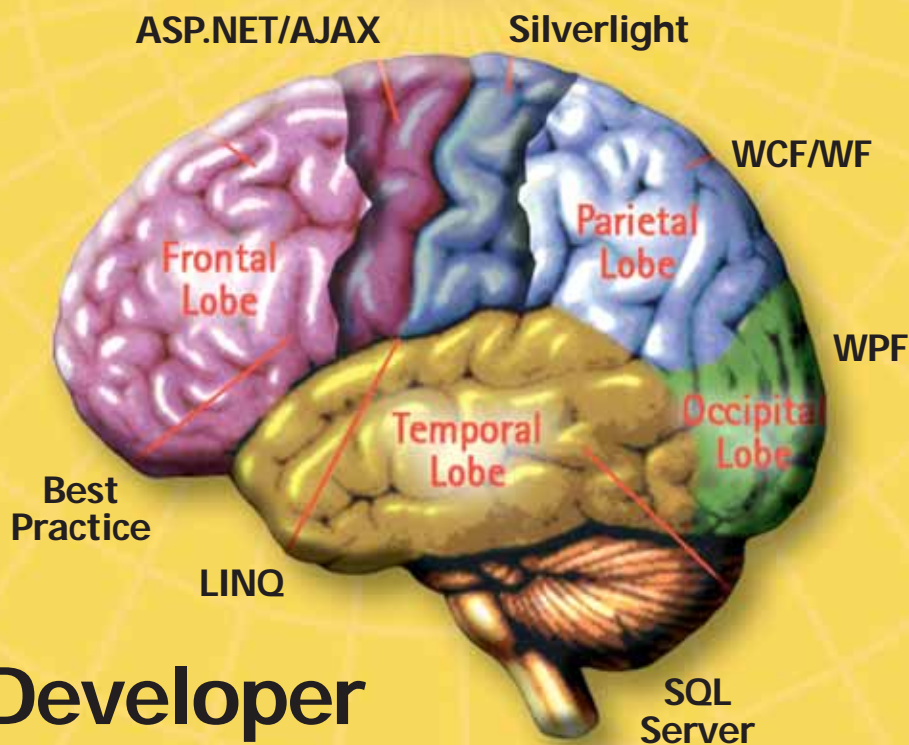


10th Annual Event

The Ultimate Developer Tool... Keep it sharp



.NET Developer Conference

Wednesday 17th - Thursday 18th October 2007

Building 3, Microsoft Campus
Thames Valley Park, Reading RG6 1WG



www.vbug.com

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The Ultimate Developer Tool

Building 3, Microsoft Campus, Thames Valley Park, Reading, RG6 1WG

It's an exciting time to be a .NET developer. Much has happened in the last year or so, and there's loads more arriving in the coming months. You can use VBUG Conference 2007 to play catch up, to broaden or consolidate your skill base, or to launch yourself into the latest life-changing technologies. A first glance at this year's agenda will show the expected mix of balanced sessions delivered by experienced presenters from both sides of the Atlantic. Look again though, and you may see that some of the sessions link together. This year, we've identified three core themes - to which we've dedicated about half the sessions - at least one of which is bound to affect you directly. One of these is LINQ, a set of new language features that will permeate every aspect of .NET development. Another surrounds Windows Presentation Foundation (WPF). You can follow this from its starting point with XAML to its role in uniting Windows and Web developers with a common UI platform in Silverlight. The third thread is server-side, and you can trace how Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) and Windows Workflow (WF), both introduced in .NET 3.0, work together in .NET 3.5 to push service development into a new era. Naturally, there's much going on beside these threads, and whether your interests are windows, web or mobile, client, server or database, enterprise, medium or small scale development, you'll find focussed sessions that you can dip in and out of in the time honoured way.

And of course, this being the VBUG Conference 2007, there's no better opportunity to meet other members and be a part of the friendliest and most supportive national .NET community around.

Venue details:

Chicago 1 and 2, Microsoft Campus, Thames Valley Park, Reading, RG6 1WG.

Accommodation details:

The Microsoft campus is well placed to offer exception transport links from across the country, as well as offering a varied range of accommodation options.

