IBM MIDRANGE USER GROUP

November 1997 Newsletter

This Month's Meeting

You have all heard of the Year 2000 Problem and in fact a little over a year ago we had a presentation on that subject in our user group meeting. A year has come and gone and what have you done about it? Are you finished with the conversion, are you in the middle of it or have you even started? It's a big project with many land mines along the way. Wouldn't it be nice to hear from someone who has been through the AS/400 Year 2000 conversion process not just once but many times?
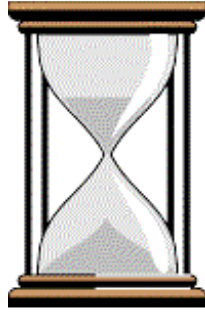
Our meeting topic this month will be **Year 2000 Projects on the AS/400 - Case Studies** and will be presented by **Sury Narayanan**, director of business development for *S Square Technologies*, a consulting company specializing in Year 2000 conversion projects. He will select 2 or 3 projects to highlight as well as give us some insights into the challenges and issues that arise in AS/400 Year 2000 projects. Sury will be accompanied by **Bala Subramaniam**, a Year 2000 project manager.

Our meeting this month will be held on **Wednesday, November 12th at 11:00 a.m. at the Murray City Offices (City Council Chambers), 5025 South State Street.**

October Meeting Highlights

Our user group presentation for the month of October was given by **Becky Jensen**, a consulting manager with **Vitrex Corporation**. Becky introduced us to SQL on the AS/400. She explained that Structured Query Language (SQL) is a programming language which allows you to define, access, and modify data stored in relational databases.

One of the first things you learn about SQL is that it uses different terms when referring to database components than you might be used to. In SQL, a file is called a *table*, a record is a *row*, and a field is a *column*. While the terms are different, the concepts are the same.

Becky discussed the various statements and keywords and explained where and how you would used them to manipulate the data. She covered the basics to help those who were unfamiliar with the language which is very rich and powerful. We would like to thank Becky for taking the time to come and talk to our user group. Thanks!

Short Takes

NT: Wait and See

"In my humble opinion, Microsoft's Windows NT won't be ready for the enterprise until you don't have to reboot it after most software installations."

Shayne White
Information Week
November 3, 1997

Looking for an IBM Redbook?

Do you have trouble finding exactly the right IBM Redbook when you want it? Redbooks are those famous "how to" cookbooks written by an international team of IBMers who work with customers like you, and they can be purchased as hard-copy books or as library collections on CD-ROM. For quick information on redbooks, browse through the redbook World Wide Web site at: www.redbooks.ibm.com

Year 2000 Is No Cheap Date

According to an article in the Washington Post, dated September 11, 1997, the estimated price of fixing the U.S. government's "Year 2000" computer bug rose by more than $1 billion during the summer, driven largely by a more detailed assessment of the problem by the Internal Revenue Service. Are your company's computer systems ready for January 1, 2000?

How To Call In And Get Off Work Next Monday:

"I set half the clocks in my house ahead an hour and the other half back an hour Saturday and spent 18 hours in some kind of space-time continuum loop, reliving Sunday (right up until the explosion). I was able to exit the loop only by reversing the polarity of the power source exactly and resetting the clocks in the house, while simultaneously throwing my cat in the air. Accordingly, I will be in late, or early."

IBM Corner

NEW! AS/400 Software Bundle - Operations Productivity Pak

On August 19th, IBM announced the AS/400 Operations Productivity Pak which is a combination of three existing software products priced to sell at $13,500! This price offers up to a 30% savings over purchasing the products separately.

The three products are:

IBM Job Scheduler for AS/400, Backup Recovery and Media Services (BRMS) for AS/400 and ADSTAR Distributed Storage Manager (ADSM) for AS/400 Version 2.1

New Book: Developing Your AS/400 Internet Strategy

Great new book entitled *Developing Your AS/400 Internet Strategy* by Alan Arnold on getting your AS/400 on the Internet. Not only does it discuss how to get started, it shows how to be successful by using real life success and failure stories. You can purchase this book off the Duke Press home page at:

http://www.dukepress.com/

Learn how to protect valuable company resources for the security conscious AS/400 community. This unique book provides direction on how to plan, design, program and manage an Internet Web Page. ISBN 1-882419-54-5, 250 pages, $45.00. Available now!

