

ADABAS

the Adaptable DATA Base System

NEWSLETTER

Published by the International ADABAS Users Group and software ag of North America, Inc.

Vol. 3 No. 3, Dec. 1977

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by: Rob Macmillan
Department of Analytical Studies
Simon Fraser University

The success of the two ADAGROUP conferences in 1978 will, to a large extent, be determined over the next few months. During this time all users should decide what their contribution will be to the conferences. The call for papers for Boston (May, 1978) has been distributed. We are looking for a significant response from all ADAGROUP regions. Arrangements for Munich (September, 1978) are well underway. North American users should consider combining business with pleasure by taking a trip to Europe - we owe it to ourselves periodically.

Continued on page 11

CALL FOR PAPERS

WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTION! We are currently setting up the schedule for presentations--formal and informal, and special interest group discussions for the 5th International ADABAS Users Conference.

If you have an interest, an application, an unusual experience, an exciting endeavor, or just want to show your ideas, plan now to be included as a Speaker. All speakers giving a formal presentation will receive \$100.00. All formal presentations must be accompanied by a written document which will be included in the Conference Proceedings to be distributed to all attendees. If you would like to give a presentation, please contact, before January 15, either:

Barbara Futch
software ag
11800 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA. 22091
U.S.A.
703-860-5050, ext. 200

Rob Macmillan
President of ADAGROUP
Dept. of Analytical
Studies
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6
CANADA
604-291-4525

All written material must be sent by March 15, 1978. The Speaker giving the most captivating presentation will receive a \$500.00 prize--that's right, \$500.00 for simply giving a presentation about something of interest to you and the other ADABAS users attending the Conference.

Continued on page 4

ADABAS MAKES DATAPRO HONOR ROLL

The following is a telegram sent to John Maguire from DATAPRO. I think it tells the story.

DEAR MR. MAGUIRE:

I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT YOUR COMPANY'S PRODUCT, ADABAS, HAS BEEN NAMED TO THE 1977 DATAPRO SOFTWARE HONOR ROLL.

THIS YEAR'S HONOR ROLL MEMBERS WERE DETERMINED BY WHAT WE ARE CONFIDENT IS THE INDUSTRY'S LARGEST SURVEY OF ITS KIND. APPROXIMATELY 30,000 INDIVIDUAL COMPUTER SYSTEM USERS, REPRESENTING VIRTUALLY EVERY USER FACILITY IN THE UNITED STATES, WERE CONTACTED. TO BE BRIEF, YOUR PRODUCT WAS RANKED AMONG THE TOP 32 SOFTWARE PRODUCTS OUT OF 1223 PRODUCTS RATED BY THESE USERS.

ALSO, YOU MAY BE PLEASED TO LEARN THAT IN ADDITION TO APPEARING IN THE DECEMBER SUPPLEMENT TO OUR INFORMATION SERVICE, DATAPRO 70, THE RESULTS OF THIS YEAR'S SURVEY WILL AGAIN BE PROMINENTLY FEATURED IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF DATAMATION MAGAZINE, WITH WHOM WE COLLABORATED ON THE SURVEY.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW, EXPLAINING IN GREATER DETAIL THE SIGNIFICANCE OF YOUR PRODUCT'S ACHIEVEMENTS. HOWEVER, I WANTED TO ALERT YOU NOW AND SEND MY CONGRATULATIONS AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

MY BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS.

J. BURT TOTARO
VICE PRESIDENT
DATAPRO RESEARCH CORPORATION
1805 UNDERWOOD BOULEVARD
DELRAN, NJ 08075

Thanks to all of our users for caring enough to respond to the DATAPRO survey.

P. Webster

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|--|----|
| Source Code Validation. | 2 |
| SAG Reorganization. | 3 |
| 3.1.4 & 3.2.1 Differences Willie Kraatz | 7 |
| ADABAS Training Schedule. | 9 |
| Future Plans - Update | 15 |



Eastern Canada and Upper New York State
Bob Taylor (ADAGROUP Secretary/Treasurer)
I. & C.S.
Shell Canada Ltd.
505 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M1E 2H2
Canada
416-597-7073

Twenty-one persons representing twelve ADABAS installations attended the ADABUG meeting on September 13. During the business session the ADABUG Report was discussed. Most users felt that this vehicle was effective in helping recognize problem areas in advance.

Next on the Agenda was an informal presentation by Shell on the concepts of ADAMINT and ENVELOPE. Currently Shell and PAC are using ENVELOPE and both expect to switch to ADAMINT. It was stressed that the use of this product enhances the control the DBA has over the use of the Data Base. Other benefits include improved reliability, easier coding, and quicker implementation. Any questions on the use of this product can be directed to either installation.

Our next presentation was by Ralph Ghirozan on the role of the DBA. This is an ongoing series. Each installation gives a half hour presentation followed by a question-and-answer period. Ralph's presentation was an excellent analysis of the DBA function. I especially agree with his observation that the Data Dictionary is perhaps the most important tool for the DBA. This, of course, was an excellent tie-in for the afternoon presentation of Datamanager, the Data Dictionary developed by MSP Ltd.

Our thanks to Steve Ginsberg of MSP Canada for taking the time to present Datamanager to us. For those who are not yet committed to a Data Dictionary, I would remind you that this product is worthy of serious consideration. It has been recommended by software ag and at least one ADABAS user has reported favourably on it.

Before closing this meeting, we discussed the next meeting's agenda. Planned at the moment are: Consumers' Gas - the role of the DBA, Shell - how to handle a head crash, and R.D. Nickel (software ag) - Complete, the new TP package. This meeting will be held in Ottawa on December 6 at the Transport Canada Building. More details will follow.

Hawaii
Scott Watnabe
Honolulu Federal Savings & Loan Association
P.O. Box 539
Honolulu, HI 96809
808-546-5070

The first official meeting of ADAGROUP Hawaii was held on August 15, 1977. Among the 36 attendees were representatives from each of the participating ADABAS installations, including future ADABAS users for the State of Hawaii, Department of Education and State of Hawaii Judiciary.

