Trick or Treat!

Sorry about another missed month, but we had a lot of drama going on behind the scenes at Omni central. Most of the suspense was centered on the upcoming 6th Omni Day of Education, which is now firmly scheduled for November 13. We’ll have lots more information available for you on the website Real Soon Now.

In the meantime, even though this newsletter is very late in the making, I hope you get a chance to make it out to Tuesday’s dinner meeting to hear from Joe Hertvik as he tells you Seven Things to Do With the System i Before You Die.

There is a ton of stuff going on in the System i community, from the new hardware models that are simply bringing tons of power into the low end shops (and thus making the machine once again accessible to the small to medium businesses it once served so well), to the new support for PHP, to the massive enhancements in WDSC and the ever more powerful EGL language, to the announcements about V6R1 (coming soon to an Omni Technical Conference near you!).

Me, I’ve just been fighting the good fight trying to get my Model 270 to work and play with V5R4 and WebSphere Express 6.1, which has been an interesting battle. Ever see a machine blow a planar board, a control panel and a disk drive all at the same time? And yet—IBM replaced the parts and I didn’t lose a single byte of data. That’s our system, folks.

I’ve downloaded PHP and hopefully I can let you know a little about that as time goes on, but in the meantime just hang in there and get ready for the holidays. I’ll try to make sure the November issue is on time, and until then, let’s get spooky!

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Edited by Joe Pluta - omni-comm@plutabrothers.com
Business Intelligence...

... all we need is a good query tool - right?

Actually no, that’s not right. But it is a common mistake to make. A good query or OLAP tool is certainly an important part of a successful BI initiative - however it is just the tip of the iceberg. But unlike icebergs, it’s the absence of anything below the waterline that will sink your BI initiative.

Talk to any organization that has implemented a successful BI initiative. Without exception they will all tell you that you need to first build a well architected data warehouse or data mart infrastructure. Read a book. Listen to the industry gurus. They all say the same thing.

Building a data warehouse can be challenging though. To do it right and avoid the many pitfalls you need a good ETL tool.

RODIN is the only full-function ETL software suite that is designed from the ground up for System i, iSeries and AS/400 systems.

- Manages tables and indexes
- Extensive metadata support
- Change data capture
- Connectors for most data sources
- Comprehensive rules based ETL
- Visual Development Client
- Error management
- Auditing
- Change Management
- Version Control
- Impact analysis
- Parallel loading
- Multiple environment support
- Rock Solid Reliability
- Superb Performance
- Fast ROI
- Easy learning curve
- Flexible licensing options

“We estimated it would take 9-12 months to build our data warehouse. Then we found RODIN. In just over 3 months the data warehouse was in production!”

Call 1-866-RODIN-DW to schedule a web demonstration. You owe it to yourself and your company to see why so many other organizations, including industry leaders such as HSBC Bank (worldwide), Fiserv CBS, Office Depot and many others use RODIN to build and manage their data warehouses and ETL processes.

Developed by coglin mill

For more details go to www.coglinmill.com

http://www.coglinmill.com
October Dinner Meeting
Tuesday, October 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, Q & A

7 Things to Do with the System i Before You Die
In this quick-paced presentation, Joe Hertvik reviews seven separate valuable i5/OS and OS/400 configurations that every administrator should know and try at least once in their lifetime. These configurations cover several different features of System i, iSeries, and AS/400 administration including little known PC5250 setups, FTP configuration tricks, solving backup issues, strange secrets of i5/OS user profiles, and more. There's a little something in here for everyone and Joe assures us that everyone should feel a little smarter by the end of the evening.