For those delegates looking to book overnight accommodation VBUG recommends using the free services of BSI. BSI use their purchasing power to negotiate some of the best rates available, please refer to the VBUG website (www.vbug.com) for further details.



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Day 1 Outline - Wednesday 17th October 2007

08:15	Registration	
09:00	Introduction	
09:15	<p style="text-align: center;">Keynote Better, faster, more effective: Exploiting the Microsoft technology stack Ken Spencer</p>	
10:05	Break	
10:20	<p style="text-align: center;">LINQ: change the way you code Oliver Sturm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">My all-time top 10 SQL Keywords Dave McMahon</p>
11:25	Break	
11:40	<p style="text-align: center;">Practical Windows Communication Foundation Mehran Nikoo</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Getting started with Enterprise Library 3.0 in ASP.NET Alex Homer</p>
12:45	Lunch Grok Talks (optional)	
13:45	<p style="text-align: center;">Internationalising ASP.NET AJAX Guy Smith Ferrier</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What's new for developers in Windows Mobile 6.0 Tony Whitter</p>
14:50	Break	
15:05	<p style="text-align: center;">Introducing Windows Presentation Foundation Oliver Sturm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">XML: The Missing LINQ Dave McMahon</p>
16:10	Break	
16:25	<p style="text-align: center;">Data binding with Windows Presentation Foundation Ken Spencer</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Do application design patterns make sense in ASP.NET? Alex Homer</p>
17:30	Round up	Round up
17:40	Close	
20:00	Evening reception - details below	



Day 2 Outline - Thursday 18th October 2007

08:15	Registration	
09:00	Data Access using ADO.NET 3.x, Entity Framework and LINQ Steven Abraham	An Introduction to Windows Workflow Foundation Mike Taulty
10:05	Break	
10:20	Cardspace: authentication without passwords Barry Dorrans	How to design a business object Rob Macdonald
11:25	Break	
11:40	Introducing Silverlight Ken Eltringham	SQL Server 2005 Compact Edition Steven Abraham
12:45	Lunch Grok Talks (optional)	
13:45	Exposing & using Services: Workflow & Communication Foundation in .NET 3.5 Mike Taulty	Using the Web Client Software Factory Gary Short
14:50	Break	
15:05	IIS7 for ASP.NET Developers Andrew Westgarth	Using ClickOnce and XBAPs To Deploy Windows Forms and WPF Applications Guy Smith Ferrier
16:10	Break	
16:25	Finale	
16:45	Close	



Join your fellow developers and let off some steam at the VBUG Conference Reception, sponsored by Hudson (www.hudson.com)



Date: 17th October 2007

Time: 20.00 - Late!

Venue: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Caversham Bridge, Richfield Avenue, Reading RG1 8BD

What better way to round off the first day of Conference than with a social gathering! VBUG has reserved the River Suite at the Reading Crowne Plaza, from where you are warmly invited to attend from 20.00 until late!

After the intensive Day 1 sessions this is the perfect way in which to unwind whilst discussing the days events (as well as anything else under the sun!) with your fellow developers.

Come along and enjoy a welcome glass of wine on arrival plus the chance to meet up with old friends as well as to make new contacts!



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Session Outline & Speaker Biography - Day 1

Session 1

Keynote

Better, faster, more effective: Exploiting the Microsoft technology stack by Ken Spencer



Ken is Practice Manager, Development Platform for Solid Quality. He has been developing and managing application development with various languages for over two decades. Ken spends his time these days providing software design guidance, working as build master for large projects and teaching in various venues, and works with a great team to provide custom technology to meet the goals of Sarbanes Oxley. Ken has experience developing applications with Visual Studio .NET and the .NET Framework, WinFX, Visual Basic, Visual InterDev, and SQL Server. He was the team leader on producing the .NET Readiness training for Microsoft to roll out the .NET Framework.

Session 2A

LINQ: Change the way you code by Oliver Sturm

NET Language Integrated Query (LINQ) is one of the technologies that will be released in the Orcas Visual Studio timeframe. It promises to be an important new development in the world of data querying and handling, as it provides unified language extensions that span many different usage scenarios. Whether you're currently working with ADO.NET, XML or arbitrary collections of objects, LINQ will make your life easier. This session provides an overview of the technology with a focus on LINQ to Objects, and comprehensive demos.



