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COM Sync Suite

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Agenda

- COM Sync Suite Overview
- COM Conduit Development Process
- Generic Conduit using Visual Basic
- Questions and Answers

Fundamentals

- COM Sync Suite is a Software Toolkit
 - Microsoft COM Based Conduit authoring tool
 - Any COM compliant language can use it
- Extends the Sync Manager API Functionality
 - Uses COM as a “wrapper” for Sync Manager API
 - Supports Sync Manager API Version 3.0
- Packaged as a set of .Dlls
 - Client : (ComStandard.dll, ComDirect.dll)
 - Exposes the COM Interface
 - Communicates to the server via Object Model
 - Server : ComConduit.dll
 - Acts as a HotSync Conduit

COM-Based Conduit

COM-Based Conduit



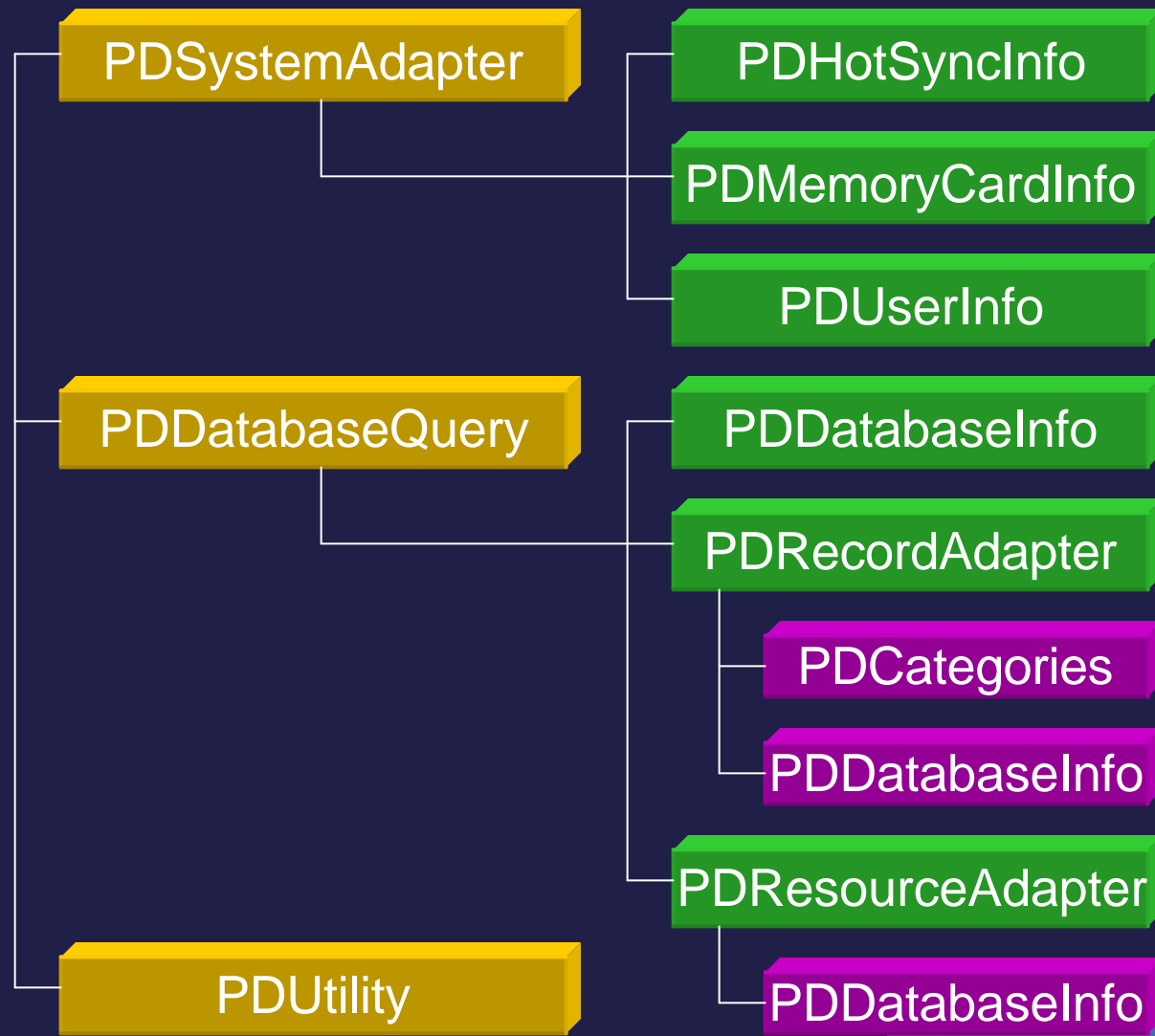
COM Sync Suite
Sync Manager API (C/C++)



