NLEASHING THE POWER OF UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON MORPHING

R

JUN 17 1998

LIBRARIES

P

ENGINEERING

APHICS ISSUE

PALETTE MAPPING **IMAGE PROCESSING COLOR MODELS**

UR OWN INDOWS MULTIMEDIA LASS LIBRARY

D-ROM **TENSIONS**

EBUGGING **AL-TIME** OGRAMS

(\$4.95 CANADA)

ITE

46 994

το

ANDISIVID SITIAS 260000HSM7# 56186 11910

1



IMS

ression

IGN

#202 JULY 1993



A Multimedia Class Library for Windows

Encapsulating the Media Control Interface

John Musser

icrosoft Windows' Media Control Interface (MCI) is a standard command language for communicating with multimedia devices—CD, Waveform and MIDI audio, AVI, videodiscs, video overlay devices, audio mixers, and the like. However, even though both Microsoft and Borland provide with their compilers large, comprehensive class libraries—the Microsoft Foundation Class library and ObjectWindows Library, respectively—neither provide object support for multimedia or Windows API multimedia extensions.

This article addresses this gap by showing how to design and implement a comprehensive C++ class library that enhances the MCI interface to multimedia devices. This hierarchy employs encapsulation, inheritance, and polymorphism to create a flexible and extensible framework for controlling multimedia devices under Windows. The result is a set of objects that make programming multimedia easier, more robust, concise, and maintainable. A simple client program, MciMan, demonstrates the use of the Waveform audio and AVI video classes. The class library and client program are compiler independent and can be used with any Windows 3.1 compatible C++ compiler, including Borland's C/C++ and Microsoft's Visual C++. The AVI portions of this code require the digitalv.h #include file, Video for Windows drivers, and runtime

John is a senior developer at Personal Media International, a startup specializing in multimedia entertainment software. He can be reached via Compu-Serve at 70621,1460. DLLs that come with the Video for Windows package and its SDK. They're available free of charge from the Windows Extensions forum on CompuServe (GO WINEXT). Vfwrun.zip contains the runtime DLLs and vfwdk.zip is the Video for Windows Development Kit.

MCI Overview

The MCI specification, released in 1991 by Microsoft and IBM, defines a set of base commands that can be applied to any general device, and extended commands for specific device types. The specification is designed to be extensible so that other devices may be added. For example, the AVI specification was added in 1992. Another example is MediaVision, which supplies an MCI driver that provides audio-mixing capabilities using extended commands specific to this device type. The specification as documented in the Windows SDK identifies 11 device types. Some drivers are supplied with either Windows or the SDK, while others are provided by the device supplier. Table 1 describes most of the currently available MCI drivers. As of this writing, however, not all the device types listed actually had MCI drivers available.

MCI divides all multimedia devices into one of two device types: simple or compound. The basic difference is that sim-

Description	Driver Files	Driver Source
Plays Autodesk Animator (.flc/.fli) files	MCIAAP.DRV	Autodesk
Plays MacroMind Director (.mmm) files	MCIMMP.DRV	MDK, Visual Basic
Controls compact disc audio	MCICDA.DRV	Windows 3.1 SDK, MDK
Controls Digital Audio Tape deck		
Plays AVI video files	MCIAVI.DRV	Video for Windows
An undefined MCI device		
Controls a video overlay device—analog video in a window	MCIVBLST.DRV	Creative Labs
Controls an image scanner		
Plays MIDI audio files	MCISEQ.DRV	Retail Windows
Controls a video cassette recorder		
Controls the Pioneer LD-V4200 videodisc player	MCIPIONR.DRV	Windows 3.1 SDK, MDK
Plays and records waveform audio files	MCIWAVE.DRV	Retail Windows
	Plays Autodesk Animator (.flc/.fli) files Plays MacroMind Director (.mmm) files Controls compact disc audio Controls Digital Audio Tape deck Plays AVI video files An undefined MCI device Controls a video overlay device — analog video in a window Controls an image scanner Plays MIDI audio files Controls a video cassette recorder Controls the Pioneer LD-V4200 videodisc player Plays and records waveform	Plays Autodesk Animator (.flc/.fli) files MCIAAP.DRV Plays MacroMind Director (.mmm) files MCIMMP.DRV Controls compact disc audio MCICDA.DRV Controls Digital Audio Tape deck MCIAVI.DRV Plays AVI video files MCIAVI.DRV An undefined MCI device MCIVBLST.DRV Controls a video overlay device—analog video in a window MCIVBLST.DRV Controls an image scanner MCISEQ.DRV Plays MIDI audio files MCISEQ.DRV Controls the Pioneer LD-V4200 videodisc player MCIPIONR.DRV

Table 1: Several Windows MCI devices.

