

NEODBUG

E L E C T R O N I C

Newsletter of the Northeast Ohio Database Users Group

Chairman's Corner: By Michael James

It is fall in Cleveland. The leaves aren't falling quite yet (thankfully) and there is not any snow either. The Tigers are well on their way to playing to oblivion and the Indians are on their way to the World Series. They just need to get past Boston! No big deal!

The CAVS have pulled off another coup, signing Devon Brown and trading for Cedric Simmons. Both will contribute to the team as they drive for an NBA championship! Re-signing Wild Thing and Sasha Pavlovic may be tougher than previously thought. In any event, LeBron is back with a bunch of guys that will make this year REAL interesting.

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Now we have two winning teams in Cleveland: the Indians and the Cavaliers - can we shoot for three? Well, the Browns are still here, and they hopefully will continue their winning ways. Who would have thought that the Browns would beat both Cincinnati and Baltimore? Are we looking at a .500 season? Maybe! It would sure be an improvement on last year. Oh yeah, NEODBUG is going to hold its November quarterly meeting on **Thursday, November 15, 2007**.

Annual Elections

Along with the usual highly informative content of our meeting (and this meeting is definitely no exception), the NEODBUG business meeting and board elections will be held at this meeting. This is where you decide if the coaching staff changes. Here's how the board elections will proceed:

- The current Board of Trustees will present to the membership a slate of candidates and will conduct an election for the Board of Trustees for 2008.
- The Board of Trustees will elect officers at the December Board meeting.

We will be increasing the size of your Board of Trustees by one for 2008. Jane Holloway of Parker Hannifin has graciously agreed to join the returning board for the upcoming year.

This organization depends on the Board of Trustees to plan our quarterly meetings, handle membership and meeting registrations, oversee the finances, and generate this newsletter. Your input is necessary for NEODBUG to continue to prosper as your source for solutions to relational database technical issues. So, be sure to talk to any of the Board Members about your suggestions during the meetings, write your suggestions down on the evaluation form that is distributed during the meeting, or call or email us at neodugquestions@sps-solutions.com to share your thoughts. We really read them!



November, 2007 issue
www.neodbug.org

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Decisions

The Board of Trustees has completed an examination into ways we can keep this organization on a sound financial footing. We have been able to stabilize our income for the past year while our costs have continued to increase. The Board decided our plan for 2008:

- We will be increasing the corporate membership fees to \$150 (a \$25 increase) for early membership registration and \$175 for late membership registration.
- We will again offer a special educational meeting in February or March of 2008. As in the past six years, we are arranging for a nationally-known speaker to come in for a day of training at what will be a very special price for employees of member companies. We are trying to keep the cost at \$225. We will have more information on this meeting after the beginning of the year.
- Our quarterly meeting fees will increase by \$10 to \$40.00 pre-registration, \$50.00 at the door, if your company is a member of NEODBUG, or \$50.00 pre-registration, \$60.00 at the door if not. This is the first increase in meeting fees in over six years.
- Our quarterly meetings will occur in May, August and November of 2008.
- We will continue to offer the ability to pre-pay for the year's meetings with your annual corporate membership payment. These coupons will continue to be redeemable for the cost of a regular quarterly meeting.
- We will continue with individual memberships, designed for consultants whose companies will not support joining the user group. The cost for these memberships will increase to \$35.
- For every fifth person attending our special educational meeting from a corporate member company, there will be a \$40 discount to be used towards the cost of the meeting.

The Survey Says

We have included a short survey on page 6, if you did not attend our August, 2007 meeting. We are actively seeking your input on future speakers and topics for our meetings; let us know by emailing a response to neodbugquestions@sps-solutions.com.

You should also consider giving a "member company talk" as well. Just put together a short presentation about a project that your company performed and share it with the group. Just the good, bad & the ugly! There is nothing like a "real world" experience.

NEODBUG on the WEB

Watch the website (www.neodbug.org) for announcements and copies of handouts for the meetings. In 2008, we hope to add functionality like online meeting registration.

Quarterly Program

This quarter's program is awesome! The agenda committee has developed another incredible program for November.

To start the day, we are very excited to announce that we have Patrick Bossman from IBM, making a couple of presentations including *"Introduction to the Optimizer"*. This presentation will provide an overview of the DB2 for z/OS query optimization engine. The presentation will walk through different query transformations the optimizer performs, what access paths are available, query costing, and parallelism.

Patrick will follow up this presentation with *"What Statistics does the Optimizer Need?"*. The

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cornerstone of cost-based query optimization is accurately estimating the number of rows. The DB2 optimizer estimates the cost of the available access paths. Accurately estimating the qualified rows for the different available access paths is critical to identifying the access path with the cheapest actual cost. This presentation discusses what statistics are available to help DB2 accurately estimate the cost of a query as well as how a user can collect these statistics.

Patrick Bossman has worked with DB2 since 1993, initially as an applications developer and DBA. He has worked for IBM since 1999 as level 3 support for the query optimization team. Recently, Patrick has been the scenario architect for such products as Visual Explain Version 8 with Statistics Advisor, the Optimization Service Center, and the Optimization Expert.

