

THE Delphi

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News

MIDAS Pricing

Borland/Inprise have dramatically reduced the cost of licensing MIDAS 3: a server licence with unlimited client access now costs just £199.99 plus VAT in the UK. The licence covers access of MIDAS on one server by unlimited users: no separate client licences are now required.

Borland MIDAS (Multi-tier Distributed Application Services Suite) provides data remoting and synchronisation solutions for distributed applications. It gives you access to any data, any time, anywhere, say Borland, with support for any distributed computing standard and platform.

Borland/Inprise UK's customer services department is on 0800 454065.

ADO Fast Track

Training company Enterprise Logistics have introduced a new *Delphi ADO Fast Track* course. It lasts two days and costs £595 plus VAT. The maximum number of delegates is six and the course is designed to get you up to speed with ADO fast. Since the BDE seems to be on the way out, getting up to speed with ADO seems a very good idea!

The first dates available are May 8th and 9th, June 1st and 2nd, and July 3rd and 4th. Visit www.EnterpriseL.com for more information on this and other courses.

Delphi-Specific Search Engine

Stefano Bizzi has launched a new internet search engine dedicated to Delphi programmers. The site is at www.delphiseek.com (see the screenshot below) and includes a crawler search engine that indexes only Delphi-related sites, a directory of Delphi sites organised by category and a message board.

Currently, delphiseek.com has more than 8,000 individual pages indexed, with more added every day. The service is entirely free to searchers and those submitting sites for inclusion.

ReportBuilder 5

Digital Metaphors Corporation have released a new version of their reporting tool for Delphi, which now includes the Report Application Pascal (RAP) programming language. RAP enables

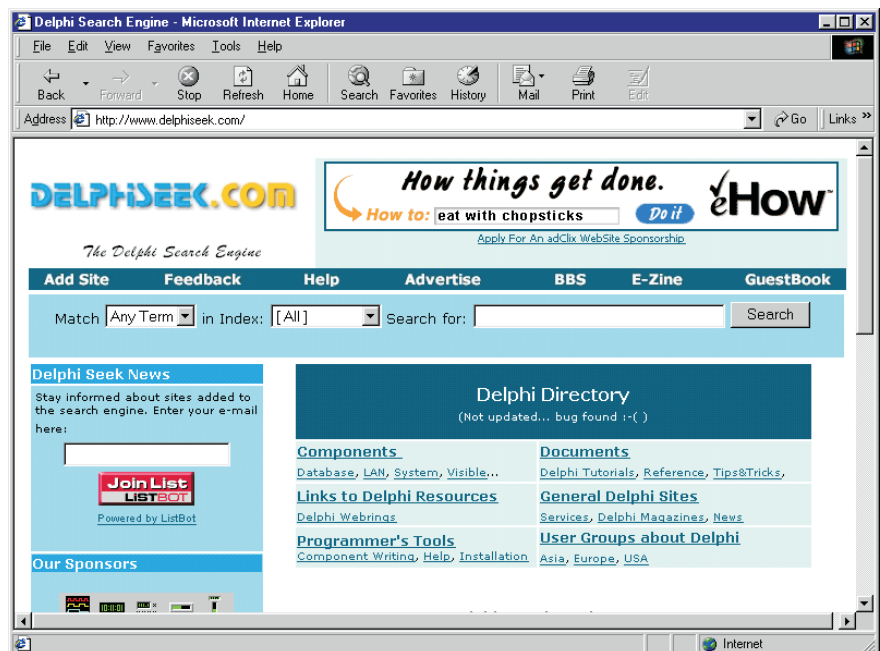
developers to include Object Pascal code and Delphi-style event handlers within reports, making report layouts standalone entities that can simply be loaded and executed. It also allows end-users to create calculations with a simple, intuitive drag and drop interface.

RAP continues in ReportBuilder's tradition of extensibility, affording developers the ability to provide powerful Delphi functionality wrapped for users as simple function calls that can be easily generated via the RAP Code Toolbox. Other enhancements include crosstab reports and a new Label Template Wizard.