Joe Hertvik, Senior Technical Editor and Data Center Manager
Joe Hertvik has worked with the System i family of products (System i, iSeries, AS/400, and, gulp, System/38) since 1984. He has published and delivered technical presentations on the System i family since 1989, where he has written over 600 articles and presented over 50 technical presentations/seminars in the last 18 years. Joe is currently a Senior Technical Editor for the IT Jungle website, where he writes and edits the weekly Admin Alert column, which focuses on i5/OS administration. In his day job, Joe runs a respectably-sized Data Center that utilizes several System i computers running two mid-sized businesses, so all of his articles are grounded in the common day-to-day experience of keeping the system running.
Dinner Menu Options

Dinner (choice):
London Broil
Chef’s Choice Fish
Steamed Vegetable Plate

Starter:
Caesar Salad

Dessert:
2 Layer Chocolate Cake

October Dinner Meeting Registration
Please make your reservations by Thursday, October 11th, 2007 at Noon. Call (630) 953-6312, and leave your company name and the names of those attending. Remember, members are free!

Cancellation Policy
Full refund will be issued for cancellations made before 9:00 am October 12th, 2007. After 9:00 am Friday, 10/12/2007, 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.

http://www.bvstools.com
**Upcoming Midrange Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>System i 2nd Annual Fall Conference</th>
<th>Gateway Technical College</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Kenosha, WI</td>
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<tr>
<th>Sunday-Wednesday</th>
<th>COMMON Focus 2007</th>
<th>Hyatt Regency Columbus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 14-17</td>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Omni Monthly Dinner Meeting</th>
<th>Embassy Suites Hotel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 16</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>707 E. Butterfield Rd</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday-Wednesday</th>
<th>iSeries DevCon</th>
<th>Rio Hotel &amp; Casino</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 28-31</td>
<td></td>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday-Friday</th>
<th>IBM System i Fall Technical Conference</th>
<th>IBM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 5-9</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Rochester, MN</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>All Day seminar on Disaster Preparedness</th>
<th>The Gateway/400 Group</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 8</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>St Louis, MO</td>
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<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Omni Fall Day of Education</th>
<th>IBM Conference Center</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 13</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>2 Lincoln Centre</td>
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[http://www.rjssoftware.com](http://www.rjssoftware.com)
IBM Redbooks/Redpapers

A monthly compendium of recent IBM Redbooks and Redpapers of interest to System i developers.

PCI and PCI-X Placement Rules for IBM System i models: i5/OS V5R3 and V5R4 (Fourth edition)
Revised: October 5, 2007

Where to Find Today and Yesterday’s System i Technical Marketing Deliverables
Revised: October, 2, 2007

IBM POWER6 Announcement for the System i Platform: Technical Presentations and Hands-on Labs
Published: October, 1, 2007

Rational Application Developer V7 Programming Guide
Published: October 2, 2007

IBM System i Overview: Models 515, 525, 570, 595 and More
Revised: October 1, 2007

IBM WebSphere Portal 6 Self Help Guide
Revised: September, 30, 2007

Getting started with DB2 Web Query for System i
Revised: September, 21, 2007

Installing and Configuring WebSphere Portal Express V6 on i5/OS
Revised: September 19, 2007

IBM Electronic Services Support using Automation and Web Tools
Published: September 13, 2007 ISBN: 0738488852 198 pages

IBM WebSphere Portal Express - Customizing Portal Express for Small to Medium Business
Revised: September 13, 2007

i5/OS Program Conversion: Getting ready for i5/OS V6R1
Revised: September 11, 2007

IBM i5/OS Network Security Scenarios A Practical Approach
Published: September, 9, 2007

i5/OS Diagnostic Tools for System Administrators: An A to Z Reference for Problem Determination
Revised: August, 23, 2007

Migrating from WebSphere Application Server Community Edition to WebSphere Application Server
Published: August 20, 2007 ISBN: 0738489476 522 pages

IBM eServer iSeries Migration: A Guide to Upgrades and Migrations to System i5
Published: August 17, 2007 ISBN: 0738489581 212 pages

IBM System i and System p System Planning and Deployment: Simplifying Logical Partitioning
Published: August 8, 2007 ISBN: 0738488771 230 pages
The RFID Labeling Solution

Barcode 400+ RFID

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- EPC pallet labels
- Asset tracking
- Medical labels
- Pharmaceutical dosage labels
- Supply chain management
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Now you can easily comply with the new "Smart Label" requirements using Barcode 400+ 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.

