

Re: Killing VB softly with his song, Killing VB softly...with a song.....

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.vb/2005-10/msg01392.html>

- *From:* "Scott M." <s-mar@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 20 Oct 2005 22:17:07 -0400
-

Wow, so much to respond to and so little time...

FACT: VB has been around in one form or another for over 20 years. I doubt it will be going extinct anytime soon.

FACT: There are millions and millions of VB developers...See fact #1

You seem to base your opinion on the premise that VB developers don't/won't/can't learn or know C-like languages and that's just not true for a large majority of them. I, myself do most of my development in VB .NET (and VB 6.0 before that and VB 5.0 before that and BASIC before that), but I am also well-versed in JavaScript and C#. I just prefer VB .NET for its lack of case-sensitivity and the fact that it is less punctuation oriented - { } : [] (). Some say that the use of this punctuation clears the code of the verbose keywords that VB uses. That's their opinion and they are entitled to it, but to say that VB is very clear about what is happening because the keyword indicates the intention is just as valid of an opinion.

Where does a VB developer go from here is your question? To the next evolution of VB when it comes (and it will).

"clintonG" <csgallagher@xx> wrote in message news:enpKwTc1FHA.1740@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

> This is not about starting a fight but an observation that seems to be
> proving itself on its own merit and is therefore simply a point of
> conjecture.

>

> I did not get serious about writing software until I learned ASP/VBS (if
> that can be called writing software) as my focus was and remains for the
> most part developing for the web. Even though I have had a programming
> class in C which I somehow passed, JavaScript always gave me the heeby
> jeebies as the syntax and grammar were foreign to me, different than
> ASP/VBS and those curly braces and the semi-colon stuff seemed noisy and
> unnecessary.

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- >
- > When I decided to learn ASP.NET I began to do so using C# as I had an
- > epiphany. That is, both C# and JavaScript as well as Java all derive from
- > the legacy of C. So learning one language well meant I learned three for
- > the price of one. I came to understand I would never master web
- > development if I did not master JavaScript on the client. I also
- > understood I would never master web development if I did not master C# on
- > the server. I kne doing so meant I could read and understand Java. Perhaps
- > some day to work on a different platform. End of that discussion for me.
- > Learn three for the price of one became my mantra sung in the key og C#
- > which by the way has seven sharps or seven flats depending which direction
- > you move on the scale.
- >
- > That pursuit of efficiency was in fact my rationale for learning ASP/VBS
- > as I told myself I could simply learn one dialect and then reuse it to
- > move up the VB stack from VBS to VBA and eventually build solutions using
- > VB itself. The presence of ASP.NET changed that entire paradigm however.
- > The epiphany changed me and I began my pursuit to learn three for the
- > price of one.
- >
- > The point is, the future has a way of changing our grand plans. Microsoft
- > has done much recently to help VB developers migrate to .NET. Even if that
- > were argued one must ask where VB developers would or could go if they
- > decided to jump this ship? PHP? Hardy Har Har. Java? Get out the meds. C#.
- > Uh, not in this lifetime many have chimed. At least not until recent
- > changes of those grand plans which motivates me to write this note.
- >
- > With the future of web development rapidly becoming ingrained with the
- > benefits of what we once called remote scripting which has been rebranded
- > as A(synchronous) JA(vascript) X(ml) it seems learning three for the price
- > of one is a song that has hit the charts with a bullet.
- >
- > Most of what I have read when lured into the VB or C# discussions has been
- > comprised of two considerations for the most part;
- >
- > 1.) VB developers do not like the syntax and grammar of JavaScript
- > (whoops, I mean C#)
- > 2.) The framework is the same for either.
- >
- > So where do VB web developers go from here?
- >
- > I contend again for the most part VB is a dialect that the nature of
- > progress considers an endangered species. Unless the web decides to go
- > away the predator (change) will continue to erode the value of VB which is
- > in effect already being killed off softly with a reminiscent analogy to
- > the old song by what's her name (Roberta Flack) which was later made to be
- > FUBAR by the Fugees.
- >
- > Some VB developers have mastered JavaScript, this is understood and
- > admirable. Microsoft can only do so much to keep VB alive but it really
- > seems the present and most certainly the future depends on efficiency more

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- > so than eve. VB developers as I see it will be increasingly compelled to
- > adopt the legacy of the C syntax and grammar. AJAX just about demands this
- > does it not? This is not to say the desktop is going away and Windows
- > Forms applications will continue to be developed of course but will
- > employers or any other context one must consider with regard to optimizing
- > one's knowledge and time not be of considerable importance?
- >
- > In that regard I conted, the tune that must be sung is "learn three for
- > the price of one."
- > I can only wonder if in time, more VB developers will also choose to sing
- > this tune or will they wait until the market compels them to sing in a
- > different key whether they would like to or not? Time will tell. Either
- > way, we'll be waiting to see more of ya' all over at
- > <news://microsoft.public.language.csharp> :-)
- >
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• **References:**

- ◆ **[Killing VB softly with his song, Killing VB softly...with a song.....](#)**
◇ From: clintonG
- Prev by Date: **[Re: What's better then somestring=""](#)**
- Next by Date: **[Re: Deleting rows in a DataView](#)**
- Previous by thread: **[Killing VB softly with his song, Killing VB softly...with a song.....](#)**
- Next by thread: **[Re: Killing VB softly with his song, Killing VB softly...with a song.....](#)**
- Index(es):
 - ◆ **[Date](#)**
 - ◆ **[Thread](#)**