



Fundamental Objects

FO HANDHELD NEWS
Volume 6, Issue 1
January 17th, 2005

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Welcome

... to the January edition of our user and developer PDA tips newsletter.

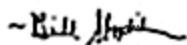
The focus of this issue is tools that help with internet access and user productivity tools. But there is always a little of everything else as well.

As always, please feel free to submit requests or ideas through the links at the **bottom** of this page. This is also where you will find subscription and removal information.

Palm related items in our newsletters are marked with this  icon. The Pocket PC/WinCE items are marked with this  one and Phone-related PDA tips show a  icon.

Please note: This newsletter contains tips and tools that can alter your PDA. These items are offered here "as is" and without any warranty or support from FO. Please consider them carefully before using or trying them (and as always ... backup, backup, **backup** first -- before making any changes).

Thank you,



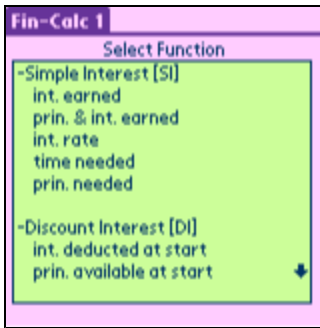
Bill Shadish, Principal

User Tips and Tools

Fin-Calc1 v1.00 (freeware)

<http://instructorsoft.com/fin-calc1/fin-calc1.zip>

This is almost a must-have if you are out car shopping. Calculates simple interest, discounted interest, compound interest and interest conversions (discount to simple, simple to effective, etc). Includes breakdowns to work the calculations different ways, such as to show the principal needed (given an interest rate, payoff time and amount to be paid).



Fin-Calc

Cheap or Free dial-up Access (~freeware | cheapware) 🌐 📶 🌱

If you are looking for a low cost (or no cost) internet and email access -- the WiFi access approach isn't always the best for security, local availability or cost reasons.

The following sites *can be* a perfect answer for that PDA that you wish to have internet access from, only a day or so a month while on the road.

These sites list ISPs that offer very low cost, and even free within certain thresholds, ISP services. Each have pluses and minuses -- so be sure to read the contracts and acceptance agreements that you are presented as you go through the sign-up process. Many of the ISPs listed below are national, providing access through local phone numbers (meaning low phone charges while you are on the road).

<http://www.access4free.com> costs nothing to use up to 10 hours/month -- and then no more than \$10/month if you go over that limit. <http://www.access4less.com> is a very closely related site (they even use many of the exact same paragraphs in their contracts) which costs \$6.95/month. The "catch" to these sites is that they limit your connection time and cut you off after 10 minutes of inactivity, or 5 hours regardless. This is to ensure that everyone can get in -- and is fine if you are only checking email, a price, or some contact information while on the road.

Note that even though the cost may be free, you are still required to enter a credit card number during sign-up; just in case you exceed the free limits.

FreedomList

<http://www.freedomlist.com>

(Excellent site breaking free/low cost ISPs out by state and price).

D9 v0.71 (freeware) 🌐 📶 🌱

<http://www.freewareppc.com/communication/d9.shtml>

D9 is an *open-source, freeware*, advanced phone dialer for Windows Mobile Phone Edition devices. D9 is faster than the built-in dialer and easier to work with. Features include:

- Predictive text entry: D9 figures out who you are trying to call – so that it takes less keystrokes to make your call.
- D9 uses your Outlook contacts for its database, so there's no need to enter any names or numbers.



- Speed: There is no delay in finding the name you are after.

PocketSkype v1.0.0.21 (freeware) 🌐 📱 🌟

<http://www.skype.com/home.html>

We generally try not to repeat tools or sites in our newsletter -- but with the explosion of WiFi sites (and the rise of phone charges) -- this one is worth revisiting.

PocketSkype is a free application that enables you to make Skype voice calls using your WiFi-enabled Pocket PC, from any WiFi hotspot that you can access. There are also versions for other platforms (Windows, Linux, Mac OSX) as well.

USAToday Wireless News (freeware | adware) 🌐 📱 🌟

<http://www.usatoday.com/marketing/wiresplash.htm>

Daily news formatted for your specific PDA device.

For the Palm OS:

<http://www.usatoday.com/palm>

Point your Pocket PC/WinCE OS device to:

http://www.usatoday.com/wireless/wince_os/index.asp

Phone (WAP support)

<http://WAP.USATODAY.com>

WordNetCE v2.5.02 (freeware) 📱

<http://www.ebswift.com/>

WordNetCE is a comprehensive freeware dictionary/thesaurus based on Princeton's WordNet.

