Concepts in SUIT

In this section you will find a series of chapters that can be read in most any order. They are meant to act as a collection of articles that present some of the more important ideas in the SUIT model that can be read on an as-needed basis.

Getting Started With SUIT

Read “An Introduction to External Control”

External control is unlike anything that a Pascal programmer is likely to have seen in the past, and because of that, it can be a tricky concept for new users. Because SUIT uses external control as a way of structuring program flow, we strongly recommend that new users take the time to read this short article that explains the ins and outs of this powerful programming model. “An Introduction to External Control” is an appendix to the SUIT tutorial.

Go Through The Tutorial

Don’t fall into the trap of thinking that a tutorial is a waste of time for an experienced user. From the very beginning, we designed SUIT to be easy to learn and the tutorial was seen as the place where that learning would start. It takes most people only about an hour to complete, and contains a fair bit of the vocabulary that you will need to understand SUIT programming and the more advanced sections of the Reference Manual.

Look at the Example Programs

SUIT comes with a wide variety of example programs, all suggested by users like you. The next page has a list of the example programs that are available in the current release of SUIT. The code is meant to be simple to use and read; we encourage you to read the comments in these files and to copy the code you see into your own applications. Throughout the reference manual, you will find references to these helpful example programs. If you have an idea for a useful example, please send us e-mail (address below).

See the “Frequently Asked Questions” Section

Starting on page 21, there is a troubleshooting section that has answers to the most frequently asked questions about SUIT.

Send electronic mail to the mailing list

There is a mailing list for all current SUIT users. You can post questions and answers, make suggestions and swap code with other SUIT users worldwide. To become part of the mailing list, send your electronic mail address to

`suit-users-request@Virginia.EDU`

And to post messages to the list, send mail to

`suit-users@Virginia.EDU`

Send electronic mail to SUIT

When all else fails, feel free to send e-mail to:

`suit@uvacs.cs.Virginia.EDU`

We respond promptly to all requests, usually within 48 hours.

Example Programs

SUIT comes with a wide selection of example programs that demonstrate how some of the trickier facets of SUIT can be used. Below is a listing of the example programs that are available in the current release of SUIT in the src/examples directory :

Widget Demos

button	- Using buttons and callbacks
typein	- Using Type in boxes
dialog1	- Using DialogBoxes
dialog2	* Using dialog boxes with data validation functions
menu	- Using Menus
radio1	- Using RadioButtons with arrays
radio2	* Using RadioButtons with SUIT_enums
myWidget	- How to make a new widget
bulboard	- Using Bulletin Boards
scroll	- Using Scrollable lists of text
onoff	- Using on/off switches
bounded	- Using bounded values
color	- Using color chips
pattern	- Using pattern chips
filebox1	- Using SUIT_askForFilename()
filebox2	* Using more sophisticated filebox commands

Concept Demos

coords	- Using world and pixel coordiantes
events	- Code that tests for different kinds of SUIT events
trapper	- Implementing hotkeys in SUIT
move	- Using SUIT_moveRectangle()
resize	- Using SUIT_resizeRectangle()
interest	* Simple Constraints in SUIT
drag1	- Using SUIT"s dragging routines
drag2	* Using more advanced dragging routines'
dragdrop	- How to tell if the user drags one widget over another
3dfont	- A 3Dfont viewer -- shows 3D transformations
bvlabel	- Attaches a text readout to a bounded value
dyndemo	* Using DynArrays.
gpdemo	- How to use SUIT's GP graphics package
textlist	* Using SUIT_textLists
tempprop	* Making typein boxes that are blank at the start of an application
moded	- Making widgets come and go through the VISIBILE property. See Frequently Asked Questions.

(*) examples of SUIT"s more advanced and less often used features