

CONNECTIONS

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WINTER ISSUE

NATURAL DB2 Update



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At the time of this writing, November 29th, NATURAL DB2 V1.3.1 has been shipped to several beta sites. Assuming all goes well, the official release date is now in January. At this time all customers will

receive the NDB V1.3.1 tape, the new NATURAL DB2 and SQL/DS Users Guide, and the Release Notes. This version of NDB has been tested with NATURAL SM4, (base and both the fix tapes), and also with NATURAL SM5. It is the released version of NDB V1.3.0 that many customers are now running, which features the SYSDB2 utility for the DBA, and Static Support for one application plan per execution of NATURAL. NDB V1.3.1 can run under TSO, (online or batch), CICS, and IMS/DC.

By Christmas the next release of NATURAL DB2 will already be installed in a few pilot installations.

It requires NATURAL SM5 as a prerequisite, and features as the major enhancement, support of the SQL SELECT statement from within a NATURAL program. In the program, the programmer can now choose, (when accessing DB2 or SQL/DS) to code a NATURAL FIND or READ statement, and have it translated to a SELECT, or to directly code a SELECT statement. The implementation method is that SELECT is functionally equivalent to FIND or READ in that it starts a NATURAL loop, and must be terminated with an END SELECT statement. The programmer does not have to worry about handling DB2 'cursors', since NATURAL will pass data back a row at a time, as normal. Syntax checking of the SELECT statement is performed

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SAGGROUP Executive Committee Meeting Summary

The SAGGROUP Executive Committee meeting was held at the Hilton Hotel in Anaheim, California in conjunction with the 20th International Software AG Users' Conference.

Conference

Next year's conference is in San Antonio, Texas from November 4-8, 1990.

A price break for shops sending more than 1 person was asked about. Software AG said that the conference is zero budgeted, meaning no money is made from it. If the price goes down for someone, it would have to go up for someone else. They will take the request into consideration. It was mentioned that Software AG try and keep the cost of the conference under \$1000. This appears to be the magic number for some shops.

"Knowledge Express 1990" will take the award winning Software AG presentations from the conference, package them together and take them on the road to different cities. This will allow people that didn't get to go to the conference the ability to hear some of the presentations. This will take place some time in January or February.

8 new products were announced at this year's conference.

NATURAL RDB/RMS

NATURAL/OS2

NATURAL CONNECTION for the Macintosh

PREDICT CASE

NET-WORK APPC

NATURAL 2—VAX

NATURAL ISPF

NATURAL CONSOLE

Technical Issues

There was a meeting the Friday night before the conference to discuss technical issues. It was attended by most of the Software AG Product Managers. Main topics discussed were how to improve the Change/Enhancement process, concerns from the different user regions, and specific problems relating to NATURAL and ADABAS.

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