

Re: Should i leran delphi instead?

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VC/microsoft.public.vc.mfc/2004-08/2027.html>

From: Bredal Jensen (*Bredal.Jensen_at_mimosa.com*)

Date: 08/29/04

Date: Sun, 29 Aug 2004 15:45:17 +0200

The current version of Delphi **is** or claim to be the only non .Net IDE to support the .Net Framework class Library. I think they call it VCL.Net .

"Joseph M. Newcomer" <newcomer@flounder.com> wrote in message news:qq13j0lfnuoqa24su8ss4at74od6g6nph6@4ax.com...

> *They're just systems. Languages and runtime environments. Actually, for raw productivity,*

> *VB is considered excellent, if all you care about is a sexy GUI.*

>

> *Here's a story: one of my clients came to me. He'd just paid another consultant some large*

> *number of dollars for an extremely sexy GUI interface written in VB. He was now a month*

> *from deployment, and discovered that behind that GUI, there was nothing.*

It was just a

> *GUI. No database interface, no network connectivity. But a sexy GUI.*

>

> *Could I help? He'd even pay me a bonus if I got anything working by the time he was*

> *supposed to deliver, because of the penalty clause in his contract.*

>

> *I reimplemented the entire GUI with one exception, built the database library interface*

> *(not ODBC, by the way), and the network communication, in three weeks using MFC. He had a*

> *week to test and found very few bugs, mostly trivial cosmetics and a couple dumb*

> *uninitialized pointer errors.*

>

> *The missing feature? In VB, the buttons changed color when pushed and reverted to the*

> *original color when released. My buttons were stock buttons, not owner-draw (the client*

> *did not want to include the owner-draw time in the budget).*

>

> *There is very little I cannot do in MFC that other GUI design tools provide. But I've*

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- > *found that most of these tools have so many built-in assumptions about the environment*
- > *they run in that they cannot support anything else, such as raw API interface,*
- > *asynchronous network interfaces, general asynchronous I/O, event log interfaces, complex*
- > *messaging, multithreading, and synchronizaiton. I have had to consult with any number of*
- > *firms whose problems fall into these domains; their programmers don't know how to do these*
- > *things, and the systems they are using do not provide necessary support.*
- So before you
- > *focus on something as trivial as GUI support, make sure the systems are open-ended and can*
- > *support real programs behind the GUI, not just be designed to create pretty toys. Early*
- > *Java systems were a prime example of cute-toys-but-no-substance as far as GUI design.*
- >
- > *From my experience, Java or C# might be better choices. Java can't handle asynchronous*
- > *I/O, and I'm not sure if C# can, Neither has a document/view model. Most Java programmers*
- > *I know who have learned C# claim that C# solves a number of fundamental problems of Java,*
- > *and none have said that C# has any technical flaws. The reasons for choosing one over the*
- > *other usually depend upon external factors.*
- >
- > *I don't know enough about the current versions of Delphi to comment on how well they*
- > *address any of these issues. I used an earlier version and it was, to put it mildly,*
- > *pitiful. Drove me crazy trying to integrate my changes into an existing piece of code,*
- > *because most of what I needed to do it (back then) did not exist in the language, and only*
- > *with great difficulty doing raw API calls. But I think that may have been the first Win32*
- > *version, and I only took it on as a favor to a client. Perhaps it has improved a lot in*
- > *these areas. Besides, I truly hate the Pascal language. It has all the syntactic elegance*
- > *of FORTRAN without the powerful semantics (I once spent a year maintaining about 10K lines*
- > *of Pascal code, one of the worst years I ever spent. Surprisingly, Delphi doesn't seem to*
- > *do much about the basic flaws of Pascal).*
- > *joe*
- >
- > *On Sat, 28 Aug 2004 17:53:54 +0200, "Bredal Jensen"*

Re: Should i leran delphi instead?

<Bredal.Jensen@mimosa.com> wrote:

>

> >

> > *My short experience in using MFC to try and build first class User interface*

> > *application*

> > *is leading me to beleive that i may be using the wrong tool.*

> > *Things are not simple. I have spent one week using using delphi and the*

> > *result is oustanding.*

> > *Things that users would consider nice to have are extremely complicated*

to

> > *do with MFC.*

> > *Why is that the case.*

> >

> > *Does anyone know about a comparative analysis of delphi <-->Vc++/MFC.*

> >

> >

> > *Thank you?*

> >

>

> *Joseph M. Newcomer [MVP]*

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> *MVP Tips: http://www.flounder.com/mvp_tips.htm*