

DSP 7.4 for BDE 5

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What is DSP ?

DSP is a Database Structure Printer. In fact, it prepares things to be printed. DSP generates a simple report, in text format (DSPVIEW.TXT) that is, by default, send to the Windows NOTEPAD. As DSP is fast and as the resulting text can be viewed onscreen at any time, don't waste paper and protect the nature...

Why DSP ?

I know, there are a lot of utilities that print BDE tables structure. First, I must say that DSP is certainly one of the very first, release 1.0 was created using Delphi 1.0, so this work is not a way to re-invent the wheel. Second, most tools in this category are too simple, others are without source or use one page for each table (and think that even recycled paper uses complex chemical process to be produced, something worst than using natural paper !).

What I wanted was so simple: just a list of tables of a database with all important information. Of course, needs always grow... So now, DSP 7.4 can also generate a database dictionary !

How to use DSP ?

Install DSP in any directory you want and put its icon on Windows desktop: you'll use it often... That's all !

Of course the BDE (5) must be installed on your computer, but if you're interested in BDE table structure printing, one can think you already have the BDE installed, logical no ?

Once DSP is executed, you choose in the list of databases the which you want to analyze. The name of the current database is shown in a edit box just under the list. In release 7.4 you can also click the button "Select a directory" to open a disk directory (useful for DBF and DB tables with no alias defined).

Click on the button with the eye to generate the text. A progression bar will be displayed at the form bottom.

Once DSP job is done, the NotePad is called and the resulting text is displayed.

You can now just look, copy to clipboard to print the text with your word processor or store the text in a safe place (it's a good idea to store the database structure analysis with source code, this can help one day).

Remember: each analysis clear the preceding resulting text on disk (DSPVIEW.TXT)...

To generate a database Dictionary click on "Dict" button.

Dictionary window will show a conceptual data model of the model. You can click on each entity to change default table name (default names start with "star.." because DSP is a part of something greater called "Star Project").

The edit area at the top of the windows allows you to choose the destination directory of the dictionary tables.

That's all... Click on "Ok", the dictionary will be created.

To understand dictionary structure, use DSP to get an analysis !

Help ?

There's a little button at bottom right corner that displays some help. Of course, this program is so simple, no help is needed.

Disclaimer

I have developed DSP because I needed it for my personal use. I have debugged the application as well as possible - on my own system it works fine. But I take no responsibility for any damages and disadvantages or loss of data occurs when you use the files in this archive. If you find a bug, please contact me.

DSP is freeware, you can use it with no charge, you can distribute it on Internet, Compuserve and BBS but you can't take any money for this, you can just charge nominal distribution fee.

If you don't agree to those conditions, you are not allowed to use "DSP"!

I'll be glad to hear you, perhaps just to say that you find DSP useful...

Exchange-ware

DSP is an exchange-ware, that means that you can get full source code if you send me some personal and original code. Please, I said: personal and original. Don't send me a freeware you found on the Net, I have it, certainly !

Of course, the code you'll send to me must be really original and useful, as DSP is itself.

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I'm a Delphi specialist since Delphi 1 beta release and since Turbo Pascal for CP/M ! I'm Borland Certified for Delphi 32 bits Client/Server. I use AMC Designor for database design, and ROSE for program analysis (OMT / UML).

I'm also a composer, working on neo-classic and electronic music.

Enjoy programming, enjoy Delphi...