The Weather Outside is...

Wind and a chance of rain later in the week. But at least we’re not in Kansas; let’s hope that the feds get their act together and get some help to those folks right away.

In our little corner of the world, though, lots of cool things have been happening. For example, after something of a drought, IBM has recently released a bunch of new drafts for WebSphere Version 6.1 (specifically problem solving). You can see all of those in the IBM Redbooks and Redpapers section, along with a little bonus feature: a couple of links to papers on Blue Gene, IBM’s super computer. Not exactly System i-specific, but it’s worth a look if you have a free moment. Happy May!

Sorry this is a little late, and I hope you get a chance to come and see the wonderful presentation on QShell and SSH that we’re having on the 15th (which, if things go really well, will be the day after you receive this).

We have a lot of interesting content this month, from Mike Pavlak’s recap of the Anaheim COMMON Conference to this year’s first mention of the upcoming golf outing. Omni will be at the System i Core Decisions Road Show, you can check out our advertisement for them here as well.

Hopefully we’ve gotten our communications straightened out with COMMON; we’ve got the April COMMON Connect on board, which is a great introduction to IBM’s IM-PACT 2007 Conference, their big SOA shindig.

And me? Well, I have to get the June newsletter out on time, because I’m going to Disney World…
President’s Letter
- Sal Stangarone, OMNI Board President

Spring is finally (really) here, and we’re already moving onto summer it seems! May has proven to be a very busy and successful month for OMNI!

For those of you who were able to attend COMMON last week in Anaheim, CA, it was great to see many of your faces. And (drumroll) OMNI won COMMON’s LUG challenge to help raise money for the COMMON Education Foundation! In fact OMNI’s 1 TB NAS was the biggest draw of all! So, let’s give ourselves a big hand! Omni’s three month advertising contract sold as well, so that’s great news. And, Michelle is still selling more, so if anyone is interested, let her know!

Because of that win, CEF (Common Education Foundation) luggage tags will be available to attendees of our next dinner meeting! Make sure to get yours!

Now looking ahead…

Shells seem to be the perfect complement to this soon-to-be beach weather and our upcoming meeting on May 15. IBM’s Bob Bittner, working toward ISV Strategy and Enablement will be speaking on Qshell and OpenSSH: Winning the Shell Game. I’m looking forward to hearing him speak.

I’d also like to thank our last speaker, Rusty Edmister who spoke on Web facing. You can download his presentation on our Web site. Omni will also be at the System i Network Roadshow next week, also on May 15, which has a focus on Business and IT alignment and building the right teams for long term success. I look forward to seeing you there!

We have a lot coming up in the next few months as well! Remember, the golf outing is on its way, so keep an eye out for more information as it becomes available.

Stay tuned!

OMNI 2007 Board

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Past President: Mike Pavlak, mike@pavlak.com
IBM Liaison: Joe Thompson, jwthomp@us.ibm.com
May Dinner Meeting
Tuesday, May 15th, 2007
Embassy Suites Hotel
707 E. Butterfield Rd
Lombard, IL

5:00 Registration and User Discussions
6:00 Dinner and Break
6:45 Business Meeting & Presentation

Qshell and OpenSSH: Winning the Shell Game

This presentation introduces these two powerful tools and quickly proceeds to more in-depth detail. Qshell provides an interactive and scripting command environment, and OpenSSH provides a mechanism for encrypted, secure connections to i5/OS. Tips and techniques for basic usage and integration with traditional i5/OS commands are presented. Examples demonstrate using these tools to accomplish interesting tasks. Challenges in using these Unix-style utilities on i5/OS are explained, and workarounds are described.

Even if you're already using either of these tools, you may likely learn a few new tricks!

