



iua

CONNECTIONS

● AN OVERVIEW OF CA-WORLD 1999

Keynote Address

CA-World 1999 kicked-off with a bang on Monday morning, July 19, when Computer Associates (CA) CEO Charles Wang burst into the auditorium on a motorcycle, roared up a ramp, and jumped over CA president and

COO Sanjay Kumar as he lay on the floor. After crashing through a CA sign, Wang emerged in a slightly burned jumpsuit, helmet in hand and hair in disarray, and proceeded to address the conference audience. In his keynote address, Wang predicted there would only be two types of companies in the new millennium – “the quick and the dead.” He challenged everyone to “think outside the box,” and indicated that the tools needed to do this were visualization and e-thinking. Wang went on to explain that in October 1998, CA acquired Viewpoint DataLabs International Inc, thus providing CA with cutting-edge 3-D technology. CA’s e-thinking tool was provided with Newgents, a technology that uses neural network agents based on experience rather than a set of rules of a model. Wang concluded his keynote address by saying that a distributed infrastructure is needed in order to tie everything together and that that infrastructure is Jasmine TND.

IMC 1999

IMC’s opening session was given by Jay Huff, Director of Advanced Technology; Linda Butler, CA product owner of CA-CAS; and Judy Krontorad, CA product owner of CA-IDMS. Huff opened the session by giving an overview of CA’s vision of e-thinking, infrastructure, and visualization, and related that vision to the CA-IDMS arena. He explained that several products were available to bring e-thinking to CA-IDMS, including CA-IDMS Server, CA-IDMS ICE, EDBC, OPAL, and Jasmine. And, of course, there is the Jasmine TND infrastructure, along with the IDMS Agent for Unicenter TNG, with its Neugents.

CA-CAS

Butler gave a status overview of CA-CAS. She said that CA-CAS would now be under the umbrella of Interbiz, a division of CA that specializes in manufacturing, banking, and HR applications.

The CA-IDMS Database and Applications User Association

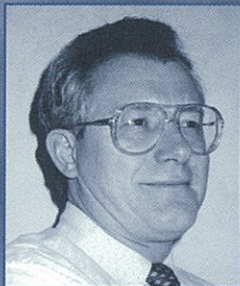
<http://www.iuassn.com>

Fall 1999, Number 47

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MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL CHAIR

By Jim Rice

Get Ready! Get Set! GO!

Is this how your shop is looking at January 1st? If yours is like mine, you have been waiting for this day for what seems like half of your work life. Countless hours of planning, testing, planning again, re-testing - all coming to fruition on December 31, 1999, at the stroke of midnight. Nervous? Apprehensive? Confident?

I hope that by the time you read this article, all of you will have finished your work. I also hope that you will have extra time now to look at the new products and releases offered by CA and other vendors. Maybe even be involved in 15.0 beta testing! Yet, how does one reach the point where one can relax? I like to think of this as I do insurance. You hope nothing will ever happen, but you want to cover all of your bases just in case. And to steal a phrase from a large insurance company, "Like a good neighbor, the IUA is there." For the last couple of years, IUA has been focusing on education for our members. Our workshops have been conducted with the goal of helping all users of CA-IDMS products learn how to use the products more effectively. We are also holding regional Road Shows for our members who are not able to travel far for education. And this year, IUA took over hosting IDMS-L, which, in my opinion, is the most valuable venue for colleagues to help each other. Recently, IUA has also started working with CA to offer interactive PC- and Web-based training.

All of these initiatives have been undertaken with the hope that this is what IUA members want, and I think the response from our members has been an overwhelming "yes." But now is the time to look toward the future. Our next workshop will be in the fall of 2000. How else would you like IUA to serve you? The Board of Directors will be meeting this fall to plan ahead, so please take a few moments to consider what you want from this organization in the new millennium. Drop myself or any of the other Board of Directors a note. You can find our addresses on the IUA Web page or send it to our headquarters at iua@sba.com.

I hope the upcoming holiday season and New Year will find all of our members happy, prosperous, and at peace.

(Overview of CA-WORLD, cont. from page 1)

She explained that CA-CAS would become part of the supply chain group of Interbiz. (More details on this new structure and its implications will be provided in future issues of IUA Connections). Butler also spoke about the Y2K readiness of CA-CAS. Below is a table detailing this information:

Product/Release	PTF Tape	Gen Level	Base Tape
CKS 3.0	S30200	99/06	S30000
CAS 3.0	B30600	98/08	N30000
GL 3.0	T30200	98/09	T30000
CAS/AD 2.2	GG22700	98/12	Y22000
CFA 3.0	L30000	98/06	L30000
CAS Data 1.0 IDMS 12.00	CDTA12	99/05	CDTA12
CAS Data 1.0 for IDMS 14.0	CDTA14	99/05	CDTA14

During her address, Butler mentioned that all 1,250 screens of CA-CAS have been converted for availability on the PC through CA-CAS View, and that all CA-CAS documentation is available on one CD. She added that CA is working on a CA-CAS Business Agent for Unicenter TNG.