The meeting was opened with a brief presentation given by a representative of each active ADABAS user and served to inform the attendees as to the status and use of ADABAS at each installation. Our special guest speaker was Mr. David Del Rio, who discussed concepts and techniques for ADABAS File Design, Recovery, Utilities, and Performance.

This first meeting was primarily a "get to know one another" and it was successful in establishing communication and rapport with the other users as well as increasing the user's knowledge and understanding of the ADABAS system.

In September, ADAGROUP Hawaii was honored with a visit from Mr. John Maguire, the highlight of which was a dinner meeting attended by John and Ann Maguire, David Del Rio, and the ADAGROUP Hawaii members. The members would like to express their appreciation to Mr. Maguire for a most memorable event.

In November, the ADAGROUP Hawaii members met to discuss the Change/Enhancement Request that will be submitted for the next ADABAS International Users Conference. Primary considerations were placed on enhancements to Addload, ADASCRIP+, and ADAMINT. The group will be meeting again to finalize and consolidate the change and enhancement request for submission by the January 1st deadline.

Continued on page 11

software ag REORGANIZATION

Kenneth D. Rardin has been named Senior Vice President of software ag of North America, Inc. His new responsibilities will encompass all technical operations and marketing support.

Tom Berrisford, who has been involved in marketing development and sales, will devote full time to his sales activities as Vice President in charge of the Mid-Atlantic region.

Ralph Partlow will move from technical support to sales. He will relocate in Miami, Florida, and become Vice President in charge of marketing for the Southern region.

Our continued support and thanks for their efforts in behalf of software ag go with these gentlemen in their new roles.

NEW ADABAS USERS

State of South Dakota
Bureau of Administration
Office of Systems Management
Capital Building
Pierre, SD 57501

The state administration plans to use ADABAS at their State Data Centers:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Pierre 370/158 OS/VS1 CICS | Vermillion 370/145 OS/VS2 TSO | Aberdeen 370/145 VM WESTI |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|

1 Nippon Kokan Kabustiski Kaisha
Tsurumi-Ku,
21-1 Suehiro-Cho,
Kanagawa-Ken,
Yokohama-Shi,
Japan

Type of business: Ship building and heavy machinery manufacturing. This is a second copy of ADABAS for Nippon and was selected to handle the increase in the information processing on a second machine. Their new hardware is a one meg 370/158 under VS2. A ship equipment management system will be the application put up under ADABAS. The Contact is Fujio Sasaki, manager of Information Systems Department - phone: 045-511-1331.

A committee of 15 studied 6 major DBMS's and selected ADABAS in August. The first major application to use ADABAS will be a Payroll Personnel System. Other areas will include Transportation, Social Services, the University, and the Department of Labor. The Data Base Coordinator is Ernie Barrett - phone: (605) 224-3688.

2 Shell Southern Africa (PTY) LTD
9 Riebeek Street
Cape Town 8001
South Africa

Shell is in the natural resources business. They found that ADABAS was the only DBMS that could do the job on their machine. They have a one megabyte 370/145 under OS/VS1. The first application to use ADABAS will be a sales statistics system. The DBA is Peter Feasley - phone: (021) 21-3111.

5 FATME
Via Anagina
203-00100 Rome
Italy

FATME manufactures telephone switching equipment. They have a 370/148 under OS/VS1. They plan to use ADABAS for their administration and for bill of material applications. The contact is Mr. Vigna - telephone (06) 4694.

3 Wright Investor's Service
Wright Building
Bridgeport, CN 06604

A well-known investment advisor and financial publisher manages accounts totaling over \$650 Mil. Their hardware is 360/50 which is running under EDOS. One of their applications which will use ADABAS is a Clients and Portfolios System (Trust Accounting) -- this is currently a DBOMP system. Another application is an extensive statistics research application for stock market analysis and reporting. The contact at Wright is Jack Staff - phone: (203) 377-9444.

6 Dow Chemical Holland
Herbert-H-DOW-WEG
Tierneuzen
Netherlands

This is the second Dow Installaton in Europe. They will run ADABAS on their 370/138 Under OS/VS1 with TASKMASTER for TP. They plan to implement a sales order system using ADABAS. Mr. Post is the DP manager and Mr. Stam is the DBA. They can be contacted on 0031/1150/8920.

4 ERATOM European Communities
(Commission of the
ISPRA Establishment)
Joint Research Center
I-21020
Italy

EURATOM is a nuclear Research Center of the European Communities. They have chosen ADABAS after comparison with S2000 and Inquire. They have a 370/165 under OS/MVT and TSO. They will use ADABAS for their Scientific Data Bases. Contact is Mr. Fattors (0332) 780131.

CALL FOR PAPERS Continued

Anyone wishing to make an informal presentation is requested to inform Rob or Barbara by March 15, 1978. Copies of viewgraphs or a brief outline must be received by April 15, 1978. \$25.00 will be presented to all informal Speakers. s o f t w a r e a g is presenting these cash gifts on behalf of the International Users Group and s o f t w a r e a g in order to make this Users Conference better than ever!

Special Interest Groups will meet in the following areas: Data Dictionary, DBA Tools, Education, Performance, Retrieval Interfaces. The only way the Users Group can work effectively for you and your company is to have you join the Group that holds the most interest for you. Plan now to be an active participant by jotting down points you'd like to discuss.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Education

Dave Oldham
Shell Oil Company
P.O. Box 20239
Houston, TX 77025
713-795-3781

In a recent discussion with Roy Wood we became aware of several training aids available for a nominal charge from software a g. Some of these were mentioned briefly at the Fourth International Users Conference in New Orleans, but there were some that were new to us. If you have an established education program for your ADABAS employees, you may be interested in contacting Roy for more information. Available now are an ADASCRIP+ Video cassette, ADABAS introductory slides, and copies of Roy's training materials: ADASCRIP+, ADAWRITER, File Definition, Direct Call Programming, ADAMINT Programming, and ADAMINT MACROS.

In the near future, a Data Dictionary fact sheet and Introductory pamphlet will be available.

If there are any comments or suggestions about software a g's training program, please contact Dave Oldham at the above address.