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Special Edition: WebSphere 6.1 Drafts

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: JMS Problem Determination
Revised: October 1, 2007

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Default Messaging Provider Problem Determination
Revised: August, 24, 2007

WebSphere Application Server for i5/OS Handbook: Version 6.1
Published: August, 18, 2007

Optimizing Operations with WebSphere Extended Deployment V6.1
Revised: July 25, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq247422.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Workload Management Problem Determination
Published: July, 10, 2007

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Web Services Problem Determination
Revised: May 23, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp4306.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Installation Problem Determination
Revised: May 21, 2007
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp4305.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Classloader Problem Determination
Published: May 18, 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/sq247297.html

IBM WebSphere Application Server V6.1 Security Handbook
Published: December 28, 2006 ISBN: 0738496707 574 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sq246316.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: System Management and Configuration
Published: November 2, 2006 ISBN: 0738496529 984 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sq247304.html

WebSphere Application Server V6.1: Planning and Design
Published: October 24, 2006 ISBN: 073849450X 324 pages
http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/sq247305.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/sq247257.html
On a Non-Technical Note

In our last newsletter, I introduced you to the Illinois Railway Museum. I’d like to promote them once again—they’re having a haunted railway event for Halloween, and I hope you can get a chance to stop by and join in the festivities. It promises to be a wonderful time for all.

And of course, if you are old enough to remember the electric cars in Chicago or to have ridden the old Pullman cars, you’ll want to drop by just for the memories.

http://www.irm.org
2008 COMMON IT EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE
by Ron Newman

COMMON’s 7th Annual IT Executive Conference will take place in Nashville, TN from March 30 – April 1, 2008. This is an exclusive event for high-level IT decision-makers who want to maximize their System i investment. Executive attendees at past conferences have come from all industries and backgrounds, representing over 35 states and eight countries. The attendees are known for their willingness to offer their ideas, successes, and their challenges, creating an environment where IT executives can learn from one another and share best practices. They are also treated to knowledge-sharing by some of the best speakers in the IT industry, which is one of the reasons why there is such a high percentage of attendees return year-after-year.

A significant aspect at the last IT Executive Conference was IBM’s presentation on the future strategy of the System i by IBM executives. This exclusive preview by IBM required that the attendees sign a confidentiality agreement – a true testament of the increasing importance and value that IBM places on the executives that participate in this conference. This ground-breaking event was a first for the IT Executive Conference, and should continue in the future.

Many of the executives are so impressed with the conference that they stay and take part in the regular COMMON Annual Meeting, which goes for another two days. These attendees are not your typical stuffed shirt executives – there is plenty of networking and interactive discussion taking place. There have been times when the daily meetings go past the normal scheduled time because of a lively discussion on a particular subject.

Roxanne Reynolds-Lair, who serves as the event facilitator, is a key contributor and person responsible for the great success the IT Executive Conference has enjoyed over the years. It is due to her hard work, and knowledge of what executives are seeking in expanding their IT knowledge, that the conference has been able to offer such leading topics and speakers.

The IT Executive Conference is a major component of COMMON’s Leadership and Advocacy program, as COMMON continues to provide IT leaders of the System i community with the tools they need to be successful.
OMNI Newsletter Advertising Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Monthly Insertion</th>
<th>Annual Contract</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Page</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
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<td>Business Card</td>
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<tr>
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Business Card – Member Independent Consultant is defined as a dues paid member of OMNI who works for him/herself, receives no salary or commission from any other source in the IT industry, and who has no employees.

The OMNI Board of Directors reserves the exclusive right to determine which ads will benefit the members of OMNI and are consistent with the objectives of the organization, and to refuse to publicize any advertisements to the contrary.

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