

PHP Update

By John Mascarenhas

Zend has just released an update to Zend Core for i5/OS. This new release, called 1.5, includes updates to the DB2 Extension, which provides connectivity between PHP applications and DB2 on i5/OS. In some informal performance tests we have run, the updated DB2 Extension provides 10X performance improvements over the previous version. In addition, functions have been added to the Toolkit to provide more integration with i5/OS, including support for spool files, for calling service programs, data queues, user spaces, and job log list. For more information see the Zend Core for i5/OS User Guide at: www.zend.com/products/zend_core/zend_for_i5_os.

Zend recently released the GA version of Zend Platform for i5/OS. Platform is an add-on product that provides improved performance and monitoring for PHP ap-

plications. For customers that are deploying high volume PHP applications, Platform (through its caching of the PHP scripts) can offer improved performance. Zend Platform for i5/OS is available from the Zend Web site for a fee. We plan to announce order-taking capabilities in the future. For more information on Platform see: www.zend.com/products/zend_platform or the User Guide at http://www.zend.com/products/zend_core/zend_for_i5_os

At the US COMMON conference in Miami, Zend stated that they plan to support i5/OS V5R3 in early 2007. We listened intently to customer and partner feedback in order to jointly deliver Zend PHP solutions to the System i community announced earlier this year. The demand and excitement generated in the last several months with the introduction and delivery of the joint IBM and Zend PHP solutions on System i has been extremely rewarding, according to



Mike Pinette, VP Business Development and Alliances at Zend. The insights garnered from leading-edge early usage has indicated that supporting V5R3 is equally important to the platforms we currently support.

We respect the System i community and their needs, and as such will continue our collaboration to deliver Zend's PHP solutions to the System i as needed. We see an exciting future in serving the needs of System i with the IBM team. www.systeminetwork.com/content/f3/index.cfm?fuseaction=news.viewarticle&webID=1001&newsID=5031&issueID=6004&articleID=53268



John Mascarenhas
(iSeries Technical Sales Support, IBM Canada Ltd.) can be reached at 905-316-3661 or jmascare@ca.ibm.com.



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