



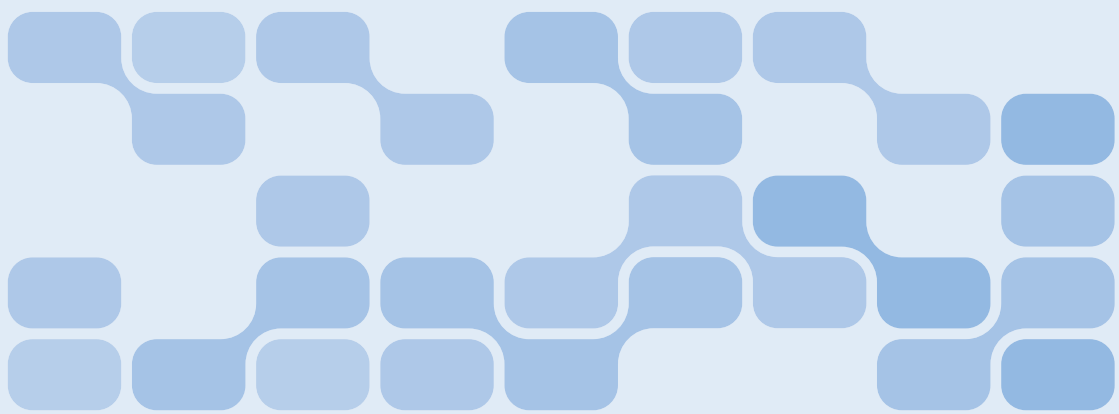
Microsoft Visual Studio 2005

U.K. Readiness Guide

50 Ready-to-Use ISV
Solutions Developed Using
Visual Studio 2005

 Microsoft
Visual Studio 2005

Microsoft[®]



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Microsoft Visual Studio 2005

U.K. Readiness Guide

For more information on Microsoft Visual Studio visit:
www.microsoft.com/uk/visualstudio

Introduction



Matthew Bishop
Senior Director, Developer
Platform Evangelism (DPE)
Group, Microsoft Limited

The role of developers is changing. No longer are they purely focused on IT, with their heads down coding all day. Modern day developers, for the most part, have to think strategically about the applications they create and how they will add value to their business or those of their employer's customers. This new market dynamic creates a host of new challenges that complement traditional development bug-bears. Today, in many cases, developers are under the same sort of high-level pressure as business decision makers. After all, it is their job to create an application that personifies the decision maker's vision for how the company will achieve its targets and maintain customer loyalty. That's a big weight on developmental shoulders.

We always strive to listen to our developer community and incorporate feedback into our product evolution. As is our duty as a large software developer, Microsoft has tried to address many of the issues developers face. The result? The Microsoft® Visual Studio® 2005 development system.

Previous versions of Visual Studio were enterprise-class development systems. Visual Studio 2005 is an enterprise-ready development system. It offers developers a faster, more responsive, and predictable development experience that ensures they can make better development decisions and create innovative and mission-critical applications that add value to the bottom line.

While the art of developing may seem scientific or mathematical, it's actually quite a creative process. Developers like to push the boundaries of their own talents and are always looking for development breakthrough—that Eureka! moment when they solve a particularly hard algorithm or find the solution to that broken line of code.

Contrary to popular belief, developers don't always enjoy working in isolation. They are as much team players as anyone else in the enterprise. Visual Studio 2005 Team System addresses this craving for greater cross-company collaboration.

With Team System, we've extended the visibility of the development cycle to the whole of the development or project team, including those not directly responsible for coding. Team System provides the predictability and ability to solve issues before they become a major problem that the modern enterprise demands. That's because, when you're developing business-critical applications that often have tough deadlines, everyone needs to be on the same page.

There are a lot of great things in Visual Studio 2005 that make it welcome news for developers. The integrated development environment (IDE) is much more mature than its predecessors—all the integration is there at developers' fingertips. And features like Edit and Continue are development holy grail.

The launch of Visual Studio 2005 has arrived, but lots of customers have been planning for its arrival for some time. This preparation takes many shapes and forms, from exploratory proof of concept (POC) work to full-blown early adopter development of applications.

Richard Costall, Technical Architect at ISV 1st Software, who has embraced Visual Studio 2005 to evolve its product line and create a new client extranet, says: "The extranet solution took two developers just 12 weeks to create, which is much quicker than it would have taken previously. Theming and master pages mean that we can make a change to the structure of the site in minutes rather than days as we only have to update the master page. Using Visual Studio 2005 is like having an extra pair of developer hands at your disposal. That's testament to just how good this technology is—even at beta stage."