Retrieval Interface

Carl Garrison
Shell Oil Company
P.O. Box 20239
Houston, TX 77025
713-795-3970

This committee serves those users who signed up on the Retrieval Interface forms. We have received about one half of the forms. If you have a form and have not yet filled out the necessary information, please do so as quickly as possible and send it to Carl Garrison at the above address. If you would like to join this committee, please call Carl. The information we are collecting will be used by this committee as suggested areas of discussion for the Regional meetings and the Users Conference.

We have recently been in contact with Infomatics about their Mark IV interface with ADABAS. They still have no firm commitment date.

The ADAMINT interface for Mark IV is being developed by Simon Fraser University personnel. The modifications and documentation will be available soon. We should have a definite date by the time this Newsletter is distributed.

Change/Enhancement Requests

Dan Skwarcan
Associates Computer Center
1720 Ruskin
South Bend, IN 46604
219-284-6203

The Boston Conference is rapidly approaching. To facilitate the Change Enhancement Request proceedings, a schedule of events has been developed as follows:

- January 1, 1978 - Deadline for submission of Change Enhancement Requests.
- February 1, 1978 - Consolidated/collated Change Enhancement Requests with ballots, distributed to users.
- March 1, 1978 - Deadline for submission of Change Enhancement Request ballots.
- March 24, 1978 - Change Enhancement Requests with ballot totals submitted to software a g.
- April 14, 1978 - Deadline for software a g responses to Change Enhancement Requests.
- May 3, 1978 - Complete Change Enhancement Request Package distributed to users.
- May 17, 1978 - Boston Conference.

Please try to submit your request as soon as possible.

Each Regional Representative should insure that a certain amount of time at Regional meetings is spent in the area of Change Enhancements.

A copy of the Change/Enhancement Request has been included in past Newsletters. If you need extra copies of the form, please call Barbara Futch at (703) 860-5050. Please send all Change Enhancement Requests to:

Daniel R. Skwarcan
Associates Computer Center
1720 Ruskin
South Bend, IN 46604

Performance

Chuck Noone, II
Mattel Inc.
5150 Rosecrans Avenue
Hawthorne, CA 90250
213-644-0411

Continued on page 10

MUNICH USERS CONFERENCE

Munich, Germany

September 12-15, 1978

software ag and the International Users Group are working on arrangements for the Sixth International Users Conference in Munich, Germany, September 12-15, 1978. There are several travel options currently under consideration for the North American ADAGROUP members interested in attending this Conference. The three options and prices are detailed below.

Due to the limited space (these dates are just before Oktoberfest when hotels and planes are full), we are asking for your tentative reservations NOW! By January 1, 1978, we will need a deposit of

\$150.00. This deposit is fully refundable if cancellation is made prior to June 1, 1978. Should you need to cancel after June 1, 1978, and we are able to fill your place, a \$50.00 cancellation fee will be charged, the remaining \$100.00 will be refunded to you. If, due to late cancellation, we are unable to fill your place, no refund of the original \$150.00 deposit will be made.

Please send in your tentative reservation as soon as possible, using the enclosed form, or call Barbara Futch, (703) 860-5050, to reserve your place.

Travel Options

PLAN A

September 11-16, 1978

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Flight: New York to Munich (You book) | \$ 799.00 |
| Hotel: Munich - Four Seasons (Sept. 12-15, four nights) | 134.78 |
| Conference Registration* | <u>100.00</u> |
| Total Cost | \$1,033.78 |
| Total collected by software ag | \$ 234.78 |

PLAN B

September 11-16, 1978

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Flight: New York to Munich (software ag books) | \$ 799.00 |
| Hotel: Munich - Four Seasons (Sept. 12-15, four nights) | 134.78 |
| Conference Registration* | <u>100.00</u> |
| Total Cost | \$1,033.78 |
| Total collected by software ag | \$1,033.78 |

*Includes: Reception, Banquet, Buffet, and Three Lunches. (Castle Tour and Oktoberfest Tour: optional.)

* * *

Prices are subject to change. These figures are based on:

- Current rate of exchange: 2.3 DM = 1 US dollar;
- Per person based on double occupancy (single rate available on request);
- Current air fares.

PLAN C

September 9-24, 1978

PLAN B plus the following:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| September 9 | Depart New York for Paris |
| September 10 | Arrive Paris |
| 11 | Intercontinental Hotel 1/2 day and Nightclub Tours |
| September 12 | Munich |
| 13 | Four Seasons Hotel |
| 14 | Conference |
| 15 | Tours (see Column 1, "*Includes:") |
| September 16 | Rome (late flight) |
| 17 | Britannia Hotel |
| 18 | 1/2 day and Nightclub Tours |
| 19 | |
| September 20 | Florence |
| 21 | Baglioni Palace Hotel |
| September 22 | Zurich |
| 23 | Carlton Elite Hotel |
| September 24 | Depart Zurich for New York |

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| PLAN B Cost | \$1,033.78 |
| Add-on for PLAN C | <u>150.00</u> |

Total Cost \$1,183.78

Total collected by software ag \$1,183.78

Minimum Group needed in order to offer PLAN C. Hotels may be changed to comparable accommodations depending on availability. Breakfast daily except in Munich.

* * *

No price reduction has yet been determined for companions attending the Conference. Please remember, these rates are based on double occupancy and the current rate of exchange information.

(See page 16 for the Tentative Reservation Form.)

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 3.1.4 and 3.2.1 VERSIONS OF ADABAS

By: Willie Kraatz
E.I. DuPont Co.
Textile Fibers Department

1. Command-ID
 - A. Used for Format Buffer on Update Commands as well as Read Commands.
 - B. Is not released for L1, L4, AX, NX and must be released with RC or CL.
 - C. Is altered by OP Command to binary zeros.
 - D. Binary zeros are not valid as Command-ID. Under 3.1.4 was equivalent to spaces.
 - E. Using same Command-ID with L9 could result in Response Code 92.

