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1. Introduction
TAdvCardList is a Delphi package that contains two visual components – TAdvCardList and TDBAdvCardList. Main goal of these components to organize cards of contacts like in Microsoft Outlook with a A..Z bar to quickly browse through cards. Project divides into two phases: first – development of TAdvCardList; second – to change TAdvCardList for working with data base as source of data for cards (TDBAdvCardList).

1.1 Definitions
ContactList – native Delphi VCL package with components for working with cards of contacts.

Item Type – type of item data and editor for modifying. List of data types and editors:

TAdvCardItemType = (actLabeledItem, actItem, actImage, actOwnerDraw);

// actMemo removed – the same as actItem, aceText with LineCount > 1
// actImage needs to specification

TAdvCardItemEditor = (aceText, aceNumber, aceFloat, aceBoolean, aceDropDownList, aceDropDownEdit, aceDate, aceTime, aceCustom);

TAdvCardItemDataType = (cdtString, cdtFloat, cdtInteger, cdtBoolean, cdtDate, cdtTime);

2. Project Design
2.1 Problem Statement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The problem of</th>
<th>At this moment there are no efficient, reliable components for providing client abilities.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affects</td>
<td>Software developers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the impact of which is</td>
<td>It is needed to develop Delphi VCL design and runtime package uses Win32Api and Delphi VCL. Main problem is need of deep understanding of WinApi, object programming and objects interaction development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a successful solution would be</td>
<td>Visual components to organize contact cards with specified items written in Delphi 7.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.2 User View

From user point of view this package must be install in Delphi “ContactList” palette tab and work properly under Windows.

This package must contain three essential components – TAdvCardList & TAdvCardButtonBar (phase 1) and TDBAdvCardList (phase 2) with the next features:

**TAdvCardList**
- properties for assigning layout of card, count of items, their data and editor type. Should be provided features for assigning data to instances of object, such as CardAppearance, CardTemplateItem, CardTemplate and so on;
- all standard Windows and Delphi events, and events concerned with data changing for all objects should be provided.

**TDBAdvCardList**
- based on TAdvCardList;
- additional properties for working with data base as data source of cards content.

2.3 Internal View

For successful development the package we must define essential and additional objects and their ancestors. Also we need to define own data types. Full list of properties and events must be realized in published sections of objects. Some properties maybe be placed in public section and have access only in runtime. From developer point of view main object TAdvCardList (ancestor is TCustomControl) has template of card layout TAdvCardTemplate (TPersistant), which describes all items in the card and their data type. Access to each card and item’s data occurs through TAdvCards object (TCollection). Behavior of card in each case describes in instances of TAdvCardAppearance (TPersistant) object. Also we need some additional objects for filtering and sorting features including TAdvButtonsBar (TGraphicControl) for quick browse through cards.
unit AdvCardList;

interface

TAdvGradientDirection = (gdHorizontal, gdVertical);

TAdvGradient = class(TPersistent)
published
  Color: TColor; default clWindow; // if clNone use clear brush
ColorTo: TColor; default clNone; // if clNone use solid Color
Direction: TAdvGradientDirection; default gdHorizontal

{ events }
OnGradientChange(Sender: TObject); end;

TAdvCardAppearance = class(TPersistent)
  Published
  BevelInner: for panel-like appearance
  BevelOuter
  BevelWidth
  BorderColor: TColor; default clNone;
  BorderRadius: Integer; default 1;
  CaptionColor: TAdvGradient;
  CaptionBorderColor: TColor; default clNone;
  CaptionBorderWidth: Integer; default 1;
  CaptionFont: TFont;
  Color: TAdvGradient;
  ItemLabelFont: TFont; // used for replacing all item label fonts in this appearance : conflicting with TemplateItemLabelFont ???
  ItemEditFont: TFont; // used for replacing all item edit fonts in this appearance
  ReplaceLabelFont: Boolean; default False; // if checked ItemLabelFont used for all items ? used for ???
  ReplaceEditFont: Boolean; default False; // if checked ItemEditFont used for all items ? used for ???
  LabelWidth: sets width of the label
end;