Oliver Sturm

Oliver Sturm is an experienced software architect, developer, trainer and author, with a strong background in various different fields including system and framework architecture and design, process modelling and user interface design. He is a C# MVP and he works for Developer Express as a Technical Evangelist and Lead Program Manager for the Frameworks Division.

Session 2B

My all-time top 10 SQL keywords by Dave McMahon

'Top of the Pops' might be dead, but Dave will give you his own countdown of his 10 most useful/favorite SQL keywords. No secrets to giveaway here, suffice to say that you will know some of them (but maybe not used this way) and some may be unfamiliar to you. The whole 'Countdown' will be demoed and Dave will explain why they make the top 10. This is a session for people who use SQL regularly, know the standard DML (Select, Insert, Update and Delete) but maybe never had the chance to peek around the corner to see what else was there!



Dave McMahon

Dave works as Chief Architect for .NET Development at Ridgian Limited, a privately owned software house based in Central Birmingham. Ridgian are a Microsoft Certified Partner and specialise in Business Intelligence Solutions and Custom Software Solutions. He is very active in the Microsoft community speaking at DeveloperDeveloperDeveloper conferences, and at numerous User Group meetings around the country on such topics as SQL XML, SQL 2005 Security, Regular Expressions and his favourite technology, XSLT and XPATH. He has recently published articles on SQL Server 2005 Security in International Developer Magazine and on Vista and Office 2007 in the Microsoft Beta Newsletters.

Session 3A

Practical Windows Communication Foundation by Mehran Nikoo

WCF was released in November 2006 and many development teams have been using it for a while now. As teams move from an early adoption phase into a more mature and practical use of WCF, best practice is becoming a key issue. In this session, Mehran will talk about best practices for adopting WCF (based on customer feedback /enquiries) and will visit subjects like: channel factory vs. client proxy, custom behaviours or custom channels?, Session/concurrency/instance management, transport vs. message security, interoperation with ASMX Web Services, serialisation and state management.





Mehran Nikoo

Mehran works for Microsoft as an Application Development Consultant (ADC). He has been working with clients in various industries including retail, finance, healthcare, telecom, public sector, education and real estate during the last 12 years. He has a Master's Degree in Computer Science and has spent around 80 hours of his life on taking Microsoft beta exams, which has resulted in earning MCPD (Enterprise Application, Windows and Web Developer), MCITP (Database Developer and Administrator), MCTS (BizTalk Server 2006, Windows Mobile 5, SQL Server 2005), MCS.D.NET and MCS.D certifications.

Session 3B

Getting Started with Enterprise Library 3.0 in ASP.NET by Alex Homer

In recent years, the Microsoft Patterns & Practices (p&p) group has been producing guidance and software that makes building enterprise applications easier. Recent releases include the Enterprise Library - a combination of the various application blocks released in the past into a single installable solution that combines integration between the blocks with a comprehensive configuration and management. The blocks also now support a standard system of exposing functionality to users and enabling the creation of custom providers. This session looks at what the Enterprise Library can do for you, some of the ways you can use it (including in Partial Trust mode), and an introduction to creating custom providers.



Alex Homer

Alex has written or contributed to over 40 books on Web and data technologies for Wiley/Wrox Press, APress!, Addison Wesley, and Sams Publishing. He regularly presents sessions at conferences in the US and in Europe (including ASPDevCon, Microsoft's PDC, Tech-Ed, ASP.NET Connections and VS-Live) as well as being a regular speaker at local .NET user groups (including VBUG-UK and DDG-UK) and Microsoft events and road shows. He is an MVP, and a member of the ASPInsiders Group and the CodeWise Community. His company Stonebroom Ltd, (<http://stonebroom.com/>) provides consultancy and bespoke development services to the IT industry.

