

COVER STORY

- 7 ♦ CIO Corner**
Best Practices in SAP Programming: How to Keep Your Development Shop in Tune with Where SAP Is Headed, by Jon Reed, JonERP.com.

Your development architecture has to support your goals, but have you considered where SAP is heading and how well your development group is positioned to keep up? Well, it helps to know what SAP's plans are. Jon Reed interviewed Thomas Jung, SAP's NetWeaver™ Product Manager to identify strategies and trends you should know. Follow Jon and Thomas as they look into tomorrow.

HR

- 12 ♦ Two Useful Report Strategies for HR Users: A Guide for SAP HR Users**, by Rehan Zaidi, Siemens Pakistan.

Need to understand or report employee Infotypes? Or perhaps you'd like to be able to create a PDF file of an employee's paystub. Either way, you'll want Rehan Zaidi's assistance.

LOGISTICS

- 18 ♦ QM**
Quality Management: Configuring Quality Notifications, by Jocelyn Hayes, SAPtips Director of Consulting and Training.

If you've got a production quality problem, you'd better know about it before your

boss does. Let Jocelyn Hayes show you how to configure tailored quality issue notifications.

- 26 ♦ MM**
Off-limits: Blocking User Access to a Storage Location in SAP, by Maria Nikolova, SAP Senior Expert, National Electricity Company, Bulgaria.

Whether supporting company policy and processes or government compliance standards, you may need to block certain users' access to specific storage locations. Maria Nikolova shows you that it's easier than you think.

- 31 ♦ SD**
Scales and Group Conditions: When Group Values Are Worth More Than the Sum of Their Parts, by Matthias Liebich, MLI Solutions, LLC.

Economies of scale and group pricing always appeals to buyers, but configuring SAP to support it can be complicated. Check out Matthias Liebich's simple rules for success.

FINANCIALS

- 40 ♦ FI**
Parallel Currencies in SAP Part II: Supporting Local Legal Financial Reporting, by Dimitris Langas, SAP Consultant.
- Ready to get started with your parallel currency configuration? Dimitris Langas gives you ...well, the rest of the story.

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Cheryl A. Cave, Managing Editor

From the Managing Editor

The 2008 SAPHIRE®/ASUG conference brought no surprise announcements, but rather reinforced what we already knew. It's all about eSOA baby! As the Service Oriented Architecture gains acceptance and momentum in the marketplace, SAP becomes more agile and more entrenched. As we assimilate the ideas and strategies we learned at the conference, what could be more timely...or appropriate, than an insightful interview with Thomas Jung, SAP's NetWeaver Product Manager? In our cover story,

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48 ♦ FI**Vendor Invoices in SAP: Finding and Resolving Duplicates**, by Anurag Barua.

Learn how to save precious resources by finding and resolving duplicate vendor invoices in your database

BASIS**52 ♦ Separate Transport Directories? Not Unless You Have To**, by Joey Hirao, SAP Basis Expert.

Using separate transport directories is probably not your first choice, but if you have to do it, it's nice to know how to do it right. Let Joey Hirao take you through the process.

ABAP/J2EE**57 ♦ Performance Trace in SAP: Identifying Design Specifications with a Standard Report**, by William McNaughten, Entrecor.

Need to determine specifications for custom development work? Do it more efficiently with the Performance Trace tool.

CIO Corner**67 ♦ Do You Have What It Takes to Be a CIO?** by John Zarb.

Climbing the IT Corporate Ladder? Find out if you've got the right stuff.

SAPtips ONLINE

Be sure to visit the SAPtips Document Library to download these new white papers.

On MM**Materials Management – Master the Best Practices Part IV: Inventory Management Best Practices**

By Jocelyn Hayes, SAPtips Director of Training and Consulting

Whether tracking by quantity or value of stock, a small mistake can translate to a costly error. You need to know how to get the maximum mileage out of your IM installation, and you can get most of that knowledge right here. Jocelyn Hayes shares her hard won best practices for Inventory Management in her continuing "best practices" series. Of course, you can learn even more details from Jocelyn by registering for her MM course. Spend some time with Jocelyn, or spend your weekends reconciling inventory...it's your choice.

