

BASIS Enhances GML Tools

n continuing to make GUI application development faster and easier for Business BASIC developers, BASIS has released the Grid Management Library (GML), version 2.0. This version offers significant speed increases as well as new features.

- We have tested and implemented recommendations from users within our dealer base that vastly improve performance. You don't need to change any of your existing code to take advantage of these speed improvements.
- We have added an "Attached File" mode for fast grid control of large databases. The GML provides several spreadsheet-like behaviors in a grid, such as the ability to sort on a particular column. Originally, this feature was available even on a column of data NOT included in the key structure of the file. When accessing a data file with a large amount of records, it took a long time to populate the internal array that enabled this functionality. To speed this process up, we added programs that can "attach" to a data file and read into memory only the keys requested for display, not every key in the file. In this mode, the grid no longer reads every key in the attached file, so you don't have the default sort functionality with this option. But you gain significant performance when accessing a large file.
- We have added the new File Maintenance Utility (FMU). The FMU is a collection of programs that allows a developer to quickly create a powerful view of data from a data file. The FMU uses the GML code to create grids in three formats, Standard, Attached Mode and Selectable. Each format will allow for a record, key or keys to be retrieved to the calling program. The record retrieval format will also call its own grid-oriented edit program. The FMU programs are so easy to use even beginning GUI developers can create powerful, elegant screens in just minutes with only a few lines of code.

Download and try out our improved GML Toolset at:

www.basis.com/devtools/coolstuff/index.html#gml