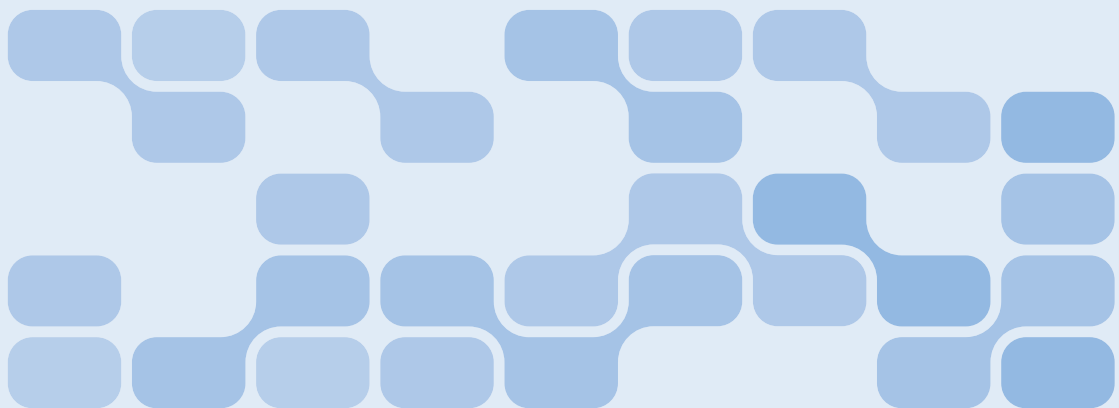
Fellow ISV, Link HR Systems, is also deriving business and developer value from Visual Studio 2005. Dave Verwer, Chief Technical Officer, says: "We fully expect to achieve a 50 per cent reduction in the amount of time spent on configuration thanks to Visual Studio 2005. Similarly, we expect to be able to reduce the volume of code required by a third."

The whole ethos behind Visual Studio 2005 is to help, not hinder, the development community. Using this development system, for example, Web developers will have to write, on average, half the code they do now.

Microsoft Visual Basic 6.0 developers fear not. Although the migration to Visual Studio 2005 won't be as straightforward as those moving from Microsoft Visual Studio .NET 2003, it is by no means difficult. What's more, we're here to support you on your journey. There's so much information available to help you understand what's required and ease your migration.

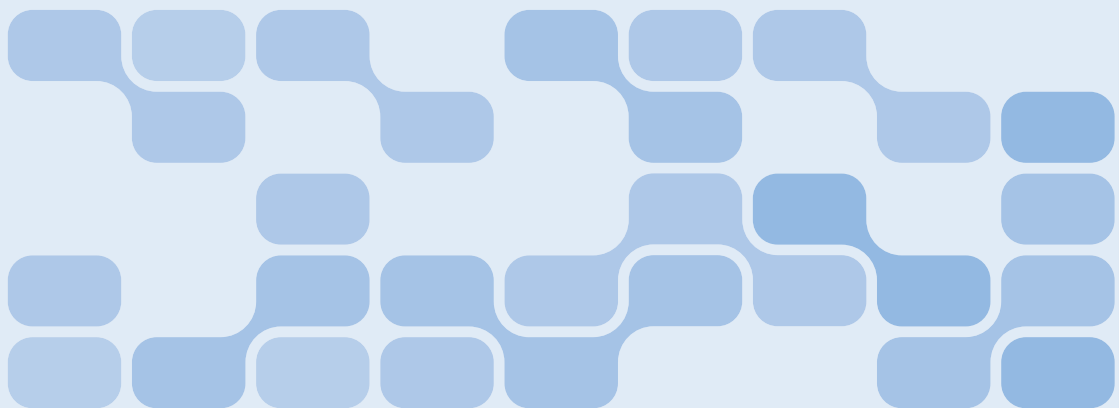
A small investment of time upfront will ultimately reap big rewards for your business. Surely that's something worth being part of?

Join the development revolution today.