Session 4A

Internationalising ASP.NET AJAX by Guy Smith-Ferrier

The internationalisation story for ASP.NET 2.0 is an excellent one: localisability at the touch of a menu option and the full weight of the .NET Framework 2.0 globalisation classes at your disposal for server-side code. ASP.NET AJAX however, has a strong client-side model and furthermore uses JavaScript which is not in the .NET Framework and so cannot use its globalisation classes. This session looks at the localisability and localisation solution for ASP.NET AJAX and compares the ASP.NET AJAX features to their equivalents in the .NET Framework. By the end of the session you should know how to internationalise your ASP.NET AJAX applications.



Guy Smith-Ferrier

Guy is an MVP in ASP.NET and author of ".NET Internationalization" published by Addison-Wesley (<http://www.dotneti18n.com>). He is a Microsoft Certified Professional developer, author, trainer and speaker, has spoken at many European and US conferences, is the winner of the NxtGen Best Presentation 2006/2007 and has been twice voted best speaker. He runs The .NET Developer Network (<http://www.dotnetdevnet.com>), a free .NET user group in the South West of England. He is the author of C#/.NET courseware and much of the official Borland courseware. You can read his blog at <http://www.guysmithferrier.com>.

Session 4B

What's new for developers in Windows Mobile 6.0 by Tony Whitter

Windows Mobile 6 has generated strong interest from both corporate organisations and end-users, but what does it offer developers? This session will examine how the development platforms for Windows Mobile 6 simplify application development and deployment and will show how to develop a single application that runs on the myriad of device types and form factors now on the market. Topics will include ROM enhancements and new emulators (including the FakeGPS, FakeServer and Cellular Emulator) that allow developers to simulate many real-world scenarios that were previously difficult to create and test. The session will conclude with a brief look at what device developers can expect in Visual Studio 2008.





Tony Whitter

A Microsoft MVP, Tony Whitter has worked as a software developer, consultant and trainer for over 30 years, including four years as the Head of Technology for a multinational software corporation. He now runs Whitter Technology, a .NET development, consultancy and training firm based in Europe. Tony has authored a popular series of .NET training courses, trained numerous developers, spoken at major international conferences and worked closely with Microsoft on Visual Studio 2005. Recent projects include the creation of e-learning content for the Microsoft Windows Mobile 5.0 and 6.0 Developer Resource Kits. Tony can be contacted via his web site at <http://www.whittertechnology.com>

Session 5A

Introducing Windows Presentation Foundation by Oliver Sturm

Windows Presentation Foundation (WPF) is an important pillar of Microsoft's new and upcoming development platform. It's available today as part of .NET 3, but its importance will grow considerably with the release of Orcas drawing closer. Other tools like Expression Blend complete the picture, providing functionality, but at the same time adding complexity to the development environment. This session gives a first overview of the framework and how to use it in your applications, as well as shedding some light on Microsoft's ideas of software development tomorrow.

Session 5B

XML - The Missing LINQ by Dave McMahon

We've heard much about LINQ to SQL, its neat, but what is also neat is LINQ to XML, which hasn't had anywhere near as much press. So while everybody is looking the other way, let's sneak a look at how VB 9.0 is gearing up for a bit of a revolution in the way we handle XML: XML DOM is on its way out, XElement is on its way in. Along the way we'll check out a few new XML features in VB 9.0 including LINQ to XML, XML Literals and a bunch of other stuff too...

Session 6A

Data binding with Windows Presentation Foundation by Ken Spencer

There are many things that are hard to do in developing applications. One of those is data binding. This session will drill into the hard part of manual data binding with WPF and show you how to automate it for use in Visual Studio 2008. Using downloadable code, Ken will show how to cut down the time to build applications with WPF and how you can easily add other automated features for building applications. The session is based upon the real world experiences of building enterprise applications.

Session 6B

Do application design patterns make sense in ASP.NET? by Alex Homer

Developers and architects are making more and more use of standard design patterns as they build ever more complex applications. However, many patterns are hard to implement or difficult to justify in the stateless post-back environment of ASP.NET. Yet ASP.NET itself implements many widely-used patterns, and some of the other common patterns can help to modularize and simplify development of ASP.NET applications. This session looks at how ASP.NET uses design patterns, and how you can implement some of the patterns such as Model-View-Presenter, Page and Front Controller, Publish/Subscribe, Repository, and Service Agent in your ASP.NET applications.



