



VIRTUAL DB2 USER GROUP

NEWSLETTER 8 | FEBRUARY 2024

Virtual Db2 User Group Presentation

NAVIGATING THE EVER-EVOLVING MAINFRAME LANDSCAPE: COLLABORATION AND COST OPTIMIZATION

In the ever-changing world of mainframe technology, where innovation and efficiency reign supreme, a recent session presented by BMC's Marcus Davage provided deep insights into the vital roles of developers, DBAs, and operations professionals. This enlightening discussion, focusing on the challenges and strategies these key players face, unveiled the essential interplay of collaboration and cost optimization in achieving success in the mainframe domain.

The session began with an exploration of the developer's role. As the creative force behind applications powering the mainframe ecosystem, developers confront various challenges, including bridging the skills gap and optimizing SQL queries. Embracing modern methodologies like DevOps, they stand at the forefront of driving innovation while simultaneously identifying cost-saving avenues. By adhering to best coding practices, utilizing performance tools, and keeping abreast of the latest technological advancements, developers significantly contribute to reducing CPU costs and improving application performance.

Shifting focus to the domain of Database Administrators (DBAs), often regarded as the custodians of data integrity and system efficiency, the session highlighted a myriad of challenges. These included managing data growth, addressing security concerns, and devising performance optimization strategies. DBAs, pivotal in enhancing query performance and implementing data compression, play a crucial role in fine-tuning buffer pool configurations. Their efforts in resource maximization and cost reduction are further bolstered by adopting automation, employing monitoring tools, and embracing collaborative approaches, enabling them to navigate the complex mainframe operations landscape with agility and precision.

Careless coding costs!
Cartesian joins

Table T1	Table T2
ID COL1	ID COL1
1 'Baby Monitor'	1 'Dave'
2 'Touch 1'	2 'Jenny'
3 'iPad 2'	3 'Jess'
4 'iPhone 6'	4 'Terry'
	5 'Pascal'
6 'iPhone 3'	6 'Helmut'
7 'Samsung Galaxy S22'	7 'Roberto'
8 'IBM z16 Model A02'	8 'Sasha'
9 'Raspberry Pi 4'	9 'Alexa'
10 'BBC Micro Model B'	10 'Marcus'

The Challenges

- Data Growth
- Security and Compliance
- Cost Management
- Integration with New Technologies
- Vendor Support and Updates
- Data Privacy and Ethics
- Performance Optimization
- Disaster Recovery and High Availability
- Complexity of Database Environments
- Automation and DevOps
- Skills Shortages
- Migration and Modernization

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NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING | March 19, 2024

A day in the life of a Db2 for z/OS Schema

There is a lot of talk about DevOps and agile development and with good reason. But what does this mean for a Db2 for z/OS database administrator? In this presentation I will provide an overview of how the process of schema management can be organized with well accepted processes and tools. This will help to optimize the time of scarce DBA resources while safeguarding or even improving the quality of deliverables.



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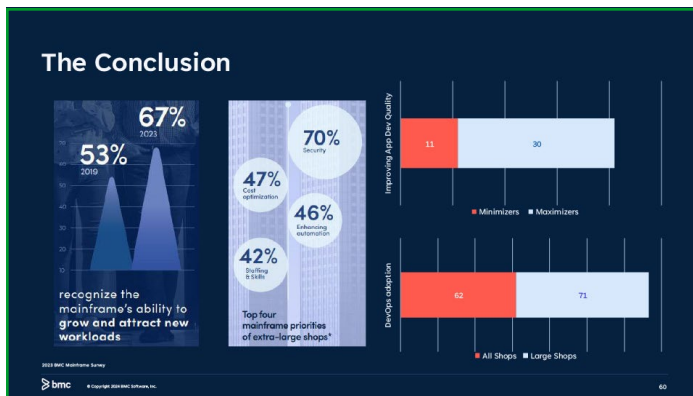
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Continued

In the operations sphere, the discussion emphasized consolidation, virtualization, automation, and disaster recovery preparedness. Operations professionals, tasked with maintaining the steady rhythm of mainframe systems, explore avenues for workload consolidation, automation of routine tasks, and streamlining of backup and recovery processes. These measures are crucial for optimizing resource usage, boosting system efficiency, and ensuring high availability, especially in the face of unexpected disruptions.

A central theme that emerged throughout the session was the importance of collaboration. Developers, DBAs, and operations professionals must synergize, leveraging their distinct expertise and skills to drive cost optimization and performance enhancement. This collaborative spirit is essential in navigating the dynamic mainframe landscape with resilience and adaptability. Fostering a culture of teamwork, knowledge exchange, and continuous learning is key to unlocking the full potential of mainframe systems and applications.



In conclusion, the session underscored the narrative of collaboration and cost optimization in the mainframe world as a testament to the resilience, innovation, and skill of the professionals in this dynamic ecosystem. As we tackle the challenges and seize the opportunities ahead, the importance of teamwork, knowledge sharing, and a relentless pursuit of excellence in the mainframe realm becomes increasingly clear. By uniting in our efforts, we can forge a future where collaboration, innovation, and cost efficiency are the foundational pillars of mainframe excellence.





NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sponsorship opportunity—We are looking for additional co-sponsors for the Virtual Db2 user group. The user group has been in existence since 2022 and is gaining respect among users of Db2. The user group gives its sponsors an opportunity to show that they are working with, and helping to build, the Db2 user community. Contact virtualusergroups@gmail.com for more information.
- After you register for our next event on March 19, save the date for our May 21 session.

GENERATIVE AI AND DB2

Would you like Generative AI to be a topic of an upcoming meeting?

- No, too soon
- Yes, even high-level context would be helpful
- Yes, but only Db2 use cases
- Yes, and I have use cases I would like to share

[Answer Here](#)

ABOUT THE VIRTUAL DB2 USER GROUP

The Virtual Db2 user group is an independently-operated vendor-neutral site run by and for the mainframe Db2 user community. This is a mainframe Db2 information website, not in any way related to, sponsored, or approved by IBM, which is the legitimate owner of the trademark, and any use of the mark in the URL or the body of the site is for information, education, and opinion expression purposes. The Virtual Db2 user group was established as a way for individuals using IBM's Db2 for z/OS database to exchange information, learn new techniques, and advance their skills with the product. Anyone with an interest in Db2 for z/OS is welcome to join the Virtual Db2 user group and share in the knowledge exchange.

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