Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET

Announcing the Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET

http://gotdotnet.com/team/vfp

Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET

The Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET is a class library with over 225 Visual FoxPro 7.0 functions for use with any .NET language. The included VFPToolkitNET.DLL is a .NET managed code DLL (not a COM wrapper) and does not require Visual FoxPro. The functions supported execute extremely fast since they are all written in .NET and compiled into a managed code .NET DLL. Included is a reference and tutorial stand-alone CHM help file as well as Visual Studio .NET integrated dynamic help using the same CHM help file. Full IntelliSense and Dynamic Help is enabled for the VFP functions when

From the Pen of Ken
Visual FoxPro News from Ken Levy, Microsoft Visual FoxPro Product Manager

Microsoft has no plans for any additional updates of Visual FoxPro 7.0 such as a SP2 (Service Pack 2). SP1 for VFP 7.0 can be downloaded from http://msdn.microsoft.com/vfoxpro/downloads/updates.asp. VFP 7.0 with SP1 is the most stable version of Visual FoxPro ever released by Microsoft. If you have not yet upgraded to VFP 7.0, now is a great time to do so.

http://advisor.com/Articles.nsf/aid/LEVYK02
Memo from Ken Levy - Latest Activities
Advisor View article from FoxPro Advisor Magazine by Ken Levy, Microsoft Visual FoxPro Product Manager. Activities within Microsoft and the FoxPro community are increasing, and many new and exciting surprises are planned for this year. There are some online
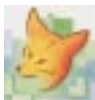
I Feel the Need for Speed(ie)...

At our next meeting, May 14, 2002, Drew Speedie will cover as many Visual FoxPro application development tips and tricks as can fit into the allotted time. Many of the items presented apply to all versions of Visual FoxPro; others are new to Visual FoxPro 7.0, but not necessarily widely known because they are not major new features. The items cover a broad spectrum of Visual FoxPro development, from improving productivity to managing classes to working around Visual FoxPro limitations and anomalies. You should be able to put the majority of these techniques to work right away, since they are drawn from everyday application development experiences. *[See also, "VMP Training", Page 3.]*

Also in this issue:

Developer Times is the monthly newsletter of The Los Angeles Visual FoxPro Developers Group. The purpose is information sharing among application developers and users working with *Visual FoxPro*.

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The Los Angeles Visual FoxPro Developers Group (LA Fox) is the oldest FoxPro developer's group in Southern California. The newsletter contains regular columns as well as articles from other user groups.

Membership/Subscription
The annual membership fee for The Los Angeles Visual FoxPro Developers Group, including subscription to *Developer Times*, is $48.

Disclaimer
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LA Fox seeking Non-Profit Status.

The LA Fox Steering Committee has been considering Non-Profit organization for several years now for the main purposes of (1) limiting liability of the board and its members and (2) gaining more flexibility with general operations. From an operational standpoint, our group now has a Tax ID which can be used for banking/financial transactions. In addition, as a Non-Profit Organization, the group can register with organizations like "Gifts in Kind" which will enable donors/sponsors to the group to receive tax benefits for helping our group which gives us more options.

In January of this year, LA FoxPro User Group, Inc. filed with the State of California as a Non-Profit Organization. The Corporation held its first "official" meeting of the board of directors in March where it named its directors, elected officers, and laid out its plans for seeking tax exemption as a non-profit educational entity. Your officers are: President – Bill Anderson, Vice President – Michael Cummings, Treasurer – Twila Miller, Secretary – Art Villa, and Asst. Secretary – Bob Risinger. Directors include Jon Melvin and Robin Connelly in addition to the officers named above. Art Villa is currently heading up the efforts for the non-profit tax-exempt status. These applications for tax exemption will be submitted to the Internal Revenue Service and to the State of California this month.

LA Fox C# SIG/Study Group Attracts Interest.

The new C# SIG of LA Fox meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Jon Melvin of Vision Implementers, Inc. kicked off the 1st session on April 23rd by speaking on the similarities and differences between VFP and C#. Deborah Lawrence of MMS, Inc. led the May 7th session with a topic covering Windows Controls. Dave Foderick of NetKnowledge, Inc. and Breakthrough Business Solutions, Inc. will be leading the May 21st session covering Windows Services.

In a survey conducted at the May May 7th session, when asked if the group was headed in the right direction the response was a predominant "Yes". One respondent wrote "Keep speaker prep as high as it has been – Jon and Deborah were very good".

Art Villa of Breakthrough Business Solutions, Inc. who serves as the SIG organizer is pleased that the group has averaged 20 people per session after two sessions without any serious promotion. The new SIG looks forward to serving LA Fox members who want to be able to include C# along with VFP in their development toolkit going forward. For more information about this new SIG, please visit www.lacsharp.org or contact Art Villa via e-mail at avilla@breakthroughbiz.com.

MaxFrame SIG

The next meeting is Thursday May 23rd, 7:00pm at Brick Software. For info:

Frank A. Marafino, Jr.
Project Manager
MHV Enterprises, Inc.
Office: 323-722-3223
Mobile: 818-416-2345

VMP Training

As you know, Drew Speedie will be lecturing to the Southern California FoxPro Developers group on May 14, 2002.

During the week of May 13th, Drew will be giving separate beginner and advanced two-day training classes on Visual MaxFrame Professional. The beginner training class will run Tuesday and Wednesday, May 14 & 15. The advanced training class will run Friday and Saturday, May 17 & 18. Classes run from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm each day.

As an active participant of one of the Southern California FoxPro Developer Groups we are making this training available to you at the significantly reduced rate of $470. There is limited seating of no more than 10 per session, so please let me know if you are interested as soon as possible. We have 6 seats left in the beginner's class and only 4 seats open in the advanced class.