Session Outline & Speaker Biography - Day 2

Session 1A

Data Access using ADO.NET 3.x, Entity Framework and LINQ by Steven Abraham

This session will introduce the Entity Framework, ADO.NET vNext and the LINQ to SQL technology. Steve will cover aspects of Object Relational Mapping (ORM) specifically as it relates to the next version of Visual Studio (Orcas). Also covered in this session will be a look behind the scenes at how this technology works and how to implement it in your own applications.



Steve Abraham

Steve Abraham holds 8 Microsoft certifications and has been developing SQL Server based software for 10 years. Steve specializes in SQL Server and .NET Framework architecture, high availability, capacity planning, development, and performance tuning. Steve has lead teams for some of the biggest and best known companies (many of them dealing with Terabytes of data) including T-Mobile, Eddie Bauer, 1-800-Flowers and Spiegel. In 2006, Steve co-founded Mini-Cities, a hyper-local search company offering the first franchises available for online search.

Session 1B

An introduction to Windows Workflow Foundation by Mike Taulty

Windows Workflow Foundation (WF) shipped with .NET Framework V3.0 and provides tools, components, a runtime and a set of pluggable services which enable developers to build Workflow capabilities into their own applications. In this session Mike will provide an overview of Workflow Foundation and its constituent pieces in order to build a clear picture of what Workflow Foundation is and how we can build, host, monitor and extend it.



Mike Taulty

Mike Taulty works in the Developer and Platform Group at Microsoft in the UK where he has spent the past 2 years helping developers understand and get the best from the Microsoft platform. Prior to this, Mike spent 3 years with Microsoft Consulting Services as a consultant on developer technologies. Before joining Microsoft, Mike spent the previous 9 years working as a software developer for a number of enterprises, consultancies and software vendors working with a variety of operating system, client, communication and server technologies. Mike holds a BSc Hons (1st Class) in Computer Science from the University of Leeds.

Session 2A

CardSpace: authentication without passwords by Barry Dorrans

Windows CardSpace is a framework developed by Microsoft which securely stores digital identities of a person and provides a unified interface for choosing the identity for a particular transaction, such as logging in to a website. This talk will cover the Identity Metasystem, how CardSpace works and how it can be used within ASP.NET applications.



Barry Dorrans

Barry Dorrans of idunno.org has spent 15 years cutting code, starting with mainframes, through DOS, Visual C and MFC before finally ending up on the .NET platform. His experience has ranged from banking systems to Europe's largest streaming network. He now mentors developers through .NET migrations with Charteris plc.

Session 2B

How to design a business object by Rob MacDonald

Fed up of hearing about new stuff? In this session Rob will show some existing (but not necessarily familiar) techniques for creating powerful business objects using VB 2005. A business object is basically a set of properties. So how do you make business objects that are instantly sortable, searchable and bindable? How do you make a list of business objects support DataGridView column sorting? And how do you design them to support database updating, inserting and deleting? This session is both a 'case study' in business object design and also an insight into some of the thinking behind LINQ.



Rob MacDonald

Rob's development career has spanned programming, architecture, training, consultancy, writing and management in four continents. His clients have included Microsoft, Morgan Stanley, Skype, BNP Paribas and the United Nations, and publications cover books on ADO and ASP.NET and some years as columnist for Visual Basic Developer magazine. In July 2000 he started creating .NET courses for Microsoft and has been working with .NET ever since. These days, he gets confused easily and turns up once a year at VBUG conferences to make a fool of himself.

Session 3A

Introducing Silverlight by Ken Eltringham

Silverlight is a cross browser, cross platform environment for creating rich, interactive Web functionality using a subset of WPF. In this session, Ken will introduce Silverlight, focusing on version 1.1 (but with reference to version 1.0), explain the role of the Dynamic Language Runtime, including a summary of its attributes and how it differs from the CLR, and describe the role of XAML in Silverlight development. He will continue to discuss development for Silverlight, covering the use of Expression Blend and Visual Studio 2008 and the application of 3rd party controls.



