Gambas

Gambas Almost Means BASic
Today’s Menu...

- Gambas
  - What?
  - Why?
- How it works
- Demo I - Hello, World!
- Features – I
- Demo II - Analog Clock
- Features - II
- Gambas vs VB
- Demo IV – Movie Player
- Its future
Gambas – A better Visual Basic

• Gambas is a
  – Graphical Development Environment based on a Basic interpreter
  – Intended to be a better Visual Basic

• VB replacement for Linux, not a VB clone
Gambas - Why?

- Leveraging the power of Linux
- Leveraging our current knowledge
- Unique mix of features - help thousands of VB developers to migrate from Windows to Linux
- Converting legacy code

Gambas can help bring more applications and users more quickly to Linux
Hello, World!
Gambas - How it works

- .project file
- .form files
- .class files
- "gbc" -> binary "pcode".
- pcode in "gambas"
- "gbx"
- Components
  - qt-component
  - GTK component? - Write them! ;-)
- "gba" -> project + pcode
  = so called "executable file"
Gambas – Features

• Component Model
  – designed to be extensible. *base language and all the rest = components*
  – Even the graphical toolkit is just a component.
  – Soon, GTK+ component

• Can write multi language programs
  – RAD offers a wizard to translate

• Gambas offers database access
  – Currently can manage MySQL, PostgreSQL and Sqlite
• Distribution wizards
  – can distribute your program as source code
  – also create binary packages

• Can write network applications using Gambas
  – TCP, Unix and UDP sockets, clients and servers, serial port devices
  – queries to HTTP servers, FTP client

• XML is work in progress
Demo II

Analog Clock
Gambas v/s VB

• Non Language-Specific Differences
  – Gambas - separate, in a .form and a .class file, VB - combined
  – Form controls in Gambas programs are private by default.

• VB Has It, Gambas Doesn't
  – Cant currently edit code in Break Mode
  – Function and procedure parameters passed by value only
  – No project-wide global variables
  – Gambas -prior declaration of variables
Gambas v/s VB

- Gambas Has It, VB Doesn't
  - Concept of control groups
  - Run a program synchronously
  - Odd-shaped window you just set the ME.Mask property
  - Can create controls and menu dynamically
  - Not required to compile in GUI support if you want to write a Gambas command-line application
Demo III

A two minute Movie Player!

Leveraging the power of Linux..
Gambas Tomorrow..

- A GTK+ component
- finishing the network and XML component
- writing components in Gambas
- A SDL component
- A Perl compatible regular expression component
- Make objects persistent
- Embedded Gambas
- and the wishlist never ends :-)
That’s all folks!

• Gambas Home
  – http://gambas.sourceforge.net/
• Gambas Wiki
• The Easy Gambas Documentation
  – http://www.theeasygambasdoku.de/

• Arjun Jain
  • http://arjun.notlong.com
  • arjunjain@gmail.com

• Nalini Vasudevan
  • http://nalini.zor.org
  • naliniv@gmail.com