



a message from the  
**CA Communities Team**



## User Community Newsletter – May 2011

Welcome to the EDGE newsletter for the CA Gen Global User Community. In this issue of the newsletter you will find the following:

- From the EDGE Board
- New EDGE Web Site Launched
- CA Gen News and Events
- Enhancement Requests - DARS
- Education and Resources
- EDGE Global User Community

### **From the EDGE Board**

#### **Change to Bylaws**

The EDGE Board voted to amend the EDGE bylaws and allow CA Technologies to take a more active role in the running of this User Group, providing additional resources to help run the User Group. The executive director role will now be performed by CA Technologies, with EDGE Board continuing to serve as an advisory council to the User Group. Not much will change – EDGE will continue to have volunteers serving on a board, hold virtual/Web and Networking events by region, and perform advocacy work that includes the EDGE Users Groups' input into DARS. Activities will continue to be managed by volunteers as well as CA Technologies. Financial and tax accounting will be carried out at Smith Bucklin and CA Technologies, similar to other CA User Groups. This significantly frees EDGE up from various financial activities, costs and tax filing that we had to manage previously as an independent User Group. We believe this is the best move for the EDGE User Community, and we will work together with CA Technologies, to ensure users continue to receive the services they need to optimize their use of CA Gen.

#### **EDGE Chair**

Over the last 6 years, Larry Schmidt has been our EDGE Chair. Due to his changing role in HP, Larry Schmidt had to decide to step down from the EDGE board. His drive and enthusiasm will be greatly missed! Thank you Larry for your commitment over the last several years!

#### **Call for Board Members**

We need volunteers willing to become board members in order to keep EDGE running efficiently as a

User Group. Please consider volunteering as a board member. It doesn't take a lot of time (we have a conference call monthly) and its fun! We are currently looking to fill the EDGE Chair position. In the meantime, Eric ten Harkel has taken over as interim Chair, supported by Jean Rissmiller as the CA Technologies liaison.

**Chair** – *The Chair shall be the Chief Executive Officer and shall have general supervision over the affairs of EDGE. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of EDGE and the Board of Directors. The Chair may appoint, with the consent of the Board, standing committees, task forces and their respective chairpersons. If you are interested in this position, please contact either Eric ten Harkel (Eric.ten.harkel@coolprofs.com) or Jean Rissmiller (jean.rissmiller@ca.com).*

## **New EDGE Website Launched**

It takes time and effort to keep a website current. With everyone, including EDGE members, having less free time, we are redirecting the [EDGE User Group](#) website to the [CA Gen EDGE User Community](#) website starting June 1, 2011. This will enable us to use not only CA's staff to maintain and monitor it while we keep information up-to-date in one location. We encourage you to participate in our community on MyCA (<https://communities.ca.com/web/ca-Gen-global-user-community>). You are welcome to ask technical "how-to" questions on the online message board. And you are encouraged to share your knowledge and experience with the community by answering questions already posted by your peers on the message board. So check the online message board frequently, or better yet, subscribe to the message board and get the new discussions sent to you automatically.

## **CA Gen News and Events**

### **CA Gen Best Practices Guide**

A new CA Gen Best Practices paper is available on the CA Gen EDGE User Community website. This paper articulates CA Technologies' vision of best practices for optimal use of CA Gen within large organizations.

### **CA Gen Customer Days**

Since September 2010 CA Technologies and a team of CA Gen partners have been on a worldwide tour, meeting with customers for a day of learning and information exchange on what's new with CA Gen and what's coming on the roadmap. In addition, there were several sessions on new, complementary partner solutions from IET, Response Systems, Canam Software and Jumar Solutions. CA Gen customers came together in 27 cities across the UK, Europe, Asia, Australia and North America for a great day of learning:

- Demonstrations and updates on the latest CA Gen 8.0 capabilities including new developer workstation - CA Gen Studio, Web 2.0 applications, enhanced web services and much more
- Overview of how CA Gen can help you embrace the Cloud
- Discussion on the exciting future of CA Gen
- Optimize your CA Gen environment with new partner offerings:
  - Eclipse plug-ins

- Web Service and SOA extensions
- Tools to reduce the time and cost of migrating to CA Gen 8.0

Feedback indicates that attendees found the meetings very informative and useful. We also received feedback that the 1-day local user group venues are easier to attend given limited travel budgets, and make it possible for more customers to participate. Due to the success and popularity of these events, we plan to expand our outreach to customers in other cities and regions throughout the end of the year, and also plan to repeat these regional customer events on an annual basis. Watch the CA Gen EDGE User Community site for more events to come.

### Upcoming Events

The EDGE APAC conference will once again be held in Canberra for 2011, and is scheduled for the last week of November. A call for papers will be issued in July.

