
Foreword

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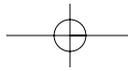
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Over the last few years, the development tools and techniques used for both mobile and desktop/server applications have been converging. This trend started with the Microsoft Foundation Classes and Active Template Libraries for C++ and eMbedded Visual Basic. It has since culminated with the Microsoft .NET Compact Framework and Mobile Web Controls for C# and VB.NET being fully integrated with Microsoft Visual Studio .NET.

Coinciding with this trend has been organizations' desire to include a mobile element into existing and new applications, as the benefits of providing such solutions continue to be recognized and demanded by users. Thankfully, hardware, networking, and wireless advances made over the same period of time have supported the advances in software development technology and have now helped make this desire a reality.

Armed with these new tools, developers have been quick to apply existing development skills learned while building Windows Forms and Web Form applications to the development of mobile applications. However, in doing so, developers have discovered that mobile application development is not just a simple extension of desktop and server application development. There are many architectural, design, and implementation decisions to be made that are specific to the mobile arena and making these decisions requires new skills.

And that's why the book you're now reading is so important. Based on their extensive real-world experience, Lee, Schneider, and Schell, have written a book that explores all facets of mobile application development. Topics discussed range from architecture to design, coding, testing, and project management. The specific considerations of mobile application development are explained, and readers are shown how to migrate their existing skills to this new and fascinating area. Crucial design



decisions, such as whether to use a Windows Forms intelligent client or a Web Form thin client, are clearly described and then demonstrated using excellent, relevant case studies.

All members of a mobile development team will benefit from reading this book, either in its entirety or simply by delving into those sections relevant to their function or role.

The future of mobile computing is becoming even more exciting. Mobile devices are continually growing more capable, especially with the advent of cleverly integrated phone capabilities. With better and better wireless networks capable of transferring media in real time, an entirely new breed of applications is now possible. Riding this new wave may be extremely profitable for organizations positioned to take advantage of it. It may be even more profitable for individuals prepared to learn and use these new skill sets.

