



# iua CONNECTIONS

## ● IUA'S 2000 WORKSHOP: CHICAGO H.O.P.E. IS DECLARED A SUCCESS!

By Mary Harrington  
IUA Products & Services Committee Chair  
University of Mississippi

The CA-IDMS Database and Applications User Association

<http://iuassn.com>

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Now that IUA's 2001 Workshop: Chicago H.O.P.E. (Huge Opportunity for Practical Education) is over, the initials have taken on a new meaning for the IUA Board of Directors.

**H-Heartened.** We are indeed heartened and encouraged by the many positive and enthusiastic comments received about the workshop.

**O-Optimistic.** With the number of excellent suggestions made by attendees at Chicago H.O.P.E., we are optimistic that we can make the next workshop even better.

**P-Pleased.** Considering the challenges involved in organizing a workshop such as this one, we are extremely pleased with the number of attendees and the high quality of the presentations.

**E-Energized.** Energized by the success of this year's workshop, we are now eager to begin focusing on next year's event to be held in St. Louis on October 14-16.

Read on for some comments from Chicago H.O.P.E. participants:

*"I received a good overview of IDMS Web strategies that are available."*

*"As an application person who is currently a DBA 'in training,' I got much benefit from following the DBA track."*

*"My first IUA workshop is a very positive one! I felt the opportunity to network was a contributing factor to my positive experience."*

*"The speakers were excellent overall, well prepared and enthusiastic."*

*"Great forum for discussion with people with similar problems and opportunities."*

IUA would like to express its gratitude to all of those who contributed to making this workshop a success. A big thank

*(continued on page 2)*





## MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL CHAIR

*By Jim Rice  
Southern Company Services, Inc.*

Hard as it is to believe, it has almost been a year since the "Y2K" work

crunch occurred. All of the dire predictions, contingency planning, celebrating New Year's Eve in front of a terminal! It seems like so long ago. The next big deadline for data processing shops may be the implementation of the EURO. This is a big focus for our European colleagues. However, in this day of global economics, it affects all of our businesses.

Couple this with e-commerce, new hardware announcements, pressures to do more with less, and it all adds up to more demands on our time and talents. How is your company handling all these items?

If you attended the IUA 2000 Workshop: Chicago H.O.P.E. in the fall, you noticed the number of new faces present. These "faces" represent new blood in the CA-IDMS community. Folks are charged with maintaining legacy applications with little or no CA-IDMS experience. Those old hands with experience flocked to the Web track to learn how to satisfy the demands for e-commerce that our clients make on us.

For the last several months, CA has been conducting conference call presentations about a CA-IDMS related topic. These also have been very popular. CA has been very pleased with the participation and is already selecting new topics for discussion.

In October, the UKIUA organization held its first road show. This event was patterned on the IUA Workshop/Road Show models. Over 60 of our British colleagues attended this two day event. Again, the same themes were popular. Web access to CA-IDMS, basic concepts for the new DBA and programmer. The German and Finnish organizations sent representatives and plan on similar events for their members this spring.

The cry is clear. "We want information." Be it formal classes or Web-based training, led by trained CA staff or vendors or just fellow practitioners.

To satisfy this need, your IUA Board of Directors has been putting an added emphasis on education. We have been working with CA to expand the CA-IDMS classes. We have worked with other vendors to present classes at our Road Shows. We have offered assistance to regional user groups for their meetings. In addition, we can and will do more, if we know what you want. On the IUA Web page, there is a listing of all of the board members e-mail addresses. Send us your ideas and your needs. We will respond. Post your suggestions on the IDMS-L; we will see them. Let us know what you want us to do to help your company meet its needs for CA-IDMS education.

Moreover, if you are so inclined, please volunteer to help. If not on the IUA Board, then maybe in your regional group. Alternatively, maybe offer to present a subject as a way of giving back something to the community.

Remember, IUA is your organization. Keep in touch with it, use it, and help it. We all benefit.

(IUA's 2000 Workshop: Chicago H.O.P.E. Is Declared a Success! cont. from page 1)

you goes to our volunteer presenters, moderators, and corporate sponsors, including Allen Systems Group, Computer Associates, InnerAccess, International Software Products, ObjEx Inc., TACT Software Inc., Tiburon Technologies, Inc., and Xitec Software Incorporated.

The final thanks goes out to those of you who attended. We certainly "hope" it provided you with a Huge Opportunity for Practical Education.

See you in St. Louis in 2001!

## ● UKIUA 2000 ROAD SHOW REPORT

*By Brock Shaw  
European IUA Representative  
Torridon Associates Ltd.*

The UKIUA hosted its first Road Show based on the IUA pattern pioneered by Terry Schwartz, IUA National Vice Chairman. It has been acclaimed as a success by all those who attended.

Some 60 people were involved in the sessions, both as instructors and participants. The Road Show featured a Beginner DBA and Beginner Developer track, but added an Advanced Practitioner track by request of the many very experienced IDMS specialists who also wished to attend.

Jim Rice and Bob Currie of the IUA Board of Directors were in attendance, as were Hans-Peter Kotowski from the German AID and Tarja Makela-Sinervo from the Finnish group.

Additionally, Steve Cannon and Hillrich Oncken, two of Computer Associates senior IDMS specialists in Europe, were there and gave specialized training sessions.

The UKIUA thanks both Computer Associates and IUA for their financial and logistical assistance in making the Road Show a success. CA donated the conference facilities and provided data projectors and many other services, while IUA provided financial support and planning support.

The UKIUA 2000 Road Show offered a real lift to the IDMS community in the UK, and there have been numerous requests for similar events in the future.



