Subject: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by cioannou on Tue, 21 Nov 2006 16:01:15 GMT
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Datawindow clone/equivalent.

It's great for data editing, displaying, reporting, crosstabs, charts, forms, tabular data, grids, custom sql, works with any db, supports summaries, user added computed columns, external data import, export to a variety of file formats, you name it. It's damn easy to design and use, even my 6 yo daughter can do it. Once you have it any data driven application will be a simple task.

For many years the only tool offering this kind of functionality with your data is Powerbuilder, and it's the number one advantage over other similar tools.

It's that simple and effective that makes you wonder if it's true. And it really is...

If someone has the skills to make something like it, it's a sure success, believe me guys it's the No1 reason that people still pay a lot of money for Powerbuilder and Sybase knows it, that's why they also released a .net version of Datawindow.

You want to make THE difference, make datawindow. If anyone wants in-depth details other than the ones in sybase's website, drop me a message.

A small screen cast I did:

http://www.sector-one.gr/dw/index.htm

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by mirek on Tue, 21 Nov 2006 20:11:23 GMT
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Well, sounds good, but hard to judge what it really is. Any links?

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by cioannou on Wed, 22 Nov 2006 09:47:24 GMT
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A small screen cast I did:

http://www.sector-one.gr/dw/index.htm

More screencasts will be added. I strongly believe that datawindow is THE feature for any developer that has to deal with data.

Main Sybase Site:

http://www.sybase.com

Datawindow Reference:

http://manuals.sybase.com/onlinebooks/group-pjarc/pjg0400e/d wref/@Generic__BookView

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Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by cioannou on Wed, 22 Nov 2006 10:23:58 GMT
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http://www.sector-one.gr/dw/index.htm

Main page for all screencasts regarding datawindow.

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by mirek on Wed, 22 Nov 2006 12:04:53 GMT
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OK, why not.

However, right at this moment we must finish 2007.1 first. Please remind me at more calm times

Mirek

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by cioannou on Wed, 22 Nov 2006 13:05:11 GMT
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Are you serious about this? Whoa! Great!

I will remind you whenever you want, even everyday.

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp

Posted by forlano on Wed, 22 Nov 2006 22:10:07 GMT
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cioannou wrote on Wed, 22 November 2006 11:23http://www.sector-one.gr/dw/index.htm

Main page for all screencasts regarding datawindow.

Very nice tutorials and impressive datawindow. Yes, it could make the difference to have a so powerful ctrl for U++ to manage databases.

Luigi

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by zsolt on Thu, 23 Nov 2006 00:09:05 GMT
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I have seen some of the demos, but my impression is, that using this DataWindow in your code is much more complicated than sql classes of Ultimate++.
Additionally, my experience is, that users hate this kind of controls. They like simple readonly tables (search results) and editing windows.
This editable table like things are good if you have a very few records only.

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by cioannou on Fri, 24 Nov 2006 08:38:42 GMT
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What do you mean by more complicated?

All I did was select some fields and everything else is done for me.

As for the results you mentioned, datawindow behaviour is controlled by you, I can assure you that it handles thousands of rows perfectly.

If you want to use it as a simple single record editing form you can do that too and it's very easy. (I will make an example and post it)

And you have not yet seen what it can do with reports, crosstabs/pivots, graphs, master detail forms, treeviews and more.

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by zsolt on Fri, 24 Nov 2006 11:05:00 GMT
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You can be right, but I prefer clear coding, not wizards.
E.g., to setup an SQL-based array, this code (copied from SQLApp example) is much more simple for me than clicking a lot.

```
 book.SetTable(BOOK);
 book.AddKey(ID);
 book.AddColumn(AUTHOR, "Author");
 book.AddColumn(TITLE, "Title");
 book.SetOrderBy(TITLE, AUTHOR);
```

Or setting up Edit controls as record field editors:

```
 ctrls
  (BORROWED, borrowed)
  (RETURNED, returned)
  (PERSON, person)
 ;
```

Maybe it is my personal perversion, that I like separating database related code from GUI (.lay in U++), but I can write really clear and maintainable code this way only.

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by mirek on Fri, 24 Nov 2006 11:23:59 GMT
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Quote:
Or setting up Edit controls as record field editors:

```
 ctrls
  (BORROWED, borrowed)
  (RETURNED, returned)
  (PERSON, person)
 ;
```

BTW, there is a simple "clicking" tool in LayDes that generates above code from the layout

Mirek

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by unodgs on Fri, 24 Nov 2006 11:24:19 GMT
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That's my personal perversion too ZSolt

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by zsolt on Fri, 24 Nov 2006 13:02:45 GMT
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luzr wrote on Fri, 24 November 2006 12:23
BTW, there is a simple "clicking" tool in LayDes that generates above code from the layout

Oops, thats very cool, I have just tried it
I didn't know until now what that controls are for in Code generator, really. Thanks

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by cioannou on Fri, 24 Nov 2006 13:14:07 GMT
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unodgs wrote on Fri, 24 November 2006 13:24That's my personal perversion too ZSolt

That's the whole idea about linux deveopment, most of you advanced developers prefer the "hard" way. But we "business" developers prefer the easy way to do the "easy" things and then focus on business requirements.