We slash interface development time across DOS, UNIX, POSIX, VMS... (and we can prove it!)



C-Programmers:

See for yourself how Vermont Views® can help you create powerful user interfaces—whatever your environment!

If you want to create sophisticated user interfaces—and save *tremendous* time and effort doing it—Vermont Views is exactly what you need.

Vermont Views isn't just a common interface package.

It's a deep, flexible, menudriven screen designer supported by a C library of over 580 functions. It lets you create the ultimate user interfaces for complex database applications - in a fraction of the time it would take to code it yourself!

With Vermont Views, you create screens interactively. Designing is fast and creative. And changes—both tiny adjustments and huge reworks—are incredibly easy.

Pull down menus, window-based data entry forms with tickertape or memo fields, scrollable regions, choice lists, context sensitive help All these interface objects (and more) are immediately accessible. Your DOS applications can have full mouse control, and work in graphics as well as text modes! And with Vermont Views, even terminal-based applications can have the elegant features usually found only on micros.

Create prototypes fast, applications even faster.

With most systems, you have to throw away your prototypes when coding begins. But with Vermont Views, prototypes become the actual application.

Menus, data-entry forms, and all screen features are usable in the final applications without change.

NEW! Vermont Views PLUS

An enhanced version of Vermont Views for DOS. Vermont Views PLUS provides the interface power needed for developing multi-megabyte, graphic-enhanced C applications. Best of all it supports all popular DOS extenders and graphics libraries. VVPLUS also includes full source code for all libraries.

It's the universal solution. Vermont Views operates completely independent of hardware, operating system, and database. Any interface you create can be ported easily among DOS, UNIX, XENIX, POSIX, QNX, OS/2, and VMS.

You can use Vermont Views with any database that has a C-language interface (including Oracle, Informix, db_Vista, and C-Tree). You can run on PCs, DEC, NCR, HP, AT&T, and other systems.

No runtime fees or royalties.

Don't take our word for it—put Vermont Views to the test. Call or fax now for your personal, free demonstration kit. Or order Vermont Views with our 60-day, money back guarantee.

Either way, you'll immediately see how Vermont Views can slash your interface development time.

For MS/PCDOS, Vermont Views is \$495. Vermont Views PLUS with MemEx, GraphEx and full source code is \$795. For UNIX, POSIX, and VMS, prices start at \$1,795, depending on machine class.



1 Pinnacle Meadows, Richford, VT 05476 Phone (802)-848-7731 FAX (802)-848-3502 Please Mention "**Offer** 396"

Call 1-800-848-1248 for a free demo of the ultimate application interface!

CIRCLE NO. 529 ON READER SERVICE CARD

(continued from page 84)

ple devices do not use data files, whereas compound devices usually do. CD audio and videodisc players are simple devices; waveform audio, MIDI sequencers, and AVI are all compound devices.

MCI provides two basic programming interfaces: a command-string interface that allows the use of ordinary text strings such as *play cdaudio* to control multimedia devices (this very open approach is well suited to scripting and authoring applications); and a commandmessage interface that uses C-language structures and a Windows-style messagepassing model for device control. The MCI classes I describe here use the command-message interface because it's more efficient and better suited to general programming.

A single function, *mciSendCommand()*, is used along with a set of "polymorphic" arguments to access the command-message interface. The *mci-SendCommand()* function takes:

- A WORD device identifier (analogous to a handle).
- A message-type constant prefixed with MCI_ (such as MCI_PLAY).
- A DWORD value set to one or more flags usually specifying which elements of a given structure contain valid values.

int main() (convertience (converti

It was the programmer's intent to form a byte pair, do some computation, and then remove the second byte; but it's not working. Why does this program not print "F00"? Call if you need a hint. Refer to Bug #502.

PC-lint will catch this and many other C bugs. Unlike your compiler, PC-lint looks across all modules of your application for bugs and inconsistencies.

