TMCFlashServer & TMCFlashLabel Components

The TMCFlashServer and TMCFlashLabel components in this package are Delphi VCL components. TMCFlashLabel cannot work without a TMCFlashServer, and TMCFlashServer has nothing to do without at least one active TMCFlashLabel. The TMCFlashLabel can flash in two different ways, either on/off or cycling through a set of colors.

Ordering information
Contacting the author

TMCFlashServer Component

The only purpose of this component is to supply one or more flashing labels with timer ticks. This is done to prevent eating up all available timers (maximum of 32 under Win 3.x). You only need one TMCFlashServer active at any one time, but if there isnt one available, no flashing will occur in the labels.

The OnlyActiveForm property determines whether all labels flash or only the ones on the currently active form.

TMCFlashLabel

<u>OnlyActiveForm</u>

OnlyActiveForm Property

Declaration:
property OnlyActiveForm: Boolean;

Description:
This determines whether all labels flash or only the ones on the currently active form. Since a TMCFlashServer component can service many forms full of TMCFlashLabel components, theres got to be a way to control which ones flash. If youve got two or more forms onscreen, but only one is active, the flashing on the other forms may distract the users attention.

TMCFlashLabel Component

This is the meat of the package, the component that adds something useful to your Delphi programs. It adds movement and color, and can get the users attention whenever something needs pointing out. Great for multimedia apps and presentations too!

The label can flash in any of two ways, either by blinking (visible/invisible) or by cycling through a set of colors. This is controlled by the value of FlashType, that can be either ftOnOff or ftColorCycle.

The frequency of the flashing is controlled by FlashInterval measured in 40ms pieces. This means that a value of 25 gives you an interval of exactly one second, while 12 gives approx a ½s econd interval.

When FlashType is ftColorCycle, the label cycles through the colors in FlashColors. Ive made life easy for you and provided a property editor for editing this, so you wont have to try to enter hex numbers or something like that.

Properties

▶ Run-time only
🔑 Key properties

Align	🔑 FlashInterval	PopupMenu
Alignment	🔑 FlashType	ShowAccelChar
AutoSize	FocusControl	ShowHint
Caption	Font	Tag
Color	Height	Top
Cursor	Hint	Transparent
DragCursor	Left	Visible
DragMode	Name	Width
Enabled	ParentColor	Wordwrap
🔑 FlashColors	ParentFont	ParentShowHint

Events

[OnClick](#)	[OnDragOver](#)	[OnMouseMove](#)
[OnDblClick](#)	[OnEndDrag](#)	[OnMouseUp](#)
[OnDragDrop](#)	[OnMouseDown](#)	

FlashType Property

Declaration:
property FlashType: TMCFlashType;

Description:
The label can flash in any of two ways, either by blinking (visible/invisible) or by cycling through a set of colors. This is controlled by the value of FlashType, that can be either ftOnOff or ftColorCycle. If you select ftColorCycle, the colors are in FlashColors.

FlashInterval Property

Declaration:
property FlashInterval: integer;

Description:
This is measured in 40ms intervals, setting a value of 1 gives you 25 flashes/second. The timing logic in TMCFlashServer uses a regular Delphi TTimer, so the timing isnt all that precise - the precision is somewhere around 55ms. Heavy processor / disk load can also cause the ticks to come at irregular intervals, but this is normal for Windows applications.

FlashColors Property

Declaration
property FlashColors: TColorCycling;

Description:
This is the storage area for colors used when <u>FlashType</u> is set to ColorCycle. The TColorCycling type is internal to the FlashLabel unit, and youll never have to use it - Ive provided you with an easy to use property editor for this value, where you can see at a glance what your color cycling will look like.

Ordering information

The registration fee for the component is $15 without source and $30 with source. This is for electronic registration only, you have to supply us with an electronic address (CompuServe, InterNet or FidoNet) to which we can send the registered version. If you want a disk, contact us!

Whatever way you do it, you receive the same benefits - a version that works outside the IDE. In addition your conscience will stop hurting, and youll be able to distribute programs using the component (unregistered version requires Delphi to be running).

You can register this pack in four ways:
CompuServe SWREG, register   #10734 (without source, $15) or #10735 (includes source, $30)
Sending check or money order drawn on a Swedish bank
Sending cash in an envelope (if you dare)
Direct bank transfer, using the below information:
Account 8313-9 3.441.335-1
Kristianstads Sparbank
Via SwedBank, Stockholm
Swift Code SWEDSESS

Our mailing adress is as follows (see Contacting the author for other addresses)

     MegaComm HB
     Att Christian Tiberg
     V Storgatan 67A
     S-291 53   Kristianstad
     SWEDEN

Contacting the author

We can be reached through a lot of methods and addresses:

CompuServe: 100777,2775
InterNet: ctiberg@silver.ct.se
FidoNet: 2:200/602
Phone: +46-44-103435
Fax: +46-44-248874
BBS: +46-44-125230
Snail mail:
      MegaComm HB
      Att Christian Tiberg
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