

TEC '007

EDUCATION: SHAKEN NOT STIRRED

By Glenn Gundermann, TEC Chair



Are you committed to yourself, to your education, to the System i?

I saw this in my one of my favourite newsletters (www.personalbest.ca): Author **Ken Blanchard** said, "There's a difference between interest and commitment. When you're interested in doing something, you do it only when it's convenient. When you're committed to something, you accept no excuses—only results." What about you? Are you ready for results?

It might not be convenient for you to take three days out of your busy schedule to attend a computer conference but it will be time well spent. If you want results, then you need to attend! It takes serious effort to keep up to date with everything. There are a lot of resources available but the best quality and quickest way to get your hands on the latest information is to come to our conference.

My memory's not as sharp as it used to be. Also, my memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

Use it or lose it as they say. You must exercise your grey matter and there is a lot of new System i knowledge for you to absorb.

Too many are complacent with the status quo. You might have a system that is

one or two versions back from being current (V5R4 since January) and you're wondering why you should learn the new stuff. Well I'll tell you why. It takes a while to learn all of the new enhancements and you don't want to wait until you need it. You must be prepared ahead of time. You must know what the capabilities are of the System i in order to plan how to be able to handle the next new requirement.

We have what you need.

We have the latest and greatest topics with the best speakers you can find anywhere; everything for the RPG programmer, operations staff, and project manager, covering topics over two days. These include RPG, ILE, SQL, Web Services, EGL, RSE, debugging with WDS, disaster recovery, Linux, security, PHP, and more. Please check out the latest schedule on our Web site at www.tug.ca/tec.

While TEC stands for technical education conference, we have a whole track on both days dedicated to Professional Development. We have lectures given by members from PMI and other organizations to give you an advantage in the business world of IT.

With our partnership with IBM, we are able to offer a day of hands-on labs at the IBM Toronto Lab on the third day of our conference. There is a long list of topics available and this will be posted on our Web site.

While we think everyone should spend three days at TEC '007, we appreciate that some companies might not be able to spare everyone to come at once. We have corporate badges available in order for you to share your registration with others



in your company. We also have a one-day registration available if that is all you have time to attend.

The decision maker in your department should definitely register for our Executive Breakfast. We have world-renowned **John Pratt** from IBM giving his insight.

Our keynote speaker is the well-known **Paul Tuohy**. Paul is the author of *Re-engineering RPG Legacy Applications*, *The Programmers Guide to iSeries Navigator*, and the self teach course *iSeries Navigator for Programmers*.



We have Canada's largest System i Vendor Showcase on display with market-leading System i vendors. Anyone, including those not attending TEC '007, can attend this no-charge event, enjoying our hors'd'oeuvres table and cash bar while getting informed on the products and services available by the vendors.

Following the Vendor Showcase, we have a special feature by **Jon Paris** and **Susan Gantner** on Day 1 at 5:30 PM, open for anyone—not just paid attendees, presenting "It's All in your Mind". This is a session exploring the power of the human mind with some enlightening and entertaining discussions and demonstrations. You may learn that your brain is capable of more than you give it credit for.

Léo Lefebvre



TEC always has multiple tracks of lecture sessions over two full days



Could a TEC Sponsorship Benefit Your Company?

By Jay Burford

Have you thought about it? TEC is the largest conference and Showcase for System i users in the GTA. ● If you have a booth in Showcase and you sponsor an Exclusive Coffee Break, you could have your personnel handing out your company's literature and directing people to YOUR booth. This could increase both your company's image and the traffic at your booth. ● Sponsoring the Executive Breakfast would provide visibility and access to the corporate decision makers. Are these the people you wish to influence? If so, this is the place! ● A printed invitation at each place setting at the Keynote Luncheon would get you recognition and could bring additional attendees to your late afternoon session on Day 2. ● At Showcase on Day 1, subsidizing the cash bar during the last session of the day would provide lots of opportunities to meet and greet attendees. ● Sponsorship of the buffet lunch that day would provide instant recognition and appreciation for your company. ● Placing your company's literature in the binder or bag given to each attendee would guarantee that they will receive the material. ● If you provide the CDs containing all of the handouts you would have on-going access to the attendees as they continue to reference the CDs over the years.

These are just a few ideas, but we are willing to "tailor" a sponsorship to accommodate your needs. Don't miss a great marketing opportunity! To discuss possibilities please contact **Jay Burford** at (416) 226-3369 jburford@astech.com, or **Wende Boddy** at (905) 607-2546 admin@tug.ca.

Thank you for your support for **TUG TEC '007**.

Are you up to speed?

I've seen first hand that a lot of System i customers are not taking advantage of their System i. For programmers and operators alike, I've seen a lot of people who have not embraced the Remote System Explorer (part of WDSc) and iSeries Navigator (part of iSeries Access) for all of the capabilities these tools can do. **It's exactly like building a house with a hammer and handsaw instead of using power tools.**

At my last customer visit, I saw the configuration of three programmer's laptops. One didn't have iSeries Access installed, one had a very small partial install done, and one had an older version installed. I was there to teach them how to embed SQL in their RPG programs and they were still using the green-screen STRSQL



Day 3 features hands-on lab sessions at the IBM Toronto Lab


Léo Lefebvre




Attendees are treated to a Keynote Luncheon on Day 2. The keynote speaker for TEC '007 will be Paul Tuohy

instead of the GUI Run SQL Scripts. And they had various setups for WDS as well. I've seen two customers very recently who were creating new tables (a.k.a. physical files) with a field defined as numeric to store a date! I can't remember how far back DB2 and RPG came out with date field support but it's been a long time. One person said it was because her manager defined the file specs to use the same standards as their ERP package and the other person did this because he thought he'd have to worry about ILE if he defined it as a date field. We have advances and we must use them!

You must attend!

We are capable of achieving whatever we put in our minds... so put it into your mind that you want to attend TEC '007 and your boss will have no choice but to approve your request. See you then! 



Glenn Gundermann is an independent consultant, specializing in programming in RPG IV. When not programming, Glenn instructs at IBM and customer sites in North America, with a repertoire that includes RPG IV Programming, SQL, WDS, WebSphere Application Server, Operations, BRMS, WebFacing, HATS, CL Programming, DB2, iSeries Navigator, Query, Performance Analysis & Capacity Planning, Security Concepts & Planning, plus more. Glenn can be contacted at ggundermann@tug.ca or (647) 272-3295. 



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