



NEODBUG

ELECTRONIC NEWS:

May 2004

Official Newsletter of the Northeast Ohio Database User Group

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For the past 14 years, NEODBUG has positioned itself as a multifaceted organization through a series of changes that attempt to better fulfill the needs of core database community. It is an evolution that many other regional DB2 users groups have experienced over the past several years. Managed change is good and we plan to keep evolving, while not forgetting the main focus of this organization: Database.

Our Agenda committee did a great job on the February Special Training Class. The feedback on Susan Lawson's presentation was excellent. We'll keep you updated about upcoming classes and try to make sure that you have enough notice to allow your companies to go through their internal processes to get the approvals necessary for the classes.

For May's meeting, **PLEASE NOTE: THE DATE OF THE MEETING IS MAY 20th!** Our agenda committee has arranged for presentations that I'm sure that you will find as informative as usual. Thanks to the diligence of Kirk Bailey of Maverick Direct and Carmen Rosa of Progressive for all of their hard work in putting this agenda together.

We begin the day with a Presentation Titled: *"Through the Looking Glass – what's up with all those mirrors?"* given by Rick Weaver, a Product Manager for Mainframe Database Recovery at BMC Software.

Two of the most overused terms in recent discussions are 'Snapshot' and 'Mirror'. What do they mean? In a recent informal survey of several large companies, 80% were in the process of deploying Remote Site solutions that rely on some form of 'Advanced Technology' such as mirroring or vaulting of media. Some of these solutions provide to zero data loss in the event of a site disaster, while others provide for a 'controlled data loss'. Many can cross platforms, connecting to both Mainframes and Distributed System servers. The notion of 'Disaster Recovery' is supplanted by one of 'Disaster Restart'. This presentation will conduct a 'survey' of the available solutions and weigh the relative pros and cons of each. The techniques of several customers using such solutions in production will be reviewed.

Rick is a certified Business Continuity Planner with over 25 years of experience in Systems and Database Administration for IMS, DB2 and CICS/VSAM application systems. He has been involved in developing large, complex, mission critical database applications for a variety of Fortune 50 companies. His special area of expertise is support of backup and recovery for enterprise-wide applications, exploiting the advances in hardware and software technology to produce cost effective recovery solutions.

Our second presentation will be given by Gary Deneszczuk, a Senior Enterprise Technical Consultant with Compuware Corporation, will talk about: *"SOX, SOA, Sarbannes-Oxley and IT. What does it mean to DB2?"* Gary has over 30 years experience. For the last 29 years he has worked for Compuware Corporation in the area of marketing and software product support for Compuware's major enterprise customers. He has made educational presentations to more than 20,000 data processing professionals in every type of enterprise development, testing and performance strategy. He is currently developing new presentations that address some of the current issues facing IT organizations today, like: Enterprise Application Performance, Managing Data across the Enterprise, creating quality applications that meet integrity standards established by new laws, such as Sarbannes-Oxley.

Gary's presentation will address:

1. Technology Challenges over the last 20 years
2. Revealing SOA, SOX or SarOX
3. A CIO survey
4. Where is your IT Organization?
5. Can the implementation of other standards help?
6. What a wide range IT Software Vendors say?
7. Why should all IT people be concerned?
 - a. How will this affect your IT environments?
 - b. Why do you need to be thinking about SOX?
 - c. Are you prepared?
8. The SOA Compliance Framework for IT
 - a. Security and Audit Controls
 - i. New Security Issues
 - ii. Security Testing
 - b. Document and Records Management
 - i. Where to keep all the new data
 - ii. How can Relational Database help
 - c. Reporting and Risk Management
 - i. Data access
 - ii. Data correlation

continued on page 2

INDEX

Chairman's Corner	1 - 2
Agenda	3
Treasurer's Report	4
Advertising	5
Registration	6

Gary's presentation continued:

- d. Business Process Management
 - i. Internal Control and Processes
 - ii. Financial application management
- e. Organizational Alignment
 - i. New roles and opportunities
- f. Discovery and Validation
 - i. Drilling down into the financial data
 - ii. Data correlation
 - iii. Identifying data abnormalities
 - iv. Cross-referencing your financial data fields
- g. Performance Management
 - i. Being able to respond quickly to your auditors
- h. Internal and Management Controls
 - i. Identifying who, what and when
9. Other IT issues
 - i. Bringing it all together: IT, Auditors and your CFO
10. The "Good News" Summary
 - i. An Opportunity to show what you can do

For the afternoon, we have Paul Wirth, a senior Data Management Technical Sales Specialist with IBM Corporation, giving a presentation called: "DB2 Information Integrator (II) – Features & Functions". Paul has been involved in database administration and storage management for the past twenty years. Over the years Paul has worked in database administration with IMS, DB2 and Oracle. Paul has worked extensively with enterprise storage subsystems. Currently, Paul is working with IBM customers located in Western Michigan using IBM database software.

