**History Of Visual Basic Till Date**

**Name: Gambo Mustapha Lawal (16/sci01/014)**

**Department: Computer Science**

**Csc201 Assignment1!**

Visual Basic is Microsoft's high-level object-oriented rapid application development environment for the Windows platform. The first versions of Visual Basic were intended to target Windows 3.0 (a version for DOS existed as well), however it was not until version 3.0 for Windows 3.1 that this programming language gained large-scale acceptance in the shareware and corporate programming community.

Using drawing tools that resemble those found in hardcopy page layout programs or PhotoShop, VB programmers make user interfaces by drawing controls and other UI components onto forms. The programmer then adds code to respond to user interactions with the controls (for example, clicks, drag and drop, etc) known as events. The code can trigger events in other controls (for example, by displaying text or an image), execute procedures (run some algorithm based on the values entered in some control, output data, do business logic, etc), or almost anything else one might do in code.

Visual Basic can be considered to be an interpreted language like its Basic ancestor, with appropriate modifications to accommodate object-oriented programming, and has implicit type conversion. That is, the VB development environment goes to great lengths to format (and aid the user in formatting) programming code so that it conforms to executable syntax. For example, VB will appropriately change the case of newly typed variable names to match those that have been declared previously (if they have been declared at all!). Traditionally, VB is known for compiling programs into pseudo-code (p-code, similar to Java's byte code) which is interpreted at runtime, requiring the use of dynamically-linked libraries (for example, VBRUN300.DLL for version 3 of Visual Basic, circa 1992) but newer versions can compile code into something more closely resembling the efficient machine code generated by C-like compilers. VB6 can be compile either into p-code or into native code; in fact VB6 uses the Microsoft C++ compiler to generate the executable.

**Timeline of VB**Versionmments

Visual Basic 1 VB1

1991

Project 'Thunder' was released for Windows at the Comdex/Windows World trade show in Atlanta, Georgia.

Visual Basic 1 for MS-DOS

1992

This release updated Microsoft's QuickBASIC Professional Development System with a new library that enabled use of a character-based Windowing system.

Visual Basic 2 VB2

1992

With VB2, forms became instantiable objects, laying the concepts of class modules as were later offered in VB4. Included ODBC for accessing a database.

Visual Basic 3 VB3

1993

VB3 was released in Standard and Professional versions. VB3 included the Microsoft Jet Database Engine that could read and write to the Access database.

Visual Basic 4 VB4

1995

VB4 added 32-bit code compilation. Introduced classes, giving VB object orientation though inheritance. VB4 also replaced the VBX with a new type of add-on called OCX (OLE Control Extension), based on COM, Microsoft's component programming model.

Visual Basic 5 VB5

1997

VB5 introduced the ability to create OCX custom user controls, as well as the ability to compile to native Windows executable code. VB5 no longer supported compilation to 16-bit executables.

Visual Basic 6 VB6

1998

VB6 improved in a number of areas, including the ability to create web-based applications. VB6 has now entered Microsoft's "non-supported phase". VB6 is still in use today for maintaining existing applications. For the latest Windows Operating Systems, it must be run in compatibility mode.

Visual Basic.Net VB7

2002

Visual Basic.Net was the first version to target the .NET Framework. VB.Net introduced full object orientation and cleaned up anomalies in the language. The language was not fully compatible with VB6 and caused difficulty in migrating existing code.

Visual Basic.Net VB8

2005

The language continued to evolve, with features like the "Using" statement for freeing resources automatically. It supports generic types (a collection of objects) and nullable types (handles empty database fields). It added the ability (not too well) to modify code while debugging, called Edit and Continue.

Visual Basic.Net VB9

2008

The new features are:

* Support for the language-integrated query (LINQ).
* Other features include extension methods, type inference, anonymous types and Lambda Expressions (nameless functions).

VB has strayed far from its roots as a simple programming language. None of these additions improve productivity in developing commercial business systems.

Visual Basic.Net VB10

2010

Most of the new features relate to large programming teams or object oriented programming – and are of little interest to the Visual Basic Programmer.

The new features of interest are:

* Implicit Line Continuation
* Properties created in one-line statements
* The Primary Interop Assembly (Microsoft Office applications) has a reduced footprint size

Visual Basic.Net VB11

2012

The new Visual Basic features are:

* Better support for Asynchronous processing
* The Yield keyword to iterate through a collection
* Call Hierarchy shows where a Method is called
* Code Clone Analysis and Launch Performance Wizard
* Performance Analysis tool for tracking CPU and Memory usage

Visual Basic.Net VB12

2013

Visual Studio 2013 was released in November 2013.

There was little of value or use for the Visual Basic Programmer.

Visual Basic.Net VB14

2015

Visual Studio Professional 2015 was launched in August 2015.

* Compiling is faster
* Publishing Websites is much, much faster
* Website page load times are much improved
* Visual Basic has been rewritten from scratch
* The big news is that VS2015 is free!

VS2015 is now stable after multiple updates.

Visual Basic.Net VB15

2017

Visual Studio 2017 was released in March 2017.

The new features are:

* Reduced minimum footprint
* Installs faster with less system impact
* Easy to select and install features
* Monitor extensions that impact performance
* Revamped Start Page
* Supports SQL Server Database 2016
* Visual Basic analyser to enforce coding standards

Visual Studio 2017, with multiple updates, is stable. ASP.Net performance and stability has improved markedly.