Ken Eltringham

Ken Eltringham is the European Developer Evangelist for Infragistics, a leading publisher of presentation layer tools. As an Infragistics Developer Evangelist, Ken is responsible for the creation of reference applications, speaking on .NET and user experience topics as well as delivering Infragistics technology demonstrations throughout Europe. Prior to joining Infragistics, Ken gained 12 years experience as an application software consultant in the banking, insurance, manufacturing and retail sectors. He has worked with .NET technology from its pre-release and is now embracing the latest .NET developments such as Windows Presentation Foundation, Silverlight and Visual Studio 2008.

Session 3B

SQL Server 2005 Compact Edition by Steven Abraham

In this session, Steve will explore the SQL Server 2005 Compact Edition database engine. Specifically the session will compare the Compact Edition and the full version of SQL Server and will also address the deployment and synchronisation of a Compact Edition database. Steve will show how the Compact Edition can be used on the Windows platform as a lightweight database alternative to Microsoft Access.



Session 4A

Exposing & Using Services: Windows Workflow & Communication Foundations in .NET Framework V3.5

by Mike Taulty

When .NET Framework V3.5 releases with Visual Studio 2008, both Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) and Windows Workflow Foundation (WF) will gain new functionality. In addition to extending the WCF model to easily expose formats such as RSS, ATOM, 'Plain Old XML' (POX) and JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) work has also been undertaken to dovetail Workflow Foundation with Communication Foundation with out-of-the-box support. In this session Mike will take a look at the enhancements to come for WF and WCF in .NET Framework V3.5 and how they combine to provide a rich, productive environment for building services.

Session 4B

Using the Web Client Software Factory by Gary Short

The Web Client Software Factory provides comprehensive architecture guidance to help developers build composite web clients using the Microsoft platform including ASP.NET 2.0 and Workflow Foundation. In this talk Gary will provide a brief overview of the WCSF before embarking on the creation of a transactional web site for a fictional company.



Gary Short

Gary Short is a Senior Technologist with Charteris, a Microsoft Gold Partner. He has 17 years experience as a software developer and in that time has worked for many FTSE 100 companies doing both desktop and web development, including pioneering on line purchasing of gas and electricity whilst working for Scottish and Southern Energy.

Session 5A

IIS7 for ASP.NET Developers by Andy Westgarth

With the launch of Windows Vista and the forthcoming Windows Server 2008 comes Internet Information Server 7.0. IIS7 is the latest and most significant release of Microsoft's Web Server. With this release comes a new extensibility model which gives developers more options than ever before. During the session Andrew will investigate the new model, look at extending, configuring and developing for IIS7, and take a look at its management user interface.



Andrew Westgarth

Andrew Westgarth has just been elected as VBUG Chairman, after also serving as the Regional Coordinator for VBUG in the North East of England. He is an Analyst Programmer for International Paint Ltd in their Worldwide IT Department and is part of a team which handles International Paint's Intranet and Internet presences. Andrew is very active in the community, attending many events, supporting users and other user groups, and this year has spoken at Developer Developer Developer Day 5. Andrew has experience in VB6/.NET; C#, ASP.NET, MCMS2002 and IIS. Andrew's interests include IIS7, MOSS2007 and ASP.NET Ajax Extensions. To find out more visit Andrew's Blog at <http://www.andrewwestgarth.co.uk/Blog>

Session 5B

Using ClickOnce and XBAPs to Deploy Windows Forms and WPF Applications by Guy Smith-Ferrier

This session represents an opportunity to understand how to get the ease of web deployment together with the richness of Windows Forms or Windows Presentation Foundation (WPF). The same technology is used in XAML Browser Applications (XBAPs) which are WPF applications that are hosted in a browser. Guy introduces ClickOnce technology and demonstrates its use in many scenarios including zero touch deployment, one touch deployment, reversion to previous versions and uninstallation. We also cover deploying WPF applications through the browser (known as XBAPs) and illustrate the similarities and differences between XBAPs, MSI-deployed WPF applications and Windows Forms applications deployed using ClickOnce.



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