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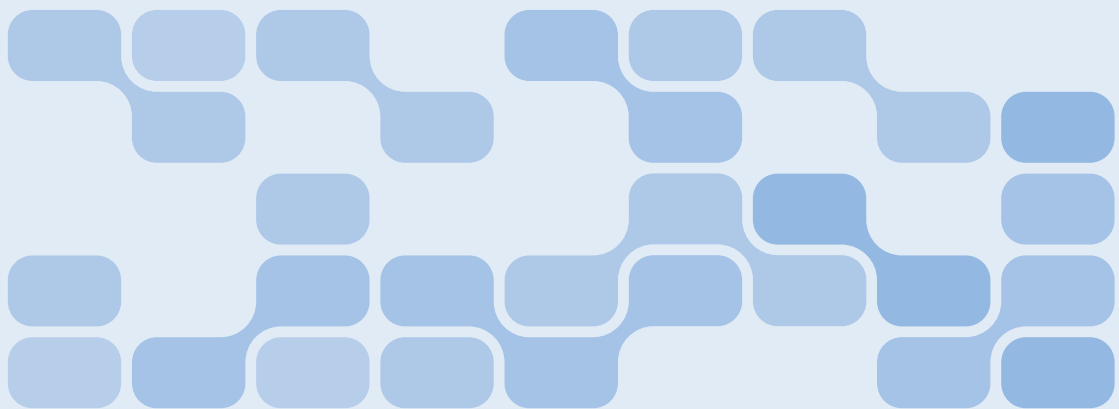
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University of Paisley



Company Background

Founded in 1897 to provide vocational courses, the University of Paisley began offering degree studies in the early 1900s and matured to University status in 1992. Today, the university has an enviable reputation for innovation and excellence, and is widening the provision of higher education in the west and south-west of Scotland with its additional campuses in Ayr and Dumfries. Currently it has around 1,300 staff guiding more than 10,000 students in more than 100 degree courses.

Application Synopsis

Pyrrho is a rigorously developed relational database management system that can run on small computers and mobile phones, but also scale up for large enterprise uses. It is built on the Microsoft .NET Framework and Microsoft Visual Studio 2005 and can run without change in many environments, leveraging the extensive class library of the framework. Pyrrho is most suited to data that includes a regular stream of new information that is kept indefinitely such as customer data, orders, or accounting transactions. It has an enhanced authorisation model and built-in auditing facilities.

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Application

Pyrrho Database Management System

Industry focus

Education

Ready

November 2005

"Visual Studio 2005 provides such excellent productivity and debugging assistance that it is practical for one person to write a complete database management system (DBMS)."

Professor Malcolm Crowe

University of Paisley

Unlimitas



Company Background

Unlimitas was formed in 2005 to offer affordable bespoke software solutions, predominantly developed using Microsoft Visual Studio 2005 and the Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0. These solutions are focused on the small to medium enterprise (SME) sector, in particular businesses which were using legacy software and want to move on to the latest .NET platform. Though only a start-up, the company employs four people and is currently developing several products and Web sites for wider use.

Application Synopsis

FoxSuite 4 is an estimation system developed specifically for steel specialists Barrett Steel Buildings. It supersedes its existing Microsoft Visual Basic 6.0 systems, offering improved speed, scalability, and a much enhanced and professional-looking user interface. Visual Studio 2005 takes away the drudgery of sculpting Microsoft Office 2003-style applications, and the Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0 provides many useful and sophisticated components that reduce the overall development time. In particular, combining managed Direct3D with Windows Forms has really brought FoxSuite 4 to life.

Contact details

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Application

FoxSuite 4

Industry focus

Professional Services

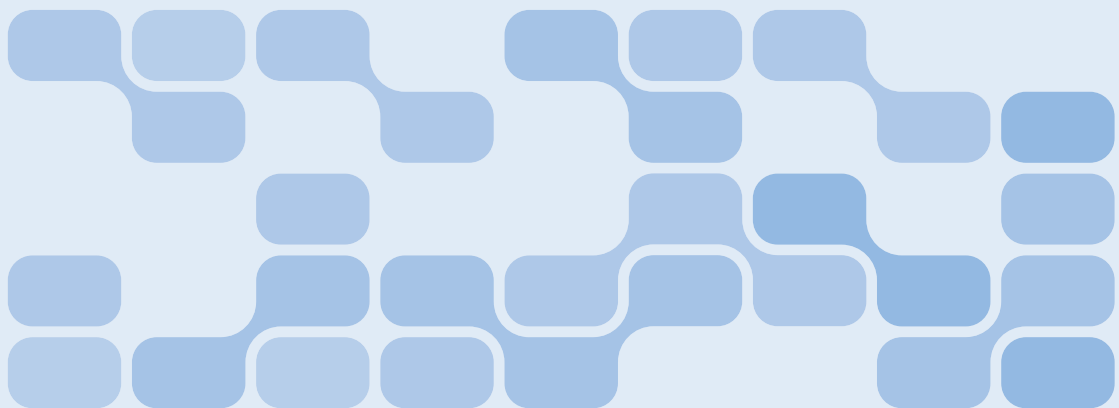
Ready

May 2006

"With Visual Studio 2005 we're delivering cutting edge, great-looking applications in half the time our clients expect."

