IBM MIDRANGE USER GROUP

FOR USERS OF THE IBM AS/400 COMPUTER SYSTEM

October 1997 Newsletter

This Month

Our user group presentation this month will be by **Becky Jensen**, a consulting manager with **Vitrex Corporation**. Becky will be introducing us to SQL on the AS/400. For some of us SQL is a very familiar tool used every day. But for others it is a mystery of what it actually is and why you would want to use it. Becky will present the very basics covering SELECT, INSERT, DELETE and UPDATE. So come and learn how to use this very powerful tool.

Our meeting this month will be held on **Wednesday, October 8th at 11:00 a.m. at the Murray City Offices (City Council Chambers), 5025 South State Street.**

September Meeting Highlights

We were honored to have our local AS/400 specialist, Robin Van Wagenen, speak to us at our September meeting about the new AS/400e series that were recently announced by IBM. Robin never fails to dazzle us with her vast array of knowledge of the AS/400 and this presentation was no exception. With the new AS/400e models come many changes and new features. Some of these are:

- OS/400 Version 4 Release 1 now comes bundled with the new AS/400s. This means the price of the machine includes the price of the operating system - no more user-based pricing.

- New 8-CPU and 12-CPU servers now boast processing speeds up to 4.6 times faster than any previous AS/400s.

- Main memory of the high-end models was increased from 4GB to 20GB, and disk capacity was nearly doubled to 996GB.

- Prices for a single-processor AS/400e start at $7,995. The 12-processor model costs up to $1.25 million.

- e-Business Enablers such as Net.Data, Net.Commerce and Native Lotus Domino make it easy to create interactive web applications used for e-business.

- AS/400 integration of Windows NT Server on the Integrated PC Server allows full NT Server functions.

There are many more new functions and features - too many to list here. The AS/400e series is ready to go to work to help your company jump into the new world of e-business computing. We are grateful to Robin for taking the time to be with us.

User Group Dues

Just a reminder that the yearly user group dues are due. The fiscal year for the user group runs from September 1, 1997 through August 31, 1998. The yearly dues are only $45.00 per company. Thanks for you support.

Short Takes

IBM Software: Firmly Rooted in the Present

"The IBM company has had control over the enterprise for decades. When Microsoft holds a scalability day, it says it will have tomorrow what IBM has today. Ziff-Davis editors recently were guests of IBM at an all-day strategy briefing in White Plains, N.Y. After session after session on everything from Message Queuing to Tivoli Management Environment, it was clear that IBM is a department store like no other for enterprise software."

PC Week
August 11, 1997

IBM Corner

John Parris of IBM Toronto will be flying in to Salt Lake on October 22nd. He will be speaking about all the new visual tools such as Java.

On October 23rd there will be a Synon seminar.

IBM Teleconference:
Issues on the minds of CIOs today

Oct 15 at 11:30 A.M. To enroll call 1-800-289-0579 with the confirmation number 322345.

For further information contact our local AS/400 Specialists: Robin Van Wagenen at 968-5552.

AS/400 Tips and Techniques

Downloading Spool Files to a PC

Q: How can I download spool files to a PC using standard tools?

A: Use the AS/400 CPYSPLF (Copy Spool File) command to copy a spool file from an output queue into a physical file. You can then download that file to the PC using the Client Access file transfer function or any comparable third-party file transfer program. If you're running TCP/IP on your AS/400, you can even download it using File Transfer Protocol (FTP).

Compliments of NEWS/400 magazine. For subscription information, call (800) 621-1544.

Humor Department

A TALE OF THE TECHNICALLY CHALLENGED

An End User rings Customer Support to report that his computer is faulty.

Customer Support: "What is the problem?"
End User: "There is smoke coming out of the power supply."
Customer Support: "You will need a new power supply."
End User: "No I don't! I just need to change the startup files!"
Customer Support: "The power supply is faulty. You'll need to replace it."
End User: "No way! Someone told me that I just needed to change the startup file and it will fix the problem! All I need is for you to tell me the command."

10 minutes later, the End User is still adamant that he is right.

The Customer Support Engineer is frustrated. . . .
Customer Support: "Sorry, sir. We don't normally tell our customers this, but there is an undocumented DOS command that will fix the problem."

End User: "I knew it!"
Customer Support: "Just add the line LOAD NOSMOKE.COM at the end of the CONFIG.SYS file. Let me know how it goes."

10 minutes later.

End User: "It didn't work. The power supply is still smoking."
Customer Support: "Well, what version of DOS are you using?"
End User: "MS-DOS 6.22."
Customer Support: "That's your problem there. That version of DOS didn't come with NOSMOKE. Contact Microsoft and ask them for a patch that will give you the file. Let me know how it goes."

1 hour later.

End User: "I need a new power supply."
Customer Support: "How did you come to that conclusion?"
End User: "Well, I rang Microsoft and told him all about what you said, and he started asking questions about the make of power supply."
Customer Support: "Then what did he say?"
End User: "He told me that my power supply isn't compatible with NOSMOKE."

Mark Your Calendar

October 8
IBM Midrange User Group
Monthly meeting held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11:00 AM at the Murray City Office (City Council Chambers), 5025 South State Street.

October 29-31
COMMON Regional Event
Montreal Bonaventure Hilton, Montreal, Quebec Canada. Tel: 800-699-1009; Fax: 815-226-9343; Web: http://www.common.org

October 30
Application Systems Group (ASG) meeting
At IBM, 4660 La Jolla Village Dr., 3rd floor, San Diego, CA. Randy Mangham will discuss the AS/400 Java Virtual Machine (JVM). Tel: 619-685-7299

November 5-7
COMMON Regional Event
Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN. Tel: 800-699-1009; Fax: 815-226-9343; Web: http://www.common.org

November 13-14
AS/400 and Year 2000 Readiness Conference
Conference sponsored by Midrange Computing, Sir Francis Drake Hotel, San Francisco, CA. Tel: 800-477-5665

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