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Bridge: New and Improved

Keith Vincent

Advantage Software's popular realtime-viewing programming "Bridge Mobile" is getting an overhaul and returning to its original name "Bridge." It's now in "open beta" status, so if you're an Eclipse user with a Bridge Broadcaster license, you are invited to try it out and give us your input.

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Eclipse Virtual Retreat March 20 to April 30, 2025

Info available at EclipseCAT.com

Recording Available: Eclipse Scoping Webinar

Presented in September 2024, the recording from this 6-hour class is now available.

For info: 4kvincent@gmail.com.

Advantage Software Tech Support 24/7/365 1-800-800-1759

Our 24th year has begun. For previous tips, visit the e-Tips page of KVincent.com.

A fast way to define Q&A strokes



As an Eclipse user, there are times when I want to add a dictionary entry (Ctrl+D) and the steno includes all the keys on the left or right that I would normally write to begin a question or an answer. Example: {Q}okay

Steno strokes	×
STKPWHR O B G	ОК
	Cancel
	<u>H</u> elp
	<u>D</u> elete
	Insert
	<u>С</u> ору
STRFWHR O B G	<u>N</u> ext Stroke
Keys: Standard	~
#	
ТРН 💭 F Р	
	G S Z

I'd rather not use the mouse to click on 10 keys on this dialogue and then click on the OK button. Even pressing the ? key to select STPH and then pressing the K, W, and R keys seems like too many steps.

Instead, I'd like to press [(left bracket key) to select STKPWHR and I'd like to press] (right bracket key) select FRPBLGTS. It's not laziness; it's efficiency!

Here's how to set up this shortcut. Open Eclipse User Settings and you'll see that the "Programming" tab includes "Phonetics table". In that table you can use the "Add" button, then indicate the steno combinations and click on a check box to "Use with keyboard."

Phonetics		×			
Steno	STKPWHR				
Basic spelling	[Use with keyboard				
Intelligent spellings					
(Separate variatio	Add silent 'e'				
ОК	Cancel				
Phonetics		×			
Steno	-FRPBLGTS				
Basic spelling] 🛛 Use	with keyboard			
Basic spelling Intelligent spellings] 🛛 Use	with keyboard			
Basic spelling Intelligent spellings (Separate variatio] Use	with keyboard Add silent 'e'			

The Phonetics Table already has lots of other keyboard shortcuts built into it. That's why it is that when the steno emulator dialogue is open, you can press the ? on your computer keyboard and the STPH keys are selected for you. Likewise, when you press the Y key on your computer keyboard, it selects KWR on the steno emulator. This trick just extends that principle.

Want more Wil?

On Saturday, April 19th, 11:00 AM -12:30 PM ET, as part of the 2025 Eclipse Virtual Retreat, Wil will present a webinar entitled **"Bridge the Gap:** Faster, More Accurate Realtime

with BOOST'.

Info and registration at Eclipsecat.com.

Bridge: New and Improved

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Looking back, the original version of Bridge was installed on a Windows computer. It had lots of icons and keyboard shortcuts and Visualizers. The interface changed with Bridge Mobile because clients use it on iPads and other touch screens. While you can make annotations and do searches on the new Bridge, the goal is to offer an uncluttered display.



CART providers who use Bridge will find a button that removes all the transcriptoriented display so that the text appears with no distractions. I think that should be quite popular.

Today I was preparing a short Visualizer to introduce this new version of Bridge. I'll put it on my website, KVincent.com, and it will be part of the complete set of Visualizers that accompany Eclipse.

As mentioned at the start, if you have a current Bridge Broadcaster license, we invite you to go ahead and try out this new version of Bridge



and then please give us your feedback.

You do need to make a small change in Eclipse in order to send to this version. Go to the "User" tab of User Settings and use the "Advanced" button, then the "Connection Magic" button. This is where Eclipse stores the info about the server to which you're connecting for Bridge and for Team Editing. You'll see "Internet URL" and that needs to indicate the following, which may already be available as a choice on a drop-down list:

https://connectbeta.eclipsecat.com.

To receive from this "open beta" version of the new and improved Bridge, your client will go to: connectbeta.eclipsecat.com.



Disclaimer

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