CA-IDMS

Kruntorad presented the development strategy for CA-IDMS, and explained that it was based on three key factors:

High Performance Enterprise Server – CA-IDMS will exploit mainframe hardware and software technologies as they become available.

Open Architecture – CA-IDMS supports or will support SQL, ODBC, JDBC, Java, and other emerging standards.

Vendor Relationships – CA is encouraging business relationships with other vendors to develop tools that are complementary to CA-IDMS. Some of the companies mentioned included Cogito, ASG, NuBase, ISP, Enet, Vegasoft, Aquisoft, HSL, and Princeton Softech.

She went on to explain that CA-IDMS is now part of the Development Buddy Program, which means that clients can get a pre-beta (or alpha) release of the software. This was done in order to help determine how features of a new release should be implemented.

Kruntorad said that multiple releases of CA-IDMS are presently available, including 10.21 with its premium

(continued on page 3)

support; 12.x with its open architecture through SQL; 14.0 with its improved performance, open architecture with sysplex, and improved 24x7 support; and 14.1 with improvements for large databases, 24x7 support, and performance.

According to Krontorad, release 15.0 is now in the hands of the quality assurance team, and CA is actively looking for beta sites to test the new features. She explained that the new features of 15.0 can be divided into the following categories:

Sysplex Data Sharing – Data Sharing Group (a group of CA-IDMS that share update access to data) and Scalable Update Access (start and stop CA-IDMS update CVs in the Data Sharing Group as needed)

Productivity – Rollforward from start time, easier CICS interface installation

Open Architecture – SQL CREATE/CALL PROCEDURE, SQL update using a subquery as a value

24x7 – Dynamic XA storage and program pools, VARY DYNAMIC TASK external wait time, dynamic alter of multitasking queue depth, tolerance of database I/O errors during warmstart, and QUIESCE command

Other CA-IDMS products available are **CA-Endevor/DB 14.0** (monitors and controls update activity to CA-IDD data dictionary components and promotes source definitions and load modules), **CA-IDMS SQL Quick Bridge 14.1** (enhanced user interface and enhanced table procedure generation), **CA-IDMS Visual DBA 1.0** (manipulates all CA-IDMS objects from a windows-based tool), **CA-IDMS Server 4.2** (enhanced multithreaded ODBC and JDBC drivers, Web and Java access to CA-IDMS), **Unicenter TNG/CA-IDMS Agent** (manage multiple CA-IDMS CVs with Neugent support for predictive failures), and **Ingress II Enterprise Access** (combines data from multiple sources).

Krontorad concluded that CA is continuing to experiment with features for subsequent releases of CA-IDMS. They are looking at exploiting some features of OS/390, including Resource Recovery Services, Automated Restart Manager, XCF Transport Support, High Performance Data Transfer (HPDT), Parallel Access Volume (PAV), and the new channel and device architectures. In the near future, CA will be expanding the Open Architecture to support ODBC 3.5, ANSI SQL3, and SQLJ.

After attending CA-World 1999 and listening to the keynote speakers, one thing seems to be sure — CA-IDMS is very much alive, and is continuing to grow.

● A CANADIAN'S VIEW OF CA-WORLD 1999, Eh!

By Laura Rochon, Compuware Corporation of Canada

This Canadian arrived in New Orleans on Thursday, July 15, and as soon as I was checked in, I connected with some fellow Canadians. We headed for the French Quarter. On Thursday night, our group attended a welcome reception for the CARE Conference for all user group presidents. Friday was a busy day spent in sessions focusing on how to manage a user group. I also participated in an interesting Q&A period with Charles Wang, CEO of Computer Associates. On Friday evening, we tried out a new restaurant/bar called Storyville, where we had access to card readings and voodoo dolls. Saturday and Sunday was reserved for the IUA committee and Board meetings with entertainment in the evenings in the French Quarter.

On Monday morning, CA-World 1999 keynote addresses began with Charles Wang riding a motorbike over the head of Sanjay Kumar, CA's president and COO. Mr. Wang challenged us to think outside of the box (see CA-WORLD 1999 article on page 1). IMC sessions proceeded the keynote address and ran throughout the week at the Hyatt Hotel. On Monday night, Intel Corporation's chairman, Andy Grove, and president/CEO, Craig Barrett, gave a joint keynote address prior to a social event in the World Resource Center (WRC), which was, believe it or not, even bigger than last year's. The major attraction in the WRC was definitely the race track! After getting stamped at various CA's booths, you could trade in your stamps for an actual place in a race. ASG hosted a party Monday night, but this Canadian was too tired to go.

Tuesday was another full day of interesting sessions and, later that day, I was moved by President Jimmy Carter's keynote address on fighting sickness, hunger, and injustice in the world. I then spent a few hours in the WRC and attended the TACT/ISP-sponsored party at the Hyatt.

