT, HGL, WGF and WMF. EPS previews can also be displayed.

Over 100 effects can be applied to the display (wipe, diagonals, blind, roll, etc) and the graphics can be re-sized, flipped, cropped, zoomed, rotated and reversed. Printing is also supported.

VectorFX is available from Grey Matter in the UK (amongst others) on Tel: 01364 654100, Fax: 01364 654200, at £252 plus VAT.

SoftDev And WebDev

On November 27th and 28th these two events in the UK, organised by Interactive Exhibitions, target (unsurprisingly!) software developers and Web developers. The venue is Olympia in London.

As well as exhibitions of products and services, there are three conferences on offer. One of these, IntraDev '96, covers intranet development.

Also being staged live is the third annual Software Developers' Challenge, in which Delphi teams have done well in previous years.

For more details of the events and tickets contact Interactive Exhibitions on Tel: +44 (0)181 541 4865, Fax: +44 (0)181 974 5188 or send an email message to softworld@softinfo.com

Borland News

Borland have now released the first version of IntraBuilder, their new toolset for building and maintaining intranets. Like the forthcoming Latte (Java-based) product, its IDE bears a striking resemblance to Delphi!

Whilst continuing the search for a new permanent CEO, Borland have recently announced the appointment of Whitney G Lynn as acting President and CEO, which allows William Miller to return to his role as Chairman.

SQA Suite For Delphi

If you are developing client/server applications with Delphi 2, SQA are offering a free evaluation copy of their automated software testing tool.

Features include Object Testing, which tests the properties of all Delphi objects, testing of all data in VCL, OCX and ActiveX data-aware controls, a choice of scripting languages for test control and a client/server test repository based on Sybase SQL Anywhere.

For more details call SQA Europe on +44 (0)1344 382192, or Fax: +44 (0)1344 303192 or point your browser at http://www.sqa.com

Fax Plus 2.0

Contemporary Software now have MicroHelp's new version of their fax software available. It incorporates 32-bit ActiveX and VBX controls, plus 16- and 32-bit DLLs, plus a re-distributable Windows 95 printer drivers. Delphi is explicitly supported.

The software can be used to build applications which are able to send and receive faxes from most Class 1, Class 2 and CAS compatible modems. Input file types supported include text, BMP, DCX and PCX, whilst incoming faxes can be stored as BMP, DCX and TIF image formats as well as 'raw' binary files. Fax pages can be re-oriented if desired.

Fax Plus 2.0 costs £195 plus VAT in the UK. For more details contact Contemporary Software on Tel: +44 (0)1344 873434, Fax: +44 (0)1344 872228.

Well Done Damon!

I know this is a software developer's magazine, but I couldn't resist taking the opportunity to congratulate Damon Hill on winning the Formula 1 World Championship in such style by storming to victory in the Japanese Grand Prix. When today's motor racing sometimes seems so full of 'prima donnas' it's refreshing to see a real sportsman making it all the way to the top. It couldn't happen to a nicer guy!

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 the 8th day of the month preceding the cover date. Send your information for the attention of the Editor, by email if possible, to:

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or failing that by fax to:
+44 181 249 0376
or by snail mail if you really must!