

# ***Tech Support Tid Bytes: The BASIS ODBC Driver® 2.0***

***By Jennifer Mills***

***Editor's Note:*** *In the last issue of The BASIS Advantage Magazine, Tid Bytes offered the first in a series of articles covering the optimization of SQL queries using the BASIS ODBC Driver®. Since the publication of that issue, BASIS has released a 2.0 version of the BASIS ODBC Driver into beta testing. At the time of this writing, several features, including multiple levels of logging and easier-to-read logs, are being tested but are not finalized. To avoid confusion or inadvertent inaccuracies on SQL querying, this Tid Bytes will only address currently known questions and answers regarding the new 2.0 Driver. In the following Winter issue of the Advantage, Tid Bytes will continue the discussion on SQL querying using the new BASIS ODBC Driver 2.0.*

Q: Does the new BASIS ODBC Driver use shadow dictionary files?

A: No, we have removed this requirement without affecting the performance of the queries. This eliminates several problems due to permissions, synching, and version incompatibility seen in earlier versions of the ODBC Driver.

Q: Will BASIS provide a sample database and dictionary to work with?

A: Yes. When installing the ODBC Driver, you now have three install choices:

- Typical: Installs the BASIS ODBC Driver and its online documentation.
- Compact: Installs only the BASIS ODBC Driver.
- Custom: Installs the components you select. You can choose the online documentation, and the sample Chile Company database.

If you choose to install the Chile Company database, the installation process automatically creates a Data Source (DSN) that can be seen in the ODBC Administrator and used immediately by any third-party application. If you also install DDBuilder, you can view all the tables and columns in the Chile Company database to gain a better understanding of how the ODBC Driver works.

Q: Will version 2.0 support outer joins and nested SELECTs?

A: Yes. The ODBC Driver will support both of these new functions. In addition, version 2.0 supports the use of the SOUNDEX function and many additional scalar functions. Check the online documentation for complete listing of the new functions and how to utilize them.

Q: I've never heard of SOUNDEX. What does it have to do with the BASIS ODBC Driver?

A: The SOUNDEX function searches columns phonetically. For example, if you want to look in the First\_Name column for all occurrences of names that sound like "John," the SOUNDEX function broadens the search to include "John," "Jon," "Jahn," etc.

Q: What versions of the Windows operating system does the BASIS ODBC Driver 2.0 support?

A: The BASIS ODBC Driver 2.0 has been completely tested and verified for the following versions of the Windows operating system:

- Windows 95
- Windows 98
- Windows NT 3.51 with Service Pack 5
- Windows NT 4.0 with Service Pack 3

Q: Have the ODBC compliance levels for the API and SQL Grammar changed in the 2.0 version of the ODBC Driver? If so, what are the compliance levels now?

A: The BASIS ODBC Driver 2.0 is Level 1 ODBC API-compliant. The BASIS SQL Grammar generally conforms to the Minimum + SQL Grammar level while adding additional syntax and functions specific to the PRO/5® language set.