TAdvCardItemType = (actLabeledItem, actItem, actImage, actOwnerDraw);
  // actMemo removed – the same as actItem, aceText with LineCount > 1
  // actImage needs to specification
TAdvCardItemEditor = (aceText, aceNumber, aceFloat, aceBoolean, aceDropDownList, aceDropDownEdit, aceDate, aceTime, aceCustom);

TAdvCardItemDataType = (cdtString, cdtFloat, cdtInteger, cdtBoolean, cdtDate, cdtTime);

TAdvCardStringHideCondition = (chcAlwaysShow, chcEmpty, chcNotEmpty, chcCustom);
TAdvCardDateHideCondition = (chcAlwaysShow, chcNullDate, chcNotNullDate, chcCustom);
TAdvCardFloatHideCondition = (chcAlwaysShow, chcNull, chcNotNull, chcCustom);
TAdvCardIntegerHideCondition = (chcAlwaysShow, chcNull, chcNotNull, chcCustom);
TAdvCardBooleanHideCondition = (chcAlwaysShow, chcTrue, chcFalse, chcCustom);
  // shs changed to chc (card hide condition)
  // chcCustom needs to specification

TAdvCardTemplateItem = class(TCollectionItem)
  public
  published
   AutoSize: Boolean; // when true, item is autosizing based on textheight
  LabelFont: TFont; ; conflict with appearance LabelFont ?
  Caption: string;
  CaptionColor: TColor; default clNone; // background of caption; clear if clNone
DefaultValue: Variant; // default value for new card
EditFont: TFont;
ValueColor: TColor; default clNone; // background of value; clear if clNone
EditColor: TColor; default clWindow; // background of item value in edit mode (for controls)
ItemType: TAdvCardItemType; default actLabeledItem;
ItemEditor: TAdvCardItemEditor; default aceText;
DataType: TAdvCardItemDataType; // removed from TAdvCardItem
List: TStringList; // for DropDownList
LineCount: Integer; default 1; // for aceText only to determine or Edit either Memo use; if = 1 – Edit, otherwise – Memo (when wordwrap is chosen, there should be a way to let it autosize according to text, for example with LineCount = -1 ??)
Indent: Integer; default 0; // indent for item value
Height: Integer; default 22; // used when AutoSize is False
MaxHeight: Integer; default 66; // used when AutoSize is True for prevent infinite height growing
Name: string; // Name of the item for object property editor
ReadOnly: Boolean;
HideStringCondition: TAdvCardStringHideCondition; // work also if Visible = True
HideIntegerCondition: TAdvCardIntegerHideCondition;
HideDateCondition: TAdvCardDateHideCondition;
HideFloatCondition: TAdvCardFloatHideCondition;
Tag: Integer;
WordWrap: boolean; // when true, memo text is shown wordwrapped, otherwise with end ellipsis
Format: string; // floating format string if datatype is a float
Prefix: string; // prefix string for display only, on edit will be hided
Suffix: string; // suffix string for display only, on edit will be hided
ShowHint: boolean; // show special item hint
Visible: Boolean; default True; // for manual hiding of item

{ events }
OnTemplateItemChange(Sender: TObject; Item: TAdvCardTemplateItem);
end;

// united with TAdvCardTemplate
{ TAdvCardTemplateItemCollection = class(TCollection)
  public
  published
    Items[index: Integer]: TAdvCardTemplateItem;
  end; }

TAdvCardTemplate = class(TCollection)
  Public
    Function GetTemplateItemClass: TCollectionItem; virtual; (allow to override to create custom classes)
    GetItemByName(Name: string): TAdvCardTemplateItem;
    ItemValueWidth: Integer; // read only; equal CardWidth – ItemLabelWidth – ItemHorMargins*2
  published
    Items[index: Integer]: TAdvCardTemplateItem;
    CardCaptionHeight: Integer; default 22;
    ItemLabelWidth: Integer; default 100; // see figure
    CardWidth: Integer; default 200;
  { removed from TAdvCardAppearance }
  ItemSpacing: Integer; default 5; // spacing between two items
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TMS TAdvCardList
DEVELOPERS GUIDE

