How to create PDF file from Visual Basic: example "Hello, PDF!"

This page contatins step-by-step tutorial aimed to teach you how to create PDF file from Visual Basic application using PDF Creator Pilot library.
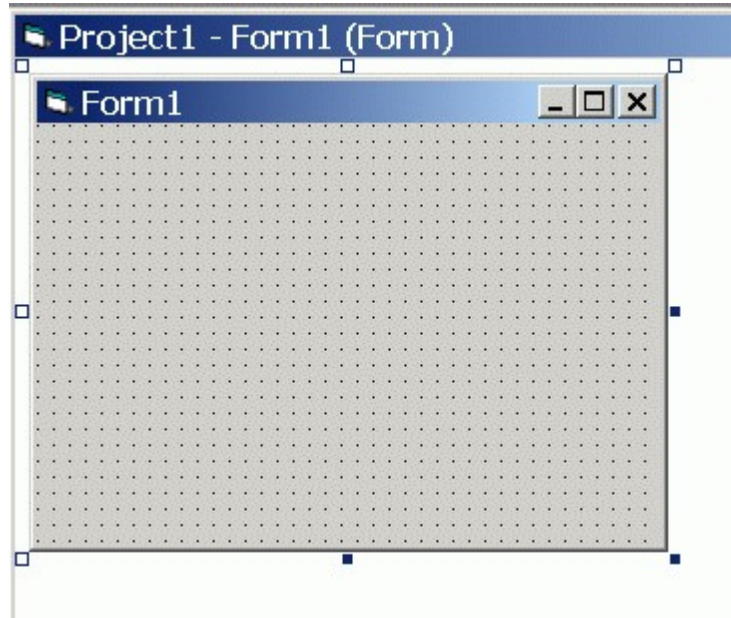
1) Install **PDF Creator Pilot** library on your computer and run **Visual Basic**.
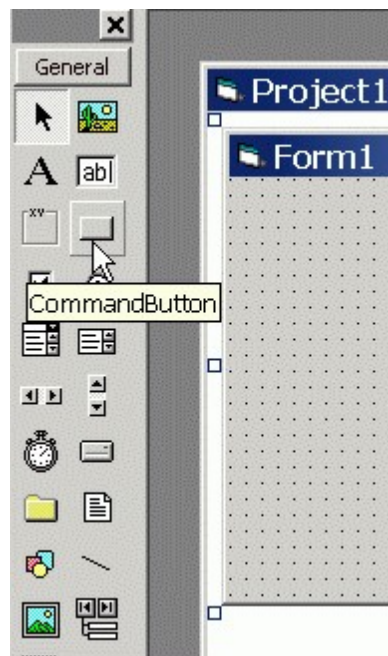
You will see New Project Wizard:

2) Select **Standard EXE** project type and click **Open** to create new project.
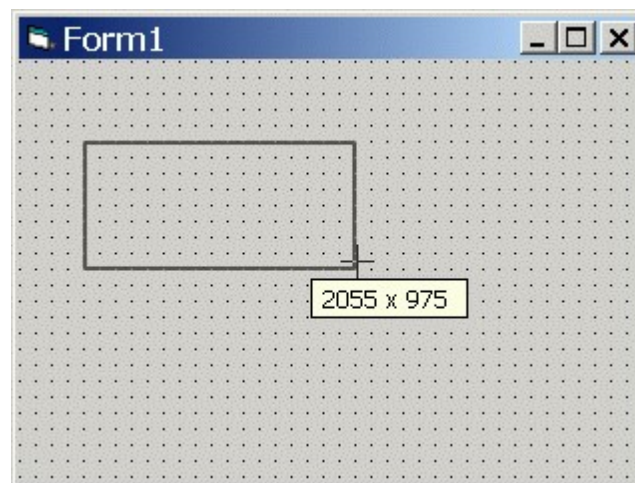Visual Basic will generate new project **Project1** and will automatically open the main form of the generated project:
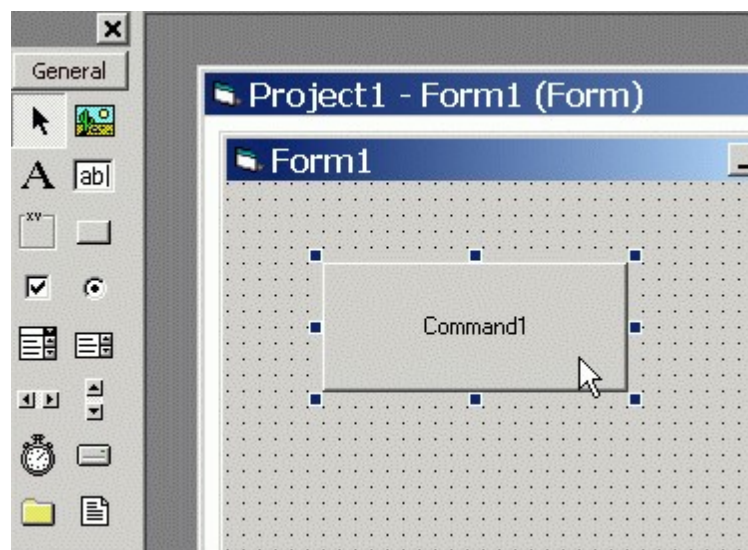

