

PUN



DBU Winner

1997 1998 1999 2000

The acceptable reply to a question whose explanation goes into a level of complexity that need not be understood: Automagic. Thanks to Rich Lensear, for this winning pun. Submit your technology pun to sales@prodatacomputer.com and if selected for publication, we will send you a box of Omaha Steaks.

REAL LIFE

RDR (Retrieve Deleted Records) - Nothing Simpler

"Nothing could be simpler." This is the principal on which the design of EnviroTech Pumpsystem's most popular high-pressured pumps is based on. These pumps only involve two working parts and yet the efficient and reliable design supports industrial use in a wide range of industries. EnviroTech Pumpsystems, a WEIR Group company, is part of one of the largest pump companies in the world today. Headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah. EnviroTech has been providing the world with specialized pumps and equipment for nearly a century.

The focus on design simplicity that supports these systems is carried over to the Information Systems Group at EnviroTech, which is lead by Linden Mecham, Manager of Systems and Programming. His group was bombarded with user requests to find records that somehow disappeared from their AS/400 database. Mecham would call on Dave Hartley, Senior Programmer/Analyst, to have someone restore files, identify the missing records and copy back those records that were inadvertently deleted from the database. This only worked if the file had been saved before the records had been deleted.

There had to be a simpler method. Mecham and Hartley embarked on a mission to identify

a way to easily recover the deleted records. EnviroTech owned ProData's DBU, database utility and found that their product suite also included another simple but powerful tool called RDR, Retrieve Deleted Records. They received a trial copy of the product and put it through its paces.

The team found that RDR retrieves all deleted records in a file or deleted records within a RRN range. Then, the desired deleted records can be copied back into the original file using CPYF (with *DROP in Record format field mapping, if RRN's were requested). Another option is to use the RDR function within DBU to reactivate the record(s) one record at a time to the original file.

Mecham and Hartley were able to immediately realize return on the software investment. From the very beginning, ProData utilities saved them and their staff countless hours. Mecham said, 'Programmer tools are a low priority in our shop, but when we find something we believe will make us more productive and efficient as programmers, then we pursue those tools. DBU and RDR are two of the few tools

we have been allowed to purchase and I cannot think of one programmer who has worked for us who has not used DBU. I have been here twenty years and I know the value and benefit of using DBU and RDR.'

With RDR, the IS department was able to focus on more productive tasks at hand. Mecham continued, 'With RDR, I have been able to resolve the users problems in a matter of minutes. RDR is very fast and efficient on any size of file and if you realize that you have a tool that allows access to large amount of deleted records in a file, this makes MIS look

good. The only disappointment I have encountered with RDR, is when what I am looking for is not found in the Deleted Records! But at least I have ruled out where the problem does not exist.'

The simplicity of RDR solved a time consuming problem for EnviroTech. Hartley claimed, 'With RDR, I can restore records in fifteen minutes that would previously have taken half a day to restore from tape!'

(Don't miss the QUICK LOOK article on RDR in Midrange Computing's March edition)

RDR Customer Profile

Customer:
EnviroTech Pump Systems
Industry:
Industrial Pumps
Applications:
**Data3 Manufacturing
Financial Software**
Hardware:
AS/400
Software:
OS/400 V4R1
Tools:
RDR & DBU

NEWS

Operations Navigator

To kick off the New Year, IBM continues to tease us with leaks of what V5R1 will bring us, particularly with the Operations Navigator. OpsNav is the graphical user interface for managing your iSeries and AS/400 servers! OpsNav makes operation and administration of the server easier and more productive. Operations Navigator is shipped with OS/400 V3R7 and later releases. The latest version of Operations Navigator is included as part of IBM AS/400 Client Access Express for Windows.

Of interest to our ProData customers may be the enhanced features of Operation Navigator. In 2001, we will be offering **DBU 6.0** as a plug-in to OpsNav. By plugging DBU into Operations Navigator, our customers will be able to use a single, easy-to-use interface for system administration, database and management functions. Watch for more information in the next newsletter!

Modernize Your Applications

As the iSeries 400 continues to lead midrange systems in feature and function, AS/400 shops are expected to deliver new or updated applications to utilize the added enhancements. This can include cosmetic changes, such as graphical user interfaces (GUIs) and/or structural changes which allow for the use of new technologies.