More than **330 messages.** Includes optional Strong Type Checking and flow of control analysis. More than **105 options** for complete customization. Suppress error messages, locally or globally, by symbol name, by message number, by filename, etc. Check for **portability** problems. Alter size of scalars. Adjust format of error messages. Automatically generate ANSI prototypes for your K&R functions. Attn: Power users with huge programs.

PC-lint 386 uses DOS Extender Technology to access the full storage and flat model speed of your 386.

PC-lint 386 – \$239 PC-lint DOS - OS/2 – \$139

Mainframe & Mini Programmers FlexeLint in obfuscated source form, is available for Unix, OS-9, VAX/VMS, QNX, IBM VM/MVS, etc. Requires only K&R C to compile but supports ANSI. Call for pricing.



• A far pointer to a data structure containing values to be sent or returned. (The structure is often specific to each message type.)

Nearly all the member functions in this library make at least one call to *mciSendCommand()*. But don't be fooled by its simplicity: It has many options, constants, flags, messages, structures, and return values (and our goal is to hide these).

MCI Class Library

The MCI class hierarchy is designed to encapsulate and enhance the MCI interface and to get the most benefit from the least code. It is part of a C++ library that will be used as part of the basis for the commercial multimedia products we are currently developing. As such, it was designed for a specific immediate purpose, but also had to be capable of handling unknown future requirements. This influenced both the design and the implementation. The design had to be flexible, extensible, and (most of all) practical. Because our needs are for specific devices only, not all MCI devices are directly implemented although adding support for additional devices is a short process. Figure 1 diagrams the MCI class hierarchy, giving an overview of this single-inheritance tree.

All MCI commands are classified into one of four categories: system, required, basic, and extended. Commands specified for the first two types (such as open, close, and status) require support by all device types and are good candidates for member-function definitions in the base class(es) of the MCI class hierarchy. The basic commands, including play, stop, and seek, are supported by most device types and can also be placed at or near the top of the tree. Extended commands that support specific devices can be implemented farther down the hierarchy.

The root node for the MCI class hierarchy, *MCIDevice*, serves as the base class for both the *CompoundDevice* class



Figure 1: MCI class bierarchy.



Multi-Language, Multi-Platform Compiler Products for Professional Software Developers

2161 Delaware Avenue • Santa Cruz, CA 95060-5706 • (408) 429-META (6382) • FAX (408) 429-WARE (9273)

development. Call today!

CIRCLE NO. 158 ON READER SERVICE CARD

MetaWare, the MetaWare logo, and High C and Professional Pascal, are registered trademarks, and High C/C++ and High C++ are trademarks, of MetaWare Incorporated. Other names are trademarks of their respective companies. © Copyright 1993 MetaWare Incorporated

(continued from page 86)

and all simple device classes. It provides the basic open/close/play type commands, status commands for querying a device's state, set commands to configure devices, and a number of other miscellaneous functions. The data items needed (all private) are:

- An integer device id.
- An error-status value.
- A string pointer to the device name.
- An optional handle to a parent window.

The constructor (see Listing One, page 102) does not automatically open the device-doing so would mean that the device would be opened and potentially unavailable to other applications from the time this object is constructed until it's destroyed. This is also true for all the derived classes: A device is not opened until explicitly told to do so with an Open() call. It is closed either through a call to the Close() member function or when the object is destroyed and the destructor is invoked. (Constructing a CompoundDevice with a filename is treated as if it were an Open() call and that file is immediately opened.) Keeping devices open only as long as necessary is generally polite behavior in a multitasking environment such as Windows.

The constructor for MCIDevice and any derived simple device (such as CDAudio) takes a single argument, a string value specifying the appropriate MCI device name. A default value is provided for each of the simple device types so that an application will rarely have to explicitly provide this value. The only exception might be on a system using nonstandard or additional device names that do not match the usual MCI device-name strings defined in the [mci] section of the SYSTEM.INI file. MCI-Device is not an abstract class and can therefore be constructed and used directly. It is designed, however, to serve as the basis for derived classes supporting unique device types.

Most of the member functions have a direct mapping to a corresponding MCI command. These functions almost always require fewer arguments than either the command-message or the command-string interfaces because some of the necessary information has been encapsulated in the object. Each member function first initializes any necessary data structures, sets the appropriate flags and arguments, and calls *mclSendCommand()*, occasionally more than once.