The product is available in three editions: Standard (\$249), Professional (\$495) and Enterprise (\$749). All three editions offer royalty-free distribution, comprehensive documentation, source code, demos and tutorials, international language support and a 30-day money-back guarantee.

Digital Metaphors now also have an interactive learning tool designed to teach non-developers how to use reporting solutions built using ReportBuilder, the reporting tool for Delphi. The product, Learning ReportBuilder, is available for free download from Digital Metaphors' website (www.digital-metaphors.com), where you can also find full details about

➤ www.DelphiSeek.com



ReportBuilder itself and how to purchase the product.

Learning ReportBuilder includes a 125-page guide in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, a standalone reporting application and an online help file, all intended to aid end-users in learning the intricacies of reporting in general, and ReportBuilder in particular.

ExpressPrinting System

The ExpressPrinting System from Developer Express is a component library which allows you to fully exploit the reporting and data analysis features of the ExpressQuantumGrid and TreeList component libraries, as well as a number of other standard VCL controls.

You can print and render the contents as well as layout of the following components: ExpressQuantumGrid, ExpressQuantumTreeList, String Grid, Draw Grid, List Box and Check List Box. The components include design-time and runtime customisation options to control the appearance of printed output. For instance, if you are rendering the ExpressQuantumGrid, you can enable the printing of footers, bands and preview.

Express Printing costs £115 plus VAT from QBS Software, visit www.qbss.com for more information or to purchase online.

Apollo Database Products

There are new versions of the Apollo suite of database products for Delphi and C++Builder.

Apollo VCL 5.1 provides high-speed, multi-user local access to data and index files used by CA-Clipper and FoxPro, as well as HiPer-Slx index and memo file formats. Apollo allows continued use

of Delphi and third-party data-aware controls.

Apollo Database Server is a client/server DBMS which can simultaneously serve data over the internet, a LAN or an intranet. Interestingly, it includes ApolloSQL, a SQL-92 engine with server-side stored procedure support, fault-tolerant transaction processing, built-in security, data compression and claimed zero administration. No client-side DLLs are required (nor is the BDE). ApolloSQL can also be purchased as an add-on for the Apollo VCL product.

Apollo OLE DB Provider allows developers to connect to FoxPro, Clipper and HiPer-Slx data using Delphi 5, Visual Basic, Visual C++, C++Builder, Visual InterDev and Office 2000. Any development platform supporting ADO/OLE DB can work with Apollo OLE DB, say the developers. Artemis has been merged into Apollo OLE DB and the Artemis VB DataControl is included with Apollo OLE DB for backward compatibility.

Apollo products are available from QBS Software, visit www.qbss.com for more information.

SysTools 3

Turbopower have released a new version of their system-oriented library, providing over 1,000 optimised routines.

Units are included for string manipulation, date and time maths, bar codes, manipulating the Microsoft Windows shell, high-precision maths, financial and statistical analysis, high-speed sorting, astronomical calculations and expression evaluation. SysTools 3 also includes a selection of reusable container classes

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such as stacks, queues, dequeues and trees.

Among the new features in this version are the Explorer components, network management routines, support for regular expression search and replace, POSTNET bar coding, an enhanced string manipulation unit, Unicode support, application control components, advanced streams, and support for both VCL and COM development.

SysTools 3 costs £155 plus VAT from QBS Software, visit www.qbss.com for more information or to purchase online.

PSWebDBGrid

New from Pitron Systems this component allows Delphi developers to create enhanced database grid applications.

The new component works with Delphi 4 and 5. It supports TQuery and TUpdateSQL, and features include server-side column validation functions, built-in buttons for standard actions, customisable buttons for developer actions, automatic scroll support based on sort order, record tracking for easy drill-down development and editable grid and record modes. It also includes a layout control using events at table, row and column levels.

When purchased direct, the Standard version of PSwebDBGrid costs \$195 and the Pro version (which includes full source code) costs \$495.

Visit www.pitron.co.il for more information. HyperAct Inc (www.hyperact.com) will distribute and sell the component on behalf of the developers.

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