Bob Bittner, IBM PartnerWorld [ISV Business Strategy and Enablement]

Bob Bittner has worked at IBM for 10 years, helping software vendors migrate applications to System i from Unix, Windows, and other occasionally popular platforms. This has typically involved C/C++, Java, and shell programming. He worked in Germany for a year, porting SAP R/3 to OS/400. He led the design and implementation of i5/OS provisioning in the Virtual Loaner Program, extensively using Qshell and OpenSSH capabilities.
Dinner Menu Options

Dinner (choice):
Meatload with Gravy
Chef’s Choice Fish
Pasta Prima Vera

Starter:
Caesar Salad

Dessert:
Carrot Cake

March Dinner Meeting Registration
Please make your reservations by Thursday, May 10th, 2007 at Noon. Call (630) 953-6312, and leave your company name, names of those attending, and the type of meal desired (meat, fish or vegetarian.)

Cancellation Policy
Full refund will be issued for cancellations made before 9:00 am May 11th, 2007. After 9:00 am Friday, 05/11/2007, cancellation refund depends on meeting attendance. All cancellations must be made as described below.

Dinner Meeting Cancellation
It is VERY important to cancel your reservation(s) if you cannot attend, by calling (630) 953-6312 and leaving the name(s) of those unable to attend, or by using the web cancellation feature.
Anaheim COMMON Conference Recap

What an exciting time to be involved with the System i! New technologies, new applications and even more people were in attendance at the first Annual COMMON Conference and Expo in Anaheim last week. It is the first annual because COMMON is changing with the times and moving to one major conference per year. This spring I had the honor of attending COMMON and representing Omni at the LUG (Local User Group) meeting. The chairperson scheduled for the meeting had to leave the conference early so Dan Kimmel, long time COMMON volunteer and BOD member, asked me to step in. We were shuffled to a new room, and denied a speaker-phone for the conference call. But, thanks to the conference venue staff and a couple of cellular speaker-phones courtesy of Jason Logsdon and Don Rima, we were able to carry out our meeting. Several LUGs were represented from all over the country. And it seems there are as many meeting options as there are groups. Omni is still going strong with dinner meetings, while WAM (Washington Area Midrange) is contemplating abandoning meeting for just a few all day educational events. The folks at Ocean are still reporting good numbers, but during daytime meetings. Do you have an opinion? Should Omni consider a different time or place for meetings? Let us know by dropping a BOD member a line. Check out the BOD email addresses at the Omni website!

Lots of good times were had by all. Long time OMNI friend and helper, Larry “Dr. Franken” Bolhuis was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for his many years as a COMMON volunteer and “long term commitment and leadership in the development and deliverance of COMMON's educational curriculum”. Check out his handiwork at frankeni.com. Candidates for two open slots on the COMMON BOD have been announced: Dan Kimmel and Wayne Madden are running for another term on the BOD while Rajan Narayan will be trying for his first position. COMMON's new structure has the entire user group world watching. As you may be well aware, user groups are disappearing. With the many alternatives the Internet brings, many folks opt out of volunteering and conferences altogether. COMMON saw a resurgence of attendance numbers that it had not seen in years. Thank in great part to the new volunteer structure. The three components to the COMMON structure are Education, Community and Advocacy. Trevor Perry is heading up Community and Networking (CaN), Anne Lucas is leading Leadership and Advocacy (LaA) and the entire SET team working on Education. Your's truly has been a COMMON volunteer since 2003 and am looking forward to a few more years at it. But they continue to need support. If you plan to attend a COMMON conference in the future, or maybe have a few minutes to spare helping folks in the System i community, consider volunteering at COMMON. I guarantee you won't regret it.

On Wednesday night at the MOM (Meeting of the Members), new COMMON president Randy Dufault addressed the membership with exciting news regarding two straight years of positive revenue growth. This has helped COMMON emerge form a negative credit rating and now has eliminated their debt. In addition, COMMON reported over 1900 attendee's at this years conference, a number that has not been seen in several years! COMMON also brought back the SIG (Special Interest Group) meetings of days gone past. This was a lunch time event where folks of the finance and distribution worlds had a chance to hear a great speaker and network about what's up and coming in their areas.

