How to install VB6 on Windows 7:

These instructions may only work on the 32-bit version of Windows 7. Additional problems were encountered with the 64-bit version of Windows 7.

If you use Visual Studio.NET, do not install Visual Studio 2002, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2010 first. If you do, this tutorial will not work. You must install them in this order...
1. Visual Studio 6.0
2. Service Pack 5 or 6
3. Visual Studio 2002, 2003, 2005, 2008, or 2010
-> Right click on Setup.EXE from the Visual Studio 6 CD (MSVS98) and choose 'Run As Administrator' (take note it doesn't matter if your user is already an administrator you still must 'Run as Administrator')
-> You may encounter some strange 'Yes/No' questions which you may not know the answers to that have not prompted you during Visual Studio Setup before. I don't remember what I clicked exactly, but I remember one of them said 'Do you want to overwrite your 'blah blah' settings?' and I clicked 'No'.
-> You will need to reboot twice during installation
-> Before running Service pack 5 or 6 setup, you must make modifications to the file '**sp598ent.stf**' here's how to do that (note some of the spaces have been truncated, try to not remove the extra space in the stf file when modifying it. If you do, this will not work at all, and you'll get a "Setup Damaged" error)...

Using Notepad, create an empty file in **C:Windows** named "**MSJAVA.DLL**". This will cause the VB6 installation software to skip the step of attempting to install the JVM.

If you install the "**VB6IDEMouseWheelAddin.dll**" for scrolling, make sure that you run "**cmd.exe**" with elevated admin privleges when registering the DLL manually. Also ran it with the DLL in "c:".

For Service Pack 5 only:
Tutorial:
Step 1) Open C:\ServicePack5Dir\sp598ent.stf with 'Notepad.exe'
Step 2) Replace the following line

13 Group 28 36 38 29 30 32 26 27 14 25 16 17 20 18 19 15 39 21 22 24 23 43

-with-

13 Group 28 38 29 30 32 26 27 14 25 16 17 20 18 19 15 39 21 22 24 23 43

Step 3) Delete the following lines leaving only a carriage return where it was

36 Depend "27 ? : 37"
37 IsWin95 CustomAction "sp598ent.dll,CheckForMDAC"

Step 4) Save and close C:\ServicePack5Dir\sp598ent.stf
Step 5) Run setupsp5.exe

The Visual Basic 6.0 IDE and SP6 setup needs to be run with UAC on, with the local user running as Admin, running with elevated privileges (right click on the setup exe and select "Run As Administrator…".

Visual Basic 6.0 applications need to be run under the same security/runtime settings (UAC/Admin/Elevated).

Referenced Links:

http://www.fortypoundhead.com/showcontent.asp?artid=20502

http://social.msdn.microsoft.com/Forums/windowsdesktop/en-US/cd740951-dd2c-46eb-856f-6e653a2e3d07/visual-studio-60-sp5-setup-on-vista-beta-2-5384?forum=windowsgeneraldevelopmentissues

http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/vstudio/ms788229.aspx