



# Visual Basic .NET and XML: Harness the Power of XML in VB.NET Applications

By Rod Stephens, Brian Hochgurtel

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**An accessible and step-by-step approach to using VB.NET and XML enterprise application development**

XML is a tool for interacting with, describing, and transporting data between machines across networks and across the Internet—perfectly suited for Microsoft's .NET plan to fully integrate the Internet into distributed computing. By using real-world and fully-functional examples, this book quickly brings Visual Basic programmers and developers up to speed on XML for enterprise application development. The authors include an overview of XML and how it works with VB.NET, then explain how to use it to manipulate data in distributed environments.

Companion Web site at [www.vb-helper.com](http://www.vb-helper.com) features the complete working code for all the examples built in the book.

### Microsoft Technologies

**.NET Platform:** The next big overhaul to Microsoft's technologies that will bring enterprise distributed computing to the next level by fully integrating the Internet into the development platform. This will allow interaction between any machine, on any platform, and on any device.

**Visual Basic.NET:** The update to this popular visual programming language will offer greater Web functionality, more sophisticated object-oriented language features, links to Microsoft's new common runtime, and a new interface.

**ASP.NET:** A programming framework (formerly known as Active Server Pages) for building powerful Web-based enterprise applications; can be programmed using VB.NET or C#.

**C#:** Microsoft's new truly object-oriented programming language that builds on the strengths of C++ and the ease of Visual Basic; promises to give Sun's Java a run for its money.

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### **Editorial Review**

From the Back Cover

Ramp up your enterprise VB.NET applications with XML!

Microsoft envisions a future where the Web will host millions of distributed applications all communicating via XML. Data packaged in XML will flow to and from databases, between applications, and directly to the browser.

With the release of Visual Basic .NET, XML support is tightly integrated into the language and provides numerous methods for manipulating XML data. This tight integration means that VB programmers can load, manipulate, and save XML data faster and more easily than ever before. With real-world and fully functional examples, Rod Stephens and Brian Hochgurtel walk you step-by-step through how to take advantage of XML in all aspects of enterprise VB.NET development:

- \* Part One explains XML basics-DOM, SAX, Schemas, Serialization-and how to read and write XML files using Visual Basic code
- \* Part Two examines methods for displaying XML data on the Web and for building Web Services using Visual Basic, ASP.Net, Web Forms, and XSL
- \* Part Three shows how XML works with other products and how you can use SQL Server 2000 and Microsoft's Internet Information Server (IIS) to display data directly on the Web with XML
- \* Final chapters show how to use Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) to save and load XML documents in Microsoft Office applications such as Word, Excel, Access, and Outlook

The companion Web site houses the working code for all of the examples built in the book.

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About the Author

ROD STEPHENS is a contract software engineer and president of Rocky Mountain Consulting, specializing in graphical user interfaces, algorithms, and database systems. He has published numerous articles and nine books (all with Wiley). He hosts [www.vb-helper.com](http://www.vb-helper.com).

BRIAN HOCHGURTEL is a software development engineer for Rogue Wave Software. His current project involves implementing the servlet standard in C++. Previous projects include creating Web interfaces for enterprise databases, proto-typing XML-based products, and creating Web-based applications for cancer research studies, environmental education, and software documentation.

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**Donn Chavez:**

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