The function's return code is passed back to the object's client and is also saved in order to maintain an error state

for later reference. The ErrorMessage() member function calls mciGetError-String() to get the error description, and displays a standard Windows errormessage dialog box to the user. This class and all derived classes highlight one of the benefits of using C++: the ability to use destructors to perform automatic cleanup. It is important that applications properly close all MCI devices and files they have opened. By utilizing the C++ destructor mechanism we can automatically trigger the closing of any open devices before an application exits and thereby improve reliability and robustness (not to mention avoiding any extra general-protectionfault-type messages).

A sampling of functions built upon the MCI set, status, and capability commands are implemented to show how these access operations can be implemented. MCIDevice provides the virtual functions Set(), Status(), and GetDev-Caps() for this purpose, but makes these protected because they are not intended to be directly called. Making these public forces the user to be familiar with the numerous MCI_SET and MCI_STATUS constant values needed for each specific option. Instead, these are used as the mechanism within publicly defined inline functions defined for each of the set and status options. For example, the Length() function, which returns the length of the current device, uses the Status() function with the MCI_STATUS_LENGTH option to get its value. (It should be pointed out that a type of simple runtime type identification can be achieved by using information functions such as Device-Type() and CompoundDevice(). The DeviceType() function returns a unique constant identifier for each device type, and therefore each class. Compound-Device() returns a Boolean value of True if the given object is a compound device.)

One other notable method, SetParent(), is used to assign the handle of a window designated as the parent of this MCI object. Play() checks to see if a parent window has been assigned to it and if so, stores this handle in the parameter block given to mciSendCommand() and sets the MCI_NOTIFY bit of the corresponding flags value. This causes MCI to post the MM_MCINOTIFY message to the specified window when the operation is completed. When this occurs, the window procedure's IParam is set to the device id that initiated the callback, and the wParam gives the status of the operation, which can be success, failure, superseded, or aborted. MCI allows the Notify option to be used with all commands, and this library uses it specifically as an option to the *Play()* function. If needed, this option can be added to any or all of the other functions for these classes.

A Simple MCIDevice

CDAudio is a simple class for this "simple" device. In fact, all the basic functionality for simple devices is provided in the MCIDevice base class. Therefore, CDAudio doesn't need to provide additional functions of its own. It can instead rely on the operations inherited from its parent. The MCI command set for CDAudio defines a few additional options for some of the base commands, three of which are implemented here. These are *Eject()* to eject the disc, and SetTimeFormatMSF() and SetTimeFormatTMSF() for setting the time format (T=tracks, M=minutes, S=seconds, F=frames). Each is implemented as an inline function that passes the appropriate flags to the Set() function. By allowing just the time format to be set through these functions, we can avoid inadvertently trying to set a device to a time format that it will not accept. This lets the programmer know which formats are acceptable for each device by looking at its class definition, which cannot be determined without the documentation using the C interface.

This *CDAudio* device can be opened, closed, played, stopped, queried for its status, and so on. All common operations are inherited from the *MCIDevice* base class. Other simple devices such as *Videodisc* and *VCR* can be implemented similarly by deriving from *MCIDevice*, specifying the appropriate device-type string for the constructor and adding any device-specific operations.

CompoundDevice

A compound device is an MCI device that uses files. Therefore, the CompoundDevice class and its descendants must be able to handle a filename on open. Keep in mind that the device id is more like an element id, one of which is allocated for each open compound-device file. (A filename for a compound device is known as the "device element.") The constructor for CompoundDevice takes two optional arguments: the name of the file to open, and the name of the device type to be opened. The second argument is immediately passed to the base-class constructor. The first argument, if given, is stored internally and then used to open the file. This approach follows the iostream model, in which a filename passed to the constructor automatically opens the file. The implementation could easily be changed to not open

the file and require a subsequent call to Open(). Not requiring a filename allows the object to be constructed first and later supply a filename on the call to Open().

The Open() and Close() virtual functions are redefined in order to deal with filenames. Open() saves the filename as part of the object's data and then passes this along in the lpstrElementName field of the mciOpenParms structure given to mciSendCommand(). The Close() command uses MCIDevice::Close to close the device and then frees any memory associated with the filename.