2. New Commands - N2, S8, S9, C5, RC.

3. A2 Command dropped. Feature is now part of File Mode Utility.

4. Control Block has new areas or new functions.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|---------|
| Status Protection | / Option 1 | (35) |
| Value Option | / Option 2 | (36) |
| Additions | / Additions 1 | (37-44) |
| | / Additions 2 | (45-48) |
| Password | / Additions 3 | (49-56) |
| Cipher | / Additions 4 | (57-64) |
| | / Command Time | (73-76) |
| | / User Area | (77-80) |

5. Some response codes have different meanings.

6. ET Command does not release saved ISN lists or internally stored Format Buffer.

7. L1/L4

"I" in Option 2 field will return the next higher ISN record if the specified ISN does not exist. To be used when reading file in ISN sequence.

8. L3/L6

If reading in a multiple field sequence, the Value Option must be used with the current value in the Value Buffer.

Example

A. Define in storage a Format Buffer containing all the possible MU field entries or at least the majority and the field count as MUC. (MU = ADABAS Field Name)

B. Issue L3/L6 with Value Option.

C. Determine if all values for MU Field have been read. If not, read remainder with L1 Command.

D. Determine if the current value in Value Buffer is in this record. If it is not, the sequence has switched to the next higher value for Field MU. Move this value to the Value Buffer.

E. If the current value is in the record but the ISN number has not increased, the value has changed to the next higher value for MU. Determine which value it is and place it in Value Buffer.

The following is a good technique for L3 Commands on other descriptors. It saves time if MPM loses its pointers to next read and must reestablish the location.

```
05 FORMAT-BUFFER PIC X(NN) VALUE 'DE,XX..'.
05 RECORD-BUFFER PIC X(NN).
05 VALUE-BUFFER REDEFINES RECORD-BUFFER
PIC X(NN).
05 SEARCH-BUFFER PIC X(6) VALUE 'DE,..'.
```

9. N1/N2

Treatment of descriptor lists for non-NU descriptor fields omitted from Format Buffer. If field is in record before last field referenced, it will be placed in the null value chain. If it is after the last field referenced, it will be omitted from the null value chain. The requirements of 3.1.4 to have all non-NU descriptor fields specified in the Format Buffer with a value in the Record Buffer should still be followed. Value, if unknown, should be zero or blank.

10. S1/S2/S4

Hold ISN list option. List released by RC Command.

11. MPM Interface Code has changed. All batch programs must be relinked.

12. Expanded Utilities

```
ADAFIX - Restore a single file from full
        backup tape.
ADAWAN - Sub and super descriptors.
FILEMOD - Add new fields to file.
DBMOD - Start ISN reuse.
        Reorder data storage of file area.
DECOMP - Decompress a file creating a
        variable length block.
ADASEL - Create audit trail from SIBA tape.
ADASCRIP+
```

13. CICS Link Program 'ADABAS' has been modified to issue an RC Command with CID X'00000000' each time an ET is issued. This will be a temporary measure to allow conversion. Procedures to gain the best use of the new features of the CID will be worked out, discussed, and published.

14. MU fields may be selected by subscript.

15. C3 Command will be recognized only after a Response Code 5. Previous function of using C3 to initiate a synchronized checkpoint will no longer work.

16. If there is an error in either the Format or Search Buffer, the field in error is placed in the Additions 2 Field of the Control Block.

IN MEMORIAM

On Wednesday, November 30, 1977, a tragic accident occurred. Harry Ottinger, a dedicated and loyal employee of software a g, was having lunch with his wife, Susie at their home in Reston, Virginia, when an airplane crashed into their home and exploded, killing both Harry and Susie.

We at software a g are terribly saddened by this accident and will greatly miss Harry and Susie. Harry provided a critical contribution to our organization's growth and success. This loss will be deeply felt by all of his friends and associates.

Jenny, their 6 year old daughter, was at school at the time of the accident. A "Fund for Jenny" has been set up at the Town & Country Bank by software a g. Contributions will be accepted by software a g.

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL USERS CONFERENCE

The Fifth International Users Conference will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, May 17-19, 1978. The '57' Park Plaza Hotel will be our headquarters this year. Reservations are now being taken by software a g. Please use the enclosed form to make your reservation as soon as possible. If you need extra forms, contact Penny Fulton (703) 860-5050. We hope all users will be able to attend this year's Conference.

The Call for Papers has gone out (see the article under that heading in this issue of the Newsletter). There were many excellent presentations at the Fourth International Users Conference last year. We are sure many of you will want to participate as a Speaker this year, so please read the article and let us know the topic of your speech.

ADABAS TRAINING

The training courses have been segmented into modules that can be taken in one day increments. The days taken will largely depend on the experience and educational requirements of the individual. With this modular construction of training, courses can be tailored to the onsite training program.

| Module | length (Days) | Description | Recommended for | Recommended Prerequisite Modules |
|--------|---------------|---|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1/2 | Introduction | X X X X X X X | None |
| 2 | 1/2 | Data Base Definition and Modification | X X X X X X X | 1 |
| 3 | 1/2 | Application Programming with ADAMINT | X X X X X X X | 2 |
| 4 | 1/2 | ADASCRIP1* Usage | X X X X X X X | 1 |
| 5 | 1/2 | ADAWRITER Usage | X X X X X X X | 1 |
| 6 | 1/2 | ADAWRITER Extended Usage | X X X X X X X | 5 |
| 7 | 1 | Application Programming with Direct Calls | X X X X X X X | 2 |
| 8 | 2 | Data Base Administration** | X X X X X X X | 7 |
| 9 | 2 | Data Base Application Design*** | X X X X X X X | 3 or 7 |
| 10 | 2 | ADABAS Internals | X X X X X X X | 7 and three months of experience |
| W | 1/2* | Workshops for Modules 2,3,4,5,6 or 7 | | |

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Management Users | X |
| Users with DP background | X |
| Application Programmer/Analysts | X |
| Data Base System Analysts | X |
| Data Base Administration Staff | X |

* When Application Programmer/Analyst is using Direct Calls instead of ADAMINT.

** Available April, 1978. Currently taught as a 1/2 day on ADAMINT Macro-Generation and 1/2 day of workshop on that subject.

