## Michael M. Gorman 2008 Althea Lane Bowie, Maryland 20716 August 14, 2024

UltraTree Users, One and All:

This email is going to all 492 of you--including myself--If you do not already know both Phil and Kathryn Carroll have passed away. Phil in May 2023, and Kathryn in the evening of August 7. She is now with her beloved Phil. Our determination remains: Continuing On. This email is the first communication of that effort.

Let me answer a few questions you are now asking.

- 1) Why am I getting this email?
- 2) What happened to Enabling Simplicity?
- 3) What has happened to the products: UltraTree, and/or Hyperbrowze, and/or UpAnd Up?

**First-two Questions**: Phil Carroll, after a long illness, passed away in May 2023. Before Phil passed, he asked Kathryn to call me--Mike Gorman--and ask me to take over the Ultra Tree et al product line.

I thought about that question for about 0.25 seconds and responded with a resounding YES! Why? Well certainly because I have been an UltraTree user since the middle 1990s, and in the Whitemarsh System, Metabase, there are about 150 different tree structures. So, having UltraTree just disappear would be, how should I put it, Whitemarsh Metabase System self-destruction.

That starting in May 2023 transition has concluded and that's why when you accessed the Enabling Simplicity Website you end up at WhitemarshUltraTree website page that welcomes you.

**Question Three**: Simply put, all three products (the Template Files), Demos, Documentation, and all that has been downloaded now reside on the Whitemarsh servers.

The rest of this page introduces you to me, to Whitemarsh, and to what is both already been accomplished and is also planned.

First things first, what about prices? Well, the Support Price remains at \$99 per year. All the other prices have been reduced. Yes, reduced. Having Clarion folks that need UltraTree but if its price is too high, serves nobody. There are other price related policies, and you will have to check out: https://www.whitemarshultratree.com/Pricing.html. You may be surprised with the last item in the list, "Paid too much? There is also a fundamental restructuring of pricing by quantity of purchasers. Yes, my son Matt "also" had my copy of UltraTree for his use on the

development of the Metabase System. I suspect that most software purchasers have similarly done such a dastardly need. Maybe the approach to pricing here will help to stop what I suspect is commonly done.

**Me. I am Michael M. Gorman** (a.k.a., Mike Gorman). As you either already know or are now coming to know, I am very loquacious. I used that big word because I do not want to hurt my own feelings.

I have been a Clarion user since the late 1980s. Just touch and casual coding for a bunch of years, watching Clarion for DOS evolve until Clarion for Windows 4. Then I became a serious Clarion database application developer.

My background is engineering, math (BA), and Technical Education (MA). I have been programming since 1967 (just this side of the transistor). In 1969, I worked for the System Development Corporation (SDC). They, MITRE, and the Lincoln Labs, were the inventors and developers of the first Database Management Systems (DBMS) in the early 1960s. It was called ADAM, Advanced Data Management.

My work background has been nearly 100% in database and data management with U.S. DoD consulting organizations including the MITRE Corporation. Starting in April 1978, while employed by the Computer Sciences Corporation, I attended the founding meeting of the INCITS ISO/ANSI X3H2 Database Languages committee, and became its secretary, a role which I have performed ever since--46 years, but who's counting.

The committee, now just called Data Management (ask and I'll tell you the lineage), is the creator of three database language standards: NDL (Network data language (a.k.a., Codasyl)), SQL's (Structured Query Language) specifications, and our newest, GQL (Graphics Query Language). Work on the SQL specifications was started in 1980 by IBM's Phil Shaw (Phil #2). SQL has been implemented world-wide by organizations we all know well.

During my consulting years, I was continuously involved in high-level enterprise management architecture, implementation, and management. That led me to begin development of a system called Metabase. It contains the Metadata about enterprises. It's really an "about" database as opposed to an HR, Payroll, etc. which are "operational" database application systems. My clients are listed in the wiscorp.com website.

(https://www.wiscorp.com/past\_clients\_project\_descriptions.html). Yes, I know, I need to re-implement this website so that it looks a nice as www.WhitemarshUltraTree.com. That took me about two months using a Website Generator product that generates HTML.