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by unodgs on Fri, 24 Nov 2006 13:22:39 GMT
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cioannou wrote on Fri, 24 November 2006 08:14unodgs wrote on Fri, 24 November 2006 13:24That's my personal perversion too ZSolt

That's the whole idea about linux deveopment, most of you advanced developers prefer the "hard" way. But we "business" developers prefer the easy way to do the "easy" things and then focus on business requirements.

I understand you, but everytime I had to create something in tool like powerbuilder where you can make an app using mouse only the troubles appeared when something uncommon had to be done. Then I had to make ugly workarounds. I just hate them. I prefer few more lines of code but to have a control.
Besides coding in upp is very easy IMO. I would call it "soft code way"

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by cioannou on Fri, 24 Nov 2006 13:42:52 GMT
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I will not disagree with you, you are absolutely right. If something uncommon is needed then you

have to use the "hard way". But for all others which is the 95% of business development you spend 1/6 of the time compared to other tools.

Anyway, the main reason for my post is that Linux really lacks Powerbuilder like tools and controls. U++ really broke a few barriers and looks like it's heading for a more business development approach while retaining the advanced features that some developers may need.

We also have to admit that another reason for Windows being so popular is because it's easy to build software on it even if this software is technically good or bad. People in software companies that build business software do not need "control", they need to quickly develop and sell. And windows offers these kind of tools Powerbuilder, Delphi, VB, etc.

IMO, if Linux wants to gain more users then it needs a truly RAD tool that leaves "control" to those who REALLY need it and does not force everyone to go the hard way and U++ seems to have the ability and strength to bridge the barrier between the experts and the mortals.

P.S.
You can see the full code of the application in the attachment.The logic is not much different than U++ or Glade or other linux tools.

You can also take a look at the crosstab/pivot and graph creation at:
http://www.sector-one.gr/dw/index.htm

File Attachments

1) screencast.7z, downloaded 2067 times

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by mirek on Fri, 24 Nov 2006 18:44:02 GMT
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unodgs wrote on Fri, 24 November 2006 08:22cioannou wrote on Fri, 24 November 2006 08:14unodgs wrote on Fri, 24 November 2006 13:24That's my personal perversion too ZSolt

That's the whole idea about linux deveopment, most of you advanced developers prefer the "hard" way. But we "business" developers prefer the easy way to do the "easy" things and then focus on business requirements.

I understand you, but everytime I had to create something in tool like powerbuilder where you can make an app using mouse only the troubles appeared when something uncommon had to be done. Then I had to make ugly workarounds. I just hate them. I prefer few more lines of code but to have a control.
Besides coding in upp is very easy IMO. I would call it "soft code way"

BTW, the Ultimate++ library really started as replacement for Oracle Forms (which is similar

"clicking" environment as PowerBuilder, perhaps more even more clicking and more limitiations

Mirek

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by yeohhs on Sat, 25 Nov 2006 06:01:08 GMT
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cioannou wrote on Fri, 24 November 2006 21:14But we "business" developers prefer the easy way to do the "easy" things and then focus on business requirements.

This is very true and furthermore most business requirements are complicated unless it is a very small app.

If U++ move towards the "click" approach, it will definitely fly.

Best Regards,
Yeoh
--

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by mirek on Sat, 25 Nov 2006 06:51:05 GMT
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yeohhs wrote on Sat, 25 November 2006 01:01cioannou wrote on Fri, 24 November 2006 21:14But we "business" developers prefer the easy way to do the "easy" things and then focus on business requirements.

This is very true and furthermore most business requirements are complicated unless it is a very small app.

If U++ move towards the "click" approach, it will definitely fly.

Best Regards,
Yeoh
--

Well, everything is possible...

Anyway, to get back to the earth, I think MacOS support is the priority now (with some luck, PocketPC could be part of 2007.1).

Mirek

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by Ulti on Sat, 25 Nov 2006 15:10:10 GMT
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luzr wrote on Sat, 25 November 2006 01:51

Anyway, to get back to the earth, I think MacOS support is the priority now (with some luck, PocketPC could be part of 2007.1).

Mirek
is that mean next release will be 2007.1,not 611?

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by mirek on Sat, 25 Nov 2006 15:18:47 GMT
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Yes.

Originally I thought that we will have just 2-3 Linux Look themes realized using "detect and recreate" system. Then I decided that recreating themes is too much tedious work and that we would end using "native" theming instead (using GTK to draw widgets). That caused the delay.

Also, 2007.x seems to be more flexible naming scheme.

Mirek

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by yeohhs on Sat, 25 Nov 2006 15:49:40 GMT
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luzr wrote on Sat, 25 November 2006 14:51
Well, everything is possible...

Anyway, to get back to the earth, I think MacOS support is the priority now (with some luck, PocketPC could be part of 2007.1).

Mirek

Yes.