3) Now we should place a button that will launchl PDF generation function. To place the button just click **CommandButton** on the controls toolbar on the left:
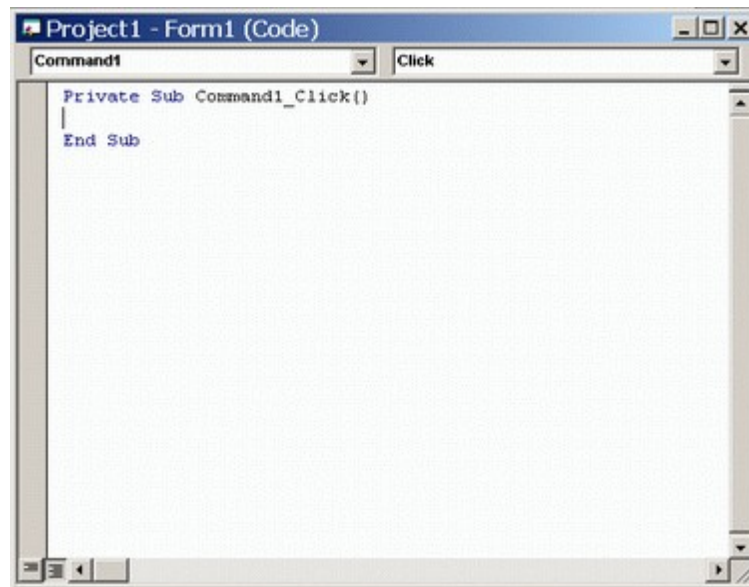
Now press your right mouse button and then drag the mouse so you will set the rectangle for a new control and release the mouse button to create the control. It will look like this:

4) Visual Basic will create new button control on the **Form1**. Double-click on the control to let **Visual Basic** create the click handler function in the project code:

Visual Basic will create new function which will be launched every time when user clicks the button:

5)Now you have to write the code that will generate PDF file using PDF Creator Pilot .

To generate PDF document you have to do the following:

1.connect to the PDF Creator Pilot library;

2.set the filename for PDF document;

3.draw "Hello, PDF!" message on the PDF page;
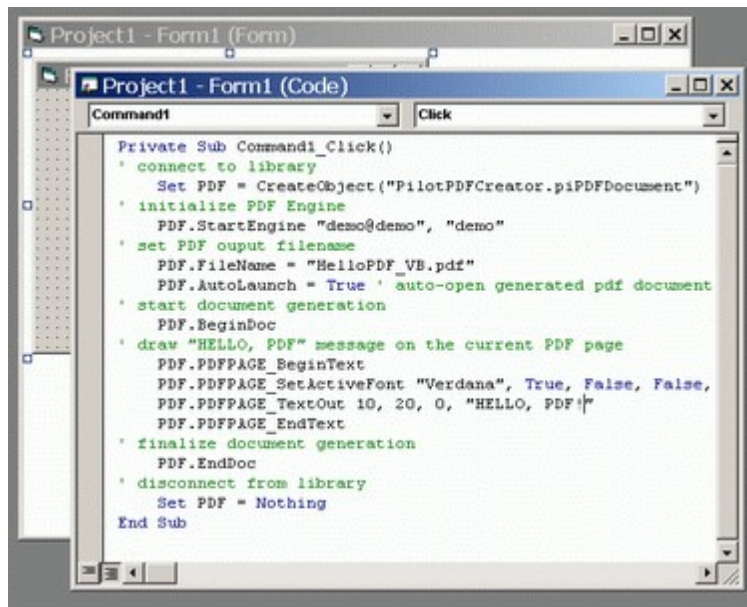
4.disconnect from the library.