This presentation is an overview of the new DB2 II features and functions. A demonstration will be done showing DB2 II working with DB2 OS/390™, DB2 400™, Informix™, MS SQL Server™, Oracle™, sequential files, Web Services. Microsoft Excel™ is used to query DB2 II to illustrate its vendor independence, and the productivity improvements you get by having integrated access to various data sources. Data replication between heterogeneous databases will be covered as well.

To wrap up the day, we are thrilled to have a company talk from Kirk McCutcheon, a DBA Manager at Allstate Insurance Company. Kirk, who used to be a member of the agenda committee for NEODBUG, has been involved in IT since 1983, in both the applications and operations side of the business. He's worked with DB2 for z/OS for ten years, starting with Version 2.3, through Version 7. He currently is as a Database Consultant for Allstate Insurance Co. and is responsible for managing the database infrastructure that supports all of the Internet and high availability applications for Allstate.

Kirk will do a reprise of a presentation he will give at IDUG called "DB2 for z/OS". As business demands for system availability increase, the time available for performing changes on business critical data decreases. Downtime to vital applications costs companies millions of dollars in lost revenue every year. DBAs are forced to perform a delicate balancing act between the mandate for 24x365 availability and the consequences of deferred data maintenance. This presentation will provide an in-depth understanding of some techniques you can use to provide high availability to mission critical data. The presentation will cover design methods, subsystem components, utilities processing, data replication, and change management procedures.

As we have done in the past, we are co-sponsoring the 10th Annual NEODBUG Tools Fair, called DataNet 2004 on August 5, 2004 at Landerhaven, in Mayfield Heights. The name of the event will remain DataNet to acknowledge the influence and impact that the Internet has had on database and data warehousing, both as a new applications are developed and as an opportunity for data warehouses applications to provide business critical data to managers. **For anyone that is attending IDUG, please contact any vendors that you meet at the conference and encourage him or her to participate in the Cleveland show in August. The vendor support has been weaker than in previous years. Ask them to contact me for information about participating in the event**

We would like to see between 15 to 25 vendors and two or three presentation tracks on a variety of subjects and products covering DB2 for OS390, Oracle, Sybase, Informix, DB2/UDB, Microsoft's SQL Server, Data Warehousing, e-business, etc. We are trying to finalize arrangements for a keynote speaker for this event. Stay tuned for more details.

We will also be holding a Quarterly Meeting on August 21, 2003 at the Hilton South in Independence, OH. As we have details of the presentations, we will email them to you.

In November, as we have done for the past several years, we're bringing in another *nationally known Speaker* to give us a 1/2-day to 1-day seminar. We'll also give more information, as it becomes available. As always, this meeting will include a business meeting to elect Trustees for next year.

See you on the 20th of May and don't forget IDUG will be held May 9-13 in Orlando, FL. Make sure you attend this 15th anniversary of IDUG as they present "Enabling your On Demand DB2 World". Finally, I know that May is not too early to play golf or baseball, but it is going to rain, or snow, anyway so you might as well attend this informative event! Oh yeah, so long Carmen (Policy), hello LeBron (James) and Go Tribe! I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting!

Michael P. James
Chairman

AGENDA

May 20, 2004

8:30 - 9:00	Registration	
9:00 - 9:15	Opening Remarks	Michael James
9:15 - 10:45	<i>“Through the Looking Glass – what’s up with all those mirrors?”</i>	Rick Weaver BMC Corporation
10:45 - 11:00	Break	
11:00 -12:00	<i>“SOX, SOA, Sarbannes-Oxley and IT What does it mean to DB2?”</i>	Gary Deneszczuk Compuware Corp.
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	
1:00 - 2:30	<i>DB2 Information Integrator – Features & Functions”.</i>	Paul Wirth IBM Corporation
2:30 - 2:45	Break	
2:45 - 3:45	<i>“DB2 for z/OS”</i>	Kirk McCutcheon Allstate Insurance
3:45 - 4:00	Closing Remarks/Door Prizes	Michael James

Location:

Hilton Cleveland South
6200 Quarry Lane
Independence, Ohio 44131
(216) 447-1300

NEODBUG

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Secretary - Jim Szabo • Treasurer - Al Solnick