Features

- Added Functionality
 - Categories Object
 - Utilities Object
- Multi-database Support
- Multi-threading Support
- Debug Conduits in real-time
- No HotSync Manager keep-alive needed
- DCOM Support

COM Sync Suite Objects



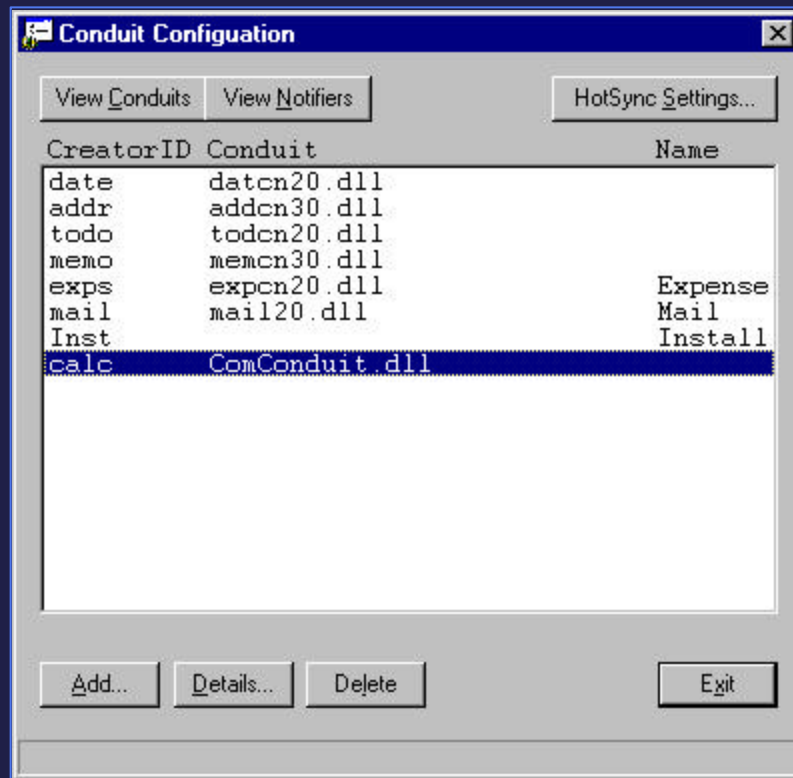
Notification Interface

- COM Sync Suite defines IPDClientNotify
 - Used by ActiveX clients only
- Purpose
 - Activate the Client during HotSync
 - Activate a configuration routine from the Custom Menu
- Usage
 - BeginProcess
 - CfgConduit
 - GetConduitInfo