## ● IUA ANNOUNCES 2001 ROAD SHOWS

*By Terry Schwartz  
IUA National Vice Chair  
Perot Systems*

IUA will host two Road Shows in 2001. The first Road Show will be held March 28-29 at the CA offices in Herndon, Virginia. A second Road Show is planned for June in Ottawa, Canada. Please stay tuned to the IUA Web site <http://iuassn.com> for up-to-the-minute details.

As always, IUA tries to tailor the content of the Road Shows to member's needs. If you have a subject that you would like to see covered at an IUA Road Show, please contact Terry Schwartz at [terry.schwartz@ps.net](mailto:terry.schwartz@ps.net) or Bob Lentz at [lentz@tiburontech.com](mailto:lentz@tiburontech.com).

Also, we are always looking for instructors and new material to present. If you are interested in presenting at a Road Show, please get in touch with Terry Schwartz or Bob Lentz at the above email addresses.

## ● BOARD MEMBER PROFILE



Name: **Laura Rochon**  
Profession: **Senior Consultant**  
Company: **Compuware Corporation of Canada**

**Biography:** Laura has more than 18 years of experience in data processing, and has 16 years of experience with IDMS, as DBA and technical support analyst. She joined Cullinet in 1985 as a technical support representative. In 1986, Laura switched over to field support, accomplishing database and performance reviews and teaching a full set of IDMS classes. She left Computer Associates in 1992 to join a consulting firm and then joined Compuware's Professional Services Division in April 1998, consulting on CA-IDMS. Additionally, Laura has been president of Quebec's IDMS user group since 1997.

**IUA Experience:** Laura was elected to the IUA Board of Directors in 1999. She previously served as the vice-chair for the Communications Committee, in charge of *IUA Connections*. Presently, Laura is the co-chair of the Regional User Group (RUG) Committee and vice-chair of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

## ● COMPUTER ASSOCIATES TO OFFER CONSULTING AND TRAINING SERVICES ON THE CAS SUITE

*By Victor Carlevale  
interBiz Supply Chain Group  
Computer Associates*

The CAS-Professional Services Organization of Computer Associates interBiz Supply Chain Group is now offering professional consulting and training services on the CAS applications product suite. We will work with you to understand your goals and needs and build a plan to help you achieve them, according to your budget and your schedule. We can tailor any consulting and training service to your business environment. Our consultants will work with you through every phase of your solution life cycle helping to assess your enterprise and its challenges, prepare for and complete implementations, and protect and maximize the value of your solutions investments. The services that CAS Professional Services will provide will be focused in the area of business consulting, technical services, and education. The business consulting services will include initial product implementation, customizations, project management, application consulting, business management consulting, application audits, and process reviews. We know each company has unique requirements; therefore, each of our business consulting services is tailored to meet your needs, goals, and constraints.

For the CAS clients that need to re-assess if their business applications, including CAS, are being maximized to their potential or replacing business solutions, we offer a high-level consulting evaluation called Application Effectiveness Assessment. The purpose of the Application Effectiveness Assessment is to develop a better understanding of the business, application, information and technical needs, and to define the short-term fixes and long term application strategies. The Application Effectiveness Assessment provides our clients with a quick analysis of the IT and business environment, resulting in a prioritized list of strategies and recommendations moving forward. If you would like to find out more about these services including a full explanation of the benefits, scope of services, and approach of this analysis please call the CAS-Professional Services Organization interBiz Supply Chain Group at (800) 407-8686.



***IUA Invites You to Mark Your Calendar for***

**IUA's 2001 Workshop:**  
**2001 S.P.A.C.E. Odyssey**  
(SUPER PRACTICAL AND COST-EFFECTIVE EDUCATION)

**October 14-16**  
**Hyatt Regency**  
**St. Louis, Missouri**

Stay tuned to **IUASSN.com** for more information  
as it becomes available.

*How would you like to attend 2001 S.P.A.C.E. Odyssey for free?*

Submit an abstract through **iuassn.com** to present a technical session presentation. If your presentation is selected, you will receive a complimentary, full-conference registration and industry recognition as one of the conference speakers.



## ● IUA COMMITTEE REPORTS

### APPLICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

*By Teresa Gentry  
IUA Applications Advisory Committee Chair  
Leggett & Platt, Inc.*

The Applications Advisory Committee (AAC) held its last committee meeting in Chicago the day before IUA's 2000 Workshop: Chicago H.O.P.E. We covered the AAC DAR ballot results, which are now available on the IUA Web site (<http://iuassn.com>). The committee also participated in a conference call with Phyllis Conlon of CA on the CAS DAR list.

If you are interested in participating in the DAR process or in attending the next AAC meeting scheduled for March in Washington DC, please contact IUA at (312) 321-6827 or by email at [iua@sba.com](mailto:iua@sba.com) for more information.

### IMC UPDATE

*By Chris Hoelscher  
IUA Board of Directors  
Humana, Inc.*

IUA members recently met with Computer Associates to begin work on planning CA-WORLD 2001, which will be held July 8-12 in Orlando, Florida. Based on suggestions made by IUA (and others), CA has announced the following changes to the CA-WORLD model:

There will be no sessions held on Friday of the conference week. CA-WORLD officially ends Thursday evening (July 12), with Friday and the weekend left for CA-WORLD attendees and their families to enjoy the Orlando-area attractions. CA-WORLD hotels are expected to extend the discounted conference rate though the weekend.

CA will work with IUA to select a hotel to house IDMS attendees. While CA will not reserve a hotel for any product's attendees, CA will suggest appropriate hotels based on expected client attendance for a given product.

CA will eliminate the traditional badge and instead use a "smart card" for all identification and admittance purposes.

