



SOLUTIONS



The MBS Newsletter to the International MultiValue Community

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MBS ASIA ROADSHOW

MBS recently held U2 update presentations in Singapore and Malaysia. During these sessions, our special guest Susie Siegesmund (Director U2, IBM Data Management Solutions), focused on the strategic development of the U2 products, and how they can assist customers in the Asia region.

A number of sessions that focused on IBM's and MBS' commitment to the MultiValue marketplace were held at MBS' new Kuala Lumpur office, as well as individual meetings with a number of organisations.

MBS was pleased to receive a good response, and discover strong interest and we look forward to the continued growth of the MultiValue community, and the further use of these products throughout Asia.

Please contact Edwin Mair (edwin.mair@mbs.net.au) if you would like further information relating to IBM U2 products, and MBS' expansion into Asia.



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Our new office and facilities will ensure that we will be able to provide our customers with excellent service into the future.

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INTERNATIONAL SPECTRUM SAN DIEGO February 22-25 2005

This event promises to bring the International MultiValue community together for 4 days of technical presentations, news on major software releases, and the opportunity to meet with developers and see their products in action!

Sessions to be held include:

- Windows Disaster Recovery
- U2 and External Database Access
- MITS
- WebWizard
- Maximizing IBM UniVerse Performance for UNIX and Windows
- Government Software Compliance Regulations
- Working with XML in the Real World- A Case Study

Visit www.intl-spectrum.com for full program details, and registration information.

TRAINING FOR 2005

Training is essential to every business, and MBS is pleased to offer a number of courses that will assist in utilising your resources effectively.

A sample of these courses are listed below:

- IBM U2 UniData Administration
- IBM U2 UniData Fundamentals
- IBM U2 UniVerse Administration
- IBM U2 UniVerse Database Programming

MBS can tailor training courses for all our products, in order to meet your company's individual requirements. Ensure your staff are up-to-date with the latest developments; utilise your resources; maximise profits. Training will benefit your business.

Email training@mbs.net.au for further information, or phone 1300 793 333.



VET TechTip

A virus scan can be performed on a PC, without the need to fully start Windows. The steps below should be followed in the instance where a virus may load onto the system before VET starts.

1. Ensure that the latest virus signature file from the VET website has been downloaded to the PC
2. Shutdown and re-start the PC. As the Windows Operating System starts, press the Function 8 key <F8>, and a menu will appear.
3. Select 'Boot in safe mode with command prompt' and press enter.
4. The PC will continue to boot in 'safe' mode. By loading a 'minimum' system, onto the PC, the virus should not be started.
5. You will need to login as the administrator of the PC, or as a user of the PC with administrative privileges.
6. When the system finishes booting into safe mode you will be in a 'cmd.exe' window. A DOS- like command line will appear.
7. Enter `cd \vet` and press enter.
8. You should now be in the C:\VET directory unless VET has been installed elsewhere on the system.
9. Enter `vet32` and press enter.
10. VET will start, and the PC can now be scanned.
11. Once the scan is complete, shutdown VET, and shutdown the cmd.exe window.
12. Do a Ctl-Alt-Del to shutdown the PC and reboot normally from the Ctl-Alt-Del menu.

UNIDATA 7.1 BETA PROGRAM

The IBM UniData 7.1 Beta program is here! Key enhancements include:

