

CONNECTIONS

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SPRING ISSUE

Communication Software: A Hot Topic



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Communication software is now a strategic asset and has become the key to information management for the remainder of this decade. Servicing the demands of high volume transaction processing requires a unique combination of sophisticated communication capabilities, resource efficiency, and high performance. Communication software

promises to be a hot topic of the 1990's. As usual, Software AG has anticipated this trend.

Software AG is introducing two Communication products, ADABAS Transaction Processing Facility (TPF) and ADABAS High Performance Environment (HPE). These products are designed to be used in conjunction with ADABAS to provide an Advanced Data Base Management environment.

ADABAS TPF: The Specialized Transaction Processing Facility

ADABAS TPF is designed to provide NATURAL with a unified run time environment so that applications can take full advantage of NATURAL's flexibility and func-

tionality, irrespective of the tele-processing system being used. The introduction of ADABAS TPF is fully transparent to the users. When typing in the name of the application, the TP-system issues a call to ADABAS TPF, which performs the appropriate security checks, activates the desired application and connects it directly to the user on the terminal. Only the terminal I/Os are still performed by the TP-system.

ADABAS TPF oversees the interactive execution of programs and manages access to shared system resources. Program processing occurs in one of a fixed number of main storage areas within ADABAS TPF, called threads, which run as standard OS subtasks. A large number of concurrent processing programs is accommodated by swapping thread areas in and out between main and secondary storage (rollin/rollout). A program is rolled out to secondary storage each time it issues a terminal write and is rolled in again when the user presses an interrupt key. This technique allows interactive programs to run conversational and eliminate all reentrancy and reusability restrictions, even under transaction-oriented TP-monitors such as CICS or IMS/DC. In addition, an application can be relocated to another thread if the original becomes heavily loaded, providing maximum processing overlap in environments with high transaction rates.

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New NATURAL Products Released

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Software AG has released several new products in the NATURAL area which will enable the NATURAL programmer to access alternate data base types.

NATURAL DB2 V1.1.1

The first of these newly-released products is NATURAL DB2 V1.1.1. It allows a NATURAL program to access DB2 data bases by converting NATURAL data manipulation language into SQL. This first version then runs generated SQL dynamically. There are very few restrictions on NATURAL statements that can be used. NATURAL 2.1 SM04 is a prerequisite for this product. Support is currently provided for batch, TSO, and CICS (both conversational and pseudo-conversational).

Plans for the next release are already well advanced and in test. Highlights include:

- Static SQL support
- A NATURAL application that allows the DB2 DBA to issue DCL/DDDL statements to, for example:
 - Create or drop a table, index, storage group, etc.
 - Grant or revoke authority to a user for some operation
- Support for IMS/DC and COM-LETE (will also require COM-LETE 4.5)
- VSE and VM versions will support access to SQL/DS

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