

THE Delphi

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News

It's Official: Kylix

Borland have finally decided to call Kylix... Kylix. This will now be the official product name, rather than Delphi for Linux as had been stated earlier.

Whilst those in the existing Delphi community will be familiar with the name, many have voiced concern that the name Kylix will mean nothing to the majority of the product's target audience (unlike the Delphi brand name) and this could seriously affect sales of the product outside of the existing Delphi developer user base.

We still have no official information on likely shipping dates for Kylix, but it now looks more like spring, so you still have some time left to sharpen your Linux skills.

As soon as possible, we will schedule an in-depth review of the shipping product and provide you with, as always, the very best technical information to help you in your Kylix development projects.

CLX Open Source

Borland have announced that they are to release CLX, the cross-platform component library which will be included in Kylix and Delphi 6, under a dual licence to include open source availability.

Some media reports claimed that the whole of Kylix is to be released under an open source licence, but we understand these reports are incorrect.

Acrylis WhatifLinux

This intriguing product provides access to software updates, security alerts, patches and open source software information from your web browser.

It also provides a decision support tool that allows you to create 'What If' scenarios to determine the impact of installing or uninstalling software on your system, including dependencies upon other software components.

WhatifLinux costs from £37 plus VAT from Grey Matter, visit www.greymatter.co.uk for more details or call +44 (0)1364 655111.

MDAC 2.6 Problem

If you have installed the MDAC 2.6 upgrade from www.microsoft.com/data/download.htm then you may encounter a problem with ADOExpress applications when

closing an empty dataset. It can produce the error: 'Either EOF or BOF is true.' The same error may also occur when cancelling an edit operation.

To cure this hiccup, there is an unofficial ADO Update available at

<http://codecentral.borland.com/codecentral/ccweb.exe/listing?id=14080>

Be sure to recompile your ADOExpress applications after installing the update.

ReportBuilder 5.5

Digital Metaphors have a new version of their powerful reporting component suite for Delphi. It provides an extensible reporting platform able to tackle data access, report layout and design, and report output.

ReportBuilder includes a complete set of abstract ancestor classes for deriving new components in each of these areas. New features in 5.5 include visual data linking, a 'keep together' feature for stretchable components, horizontal column traversal, full text justification for memos, as well as various engine caching tweaks to improve performance.

ReportBuilder costs from £199 plus VAT from Grey Matter in the UK, visit www.greymatter.co.uk for more details or call +44 (0)1364 655111.

Borland User Group Events

Our friends at UK-BUG have been busy planning lots of interesting events:

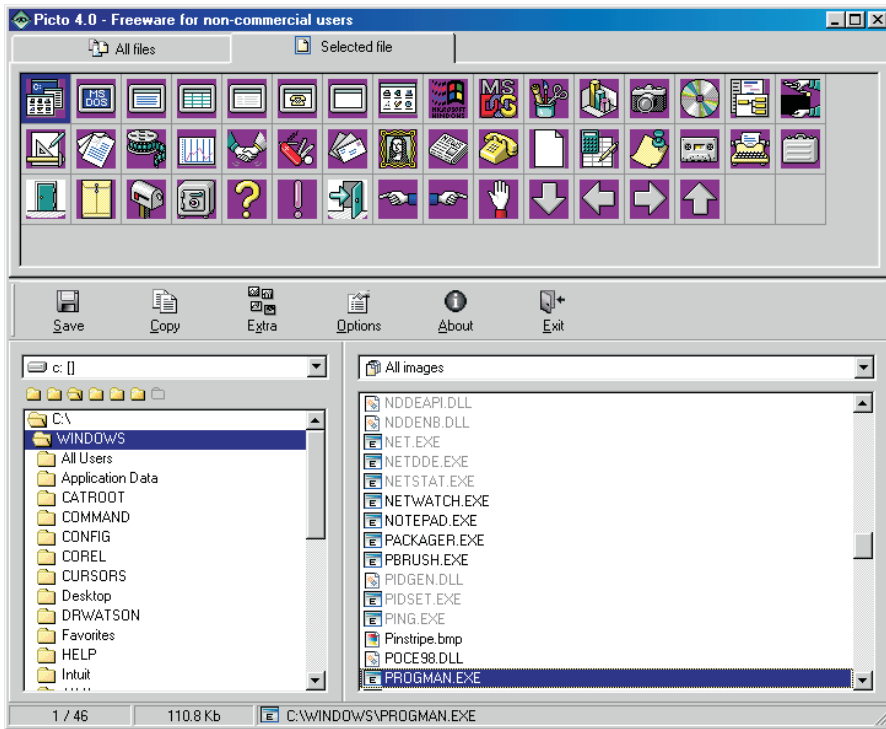
London, January 16th: using X-server in Linux, multi-threading, application case study, database development in Kylix and Delphi 6.

