

SocketWrench/VB Custom Control

Version 1.0a

Welcome

Please read this document carefully; it contains information about installing and using the SocketWrench Windows Sockets custom control. Before you install the control, please be sure that your system has the following products installed (the version number indicates the earliest release that is supported; a later release may also be used):

Microsoft Windows 3.1 or Windows for Workgroups 3.11
Visual Basic 2.0
Windows Sockets 1.1 Library

If you have any questions about which version of the above products are installed, check the software documentation or contact your network or systems administrator.

Catalyst Software

SocketWrench/VB is part of a larger package currently under development by Catalyst Software. In addition to the comprehensive, but fairly low-level, access that SocketWrench provides, the package will include libraries and custom controls for many of the popular Internet application protocols such as FTP, TELNET, SMTP, POP3 and HTTP. Both dynamic link libraries (DLL's) and custom controls for Visual Basic (VBX's) will be included, providing the greatest flexibility to developers. And, of course, there are never any royalties or other hidden costs with any of Catalyst's tools.

We feel that the most exciting component in the package is our **World Wide Web browser custom control**. The control offers the best of both worlds: a powerful browser that can be easily customized to meet the needs of your application. Although the Web control offers many options in the form of properties, methods and events, you can create your own custom browser by simply selecting the control, creating a text and button control and setting the resource property. And when integrated with our other controls, you can build a fully-featured, Internet-enabled application in just minutes!

Free Distribution

SocketWrench/VB is freely re-distributable software. You may use the control in your own applications and redistribute the package as needed. However, SocketWrench has *not* been placed in the public domain. Catalyst Software retains the copyright and may, without prior notice, release subsequent versions of SocketWrench that are not freely re-distributable. As a developer, you may include the control in your applications as per the license agreement included with this software distribution.

If you have found SocketWrench to be useful, please consider registering the software by completing the form in the **register.txt** file. There is no charge or obligation when registering SocketWrench, and you'll receive a \$50.00 discount towards the purchase of the complete package when it's released. To contact Catalyst Software, write to:

Catalyst Software
638 Lindero Canyon Road
Suite 107
Oak Park, California 91301

Phone: 818.879.1144
Fax: 818.879.1211
Email: mstefan@catsoft.com

Please include your full name, address, daytime voice and fax number, and your email address if available. Catalyst Software is committed to providing tools, utilities and component software that truly solve developers problems. You can help right now by simply letting us know who you are. Thank you for your support.

Documentation

The documentation for this control is provided both as a Windows help file and as a Microsoft Word 6.0 document. Although the document is copyrighted, it may be freely copied and redistributed throughout your organization as needed.

Installation

To install SocketWrench, run the installation utility that is included with the package. If the package was downloaded from a bulletin board system, it will be necessary to extract the files from an archive. To install the software, select **File..Run** from the Program Manager menu. A dialog box will prompt you for the name of the program to execute. If you are installing from a diskette, enter `a:\setup`. Otherwise, specify the complete path where the setup utility is located.

When the installation begins, you will be prompted to enter the name of a directory where documents and sample programs can be installed. If the directory does not exist, you can choose to have the setup utility create it for you. This distribution contains the following files:

<code>cssock.vbx</code>	SocketWrench custom control
<code>cssock.hlp</code>	Help file for the custom control
<code>cssock.bas</code>	Visual Basic module to include in projects
<code>cssock.doc</code>	SocketWrench control documentation (Word 6.0 format)
<code>tcpintro.doc</code>	Introduction to programming with SocketWrench
<code>compat.wri</code>	Control compatibility notes
<code>license.wri</code>	Software license agreement
<code>generic.*</code>	Visual Basic project for a sample application
<code>tcpcho.*</code>	Visual Basic project for a TCP echo server and test utility
<code>udpcho.*</code>	Visual Basic project for a UDP test utility
<code>tinyftp.*</code>	Visual Basic project for a simple FTP client

The SocketWrench control and help file will be copied to the `\WINDOWS\SYSTEM` directory along with the other Visual Basic controls. After all of the files have been installed, you will be prompted if you wish to create a program group for the help and documentation files.

Once the installation is completed, you can add the control to your project from within Visual Basic by selecting **File..Add File** from the menu. Select the `socket.vbx` file from the file list, and you should see the control added to your toolbox. It is suggested that you also include the `socket.bas` module in your project as well. It defines global constants that are commonly used when programming the control.

Windows Sockets Loopback Library

For those systems that are not connected to a network, or do not have a Windows Sockets library, a stub "loopback" library has been included with this distribution of SocketWrench. This

library allows SocketWrench to function as though a network connection exists, which in turn allows you to develop applications with SocketWrench. This library should only be installed and configured by someone who is familiar with TCP/IP. It should never be installed on a system which already has another TCP/IP protocol stack installed.

If no Windows Sockets library is found on your system when SocketWrench is installed, you are given the option to install the loopback library. If you do install the library, it will be copied to the installation directory as WINSOCK.DLL. In order for the SocketWrench control to find the library, you must either include the installation directory in your PATH environment variable, or copy it to the \WINDOWS directory. If you do copy the library to the \WINDOWS directory, you must also copy the WINSOCK.INI file there as well. This file contains configuration data used by the library, and has two sections which look something like this:

```
[Host]
Address=192.0.0.1
Name=myhost
Domain=mydomain.com
```

```
[Files]
Hosts=c:\catalyst\winsock\hosts
Protocols=c:\catalyst\winsock\protocol
Services=c:\catalyst\winsock\services
```

The first section, **Host**, describes the local system. The Address item specifies the IP address that is to be associated with the local host, Name specifies the name of the host, and Domain specifies the host's domain.

The second section, **Files**, specifies the location of the text databases which are used by the loopback library. If the values are incorrect (such as if they specify non-existent files), the function calls associated with the item will fail. This means that if, for example, the protocol file does not exist, any function which attempts to resolve a protocol name will fail with an error.

Reporting Problems

If you encounter a problem, either with the control itself, or with the documentation, please document the error and send an e-mail message to either of these addresses:

```
CompuServe: 72202,1427
AmericaOnline: mstefan
Internet: mstefan@catsoft.com
```

Please be as specific as you can about the problem that you're experiencing. When reporting the problem, please be sure to include the following information in your message:

```
Operating system and version
Physical connection (Ethernet, dialup SLIP/PPP, etc.)
TCP/IP vendor and version information
```

Known problems with a specific vendor's Windows Sockets implementation can be found in the **Compatibility Notes** document distributed with this product.