CA World 2011 registration is now open. Planning is still underway for an EDGE conference during this same time.

The [May Mainframe Madness](#) Virtual Event is going on right now through the month of May. There are several CA Gen sessions, demos and documents available for your viewing in the Application Development Booth. This virtual event will be extended through the entire month of June so you have more time to catch all the CA Gen sessions in the Application Development booth of this virtual show.

### Enhancement Requests (DARS)

Have you ever wondered what happens to your CA Gen Enhancement Requests (DARS) once CA has accepted them? EDGE performs advocacy work that includes CA Gen Users Group input/ranking of DARS. This EDGE activity provides CA Technologies with information on how the CA Gen community ranks/prioritizes the existing DARS. In the past CA Technologies proved to be receptive to the ranking since in the latest release, over 80 of the top ranked DARS were implemented. Therefore we feel this to be extremely valuable for both the user community and for CA Technologies. This DAR ranking activity typically happens every few years. It is time for EDGE to go through the ranking process again. Members who want to participate in this activity are requested to email your interest to participate in the ranking to Rob Jasper ([rob.jasper@C1000.nl](mailto:rob.jasper@C1000.nl)) and he will engage you with the voting tool (which is a CA Gen application). **THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO VOTE FOR YOUR TOP ENHANCEMENT REQUESTS!** EDGE bylaws state that only one representing member per organization is allowed to vote. Typically each organization appoints one representative to collect input from their Gen teams, who then votes on behalf of that member organization. For more information on this, please contact Rob Jasper at [rob.jasper@C1000.nl](mailto:rob.jasper@C1000.nl).

### Education and Resources

#### CA Tech Insider for Application Development

Are you receiving the quarterly publication of the “CA Tech Insider for Application Development”? If not, then please [subscribe](#) to receive your copy.

## CA Gen Education

In addition to several CA Gen partners who offer education courses there are several CA Gen On-Demand webcasts that offer you a chance to learn and refresh your Gen skills. Visit the CA Gen EDGE User Community website for a listing of topics under “Document Library” tab or peruse them on the CA Gen product page.

## CA Gen Resources



Did you know there are numerous CA Gen LinkedIn communities? Go to LinkedIn and register for these.

- EDGE – a CA Gen User Group Community
- COOL:Gen Freelance Group
- COOL:Gen and Mainframe Professionals
- COOL:Gen / Advantage Gen
- Gen United Freelancers and Contractors

## CA Gen Services

For a listing of CA Gen Services Partners, login to CA Gen EDGE User Communities and click on the “Document Library” tab to find a listing of CA Gen Services Partners.

## CA Gen Complementary Software

For a list of CA Gen complementary software, login to CA Gen EDGE User Communities and click on the “Document Library” tab to find a listing of CA Gen Technology Partners and their software offerings.

## EDGE Global User Community

The EDGE Global User Community is a worldwide user community focused on the CA Gen product. Our group includes: Application Developers, Gen Administrators, Production Control, System Programmers, Release Managers, Database Administrators, Security Administrators, Quality Assurance Testers, IT Management and anyone else with an interest in the CA Gen product. The purpose of our group is to encourage:

- Collaboration through online forums
- Peer to peer networking, support & education
- Knowledge exchange (best practices, tips & tricks)
- Regular Webcasts featuring topics of interest to the user community
- Input into CA Technologies through voting & prioritization of selected product enhancements
- Access to subject-matter experts

Please help us spread the word about the EDGE Global User Community and our many local and regional Gen user groups by sharing this information with everyone who uses the CA Gen product within your

organization and encourage them to visit our website and join our community today on MyCA (<https://communities.ca.com/web/ca-Gen-global-user-community>).

Members are welcome to ask technical "how-to" questions on the online message board. And you are encouraged to share your knowledge and experience with the community by answering questions already posted by your peers on the message board. So check the online message board frequently, or better yet, subscribe to the message board and get the new discussions sent to you automatically. To take part in online activities with users globally, click "Join Community" in the upper left part of the screen under the CA Technologies logo.

In addition to our online virtual community, we also have many local and regional Gen user groups located throughout the world in North America, Australia, Europe, and Asia. The local and regional Gen groups offer valuable face-to-face meetings and professional networking opportunities. If you are not already a member of a local or regional Gen user group, then we strongly encourage you to visit the CA Gen (EDGE) Global User Community website on MyCA to find a group that meets regularly in your area. If there isn't already a local or regional Gen user group in your area, please feel free to email Jean Rissmiller at [jean.rissmiller@ca.com](mailto:jean.rissmiller@ca.com) or contact her through the MyCA website if you are interested in forming or leading a local Gen user group in your area.

We look forward to seeing you in our online community soon!



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