



TechCon Europe 2011 – Learning from the people who make it happen

On June 7-10, BBj® developers from across Europe gathered in Saarbrücken, Germany to meet and see what's new and cool about BBj 11.0. The BASIS team of experts, from both BASIS US and the hosting team from BASIS Europe, shared how the many new functions and features in BBj and Barista® Application Framework make developers and implementers lives so much easier and more productive.

Cloud computing was a main focus of this year's conference. Attendees saw presentations that showed them that the cloud is much more than a buzzword or "pie in the sky," but a powerful way of collaborating smarter, both within a company and beyond. Since the cloud was the key focus of the TechCon, BASIS presented all demos "live" from the cloud. Bandwidth was not an issue; a normal household DSL connection was sufficient.



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Among the takeaways:

- Integrating cloud capabilities into BBj, as BASIS did with version 11, helps customers cloud-enable apps without leaving their favorite development framework.
- Google Apps, a bundle of office suite-like functionalities, is now accessible from BBj. The GApps Utility, a BBj application that provides access to Google App Services in the cloud and an API for Google Docs, enables users to collaborate simultaneously and in real-time regardless of their physical location.
- Other Web-based concepts such as Web services or geolocation, are ready for integration into modern BBj as well as legacy applications.

Of course, BUI and its ability to bring BBj/Barista applications to a web browser without any changes to the source code was another major highlight of the conference. Participants saw first-hand how to enhance the look of a BUI application using cascading style sheets. Database replication was another much-discussed feature of the new BBj release, giving BASIS customers more options for improved security in various business scenarios, including the ability to replicate their BASIS data in the cloud or elsewhere on *terra firma*.

TechCon Europe provided valuable experiences beyond the rich technical sessions. BASIS invited participants to an evening at the Saarbrücken Castle, offering the best of Europe: A Mediterranean barbecue, German beer, and French wine, complete with a post-dinner rain shower that gave everybody a typical German summer evening but without spoiling anyone's good time. On Thursday and Friday, BASIS held hands-on workshops for participants to learn more details about the technologies presented during the conference.

From the responses we received after the conference, BASIS customers were very satisfied with the TechCon and plan to come again next time. One attendee, new to BASIS' technology and a first-timer to TechCon Europe, was particularly enthusiastic in an email he sent a few days later, "*I thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of the conference and the city of Saarbrücken. The presentations were good and informative and the training was excellent. All the people at BASIS were great...you made me feel welcome in your city.*" Already he has implemented what he learned, "*[I] Have written my first GUI object. Planned others. Looked into the cloud and have investigated Barista and the AddonSoftware that comes with downloads. I can see opportunities there.*"

Looking for opportunities? Download the conference slides at links.basis.com/tceu11. ■