It seems the GUIs are usually the primary reason for most application modernization efforts in AS/400 shops. At ProData, we have recognized this and with **DBU 6.0** due out this year, we will provide you with the optional GUI. We don't necessarily agree with those who think there's no place for green screens in the modern AS/400 environments, and so we will continue to support the green screen version as well as the new GUI, giving our customers the option.

Structural changes to applications can also lead to more modern functionality. IBM continues to push customers toward RPGIV/ILE. This move would allow customers to take advantage of new op codes, built-in functions, and more design options. Since RPGIV is an ILE language, it facilitates application partitioning and modularization. ProData helps customers at OS/400 V3R1 and above move in this direction by offering the **CVTRPGIV** utility. It can eliminate hours of manual conversion time by doing it for you! The converted RPGIV/ILE code is easier to read, debug and offers much more flexibility. It makes it much easier to re-use code and cuts down on development time. The binding processes offer the flexibility to combine code written in different languages to give your application much better performance.

Application modernization is not a new concept in any Information Technology department. But it is unique for each. Balancing business objectives as well as continued progress with applications is a fine art for any IT manager. ProData will continue to make the effort to make that job easier for all customers.

Did You Miss...

The issue of iSeries magazine spotlight article in the December issue on DBU? AS/400 guru and writer, Don Rima gives DBU a 3.850 rating out of a possible 4.0! Visit our website at www.prodatacomputer.com and click on the iSeries magazine link.

Make Your Mark With ProData Products

ProData's utilities can increase your productivity.

- RDR** retrieves deleted records from any physical file and provides the safety net you have always wanted.
- CVTRPGIV**, converts early RPG to ILE/RPG to experience new power!
- NESTRPG**, updates source code showing the nesting of all condition and reference statements.
- DSM**, embeds diagnostic compiler messages directly into the source member.
- SQL/PRO**, the cost-effective SQL tool, enables users to select, organize and summarize data easily with an extensive report formatter.
- DBU**, the 'original' database utility, allows users to view and update any file instantly without time-consuming queries, DFU or programming.

For free trials call 1-800-228-6318 or visit www.prodatacomputer.com.

Profiling ProData Owner Marion Wamsat

Ever wonder where ProData Computer Services, Inc. came up with its brand of 'Power and Performance' behind the safari animal theme?

Marion Wamsat, one of the owners of ProData surrounds herself with it. Even before safari prints were all the rage, Marion's house and office were decorated in the wild animal safari prints. And the desire to surround herself with 'power and performance' doesn't stop there. Marion also owns two powerful rottweilers, a Honda Motorcycle, and a ranch with wild bobcats roaming the ranges.

Marion's favorite animal that signifies ProData's efforts to 'unleash the power' is the mighty lion. You will see the lion prominently displayed at our exhibit booth and on the t-shirts you can win.

Exhibits

February 26
OMNI Chicago User Group
(www.omniuser.org) Itasca, IL

March 26-28
North East User Conference
Framington, MA

May 13-15
Spring Common
New Orleans, LA

Come see us at the product shows. Stop by, pull our pickles to win a t-shirt or safari animal. Drop your card by for the drawing for our stuffed wild animal mascots, representing the power and performance of our tools.

This Year's Winners:

These people won prizes at our booth. At the DevCon show Darlene Wright of Santa Rosa, California. At the fall COMMON show Richard McGee of Delano, California. At the fall IBM Technical Conference Danna Brehe of Jacksonville, Florida. Congratulations to you all!!!

TECH TIP

How do you reactivate deleted records within DBU?

The Retrieve Deleted Records feature within DBU allows you to reactivate deleted records one at a time using a two step method. You may first view the deleted record by placing your cursor on the record and pressing F17 to display the record. Press F17 again and your record will be reactivated.

To activate this feature, bring a file up in DBU, key RDR in the control field and press enter. Deleted Records will display the message ****DELETED RECORD ****. To locate these records you can roll through the file (either in single or multiple mode), search using the Search Function (F15), or key in the RRN on the control line and to go directly to the record.

Remember, RDR can only be used on files in arrival sequence. On physical files, you must first key RRN on the control line and press enter to display the file in arrival sequence.

Coming Soon DBU 6.0