Here is the source code:

```
Private Sub Command1_Click()

  connect to library
Set PDF = CreateObject("PDFCreatorPilot.piPDFDocument")
  initialize PDF Engine
PDF.StartEngine "demo@demo", "demo"
  set PDF ouput filename
PDF.FileName = "HelloPDF_VB.pdf"
PDF.AutoLaunch = True  auto-open generated pdf document
  start document generation
PDF.BeginDoc
  draw "HELLO, PDF" message on the current PDF page
PDF.PDFPAGE_BeginText
PDF.PDFPAGE_SetActiveFont "Verdana", True, False, False, False, 14, 0
PDF.PDFPAGE_TextOut 10, 20, 0, "HELLO, PDF!"
PDF.PDFPAGE_EndText
  finalize document generation
PDF.EndDoc
  disconnect from library
Set PDF = Nothing

End Sub
```
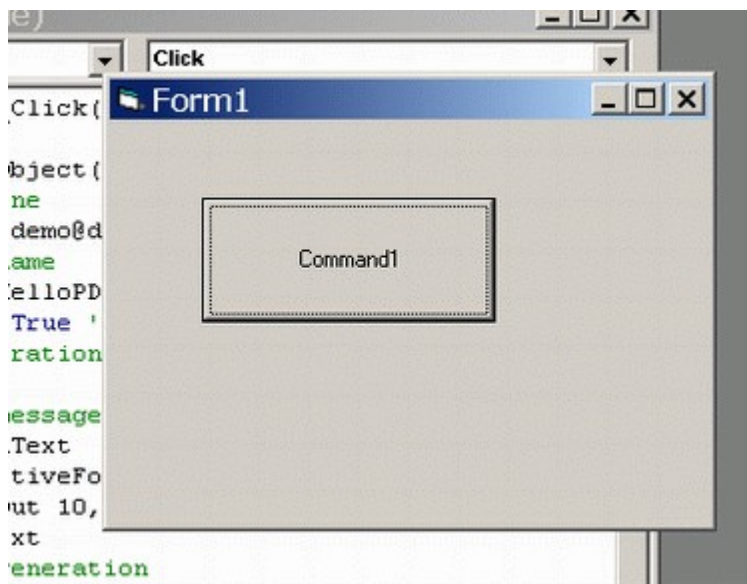
This function will generate PDF document and save it as "*HelloPDF_VB.PDF*"file in the application's folder.

Hint:

You can simply copy the source code from the snippet above and then paste it in the **Visual Basic**code editor as it's shown on the screenshot below:
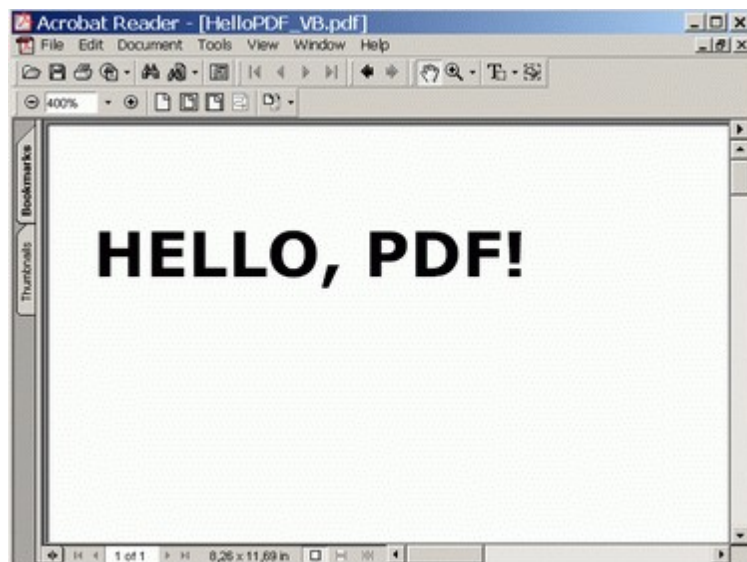
6) Press **F5** to run the application (you can also use "**Run**" | "**Start**" menu command).
Visual Basic will run the application and you will see its main form:

7) Click "**Command1**" button and application will generate *"HelloPDF_VB.PDF"* file.

If you have any PDF viewer (for example, Adobe Acrobat Reader) installed on your computer then the library will launch it to open the generated PDF document:

You can find the source code of this example in the *"\Examples\VB\"* sub-folder.