All in all, it was a great event, with a first timer winning a brand new System i model 515! More information about upcoming events can be found at www.common.org and don't forget that as a member of Omni, you too can get the COMMON membership discount. Just contact an Omni BOD member before registering for any COMMON event!
The RFID Labeling Solution

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Now you can easily comply with the new “Smart Label” requirements using Barcode400-RFID. Label design is a snap using the compliance templates made available by T.L. Ashford. Print and encode “Smart Labels” with data directly from your iSeries system. Barcode400 was developed specifically for the System i5, iSeries and the AS400.

T.L. Ashford has a proven track record of meeting the ever changing standards for the System i5 environment. Barcode400 is supported by a technical support team committed to customer satisfaction.

http://www.tlashford.com/
June Meeting

On June 19th, John Quirk, VP managing Enterprise Systems for PSC Group, LLC of Chicago, will be presenting an informative and entertaining session on WebSphere Portal. You’ve heard about portals for years, now come and see what they can actually do for you and your business. This promises to be a truly educational session, giving you the information you need to decide whether portals are for you!

May LUGs of the Month

In recognition of the upcoming MITEC conference in June, I thought I’d recognize the sponsors of that great conference:

SEMIUG, MUMM, WMSUG (Kalamazoo), WMSUG (Grand Rapids) and NWOMUG

You can find out more about these groups by visiting the MITEC website.

http://www.gomitec.com/

Upcoming Midrange Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>OMNI May Dinner Meeting QShell and OpenSSH for System i</td>
<td>Embassy Suites Hotel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bob Bittner</td>
<td>707 E. Butterfield Rd</td>
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<td>IBM ISV Strategy and Enablement</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>System i Core Decisions: Business Applications road show</td>
<td>At a City near you....</td>
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<td>8:30 - 4:15</td>
<td>Core Business Alignment</td>
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<td>Bob Tipton and Dave Ellison</td>
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<td>June 5</td>
<td>Michigan iSeries Technical Education Conference “Skills for a New Age”</td>
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<td>June 16-22</td>
<td>IBM System i Spring Technical Conference</td>
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<td>June 17-20</td>
<td>System i and AS/400 Connection Conference Featuring V5R4</td>
<td>Naples, FL</td>
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<td>July 10</td>
<td>Hands-on .Net half day JumpStart</td>
<td>IBM Technology Center</td>
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<td>Richard Schoen, RJS</td>
<td>71 S Wacker Dr</td>
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ALL NEW CONTENT!
System i IT professionals and business managers come together and explore how to best work together to deliver successful software development, acquisition and integration projects.

Visit SystemiNetwork.com/CoreRoadshow for more details!

SESSIONS INCLUDE:
- Core Business Alignment
- Workshop: Building Great Project Teams
- Agile Application Development Projects
- Agile Application Acquisition and Integration
- And more!

Here from System i experts – Bob Tipton and Paul Conte!
Bob and Paul have traveled the System i world for years and gained experience managing consulting firms, authoring scores of published pieces and finding expertise in software development practices.

Don't wait register today for FREE!
Visit SystemiNetwork.com/CoreRoadshow for registration information.

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Are You A Player?

Woods, Michelson, Furyk, DiMarco, Sorenson – these are all players. Does your name belong among these? I mean do you have game? A game? Any old game? Prepare to unleash that beast with many of your OMNI friends as we, once again, warm up for our annual golf outing.

Another wonderful outing is planned as we hit the links once again at Tamarack Golf Club in Naperville. If you have never played this track, this may be the event and opportunity for which you've been waiting. Real sand, real water, really beautiful trees, tees, fairways and greens. And just like last year, the price is still just $85.00 per golfer. And many of the games remain the same – Long drive, closest to the pin, low team score – oh yes, did I mention this is a 4 person best ball format?… Plus prizes – small and large.

So what’s different? Well, the date is different – a Wednesday – the last Wednesday of July. So open your calendar and mark the date – July 25th. First tee time is at 8:30 with a “Chicago Style” lunch immediately following the finish of the last group. So bring a foursome, or register individually.

