COMPONENTSOURCE, READING ENGLAND

The component market is already a respectable size, however it is our belief that the ful potential will not be reached until the period 2001 to 2007. During this period phenomenal growth will be achieved as component based development is adopted widely – not just used by early adopters. ComponentSource is a global channel for business components and tools. As such, we have a subscriber database of 100,000 developers and a prospect database of 250,000 names.

The feedback we receive from these customers shows that they are demanding more and more high value business components – not just GUI and technical components. It is our belief that the growth in revenue of Business Components will outstrip GUI and technical components by as much as 10:1. This means there are lots of potential new developers and consumers of Business Components.

The Business Component developer or Vendor will need a good environment to develop their component products within and will probably wish to follow a 3-tier architecture and model for Presentation (GUI), Middle (Business Rules/Components) and Data (Database Access). A tool that helps this process is Visible Developer – as it assists structure and design. Once developed, these Vendors will market and sell their new Business Components via global channels like ComponentSource.

The Business Component consumer or consumer or customer needs an environment to develop his own 3-tier applications – whether he/she is buying them pre-built or creating them for themselves. Again, Visible Developer is able to assist developers with the creation and use of software components in a structured manner.

As such, it is probably arguable that this type of product has a "dual role" in the market place, for both the expert Business Component creator and the in-house development teams in large companies and software houses, who are component consumers or people who "glue them together" into applications.

By Harry Kelly, Vice President of Sales