

THE Delphi

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News

ExpressPrinting System 2.0

Developer Express have a new version of its data presentation and visualisation system for Delphi and C++Builder.

The component-based system is able to render and print visual controls from Developer Express as well as a number of standard VCL controls. In addition to its design-time capabilities, the ExpressPrinting System includes runtime designers to help minimise the time you spend developing custom reporting. At runtime, by combining the ExpressPrinting System with the QuantumGrid and/or MasterView controls, end-users can arrange data in any way they like and then print the contents of the control exactly as it appears on-screen.

In version 2, printing support is provided for the following visual controls: ExpressQuantumGrid Suite, ExpressQuantumTreeList, ExpressMasterView, ExpressInspector, ExpressTreeView, ExpressOrgChart, ExpressFlowChart, RichEdit, rxRichEdit, StringGrid, DrawGrid, ListBox and TeeChart.

New features in version 2.0 include improved performance (claimed to be 20 to 50 times faster), complex master-detail reports, full custom draw support, print style components (allowing you or end-users to create and save custom styles), header and footer support, enhanced page

setup and print dialogs, plus intellimouse controlled zoom.

Visit www.devexpress.com for more information or call your local dealer. Purchased direct, the system costs \$179 (including source); the typical UK dealer price is about £120 plus VAT.

Elysian eUpdater Client Library

New from Elysian Development is a client library for the eUpdater System. The eUpdater System provides applications with automatic version checking and updating through internet or intranet connections. Product updates are put on a central server and eUpdater automatically notifies all clients and updates the software. Since the eUpdater System also works over internet connections it is an easy way to add automatic updates through the internet (in the same way that Windows Update does) for all your distributed software.

The eUpdater System is fully multi-threaded, meaning that all tasks are executed without interrupting your applications. It can download updates while users continue using the application. The client library is available as a native Delphi component and as a DLL for C/C++.

The eUpdater application and the basic client package are both available free, for both commercial and non-commercial applications.

The Client Professional Package costs \$20 and allows you to monitor and control progress using callbacks. You can modify, replace or remove the standard dialogs,

allowing you to translate the client into any language desired. Also included is a sample application for Delphi and the eUpdater Infofile Wizard for creating the required information files.

The Client Developer Package costs \$90 and adds to the Professional Package by including full source for both the standard and professional clients, as well as a licence to distribute the eUpdater application with your own software.

Visit www.elysian.nu for more information on the eUpdater System.

UK Borland User Group

UK-BUG meetings coming up include:

Leamington, May 15th. Problem clinic, extreme programming, demo of Developer Express ExpressBars, nested lists, Kylix-friendly graphics, Kylix applications and user/file permissions, overcoming OOP obstacles.

Newlands Cross, Dublin, May 15th. Problem clinic, XSLT transformations, Delphi training and net resources, using the MySQL database, a first look at ASP.NET, Linux/Kylix databases.

London, May 22nd. Problem clinic, TCanvas for beginners, demonstration of ASTA, all about ASP.NET.

Glasgow, July 27th. Problem clinic, CodeRush and CodeSite, introducing .NET, building the BUG website.

Visit www.ukbug.co.uk for more details.

Pervasive.SQL 2000i Database Engine

This new version of Pervasive's database engine offers database simplicity and flexibility for traditional, internet and Linux deployments and can drive both traditional and internet-based applications across a range of hardware and software platforms.

The Windows versions are available now, Linux and Solaris versions are to be released soon. Prices start from £860 plus VAT. Visit www.developer-solutions.co.uk for full details.

Embedded Linux On Palm PC

South Korean Linux developer Mizi Research Incorporated has introduced LINUETTE V1.0, a Linux OS for the Palm PC. Features include a power-managed Linux Kernel, FM radio tuner, MPEG and MP3 players, e-Album, image viewer, CCD camera, games and a Personal Information Management application. Internet capability includes a built-in web browser, and an email client supporting POP3 and IMAP4. Visit www.mizi.com for more information.

ProKylix 1.2 Source Code Profiler For Kylix

New from the developer of the ProDelphi source code profiler for Delphi, Helmuth Adolph, comes the ProKylix profiler for Kylix: incredibly soon after the release of Kylix! Both ProDelphi and ProKylix are freeware, too.

ProKylix measures the running time of methods, procedures or functions in CPU cycles, giving detailed results and identifying candidate routines for optimisation. Measurement results can be viewed using a built-in viewer, or exported to a database or text file. Results can be viewed as the number of CPU cycles or as time units (the smallest time unit is 0.001 micro-second). A history function enables the user to quickly compare results with previous runs stored in history files.

Coverage profiling is supported on a procedural base. A tree view shows which methods were not called whilst profiling. Measuring pure assembler code is supported in the professional version.

Procedures that have already been optimised can be excluded from profiling by inserting a special comment. ProKylix allows you to switch measuring on and off at procedure entry. An automatic exclusion of procedures with very short runtimes is also possible. Special treatment of Linux API calls such as `Sleep` as well as the `TApplication` functions like `ProcessMessages` and `HandleMessage` guarantee that no sleeping times are measured and that procedure times are not counted as child

times when they are not child times.

ProKylix is delivered as freeware and can be upgraded using a registration key to the Professional Mode. In the Freeware Mode up to 30 procedures can be measured, in the Professional Mode up to 32,000 procedures can be measured. ProKylix can be executed under all Linux versions under which Kylix runs, if the computer has an Intel Pentium processor or compatible (eg AMD K6 or Athlon Duron).

Visit www.prodelphi.de for more information and to download your free copy.

InterBase Clarification

Thanks to Borland's Steve Axtell, we can clarify the situation about InterBase 6.0: is it free, is it commercial? (see last month's News).