The training will be held at Brick Software at http://www.BrickSoftware.com. You will have to bring your own laptop computer to ensure sufficient equipment. This training is completely interactive and hands-on. You will tell Drew what you want to see and you will also get a lot of practical experience.

Feel free to contact me at the address shown below, if you would like to register for this classe.

Randy W. Ireland
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LA Fox

Visit our website at:
http://www.lafox.org

VFP ToolKit for .NET *(Con't from page 1)*

programming in any .NET language. Using the VFP Toolkit or .NET, most Visual FoxPro 7.0 functions become available in Visual Basic .NET or any other .NET language. Functions like STRTOFILE() convert a string to a file in ! only one line of code.

The Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET does not teach developers Visual Studio .NET programming, but it does enable developers to do .NET programming much quicker and write less code based on what they are familiar with combined with how these functions reduce coding overall. It is not pseudo-VFP syntax, it is "real" VFP syntax and works most naturally in Visual Basic .NET since it no namespacing is required. The .NET Framework and Visual Basic .NET (or any .NET language) must still be learned. What this toolkit does is assist Visual FoxPro developers using .NET since there is a much quicker learning curve for .NET programming having these functions available. The Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET is not a replacement to any .NET language. It compliments and enhances the experience and productivity of .NET language programming.

Application: Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET

Copyright: None (Public Domain)

Date: April 24th, 2002

Version ! 1.00

Questions and discussion for the Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET are online on the Universal Thread (http://universalthread.com) in the .NET Forum in a category called Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET. Please post questions, ideas, enhancements requests, etc. in this section on the Universal Thread.

Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET Team:

- Kamal Patel (Lead Developer, Creator)
- Cathi Gero (Program Manager)
- Rick Hodder (Help)
- Nancy Folsom (Reviewer, Evangelist)
- Ken Levy (Advisor, Communications)

Testimonials:

"The Visual FoxPro Toolkit for .NET represents some of the best efforts for helping bridge the gap between Visual FoxPro and .NET development. This toolkit should be part of every .NET developer's library and not just VFP developers who are doing .NET programming."

Rod Paddock
Editor in Chief, CoDe Magazine <http://

From the Pen of Ken *(Con't from page 1)*

articles I encourage you to read at the links below.

http://advisor.com/Articles.nsf/aid/LEVYK03

Memo from Ken Levy - Overview of XML Web services Advisor View article from FoxPro Advisor Magazine by Ken Levy, Microsoft Visual FoxPro Product Manager. XML Web services accelerate the exchange of information across businesses, devices, and applications, thereby making companies more efficient and ultimately, more profitable. XML Web services will radically expand the use of the Internet and create new business opportunities in the process.

http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/library/en-us/dnfoxgen7/html/usingaspnetwithvfp7.asp

Using ASP.NET in Visual Studio .NET with Visual FoxPro 7.0

MSDN Library whitepaper written by Cathi Gero and edited by Andy Kramek. Learn the key technologies involved in using Visual Studio .NET to create Web Forms using ASP.NET and ADO.NET. Four fully documented examples illustrating how Visual FoxPro 7.0 can be used in this environment are included. Each of these examples illustrates how easily and seamlessly Visual FoxPro 7.0 can be integrated into Web Form-based applications. (29 printed pages)

VFP ToolKit for .NET *(Con't from page 3)*

www.universalthread.co%21%0Am/magazine>
VP Software Development, Red Matrix Technologies, Inc.

For more information about Visual FoxPro with .NET, check out the new section of the GotDotNet site at http://gotdotnet.com/team/vfp

Ken Levy
Visual FoxPro Product Manager
Microsoft
http://msdn.microsoft.com/vfoxpro
http://foxcentral.net

Mother's Day

"You couldn't fool your mother on the foolingest day of your life if you had an electrified fooling machine."

- Homer Simpson

Meeting Details

LA Fox meets on the second Tuesday of each month at NCR, 100 N. Sepulveda Blvd., El Segundo, CA. Meeting time is 7:30 PM. "Jumpstart" begins at 7:00 PM.

The building is on the NE corner of Sepulveda Blvd. and El Segundo Blvd. Enter parking on the West side of the building complex. There are 3 tall buildings there, with one parking entrance for all in the middle of the block. You need to be going North on Sepulveda to enter the parking structure, so for those of you coming from the 405 freeway, the El Segundo exit would work well. Take a ticket when you enter the parking structure. The gates will be opened after 8:00pm so you won't need to pay for parking unless you leave **really** early. The front doors to the building **do** get locked in the evenings.

Bldg.#1 - Upon entering the parking garage, make an immediate right and go all the way to the end (until you see the bank of elevators for Bldg.#1). Park your car and take the elevator to the main plaza level. From the main plaza, look for the walkway that goes to Bldg.#1 (The door is on the northeast side of the building.). Follow the walkway into the building, continue straight down the hallway until you reach a guard station on the left. By that guard station (which was a folding table the last time I was there) there are several elevators. Take one of these elevators to the 12th floor, sign in at the NCR guard station and they will use their badge to let you get on the elevator to the 14th floor. Look for signs when you get off the elevator on the 14th floor to direct you to the conference room.

For more info, visit the website at *http://www.lafox.org*.

In Memorium

Tom C Kreinbring died on Sunday, April 21, 2002 at 8:40 am PDT.

Tom had suffered from a number of problems over the past four months, and was hospitalized at the Kaiser Medical Facility in Baldwin Park, California. He is survived by his wife, Lori, parents Tom and Ruth.

In lieu of flowers, the Kreinbring family has requested that anyone so motivated, may donate to:

Grace Baptist Church
5532 Temple City Blvd
Temple City CA
626 286 6342

Please indicate that this is for Tom C Kreinbring Memorial Fund.