An example of a straightforward derivation from CompoundDevice is the Wave class. Windows supports digital audio through waveform audio files that typically use the .WAV file extension. The MCI support for waveform audio is fairly complete, allowing recording and playback of formats ranging from 8-bit mono at 11 KHz to 16-bit stereo at 44 KHz, depending on the audio card installed. The Wave class does not need to override most of the virtual functions inherited from CompoundDevice. Functions such as Play, Stop, Pause, Resume, and Seek can all be used as is. Three additional status functions have been added to allow the user to query the format of the current file: Channels(), which returns 1 if the file is mono and 2 if it is stereo; BitsPerSample(), which returns either 8 or 16; and SamplesPerSecond(), which returns 11025, 22050, or 44100 to reflect the sampling rate. These functions use extended MCI commands added as part of the waveform audiocommand set.

Video as a Data Type

Audio Video Interleaved (AVI) provides scalable, software-only (with optional hardware support), full-motion digital video. The video sequences can contain images, audio, and palettes. The audio can be synchronized with the video within 1/30th of a second. Currently, application support for AVI playback is only available through an MCI interface-a low-level playback is provided in the Video for Windows Development Kit. Microsoft provides an MCI driver, MCIAVI.DRV, which implements a subset of the MCI digital-video command set for AVI.

To support this new (and large) command set, our AVI class implements a number of new functions. A Window() function was added, which takes a handle to a parent window to allow playback as the child of a specific window rather than the default behavior which is to create its own frame window. Put-Destination() was added to allow the playback window to be positioned at a specific rectangle within the parent window. Other added functions include: Step(), which moves forward or backward a specified amount; Seek(), which moves to a given position; Update(), which displays the current frame; and Signal(), which notifies the parent when a particular position has been reached. This implementation could be further enhanced to redefine some of the baseclass virtual functions for extensions that cannot be handled by the inherited versions, such as having a Play() that handles options to play back in a window or full screen. (Alternatively, these can be set using the *Configure()* function, which pops up a dialog box to set these and other options.)

This class could be modified to use three different window handles: one for the recipient of the MM_MCINOTIFY notify message after Play(), one to receive the MM_MCISIGNAL message when a Signal() position is reached, and another to be used as the parent window for display purposes using the Window() function. The present design uses up to two concurrent window handles: One is used for the Window() parent-this value is not stored as class data; the other, the bWndParent data member, is used for receiving both types of notification messages.

Mouse, Menu Bar (and More) in Epsilon 6.5! improvements as well, too many to mention here. And of course, Epsilon

Lugaru Software proudly presents Epsilon version 6.5. This latest release of our award-winning programmer's editor is now available for DOS and OS/2, and it's got mouse support, a menu system, and many other great features. We're constantly improving Epsilon, making it more useful to you, and this is the latest result.

Mouse Support

We designed the mouse to be non-intrusive as possible, so that when you're not using the mouse, you E won't notice it's there. We don't reserve valuable screen space for scroll bars-Epsilon's scroll bars pop up when you move the mouse over them. And Epsilon automatically hides the m cursor when you're typing, so it

oesn't get in your way. On EGA and VGA displays under DOS, Epsilon uses special techniques to display a graphical arrow cursor in "text mode." With no jumping block cursor, the mouse is easier to position, but Epsilon avoids the overhead of graphics mode, which

can slow down screen updates. You can now run commands from a pull-down menu bar. Select mmands with the mouse, or access the menu from the keyboard. Like Epsilon's scroll bars, the menu doesn't take up any screen space when you're not using it—Epsilon pops up the menu bat when you move the mouse past the top of the screen. Naturally, you can make the menu bar or the scroll bars permanent if you prefer, or customize the mouse and menu system in many other ways. It's easy to change the menu-just edit a special file. Epsilon can automatically fill in the keyboard equivalents for the mmands you add.

Improved C mode

Epsilon can scan your C source files for function definitions, and jump directly to a function's definition when you type its name. Or while editing a nction call, you can press a key and

jump instantly to the function's definition. Now, in Epsilon 6.5, you can do the same thing with C variables, typedefs, macros, and structure and union ta

You can choose to record only definitions, as in previous Goa versions, or declarations as well. This is especially handy for library 0 header files, wh you might have only the declarations, not the T definitions, of functions and

variables Epsilon provides automatic indenting and reindenting of your C code. It does sophisticated reverse-parsing of

your program to determine the correct

indentation, unlike some other editors that only look at the previous line, and often isindent. Now Epsilon is smarter about indenting uncommon C constructs, and it offers more variables for customizing it to your

indenting style. You can now double-click with the mouse on a subrouting or variable name, and Epsilon will jump to its definition. This is especially convenient when browsing source files-you can navigate using only the mouse.