COM Conduit Development Process

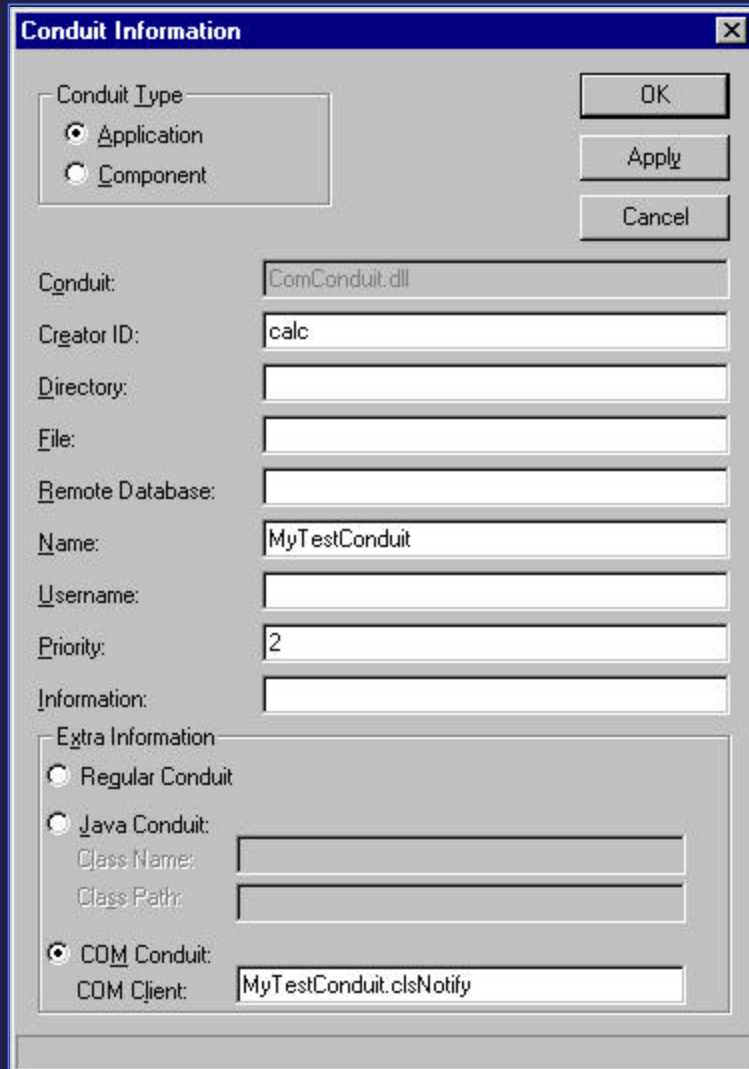
- Install COM Sync Suite
- Register Visual Basic IDE
 - Use CondCfg.exe
 - Add COM Sync Suite as a reference
- Create Standard Executable
- Debug Conduit
- Add IPDClientNotify
 - Set to Multiuse
- Convert Conduit to ActiveX DLL or EXE

Conduit Configuration



- Part of the Conduit Development Kit
- Displays a list of Conduits
- Add/Edit Conduit detail

Adding a Conduit



The image shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "Conduit Information". It has a standard title bar with a close button (X). The dialog is divided into several sections. At the top left, there is a "Conduit Type" section with two radio buttons: "Application" (which is selected) and "Component". To the right of this section are three buttons: "OK", "Apply", and "Cancel". Below the "Conduit Type" section, there are several text input fields: "Conduit:" (containing "ComConduit.dll"), "Creator ID:" (containing "calc"), "Directory:" (empty), "File:" (empty), "Remote Database:" (empty), "Name:" (containing "MyTestConduit"), "Username:" (empty), "Priority:" (containing "2"), and "Information:" (empty). At the bottom, there is an "Extra Information" section with three radio buttons: "Regular Conduit", "Java Conduit", and "COM Conduit" (which is selected). Below these radio buttons are text input fields for "Class Name:", "Class Path:", and "COM Client:" (containing "MyTestConduit.clsNotify").

Conduit Information

Conduit Type

☒ Application

☐ Component

OK

Apply

Cancel

Conduit: ComConduit.dll

Creator ID: calc

Directory:

File:

Remote Database:

Name: MyTestConduit

Username:

Priority: 2

Information:

Extra Information

☐ Regular Conduit

☐ Java Conduit:

Class Name:

Class Path:

☒ COM Conduit:

COM Client: MyTestConduit.clsNotify

- Select COM Conduit option
- Add Class ID or path
- Name
- Creator ID

Code Sample : Open a Record Database

```
Dim PQuery As New PDDatabaseQuery  
Dim PRecAdapt As PDRecordAdapter  
  
Set PRecAdapt =  
PQuery.OpenRecordDatabase( "MyConduitDB",  
"PDDirect.PDRecordAdapter" )
```

Code Sample : Read a Record

```
Dim Index As Long
Dim UniqueId As Variant
Dim Category As Long
Dim Attributes As Long
Dim RecordData As Variant

PRecAdapt.IterationIndex = 0
RecordData = PRecAdapt.ReadNext(Index,
UniqueId, Category, Attributes)

' Convert and Display the record data.
MsgBox StrConv(RecordData, vbUnicode)
```

Where Do I Get It?

