

Beyond Motif 2.3

What's Next –OpenMotif 2.3 and Beyond

The following is a current list of suggestions for future releases. These are ideas that have come from many people in the community. We are trying to get feedback to get new feature ideas, to help prioritize these features, as well as to review details on each where they exist. The order is our understanding of the relative priority of the future features. All input would be greatly appreciated.

XEmbed Protocol support

XmSocket (container for widgets from other processes) and **XmPlug** (top level for embedding into other processes) widgets will be implemented. XmPlug with XmSocket will provide the ability to embed widgets from one process into another process in a manner transparent to the user.

One process creates a XmSocket widget and passes that widget's window ID to the other process, which then creates XmPlug with that window ID. Any widgets contained in the XmPlug will then appear inside the first applications window.

The communication between a XmSocket and a XmPlug follows the XEmbed protocol. This protocol has also been implemented in other toolkits, e.g. GTK+, allowing the same level of integration when embedding a GTK widget in OpenMotif or vice versa.

Motif Dialogs

Most of the existing dialogs are inadequate and need improvement. Effort will be made to preserve the API's but these changes may require a change in API. The old widgets will be maintained for compatibility.

- **Dialog box** – UI Clean up
- **File Selection box** - UI clean-up
- **Font Selector** – Support AA fonts
- **Print dialog** – New widget

Look and Feel Clean Up

- Change default fonts and colors to match Windows XP
- Add/Update the graphic look for 24 bit visual types
- Add MouseOvers

New Widgets

- Modernize menu system
- A HTML widget
- A help system
- Image widgets
- More managers

Support Xlt Functionality

- **XltDisplayOptions** - A function to print the command line options to stderr.
- **XltDisplayFallbackResource** - A function to print the compiled in FallBack resources to stderr in a resource file format.
- **XltHosts** - An object sub-class that opens a TCP/IP stream and returns the data from the stream with callbacks.
- **XltSelectionBox** – A widget just like the XmSelectionBox except that the list scrolls to the closest match in the list as text is typed in the TextField.
- **XltRedirectStdErr** - Send StdErr to a dialog box.

- **XltNumEntry** - A XmLabel, XmTextField and a couple of XmArrowButtons for numeric data entry. This has a built in calculator, so you can enter "4 * sin(PI)" as "4 * sin(PI)" instead of ".2192".

Support Non-“C” languages

- C++ bindings enhance the object-oriented API
- Scripting, support

Enhance Window Manager

Motif should have an enhanced window manager. It should include graphical user-friendly configuration, multiple virtual desktops with a panner, scripting capability, and an optional task bar and tool bar.

Misc.

- Improve performance of very large GUIs
- Make drag-and-drop more useful (more standard interchange types, etc.)
- More large free applications (beginners need examples)
- Run on Windows