HorMargins: Integer; default 10; // left and right margins from border to keep for displaying items (ihm in figure)
VertMargins: Integer; default 10; // top and bottom margins from border to keep for displaying items (ivm in figure)

{ events }
OnTemplateItemAdd(Sender: TObject; Item: TAdvCardTemplateItem);
OnBeforeTemplateItemDelete(Sender: TObject; Item: TAdvCardTemplateItem);
OnCardTemplateChange(Sender: TObject);
end;

TAdvCardItem = class(TCollectionItem) // or array or TList element
public
  AsBoolean: Boolean;
 AsString: string;
 AsFloat: double;
 AsInteger: integer;
 AsDate: TDateTime;
 AsTime: TDateTime
  DataType: TAdvCardItemDataType; // removed to TAdvCardTemplateItem
  Hint: string; // specific item hint
  Selected: Boolean;
  Object: TObject;  // to allow assignment of custom objects
  OwnsObject: Boolean; // when true, object is destroyed automatically when item is destroyed
  Tag: Integer;
end;

TAdvCardItemList = class(TCollection) // or implemented by array or TList
Public
  Function GetCardItemClass: TCollectionItem; virtual;  // to allow override of carditem class, default is TAdvCardItem
Card: TAdvCard;  // owner card
published
  Items[index: Integer]: TAdvCardItem; // not allowed change item count
end;

TAdvCard = class(TCollectionItem) // or array or TList element
public
  Selected: Boolean;
  SelectedItem: Integer;
published
  Caption: TCaption; // what is caption used for , set in template ???
  ItemList: TAdvCardItemList;
  Tag: Integer;
  Hint: string; // full card hint
end;

TAdvCards = class(TCollection) // or implemented by array or TList
public
  Items[index: Integer]: TAdvCard;
  SelectedCard: Integer;
published
{ events }
OnCardAdd(Sender: TObject; Card: TAdvCard);
OnBeforeCardDelete(Sender: TObject; Card: TAdvCard);
OnCardChange(Sender: TObject; Card: TAdvCard);
end;

TSortDirection = (sdAscending, sdDescending);

TAdvCardSortSettings = class(TPersistent)
  SortIndex: integer; // card item to sort on
  SortDirection: TSortDirection;
{ events }
  OnSortChange(Sender: TObject);
end;

TAdvCardFilterSettings = class(TPersistent)
  FilterIndex: integer; // card item to filter on
  FilterCondition: string; // simple condition : if pos(filter, carditem[index]) = 1 then allow
{ events }
  OnFilterChange(Sender: TObject);
end;

TAdvCardEvent = procedure(Sender: TObject; CardIndex: Integer; ItemIndex: Integer);
TAdvCardItemEvent = procedure(Sender: TObject; CardIndex: Integer; ItemIndex: Integer);
TAdvCardItemAllowEvent = procedure(Sender: TObject; CardIndex: Integer; ItemIndex: Integer; var Allow: Boolean);

TAdvCardList = class(TCustomControl)
protected
  procedure StartEdit(editrect: trect; cardindex, itemindex: integer; value: variant); // method called when custom editing should start
public
  Items: TAdvCardItemList;
  SelectedCard: TAdvCard;
  SelectedIndex: Integer;
  function CardAtXY(x,y: integer): TAdvCard;
  function CardItemAtXY(x,y: integer): TAdvCardItem;
  procedure DoneEdit(cardindex, itemindex: integer; value: variant); method called by custom editor to update after editing ends
  LeftCol: // sets the left column index in a scrolled cardlist
published
  BorderWidth: Integer;
  BorderColor: TColor; // without border if clNone
  CardNormalAppearance: TAdvCardAppearance;
  CardSelectedAppearance: TAdvCardAppearance;
  CardHoverAppearance: TAdvCardAppearance;
  CardEditingAppearance: TAdvCardAppearance;
  CardTemplate: TAdvCardTemplate; // template of cards
  CardVertSpacing: Integer; default 20; // see figure
  CardHorSpacing: Integer; default 20; // see figure
ColumnSizing: Boolean; // ability to resize column width in realtime
Color: TAdvGradient; // background card list color
Columns: Integer; // nr. of columns; read only
ColumnWidth: Integer; // if changed card width recalculate and vice versa if card width changed then column width recalculate
ReadOnly: Boolean;
GridLineWidth: Integer; default 3; // line between columns
GridLineColor: TColor; // line between columns
MultiSelect: Boolean; // allow ctrl-click multi card selection
SortSettings: TAdvCardSortSettings;
Sorted: Boolean;
ShowScrollBar: Boolean (show scrollbar or not)
FilterSettings: TAdvCardFilterSettings;
Filtered: Boolean;