Customize the screen

New variables let you customize the screen's appearance, moving the echo area or mode lines, or adding borders around windows. Epsilon can display more background

colors (including brighter whites) on EGA and VGA systems. Now a total of 256 foreground/background combinations are available, twice as many as before.

Much more The new version has lots of other

Lugaru Software, Ltd. 5843 Forbes Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15217 Phone (412) 421-5911 Fax 412.421.6371 Copyright © 1995 Lugaru Software, Ltd. All Rights Reserved.

CIRCLE NO. 144 ON READER SERVICE CARD

6.5 has all the features of previous Ensilon versions

• Multitasks compilers, even in DOS. • Scans compiler errors (customizable). · Full undo/redo retained after file saves · Unlimited number of files or windows. · No built-in limits on line length or file size

· Ultra-fast multi-file search

• File comparison commands compare by lines or by characters.

• Switch among 80x25, 80x50, 4 other VGA video modes, with a keypress. · Fully utilizes EMS & XMS memory & er memory blocks.

· EMACS-style command set. · Interactively customizable keyboard.

· Record keystroke sequences. · Context sensitive help autoconfigures

Fast C-like extension language
 Source code to all commands.

Source code to an contract Regular expression (wildcard) search & tagged replace. Permanent and temporary bookmarks.

•And much more!

63 Epsilon 6.5 is available now for \$250. Updates are only \$45 from version 6.0, or \$60 from any

> pre Now is the perfect time to try Epsilon for yourself. We offer a 60-day money-

back guarantee. If you're not totally thrilled with Epsilon, just send it back and receive a full refund. Why not call us now?



Only \$250 for DOS, OS/2, SCO Unix or ISC Unix. 60-day money-back guarantee. Order Now: (412) 421-5911

MciMan

I've included a sample client application, MciMan, which is available electronically (see "Availability," page 5). MciMan shows how an application might use the MCI class library. Specifically, MciMan uses the AVI and Wave classes to allow the user to work with either type of device. A simple menu interface allows you to select, play back, pause, resume, and stop the device type. A Notify toggle under the Command menu causes the user to be notified by a modal message box when the next Play command is completed. (This uses the MCI_NOTIFY option.) One file of each type can be open simultaneously.

MciMan works by creating one instance each of the Wave and AVI classes as global objects. When the user selects which type to make currently active from the MCI Device menu, a pointer to that global object is assigned to a CompoundDevice* variable. This pointer is then used for all subsequent operations and relies on the virtual-function mechanism to invoke the appropriate class function based upon the current selected type. Therefore, when the Play menu item is selected, the Play() function is invoked using this pointer and either the Wave .: Play() or the AVI .: Play() function will be executed. When the program is exited, the destructors for



these two objects are invoked, and all devices and files are automatically closed—no special cleanup is needed in the WM_DESTROY or other similar code block.

Future Directions

Although the current implementation of the MCI class hierarchy is fairly comprehensive, it does not cover all devices nor does it implement all of the commands and their variants. In addition to MCI's large command set, the number of MCI devices is also increasing. You can, in fact, write your own MCI device drivers with the Microsoft Device Driver Kit (DDK). And as with any software library, there's always room for one more feature.

A good example of an additional device is the MCI driver that Apple is expected to supply for playing QuickTime for Windows video clips. Depending on the command set this driver supports, it may make sense to create a *Digital-Video* class which could serve as the parent to both AVI and QuickTime subclasses. This class could be used to provide a set of functions common to these two specific devices, thus sharing code and giving a standard API for both types. (Client programs could then use these interchangeably.)

In any case, you now have a class library that uses C++ and the MCI command set to build a solid framework of multimedia objects for Windows. The MCI class library hides the arcane syntax of the MCI command-message interface (the messages, ids, structures, double casts, and flags) and instead provides a set of objects that give applications a cleaner, more flexible, and robust interface for controlling a variety of multimedia devices.

Products Mentioned

Video For Windows Microsoft Corp. One Microsoft Way Redmond, WA 98052-6399 \$199.00; Runtime DLL and SDK available free of charge from CompuServe (GO WINEXT) System Requirements: Playback: 386 SX, Windows 3.1, sound card, mouse, VGA Capture: 50 Mbytes free harddisk space, video-capture board

DDJ

(Listing begins on page 102.)

