

10Tec version of vbAccelerator ImageList Modern Edition for 32/64 bits What's New

General Notes

Modern Edition and Classic Edition

The Modern Edition of 10Tec/vbAccelerator ImageList ActiveX control is an enhanced clone of 10Tec/vbAccelerator ImageList ActiveX, which is now referred to as Classic Edition. The key difference between these editions is that Modern Edition can be used in 32-bit and 64-bit apps, whilst Classic Edition can be used only in 32-bit apps.

Classic Edition was created with VB6 that generates only 32-bit executable code. Modern Edition was created and compiled with [twinBASIC](#), a newest VB6-compatible development environment allowing to generate 32-bit and 64-bit executable code. The original VB6 source code of Classic Edition was converted into a twinBASIC project, and then was adapted for both 32 and 64 bit CPU architectures.

Modern Edition is implemented in the following 2 files:

- vbalImI250_10Tec_win32.ocx — build for 32-bit CPU architecture
- vbalImI250_10Tec_win64.ocx — build for 64-bit CPU architecture

Both OCXs are registered in the Windows registry per user without admin rights — in contrast to Classic Edition (vbalImI250_10Tec.ocx) that is registered for all users, but this registration requires admin rights.

The description of Classic Edition in dialogs listing available ActiveX controls is "10Tec/vbAccelerator ImageList 2.5". The description of Modern Edition is "10Tec/vbAccelerator ImageList 2.5 (32/64 bits)", indicating that the control can be used in 32-bit and 64-bit apps.

When you create an instance of Modern Edition on a form, the corresponding OCX (vbalImI250_10Tec_win32.ocx or vbalImI250_10Tec_win64.ocx) is selected automatically depending on the bitness of the app. When the app is launched in the other bitness, the corresponding OCX is activated automatically. This allows developers to write apps in one bitness and don't worry about the portability to the other CPU architecture.

UI Improvements in Modern Edition

The property pages dialog in Modern Edition now supports high-resolution displays and OS visual styles, which means you never see outdated UI elements like classic 3D borders. This also concerns the image strip control in which the selected image is marked with a flat rectangle of the Windows selection color.

The look of the control itself on a form at design time was also changed to flat to better correspond to the flat nature of OS visual styles.

Demo App

The demo app for Modern Edition was converted to a twinBASIC project to demonstrate the features of the ImageList ActiveX in 32-bit and 64-bit executables. The new demo features numerous improvements over the original VB6 version, with the following being the most prominent:

- High-resolution display support.
- Flat interface that fully corresponds to the OS visual styles.
- New buttons demonstrating more ImageList features ("Swap First 1 Images", "Enlarge Images", etc.)
- Enhanced procedures to output the contents of test image lists on the form surface.

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This release was compiled with the latest stable beta of twinBASIC available on the moment of release, which was BETA 892. This version of twinBASIC did not support all the features of VB6 used in Classic Edition, and therefore some features of Classic Edition are not yet available in Modern Edition. These are:

- Editing of image keys in the property pages dialog.
Workaround: If you want to assign keys to images, you can do that with the option "Set Keys from Filenames" and specifying image keys in their filenames.
- A special command allowing you to open the control property pages dialog from the control context menu may be unavailable (for example, the Properties command from the submenu of the ActiveX Object item in the control context menu in Microsoft Access).
Workaround: As a rule, you can open the property pages dialog using the ellipsis button in the special property called Custom in the properties window for the control. At least, this works in Microsoft Access forms and UserForms in Microsoft Word/Excel VBA.

All improvements and bug fixes in this release are listed below.

1. [Enhancement] When you add a new image or images using the Add button in the property pages dialog, the last image is selected automatically. This allows you to add new images to the end of the list automatically without the need to select the last image manually.
2. [Enhancement] The About property page displays extended information about the control (its creators, filename, etc.)
3. [Fixed] Controls on the Images property page now show captions correctly without clipping or word wrap issues at non-standard display scales (125%, 150%, etc.).
4. [Fixed] The values of the **vKeySrc** and **vKeyDst** parameters in the **SwapOrCopyImage** method of the **vbalImageList** control were mixed up.
5. [Fixed] The **AddFromPictureBox** function of the **vbalImageList** control returned an incorrect value of 2 if the image was added successfully. Now it returns -1 if the image was added and 0 otherwise (the numeric equivalents of the Boolean True and False values respectively). This matches the functionality of the similar functions **AddFromFile**, **AddFromPNG**, and **AddFromResourceID** returning the same numeric results.