CA-WORLD 2001 conference cost is \$1,095. Attendees who declare themselves user group members will receive a \$200 discount. CA-WORLD registration will begin in January 2001; early-bird registration (an additional \$200 discount) will end April 16, 2001. CA has created a new registration process that will allow all CA-WORLD registrations to be made via the Internet.

CA-CAS presentations will be assigned again this year to the INTERBIZ Supply-Chain Solution Area.

Please contact Bob Currie, IUA IMC committee chair at [bob.currie@ihs.com](mailto:bob.currie@ihs.com), with any questions, comments, or suggestions.

## ● RUG REPORT

*By Laura Rochon  
IUA RUG Committee Co-Chair  
Compuware Corporation of Canada*

In October, the IUA Regional User Group (RUG) Committee sent out a survey to all RUG presidents in order to get a better feeling of how IUA can help them to improve their RUGs. If you are a RUG president and have not returned your survey yet, please do so as soon as possible. In other RUG news, IUA seeks out a new RUG and the Ottawa User Group met in September.

### Tri-States IDMS User Group

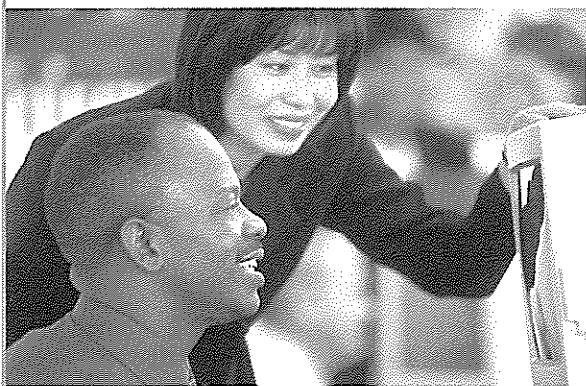
There are more than 120 CA-IDMS sites in the New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Connecticut area, but not one active CA-IDMS Regional User Group. IUA wants to do something about that. The RUG Committee, in conjunction with Computer Associates, wants to help the CA-IDMS user community in these four states revive a CA-IDMS user group. We are trying to contact all CA-IDMS users in these states. We are looking for volunteers to run the group; but the volunteers will not act alone. Computer Associates helps tremendously with user group meetings, including providing speakers, the meeting space (if necessary), and even lunch. IUA will also help you organize your first meetings. Local IDMS user groups provide a great opportunity for networking with IDMS peers in your region. So, if you're in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, or Connecticut, please contact one of the IUA RUG Committee co-chairs at [laura.rochon@cloxt.com](mailto:laura.rochon@cloxt.com) or [dan.hall@corporate.ge.com](mailto:dan.hall@corporate.ge.com). We want to help!

### Ottawa User Group Meeting

The Ottawa IDMS User Group held a great meeting on September 15. The morning was spent with Dick Weiland of Computer Associates, as he shared his technical sessions on indexes, which were given at CA-World 2000. After lunch, Xitec Software Incorporated presented their PC-IDMS product (formerly NuBase's). Robert Hartley flew in from London specifically to present the real-time demonstration of their product and show how it can be used to improve IDMS development and testing on the PC platform.

The two presentations were outstanding and the members' evaluations and comments were extremely positive. The Ottawa user community can look forward to an IUA Road Show planned for June 2001 in Ottawa.

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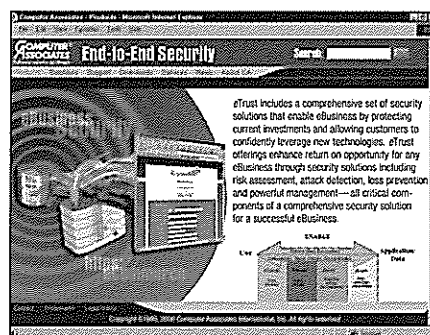
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## ● IUA'S 2000 WORKSHOP: CHICAGO H.O.P.E. ADDRESSES ADS/O

By Bob Lentz  
IUA Education Committee Chair  
Tiburon Technologies

"Did you know ADS/O could do that?" That was the question many participants were asking after attending IUA's 2000 Workshop: Chicago H.O.P.E. (Huge Opportunity for Practical Education). There were several sessions in particular that had people talking and these are addressed below.

### A13-Lightning Fast Query Dialogs

*Presented by David Pinhasik of IBM Global Services (Israel)*

This session presented information on building queries against index set versus accessing the data records. By accessing the index structure with the RETURN command you can retrieve the key information about the data records. The objective of the session was to show that the index structure could help reduce access time and gain flexibility.

### A14-Right/Left Paging

*Presented by David Pinhasik of IBM Global Services (Israel)*

This session presented information on how to see additional information from data records by building a left/right paging session. In this session, Pinhasik explains how to save the data records in scratch records and to display the respective maps. Several columns of information can be kept static on the page while other information varies when the user pages left to right.

### A15-Creating a Window Effect

*Presented by David Pinhasik of IBM Global Services (Israel)*

We all know how the tools of ADS use drop down windows from the action bar. Well, Pinhasik explained how to use this same technique from our own dialogs. This technique could be used for menu screens, code table/choice lookup, displaying additional information (zoom window), and for password/security processing.

To find out more about the above sessions, and all of the Chicago H.O.P.E. sessions, visit <http://iuassn.com>.

## ● ARE YOU A NEW DBA?

By Bob Lentz  
IUA Education Committee Chair  
Tiburon Technologies

If you are a new DBA, Computer Associates is putting together a class for you. In the winter of 2001, CA will have ID405-CA-IDMS: For the Neophyte DBA available for public class. Those who attended the IUA 2000 Workshop: Chicago H.O.P.E. got to see a preview of the class.