After lunch, our speaker will be Chih-Jieh (CJ) Chang, a developer from IBM's Silicon Valley Lab. CJ Chang has been with the DB2 query optimization team since 2002. He is a developer with focus on EXPLAIN, Visual Explain Version 8 with Statistics Advisor, the Optimization Service Center, and the Optimization Expert.

CJ will talk about *"A Guide to Visual Explain Version 8"*. Visual Explain Version 8 is a workstation tool which allows users to generate an access plan graph. Rather than attempting to decode the plan table entries, users can navigate the access path visually. This presentation will provide users the background into the different capabilities of Visual Explain V8 - how to graph static SQL and dynamic SQL, and snap the statement cache. The presentation will also show users how to read the access plan graph, and answer questions they've always wanted the answer to: is my predicate matching, screening, stage 1 non-indexable or stage 2? How many rows does DB2 think are coming back? What is the filter factor of this predicate, index matching predicates, or total index filtering? I see limited partition scan, which partitions are being accessed? This presentation will show users how to use Visual Explain Version 8 to answer those questions.

For our last presentation of the day, CJ will present *"Optimization Service Center Overview"*. Optimization Service Center is the next generation of query tuning tools for DB2 for z/OS. Optimization Service Center is a completely rewritten product which includes the capabilities from Visual Explain Version 8, with far more query tuning tools. There are new capabilities to generate workloads and generate targeted RUNSTATS on the entire workload. New query-based tools include query annotation which will show the formatted, transformed query with statistics and critical costing information annotated within the SQL. Improved query reporting provides easy-to-print table, index and indexed column reports which provide an easy lookup of the physical design and catalog statistics for the objects important to the query being tuned. This presentation will provide users with an overview of Optimization Service Center's capabilities.

Remember that pre-registration will be accepted through November 12, 2007 on a first in, first out (FIFO) basis. You may pre-register by email to neodbug@sps-solutions.com. Your registration will be confirmed with your payment. Registration at-the-door will only be accepted on a space available basis.

So, come and vote for your Board of Trustees and receive some great information. We'll see you there.

Michael James, NEODBUG Chairman

November 15, 2007 Meeting Agenda

- 8:30 - 9:00** **Registration**
- 9:00 - 9:15** **Opening Remarks**
 - Michael James, NEODBUG Chairman
- 9:15 - 10:30** **“Introduction to the Optimizer”**
 - Patrick Bossman, IBM Corporation
- 10:30 - 10:45** **Break**
- 10:45 - 12:00** **“What Statistics Does the Optimizer Need?”**
 - Patrick Bossman, IBM Corporation
- 12:00 - 1:00** **Lunch**
- 1:00 - 1:15** **Business meeting/Board election**
 - Michael James, NEODBUG Chairman
- 1:15 - 2:30** **“A Guide to Visual Explain Version 8”**
 - CJ Chang, IBM Corporation
- 2:30 - 2:45** **Break**
- 2:45 - 4:15** **“Optimization Service Center Overview”**
 - CJ Chang, IBM Corporation
- 4:15 - 4:30** **Closing Remarks, Door Prizes**
 - Michael James, NEODBUG Chairman

DoubleTree Hotel Cleveland South
 6200 Quarry Lane
 Independence, OH 44131
 (216) 447-1300

Upcoming Database Events

Date	Organization	City
10/14-18/2007	IBM Information On Demand Global Conference 2007	Las Vegas, NV
10/28-11/02/2007	The Data Warehouse Institute (TDWI) World Conference- Fall	Orlando, FL
10/29-11/07/2007	BMC Software UserWorld	Vancouver, BC Canada
11/02/2007	Metadata Symposium 2007	New York, NY
11/05-09/2007	International DB2 Users Group (IDUG) Europe 2007	Athens, Greece
11/08-09/2007	Oracle Rdb Technical Forum	Redwood Shores, CA
11/11-15/2007	Oracle OpenWorld	San Francisco, CA
11/15/2007	NEODBUG quarterly meeting	Independence, OH
1Q2008	NEODBUG special educational meeting (date, speaker tba)	Independence, OH
02/17-22/2008	TDWI World Conference - Winter	Las Vegas, NV
03/05-07/2008	IDUG Australasia 2008	Sydney, Australia
05/2008	NEODBUG quarterly meeting (date tba)	Independence, OH
05/11-16/2008	TDWI World Conference - Spring	Chicago, IL
05/18-22/2008	IDUG North America 2008	Dallas, TX
08/2008	NEODBUG quarterly meeting (date tba)	Independence, OH

NEODBUG Survey

Attendees to our August , 2007 meeting found these questions on their meeting evaluation form. The answers that they provided were very valuable for our Program Committee's planning.

NEODBUG would like to expand the sample of that survey: if you did NOT attend the August, 2007 meeting, please answer the following questions, and email your answers to: neodbugquestions@sps-solutions.com.

What is your area of responsibility in your company?