- COM Sync Suite is available for download
- <http://www.palmos.com/dev/tech/conduits/>

Generic Conduit Using Visual Basic

Michael Knopp
Developer Support Engineer
Palm Inc.

Agenda

- Why Visual Basic?
- Generic Conduit Introduction
- A Bit of Inheritance...
- Visual Basic Generic Conduit Classes

Why Visual Basic ?

- Rapid application development
- Rapid **CONDUIT** development
- Easily create data-centric applications
- Easily create data-centric **CONDUITS**

Generic Conduit Introduction

- Base Classes and functionality are provided
 - Category Classes
 - Synchronizer Classes
 - Manager Classes
 - Record Classes
- Derive classes and customize them for the data formats used on the handheld or PC
- RAPID CONDUIT DEVELOPMENT !

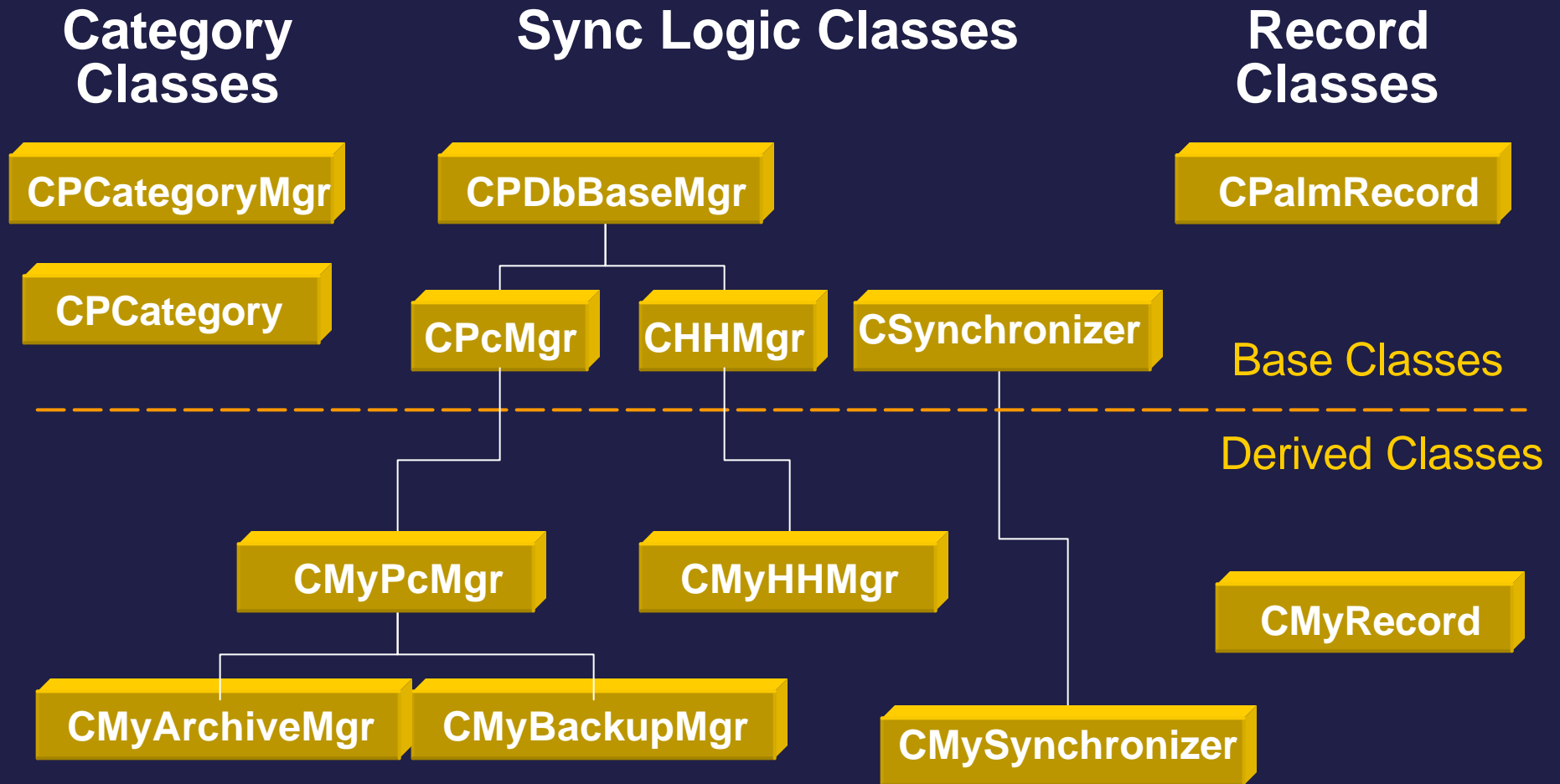
Generic Conduit Introduction

- When should I use the Generic Conduit ?
 - Not Ideal:
 - One-way download or upload
 - No synchronization required (Corp. phone book)
 - Ideal:
 - PIM Applications
 - Dynamic databases
 - Sync Logic ? What's that ?

Generic Conduit Introduction

- Looks Good ! What are the general steps ?
 - 1. Describe your record format
 - 2. Implement storage and retrieval of your records
 - 3. Implement storage and retrieval of an archive database or backup database
 - 4. Implement the record conversion to/from the generic CPalmRecord format
 - 5. Implement any synchronization of AppInfo data

“Generic Conduit” Class Hierarchy



Inheritance

- Delegation Method:
 - Create a private variable for doing delegation:
 - *Private delegationVar* as Parent
 - In the child class Initialize procedure:
 - *Set delegationVar = New Parent*
- Implements Method:
 - Simply add “Implements Parent” in the child class
- The derived classes are implemented using both methods