There is a commercial product, as detailed last month, which includes all the usual options such as manuals and support. The Open Source version is available in source code and binary form (version 6.01), for platforms including Windows and Linux, at

www.borland.com/devsupport/interbase/opensource/

We understand that these downloads will remain there, but they may not necessarily be updated over time as the commercial version will. The InterBase public licence is based on the Mozilla Public Licence (which means you do not have to distribute the source).

Award For Anders Hejlsberg

The author of Turbo/Borland Pascal and the chief architect of Delphi, Danish developer Anders Hejlsberg, has received the *Dr Dobb's Excellence in Programming Award* for 2001.

Turbo Pascal originated in the early 1980s as a command-line Pascal compiler called Compass Pascal, later to become Poly Pascal and to be licensed to Borland. After adding the familiar IDE, Turbo Pascal was born on 20th November, 1983. The rest is history: release from the constraints of

BASIC and the tyranny of C for many thousands of programmers! After completing the last version of Turbo Pascal (7.0), Anders became chief architect of the Delphi project, heralding yet another programming revolution.

In 1996, seeking fresh challenges, Anders moved ship to Microsoft, working on Visual J++, the Windows Foundation Classes and most recently as the chief designer of the C# language and a vital member of the .NET framework team.

Anders truly is a hero amongst developers, and we'd like to add our own warm tribute to that of *Dr Dobb's Journal*. Without his work, many of us would have had far less rewarding development careers.

Lead Technologies Vector View Plug In

New from LEAD Technologies, LEADTOOLS Vector View Plug In is a royalty-free alternative to LEADTOOLS Vector Imaging Pro for people who do not need to edit or create vector files, but only load or rasterize them. The library is available now from Developer Solutions at £649 plus VAT. Visit www.developer-solutions.co.uk for full details.

SWBTracker 6.2

From Software With Brains, SWBTracker allows developers to track defect reports and change requests for their software products. The product allows users to customise defect classifications, plus organise defects and change requests for any number of products and releases.

Tracking covers a defect's origin, environment, workaround, correction and testing, allowing free-form notes to be entered at each stage of the development cycle. SWBTracker can also automatically notify other users or customers when a new defect is entered, or whenever a defect's status changes. Also featured are user-definable filters and sorting that allow each user to see just the information that is useful to them in a way that is useful to them. Version 6.2 expands the security

system and adds several of the new features.

Single-user licences cost \$99, multi-user licences can be purchased in blocks (for example, 5 users for \$399, 10 users for \$699, site licences for \$1499). Visit www.softwarewithbrains.com for more information.

InstallShield WebUpdate 1.3

WebUpdate allows developers and vendors to ensure that new versions of their applications will be readily available and easily accessible to customers. It provides an automated method for distributing software updates, data, or notices of paid upgrades to end-users. It is available from Grey Matter from £280 plus VAT.

Visit www.greymatter.co.uk for details.

Microsoft Windows XP Beta 2

The second beta of the new Windows with a new look is out, distributed via Microsoft conferences and the MSDN programmer.

It is built on an enhanced Windows 2000 engine and features a 'clean, simple and appealing look that makes the computing experience easier and faster' (that's what the folks in Redmond say). Also included is the first public beta of Internet Explorer 6 technologies, with a new visual design as well as innovative browser capabilities, including enhanced Explorer Bars, integrated instant messaging, media playback and automatic picture resizing, as well as improved privacy.

See <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/preview> for more details and download information.

You can register for the *Windows XP Preview Program* if you want to check out Windows XP: see www.microsoft.com/windowsxp for more details.

Advantage Database Server 6.0

Extended Systems is shipping Advantage Database Server 6.0, which is now enhanced with referential integrity support (primary and foreign keys, cascading of updates and deletes) as well as

stored procedures (called Advantage Extended Procedures). The Advantage Data Architect can be used to import data from Paradox, InterBase, Access and SQL Server.

Visit www.advantagedatabase.com for more details.

Kylix SameGame

If you are looking for some sample Kylix code, Anders Ohlsson has ported ksame, the KDE version of SameGame, to Kylix. You can get the code from

```
http://codecentral.borland.com/  
codecentral/ccweb.exe/  
listing?id=15785.
```

Kylix White Papers

Borland is making some Kylix white papers available for download, from www.borland.com/kylix/papers.

Topics include A Quick Tour of Kylix as well as Creating Kylix Database Applications and Apache Development with Kylix Server Developer.

Graphics Server 5.8

Developer Solutions International is shipping an upgrade to this graphing and charting tool. The new version lets you add graphing and charting functions to web pages as well as to applications with multi-byte character sets. It costs £325 plus VAT, visit www.developer-solutions.co.uk for full details.

Plot Pack 2.0

From Iocomp Software, these high-speed, real-time advanced plotting and charting components are specifically designed for industrial automation and scientific applications. They offer unlimited channels, unlimited x and y-axes, stackable scales and more. Plot Pack includes a Visual Layout Man-

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ager and the developers claim you can add charting features to applications with as little as one line of code. Plot Pack 2.0 includes VCL and CLX support for Delphi and Kylix. Visit Grey Matter's website at www.greymatter.co.uk for more information.

FreeCLX

FreeCLX is the Open Source version of the CLX library, which has been posted as a sourceforge project at <http://sourceforge.net/projects/freeclx>. An article on the Borland Community website contains more information:

```
http://community.borland.com/  
article/0,1410,27100,00.html
```

TUsers Security Component

From Tools and Comps, this component for Delphi and C++Builder allows developers to add password protection and access control to the resources of Delphi and C++Builder applications. This prevents unauthorised users having access to the application and also can restrict access of some users to certain parts of the application. It is also possible to register a user's activities.

Visit Grey Matter's website at www.greymatter.co.uk for more information or to purchase online at £108 plus VAT.