Requires Princeton's (12.3 mb) WordNet v2.0 support file (<ftp://ftp.cogsci.princeton.edu/pub/wordnet/2.0/WordNet-2.0.exe>). There is also a Windows and ASP version of the WordNet front-end on the ebswift site.

HellChess v1.1 (freeware) (📱soon) 📱

<http://hellhound.nl/hc/down.html>

<http://hellhound.nl/>

<http://www.freewareppc.com/games/hellchess.shtml>

A PPC (and Windows, Linux and other platforms) chess game with good tutorials; a strong AI engine and the ability to play online. A PalmOS version is discussed, but not yet found at this site.



Hell Chess

WMV AVI MPEG MPG Converter 1.16 (\$29) 🌐

http://www.tomdownload.com/multimedia_design/video/avi_wmv_mpeg_converter.htm

Love how easy it is to copy a video onto a Windows system, but hate the fact that the files are locked into fat Windows WMV files? The WMV AVI MPEG MPG Converter is a video converter that moves AVI, MPEG, MPG & WMV formats from one to another. This tool supports MPEG-1 and MPEG-2. For those who are interested, about everything else that you can think of in the Audio/video conversion realm is available at the following site:

http://www.tomdownload.com/audio_mp3/index.htm

PDASupport.com (freeware) 🌐 🇺🇸

<http://www.pdasupport.com/>

A site with pointers to a variety of PDA-related topics. Includes magazines, reviews, true support sites, tip sites, foreign language sites, web-rings and more.



PDASupport

How to configure a Peer-to-Peer connection for Toshiba e740 (freeware) 🇺🇸

<http://www.tweaks2k2.com/ad-hoc.htm>

Struggling to set up that WiFi connection to your desktop? If so, here is a complete run through of how to connect a Toshiba PPC PDA to WinXP; that is adaptable to your own set of hardware. Includes screenshots of every step along the way.

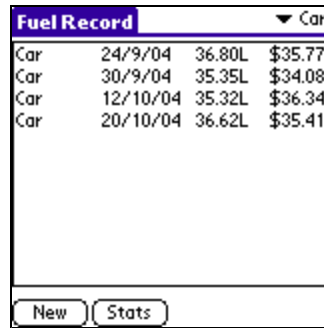
Fuel Record v1.2 (freeware) 🌐

<http://www.geocities.com/trandorous>

This is a pretty powerful record keeping application, that works for up to 255 vehicles and includes (useful!) features such as being able to export the information to a CSV text file; which can then be uploaded into a spreadsheet.

Liter/Kilometer and Gallons/Mile conversions are supported -- see the Metric | Imperial option under the top level

Preferences menu.



Fuel Record				▼ Car
Car	24/9/04	36.80L	\$35.77	
Car	30/9/04	35.35L	\$34.08	
Car	12/10/04	35.32L	\$36.34	
Car	20/10/04	36.62L	\$35.41	

New Stats

Fuel Records

Development Tips and Tools

(Sites with content most valuable to developers)

SiEd v0.9.3 (freeware)

<http://benroe.com>

If you're a developer, you have likely used SiEd variants on the desktop side. This Palm version allows you to edit text documents, using .doc and plain text formats and multiple windows (split-screen). You know that you would like split-screen editing -- if you are a developer :-)

Titrax v4.09 TimeTracker (freeware)

<http://jack.testnetz.detecon.net/software/>



Titrax

Titrax is a time management/planning tool which helps you to keep track of the amount of time that you spend on projects.

It is fairly easy to use, and you can switch between projects with 2 taps on the screen (using the top dropdown list). Projects are totaled and the data can be pushed to the Datebook as well.

WiFi Graph v0.3 RC1 (freeware)

<http://www.kasuei.com/wifigraph>

WiFi Graph finds wireless LAN access points and displays the connectivity that they offer.

Locates the best spot within seconds, and updates every 2 seconds to show actual availability.

Scrollable display and XML logging for network analysis. (This is a brand new tool -- so tread carefully and check the site for its' limitations).



ceNetTools v1.0 (freeware) 📱

<http://www.mourfield.com/NetToolsSetup.msi>

A Pocket PC app that provides Ping, TraceRt and Whols support. TraceRt (Trace Route) shows the path from where you are to a given IP address or hostname.

