



# SOLUTIONS



For users of MultiValue products in Australia,  
New Zealand & South East Asia

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## IBM U2 ROADSHOW



Recently held in Sydney, Melbourne and New Zealand, the IBM Roadshow was a great opportunity for our customers to learn about the latest developments within the U2 family of products, and the future directions that IBM intends to take

Susie Siegesmund, Director U2, provided a detailed update on the IBM U2 MultiValue Databases and Tools. The topics covered included:

- IBM's Software Strategy
- IBM U2 & Tools Roadmap
- On Demand Business
- U2 Business Objectives

The product roadmaps were of particular interest to many of our customers who attended, as was the focus on product integration. IBM's support of the U2 product family continues to strengthen, offering numerous benefits to our customers.

For those who were unable to attend the roadshow, the presentation is available on the MBS website ([www.mbs.net.au](http://www.mbs.net.au)). If you require further details on any of the information, please contact your account manager, or email [info@mbs.net.au](mailto:info@mbs.net.au)

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## INTERNATIONAL SPECTRUM

The Multi Value event of the year is only 3 weeks away. International Spectrum is being held in:

**Sydney-** 12th-13th October at Star City Casino,  
and

The MultiValue Technology day in:

**Melbourne-** 18th October at Le Meridien

The Melbourne Technology day is a new event on the calendar, and is designed to provide an opportunity to experience the latest developments in the Multi Value world in a complete one day event.

Once again, MBS is proud to be associated with these events as a major sponsor, and we encourage all of our customers and partners to attend.

Martin Meier, Managing Director, MBS emphasised that *"There is value for everyone that attends, and the scope of this conference continues to prove that the MultiValue world is as strong as ever"*.

Meier also stressed that the general IT community may not realise just how prominent the use of Multi Value products are within Australia, adding that this Spectrum conference is sure to be even bigger and better than last year.

More information on this years event, including registration information is included later in this newsletter.





## **INTERNATIONAL SPECTRUM 2004** **CONFERENCE SESSIONS**

Some of the sessions to be presented at the conference by MBS staff and others include:

- **MITTS: Interactive Reporting/OLAP for MultiValue Systems**
- **mvQuery: An Ad-Hoc MultiValue Reporting Tool**
- **Migration Tricks and Traps: Considerations When Migrating to New Platforms**
- **Implementing RedBack Into a UniVerse/UniData Application: A Case Study**
- **A Practical Guide to Tuning UniVerse**
- **UniVerse & UniData Technical Directions and Roadmap**
- **WebWizard and ViaDuct: Via Systems Product Update**
- **Microsoft's .NET: Is it a good fit for MultiValue and Do We Need It?**
- **Security and Firewalls: Technical Advice and Tips for the MultiValue Developer**
- **DesignBais: A New Web Toolset for the MultiValue Developer**
- **mvSQL: Giving SQL Capability to MultiValue Applications**
- **PRC: A Configuration Management Tool for MultiValue Software**

Whether end user or vendor, we know that you will enjoy these and other productivity enhancing technical presentations and networking opportunities at this gathering of the MultiValue community.

**To register to attend the Sydney or Melbourne event, please visit <http://www.intl-spectrum.com>.**

**We look forward to seeing you there.**

## **MVQUERY VERSION 5 IS NOW AVAILABLE**

**mvQuery**

mvQuery Version 5 introduces a range of new features designed to complete the query processing model and enhance the reporting and exporting facilities of the product.

The primary focus of this release is on extending and completing support for more complex multivalued queries, and on support for managing higher data volumes. A number of improvements have been made, making it easier to process queries and results, and export information.

For further information on the new features mvQuery can offer your business, or to arrange a demonstration, please contact your account manager, or email [info@mbs.net.au](mailto:info@mbs.net.au)

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## **UNIOBJECTS FOR .NET**

With the release of UniData 6.1 along with the UniData 10.1A Clients, IBM announces the availability of UniObjects for .NET for both UniVerse and UniData. UniObjects for .NET is certified for UniVerse 10.1 and 10.0 as well as UniData 6.1 and 6.0.

