

John English Windows Library Announcement

[Editor's note: This was first posted on the Ada First mailing list at George Washington University. To subscribe, email to listproc@seas.gwu.edu with the following request: SUBSCRIBE ADA-FIRST your-name]

Make Ada a bit more exciting for students.

There are two primary packages: JEWL.IO is a replacement for Text_IO which uses GUI dialog boxes for input and echoes all input to the standard output; JEWL.Windows is the main GUI package (and all the JEWL.IO dialogs are built using the facilities in this package). The approach taken is that most controls (editboxes, checkboxes, listboxes and so on) are interactive visual representations of string and Boolean variables (or arrays thereof) and that other controls (buttons, menu items) generate scalar command codes, making the program similar in structure to one which uses a menu driven text interface (a loop which gets user choices and then acts on them).

Example programs included with the distribution include a simple sketchpad, a basic text editor and a calculator. The distribution is under the terms of the GNU GPL and has been tested with GNAT for Windows 95/NT. It should work with ObjectAda as well, but I haven't been able to confirm this.

Documentation is online at <http://www.it.bton.ac.uk/staff/je/jewl/> and the source distribution (which includes the documentation and examples) is at <ftp://ftp.bton.ac.uk/pub/je/jewl-11.zip>. Although the current implementation is for Windows, there is nothing platform specific in the package specifications. If anyone fancies porting it to the Mac, just let me know... ;-)

Your comments are welcomed!

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