I attended more interesting, educational sessions on Wednesday morning, and then it was Club Hours at the WRC all afternoon. Wednesday night was the closing of the WRC, which culminated with a major party including a jazz band. Thursday was a whirlwind, with a full day of sessions and the IMC-sponsored event that was held at the House of Blues, which is THE spot in N'awlins for a party! Security was really checking our badges to prevent gate crashers. Great music and great food again, although I must admit I was getting tired of jambalaya by this point. I attended more sessions on Friday morning and then it was a mad rush to the airport and back to Canada!

The following can summarize my experiences at CA-World 1999: Great sessions, great socializing with peers, great food and music... and very little sleep!

Introducing The Q Your Entire Enter

Monday, 9:00 a.m.

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Display Title Information	
ISBN: 0-767-54221-5	Qty in Stock: 865
Title: So You Want to	Qty Consigned: 234
List Price: \$31.95	Cost Each: \$5.41
Author Code: PTC	
Status: T	Sold to Date: 12585
Group: 7	Royalty Count: 12345
	Royalty Paid: \$2839.35
Reorder Level: 215	Current Sales: 5625
	Royalty Due: \$1293.75
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 Pages: First Publication:
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☒ Direct

☐ Hard Back
☒ Paper Back
☐ Other

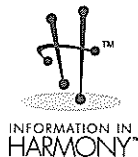
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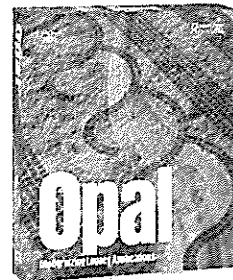


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● INTRODUCING... IUA ROAD SHOWS

Well, CA-World is over. All of our educational needs have been met, right? I don't think so. Obviously, not everyone could attend IMC at CA-World and, for some of us who attended, conflicts prevented us from attending all the educational and user presentations we desired.

IUA considered holding a fall 1999 conference, however, many companies have locked down any major travel in fourth quarter 1999 due to Y2K issues.

So what did we do?

The Answer: IUA decided to bring IDMS education to **YOU** by sponsoring a series of Road Show educational seminars around North America (and perhaps beyond) in the months leading up to, and immediately following, the new millennium! These day-and-a-half seminars

are intended to bring quality CA-IDMS education closer to the physical locations of our members and, therefore, reduce travel. Each Road Show event will feature classes on both DBA and application subjects.

By the time you read this article, IUA will have held its first Road Show in Dallas. Subjects taught at the Dallas seminar will have included *Performance and Tuning*; *Using the COBOL Language Environment with CA-IDMS*; and *Database Navigation, Culprit, and Techniques to get CA-IDMS Data to the Web*.

If you are interested in having a Road Show in conjunction with your CA-IDMS users group meeting, please contact Terry Schwartz at 972/461-3722 or at terry.schwartz@ps.net.

● COMMITTEE REPORTS

AAC Update - CA-CAS Applications Notes

CA-World 1999 presented a multitude of sessions that provided updated CA-CAS application software information. IUA wants to supplement the support and training efforts that are available from CA directly. If you feel that there are training subjects you would like to see IUA offer because it would be beneficial to you and the work you do, please let us know. Your input can affect the information and training we supply in our upcoming Road Shows and workshops.

Linda Butler, the CA-CAS Client Base Owner, was a keynote speaker at the opening session for the Information Management Conference (IMC). She also taught two CA-CAS sessions during the week. Butler passed out copies of the final version of CA-CAS 3.0 documentation at the CA-CAS focus group. This documentation is a welcome update to the way in which we can obtain CA-CAS 3.0 manuals. Please contact Butler at linda.butler@cai.com if you need more information.

Demand Analysis Requests (DARS) were discussed at CA-World. Now that changes for Euro dollars and Y2K seem to be done, a renewed effort is being made to complete some of the outstanding DARS. Again, those requests that do not require a database change are the ones on which CA Support will be concentrating. Butler asked for feedback on the DARS that had "need more information" in the comments area of the DARS table listing. If you recognize the request and can supply additional information, or if you have questions, please let Butler know.

Finally, if you need a copy of the DARS table listing, you can request it via e-mail from Butler or from Bill Bryson of IUA at bill.bryson@hexcel.com.

Education Committee Update

The Education Committee was formed during the IUA Board of Directors meeting at CA-World 1999. The goal of this committee is to provide a single conduit of information about educational concerns.

IUA was asked by CA to be a participant in the Education Roundtable meeting during CA-World, and was joined by Tiburon Technologies and members of the CA-IDMS community. The goal of this meeting was to assist CA in finding ways to provide new educational opportunities and determine which avenues would be most beneficial. Many ideas were exchanged during the roundtable, and results from this meeting will be published in a future issue of *IUA Connections*.

On another note, CA wants to expand its current instructor-led training program and incorporate computer-based training and access over the Web.

European IUA (EIUA) Update

CA-World provided a number of opportunities to get together with people who would normally not be found in close proximity, and EIUA made extensive use of this fact at the most recent gathering in New Orleans. The conference gave IUA members the opportunity to attend EIUA meetings, including a joint IUA/EIUA session where we were able to share information and concerns. Also, the conference gave users the opportunity to meet with both European and U.S. CA-IDMS management.

