

► **Open solutions for a changing world™**

## Visual DataFlex 2009/15.0 – Overview



The goal of Visual DataFlex 2009 is to provide developers with a release that makes “sense” & makes “cents” in the current economy. Its key objectives are to:

- Deliver new Studio additions and features that provide immediate value to developers to help build applications faster and more efficiently
- Focus on new features that developers can use to rapidly deliver new application enhancements to their customers and their marketplaces in order to compete more effectively and win more business in 2009

## Technical Goals

With the major Studio reconstruction started in Visual DataFlex 12.0 now complete, in version 2009/15.0 we will deliver a variety of smaller but still important Studio enhancements:

- Enable Visual DataFlex applications to use some of the technologies created for the Studio
- Provide some oft requested Studio / Debugger enhancements
- Provide some oft requested Package / Framework / Runtime enhancements
- Because of an aggressive release cycle, make sure that forward migration is reliable, fast & easy

## AJAX Web Applications

Beginning with revision 2009, the AJAX library will be officially included and supported in Visual DataFlex.

- The AJAX library is now the recommended method for writing Web Applications
- Development of the AJAX library will continue to be handled by Data Access Europe
- Runtime, debugger and Studio enhancements have been made to better support Web App/AJAX

The Visual DataFlex 2009/15.0 Web Application Server provides JSON support.

- Can be used right now for custom web browser support
- JSON will be used in future versions of the AJAX Library

## Visual DataFlex Studio

- Design time anchor support
  - Anchors are now applied in the Visual Designer
- Improved breakpoint panel
  - The breakpoint panel is easier to use and organize
- Code Explorer - select text
  - Makes it easy to mark a block of text from Code explorer
- Go-back option
  - Can be manually selected to provide “go back” point in a file
  - Used with “go to definition”

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- Dependency Cache rewrite
  - Very large applications load and run faster in the Studio
- Debugger Changes
  - Conditional Breakpoints - Any breakpoint can contain an expression that determines if a breakpoint should be applied
  - Show as object - Any variable or expression that evaluates as a number can be shown as an object
  - Move program pointer - You can move the current program pointer for more flexible debugging

## Runtime

- New Array Functions
  - RemoveFromArray
  - InsertInArray
- New Functions
  - Pos
  - RightPos
- Improved Icon resource handling
  - Redesigned so that a dialog's Icon uses less resources

## Classes

New: Tooltip support in classes

- Tooltips now supported in most controls.
- Multiple tooltips are all controlled by a single Tooltip controller object

New: Hyperlink class

- New class allows you to create "SysLink" labels

New: Scrolling container class

- Allows you to create scrollable views, dialogs and containers

New: Splitter container class

- Allows you to create splitter views, dialogs and containers

Improved: Treeview

- Supports Bold, Checkboxes, Info-tips, better notifications, cleaner refresh

Improved: Labels

- Supports setting font size, color and orientation for labels

Improved: Auto-activate views

- New property can be set which auto-activates a view

Improved: Multi-select open file dialog

- The open file dialog supports multiple selection

Improved: ReportView class

- Report Views now save/restore the size and location just like dbViews.

Improved Text and Rich Edit class

- Maximum length of Edit content is tested while typing

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## Libraries

We want to encourage the development and use of Visual DataFlex libraries within development teams and across development teams. To facilitate library usage...

- We have created a mechanism to support the integration of help directly into the VDF Help book
- We have created a mechanism which allows a custom program to be executed when a library is attached to a workspace
- Recommendations for standard library practices have been created
  - Provides a “Do and Don’t” list for library creators
  - Covers installation, naming standards, documentation and more