At Chicago H.O.P.E., Mike Albus, Master Instructor for CA, presented four sessions from the "Managing the System" section of the new class. The four sessions discussed were:

### The CA-IDMS DC/UCF Startup Process

This session addressed preparing for starting a DC/UCF system, creating a startup routine and startup JCL, describing what happens at system startup, and reloading nucleus modules.

### Explaining the Shutdown Process

This session identified the types of shutdowns and described what happens at system shutdown.

### CA-IDMS DC/UCF Journaling

In this session, Albus identified DML commands and journal checkpoints, described journaling in local mode, described offloading in CV and archiving to tape, along with adding journals to CV and modifying the journal configuration.

### CA-IDMS DC/UCF System Logging

The last session identified the contents of the system log, how to maintain the log, how to access information from the log, and explained how the DC/UCF system logs errors.

*ID405-CA-IDMS: For the Neophyte DBA* is scheduled for the following dates and locations in early 2001:

- \* January 22 in New York City
- \* February 19 in Washington D.C.
- \* March 19 in Lisle, Illinois
- \* April 16 in Atlanta
- \* May 14 in Los Angeles

Mike Albus will teach each class. Visit CA's Education Department Web site for further details (<http://www.ca.com/education>).

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Question:** *I have to restructure my IDMS database and want to use a database procedure on the macro to do some conditional logic. I have not done this in many years and was wondering if someone had a sample DB procedure I can see, preferably in COBOL.*

**Answer:** Here are some basics (this applied to 12.01):  
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.

PROGRAM-ID. Your program name.

AUTHOR. Your name.

REMARKS. MODIFIES FIELDS IN  
selected RECORDS.

ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.

CONFIGURATION SECTION.

INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.

FILE-CONTROL.

IDMS-CONTROL SECTION.

PROTOCOL. MODE IS BATCH DEBUG

IDMS-RECORDS MANUAL.

DATA DIVISION.

SCHEMA SECTION.

DB your-subschema WITHIN your-schema

VERSION your-version.

FILE SECTION.

WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.

01 your stuff

LINKAGE SECTION.

01 PROCEDURE-CONTROL.

05 PC-ENTRY-LEVEL PIC X(04).

05 PC-ENTRY-TIME PIC X(04).

05 PC-MAJOR-CODE PIC X(02).

05 PC-IDBMSCOM-CODE PIC 9(04) COMP.

05 PC-CANCEL-SW PIC 9(04) COMP.

05 FILLER PIC X(02).

05 PC-USER-AREA PIC 9(08) COMP.

01 APPLICATION-CONTROL PIC X(236).

01 PROGRAM-CONTROL.

05 PC-COMM-DATA PIC X(04).

01 RECORD-CONTROL.

05 RC-REC-NAME PIC X(18).

05 RC-AREA-NAME PIC X(18).

05 RC-REC-ID PIC 9(04) COMP.

05 RC-REC-LENGTH PIC 9(04) COMP.

05 RC-REC-CTRL-LEN PIC 9(04) COMP.

05 RC-REC-MAX-LEN PIC 9(04) COMP.

05 RC-REC-DBKEY PIC 9(08) COMP.

05 RC-REC-LPL PIC 9(08) COMP.

05 RC-REC-HPL PIC 9(08) COMP.

01 DATABASE-RECORD PIC X(2120).

As large as biggest record.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.

ENTRY 'entry name' USING PROCEDURE-CONTROL,  
APPLICATION-CONTROL,  
PROGRAM-CONTROL,  
RECORD-CONTROL,  
DATABASE-RECORD

IF RC-REC-ID = record-id you are looking for do what-  
ever you need to do.

GOBACK.

Also, in COBOL II, there is a parameter in IGZEOPT  
call RENTREUS<??>. It prevents the COBOL II run-  
time system from initializing the COBOL subsystem  
each time it is called from a non-COBOL program (i.e.  
restructure program). Using this option will reduce run  
time by 90%.

**Question:** *What is the maximum page size allowed for  
IDMS database. Is 32K the limit?*

**Answer:** Yes, it is. However, a 32K physical block wastes  
a lot of TRK space. I'd stick to 1/2 TRK blocks (27996  
maximum).

**Question:** *Does anyone know when the message DC050001  
DCLOG IS nn% FULL gets issued by CV? We thought it  
was something like when the amount full is half of what it  
was the last time it was issued. Last night our log filled up  
on production. Our log offload job is submitted through  
WTOEXIT whenever the message indicates the log is over  
50% full. We got one message saying the log was 20% full.  
Then the next message we got was DC050004 DCLOG IS  
FULL. This message isn't picked up in the WTOEXIT, so?*

**Answer:** I ran up against something like this many years  
ago. After doing some investigation, and after talking  
with CA (or was it Cullinet?), this is what I found out:

First, let's assume that you're starting with an empty log  
area. CV will find the page that is at the 50% mark and  
keep a record of the corresponding page number. This is  
the "target" page for the next "DCLOG IS nn% FULL"  
message. Rather than checking how full the log area is on  
each write of the log buffer (which would be a real perfor-  
mance drag), CV just compares the current page number  
to the target page. If they are the same, then CV deter-  
mines how full the log area is (50% in this case), issues the  
message, and then picks the next target page (which  
would be at the 75% mark in this example).

Okay, this is where the tricky stuff starts. Let's say that you  
trigger a log offload when you get the 50% full message.



Between the time that you trigger the job, and the time that the offload runs, you may have filled up another 15% of your log area (so you're at 65% full). The log offload will offload that 65%. This means that when you reach the next trigger, CV will determine that the log is only 10% full (75-65). You'll see a "DCLOG IS 10% FULL" message. You've got 90% of the log available. To find the next trigger page, CV divides the available space in half (i.e., 45%) and adds that many pages to the current trigger page. Since the log wraps around when it reaches the end, the next trigger page will be at the 20% mark ((75+45)-100) in the area. When CV hits that trigger page, it'll determine that the area is now 55% full ((100-65)+20). You'll get a "DCLOG IS 55% FULL" message, and trigger another log offload. And so it goes again and again.