*** Available second quarter 1978.

This diagram lists each module along with key information regarding duration of a module, recommended attendees, and prerequisite modules. The modules listed above, along with workshops, are available to be taught onsite. If you are interested in having these tailored to your needs or would like to arrange for onsite training, please contact Roy Wood or Gary Bowers, software a g, 11800 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 22091, (703) 860-5050.

The January through June 1978 public training schedule has been finalized. As was done last year, software a g is offering courses on the East and West coasts and one series of courses in Chicago for the Central area.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

January-June 1978

| Month Place | Course MODULES | ADABAS 1,2,3,4,7 | ADAWRITER 5&6 | INTERNALS 2 | DATA BASE ADMINISTRATION |
|---|----------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| January San Francisco Sheraton Palace | | 9-11 | 12th | 23-24 | |
| February Washington, D.C. Sheraton National | | | | 27-28 | |
| March Washington, D.C. Sheraton National | 6-8 | | 9th | | |
| April New York City** Americana City Squire | 17-19 | | | 26-27 | 24-25* |
| May Boston** Hyatt Regency | | | | 15-16 | Users' Conference |
| June Chicago Sheraton O'Hare | 5-7 | | | 19-20 | |

* New Course

** Guarantee: These dates will remain firm regardless of the number of registrants. software a g reserves the right to cancel the other classes depending on the number of advance registrations. If a class is cancelled, all preregistered persons will be notified four working days prior to the class.

Note:

1. Module 7--Direct calls will be taught in the Reston office on January 26, February 23, and April 3.
2. A one day ADAMINT macro generation class including a 1/2 day workshop will be held in Reston January 27, February 24, and April 4.
3. Module 7 plus the DBA class will be offered in Reston June 14-16. Brochures are being prepared which fully describe each public course and module within the course. The brochures will be available for mailing early in December.



**SPECIAL
INTEREST
GROUPS** Continued

DBA Tools

Rob Macmillan (acting Chairman)
Dept. of Analyt. Studies
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6
Canada
604-291-4525

Jim Buchner has left his Commercial Union position and is therefore no longer with ADAGROUP. He was formerly the DBA Tools Special Interest Group Chairman among his others ADAGROUP duties. We are currently looking for his successor. No special requirements are necessary - just a working knowledge of and interest in Data Base Administrator Tools. Please contact Rob Macmillan at the above address if you are interested in this position or if you can recommend someone who might be willing to assume this role.

Data Dictionary

Richard Tannor
INCO
One New York Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10004
(212) 742-4157

Most users have received the final draft of the Reference Manual for the ADABAS Data Dictionary. We were quite pleased to see that many of the suggestions and criticisms submitted by members of the Users Group were reflected in the new specifications. In spite of the fact that the Dictionary's release will be delayed, it is very gratifying to see software agents earnestly responding to our requests.

There are, however, some aspects of this project that demand our scrutiny and concern. For instance, the ADABAS Data Dictionary requires the acquisition of ADAMINT. Also, Tom Berrisford's memo, which accompanied the Reference Manual, indicates that software agents' future plans call for stronger integration of the Dictionary with ADABAS itself, and close interfacing with associated products such as ADACOM. These may be very good ideas, with a great deal of potential benefit and enhancement to data base services and data administration. On the other hand, this trend of development could cause problems for established ADABAS installations.

Your opinions and comments are needed if we are to sustain software agents' responsiveness to the User Group. Let us hear from you soon.

**ADABAS DICTIONARY
STATUS REPORT**

The Data Dictionary development effort is currently in the final coding phases and is on schedule. All modules will be written and tested and the installation documentation and plan will be ready by mid December. Beta testing will begin in January and the installation of the Data Dictionary can take place in February or March.

Several minor changes have occurred in the Data Dictionary product since the reference manual was published. These changes were made as a result of evaluating users comments and planning for near term uses of the Dictionary.

- An ADAMINT Macro Pre-Process Utility will have an easy to use language facility.
- The Conversion Utility which is designed to create definitions for existing user files will also have an option to update from the user data base via the LF Command or from ADAWAN file definition cards.
- The Utility to generate "FNAMES" will not be included in this release.
- A Provision is available for the next version of ADASCRIP+. It will provide for code table translation data and direct access to file and field names as well as ADASCRIP+ Macros.
- The ADABAS error messages, response codes, and meanings will be maintained in the Dictionary for quick reference by applications people and ADABAS subsystems.

The Data Dictionary Reference Manual will be modified to accommodate suggested user changes. If there are areas in the manual which you feel need improvement or clarification, please send your comments to Roy Wood, software agent, Reston, Virginia.

PEEKING INTO THE FUTURE

- December, 1977
Training Schedule Brochures Available
- January, 1978
Data Dictionary System Beta Test
- January, 1978
ADACOM Beta Test
- May 17-19, 1978
Fifth International Users Conference - Boston
- September 12-15, 1978
Sixth International Users Conference - Munich
- March, 1978
NEWSLETTER Vol. 3, No. 4
(Copy Deadline: February 10)

FREEBIES

Freebies is your way to let other ADABAS users know what items are WANTED by your organization or AVAILABLE from your organization. Freebies can only be used to list items that are free or available for a nominal distribution charge.

software ag of North America, Inc., has agreed to distribute the AVAILABLE items provided to them for a handling charge of \$15.00. These items are in no way endorsed, supported, or maintained by software ag.

WANTED

Knowledge or information on restarting batch programs which run in MPM mode, especially if those programs also use OS files and/or are in a competitive update situation with other programs.

Requested by: R. M. Hall
ICI Plastics
P.O. Box No. 6
Bessemer Road
Welwyn Garden City
Hertfordshire AL7 1HD
England

AVAILABLE

Wayne Kennedy has a generalized edit/update program (ADAGUF) that takes a transaction file and edits/updates the data base file. If you are interested in this, contact Wayne directly.

Contributed by: Wayne Kennedy
Statistics Canada
R.H. Coats Building
Holland Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6
Canada

Ted Hillis has developed several educational aids that he will distribute on request. These include Data Base Concepts as a natural evolution, ADABAS Basics, ADABAS Internals for programmers, and ADASCRIPt overview and practice.