Vote for your favorite feature/article. Circle Reader Service No. 8.

Listing One (Text begins on page 84.)

```
18-
       Mci.cpp:
$Author:
$Date:
$Copyright:
                                                                 C++ class hierarchy for Windows multimedia objects using MCI.
                                                             C++ class hierarchy for Windows Multimeuls objects using the 
John Musser §
24 Feb 1993 19:37:02 §
Personal Media International Inc., 1993 §
A set of classes to encapsulate the command message interface
to MCI. Currently implemented: CDAudio, Waveform audio, AVI.
Two base classes MCIDevice and CompoundDevice provide most of
the basic functionality needed for derived MCI types.
          Description:
#include "MCI.h"
#include <memory.h>
#include <string.h>
#define MCI_BUFSIZE 128
                                                                                                                                    // used for char array sizing
/*----- * MCIDevice functions * -----
MCIDevice::MCIDevice(LPSTR lpszDevice)
                                                           = NULL:
= NULL:
= NULL:
           WDeviceTD
           hWndParent
dwErrState
            lpszDeviceType = NULL;
if (lpszDevice)
                      SetDeviceType(lpszDevice);
MCIDevice::~MCIDevice()
          if (wDeviceID)
Close();
if (lpszDeviceType)
delete [] lpszDeviceType;
MCIDevice::Info(DWORD dwFlags)
 LPSTR
      IDevice::Inrolumous and a state of the 
 DWORD
MCIDevice::Set(DWORD dwFlags, DWORD dwExtra)
           MCI_SET_PARMS mciSetParms:
          Real-Time Multitasking
           for Microsoft C, Borland C, Turbo Pascal
           Develop Real-Time Multitasking Applications with RTKernel!

        RTKernel is a professional, high-performance real-time multitasking kernel. It runs under
MS-DOS and supports Microsoft C, Borland C++, Turbo Pascal, and Stony Brook Pascal<sup>+</sup>.

        RTKernel is a library you can link to your application. It lets you un saveral functions /
procedures as parallel tasks. RTKernel offers these advanced teatures:

        • pre-emptive, event-/interrupt-driven
scheduling
        • interrupt hondlers for kayboard and COM
scheduling

        • number of tasks only limited by RAM
        • interrupt hondlers for Kayboard and COM
port included with source code

        • supports up to 36 COM ports
        • Big Board and Sto Sto UART chip

        • speed independent of the number of tasks
        • Big Board and Sto Sto Sto UART chip

        • und source and be advanded
        • Interrupt with source code

        • und the author of tasks
        • Big Board and Sto Sto UART chip

        • lime-sicing can be addivated
        • Interrupt with source sources

    up to 64 priorities (changeable at run-time)
    time-silcing can be activated
    timer interrupt rate of 0.1 to 55 ms
    high-resolution interval timer (1 usec)
    activate or suspend tasks out of
    interrupt handlers
    supports math corporcessor and emoledor
    inter-task communications using reama-
phores, mailboxes, and massage passing
    keyboard, hard disk, flopm disk idle times
    usable by other tasks

                                                                                                                  C
                                                                                                                                                                  Novell's IPX services
                                                                                                                                                                           sunder MS-DOS3.0 to 6.0, DR-DOS.
                                                                                                                                                               ANs, or without operating system
                                                                                                                                                                 call DOS without re-entrance problems

    resident multi-tasking applications (TSRs)

    runs Windows or DOS Extenders as a task

                                                                                                                                                                  supports CodeView and Turbo Debugger

    BOMable

                                                                                                                                                                 full source code available

    no run-time royalties
    free technical support by phone or fax

           RTKernel-C (MSC 6.0/7.0/8.0, BC++ 1.0/2.0/3.x)
                                                                                                                                                                                     $495 (Source Code: add $445)
           RTKernel-Pascal (TP/BP 5.x/6.0/7.0, SBP 6.x)
                                                                                                                                                                                    $445 (Source Code: add $375)
           For international orders, add $30 for shipping and handling.
MasterCard, Visa, check, bank transfer, COD accepted.
                                                                                                                                                                                                   FREE DEMO DISK
                                                      VISA
```