(Committee Reports, cont. from page 6)

High on the list of issues of concern in Europe has been the processing of DARs or wish list items entered in TCC. All user groups suffer from the fact that individual members may initiate DARs that may be of general interest, but are not known to their respective users groups. Sometimes this is done for confidentiality reasons, however, typically it is because members simply forget to tell their user group. While the large and influential IDMS users have their own ways of getting their wish list items dealt with, smaller ones must often work together with others to have their wishes taken seriously. EIUA, like IUA, sees the review and voting of user wishes as a significant aspect of the service we can give to our members, and we are continuing our discussions with CA to find ways in which we can work together to make the whole process more effective.

The opportunity to meet with both the business and technical management of IDMS within CA was also very important. Among the most critical issues raised in New Orleans were the "promotion" of IDMS to top managers as a still-viable database solution and the seeking of opportunities for user groups to contribute to the decision process for IDMS releases after release 15.0. In addition, bread-and-butter topics were raised, such as how CA can come to grips with the problem of providing "docups" to CD-ROM-based documentation.

All in all, CA-World 1999 was a key platform for all IDMS user groups to promote the interests of their members.

IMC Planning Committee Update

Well, CA-World 1999 is behind us. I feel that as a committee, we put together another fine conference for IMC attendees. This past year, I participated for the first time as a member of the CA-World/IMC Planning Committee. When I first volunteered for this committee, I was not sure what I was getting myself into. I remember many times wondering why the classes were structured the way they were and if the people managing them had any real idea of just what they were doing when they put the class schedules together. I learned that there is definitely a rhyme and reason to the way everything is scheduled.

A lot of work and preparation took place behind the scenes to make the conference successful. The committee is made up of members from your IUA Board, and they are teamed with individuals from CA who are familiar with the various aspects of the CA-IDMS arena. We get together in the early fall to start mapping out the conference for the upcoming year.

The CA-World/IMC Planning Committee is already looking toward CA-World 2000. We, as a committee, would like to start out early by soliciting your help in making the upcoming conference in April even more successful than any other in the past. If there are users who have had experiences with CA-IDMS and would like to share them with the CA-IDMS user community, please contact me, Steve Nason, at nason@tiburontech.com or James Winn at JWinn@williams-int.com. Let us know which subject you have knowledge of and we will work with or help put you in contact with the appropriate people within CA to help you be a speaker at CA-World 2000. As committee members, this is our biggest challenge – finding speakers – for our conference. An incentive to speaking at a CA-World Conference is that your registration fee is waived. Please give serious consideration to presenting a session at CA-World 2000 and let us know if you are interested.

In future issues of *IUA Connections*, I will try to explain how the conference is put together so that you'll have a better understanding of the considerations that go into the development of the CA-World/IMC Conference.

Nominations Committee Update

Every year at the annual IUA member's meeting, we elect Board members to fill the openings created by expired terms. The next IUA Executive Board elections meeting will take place at the IMC 2000 Conference in April. There will be four openings on the Board, and we are looking for IUA members who are interested in running for the Executive Board or would like to nominate someone to run. IUA Executive Board terms are for three years. Also, if you are interested in working with the IUA Executive Board, but do not want to run for election to the Board, please consider being a volunteer and working on one of the IUA committees.

To inquire about the Executive Board position openings in 2000, or for more information about IUA, please check out the IUA Web site at www.iuassn.com or contact Marsha Rogers, IUA nominations chair, at marsha.rogers@alcocontrols.com.

Products & Services Committee Update

Education for the IDMS community has been targeted as one of the primary missions of IUA. To address this goal, the Products and Services Committee has organized a number of semi-annual educational workshops to provide both technical and applications training to the IDMS community.

However, due to the demands of the Y2K transition, IUA has decided not to host educational workshops during the fall of 1999 and the spring of 2000. While attendance at past workshops has been high and reviews

(Committee Reports, cont. from page 7)

have been extremely favorable, IUA recognizes that many organizations are prohibiting IT staff from traveling to conferences during this critical time.

As an alternative to these comprehensive workshops, IUA is piloting the concept of regional mini-workshops, called Road Shows, to provide focused, consolidated IDMS training. (Please see the article on page 6 for details.)

IUA will also reinstate its comprehensive educational workshops in the fall of 2000. The next workshop is scheduled for September 17-19, 2000, in Chicago. As at past workshops, both a technical and an application track will be offered so that the wide range of IDMS educational needs can be addressed.

Please watch for details as this conference is being organized. Meanwhile, if you have a suggestion for a specific topic to be covered at the workshop, please forward your idea to Mary Harrington at ccmary@olemiss.edu.