Contributed by: Ted Hillis
Consumers Gas Company
P. O. Box 650
Scarborough, Ontario M1K 5E3
Canada

Source code for ADABAS 3.2.1 was placed in escrow with International Computer Programs, Inc., on September 13, 1977. I must compliment Dan Skwarcan for his fine work in completing the validation of the source code and in establishing procedures for future validations.

Meanwhile, Dan is also working on our Change/Enhancement submission to software ag for 1978. His schedule for the year is published in this Newsletter. The first important deadline is January 1, 1978 - the date by which Change/Enhancement requests must be received if they are to be included in this year's submission.

The Regional Representative for the Northeast corridor, Jim Buckner, has left his job with Commercial Union and has therefore left the ADABAS users community. Jim resigned his position as Vice President and Regional Representative as of November 2, 1977. Our thanks go out to Jim for his work in ADAGROUP over the past few years, particularly in the area of DBA tools.

Michael Berman of INCO in New York City will be taking over Jim's responsibilities as ADAGROUP Vice President. Bob Cole of National Educational Association, Washington, D.C., has assumed the duties of Regional Representative for the Northeast Corridor. We appreciate their past efforts in behalf of ADAGROUP and know they will do a fine job in their new roles.

Bob Taylor in the Eastern Canada and Upper New York State Region is providing a much needed service in distributing known ADABAS bugs (ADABUG reports). Users who are interested in receiving these reports should contact their Regional Reps.



Continued

Northwest U.S. & Western Canada
Rob Macmillan (ADAGROUP President)
Department of Analytical Studies
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6
Canada
604-291-4525

The first formal conference of the Northwest ADABAS Users Group took place in Seattle on September 9 and by all accounts was an overwhelming success. Ten installations and two potential installations were represented by thirty conferees.

The morning session took place at Seattle Public Schools where introductions were made over coffee and donuts. The group was welcomed by conference coordinator, Steve Greaves of Seattle Schools. Rob Macmillan, ADAGROUP President, Simon Fraser University, then oriented the group to the history and objectives of ADAGROUP. User profile forms were distributed and collected.

Continued on page 12



The morning continued with demonstrations and presentations. George Gosline, Seattle Schools, and Bob Preger, software ag, demonstrated Com-plete. Narcisco Jaramillo and Gordon Bennett, both of Seattle Schools, made a presentation on the use of ADAMINT. Narcisco Jaramillo completed the morning session with a demonstration and discussion of ADASCRIP+.

For lunch and the rest of the afternoon, the group moved to the Edgewater Inn on Seattle's waterfront.

After lunch of red snapper, overlooking sunny Elliot Bay, Bill Thomson and Don Calnek, of Simon Fraser University, found a clear phone line to Burnaby, B.C., and provided the group with a terminal demonstration and an orientation to Simon Fraser University's use of ADABAS and their PDP-11 interface. George Gosline presented some thoughts on Physical Storage Independence, and Rob Macmillan chaired discussion on a dozen change/enhancement requests.

In December we move to Canada for a meeting at Simon Fraser University. We are continuing with a format of two or three formal presentations and plenty of time for an informal get-together to discuss common problems and interests in the Data Base field. The tentative agenda for December includes a discussion on backout, restart, etc., a demonstration of S.F.U.'s ADABAS/PDP-11 interface, and a review of software ag's Data Dictionary.

Far East
Kazuro Fujimoto
5-7 Yaesu
Chuo-Ku, Tokyo, 104
Japan

The second JADAGROUP (Japanese ADAGROUP) meeting was held on October 11, 1977, at Fuji Photo Film Co. in Tokyo, Japan. Twenty-seven people attended including representatives from five users, two prospects and John Maguire of software ag of North America, Inc. The agenda for this meeting was:

- 10:45 a.m. Opening speech by Fuji Photo Film Co. and Chairman of JADAGROUP
- 11:00 a.m. "Future Plan of software ag"
by John Maguire, SAGNA
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 13:00 p.m. Presentation on ADABAS applications at Fuji Photo Film
by T. Takahashi, M. Watanabe & N. Ishikawa of Fuji Photo Film
- 15:00 p.m. Presentation on Fuji Film's utility programs
by R. Nakai of Fuji Photo Film

15:30 p.m. Presentation on "A-AUTO" (automatic computer operation system which software ag of Far East started marketing in August this year)

by I. Miyadai of software ag of Far East

16:00 p.m. JADAGROUP business discussion

Chaired by T. Takahashi of Fuji Photo Film

- 1. An exchange of programming technology and material:

Like "FREEBIES" of ADAGROUP, domestic exchange of programming technology and material which will be promoted by software ag of Far East.

- 2. The third JADAGROUP meeting

To be hosted by Shell Sekiyu, and be held around March 1978.

Beginning at 17:30 p.m. a reception was held at Azabu Prince Hotel, near Fuji Film, hosted by John Maguire and software ag of Far East. As special guests, Dr. D. Tsichritzis, professor at the University of Toronto, and Dr. A.G. Mertern, professor at the University of Michigan, attended the reception and JADAGROUP members and guests had a very enjoyable and instructive evening.

We sincerely hope the third meeting will be as successful, with even more users.

We hope many Japanese users will be able to attend the Fifth International ADABAS Users Conference next May.

New York City
Mike Berman
International Nickel Company
One New York Plaza
New York, NY 10004
212-742-4180

The second ADABAS Users meeting was held at the City University of New York/University Computer Center (CUNY/UCC), on September 7, 1977. The major topic of discussion was the role of the Data Base administrator.

Richard Tannor led off the discussion by explaining the function of the data base administrator at INCO Ltd. At INCO, administrative duties are handled by two departments. Some of the duties of the group are: documentation, documentation on standards, security, data dictionary functions, technical support, and coordinaton of system information. INCO uses a twenty percent padding factor to avoid file reloads.