Create high performance applications using this new native managed interface written in C#, for the U2 environment. UniObjects for .NET is available when you order UniData 6.1 or UniVerse 10.1 on any platform, for electronic delivery. UniObjects for .NET will also be included with the Personal Editions of UniVerse 10.1 and UniData 6.1 which should be available in the near future from MBS.

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## **WINTEGRATE V5.2 NOW AVAILABLE**

wlIntegrate v5.2, the first full Unicode release, is now generally available. wlIntegrate v5.2 supports the display of multi-byte characters, so wlIntegrate can now be installed on most European and Asian language PC's. wlIntegrate v5.2, and a basic "Using wlIntegrate" manual, have also been localised for Simplified Chinese.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

International Spectrum, Sydney	12-13 October
Technology Day, Melbourne	18 October
Masterpack User Group, Sydney	October Date TBA
Masterpack User Group, Melbourne	October Date TBA

**PRODUCT PROFILE**  
**- ZEUS DATA INTEGRATION™**



Data Integration is the Watchword for the 21st Century - *If you are looking for Data Integration, here's a Fast and Inexpensive way to get it*

A programmer named *<your name goes here>* is asked to import some data from a customer, vendor, or other third party, into the company's system. Being a bright and experienced programmer, you dust off something you've already written which is similar and begin hacking it up to fit the new requirements. When you are done, four things are true:

- It works.
- It is not code you are particularly proud of, due to lack of time.
- You are the only person who can run it successfully.
- You will have to hack it up again to meet the next project's new requirements.

Sounds familiar, right? We've all been the star of this particular movie. Robert Coltun and Charles Barouch of Mount Olympus Systems got tired of reliving this scenario each time they went to work for a new employer or client. Their solution was to develop a software product that meets the following criteria:

- It works.
- It's code that any programmer could be proud of, due to over a year of development.
- Any programmer or analyst could run it after following a nine-page tutorial which takes roughly 20 minutes.
- It is feature-rich so that you don't have to worry about it lacking the tools needed for the next project's new requirements.
- It's inexpensive enough that you can just buy it and never have to write it again.

**An Affordable Tool:** The result is Zeus Data Integration™, an affordable lightweight ETL tool.

What You Get:

- A fully GUI Client/Server system consisting of:
  - A one-user-at-a-time version of the Zeus Server
  - Five (5) copies of the Zeus Client

- One year of technical support using the built-in Help Interlink™

- The ability to move data between:
  - MV files (supporting Attribute, Multi-value, Sub-value, Text Value, and Sub-Text Value)
  - Counted files (like report images)
- Delimited files (like CSV, tab-delimited, pipe-delimited, etc.)
- A built-in rule translator that displays rules in simple language, and allows you to write sophisticated transformations with a few keystrokes and mouse clicks.

The latest release of Zeus includes features such as SQL, XML, multi-concurrent-users, Z-2-Z public/private key encryption, and improved support for MV databases.

**Move Data Faster:** Maybe you're a VAR, and you want to sell YOUR product to a customer who already has an existing application. Integrating their data into your product can be a slow, expensive, and possibly deal-breaking activity. With Zeus, you have the tools to move data faster and cheaper.

Maybe you're a consultant, and your bid on data conversion projects always get rejected because the time frames are too long and the fees are too high? Build Zeus into the price and bring those jobs in with winning bids and reasonable budgets. Once a client can move data more easily, the opportunities to build them new maps for new needs will keep on growing.

Maybe you're an end-user, and

- your vendors offer discounts for orders sent in their formats or
- your customers demand that you send them reporting in their format

These are situations where Zeus shines.

***Charles Barouch will be in Australia in October for the upcoming Spectrum events in both Melbourne and Sydney. To arrange for a demonstration of this product at either event or, if you are unable to attend Spectrum and would like to see the product at MBS' offices in Sydney or Melbourne, please email [info@mbs.net.au](mailto:info@mbs.net.au), or call 1300 793 333 (within Australia) or +61 3 9571 3111(outside Australia).***

## GETTING TO ACCOUNTABILITY WITH PRC SOFTWARE TOOL



The buzzword today for corporations worldwide is accountability. In the wake of high-profile scandals that threaten to undermine investor and customer confidence, companies are faced with more stringent regulatory requirements to tighten up their governance practices. IT departments have become the lightning rod for managing critical information in the enterprise

Many are unprepared to address these metadata issues, says Susan Joslyn, president of SJ+ Systems Associates, Inc. "The first thing auditors want to see is the framework with established processes," Joslyn emphasises, "You need tools in place that easily and transparently track changes at all levels. End-to-end auditing and reporting must be maintained, as well as test management."