RUG REPORT

Les Smith of Sophisticated Business Systems Inc., and other IDMS users, have reestablished the Rocky Mountain Users Group, the users group for Colorado and Wyoming. Their first meeting was held at the CA Englewood Enterprise Development Center in Englewood, Colo. Topics for this meeting included an update on the future of IDMS from CA and general discussion topics concerning the users group. For additional information about the Rocky Mountain Users Group, contact Smith at (LesSmith@soph.com), Tom Schoenborn of CA at (Schth04@cai.com), or Bob Wiklund of Tiburon Technologies at (wiklund@tiburontech.com).

The Ohio Valley Users Group met in September at the CA offices in Cincinnati. Elections were held for the Board of Directors and results will be announced in the next issue of *IUA Connections*. If you would like more information about the Ohio Valley Users Group, contact Dan Hall of GE at dan.hall@corporate.ge.com or Hal Govan of Lexus-Nexis at hal.govan@lexis-nexis.com.

The CQUI (Comite Quebecois des Usagers IDMS or the Quebec IDMS Users Association) will hold its fall meeting in Quebec City on Friday, October 15, 1999. The meeting will include a presentation by CA on the IDMS Agent for Unicenter and SAAQ (Societe d'Assurance Automobile du Quebec) will give a SQL evaluation. There will also be a review of CA-World 1999, an overview of IUA and its benefits, and a

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE



Name: Mary Harrington

Profession: Director of Administrative Computing

Company: University of Mississippi

Biography: As Director of Administrative Computing, Mary is responsible for the financial, human resource, and student information systems. She was also instrumental in establishing the Mississippi IDMS Users Group, and has presented papers at several conferences (including IUA Workshops, IMC at CA-World, and local users groups) describing her university's approach to real-time access to and updates of CA-IDMS data over the Web.

One of Harrington's goals is to help the IDMS community find new ways to preserve the IDMS mainframe investment. "As information technology professionals, I believe our challenge is to find innovative ways to adapt to changing technologies, such as the Web, without compromising the underlying CA-IDMS infrastructure in which we have such a significant investment."

IUA Experience: Mary was elected to the IUA Executive Board in 1998 and was selected as chair of the Products and Services Committee. Her primary responsibilities include overseeing the planning and implementation of the IUA Workshops, where her goal is to serve the IDMS applications community by providing high quality education at affordable prices.

Mary is always looking for suggestions regarding the workshops, so please forward them to her at ccmary@olemiss.edu.

presentation by TACT Software. The meeting will be held at the SAAQ head office. If you are interested in attending, please contact Laura Rochon at laura.rochon@cloxt.com. Please note the meeting will be held in French, except for a select few which will be presented in English.

If you need information about your nearest IDMS users group, or you would like to submit information about your users group for the next issue of *IUA Connections*, contact Dan Hall at dan.hall@corporate.ge.com or Jim Moore of Concentrated Logic Inc/Tiburon at conlogco@IX.NETCOM.COM.

TECHNICAL TIPS

1. When in the (12.01 gj9809) system generation compiler, I needed to add two programs to multiple systems. After successfully adding two programs to the first system, I noticed that where I had originally typed: **ADD PROGRAM XXXXXXXXX** was replaced with **D ADD PROGRAM XXXXXXXXX**. When I tried: **ADD PROGRAM XXXXXXXXX**, the echo back was: **DDD PROGRAM XXXXXXXXX**. (Please note the adds were successful – only if I did not catch the change and change it back was the next add unsuccessful (command ddd not understood). APAR LO48347 addresses this problem.
2. After installing 9809, thoroughly test any ADS/O dialog that uses the **datediff** BIF. It appears that any call to **datediff** that SHOULD return a negative number returns the one's complement. This can cause a decimal overflow if the receiving field is too small for the incorrect value, or will cause incorrect data to be passed if the receiving field is large enough for the data (and who is to say which is the worse scenario?)(i.e. what should return -1 returns 36524). CA has a test fix available for this problem (TF24158).
3. The performance monitor system administrator book is incorrect in the following: it states that in order to cut TSKWAIT SMF records, either **IMDCLOG=YES** or **IMSMF=YES** must be set. This is incorrect. TSKWAIT records are controlled by the application monitor, NOT the interval monitor, and are therefore controlled by **AMDCLOG=YES** and/or **AMSMF=YES**. I opened an issue with CA on this and they have in response issued a DOCUP!
4. The code generated by a DML call that specified **ON ANY-STATUS** was revised to avoid LE370 COBOL IGYOP309 warning messages within the IDMS-STATUS code on the **ROLLBACK** command:

IF NOT ANY-STATUS PERFORM IDMS-STATUS; ELSE <action>. After some thought, since the **PERFORM IDMS-STATUS** could never be executed, we decided that generating **IF ANY-STATUS <action>** would effectively produce the desired results without an objection from LE370 COBOL. Problem COMPLR/405 published the fix as LO38984 (12.0) and LO38990 (14.0). Unfortunately, we didn't think hard enough and as a result numerous problems have been reported. We re-thought the solution and have addressed it in problem COMPLR/414 with published HYPER fixes LO51407 (12.0) and LO51408 (14.0) to generate the following: **IF NOT ANY-STATUS NEXT SENTENCE ELSE <action>**, which should address both the problems reported by COMPLR/405 and the problems that COMPLR/405 attempted to address.