So warm up your swing, dust off your shoes, and get ready for a great time. Register at www.omniuser.org beginning in June. Last day to register is July 17, but don’t wait for the last minute. Plan for this day right now. If you have questions, call Bill Parks at 708-267-1516 or via email at wparks@att.net

Golf Sponsors Wanted

Get your name out in front of our golfing members and their guests. Hole sponsors for long drive or closest to the pin are needed and will include signs on the holes. Other gifts valued at $15 or more are encouraged. All prize donations will be acknowledged at the event as well as in our newsletter. For details or to donate a prize call Cathy Kramer at 630-626-7074 or via email at cathykramer@ameritech.net.

Course Workers Wanted

OK, maybe you don’t golf but you would like to share our golf day with us. If not you, maybe you have other workers in your office who would like to help us make our golf outing a success. We need registrars, picture takers, hole watchers, etc. If you care to lend a hand contact Bill Parks at 708-267-1516 or via email at wparks@att.net
IBM Redbooks/Redpapers
A monthly compendium of recent IBM Redbooks and Redpapers of interest to System i developers.

WebSphere Business Integration V6.0.2 Performance Tuning
Published: May, 4, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp4304.html

IBM eServer iSeries Migration A guide to upgrades and migrations to System i5
Published: May, 4, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sg247200.html

WebSphere Service Registry and Repository Handbook
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247386.html

Business Process Management: Modeling through Monitoring Using WebSphere V6.0.2 Products
Revised: May, 1, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq247148.html

Patterns: SOA Design using WebSphere Message Broker and WebSphere ESB
Published: April 26, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq247369.html

Where to Find Today and Yesterday's System i Technical Marketing Deliverables
Published: April, 25, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/tips0637.html

IBM System i Overview: Models 515, 525, 595, and More
Revised: April, 23, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp5052.html

Production Topologies for WebSphere Process Server and WebSphere ESB V6
Published: April 20, 2007 ISBN: 0738489255 486 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247413.html

IBM System i IP Telephony Configuring the System i Infrastructure
Published: April 19, 2007 ISBN: 0738486426 298 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247413.html

Building SOA-based Solutions for IBM System i5 Platform
Revised: April 17, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq247284.html

Installing and Configuring WebSphere Portal Express V6 on i5/OS
Published: April, 16, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp4303.html

PCI and PCI-X Placement Rules for IBM System i models: i5/OS V5R3 and V5R4 (Fourth edition)
Revised: April 11, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp4011.html

Building SOA Solutions Using the Rational SDP
Published: April 4, 2007 ISBN: 0738486213 636 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247356.html

AIX 5L on IBM System i Platform Implementation Guide
Published: March 30, 2007 ISBN: 0738486140 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg246455.html

WebSphere Portal Version 6 Enterprise Scale Deployment Best Practices
Published: March 30, 2007 ISBN: 0738486027 482 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247387.html
Application and Program Performance Analysis Using PEX Statistics on IBM i5/OS
Published: March, 23, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq247457.html

OnDemand SQL Performance Analysis Simplified on DB2 for i5/OS in V5R4
Published: March 12, 2007 ISBN: 0738486264 488 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sq247326.html

The IBM Virtualization Engine TS7510:
Getting Started with i5/OS and Backup Recovery and Media Services
Published: March 9, 2007 ISBN: 0738489654 336 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sq247510.html

Daylight Savings Time (DST) Information on IBM System i servers
Published: March, 7, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/tips0655.html

Journaling ? Journal Receiver Diet tip 2: Consider using skinny headers
Published: March, 5, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/tips0654.html

IBM eServer iSeries and AS/400e System Builder:
IBM OS/400 Version 4 Release 3 thru i5/OS Version 5 Release 2
Published: March, 1, 2007

IBM System i5 V5R4 Technical Overview Redbook
Revised: March 1, 2007 ISBN: 073848962X 594 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sq247271.html

i5/OS Diagnostic Tools for System Administrators: An A to Z Reference for Problem Determination
Published: February, 26, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq248253.html

