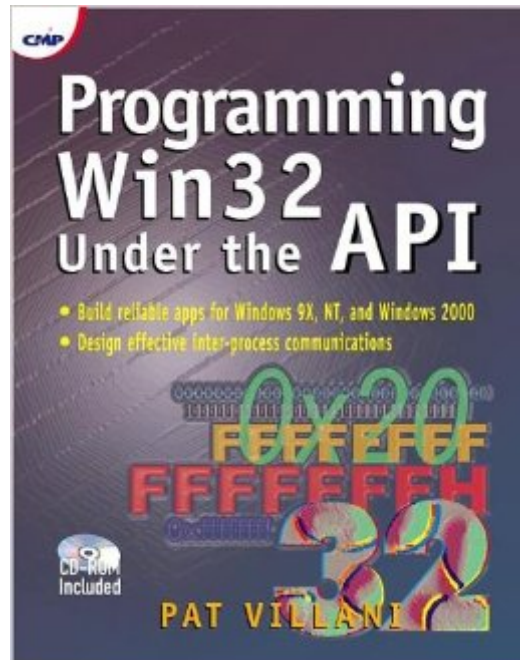


The book was found

Programming Win32 Under The API (With CD-ROM)



Synopsis

The Windows API is an abstraction layer that hides important differences between the Windows operating systems. Author Pat Villani cuts through the overwhelming detail of function calls to show how the Windows operating systems work - then demonstrates ho

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I skimmed through the book in a bookstore. What's unbelievable is that Appendix A of the book contains complete listing of exported functions from Windows 95 (yes 95) KERNEL32.DLL, in about 20 pages. Come on, this is year 2001, not 1995 or 1996.

This book gives you good tips on how to look "behind the scenes" of the win32 API. It's also deceptively thin because there's a lot to understand if you're new to the subject. Having said that, it doesn't go into a great deal of detail - the idea being you have to do most of the exploring yourself using the suggested software utilities. However, I was disappointed to discover that the CD-ROM with my copy did not contain any of the promised utilities but instead contained a demo for the Blair Witch game! Some might consider this a bonus but it wasn't much help when I was trying to work through the examples in the book. Fortunately, most of the utilities (GNU software ported to win32) can be found on the web if you search around for long enough - although NOT from the website given in the book! In summary, if you're interested in learning more about win32, this book's not a bad introduction to the subject, especially if you come from a UNIX background. Just don't expect

the CD to give you what it promises!

The final chapter of this book describes a program that is supposed to work like the Windows command-line interpreter. When I compiled the example, I got page after page of warnings. I renamed all the source files to .cpp and recompiled and now I got several errors; for example, passing the address of the address of a string, when the function was expecting just the address. After fixing all errors and warnings, I ran the program and gave it the name of another program to invoke. It promptly stopped in the debugger. The wrong function was being called to release a handle. In order to review the code, I removed the CD rom. So I can't return the book. But it was a waste of money.

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