Edinburgh, January 23rd: Linux introduction, Kylix update, threads, Microsoft .NET, action lists and a case study on the UK-BUG website.

London, February 13th: exceptions and exception handling, source code control with Microsoft Visual SourceSafe, design through modelling with UML, web development with Kylix.

Belfast, February 22nd: Kylix web development, an introduction to SOAP, collecting data on a Palm Pilot and getting it into a Client/Server database, Microsoft .NET.

Leeds, March 8th: Kylix and Delphi 6, transaction mapping, streams, using plug-ins to extend your application.



Send us your news about all aspects of Delphi development by email *only* please, to press@itecuk.com

PR Tracker

From Softwise Company, this utility helps manage software development projects by tracking bugs, action items and change requests with problem reports.

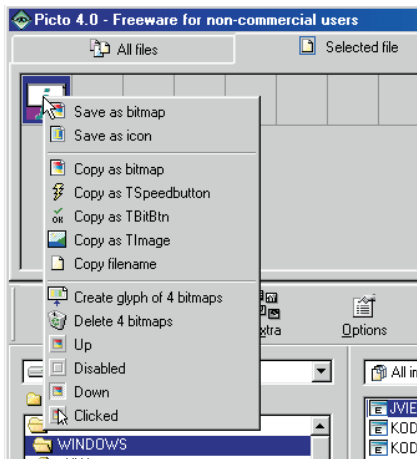
PR Tracker costs from £112 plus VAT from Grey Matter in the UK, visit www.greymatter.co.uk for more details or call +44 (0)1364 655111.

Software Architecture 2001

This conference is being held on February 20th and 21st in London and features end-user presentations from Arthur Andersen, Barclays Life Assurance and Glaxo Wellcome.

Architectures for eCRM, eCommerce and distributed software systems are described by their developers. The architectural aspects of components, modelling and their impact on the software development process are to be discussed in detail. Also on the agenda are Zachman Framework and ISO RM-ODP implementations.

The conference is sponsored by Adaptive, Unisys and The Modern Book Company and organised by ELM. Visit www.ericleach.com/sa2001 for more details.



- Above: Picto 4.0 can display and extract icons from many different file types.
- Left: Having found your favourite icon, you can edit it and then save it (or copy it to the clipboard) in just the right format for your Delphi application.

Picto 4.0: Icons And Glyphs

Stefan Cruysberghs has been working away on his neat utility which extracts icons and glyphs from ANI, DLL, EXE, ICL and SCR-files. It can also view and edit BMP, JPG, ICO and CUR files.

The new version has a number of graphical effects and special features for Delphi and C++Builder users.

When editing, you can rotate, mirror, convert to greyscale, adjust contrast and brightness settings, apply anti-aliasing, change image colours, draw a border and add transparency.

You can create glyphs of four bitmaps for use on buttons in Delphi and C++Builder, and copy images to the clipboard as a bitmap, TBitBtn, TSpeedButton or

a TImage. You can also generate HTML pages to catalogue all of your images, with hyperlinks.

There's lots more too: this utility is definitely worth a look! Picto is freeware for non-commercial users and costs just \$15 to register for commercial use.

You can download Picto 4.0, and obtain details of how to register it, from Stefan's website at

<http://bewoner.antwerpen.be/stefanocr>

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