Best Regards,

Yeoh

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by Ulti on Sun, 26 Nov 2006 00:54:33 GMT
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luzr wrote on Sat, 25 November 2006 10:18Yes.

Originally I thought that we will have just 2-3 Linux Look themes realized using "detect and recreate" system. Then I decided that recreating themes is too much tedious work and that we would end using "native" theming instead (using GTK to draw widgets). That caused the delay.

Also, 2007.x seems to be more flexible naming scheme.

Mirek
2007.1 is before spring festival.nice!

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by cioannou on Wed, 10 Dec 2008 12:48:04 GMT
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Accept my apologies for reviving an old topic.

Every now and then I am looking for cross-platform Powerbuilder alternatives for "Business Apps Development" and I always come across tools and/or languages that are more "generic" and "open".

Most of those tools are too "verbose" and too geeky for business applications like Accounting, Invoicing, Warehouse etc.

So I would like to express once more that there is a huge gap in this field, thus many people turn to .Net and other accompanying frameworks/controls that mostly offer good looks and ready made functionality that speeds up development time.
Many people couldn't care less how a 'TextBox' is implented, we just want to Get/Set text, font, size, style etc. in an easy and quick way. Same with Data forms or tables, noone cares how the 'update' is implemented behind the scenes, a simple object.update() is sufficient for the 99%.

Since U++ is greatly focusing on less time and code needed to implement a project, I feel like sharing a few thoughts.

Here is a short list of what the majority of people like me are looking for (in no particular order):

1) Good looking apps
2) Data Visualization controls for Quick and easy data handling in forms, grids, reports.
Things like, sort, filter, search, column moving, grouping, report design etc. etc.
3) Ability to use external libraries (like DLLs) for special stuff, e.g. encryption
4) re-usable forms, windows, controls
5) Exporting/Printing to various types Excel, PDF etc.
6) Auto resizing & docking of controls and windows.
7) Transactions support
SQL SQL SQL
9) Stored procedures support
10) Easy string, date, manipulation
11) Easy filesystem handling
12) Easy networking stuff (ftp, smtp, http) etc.
13) XML support
14) Auto complete
etc. etc.

I strongly believe that this would greatly improve U++ popularity even though it uses the scary for many C++.

It just seems to me that U++ is closer than anything I have seen until now to generic & still time effective philosophy, I feel that U++ has the potential to stand next to anything like .Net, Powerbuilder and the likes as long as it provides the "Widgets for Dummies" or "The tools for non-geeks" if you prefer.
Either we like it or not, many people out there are VS addicts and you just can't make them get rid of some of their habits.
For example, "double-click" a control and code an event.

And last but not least, all these don't have to be FREE, actually there are many GPLed projects out there that offer additional modules or functionality for a price.

I wish I had the words to convince people that the vast majority of all these hardcore guys who want to build the next "Firefox","Apache","Unreal Tournament","MySQL" or "Get your DIY satellite to orbit" already have billions of alternatives to use, business developers don't.

Please do not consider this a flame post or anything like it.

Thank you very much.

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by mirek on Wed, 10 Dec 2008 14:15:06 GMT
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cioannou wrote on Wed, 10 December 2008 07:48
Since U++ is greatly focusing on less time and code needed to implement a project, I feel like sharing a few thoughts.

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 SQL SQL SQL
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etc. etc.

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Uhm, I believed we have most of them finished (?).

Quote:
I wish I had the words to convince people that the vast majority of all these hardcore guys who want to build the next "Firefox","Apache","Unreal Tournament","MySQL" or "Get your DIY satellite to orbit" already have billions of alternatives to use, business developers don't.

U++ is by/for hardcore guys doing business development

Quote:
Please do not consider this a flame post or anything like it.

You are welcome.

Mirek

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by sergeynikitin on Wed, 10 Dec 2008 19:42:24 GMT
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Quote:
Since U++ is greatly focusing on less time and code needed to implement a project, I feel like sharing a few thoughts.

Here is a short list of what the majority of people like me are looking for (in no particular order):

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It just seems to me that U++ is closer than anything I have seen until now to generic & still time effective philosophy, I feel that U++ has the potential to stand next to anything like .Net, Powerbuilder and the likes as long as it provides the "Widgets for Dummies" or "The tools for non-geeks" if you prefer.
Either we like it or not, many people out there are VS addicts and you just can't make them get rid of some of their habits.
For example, "double-click" a control and code an event.

And last but not least, all these don't have to be FREE, actually there are many GPLed projects out there that offer additional modules or functionality for a price.

I also thought a similar manner, but over time I began to understand how to develop leaders U + + are doing.

First, I sorrow for the absence of an abundance of modules and plugins 3D-Party developers.

But then even accustomed to the fact that you can simply open the source code for all modules and learn how to operate different things.

And this was much more valuable.

Subject: Re: What would give a great push to Upp
Posted by zsolt on Thu, 11 Dec 2008 21:39:38 GMT
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Currently, Im making a business app, using Upp.
I can acknowledge, that Upp is much more powerful in doing this job, than e.g. Delphi.