{ events }
OnCardStartEdit: TAdvCardItemAllowEvent;
OnCardEndEdit: TAdvCardItemEvent;
OnCardItemGetDispText(Sender, CardIndex, ItemIndex; Integer; var Text: string); // allows virtual text or dynamic text modifications
OnDrawCardItem(Sender: TObject; CardIndex; ItemIndex; Card: TAdvCard; Item: TAdvCardItem; Canvas, Rect); // custom draw event
OnDrawCardItemProp(Sender: TObject; CardIndex; ItemIndex; Item: TAdvCardItem; AFont: TFont; ABrush: TBrush); // queries draw properties
OnShowCardItem: TAdvCardItemAllowEvent;

OnCardCaptionClick: TAdvCardEvent;
OnCardCaptionDblClick: TAdvCardEvent;
OnCardClick: TAdvCardEvent;
OnCardItemClick: TAdvCardItemEvent;
OnCardDblClick: TAdvCardEvent;
OnColumnResizing(Sender: TObject; var NewSize: Integer);

// all normal window control events
OnKeyXXXXX
OnMouseMoveXXXXX
OnEnter
OnExit
OnDragDrop
OnDragOver
OnStartDrag
end;

TAdvButtonClickEvent = procedure(Sender: TObject; ButtonIndex: integer; ButtonCaption: string) of object;

TAdvBarAlignment = (baHorizontal, baVertical);
TAdvBarButtonDirection = (bdVertical, bdHorizontal);

TAdvButtonsBar = class(TCustomControl)
    BarAlignment: TAdvBarAlignment; default baVertical; // used to control the alignment of the bar
    ButtonColor: TColor; // color of the buttons in the component
ButtonDirection: TAdvBarButtonDirection;
BorderWidth: integer; // set how wide is the border around the buttons
ButtonGap: integer; // distance between buttons
ButtonSize: integer; size of the button (height in vert. mode, width in horiz. Mode)
CardList: TAdvCardList; // used to set the TAdvCardList component this buttons bar control
ShowNumButton: Boolean; // show or hide the "123" button in the first position of the bar
{ events }
OnButtonClick: TAdvButtonClickEvent;
end;

implementation

end.

**BEHAVIOR**

1. All values display as static, if user select the item dynamic control for editing created.
2. If cards keep more space then card list width horizontal scroll box shows.
3. TAdvButtonBar browse cards by caption.

Note1: number of buttons on the AdvButtonsBar is determined by height / (ButtonSize + ButtonGap)
if less buttons can be shown on the AdvButtonsBar than alphabet, letters should group, ie. For example:

    Abc
def
Ghi
Etc..

Note2:
It should be able to use the keyboard with:

    Arrow up/down  left/right
    Page Up / Page Down (4 items down/up)
    Home / End (first / last item)
    Letter of alphabet to go to first matching item

### 2.4 Assumptions and Dependencies

The final package is not stand alone application, it uses only in Delphi IDE.

Additional documents

Full list of properties and events will be provided with project proceeding.

Such documents will be provided with project release:

1. Test plan
2. Project directory tree
3. Test project
3. System Requirements

Windows & Delphi or C++Builder development environment