Database - Technical Database - Manager Technical Support/Systems
 Application Development Decision Support Distributed Support
 Help Desk/User Support Other _____

Which of the following topics would interest you if presented at a future NEODBUG meeting?

(check all that apply)

XML Web application development SOA
 DB2 V9 MQSeries Oracle topics
 SQL Server topics Other database topics Database tuning
 Standards and procedures Heterogeneous database Database auditing
 Member company presentations Data replication Data warehousing
 Disaster recovery Other _____

Who would you like to see NEODBUG bring in to speak at a future meeting (check all that apply)?

Bonnie Baker, Bonnie Baker Inc. Craig Mullins, NEON Enterprises
 Sheryl Larsen, Sheryl M. Larsen, Inc. Willie Favero, IBM
 Phil Grainger, CA Scott Hayes, Database Brothers
 Martin Hubel, Hubel Consulting Leon Katsnelson, IBM
 Susan Lawson, YL&A Other _____

How important to you are member company presentations at NEODBUG meetings?

very somewhat take or leave not

Could you give a member company presentation at a future NEODBUG meeting?

yes – contact me for details would love to, but have no time to prepare
 have to clear it with my boss first don't know enough to present anything
 talking in front of a group scares me other _____

NAME _____

COMPANY _____

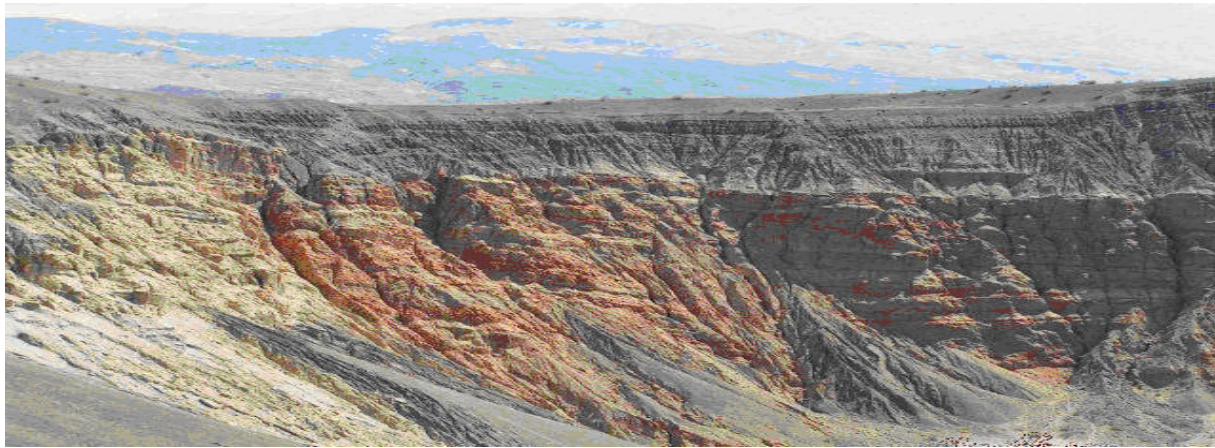
Best Practices for Information Management on System Z

You can't deny it, and sometimes you can barely control it: Data that is duplicate, inconsistent and scattered across multiple, isolated silos. But data governance requirements force you to take action. With some planning not only can you meet those requirements, but you can harness your data's untapped potential.

Read [Security and Compliance: Bringing Order to Information Chaos](#) by Mark Leon, who shares six steps for turning data governance requirements into opportunities to leverage data. Topics include:

- Building a three-year governance strategy, and defining the milestones and the owners
- Easing compliance with a well-ruled data set
- Ensuring that auditing efforts evaluate the efficacy of controls
- Assessing the value of data through master data management

Leon has been writing about technology and business for the past 12 years. He is a mathematics and philosophy professor for the United States Navy Program Afloat College Education (PACE).



**Does getting the right data feel like you are wondering in a wasteland.
You keep looking around, but you can't find what you're looking for!**

As the premier Database consulting company in northeast Ohio, S&P Solutions, Inc. (SPS) is uniquely qualified to provide your company with the highest quality database support available in today's marketplace. SPS has performed Database Management Services for many Fortune 1000 companies.

Our consultants are respected, well-known experts in the database community. Their combined expertise is of the highest level. Since we can support DB2, IDMS, IMS, Oracle, Sybase and MS SQL Server database environments, we can assist you no matter what platform you are running in your business.

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Registration Form

NEODBUG Quarterly Meeting
THURSDAY, November 15, 2007 9am - 4:30pm
DoubleTree Inn Cleveland South
6200 Quarry Lane, Independence, OH

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

Cost: If your company is a member of NEODBUG: \$30.00 pre-registration or \$40.00 at the door.
If your company is not a member of NEODBUG: \$40.00 pre-registration or \$50.00 at the door.

Yes, I will be attending the quarterly 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:

NAME	TITLE	PHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

Email this form to neodbug@sps-solutions.com to notify us of your intent to attend, then postal mail this form and your check (payable to NEODBUG) no later than November 10, 2007, to:

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