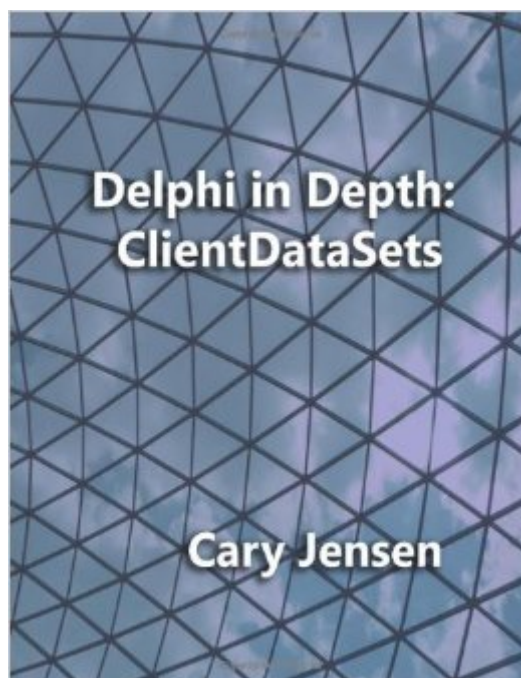# Delphi In Depth: ClientDataSets

Synopsis

Delphi in Depth: ClientDataSets, is one book that belongs in the library of every Delphi developer. This in-depth guide, by Delphi ClientDataSet expert Cary Jensen, shows you how to get the most out of Delphi ClientDataSets. With this book, you will discover how ClientDataSets work, learn how to improve your software with powerful Delphi ClientDataSet features, master the art of cached updates, and build multi-tier applications using Delphi's DataSnap. This book covers current and previous versions of Delphi. Online: Accompanying source code and sample database. Visit http://www.JensenDataSystems.com for more information.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book attempts a comprehensive look at ClientDataSets, but misses the mark for beginners. The first mistake the author makes is one many, many Delphi books make. The problem can be summarized as follows: "BDE is dead and no one in their right mind would do database development work today using the unsupported dead BDE, but because Delphi has sample BDE databases, I'll use BDE examples throughout."This foolish idea of using a dead-end database structure sounds like a good idea when you hear the author describe it, but it doesn't translate to the new user. An experienced Delphi database developer would likely make the easy leap between how it is done with BDE as opposed to say dbExpress, but the beginner will not. This leaves the beginner lost right out of the gate. Trying to teach myself Delphi database programming, I wasted 20 hours tinkering just to figure out one simple mistake I was making while trying to recreate the books examples using mySQL and dbExpress. Granted the book cannot cover every database back-end

and access method available, but starting with any of the non-dead options translates much easier to the other modern options than BDE. The author should have picked ADO, dbExpress, or even Interbase and used a real RDBMS back-end.The second mistake the author makes is relying too heavily on the downloadable code examples rather than placing code examples directly in the book. This not only wastes a great deal of time flipping back and forth, but the downloaded code often doesn't show enough to be useful. Practical examples would do things every database programmer would do in a basic database app. Instead many of the downloaded code examples are simply 4 components strung together using their properties in an empty shell application. Yes the app displays data, but does nothing useful. Complete examples showing how to add, delete, edit, search for, lock, unlock, and avoid collisions with other users using more than dbGrid and a navigation bar would be extremely helpful. As it is, you'd think every database app revolves around dumping unformatted data into a dbGrid and having the end user hack away at it like a glorified spreadsheet.Again, for the advanced developer needing to fill in a few missing pieces about how ClientDataSets work, I'm sure this book is fine. For the beginner, the book is a nightmare until you've wasted hundreds of hours experimenting your way past basic problems.For the beginner, I'd rate this book 1.5 stars. For the more experienced developers three stars, and for those already doing database work but just needing a few gaps filled in, perhaps a bit higher.

This should have been available long time ago. The book explains many things you use daily in depth. Helps to understand what really is going on.

I left Delphi and C++ Builder long ago, then when I had to program an application resulted that BDE was no longer supported, and the documentation and examples I found at that time for dbExpress were so basic and did not solved master details problems I had. I bough this book to address all my doubts, and certainly I think it has helped me a lot.This book does not only shows facts as in the product documentation, it relates the concepts and explain them in detail.Great book, thank you to Cary Jensen

Jensen is one of the real pros in IT today going far beyond his extensive technical abilities and knowledge of contemporary programming. Jensen can actually COMMUNICATE clearly, effectively and thoroughly. His communication skills are outstanding and this combination of technical expertise and communication skills makes him unique in the modern IT world where it seems that all tutorials, demos and "white papers" are written for an audience with a nearly zero attention span.

True, you have to stay awake and pay attention when you read Jensen's writing, but the rewards for your efforts are far greater than the effort it takes to gain them. We need more like Cary Jensen in IT; I wish we could clone him.

This book doesn't just cover the usual drop-a-component-on-a-form tutorial. It actually explains the inner workings of ClientDataSets. It covers the data resolving process, which is what I was most interested in.

This is a great book on ClientDataSets. Even with FireDac more-or-less replacing ClientDataSets, there are enough similarities that this is a good foundation with which to start your FireDac knowledgebase.

It would be all too easy to overlook the value in the TClientDataSet. This book takes the reader through it in considerable detail. My only complaints are two: the decision to use the BDE, while understandable, was a poor one, and second, the book would benefit from careful proof reading and editing.

This book is something which is to recommend to every person, using ClientDataSets.It includes all the bits and pieces you need to understand and effectively use the ClientDataSets.I deeply recommend this book

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