In conclusion, the percent full depends on how active your logs are, how far apart the trigger pages are, and how long it takes to get a log offload going. It is possible to get a "DCLOG IS 49% FULL" message and then not see another message until the area is over 75% full. If you're writing a lot to the log, then it is quite possible to fill the log up before the log offload completes.

**Question:** *I want to modify the sort parameters only when start the CULPRIT job (without modifying the source in dictionary). I don't know the way to proceed.*

**Answer:** Code the following: USE 'JREPORT 001'; DROP SORT; SORT-specify your new sort sequence.

See Chapter 10 Temporary Modifications in the CA-IDMS 12.01 Reports manual.

**Question:** *I have an ADS application for maintaining userids and I want it to be able to do userid deletions (i.e. DROP userid, SDEL, DROP userid). So linking to RHDCSDEL was tried, but no go (it complained about an invalid dictionary name). Has anyone done this successfully, or solved the problem another way? Linking to a program that ATTACHes the SDEL task works but I don't know of a way to readily determine when the SDEL task completes. Any ideas?*

**Answer:** I opened an issue with CA on this seven years ago. You are correct. One can not link ads to RHDCSDEL. Attaching is an option I had never considered. However, you can avoid SDEL entirely if (and only if) there are no resources tied to the id you are trying to revoke. Therefore, if you walk the appropriate records in the ddldml to determine the revokes needed, issue the revokes, and then delete the user id twice, you will

have accomplished the goal of removing the user entirely without invoking SDEL.  
(I coded an ads system to do exactly this in 1995.)

**Question:** *At startup in our development CV, there are a bunch of messages in the log about queues in the queue area. Looks like it is looking for queues to delete. The queue names seem to indicate they are from some of the development tools (DME, ADC, etc.). All of them are PRM, which I assume means permanent. There are over 1K of them, some go back as far as 1995. What are the consequences of keeping? Even if there is nothing negative about keeping them, some of the oldest ones could be candidates for deletion, how would I go about deleting them?*

**Answers:** 1) From the ENTER NEXT TASK CODE, issue transaction QUED PROMPT. This will give you a line-by-line list of every entry in the queue area. This could be quite large. After it displays each line it will ask if you wish to delete the entry or not. If you wish to delete it, enter Y, and otherwise just hit enter and it will go to the next entry.

2) See APAR CS82781 to change the ADS default queue retention period. Apply APARS LS21367, LS21368, LS36495, and LS36516 to change your default queue retention periods for Toolkit products. See the SYSGEN OLM statement for map queue retention. See the SYSGEN OLQ statement for report queue retention.

**Question:** *I inherited an old assembler program (copied from Boxes and Arrows, I think), which displays information on active IDMS users. I beefed it up when we were on Release 12.0 five years ago (added a search feature, etc.), and it worked great. But when we moved to release 12.01 the program stopped showing the dialog name when users are in ADS applications. It shows ADS2 as the task, but it used to show the dialog name as well.*

*(continued on page 10)*

## DO YOU HAVE A SUCCESS STORY WITH CA-IDMS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH OTHER IUA MEMBERS?

If so, submit your story idea or 300-350 word article to *IUA Connections* Editor, Laura Nocera at [laura\\_nocera@sba.com](mailto:laura_nocera@sba.com).



*(See sample below: It correctly displays the program name when not in ADS, such as RHDCOPER, etc.) Multiple times I have tried to chase down the correct field, and with each release I have hoped that my dialog names, like errant children, would come home to Papa. But alas, they remain lost. PMRM knows where they are, but I can't find the source to that program. Has anyone seen them?*

**Answer:** Your problem is one often encountered. A new anchor was added to many control blocks at 9407 to handle this memory chain; in your case, use LTEMRLA instead of LTERLEA and all should be well. This addition was not documented at 9407! Unfortunately, since the old anchor remained in place, all the exit 5s and other programs that walk this kind of change would assemble just fine, they simply would not work! (I remember it took me a week to convince level 1 that something had changed.)

*Question: I was just informed by CA that in order to use OS/390 v2.8, IDMS must be at least at release 12.01 9506. This, of course, means that release 10.2 (PS9808) will not work. Since I have clients who still use 10.2, and will until they get off the mainframe and move to the dark side, this presents a huge problem since the MVS boys want to upgrade the operating system on all LPARs some time in the next few months. My questions are as follows: (1) Has anyone confirmed that 10.2 (PS9808) will not work under OS/390 v2.8? (2) Does anyone know if CA has an official written policy somewhere that states what will and will not work with 2.8? (3) Does anyone know what it is about 2.8 that will cause IDMS not to work? I've gotten so used to IDMS being immune to operating system upgrades that this took me by surprise.*

**Answer:** (CA) only lists the operating systems (CA) currently supports for currently supported releases of IDMS (support was dropped for 10.21 in December 1995). While (CA) has not tested OS390 2.8 on release 10.21, IDMS has generally been "immune" to releases of MVS/OS390 and I would expect that 2.8 would be no different. All I can tell you is that I can't recall the last time a new release of OS/390 (or MVS) caused a problem for IDMS regardless of the release and that I would be surprised if 2.8 caused any problems. (CA) will not be doing any testing for a release that we've dropped support for back in December 1995. If there are more details on who said there would be a problem with 10.21, I can investigate whether they know of a real problem or just looked at our upgrade solution and didn't see 10.21 listed and assumed that this meant that 10.21 would have a problem, as opposed to 10.21 not being listed since it isn't supported any more.

