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## THE SOURCE

*A newsletter about PRC® for users and friends. PRC is IT Governance for Multivalue/U2.*

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Manuals & Tipsheets	Always a few new tip-sheets on the website
Release Information	GUI and silent functioning
Events	Perspectives, U2 University, Spectrum PRC conference / training day?
Support	<a href="mailto:support@sjplus.com">support@sjplus.com</a>

### \*\* Greetings & News \*\*

**New web site and newsletter!** Say goodbye to this "old-school" format! The new format will be easier to access from all devices, easier to read and more accessible as archives. The old newsletters will still be available on the web-site, along with all of the manuals and tip-sheets.

#### PRC conference / training day?

We are thinking of taking advantage of the opportunity to have a conference day of our own during the same week as Spectrum (West Palm Beach, FL - April 4-7). Various levels of training, special interest in PCI DSS compliance. A forum for exploring new ideas and features. All I need to hear is that you are interested. Fee would be nominal - cover the costs. Interest?

#### New partner introduction



Outsource your DBA and IT Operations!

Many U2 companies have the need for a system administrator that really understands U2. Sometimes this important component is missing because a person with those skills cannot be found, sometimes it is because the company already has a sysadmin, but that person knows more about the other aspects of the infrastructure and not as much about U2. Of course we all love to brag about how little administration a U2 system requires but this has a downside in that the budget for a fulltime person is not justified. Making do without the right expertise can result in "less than perfect" configuration including file maintenance such as sizing and indexing. In the end, these all directly impact the performance and stability of any database. Media Systems' solution offers the best of both worlds - keeping costs down while not sacrificing the maintenance your system needs. Check them out!

**Contact:** Mike Fitzgerald [mike.fitzgerald@mediaus.com](mailto:mike.fitzgerald@mediaus.com); 847-882-0321 x511

#### **\*\* RELEASE INFORMATION \*\***

The current field release: 6.8 - it is a bridge release that works in SB 5.X and SB/XA.

Upcoming release 6.9 is a complete "revamp" of the SB+ GUI screens. They are 'xaml' ready and much cleaner and more standardized. If you work in SB+ GUI you should definitely consider upgrading to 6.9 or PRC Release 7 when it comes out in XAML early in 2011.

## "Silent functioning"

As many of us move to new user interfaces we end up with tools that run from a browser or desktop that may modify and save parts of the host/U2 based software. PRC and I have both been working on our flexibility. For me that means taking a yoga class - but for PRC it means becoming more adaptable to various environments - including environments that are hostile to SB+. Modularizing the functionality of PRC so that it can be called from various independent programs and tools from various environments has been challenging but the result is rewarding. PRC can be adapted to (still automatically!) manage change from outside editors such as Ultraedit and BDT. It can be called from web interfaces, uniobjects and file triggers. If you are moving to this sort of development - or even if you are thinking about it, let us know *what* so we can be stretching in that direction!

Rocket U2's Basic Developer Tool (BDT) is an Eclipse-based desktop style editing tool. You can edit U2 Basic programs with full chroma-coding (color coded syntax), context sensitive help, auto-complete and the whole host of best-in-breed editor functionality. To throw a bit of unsolicited review, I will say that it is a bit young in its feature set and perhaps like any other adolescent, is in the throes of a mild identity crisis. But if it's main purpose is as an editor for BASIC programs it is "way cool". It has some "hooks" for adding revision control and of course your favorite revision control tool has taken advantage of those. It isn't very happy with SB+, though - and it doesn't have much of a user interface, so PRC has a hard time having those deeper conversations with you through BDT. Like - did you want to take a branch copy? But it can let you know if an item is already checked out and it can check-out for you on the fly just like the TCL editors with all that goes along with that (backup copies, mainly). A number of e-cases have been opened by Rocket and we will work together to make it better.

Because we had to stifle SB+ and severely limit the user interface - and because we have a few other tools that we interface with the same requirement, we took a step back and put together building blocks for these sorts of tools. The whole gamut of what we like to think of as "silent functioning" change tools have been addressed and improved upon.

## **\*\* EVENTS \*\***

Epicor Perspectives is in Orlando this month - October 11-13. SJ+ will be presenting a session on using PRC with ITSM.

U2 University for the US will be in Denver November 9-11. See you there!

International Spectrum is in West Palm Beach, FL April 4-7, 2011.  
How about a PRC conference / training day that same week?



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