



Progress Bar Alternative for cMeter

Gupta Technologies



Table of Contents

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Abstract | 3 |
| Overview | 3 |
| Conclusion | 7 |

Abstract

Team Developer 6.2 provides a modern alternative to Visual Toolchest's cMeter control.

Overview

A new control called Progress Bar has been added to the control lists. Progress Bar will be the alternative to cMeter. There are 14 new SalMeterxxxx functions added to the Sal function library to make the Progress Bar control useful.

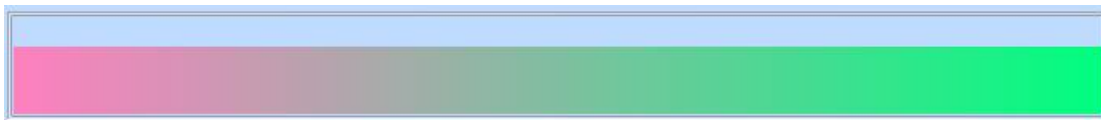
To use this control, it is required to set the start, end and step values. As the start value is incremented or decremented, the progress will be shown in the bar based on the step value. SalMeterSetRange() can be used to set the range and SalMeterSetStepSize() can be used to set the step size. As the value increments or decrements, the progression will be affected. Step size plays a role in how fast or slow the bar progresses.

It is also possible to set start and end colours for the Progress Bar. The colour will gradually change as the progression happens. In the example below, pink is the start colour and green is the end colour. The functions SalMeterSetFromColor() and SalMeterSetColor() are used to set the colours.

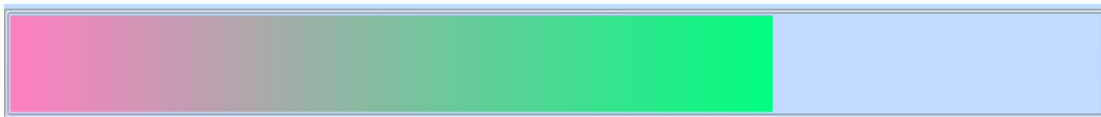


Another interesting functionality is that the Progress Bar allows the progress to be shown vertically or horizontally.

The function SalMeterSetVertical(), when called with TRUE as the second parameter allows the progression to be shown vertically.



The function SalMeterSetVertical(), when called with FALSE as the second parameter allows the progression to be shown horizontally.



New Sal Functions

The new sal functions and parameters are described below.

SalMeterGetRange:

Returns the current "range" of the progress bar, both the minimum and maximum values.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Receive Number: The minimum of the range

Receive Number: The maximum of the range

Return value: Returns TRUE or FALSE indicating the success or failure of the operation

SalMeterSetRange:

Sets the current "range" of the progress bar, both the minimum and maximum values.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Number: The minimum of the range

Number: The maximum of the range

Return value: Returns TRUE or FALSE indicating the success or failure of the operation

SalMeterGetFromColor:

Gets the color at the beginning of the gradient used to indicate progress.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Return value: The current "From" color of the progress bar

SalMeterSetFromColor:

Sets the color at the beginning of the gradient used to indicate progress.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Number: The new "From" color of the progress bar

Return value: Returns TRUE or FALSE indicating the success or failure of the operation



SalMeterGetToColor:

Gets the color at the end of the gradient used to indicate progress.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Return value: The current "To" color of the progress bar

SalMeterSetToColor:

Sets the color at the end of the gradient used to indicate progress.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Number: The new "To" color of the progress bar

Return value: Returns TRUE or FALSE indicating the success or failure of the operation

SalMeterGetStepSize:

Gets the current amount the progress bar's value will be incremented or decremented when calling SalMeterStepUp/SalMeterStepDown.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Return value: Returns the current step size

SalMeterSetStepSize:

Sets the current amount the progress bar's value will be incremented or decremented when calling SalMeterStepUp/SalMeterStepDown.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Number: The new step size

Return value: Returns TRUE or FALSE indicating the success or failure of the operation

SalMeterGetSmooth:

Gets the current "smooth" setting. See SalMeterSetSmooth for more details.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Return value: Returns TRUE or FALSE for the current "Smooth" setting.





SalMeterSetSmooth:

Sets the current "Smooth" setting. If smooth=true, the progress bar displays progress with a continuous gradient. If smooth=false,

the progress bar displays progress with chunks of progress. Each chunk of progress contains the specified gradient.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Boolean: The new "smooth" setting

Return Value: Returns TRUE or FALSE indicating the success or failure of the operation

SalMeterGetVertical:

Gets whether the progress bar is displayed horizontally or vertically.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Return value: Returns TRUE if the progress bar is currently displayed vertically, or FALSE otherwise

SalMeterSetVertical:

Gets whether the progress bar is displayed horizontally or vertically.

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Number: The new "vertical" value - TRUE will cause the progress bar to be displayed vertically.

Return value: Returns TRUE or FALSE indicating the success or failure of the operation

SalMeterStepDown:

Causes the progress bar to decrease its value by the current "Step Size".

Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Return value: Returns the new value of the progress bar

SalMeterStepUp:

Causes the progress bar to increase its value by the current "Step Size".



Window Handle: A window handle to the progress bar

Return value: Returns the new value of the progress bar

Conclusion

Progress Bar is a good alternative to cMeter. It provides all the functionality that the cMeter did and more to match the modern UI standards.

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