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Name: Jim Rice

Profession: Lead Systems Database Administrator

Company: Southern Company Services, Inc.



Biography: Jim has more than 18 years experience in MIS, with more than 15 of those years in IDMS. He is currently the lead systems DBA supporting IDMS on an MVS and VM platform for Southern Company Services, Inc. in Atlanta.

When Jim is not busily working on IDMS or IUA, he spends time with his wife and three children, and enjoys coaching different youth sports activities.

IUA Experience: Jim was elected to the IUA Executive Board of Directors in 1997. He served as chairman of the Products and Services Committee until he was elected National Chair of the IUA Executive Board, where he is currently serving his second term. Jim has done a lot to help the growth of the IUA organization, and strongly believes that IUA should be an advocate to its members. "IUA's mission is to advance the interests of its members – be it through Computer Associates, IDMS vendors, or through helping an individual member learn to use IDMS more productively," explains Jim. "I feel that the key to keeping IUA growing is by continuing to offer educational opportunities to our membership."

A 14.1 version of the COMPLR/414 fix will be available soon. My apologies to all who have been "bitten" by the COMPLR/405 fix.

5. A simple sample from my WTOEXIT to suppress selected console messages (in this case DC8* and DC9* messages):

```
CLC WTOMTEXT+5(3),=C'DC8'  HUMAN RESOURCES MESSAGES
BE  RTNCODE4
CLC WTOMTEXT+5(3),=C'DC9'  APPLICATION MESSAGES
BE  RTNCODE4
** SET R15 TO CODE 0 (DISPLAY MESSAGE) *
RTNCODE0 EQU *
LA  R15,0                      R15 TO 0 TO DISPLAY MESSAGES
B   RETURN
** SET R15 TO CODE 4 (SUPPRESS MESSAGE) *
RTNCODE4 EQU *
LA  R15,4                      R15 TO 4 TO SUPPRESS MESSAGES
B   RETURN
```


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Archive of IDMS-L

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question: *We are currently running IDMS 14.0 release 9711 under OS/390 v. 1.3 and are looking at upgrading to OS/390 v. 2.6. Has anyone ventured down this trail yet?*

Answer: We've been at 9711 for over a year and upgraded to OS/390 v. 2.6 just this past Saturday. So far, no problems specifically related to IDMS. We will IPL tonight to implement VTAM maintenance (UW57457, UW56750, UW56626, UW54286) and increase the size of ECSA from 45M to 90M.

Question: *Has anyone on the list been given an IDMSBCF created data file by the application group without the supporting execution run listing and been asked to restore all application data areas on the file? Have you wondered just what files are in the file? Was it backed-up by file, area, or what? Does anyone know how to get from the tape the names of the files and possibly the way they were backed up? I know we can get this information by just looking at the listing, but we do not have it and we want to ensure that all areas are properly restored.*

Answer: The backup file contains information about the BACKUP statement: Pos 41 of line 1 is either a "F" for FILE or "A" for AREA (or SEGMENT). The subsequent lines contain information about either the files or the areas that were backed up. If your file is an "A"-file, there is no way you can determine what files belong to it except through the DMCL.

Question: *We seem to have a problem with programmers suspending out of Dictionary Migration Editor (DME) and leaving queue records forever. Eventually our queue area fills up and we have to go in and manually delete these bad boys. Does anyone know of an easier way to handle this? I have looked in the DME installation guide and have not found a retention parameter.*

Answer: Actually, there is a whole list of APARs for changing the queue retention period for several of the CA products. The ones I'm aware of are: **CS82781** – changes the global queue retention period; **LS21367** – changes retention period for Dictionary Migrator Assistant profile data; **LS21368** – changes retention period for Dictionary Module Editor profile data; **LS36495** – changes retention period for MasterKey profile data; and **LS36516** – changes retention period for SASO profile data. Besides these, some of the CA products (such as DMLO and ADS/Alive) have parameters in installation

macros or sysgen parms for specifying the queue retention period for certain types of queue records. These can be found by looking in the CA-Tools Installation manual and the Sysgen manual.

Question: *Has anyone installed 9811 (14.1) successfully running under MVS/XA? I am getting a system ABEND 378-14 at startup. CA suggested upping my FREESTG parm from 512K to 1024K, but this did not make any difference. CA90 is at the C2 (9901) level.*

Answer: The S178 abend was fixed by TB96312. We have very large DMCLs, DMCL loads to XA Program Pool. This USERMOD allows a DMCL > 1/2 meg to be boot strapped at startup above the line, otherwise it bootstraps the DMCL below the line, later attempting to move it above the line.