*Question: Is there any way to know if a CV is active before a job batch execution? I know that IDMSBCF could be executed in the previous step and the RC tested, but I'd like to know what else could be done. Is there something smart that could be used?*

**Answers:** 1) Insert a step in front of your IDMS-CV startup JCL like this:

```
//CVUP-EXEC PGM=IEFBR14
//CVUP-DD DSN=IDMS.CV.UP,DISP=(MOD,CATLG,CATLG)
//UNIT=SYSDA,SPACE=(TRK,(0)),DCB=(DSORG=PS,RECFM=F).
```

This is a dummy dataset that is cataloged, but doesn't really hold any data. So when the IDMS-CV is started-up, this dataset exists. Then, include a DD within the JCL of your IDMS-CV system, like this:

```
//CVUP-DD DSN=DMS.CV.UP,UNIT=SYSDA
//DISP=(MOD,DELETE,DELETE).
```

Thus, when the IDMS-CV system is shut down, this indicator dataset is deleted from the system catalog. Finally, in each job that requires the IDMS-CV system, you add a front-end step like this:

```
//CHECKCV-EXEC PGM=IDCAMS
//SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=Z
//SYSIN-DD *
LISTC ENT('IDMS.CV.UP').
```

This uses the system services utility to interrogate the status of the catalog entry from the indicator dataset. If it is present, a condition code of 0 is returned. If absent, the cond-code = 4. Then you can condition code subsequent job steps to execute, or be bypassed, depending upon the return code from this CHECKCV step. For example:

```
//VARYAREA EXEC PGM=RHDCUCFB,COND=(4,EQ,CHECKCV).
```

Thus, if the IDMS-CV system was not available, this UCFBATCH step would be bypassed. I have entire back-up jobs set up like this, so that they will execute correctly regardless of the IDMS-CV status, executing the appropriate CV or non-CV steps accordingly. It works great. The only loophole when this indicator-dataset doesn't reflect the IDMS-CV condition properly is about a three minute window of time when the IDMS-CV is just starting-up, when the dataset has just been cataloged, but the IDMS-CV is still starting up and not quite ready yet. But this window is so small that it causes a problem. If you wanted to get really fancy, you could have a startup autotask write out an IEFBR14 job into the internal reader, so that the dataset wouldn't be created until the CV is actually available. The other possibility is that the CV could be shut down or started-up in the middle of a job after it has already started running and detected a CV status. If you need to determine that, you can repeat the IDCAMS



status-check step in front of every batch job step for which that information is needed.

2) One simple way I know of (hopefully smart) is to read the SYSCTL file and check for the string "OPIX" (i.e. CV not active) starting at position five in the record. If the CV were active that string would be "OPI". I used a small TSO Clist to do this. It gives a return code that can be checked by the next step in the job:

```
-----1-----2
NDOP1  7  8  4      active CV
00DCDDC400F30F0F2000
00546790007CA8748000
```

```
-----
OPIX  7  8  4      inactive CV
0044DDCE00F30F0F2000
00006797007CA8748000.
```

3) There is an easier way-in your SYSIDMS put the following:

CVRETRY=OFF.

If the CV is either not up or not accepting new ERUS's-instead of a message going to the console asking the operator to type CANCEL or RETRY-your BIND RUN UNIT comes straight back with a non-zero return code. We have a couple of batch programs that run this way. They re-try the BIND RUN UNIT once a minute for five tries — if they still can't BIND they put out appropriate messages and shut down gracefully.

4) Another way to go at this is to call an assembler routine with the subschema control block, after the run unit is bound. It seems to me that if there is an address in SSCVIBA (offset X'CO' and not a very volatile control block) this job is running local. If SSCVIBA = foxes this job is talking to CV. It's better than checking for the CV job name in the MVS control blocks as MVS will show CV running even if it's doing nothing and better than reading the SYSCTL as it allows for talking through OPTI and whatnot. On the other hand, you have to put the subroutine call in the application and the routine might want reassembling for release 16, if any. I expect the same check could be made in COBOL, if I was any good at it.

**Question:** We have a rookie IDMS DBA who is trying to run an IDMSDBAN against a copy of a database to ensure its integrity prior to testing an unload/reload. The target area does not contain any index sets, but one of the records participates as the member of a user-defined index, whose owner resides in another area. When we included a

SET statement for the user-defined index, it gave us the DC598406 message.

DC598406-ALL INDEXED SETS NOT IN SELECTED PAGE RANGE: <Set-name>

**Reason:** The set was named on a SET parameter card and it is an indexed set but other indexed sets that also occupy the page range for the selected set were not selected. In order to process one indexed set for a given page range ALL indexed sets that occupy the same page range must be processed. Either select all indexed sets that occupy the same page range as the named set or do not select this set. The owner also owns three other user defined indexes, which point into other areas, so we ended up adding every single user defined and system owned index in the subschema to get the darn IDMSDBAN to work. Is there a simpler way to do this or are we missing some parameter?

**Answer:** It may be painful, but it is the nature of the beast. While DBAN is scanning a database area picking up the SR8 blocks associated with the index in question, it's also getting the SR8's from all the other indexes in the scanned areas (since there is no way to physically tell them apart). If DBAN grabs an SR8 without getting its owner (be it SR7 or data record) and members of the set, then on validation in the second step, that SR8's entries would be pointing into space (busted sets coming out your ears). The upshot is, as you now know, is that to validate one index, you have to validate all indexes in the areas being verified. It's the only way to get \*all\* the required records and have the sets come out physically intact.

**Question:** Does anyone know a way to find the IP-address of the terminal of a IDMS-session?

**Answer:** To find the IP address of a device issue a D NET, ID=luname, E. The IP address will appear as part of the returned display.