Generic Conduit Classes

- Collection Classes:
 - **CPCategory**
 - Collection of all categories
 - Store collections for handheld and Desktop
 - **CPalmRecord**
 - Collection of all Palm record data
 - Common record format
 - Used for handheld and Desktop synchronization

Generic Conduit Classes

- Standalone Classes:
 - *CPCategoryMgr*
 - Manages the CPCCategory collection class
 - Contains functions which manipulate categories for synchronization

Generic Conduit Classes

- Parent Classes:
 - *CPDbBaseMgr*
 - Manages the from handheld and Desktop
 - Contains file related functions
 - *CSynchronizer*
 - Contains important Synchronization activities
 - Uses ComConduit calls

Generic Conduit Classes

- Derived Classes:

CPDbBaseMgr

- *CHHMgr* ←
 - Derived from CPDbBaseMgr class
 - Specifically deals with handheld database
- *CPcMgr* ←
 - Derived from CPDbBaseMgr class
 - Specifically deals with the desktop database

Generic Conduit Classes

- Derived Classes:

- *CArchiveDatabase*

- Derived from CPcMgr class
 - Specifically deals with desktop archive database

- *CBackupMgr*

- Derived from CPcMgr class
 - Specifically deals with desktop backup database

```
graph TD; CPcMgr[CPcMgr] --> CArchiveDatabase[CArchiveDatabase]; CPcMgr --> CBackupMgr[CBackupMgr];
```

CPcMgr

Summary

- Rapid Conduit Development
 - Visual Basic + Generic Conduit
- Generic Conduit
 - Provides sync logic, logging, record reads/writes
 - Derive classes... ready to go !

Questions and Answers

- Kelly McCaw: CDK Lead Engineer
- Cole Goeppinger: CDK Engineer
- Muru Manokaran: CDK Engineer
- Geoff Richmond: Developer Support Engineer
- Ravi Duggaraju: CDK Engineer

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