SqlCeSpy v1.0.2 (freeware) 📱

http://www.primeworks.pt/site/Release/SqlCeSpy_1.0.2.exe

SqlCeSpy allows you to peek into the layout and data of a PPC's SQL CE v2.0 database.

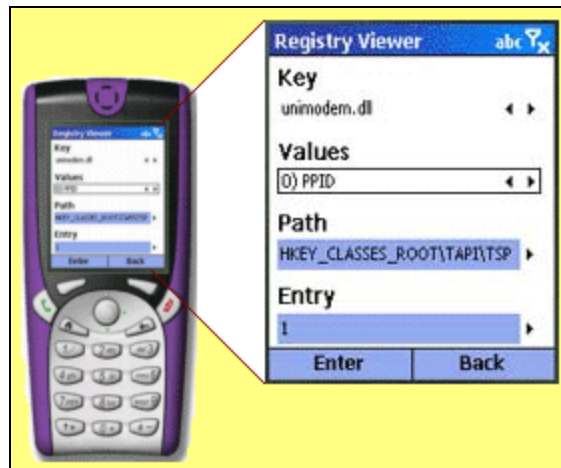
The Code Project - Porting a registry viewer app (freeware) 📱

http://www.codeproject.com/ce/porting_to_smartphone.asp

This is a decent starter app that shows how to create a "registry viewer" on the PPC side.

Notice in particular the code to handle the back key (which is obviously a concern on a smartphone...)

```
// ...
case WM_COMMAND:
    switch (LOWORD(wParam))
    {
        // User chose to close the dialog
        case IDCANCEL: //Handles the BACK KEY
            EndDialog(hDlg, TRUE);
            break;
    }
// ...
```



Registry Viewer

PalmOS Simulator Tip (tip) 📱

If you (as a developer Or a user) are annoyed at having to tap through the entire, first-time-on, start-up sequence every time that you open the simulator, here is how to get around that.

1. Run the simulator (5.3 versions and up) and take a snapshot.
(Right-click the Simulator window and choose "Storage > Save".)
2. Modify the PalmSim.ini file and add the following line under [Settings]:
StorageSnapshotFile=<full path to the snapshot file>

There are additional options that can be entered into this INI file, such as screenheight: [160|220|240|320|480], alwaysontop:[on|off], zoom:[1|2|3|4] and redirectnetlibcalls:[on|off].

See this site for more:

http://www.palmos.com/dev/support/docs/simulator/Simulator_Using.html#996833

FO News 🌐 📱 🗺️

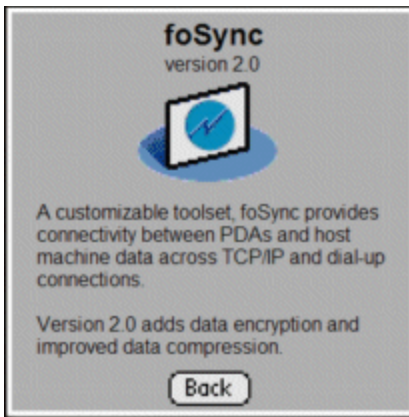
foSync 2.0 🌐 📱 🗺️

Our foSync product has been updated to add better data encryption and improved data compression.

A customizable toolset for the enterprise, foSync provides connectivity across TCP/IP and/or dial-up connections between PDAs and host machine data. PDA executables, row-data or entire databases can be synchronized with the host.

Registration (licensing) of user pdas is optionally available directly on the client-PDA-side or via a server-controlled registration process.

See our site (<http://www.fo.com/pda/fosync.htm>) for more information.



foSync 2.0

Reader Tips 🌐 📱 🗺️

After each issue, we receive a number of reader comments, questions and tips regarding handhelds. We would like to share these tips with all of our readers as well.

If you would like to submit a tip for inclusion in our newsletter, please fill out the information below. Your name and email will be shown along with the tip, if it is used in our newsletter.

Enter your first and last name:	<input type="text"/>	*
Enter your email address:	<input type="text"/>	*
Company:	<input type="text"/>	

Reader Tip:

* = required.

Submit

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To **unsubscribe** from this newsletter, [click here](#).

If you would like to suggest topics for us to focus on, we will strive to add content in the direction of the most interest. Choose from the following categories, or add your own, and include this in [your email](#):

- Palm Development
- Palm User Interface topics (look & feel issues),
- Palm User-oriented topics (tips!),
- Palm vs. Pocket PC issues
- <other>

If you have other comments or suggestions, please send us an email with your thoughts by [clicking here](#).



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