Question: *In a change from COBOL I to COBOL II, an unsigned numeric field will no longer be checked for negative numbers. In this case, the field was defined as 9(03) comp-3. The field on the database contained 002d, a negative number. The comparison was 'IF FIELD GREATER THAN ZEROS'. COBOL I takes the negative and says it's less than zero. COBOL II throws out the sign and says it's greater than zero. My first fix was to revert back to COBOL I. I have analyzed our database definitions and determined that "way back when," we had thousands of database records with fields defined as unsigned numeric. We could determine why we have negative numbers, but I'm also interested in hearing other suggestions.*

Answer: You guys are experiencing the wonders of modern COBOL compilers. What you are running into is really a compile-time option named NUMPROC. A bit of background: All numeric fields have signs, even zoned-decimal. Typically, sites will be using the "preferred" signs of C for positive, D for negative and F for sign-neutral (absolute value, usually assumed to be positive). Be aware of the fact that any hex unary digit between A and F is a considered a valid sign (I wouldn't recommend using anything but C, D and F, and have no idea what an "A" or "B" in the sign nibble would indicate). Anyway, in COBOL II, RELEASE 3 (VIR3) the compiler option called NUMPROC (numeric processing) was introduced. This was about 1989 or 1990. It has three possible values: **NUMPROC(PFD)** – Preferred signage on data values, **NUMPROC(NOPFD)** – Mixed signs on data values, or **NUMPROC(MIG)** –

(Archive of IDMS-L, cont. from page 12)

Use "COBOL I" sign **Or'ing** prior to a numeric compare. Try recompiling your program with NUMPROC(MIG). Also, turn on the LIST option to generate a BAL PMAP. Look at the code that the compiler creates JUST PRIOR to doing your numeric compare. Never use NUMPROC(PFD) unless you are 100 percent certain that you have no data irregularities such as you described in your original post. Just how did the packed-decimal value get the preferred negative sign of "D" if the picture clause did not contain the "S" indicator? A REDEFINES? A character-style move? An OI in BAL?

Question: *In the 12.01 documentation on overflow, it states IDMSDBAN can be used to determine the total number of overflows in a database. However, I don't see any overflow information on the reports. Am I missing something? Is there any other utility I can run against a database to find out the extent of calc and via overflow on an area basis? I am aware of the system and journal reports that contain overflow stats, but I need the information by area. We have a client who is concerned about I/O costs and wants us to reload their entire database unless we can show areas that will not benefit much from being rebuilt.*

Answer: The set analysis portion of DBAN will give you the info that you want. The number of page changes for the CALC set, or the other sets in the area, will indicate the amount of overflow. If the set is not a via set, then obviously the number of page changes will be meaningless (calc to calc set, or the member record is stored via another set).

Question: *I have something weird happening which I can't explain, and I'm wondering if anyone else out there has run into this. I have IDMS 14.0 systems at genlevel 9810. I have some large buffers that have greater than 255 pages, causing prefetch to be invoked. I want to experiment with turning off prefetch for these buffers during my daytime online processing, and then use a DCMT command to turn prefetch back on for nighttime batch processing. The DCMT VARY BUFFER PREFETCH OFF command shows a buffer display indicating that prefetch is now "not allowed." However, when I do a PMRM PF8 buffer display, the count of "prefetch hits" continues to increase as if prefetch is still active for that buffer. These two things would seem to be mutually exclusive; if prefetch is off, there shouldn't be any prefetch hits... so it seems as if prefetch really isn't disabled at all, thus, the DCMT command doesn't really work. Does anyone have any clues on this phenomenon?*

Answer: I have a resolution on this issue from CA. I kept pestering them long enough that they finally acknowledged that this is indeed a discrepancy. They confirmed that the prefetch feature is truly disabled from the DCMT command for the buffer, but that the prefetch statistics continued to be accumulated in error. They have come up with an unconfirmed patch called TD67342 which I have tested in my systems, and it successfully resolves the discrepancy. With this patch installed, as soon as a buffer prefetch is disabled, the accumulation of prefetch-hit statistics are also turned off. Since this is an "unconfirmed" patch at this point, and affects only statistical displays, there is no need to rush right out, grab it, and apply it. You might want to wait for an official release as a regular confirmed APAR. It modifies the IDMSDBIO module, which is a rather important one.

Question: *Last week I migrated a 10.2 dictionary with shared DDLDCLOD to Release. 14.0. The migration jobs run fine, but I had problems in some functions (i.e. setting the DICTIONARY NAME). I found out that 14.0 dictionary concept differs from 10.2 - you can no longer share one DDLDCLOD area to multiple DDLDMML areas. After defining an additional DDLDCLOD area in the segment for the migrated dictionary, I was able to set the correct DICTNAME and access it with IDD. Why the difference?*

Answer: There is, in fact, a way to accomplish this. If the DDLDCLOD area in question is placed in its OWN segment (segment A), that segment can be included in any DBNAME that includes a segment (segment B) and includes a DDLDMML area (as long as segment B does not also contain a DDLDCLOD area). Another change from 10.2 days is that, while in 10.2, you could name your DDLDMML and DDLDCLOD areas just about anything you wanted because the page ranges linked the subschema to the DMCL. In 12/14/15 the area MUST be named DDLDMML/DDLDCLD because the area name links the subschema (in this case IDMSNWK?) to the dmcl (the segment prefix allows for multiple ddldml or ddldclod defined to the DMCL); the subschema simply cares about the area name; the program being executed uses the subschema, AND the DBNAME to determine what are the correct files to use! My client used this technique and shares the DDLDCLOD among several DDLDMML in a region, and the DDLDMML and DDLDCLOD previously mentioned are shared among 30 production regions.