Mark Pointon

Technical Director



Technology Matrix

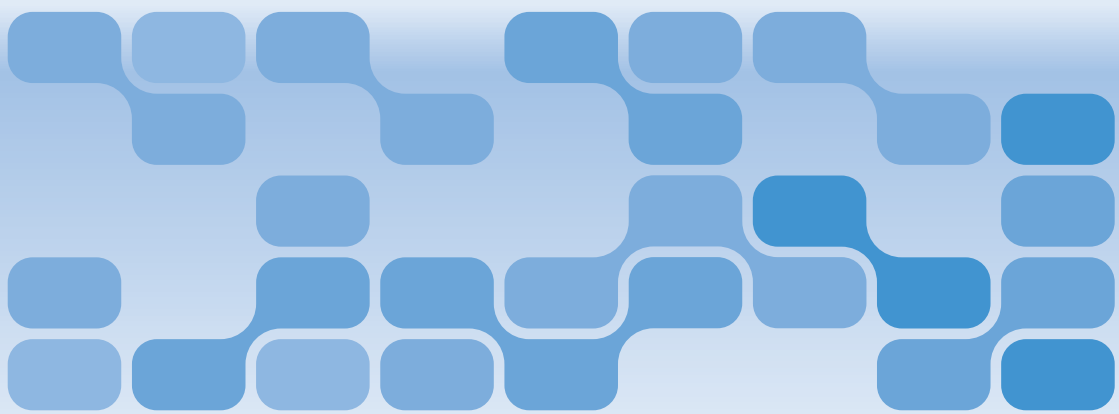
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	.NET Framework 2.0	ASP .NET 2.0	Mobile Development	Visual Basic 6.0 Upgrade	Visual Studio Tools for Office	Visual Studio Team System	Windows Forms 2.0
Alert Technologies	•	•					•
Alfred McAlpine	•	•			•		
Alpha Meridian	•	•					
Andy Wigley Computing	•	•			•	•	•
Anglo Europe Computer Systems	•	•	•				•
Business Logic Systems	•	•	•				•
Capgemini	•	•			•		
Cintra Corporation U.K.	•	•				•	
Citadel Associates	•						
Consonica	•	•					
Contento	•		•				•
Cronus Consultancy	•						•
DPR Consulting	•	•			•		
Draig Technology	•	•	•				•
EIBS	•	•					
Entropy International	•	•	•	•			
Evoke Systems	•	•					•
Extranet Builders	•	•	•				
Faber Systems	•						
flyingSPARK – Wireless Field Service	•						
flyingSPARK – Wireless Intelligence Layer	•						
Information Systems Associates	•	•	•		•	•	
Insights Learning and Development			•				
IRIS Software	•			•	•		
ITDP Solutions	•	•	•				
Jontek	•	•					
Jump Media	•	•					•
Lakeview Computers	•				•	•	

Organisation

Technologies Used in the Application

	.NET Framework 2.0	ASP .NET 2.0	Mobile Development	Visual Basic 6.0 Upgrade	Visual Studio Tools for Office	Windows Forms 2.0
Laserform International	•	•		•	•	
Link HR Systems	•	•			•	•
m35	•	•		•	•	
MBR IT Solutions – Boot FX	•	•				•
MBR IT Solutions – Sales Sourcerer	•	•				
Meridio	•					
Mountain Software	•					•
MSS	•	•	•		•	•
o2olap	•		•			
Occam Systems	•	•			•	•
Onesteptechnology	•					•
Portrait Software	•	•				•
Quantiv	•	•				•
Realise Systems	•	•				
Red Gate Software	•	•				
REDtechnology.com	•	•				•
ScreenFusion	•	•	•			•
Select Software U.K.	•	•				
Stardraw.com	•	•			•	•
Streatley Software Solutions	•	•	•			
Systems Union Group	•	•				•
The GL Company	•					•
True Clarity	•	•		•	•	•
University of Paisley	•		•			•
Unlimitas	•					•
Visualfiles	•			•		•
WorkPlace Systems	•				•	•



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