Canterbury Computers in Education Society
Visual Basic Programming Competition
Sunday 26 August 2007

VISUAL BASIC PEOPLE PROJECT

Introduction

This year, the Visual Basic section will be judged by Bill Wilson.

Here is a brief outline of the tasks that will be set in this year's competition:
An example compiled exe program will be provided. The object of the exercise will be to reproduce this program. No sample forms or code will be provided. Each competing team will be provided with the above exe program plus a text file, in standard ASCII format. The program will be required to read the text file and fill a Flexgrid. Students will then be required to perform some very simple statistical analysis of the data. Like counting the number of entries and working out the highest, lowest and averages. Some sorting will be required as well as string manipulation.

Background

The Visual Basic section is similar to the advanced programming section, although is essentially a different challenge. Fourth generation programming languages are employed in this category, using event-driven control. A grasp of advanced algorithmic concepts is not required in this category, although obviously some experience is required.

The Project

The example program provided is People.exe and having been compiled in VB6, requires that the vb6 runtime library is installed on your computer. Furthermore the program and it's support file People.txt must be in the same directory as People.exe for it to run correctly. However you may place your project in any directory that you wish.

Your task is to emulate the People program but of course you are free to alter the Main Form Caption so that it displays your teams name, however for compatibility it is suggested that you stick to the form layouts as closely as possible.

There are no tricky hidden features although you should be aware of the following:

- Note that the Names are a mixture of upper and lower case and you should convert them to Proper form. During this process watch for McMillan!

- When splitting off the Street Number watch for Hill in Madras Street.

- The person who lives in Eureka Street does not have a street number.

- The flexgrid should have the sorting arranged so that it groups like rows just with one name in a block. Note carefully the column alignments and when you sort the columns by left and right clicking, the cursor changes when the mouse button is held down.

- The Active X component to use is Microsoft FlexGrid Control 6.0. It should be in C:\Windows\System\MSFLXGRD.OCX.

- The Support file containing all the names is People.txt and it will be put in your applications directory by your Judge. You can view this ASCII file with notepad.

Your program should make good use of arrays, boolean variables, and procedures and functions as appropriate.

Make sure your program WORKS before trying to make it look pretty!!

Marking Schedule

Structure/Style/Code Comments	*Most Important*
Program Function	*Less Important*
User interface	*Least Important (if you choose to differ from the layout provided)*