(Archive of IDMS-L, cont. from page 13)

Question: *We have recently brought on-line a new 14.0 (9711) CV. Everything is going well except the following: after cycling the CV, the RPL counts for our printer VTAM line goes sky high – I mean from 659 in one 10 minute interval to 74,747 in the next. We have about 3,500 printers on-line. CPU for the CV goes up dramatically, taking up about one whole engine on our box. No one complains about response time within the CV. We vary the line off and back on, and both the CPU and RPL counts drop dramatically. Any ideas?*

Answer: Look at LO30845 – it seems to describe your problem to a tee!

Question: *Does anybody know the absolute theoretical maximum number of terminal sessions (concurrent users) that CV under release 12 can handle? I found that UCF has a limit of 32767, but cannot find a similar reference for VTAM.*

Answer: Looking at the #PLEDS, I see a field 'PLENTERM DS H number of terminals on LINE.' Since the MAX number that this can hold is +32767, I would imagine that this would apply for VTAM also, unless the actual number is further limited by the code.

Question: *Our shop recently started trying to use the SQL option in IDMS. The schema is created and SQL statements execute clean in OCF. The problem is when we include the SQL statements in a COBOL program. The program issues a SOC-6 and the SQL error message says the program module cannot be found, although it compiles successfully. Does anyone know where IDMS is looking for the module or what could be our problem?*

Answer: When you compile a COBOL program using SQL, you must add an extra step to create an access module.

Question: *Here is an easy one, I hope. An overzealous programmer ran a batch unlock job against two areas held in update by the CV. I need to format one of the two areas, but I'm getting a 3018 whenever I try to vary the area offline. As a DBA, I cannot ever remember doing this and short of cycling the CV (which I can't), I don't how to begin to undo the mistake.*

Answer: DCMT VARY FILE segment.XXXX ACTIVE, where XXXX is the name of the first file which makes up the area. This resets the update-lock indicator, which should allow you to vary the area.

Question: *I have just been brought into a client site to evaluate the best way to get them Y2K compatible on their IMS system. They are currently running 12.01 at the GJ9503 maintenance level. It is most likely I will recommend an upgrade to 14.01. I would be interested in communicating with any other sites that are currently or have recently upgraded 12.01 to 14.0/14.1.*

Answer: There IS something to be said for staying within the same release. If Y2K compliance is all the client is looking for, you MIGHT suggest 9809 of 12.01. What is their long-term goal for IDMS? If they are comfortable with the functionality of 12.01 and do not want, at this late date, to begin testing an entirely new release, then perhaps GJ9809 of 12.01 is the answer. My biggest client (56 prod regions, 20M trans/day) is satisfied as to 9809's Y2K compliancy, and is in NO hurry to repeat the 10.21->12.01 migration (although, admittedly, a 12->14.x would be trivial. But say the word migrate to the client and you will see a panic stricken look on their face, especially when the outsourcers put an October 1 freeze on software upgrades and the client themselves have an internal November 1 <?> freeze date.

Having said this, the folks who HAVE installed 14.1 are very happy with the results. It was easy to install, and seems to be meeting the needs of the sites who specifically requested the features that 14.1 addresses. But, you asked for opinions, so here is mine. At this late date, I would apply 9506, 9601, 9607, 9707, 9809 maintenance to the 9503 APAR tape you installed (or, base install 9506 and work from there). I believe it will be a quicker path to Y2K compliancy since you are working within the same release. Had you asked the question three months ago, I would have opted for 14.1. It is my understanding that maintenance tape 9712 for CA-IDMS-tools is Y2K compliant and will run with 9707+ (if not all) releases of 12.01 (9407+).

Question: *Is there any known way to update the contents of a CLIST line dsn while the region is up? If I vary the CLIST line off-line, I can browse the file, but if I try to update, I get Data set in use. Any thoughts? Am I forced to create an alternative dsn and modify the STC JCL?*

Answer: If what you want is to update the input dataset of a batch simulator line, you can add a FREE=CLOSE on the JCL statement that defines the dataset in question. The effect is to free the dataset from the IDMS region when it is closed (at EOF). It is similar to a TSO FREE command. After the file is freed from the CV, you can edit the file, rename it, and delete it. Of course, it has to be there for the next CV start up. A word of caution: you cannot reopen the batch simulator line (some people do) to re-execute the commands contained in the batch sim line because the dataset is no longer allocated to the IDMS CV.

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