Members of the Board of Trustees for 2004:

Kirk Bailey
Carmen Rosa

Jim Budka
Philip Sherman

Barry Noble
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By this time the Primary Contact at each member company should have received the invoice for 2004 corporate dues. If you have not received these, please contact either Al Solnick or myself to get one. There is only ONE Primary Contact for each member company. **All checks for either Annual Membership Dues or Quarterly Meeting Fees must be made out to:**

NEODBUG
35000 Chardon Rd., Suite 200
Cleveland, OH 44094

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following are the current figures for NEODBUG:

ASSETS

Checking Account	\$ 14,108.02
Savings Account	<u>1,971.30</u>
TOTAL	\$ 16,079.32

LIABILITIES

Membership Prepayment	\$ 900.00
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NET WORTH **\$ 15,179.32**

We had another fine turnout for the February 20th Special Education Session with Susan Lawson from YL&A teaching a class on DB2 High Performance Design and Tuning with 89 attending from 13 companies.

The following companies/ individuals have sent in their Corporate or Individual Memberships. **If you don't see your company name there, you will have to pay the higher, non-Membership registration fees at the upcoming quarterly meetings.** Those that prepaid to send members to NEODBUG meetings have the number of remaining coupons next to their names. The coupons expire 12/31/2004:

Companies/ Individuals that have paid memberships:

Allstate Insurance	
Alltel Information Services	(3 Coupons Left)
Antares Solutions	(3 Coupons Left)
Bendix CVS LLC	(3 Coupons Left)
BMC Software, Inc.	
Dominion CCS	(3 Coupons Left)
Erie Insurance	
Key Bank	
National City Bank	(3 Coupons Left)
Ohio United Mutual Insurance	(3 Coupons Left)
Phil Sherman	(3 Coupons Left)
Progressive Insurance	(3 Coupons Left)
S&P Solutions	(3 Coupons Left)
Sherwin Williams	(3 Coupons Left)
Westfield Insurance	

Al Solnick
NEODBUG Treasurer





Do you want to Web-enable your back-end applications? Does your company need to bring up a data warehouse to gain additional savings from your supply chain?

Is your organization compliant with all of your software licensing agreements? Are you aware of the effect that design considerations have on Software Licensing? Are you a Lawyer or Accountant so you can understand the language that resides in your Vendor purchase contracts? Are you ready to be compliant with Sarbannes-Oxley?

S&P Solutions is not afraid to ask the hard questions...and suggest the right solutions.

When you are asked to sell your products over the Internet move applications to the web to or more effectively control the costs associated with Supply Chain Management (B2B e-commerce), all of these opportunities become much greater challenges. What if you need to get your company's applications on to the Web, create a corporate data warehouse or understand the software license implications of an application deployment project, we can help you meet these challenges and win! Because our roots are in providing IT Consulting Services, we look for true solutions to these issues.

S&P Solutions, Inc. (SPS) is a Cleveland-based Information Technology consulting company, founded in 1983, with a goal of providing creative enterprise solutions to Fortune 1000 companies. Since that time, SPS has become one of the premier IT Services and Software Sales companies in Northeast Ohio.

We specialize in providing quality:

**Applications Development
Data Warehouse Development
Network Management Services
Database Reviews/Evaluations
Services
Customized Services**

**Database Design and Management Services
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Systems Integration Services
Website and e-Commerce Development**

Software Asset Management Services

Software Sales

If you are tired of hearing only "what consultants think you want to hear", let SPS take a fresh look at your biggest challenges and give you some "real" solutions.

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REGISTRATION FORM

NEODBUG Special Education Meeting

May 20th 2004

Hilton South Cleveland, 6200 Quarry Lane, Independence, Ohio

R.S.V.P: Checks and registration forms are encouraged to be sent early due to limit seating.

Cost: If your company is a member of NEODBUG: \$199.00 pre-registration or \$225.00 at the door.
If your company is not a member of NEODBUG: \$220.00 pre-registration or \$250.00 at the door.

Yes, I will be attending the special meeting; a check for \$ _____ is enclosed for a total of _____ reservations.

YOUR NAME

TITLE

PHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS

In addition to myself, the following persons will be attending:

GUEST NAME

TITLE

PHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS

Company Name:

Company Address:

Mail this form and your check payable to:

NEODBUG no later than May 17th 2004 to:

**NEODBUG
35000 Chardon Rd.
Suite 200
Cleveland, OH 44094**