Sherman Hunter spoke next for Simon & Schuster. They are a DOS/VS shop with 256K of real core. The function of the DBA at Simon & Schuster is at present limited to file definitons, projections on file size, and their impact on the system.



Jim Korenthal of CUNY spoke next. At the City University, Data Base administration is handled by the central computer facility. The duties of the Data Base group are: Data Base maintenance, technical support, security, data dictionary functions, educational support for instructors teaching Data Base theory, and research and development of ADABAS and other Data Base systems. Since the City University has so many users at independent installations, the Data Base Systems Group cannot impose standards of programming. However, by developing a user interface, the programming standards are automatically carried out by the interface.

Our newest member, Hank Stennes, spoke next. Cadence Industries is a DOS/VS shop. His duties there are the complete maintenance of the Data Base system. Their Data Base is centered around a small number of very large files. Mr. Stennes praised software's technical support in helping him load a massive 2.2 million record file.

The third New York City ADAGROUP meeting was held at American Electric Power Service Corporation on November 7. The topic of this meeting was Data Dictionaries.

Roy Wood, of software ag, gave a presentation on the Data Dictionary being offered by software ag in early 1978. Questions were answered and suggestions accepted.

Richard Tannor of International Nickel Co. (INCO) and Chairman of the ADAGROUP Data Dictionary Committee compared the proposed offering by software ag to those dictionary/directory packages already available. He concluded that for an ADABAS installation, there is nothing currently available that is comparable.

Virginia Sullivan, also of INCO, presented their Data Dictionary. The experience at INCO and the needs that have been uncovered in working with the dictionary provided much feedback to software ag in their developmental work.

We welcomed representatives from Pershing & Co. as new users to our group.

East Central
Dan Skwarcan
Associates Computer Center
1720 Ruskin
South Bend, IN 46604
219-284-6203

On September 26, 1977, an ADABAS Users meeting was held for all members on the East Central U.S. Region. The meeting was held at the Associates Computer Center in South Bend, Indiana.

The meeting began with a get-acquainted hour followed by introductory comments by Dan Skwarcan from Associates. The date of the upcoming Boston Conference was announced. Each user was reminded to start submitting Change Enhancement Requests and to start preparing presentations for the Boston Conference.

The first topic of discussion was Data Base Administration by Larry Bowman of Associates. Data Base Administration was discussed from a functional as well as an organizational standpoint.

Dan Skwarcan of Associates led discussions in the area of Data Dictionary Directories. The Associates Data Base Dictionary Directory was briefly examined. Standards enforcement throughout the dictionary was also discussed with focus on a "how to do it" approach currently in use at Associates.

ADAMINT as the application interface with ADABAS was presented by Jim Vilardo of R. R. Donelley & Sons. Jim focused on his experiences with ADAMINT and entertained questions from new and potential ADAMINT users.

The third item of discussion was Restart and Recovery by Greg Bordner of Associates. Greg focused on his experience in the area of automating restart after machine failure by generating the appropriate control information for COPY and WARMSTART. Greg's work in this area has yielded an 80% savings in time between machine failure and subsequent successful recovery of pending transactions.

Bob Becker of Foremost Insurance presented his thoughts and findings in the area of improving run times in ADABAS. Bob focused on the efficiencies to be gained through the proper use of Command-ID. Bob will present his findings in this area at the Boston Conference. His findings are substantial and definitely a "must" for those of us concerned with efficiency.

The last item for discussion was ADABAS enhancements. Another reminder concerning the Change Enhancement Requests was given.

Closing remarks were given by Dan Skwarcan. The next East Central Regional meeting was set for March 27, 1978, in Chicago.

Great Britain
Robert Hall
ICI Plastics
P.O. Box 6
Bessemer Road
Welsyn Garden City
Hertfordshire AL7 1HD
England

Bob Hall, this year's chairman, opened the meeting and welcomed representatives of all current ADABAS installations in the UK (save one), plus two English speaking representatives from installations elsewhere in Europe. A very good turnout.

Some issues discussed were:

- An ad-hoc sub-group on report writers was established to encompass problems, problem by-pass, enhancement suggestions, user experiences, etc. (Initially ADAWRITER, ADASCRIP+, later ADACOM.)
- A user experience documentation mechanism was established whereby design



papers, software documentation, notes on problems, techniques, etc., will be collected, collated, and circulated. It was accepted that the circulation of in-house software might cause problems because of in-house macros, maintenance, etc.

- A co-ordinator was appointed to handle and consolidate, as appropriate, change enhancement request and submit them to ADAGROUP and the UK supplier.

Alex Mayall (ICI Organics Division) and Malcolm Robinson (Commerical Union) both gave presentations on their considerable experience in using ADABAS.

The next meeting of the group will be held on January 18, 1978, at Guildford Surrey. All ADABAS users, including those outside the UK, are welcome to attend.

Northeast Corridor

Bob Cole
National Education Association
1201 - 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036
202-833-4371

The East Coast Regional ADAGROUP meeting of November 2, 1977, was opened by Jim Buckner, the Eastern Regional Representative to ADAGROUP. The agenda was changed and finalized.

The attendees introduced themselves and signed an attendees roster.

A business meeting was held and the following items were decided:

- software ag was requested to have a technical representative present at each future meeting.
- The proposal of separate interest groups was decided not to be in the best interest of each attendee since the majority of the items were of interest to everyone.
- Jim Buckner notified the Regional Group that he was leaving Commercial Union and, therefore, could not continue as our Regional Representative.

Bob Cole from NEA was elected on an interim basis as the Regional Representative until the annual meeting in May, 1978.

- Minutes are to be sent to each attendee as well as the individuals on software ag's mailing list.
- The next meeting is to be held on March 15, 1978, at NEA in Washington, D.C.

The following are brief summaries of the day's agenda:

D.C. Government ADABAS User's Guide

Several items were discussed concerning the user's guide. The overall opinion of the group was the document was thorough, well prepared, and useful for the D.C. data center. However, the applicability of the majority of the document was that it would require uniqueness for each installation.

Carl Salley from DuPont, Aiken, S.C., brought his user's guide and offered it to the group.