New! IBM Firewall for AS/400

Are you responsible for your company's secure connection to the Internet? Join us for the new "IBM Firewall for AS/400" course. (S6111)   Firewall for AS/400 is available on RISC-based AS/400 systems that are operating OS/400* at V4R1.

Begin by examining the features and functions that are available as part of the IBM Firewall for AS/400. Follow by exploring in-depth technical presentations and exercises regarding the installation, configuration and implementation of the IBM Firewall for the AS/400.

After completing this course, you should be able to install, configure and implement the functions available with the IBM Firewall for AS/400 (5769-FW1).

For more information check out the web site:

http://www.training.ibm.com/ibmedu

COURSE   Course Code: S6111
DETAILS: Title: IBM Firewall for AS/400
        Length: 2.5 days   Customer Tuition: $1165
        Schedule: Nov 18-20................... Atlanta, GA
                      Dec 16-18................... Atlanta, GA

TO REGISTER:
U.S. and Canadian Customers:
- CALL   1-800-IBM-TEACH 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
              (1-800-426-8322) Eastern Time, Mon-Fri
U.S. Customers:
- FAX: 1-800-426-9006   24 hrs./7 days

- WEB HOME PAGE:
http://www.training.ibm.com/ibmedu

V4R1 Teleconference - REPLAY AVAILABLE

For those of you whose customers were not able to participate in the V4R1 teleconference yesterday, a replay can be accessed 24 hours a day by dialing 1-888-567-0712 . The replay is available through Friday November 21, 1997.
Anyone wishing to purchase a cassette tape of the teleconference can do so by calling American Teleconferencing at 1-800-813-5795 and referencing the confirmation code #394528.

Any questions or comments please call Jennifer Clarke at (770) 835-9391 or 8/445-9391.

New AS/400 Web Master's Guide Online

The new AS/400 Internet Connection Server and Internet Connection Secure Server Web Master's Guide is now online and ready for browsing. This document contains chapters on:
    - Starting and stopping your server
    - Changing the default configuration
    - Understanding AS/400-unique concepts
    - Using the configuration file
    - Making the most of your server's logging functions
    - Protecting your server
    - Making your communications secure
    - Using Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)
    - Acting as a certification authority for a private Web
    - Supported key lengths and encryption modes

and much more. It is ideal for the do-it-yourself customer set. To access this document online use the following URL:
    http://www.as400.ibm.com/techstud/workshop/webbuild.htm

or you can order the book from Mechanicsburg. Pub Number GC41-5434. If you have questions contact Al Grega (amgrega@us.ibm.com).

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

AS/400 Tips and Techniques

ODBC and SQL Reserved Words

Q: Since upgrading to V3R1, I'm having some trouble with the IBM ODBC driver. When I do a look-up in a library, I receive the error message "Keyword AND not expected." What's wrong?

A: In V3R1, some new reserved words were added to SQL. AND is one of them, and you are using it somehow in the SQL statement, whether you know it or not (as a table or column name, for example). To use a reserved word, you must enclose it in double quotes ("AND").

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

Free Microsoft Seminars

Microsoft is holding their free Solutions Briefing Seminars again in Utah. Unless otherwise indicated, they are all held at the new Salt Lake City office located in the Eagle Gate Plaza and Office Tower, 60 East South Temple, Suite 1570 in Salt Lake City. For directions call 801-333-8100. Register by calling 1-800-550-4300 and include the event code for the briefing you wish to attend, as well as the name, address, zip code and phone number of each attendee.

Directory Service Solutions
Nov 18, 1:00-4:00 pm, event code 14309

Managing Projects Now and in the Future
Nov 18, 8:30-11:30 am, event code 14329

Desktop Database Solutions with Microsoft Access 97
Nov 20, 8:30-11:30 am, event code 14330

Working in the Windows NT Workstation Environment
December 2, 8:30-11:30 am, event code 14331

BackOffice Solutions Summit
Dec 3, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm, held at the University Park Hotel in Salt Lake City. Call 801-364-7007 to register.