On MM**Using MD07 in SAP: Evaluating Stock On Hand/On Order**

By Adam Tysman, SAP Value and Effectiveness Specialist

A person could make a career of learning and refining the use of MRP, especially as it applies to SAP...and that's just what Adam Tysman has done. In this issue Adam simplifies the process by showing you how to use the MD07 transaction to more accurately evaluate the stock on-hand and on-order, to identify weaknesses and strengths in your MRP configuration. Although there are only a couple steps involved, there are a myriad of configuration options and decisions to be made in each. Adam takes you through each of these options and explains their use...and the resulting affect on your Stock On-hand.

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Jon Reed relates the highlights of his podcast interview with Thomas about positioning your development department to "shapeshift" along with SAP's innovations. See Jon's article on page 8.

Along these lines, Bill McNaughten explains how even a non-development type can use the Performance Trace tool to help define specifications for custom development (page 58). Once the development work is completed and tested, you'll need to transport it into production. Joey Hirao explains why you shouldn't use separate transport directories...but how to do it in the event that it's your only option. Joey's article is on page 53.

Do you and your staff have the skills you'll need to stay up with the development trends? SAPtips has added ABAP and Web Dynpro to our public training offerings. Check out our full lineup and schedule at www.SAPtips.com/WorkshopSchedule.asp. We're even offering some summer classes in Atlanta, but you'll need to get registered right away...seats are filling up.

This issue of SAPtips has a plethora of useful tips for the non-techies among us as well. Our Director of Consulting and Training, Jocelyn Hayes, describes the configuration of quality notification messages (page 19), to squeeze a little more juice out of your QM investment. Need to fine tune FI/CO? On page 49, Anurag Barua presents a guide for detecting and resolving duplicate vendor invoices. On the sales side of the business, Matthias Liebich returns to SAPtips with an overview for understanding and configuring scale and group pricing conditions; see his article on page 32.

Don't forget that the Mastery Level experts who contribute articles to SAPtips are also available for onsite training. Contact Jocelyn Hayes at 1.877.832.2594, ext 122 or Jocelyn.Hayes@ERPtips.com, or refer to our Website at www.SAPtips.com for more details.

Stay Cool!

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On BI

Migrate Your BW 3.5 InfoSets into BI 7.0: Without Losing Your InfoObject Master Data By Elizabeth Helen Sacknus, Syssoft Brazil

Some upgrades are harder than others. If you're making the move from BW 3.5 to BI 7.0, you'll discover that it can be a huge undertaking if you have to recreate all of your InfoObject master data. You certainly want to invest the time to make the upgrade successful, but hey...it's not an endurance test. You can save yourself a lot of work, late nights, and headaches by using Elizabeth Sacknus' migration method.

Jocelyn Hayes' View from the Trenches

After attending the annual SAPPHIRE® and ASUG conference in Orlando last month, I find that SAP® is certainly listening to its customers now more than ever before. They are lining themselves up as a much more progressive company with a focus on Business Network Transformation and Enterprise SOA. For any of our readers not into all the lingo, let me give you my definition of these terms.

Business Network Transformation is the new EDI on steroids. It is a methodology to enable business-to-business collaboration and goes a step beyond sending transactions back and forth between suppliers and customers. It truly integrates technology seamlessly through methods like SOA, or **Service Oriented Architecture**, where companies (like Google) expose Web services that enhance intercompany collaboration. SOA, is the technology that supports Business Network Transformation.

The theme of SAPPHIRE was "Business Without Boundaries". Bill McDermott and Henning Kager-

mann delivered another inspirational keynote around this topic. They spoke of ESOA and Business Network Transformation and how the NetWeaver™ platform enables the SAP customer to take advantage of conducting Business without Boundaries.

Other exciting things are happening closer to home. The Klee Associates SAP practice is launching new classes this fall. After great success this past spring with our new Materials Management, Advanced Pricing, and ABAP classes, we have invested in developing Advanced Purchasing, Financials, Plant Maintenance, and Web Dynpro classes, which we will offer this fall at our Dallas training facility. We are also offering our Materials Management, Sales and Distribution, and Advanced Pricing classes in our new Atlanta training center this summer – for those of you who have been begging us to come east! Link [here](#) to the schedule page.

As SAP moves forward with new technologies and methodologies, SAPtips will continue to support our



Jocelyn Hayes

customers through teaching mastery level configuration and technical classes focused on the latest versions of SAP. The addition of Web Dynpro to our course list speaks to our commitment to providing advanced training workshops.

Enjoy your summer, take some time to spend with family and friends, and maybe come enjoy a week at SAPtips University in Atlanta!

Jocelyn Hayes

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