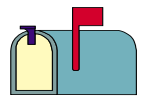


@tug.on.ca (letters to the *editor*, etc.)



—Original Message—

From: Irene van der Voet
[mailto:ivandervoet@fluids.ittind.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2001 10:02 AM
To: sachedia@mattel.com
Subject: **AS/400 system and RPG**

Hello Alkarim Sachedina,
As a TUG member, I found your e-mail address in the TUG magazine. If you have an IBM AS/400 system, do you have a moment to respond to a few questions? We are considering upgrading our programming development on the AS/400 from RPG/400 to using RPG IV / RPG ILE. What percentage of your RPG work is done in RPG IV / ILE and what percent is done in RPG/400? If you use RPG IV / ILE did you experience any issues with doing programming development in RPG IV / ILE verses development with RPG/400? Thank you in advance for your time.
Irene van der Voet
Senior Analyst Programmer
ITT Flygt Canada
Email: ivandervoet@fluids.ittind.com

Hi Irene,
Upgrading to ILE will be very beneficial. IBM is spending all their efforts (as far as RPG is concerned) on RPG IV language. RPG/400 has not been enhanced at all in the past few years. I have been using RPG IV for almost all of my new development. The new functionality, op-codes, built-in functions, extended "C" specs, etc have brought a new fresh perspective to code design, structure and ease of use. It is now possible to write an RPG IV program without indicators! Keep in mind; the DDS still uses indicators.
As far as programming issues, you can start with a simple existing RPG/400 source and convert it to RPG IV source by using the IBM supplied CVTRPGSRC command. Compare the original RPG source with RPGLE source. This will give you an indication of the differences. You can then compile the program using CRTBNDRPG (Create Bound RPG Program) command and review the compiled listing.

There are some challenges of understanding the "D" specs, issues related to activation groups used in the ILE environment and various compiler options. The more advanced features, and real benefits, are in creating modules and service programs.
Also, if you are using multi-member database files and OVRDBF commands with a mixture of RPG/400 (a.k.a. OPM) and RPG IV (a.k.a. ILE) programs within a job you will need to make sure you read up on the OVRSCOPE & OPNSCOPE parameters.
You would think I was writing a book... In short, move to RPG IV (one step at a time.) There are a lot of new features and techniques that make programming fun again.
Regards,
Alkarim Sachedina
Business Analyst,
Information Services
Mattel Canada Inc.
☎ (905) 501-5143
✉ alkarim.sachedina@mattel.com



Al Sachedina



From: wende.boddy@home.com
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2001
To: dragland@tug.on.ca
Subject: **Terrific TEC TUG'ers**

As I drove home this afternoon, tired but happy after the 8th Annual Technical Education conference I couldn't help but reflect on how over the years we have certainly become more polished in our approach to this huge event. With grit and determination from some keen key players, it just seems to all fall into place on the actual day!

There is nothing else out there in the marketplace that is being offered that is comparable to this event for this low cost, with this calibre of speakers, plus the many choices of topics that are geared to the iSeries, AS/400 world. So we should keep reminding all the TUG members out there who keep asking for this type of education, that we are the "valued added user group" and we keep delivering. Congratulations TUG Board and volunteers for a great job!

Regards,
Wende E. Boddy
Toronto Users Group for Midrange Systems
Association Manager
(905-607-2546)

From: grigg@pfw.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 17
To: dragland@tug.on.ca
Subject: **TUG/400 e-server magazine**

I just received a copy of the April/May 2001 Volume 16, Number 5 edition of the TUG/400 magazine and thought it was very informative. I do have a request to reprint one (or part) of one of your articles. I work for PFW Systems Corporation, a Premier Business partner with IBM. We distribute a quarterly newsletter to our customer base and prospective customers. Distribution is approximately 4500.

I am in the midst of putting together our Spring edition which has a strong e-business tone. I was wondering if I may receive permission to reprint the cover story: "IBM eServer: Takeing E-business to the top".

Regards,
Jennifer Grigg



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