Delivering Multimedia on the Internet and Intranet
Dec 16, 8:30-11:30 am, event code 14310

How to Architect Distributed and Multi-tiered Solutions Leveraging Microsoft's Implementation of COM and Distributed COM
Dec 17, 8:30-12:00 pm, event code 14334

How to Access All Types of Data through a Single Data Access Model
Dec 17, 1:00-5:00pm, event code 14314

Humor Department

Microsoft Addresses Justice Department Accusations

REDMOND, Wash. - Oct. 28, 1997 -- In direct response to accusations made by the Department of Justice, the Microsoft Corp. announced today that it will be acquiring the federal government of the United States of America for an undisclosed sum.

"It's actually a logical extension of our planned growth", said Microsoft chairman Bill Gates, "It really is going to be a positive arrangement for everyone".

Microsoft representatives held a briefing in the oval office of the White House with U.S. President Bill Clinton, and assured members of the press that changes will be "minimal". The United States will be managed as a wholly owned division of Microsoft. An initial public offering is planned for July of next year, and the federal government is expected to be profitable by "Q4 1999 at latest", according to Microsoft president Steve Ballmer.

In a related announcement, Bill Clinton stated that he had "willingly and enthusiastically" accepted a position as a vice president with Microsoft, and will continue to manage the United States government, reporting directly to Bill Gates. When asked how it felt to give up the mantle of executive authority to Gates, Clinton smiled and referred to it as "a relief". He went on to say that Gates has a "proven track record", and that U.S. citizens should offer Gates their "full support and confidence". Clinton will reportedly be earning several times the $200,000 annually he has earned as U.S. president, in his new role at Microsoft.

Gates dismissed a suggestion that the U.S. Capitol be moved to Redmond as "silly", though he did say that he would make executive decisions for the U.S. government from his existing office at Microsoft headquarters. Gates went on to say that the House and Senate would "of course" be abolished. "Microsoft isn't a democracy", he observed, "and look how well we're doing".

When asked if the rumored attendant acquisition of Canada was proceeding, Gates said, "We don't deny that discussions are taking place".

Microsoft representatives closed the conference by stating that United States citizens will be able to expect lower taxes, increases in government services and discounts on all Microsoft products.

About Microsoft
Founded in 1975, Microsoft (NASDAQ "MSFT") is the worldwide leader in software for personal computers, and democratic government. The company offers a wide range of products and services for public, business and personal use, each designed with the mission of making it easier and more enjoyable for people to take advantage of the full power of personal computing and free society every day.

About the United States

Founded in 1789, the United States of America is the most successful nation in the history of the world, and has been a beacon of democracy and opportunity for over 200 years. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the United States is a wholly owned subsidiary of Microsoft Corporation.

Thanks to Robin Van Wagenen for forwarding this item to me!

Want Ads

For Sale: AS/400 model E35, 8GB DASD, 82 MB Memory, Ethernet Card, EMC 8mm tape drive, 2 com ports, plus an IBM 6252 high speed line printer. Interested parties should contact Roy Wendel of Enuf International at 466-4000 or his home at 763-9633 or contact Arben Andersen at 466-4000.

Mark Your Calendar

November 12
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

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

November 18 and 20
AS/400 Teleconference - Lotus Domino on the AS/400...Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
To enroll call 1-800-289-0579 and reference the confirmation code 322350 for Nov. 18th or 322352 for Nov. 20th.

User Group 1996-1997 Officers

President	David Larsen
	Murray City
	(801) 264-2501
	dlarsen@ci.murray.ut.us
Vice President	Michael Meservy
	GSE Erudite Software
	(801) 373-6100
	meservym@gses.com
Secretary	Gary Larson
	Lagoon Corporation
	(801) 451-8035
	glarson@davis.uswest.net
Treasurer	John Dietz
	Vitrex
	(801) 393-0008
	john.dietz@vitrex.com

Mailing Address:
        Greater Salt Lake IBM Midrange User Group
        PO Box 11923
        Salt Lake City, Utah 84147-0923