**Question:** Is anyone aware of any product or tool, which converts ADS process code into COBOL source? Thanks!

**Answer:** Xitec Software at [www.xitec-software.com](http://www.xitec-software.com), TACT Solutions at [www.tact.com](http://www.tact.com), Forecross at [www.forecross.com](http://www.forecross.com), Crystal System Solution (C-Midas), USA Consulting, Berkshire Software (Code Wizard) at [www.berkshiresoftware.com](http://www.berkshiresoftware.com), Impressware at [www.impressware.com](http://www.impressware.com), Kommunernes Pensionsforsikring, and CLAMON.

**Question:** I recently upgraded from release 12.01 to 14.1 (199911 - MVS/ESA 5.22). I have two CV's involved here, a front end and a back end. When I issue a DCUF

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*SHOW UALL from one CV, I see user id's of people who were previously logged onto the back end CV, and the pterm indicates NONE. When a user signs onto the back end CV, there is a user written program involved that binds with the front end CV to do some user-id maintenance. I have not seen this before. Any ideas what is going on?*

**Answer:** This is due to APAR LO56459, which is on at 14.1, and is required to overcome problems with sign on retention which does not work correctly. You can disable this 'feature' by coding SGNRETN=0 in you SRTT, but check out the implications first.

*Question: I had the Catlod area go out-of-space while doing a dmcl generate. Since this is the area used to hold the dmcl output, how do you increase this area since you can't do a dmcl generate? I did find a work around but I would like to get some other ideas from the IDMS folks out there. Any thoughts?*

**Answer:** Many shops place a delete dmcl load module xxxxxxxx immediately after the punch load module xxxxxxxx in the dmcl modification process (same with dbtables) this way dmcl and dbtable load modules (which do absolutely nothing sitting around the catlod) do not hold needed space! (For now you could identify all the load modules residing in the catlod and manually delete them.)

*Question: Why would a DC-COBOL program have the following command in it?:*

```
TRANSFER CONTROL TO 'SISR053' RETURN  
USING SIMK076-BALANCES
```

*How does this differ from a call or an instream copy?*

**Answer:** Your program is using IDMS services to call a sub-routine, which is the correct protocol to use in a CV environment. The transfer...return says to call SISR053 and return to me at the NSI. In general, it is more efficient to use a transfer control than a COBOL call. As to the in-stream copy....who knows....some one decided to make SISR053 an independent module. Check out the IDMS DML Reference COBOL manual, Section 5.75 (in book manager) for a complete discussion.

*Question: Another gotcha for me with release 14.1. I tried to sign on through TSO to my CV when it wasn't up. My session just hung. There is an outstanding message on the console, DC208002 CV not active retry or cancel. In 12.01 I would get a message that the back end session was not active and be back in TSO. Any ideas?*

**Answer:** Add the following to your CLIST: ALLOC F (SYSIDMS) DA ('your dataset (your member)') SHR and in your dataset (your member) add the following: CVRETRY=OFF.

*Question: In one of our CV's we have all of the application security set up using RESOURCE ACTIVITIES. What I need to know is what users have a specific RESOURCE ACTIVITY. Is there a report or something that can be used in release 12/14?*

**Answers:** 1) In 14.x with the expanded "DISPLAY" options in the "Command Facility," you can use: DISPLAY PRIVILEGES ON RESOURCE ACTIVITY application-name.activity-name.

In 12.x, you can get this information by writing a program using subschema IDMSSECS to scan all the "RES-GROUPAUTH" records in the DDLML area of your system dictionary. Retrieving the AUTHID where:

```
RESOURCETYPE = 'SAPP' and  
RESOURCENAME = 'application-name' and  
appropriate-bit in FUNCTIONS = 1.
```

It's been a long time, but I believe the "appropriate-bit" in the 32-byte FUNCTIONS is one less than the number associated with the RESOURCE ACTIVITY "application-name.activity-name".

2) If you have the SQL option, you can display those users who can execute a particular activity with Visual DBA. If you have lots of activities and lots of users/groups, this can take some time, but you do get the answer.

*Question: We have just brought up our first 14.1 CV. The dictionary utilities (IDD, SCHEMA, etc.) require us to type the commands in upper case. Our 12.1 CV's will accept lower case commands. What did I do differently this time, and how do I fix it?*

**Answer:** I had this same problem. I had assembled my RHDCOPTF module with the wrong entry point. I didn't realize at first that this was what caused the problem, but when I did a LOOK OPTIONAL APARS nothing was showing up. When I got the RHDCOPTF module assembled correctly it fixed a couple of problems I was having. Hope this helps.

*Question: I have a developer who needs to increase the occurs on an element in a record, this would make the record length over 32k, IDD screams loudly that anything over 32k is not acceptable. Even saw a statement in the IDD book about the 32k limit. We are on IDMS 14.0 (9810). Is there a way around this?*

**Answer:** The 32k limit is based upon the maximum default EXCP size of IBM-supplied access methods (as in BDAM—Basic Direct Access Method). This 32k limit applies to all 24-bit access methods because they still use the DCB control block to connect to programs. Unless

you want to write custom EXCP code for your databases, you're stuck with a 32k maximum "blksize."

**Question:** Does anyone know how to interpret the time in the journal's (jtrds) 'time' record? I have a value of x'4555e343' in there. What would that be in real time, or is this relative to the EPOC time?