To help companies that need greater control, SJ+ has introduced new releases of its popular software configuration management tool, PRC.

"As soon as you've set up the first few configuration screens, the documentation required for many of the new IT governance guidelines is in place, along with the procedures – if only roughly – and the rules to support and audit those procedures," Joslyn explains. "You're getting more control over what is audited, including data elements, and additional reporting capabilities."

The good news, Joslyn says, is that the tool is not adding a layer of complexity. "Compliance can be hard, so you want the tool to be easy to learn, set up and use. Our customers tell us PRC actually makes the overall environment more conducive to improved practices, since the framework is in place. So, whether a company is facing internal or external audit, other regulatory guidance, or just a corporate initiative, the pieces fall into place more easily."

Another chief advantage of a tool like PRC lies in its scalability, allowing customers to start small and grow their compliance "best practices" over time.

For further information on PRC, visit [www.sjplus.com](http://www.sjplus.com)

*Susan Joslyn will be presenting in a workshop session at the Sydney and Melbourne Spectrum conferences, and will be on hand to demonstrate PRC. Be sure to watch the upcoming issue of Solutions for more information about how life-cycle management tools can bring added clarity to your IT environment.*

## INTERNET SECURITY

Internet security is a growing problem, and can impact all businesses that choose to conduct or offer online services. As an enabler for a whole range of offences, including drug trafficking and money laundering, identity threat is frequently encountered in the context of fraud and illegal gain.

With society becoming more dependant on information technology, consumers often have multiple electronic identities. The impersonal nature of interaction and transactions that occur, can make it easy for criminals to steal a persons, or businesses personal information.

The use of Internet banking in particular has increased dramatically, resulting in more consumers at risk of theft, however, as consumers, along with their use of the internet, have become more savvy, and have more knowledge of the risks involved, they demand protection when accessing services electronically. Research conducted by Opinion Research on behalf of RSA Security, found that 63 per cent of

consumers were more aware of identity theft issues now compared to last year, and that while 18 per cent of consumers felt themselves to be safer as a result, 26 per cent considered themselves to actually be less safe.

Many respondents suggested that while new developments in technology and business processes continue to occur, they believe that there will always be people out there who have the resources and ability to commit fraud. This fear that consumers have of theft over the internet can not only harm confidence, but affect online business. According to the RSA survey, the number of consumers unwilling to share data with online shops has risen from 35 per cent in 2003 to 44 per cent this year.

"Although government, financial services institutions and the security industry have taken great steps over the past year to increase awareness of identity theft and encourage better security practices among consumers, organisations still need to go further if they want to see an increase in consumer confidence toward online business," John Worrall, VP of worldwide marketing at RSA Security, said in a statement.

A huge number of businesses have implemented security measures on their websites, and endeavour to educate their customers. More and more financial institutions, for example put out advisories warning customers not to be taken in by scam emails.

Businesses need to ensure that the online services they offer to customers are secure, and that customers are made aware of the security that exists. Consumers have become more aware of the dangers of using the internet for financial transactions, and ultimately the business needs to put them at ease.

"Awareness of identity theft is certainly the first step, but businesses clearly have a long way to go if they want consumers to feel protected," Worrall said. "Consumers must feel confident and safe when making online transactions - otherwise, businesses will never realise the cost savings and revenue potential of the internet."

Information for the above item was sourced form the Australasian Centre for Policing Research ([http://www.acpr.gov.au/research\\_idcrime.asp](http://www.acpr.gov.au/research_idcrime.asp)) and the Australian High Tech Crime Centre (<http://www.ahtcc.gov.au>) Please visit these sites for further information.

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