IBM System i Platform IP Networks: Dynamic!
Published: February, 26, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq246718.html

Journaling - Configuring for your Fair Share of Write Cache
Published: February, 23, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/tips0653.html

Implementing Domino 7 for i5/OS
Revised: February, 19, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq247311.html

An Overview of Installing SAP Applications on System i Models
Revised: February, 16, 2007

AIX 5L on IBM System i Platform: Implementation Guide
Revised: February, 21, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq246455.html

Implementing POWER Linux on IBM System i Platform
Published: February 14, 2007 ISBN: 0738489689 378 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sq246388.html

IBM Technology for Java Virtual Machine in IBM i5/OS
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sq247353.html

Use REORGCHK to update table statistics
Revised: February, 8, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/tips0339.html
Special Edition: WebSphere 6.1 Drafts

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Installation Problem Determination
Revised: May, 2, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp4305.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Web Services Problem Determination
Revised: May, 4, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp4306.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Classloader Problem Determination
Published: May, 3, 2007

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Web Container Problem Determination
Revised: May, 2, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp4309.html

Switching between JVMs in WebSphere Application Server 6.1 for i5/OS
Published: April, 11, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/tips0666.html

Experience J2EE! Using WebSphere Application Server V6.1
Published: January 31, 2007 ISBN: 0738494518 460 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247297.html

IBM WebSphere Application Server V6.1 Security Handbook
Published: December 28, 2006 ISBN: 0738496707 574 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg246316.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: System Management and Configuration
Published: November 2, 2006 ISBN: 0738496529 984 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247304.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Planning and Design
Published: October 24, 2006 ISBN: 073849450X 324 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247305.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Technical Overview
Published: October 9, 2006

Web Services Handbook for WebSphere Application Server 6.1
Published: October 2, 2006 ISBN: 0738494909 810 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247257.html

A Bonus Feature—Welcome to Gene!

Blue Gene/L: System Administration
Published: April, 27, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq247178.html

Blue Gene/L: Application Development
Published: April, 27, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq247179.html
Make an Impact With SOA Built on IBM System i.
And learn just how to do it at IBM IMPACT 2007, May 20-25 in Orlando, Florida

"If you don't yet know about SOA and how it will change your enterprise's IT architecture, you are placing yourself at a competitive disadvantage." – Gartner Research

Chances are, the above warning does not apply to you. By now, you're more than likely implementing a Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) or looking into the best way to do so. And that's good news for your organization's competitive position, because according to Gartner, "by 2008, SOA will be a prevailing software engineering practice, ending the 40-year domination of monolithic software architecture." If you're well on your way to implementing SOA, great. If not, the maturity of SOA technology and software and systems offerings available bring with them promising news: there's simply never been a better time to find an accessible, approachable way to break into SOA.

And if you're not looking into SOA yet? Reconsider, and quickly. SOA is not just about following the pack (though you'll need to do so just to maintain competitive ground). It's about attaining true business value from IT – empowering technology to make a significant bottom-line impact across the business. SOA offers a business-centric IT approach that integrates your organization through reusable business tasks, or services. Through SOA you can build composite applications that draw upon functionality from multiple sources within and beyond the enterprise to streamline information and business process management, lower costs, reduce complexity and improve efficiencies – for results that really matter at the end of the day (or the quarter).

Ready. Set. Respond.
System i and SOA Entry Points make it real.

Whatever changes your organization faces, you already have many of the tools you need to respond efficiently. Those tools are your applications and your current i5/OS investment. By implementing an SOA, you can turn these into reusable services to streamline and simplify processes, cut redundancy, gain rapid access to information and help teams become more productive. IBM makes SOA more approachable than ever for System i customers through built-in SOA-ready middleware, as well as new SOA Entry Points that help you choose the fastest or most logical implementation approach.