**Answer:** Here's the format of the time stamp (from section 3.3.1 of the SQL reference manual) 3.3.1 internal representation. Date/time values are represented internally by 64-bit binary numbers. The bits, numbered from the left starting with 0, have the following meaning:

Bits	Meaning
Bits 0 through 26	Number of days since January 1, 0001
Bits 27 through 43	Number of seconds in the day since = midnight
Bits 44 through 63	Number of microseconds since the last = second

**Question:** In our shop we are storing the messages for our online system in the DCMSG area. The ADS reference manual says to use a prefix other than DC. No problem, we use ME. It also says to use a message number in the range 900001 - 999999. We are doing this, but I am curious as to why it is necessary? With the unique prefix (ME), it seems that all message numbers (000001 - 999999) should be ok to use. Can anyone give me any insight on this?

**Answer:** The only problem I can think of is that if you are going through a system dump and looking at the last 33 messages (which only contain the message number, not the prefix) you would not know if it was a DC prefixed message or an ME prefixed message. I have run into this problem on rare occasions with third party products.

**Question:** We are encountering an abend 878 rc 0C (no sufficient LSQA available) in CA-IDMS. This comes up when a developer ran a program, which updates a field in the database records. They are claiming that they were able to run the same program the day before and the only change in the environment was they used a refreshed'db (when they had the 878 abend). Any suggestions on how to tackle this problem?

**Answer:** Well, here goes ...

```
IDMS DC390005 V2 RHDCPARM FREESTG RELEASED ....800K (a)
IDMS DC390006 V2 REGION NEEDED TO START UP....4,740K
IDMS DC390020 V2 TOTAL AMOUNT OF XA STORAGE...39,652K
IDMS DC390007 V2 SYSTEM CONFIGURATION SIZE ....3,588K
IDMS DC390008 V2 STORAGE RETURNED TO OPSYS....3,756K (b)
```

When an IDMS region starts, it does a variable-length GETMAIN on all below-the-line memory he can, limited ONLY by the amount of private area available, or the region= card. It then IMMEDIATELY performs a FREEMAIN on an amount of storage determined by the FREESTG parameter in the #DCPARM macro (a). It is important to note that this storage is released at the HIGH END of the private address space. IDMS continues with its startup routines, and when completed, performs another FREEMAIN of what's left (b).

It is equally important to note that THIS freemain is released to the low end of the private area. It is my understanding that certain things that IDMS does, during the life of a region, that must be "LSQA eligible." When an amount of storage is needed for an 'LSQA eligible' request, the OPSYS starts searching from the HIGH END of the private area until it finds what it needs, OR until it finds the storage in use by IDMS. It will NOT search for free storage at the LOW END of the private area, regardless of how much is there. The solution, make the FREESTG as close as possible to (a) + (b) (per CA recommendation). I had just opened an issue with CA on this two weeks ago. There does not appear to be (within IDMS) a way to see how much of (a) you have used.

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*Question: Has anyone ever received the following error message?*

DC016003 V7 T354 97227502 TASK:ADS2  
PROG:CCTRXRF FREED STORAGE AT ADDRESS  
17C64008 WAS FOUND TO HAVE BEEN  
VIOLATED DC027007 V7 T354 TASK:ADS2  
PROG:CCTRXRF ABENDED WITH CODE D002

*We've been puzzling over this for quite some time. The DBA made a change to a VSAM file (redefined a three byte packed field to a three byte alphanumeric field). Initially, there was an IDMSDBIO error being issued as well and the system wouldabend with a 3970. I've since applied several APARS, which seem to have resolved the abend, but the freed storage violation persists.*

**Answer:** From what I understand, the IDMS performs a GETSTG request, it places "bookmarks" around the storage (four or eight bytes on both ends with information about the task that requested the storage, and perhaps an

eyecatch). The bookends are not modified by the application. When the task issues the FREESTG, the IDMS system checks the bookends to make sure they are the same as when the GETSTG created them. If they are different, you get the message you received. What caused this? Some task (system or application) wrote over one or both bookends of the storage (and possible/probably the usable storage in between, although the message does not explicitly verify that). How to prevent this? Storage protection at the system and program levels would help isolate the problem, but might not prevent it (nothing in the IDMS run-time monitoring can prevent a program from declaring an array of 100 elements, and then writing the 101st; storage protection is designed to prevent one task from overlaying storage owned by ANOTHER task). Applying APARs is usually a good idea in cases like this, and IN A TEST ENV turning on protect and beating the beejeebers out of the suspect programs is another approach.

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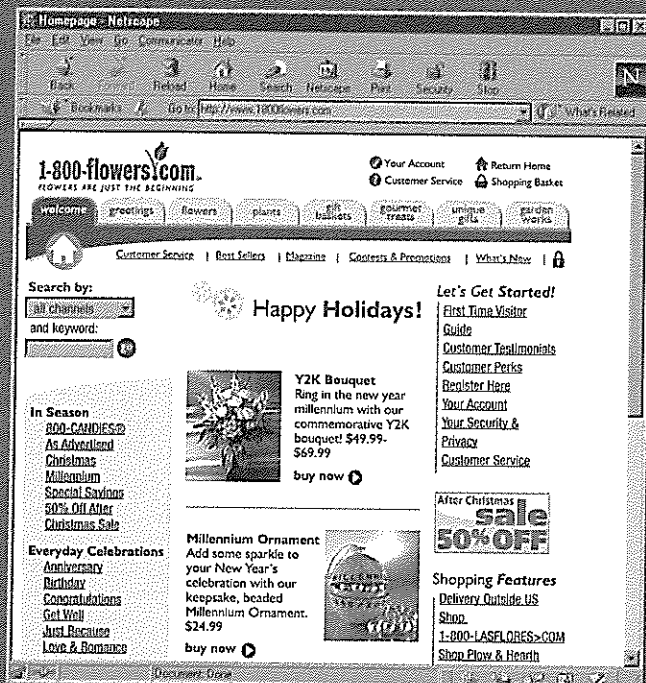
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