- External Database Access (EDA), which provides the ability to run your existing applications using IBM DB2 as the data store.
- External Metadata Management, a GUI tool to aid in creating the mapping of your existing data to DB2 tables.
- RFS/TP for Windows, which allows UniData 7.1 on Windows platforms to take full advantage of the capabilities of RFS (recoverable file system).
- Non-RFS-based transaction processing, which permits coding applications to use transactional constructs such as BEGIN TRANSACTION and COMMIT, without the requirement of running RFS, on any platform supported by UniData 7.1.
- UniXML Class for UniObjects for .NET, an enhancement to the present UniObjects for .NET development kit released with UniData 6.1, providing a class for integrating XML capabilities in your .NET applications.
- Connection Pooling for UniObjects for .NET & UniObjects for Java, which provides licensed connection pooling capabilities for multi-threaded, high performance, multi-tier applications.
- BUILD.INDEX CONCURRENT, which provides the ability to access files while building or rebuilding them, allowing files to remain available while index maintenance is being performed.
- SSL for U2 Windows Clients adding security to UniObjects and ODBC.
- SSL Client Configuration Tool, facilitating the configuration of SSL parameters for use with UniObjects and ODBC.

The Beta 1 cycle began in late November and introduced EDA, Connection Pooling for

UniObjects for .NET, RFS/TP for Windows, SSL for UniObjects and ODBC, and the UniXML Class for UniObjects for .NET.

Beta 2 for UniData 7.1 is just a few weeks away and will contain improvements to the EDA offering, as well as Connection Pooling for UniObjects for Java, BUILD.INDEX CONCURRENT, and Transaction Processing without RFS for all UniData 7.1-supported platforms, SSL Client configuration Tool, and more.

If you are an MBS Business Partner and UniData is included in your database offering and you are interested in the advanced capabilities of UniData 7.1, please contact us at U2BETA@mbs.net.au.



GENERAL IT NEWS

Microsoft & U2

Microsoft has ceased pay-per incident and premier support for Windows NT 4.0 as at 31/12/04, with on line support ending 31/12/06. IBM U2 will continue its support of U2 products on Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 for the foreseeable future, as long as this platform remains in widespread use.

U2 Certification News

Certification for UniData and UniVerse on AIX 5.3 is on target for February 2005.

Product Release Update

- wIntegrate 6.0 for Windows Platforms
- SystemBuilder SB+/SBCClient 5.3.7
- UniData 6.1.6 for Compaq TRU64 4.0d
- UniVerse 10.1.7 for AIX

Please check the Product Availability Matrix for more product release information:

<http://www.ibm.com/isource/cgi-bin/goto?on=IMNL105J02>

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Keep up-to-date with the latest developments and new technology which can benefit your business.

- UniVerse
- UniData
- MITS
- mvQuery
- UniVision
- WebWizard
- SB + and SBClient
- RedBack
- wIntegrate
- Masterpack
- Warehouse Manager
- ViaDuct FX
- Websphere

Visit www.mbs.net.au, or email rachell.raynor@mbs.net.au for up-to-date product brochures and information on any of the above products.

UNIDATA INDEX PERFORMANCE TIP

Users may sometimes feel that index performance is too slow to suit them. Here is one way to help improve performance:

Research has shown that if the indexed field is defined in the dictionary as multi-valued when it is in fact single-valued, then performance suffers by a substantial margin. Single-valued fields mistakenly specified as multi-valued should be corrected and the index rebuilt. (Please note, however, that arbitrarily defining a multi-valued field to single-valued in order to improve performance will fail because incorrect results can be returned).

For example, a common range check criteria is for dates:

```
SELECT TIMECARD WITH DATE >= "01/02/2005"  
AND WITH DATE <= "01/02/2005"
```

Correctly specifying the date dictionary attribute as single-valued and then deleting, creating and building the index again can produce a significant speed improvement.

How to Enable RedBack Code Generation in SB+

SB+ version 5.2.4 introduced a change that requires the user to set up flags to create RedBack code in PD.P. This feature was not documented in the Readme for that version. In SB+ versions 5.3.4 and later, the user must set three flags to enable PD.P to generate RedBack code:

DMCONT SB.CONTROL attribute 45.1
VOC WWLIB attribute 1
VOC WW.SB.PROCESS attribute 1

U2 USER GROUP

Visit www.u2ug.org for up-to-date news, technical information, and U2 resources.

This site also contains links to other U2 based sites that contain a wealth of information, including educational tools and background material.

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