

# THE Delphi

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## News

### Publisher To Enter Web Hosting Market

The publishers of *The Delphi Magazine* and *Developers Review*, iTec, have recently launched a new venture called **TDMWeb** to provide quality web hosting at an affordable price.

The cost of hosting your website and email can be very high if you go to one of the big names, but TDMWeb is offering a Basic package with 20Mb of space and 5 POP-3 email boxes for just £60 plus VAT per year. Even more tempting is that subscribers to either of the company's magazines qualify for a £10 discount on this price. Domain registration can also be provided at competitive prices, along with website design and maintenance services too. For more information visit [www.TDMWeb.com](http://www.TDMWeb.com) or call iTec on +44 (0)870 740 7610.

### InterBase Future?

As we go to press, we are hearing as yet unconfirmed reports that the future of new versions of InterBase, Inprise's embedded database server product, is 'under discussion'. Some key InterBase staff are understood to have left or be on their way out of Inprise. There does seem, however, to be firm commitment to the current versions of the product. We are urgently seeking clarification and will post information on our website when available.

### Fenestra Event Journal

New from Fenestra Technologies Corporation ([www.fenestra.com](http://www.fenestra.com)) is this first product from Component Factory, Fenestra's software component e-commerce website. Event Journal provides a simple, non-invasive and automatic way to hook into and log all user-interface events (such as selecting menus, clicking buttons and minimising windows) for any Delphi or C++Builder application. Using Event Journal is like peering over a user's shoulder as they use an application, say the developers. It

is of especial use when tracing events that lead up to an exception, and also shows application developers how an application is actually being used in the field, so they can improve and simplify the user interface. The product includes the Event Viewer for browsing, filtering, exporting, and printing an event journal log, plus documentation and examples.

A trial version of Event Journal is at [www.componentfactory.com](http://www.componentfactory.com) and it is priced at \$99.

### Advantage Database Server To Include Delphi Source

Extended Systems have announced version 5.6 of their Advantage Database Server engine. This will now ship with Delphi source code for the Advantage Database Engine version 2.6 for Delphi. The developers say performance has been improved, and new features added, such as SQL UNION support, sharing instances of components across threads, and support for NetWare 5 IP and SMP.

Visit [www.AdvantageDatabase.com](http://www.AdvantageDatabase.com) for more information, or talk to your local dealer.

## Delphi Developers Conference 2000

**A**fter the tremendous success of the DCon 99 conference for Delphi developers, run jointly by *The Delphi Magazine* and the *UK Borland User Group*, we now have some initial information on **DCon 2000**.

The dates will be June 19th and 20th and the location is Wokefield Park, Mortimer, near Reading (M4 Junction 11): a comfortable, purpose-built conference venue set in a golf course. Transport arrangements for delegates are being made as we go to print.

As before, we will have the very best speakers with the very best material for Delphi programmers, at a very competitive price.

Confirmed speakers include: Phil Brown, Marco Cantù, Jason Chapman, Euan Garden, Ray Konopka, Brian Long, Gerald Nunn, Steve Scott, Guy Smith-Ferrier, Bob Swart, Lino Tadros and Steve Teixeira. This year we will also be organising special pre-conference training on June 18th.

More information will be available soon, both here and on the new conference website at [www.DCon.co.uk](http://www.DCon.co.uk), but make sure you put the dates in your diary right now! If you would like to make a provisional booking, call UK-BUG on +44 (0)1980 630032.

## Delphi Newsgroups Search

Tamarack Associates is hosting a newsgroup search engine at [www.TamarackA.com](http://www.TamarackA.com) that indexes Delphi and C++Builder newsgroups. The archive of messages goes back to May 1997 and includes newsgroups from Borland, Advantage, TurboPower, Vista Software, Woll2Woll, and others. Searches against the 1.5 million record database are performed using Tamarack Associates' Rubicon 2 full text search engine. Search results are returned in either date order (most recent to least recent) or rank order and may be viewed by article or by thread. With its focus on Borland development tools, this site is an excellent resource for Delphi and C++Builder users.

## Borland User Group MasterClasses

Our friends at UK-BUG are organising two one-day MasterClasses in February with leading lights in the Delphi development community. These events, located in London, UK, are usually very popular, so get your booking in now! Call now on +44 (0)1980 630032 for information.

Steve Teixeira is talking about *Automating MS Office with Delphi* on Tuesday February 8th. Steve's greatest claim to fame is his role as a columnist for *The Delphi Magazine*: he writes *COM Corner*. In his spare time he is also Vice President of Software Development at DeVries Data Systems, and was previously an R&D Engineer at Inprise Corporation. Aspects covered include background and foundations of automation, both in pure COM terms and as it applies to Delphi, then the MS Office Object Model, before moving onto creation of Office applications using the DeVries OfficePartner components. The best news is that the OfficePartner components are included in the MasterClass fee of £150 plus VAT to BUG members (non-members are allowed but the cost is higher).

Ray Konopka's topic, on Wednesday February 9th is *Component Building*. Whether you are an experienced writer of components in

## Delphi Conference CD-ROM

The Conference CD-ROM from DCon 99: the Delphi Developers Conference, organised by The Delphi Magazine and the UK Borland User Group (UK-BUG), is available for purchase from UK-BUG.

Conference attendees have already received their free copy, here's your chance to catch up if you were unable to make it to DCon 99.

With papers from more than 20 sessions, plus source code, there's lots to read, all presented with an easy-to-use browser (no web browser required). Topics covered include COM, CORBA, interfaces, Win32 API, web applications, actions and action lists, client/server, database applications, algorithms and design patterns.

Just £30 plus VAT from UK-BUG, call +44 (0)1980 630032, buys you this excellent resource. Only a limited number are available, so get your order in right away!



Delphi, or are just venturing into this field, Ray Konopka is the world expert to teach you and to consolidate your knowledge. The day starts with fundamentals, moves on to practical issues, then advanced topics, and design-time editors. The cost is £125 plus VAT to BUG members (non-members are allowed but the cost is higher).

## Getting Sentimental

Ann Lynnworth, of HREF Tools (developers of the WebHub application framework, [www.href.com](http://www.href.com)) sent us this little note recently, which tugged our heartstrings...

'Last week I did a presentation at the Sonoma County Web SIG in Santa Rosa. I talked about trends in the industry and at the end talked a little about HREF. I could tell that people had never heard of Delphi (these were all webmasters) and

they were curious. So I fired up Delphi and showed them how to build an app with a button and an edit box, what the DFM looks like, what the two-way tool is about, how a TWebAction component in WebHub connects out to the world they know. They were blown away. They were completely enchanted and interested and wanted to know more. I had forgotten how incredible the initial awakening is when people first discover Delphi. It was beautiful to see that again.'

Send your news about all aspects of Delphi development by email *only* please, to [press@itecuk.com](mailto:press@itecuk.com)