With System i, SOA access is practically built in.
First, let's take a look at System i. You can begin building your own SOA from scratch using application development tools that many of you are already have, or you can purchase services combining framework middleware that helps accelerate your project. While embarking on the road to SOA implementation may seem daunting, IBM and System i offer many tools that can help:

The System i Tools Innovation Program can help you identify the interrelationships between applications and modernize them to simplify modularization. This can help you define business processes that can be reused as services across your business by implementing Web services. And it's in the area of Web services that System i customers really luck out: you can take advantage of many built-in or free-upgrade middleware offerings that enable Web services, such as IBM WebSphere Development Studio Client based on IBM Rational Application Developer. Built-in wizards can help you build Web services from RPG and COBOL and deploy them using the WebSphere Application Server – Express license that is now included with i5/OS. From there, IBM offers many ways to connect the services with an enterprise service bus (ESB). IBM WebSphere MQ software provides connectivity for more than 35 different operating systems and compatibility with any programming language. In addition, WebSphere Application Server's Java Message Service (JMS) provides message-exchange capabilities.

SOA Entry Points let you choose your path.
People, information and processes. These are the most important assets of your business – and IBM helps you use them to maximum advantage in accessing an approach to SOA. SOA entry points provide efficient ways to get started with SOA at a pace that suits your needs.
The People entry point supports efficiency by enabling interaction and collaboration through application and information services that are readily accessible across the business to anyone who needs them. Portal and collaboration software offerings are key to getting started in this area and System i Enterprise Edition machines have special entitlements that can get you started quickly. If streamlining business process management is already a key goal, the Process entry point offers an ideal starting place by helping you build a business model that eliminates process bottlenecks and optimizes process re-use. Need better access to information across the business? By delivering information as a service, the Information entry point helps eliminate redundant or outdated data, while enabling access to trusted, complex and heterogeneous data sources on demand. The Connectivity entry point helps link people, processes and information through a seamless flow of information using ESB and message brokering software. Finally, you can identify new services that are needed in or derive new value from previous assets using the Reuse entry point, helping to reduce new code creation while optimizing existing assets.

**Enough talk. Make it happen at IMPACT 2007 – a defining SOA event.**
To be sure, IBM offers more for SOA than just theory. Built-in tools, middleware and SOA entry points let System i customers make SOA real for their business. To jump-start these efforts within your organization and learn more about what IBM can offer, you won't want to miss IBM IMPACT 2007. This pioneering event will get you thinking about how SOA can help you leverage existing resources to meet business and IT goals – and actually help you turn that theory into practice. Choose from more than 400 information sessions, including hands-on labs, technology previews, SOA planning guidance and more. Choose from one of three tracks: Business Leader, IT Executive, or Technical.

Key sessions System i customers may be interested include:

* **SOA Roadmap For System i**
  Learn about technologies you may already be entitled to that can help jump-start SOA projects in your organization. The various SOA entry points will also be discussed, along with how System i and i5/OS fits into the picture.

* **WebSphere Application Server for i5/OS Overview and What’s New**
  This overview session introduces WebSphere Application Server (WAS) from an i5/OS perspective. Learn what is different about the application server for i5/OS along with several System i5-specific integration projects related to WAS that were delivered late in 2006.

* **Introduction to SOA Design**
  Learn the keys to building successful service-oriented business systems, including ensuring the systems support the functional needs of the business, and designing systems that meet non-functional requirements, such as performance, scalability, security, and maintainability. This session provides an overview of the key components of an SOA design; describes, compares, and contrasts the IBM methods that can be used to support SOA Design; describes what needs to be modeled during each phase of SOA Design; and sketches out one scheme by which IBM tools and methods can be used to realize SOA Design.

These are just a few of more than 400 sessions you won't want to miss. Plus, see presentations from visionary leaders such as the genius behind the wildly popular "Survivor" and "The Apprentice" television series and a driving force behind reality television, Mark Burnett. Other speakers include Joel Cohen, writer and associate producer for "The Simpsons", and Jamie Clarke, the ninth Canadian to reach the summit of Mt. Everest climber and motivational presenter.