The Metabase System now has over 500 tables and nearly 2000 of which we in Clarion call "procedures." It represents about 30 staff years of effort, is big, complex, and something that not even an army of developers could have programmed. That is until they discovered and used Clarion. To me, Clarion is THE 90% no-coding business information system generation

development platform.

During Metabase system development, I discovered the critical need for two data structures that Clarion did not have. The first is what I call Single File (really, a table) Recursion (SFRs): Organization contains Organization, etc. The second is the traditional Bill of Materials (BOMs) multi-table networked data structure. If you look on any "parts-listing" for any complicated device and you will "see" a parts list and part counts. These are commonly next to what appears to be a parts explosion diagram. "Bill" here means list and "of Materials" is the "of parts." Hence, BOM. Simple to see, very difficult to program.

Well, never to be undaunted, this math-based engineer programmed one in Clarion. It only took about 200 hours of architecture, design, programming, and endless debugging Clarion-all scads of Procedure Routines.

As I perused my stack of "to be implemented" Metabase system data model diagrams, I fell into deep despair as there were, even at that time, nearly 75 SFRs and about 50 BOMs. The calculation of the vast quantity of hours to accomplish that effort was daunting. Then somebody, probably Russ Eggen said, "Heard of UltraTree?" Likely I said, "What's that?" Russ probably then said, "The savior of your life and of the Metabase!" AmEx card in hand, I called; I charged! After hours of trying, success happened. Thereafter, "Phil#1" and I became fast friends.

Now, here's two things you probably never knew. Phil Carroll (Phil #1) was a key inventor and implementor of BOM applications at IBM New York in late 1960s. SQL's BOM specifications was one of Phil Shaw's (Phil#2) great accomplishments within IBM California's Santa Theresa Labs in the 1990s.

Over the years, I shared what our "Phil #1" was doing with SQL's "Phil #2." And vice versa. I sort of served as their "intersection record."

**Ok. enough history. What is Whitemarsh Ultra Tree?** Well, simply put, it's the continuance of Phil Carroll's life's work. Ok you say, but why do I need Technical Support for a product that is essentially bug free, and what happens when a real bug is uncovered? I hope that my answer to these two questions will suffice.

First, as stated above, I've been in database and data management for nearly 55 years. Done a lot and learned even more. Now, while we're all about developing business applications with Clarion, I submit that what's really common across us all is data model creation, database development, data management, and business information system architecture, implementation and evolution.

So, all my books (near 30), close to 200 technical papers, about 75 courses in database and data management, as well as Clarion & UltraTree based materials, are being loaded into a set of pages on the WhitemarshUltraTree.com website. The listings of all these items are within the sections

of "UseSupport." If I had to guess, the totality of all this took a fair number of thousands of hours of evenings and weekends. I say evenings and weekends because during this time I was providing Whitemarsh Consulting to my clients

(https://www.wiscorp.com/past\_clients\_project\_descriptions.html).

If you are not a licensee of UltraTree et al, or you do not have an active UseSupport subscription, you can become an active UseSupport user and consequently download these items from the WhitemarshUltraTree this website.

Please know that most of these UseSupport items are independent from having to own and/or purchase UltraTree et al, or even being a Clarion licensee. As a result, these UseSupport items are of significant IT value to all manner of UseSupport subscribers.

Finally, these and other items such as podcasts and training presentations will be posted and updated. Read about all this on the WhitemarshUltraTree section on UseSupport.

**Second**, Bob Zaunere has agreed to incorporate the UltraTree templates into Clarion. Certainly NOT before C12 is released, however.

When Bob asks, all the material on this WhitemarshUltraTree website will be transferred to SoftVelocity, and will be of value and benefit to us all, and through you, to all our customers. Essentially then, all this is just about "continuing."

**Third and finally**, I hope to hear from you folks and that you will consider "re-upping" you UseSupport license. I think that when you look at what's under development already at https://www.whitemarshultratree.com/ProductUseSupport.html you will find it of value.