

Formally approved exceptions offer benefits in addition to formalizing organizational learning. Exceptions serve as a release valve, releasing the enterprise built-up stress. Managers become frustrated if they are told they cannot do something even if they are sure it benefits the business. Stress increases and the exception process provides a transparent channel to release frustration without threatening IT Governance.

Contract-first Development

Business analysts work with users to define requirements into contracts. These contracts acts as marching orders for component development. These represent requirements as well as test plans that an analyst can execute to guarantee that the services meet the requirements.

Lessons Learned (or to be learned)

SOA adoption requires:

- Blend of strategic and tactical perspective
- Understanding of “real” business opportunity and value
- More than just an architecture—it requires a project profile, processes, organization and management


Why won't SOA be adopted?

- Lack of awareness at all levels (CEO and CIO levels) on how SOA may help companies become and stay competitive
- An IT culture that is resistant to change (CIO must drive SOA to ensure IT adoption)
- Certain business patterns that are not agreeable to SOA

What will be adopted instead?

- A continuation of what we have now
- More tightly-coupled and inflexible applications
- Point-to-point interfaces
- Lots of replicated and unmanaged data repositories

Make a note!

- Tools and technologies will not automatically give you SOA. Do not rush to deploy merely technological solutions.
- SOA without good data is doomed to failure. Do not ignore master data, quality of data, and security issues.
- SOA without governance will not realize its full potential.
- SOA is a LONG TERM cultural shift. Do not underestimate the cultural issues surrounding changes.
- Weight in your priorities. Business case = innovation + agility + total cost of ownership.
- Implement in increments. Start small -> Deliver -> in Phases -> Total delivery with Value. 

TUG Supports COMMON Education Foundation

By Vaughn Dragland



*Education Foundation representatives
Laura Ubelhor and Michelle August*




During the Fall 2006 COMMON Conference in Miami Beach, Florida, TUG donated a couple of terrific items to the Silent Auction, in support of the COMMON Education Foundation¹.

The first item was a full-page advertisement in the TUG magazine (worth US\$2500) which was picked up by PlanetJ, for a winning bid of US\$751.

The second item was a full-conference registration at TEC '007, TUG's annual 3-day technical education conference, April 17–19, 2007 (worth US\$825). Doreen Hannon from Guelph, Ontario, had the winning bid of US\$320.



Silent Auction table

All of the proceeds will go to the COMMON Education Foundation. Thanks to all who participated in this worthy cause! 



Doreen Hannon - senior programmer/analyst - Information Systems, Homewood Health Centre Inc., Guelph, Ontario

¹The COMMON Education Foundation promotes higher education in the information technology area. It does so in several ways including awarding tuition reimbursement scholarships to students attending accredited universities, and by providing scholarships to instructors at an Academic Initiative for System i college to attend COMMON conferences and IBM Summer School.

To fulfill these and other goals, the Foundation raises money through a variety of methods, one being the Silent Auction held at each COMMON conference.