ADABAS Program Exchange

Ted Leininger from DuPont (Engineering) presented four routines/programs:

- ADALOG Analysis
- ADAMINT Module Generation Program
- Analysis of Logical Block Length
- Data Space Summary

Willie Kraatz from DuPont Textile Fibers presented several ADABAS Enhancement Utility and Batch programs and subroutines.

Jim Buckner from Commercial Union presented his Data Base Space Allocation and Usage programs.

Doug Benson and Ron Watcher from Kiplinger discussed their ADALOG analysis programs and Data Dictionary.

ADABAS/End User Interface
With Other Software Packages

Jim Buckner from Commercial Union presented the different users interface with five software products that use their ADABAS System.

The five software products were:

- ADASCRIPIT
- ADASCRIPIT+
- MACROS
- RAMIS
- ROBOT

software ag

This session offered opportunities for questions from the group and answers by Tom Berrisford and general discussion of several items. John Maguire also joined the group later and joined in the discussions. Some of the items presented were:

- Change/Enhancements/SM's/early warning:

One of the concerns in this area was the identification of an item as it moves through to completion; i.e., a change/ enhancement that eventually becomes a released system modification (SM) - having some coding scheme to tie together each of these categories.

- ADAMINT, Data Dictionary, and ADABAS are planned to be released in the future as one product.
- ADACOM is now expected to be released 2nd quarter, 1978. This will replace ADAWRITER.

- Documentation will become orientated towards the end user.

ADABAS Restart and Recovery

Ted Leininger of DuPont Engineering presented their T/P restart/recovery approach. They use a dual logging approach as transactions pass from inter-comm to ADABAS applications and MPM.

Since some of the group had airline departure time, the general discussion was postponed until the next meeting. In addition, the following items were identified for presentations:

- ADALOG Analysis - Ted Leininger, DuPont Engineering
- Change/Enhancements - Julia Heidt, Commercial Union
- ADASCRIP+ - James Deignan, Connecticut General
- Multiple Data Bases - Phil MacInnis, DuPont Information Systems

FUTURE PLANS OF software ag - AN UPDATE

by Peter Webster

At the last Users Conference in New Orleans, software ag announced and described the future plans for ADABAS development. In addition, we promised to keep you informed of any changes in the plan or in the scheduled release dates.

There have been no changes in the plan itself but the release of some items will be delayed. The following development projects were announced.

| <u>DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>CURRENT STATUS</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ADASCRIP+ Version 1.0.2 | Released |
| ADASCRIP+ Version 1.1 | Delayed for tie-in to Data Dictionary |
| ADAWRITER Version 1.2 | Delayed |
| ADACOM (BATCH & TSO) | 1st quarter 1978 Beta test |
| ADACOM (CICS & Com-plete) | 1st quarter 1978 Beta test |

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ADAMINT Version 1.2 | Released |
| ADAMINT Version 1.3 | 1st quarter 1978 |
| ADABOMP | 1st quarter 1978 |
| DATA DICTIONARY | 1st quarter 1978 |
| ADAMINT (Major Revision) | 3rd quarter 1978 |
| Utilities for 3.2.1 DBMOD Reorder Associator Invert on Sub & Super Descriptors | 1st quarter 1978 1st quarter 1978 |
| NUCLEUS & UTILITIES Version 4.1 | 3rd quarter 1978 |
| DOS Version 3.2.1 | Released |
| Data Base Administration Class | 2nd quarter 1978 |
| Data Base Application Design Class | 2nd quarter 1978 |

In addition, we announced that the documentation would be completely redone for version 4.1. These manuals will be oriented to the various users of ADABAS and what they want to do. The preliminary broad outlines for these manuals are as follows:

Data Base Administration

1. Data Base Administration, general procedures
11. Data Base Administration Guide
 - 11.1 Data Base Design
 - 11.2 Data Dictionary Usage
 - 11.3.1 Data Dictionary Directory Generation and Usage
 - 11.3.2 ADASCRIP+ Directory Generation and Usage
 - 11.3.3 ADACOM Directory Generation and Usage
 - 11.3.4 ADAWRITER Directory Generation and Usage
 - 11.4 ADAMINT Macro Generation and Usage
 - 11.5 Restart/Recovery Facilities
 111. ADABAS Utilities Manual
 - IV. ADABAS Security Manual

Application Design and Programming

1. File and Program Design Guide
11. Command Reference Manual
111. ADAMINT Programmers Reference Manual
- IV. Programmers Guide for Teleprocessing Applications (suggested)

Installation and Operation

1. Installation and Maintenance Manual
11. Operations Manual
111. Messages and Codes Manual

Users Manual

1. ADASCRIP+ Users Manual
11. ADACOM Users Manual
111. ADAWRITER Users Manual

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Firstly, congratulations on a more informative and in-touch production of the ADABAS Newsletter, certainly an improvement on earlier issues. Just one minor gripe in the cosmetic area - almost every topic covered is continued on a different page. Is it not possible to start a topic and continue it through on the same or immediately following pages until that topic is exhausted, then continue with the next topic, and so on. It may be that we in the UK are unused to the American journalistic style, but we find it annoying to turn pages repeatedly to follow through a particular topic or index a particular feature. True to say, we would not expect an English publication to be thus presented. That aside, the Newsletter is generally regarded as an improvement for more penetration given to user areas, as you obviously intended, a move we heartily support.

Yours sincerely,

R.M. Hall
Chairman,
UK User Group

The Editors

Suzan Schultz
American Electric Power
2 Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 422-4800 x796

Pete Webster
software ag of North America, Inc.
Reston International Center
11800 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, Virginia 22091
(703) 860-5050

Dear Mr. Hall:

We appreciate your comments. We're amateurs in the art of journalism. As you can see, the format is changing. We will try to accommodate this kind of request as best we can.

The Editors

MUNICH CONFERENCE

Tentative Registration Form

Name: _____ Companion: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Today's Date: _____

PLAN (circle one): A B C

Deposit Enclosed: \$ _____ (\$150.00 per person for Plan C)

 **software ag**
OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.
Reston International Center
11800 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, Virginia 22091