On Time

MARKETING Professional Programming Tools

Karolinenstrasse 32 · 20357 Hamburg · Germany Phone +49 - 40 - 43 74 72 · Fax +49 - 40 - 43 51 96 · CompuServe 100140,633

CIRCLE NO. 622 ON READER SERVICE CARD

```
if (!wDeviceID)
   DWORD
MCIDevice::Status(DWORD dwFlags, DWORD dwItem, DWORD dwExtra)
    MCI_STATUS_PARMS mciStatusParms;
   Molishids reaction metstatumeraims;
if (twpercell)
return MCLERR_NOT_OPEN;
mcistatumParms.dwItem = dwItem;
// Determine which extra struct fields to set based on flags.
if (dwPlags & MCL_TRACK)
   DWORD
MCIDevice::GetDevCaps(DWORD dwItem)
   MCI_GETDEVCAPS_PARMS mciGetDevCapsParms;
if (!wDeviceID)
   void
MCIDevice::SetDeviceType(LPSTR lpszDevice)
1
   if (lpszDeviceType)
    delete [] lpszDeviceType;
    lpszDeviceType = new __far char[lstrlen(lpszDevice)+1];
    lstrcpy( lpszDeviceType, lpszDevice);
MCIDevice::ErrorMessageBox()
    char szErrorBuf[MAXERRORLENOTH];
if (mciGetErrorString(dwErrState, (LPSTR)szErrorBuf, MAXERRORLENGTH))
MessageBox(hWndParent, szErrorBuf, "MCI Error", ME_ICONEXCLAMATION);
    MessageBox(hWndParent, "Unknown MCI Error", "MCI Error",
ME_ICONEXCLAMATION);
DWORD
MCIDevice::Open(LPSTR 1pszDevice /* = NULL */)
    MCI_OPEN_PARMS mciOpenParms;
    ncl_oren_rARAS mclopenrarms;
if (wDeviceID)
return MCI_WARN_ALREADY_OPEN;
if (lpszDevice)
                                                        // Already open don't do it again
                                                      // Type given, save it in private data
       SetDeviceType(lpszDevice);
   SetDeviceType(ipsLeviceType)
else
if (!lpszDeviceType)
return MCL_RRR.NO_DEVICENAME; // had to given here or in ctor.
mciOpenFarms.lpstTbeviceType = lpszDeviceType;
dwErrState = mciSendCommand(NULL, MCL_OPEN_MCL_OPEN_FARMS) &mciOpenFarms);
(DWORD)(LPMCL_OPEN_FARMS) &mciOpenFarms);
    if (!dwErrState)
   wDeviceID = mciOpenParms.wDeviceID;
return dwErrState;
DWORD
MCIDevice::Close()
   MCI_CENERIC_PARMS mciGenericParms;

if (!wDeviceID)

return MCI_ERR_NOT_OPEN;

if (!dwErrState = mciSendCommand(wDeviceID, MCI_CLOSE, MCI_WAIT,

(DWORD)(LPMCI_GENERIC_PARMS) &mciGenericParms)))
        wDeviceID = NULL:
    return dwErrState:
DWORD
MCIDevice::Stop()
    MCI_GENERIC_PARMS mciGenericParms;
    if (!wDeviceID)
   return MCI_ERR_NOT_OPEN;
    return dwErrState = mciSendCommand(wDeviceID, MCI_STOP, MCI_WAIT,
(DWORD)(LPMCI_GENERIC_PARMS) &mciGenericParms);
DWORD
MCIDevice::Pause()
    MCI_GENERIC_PARMS mciGenericParms;
    if (!wDeviceID)
return MCI_ERR_NOT_OPEN;
    return dwErrState = mciSendCommand(wDeviceID, MCI_PAUSE, MCI_WAIT,
(DWORD)(LPMCI_GENERIC_PARMS) &mciGenericParms);
DWORD
MCIDevice::Resume()
    MCI_GENERIC_PARMS mciGenericParms;
    if (IwDeviceID)
         return MCI ERR NOT OPEN:
    return dwErrState = mciSendCommand(wDeviceID, MCI_RESUME, MCI_WAIT,
(DWORD)(LPMCI_GENERIC_PARMS) &mciGenericParms);
DWORD
MCIDevice::Play(LONG 1From, LONG 1To)
    MCI_PLAY_PARMS mciPlayParms;
```



