



TSM Voice

Volume 12, Issue V

May 2005

Security on the iSeries: How bad can it be?

Speaker: Matt Graybiel of NetIQ

Come hear NetIQ's Matt Graybiel discuss various security issues as they relate to your iSeries and learn how you can avoid these pitfalls. Topics that will be covered are: physical security, TCP/IP security, user and password management, and others. Don't wait until you're a victim, join us on May 10th.

Matt Graybiel has been a Security Sales Engineer for NetIQ for over 5 years and lives in Grapevine, TX. For the last year Matt has been dedicated solely to the iSeries and speaks at iSeries user groups and security presentations across the US and Canada, along with performing technical product demonstrations. Matt is a CISSP in good standing and is working on other security related certifications. Prior to working for NetIQ (PentaSafe) he was an AS/400, Windows, NetWare and UNIX Admin for American General Life Companies in Houston, TX.

Matt spent 4 years in the US Navy, where he served aboard the aircraft carrier USS George Washington as an Aviation Electronics Technician. After the Navy, Matt obtained his BS from Louisiana State University.

March Meeting Information

Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2005

Time: 5:30 – 6:30 Networking
6:30 – 7:30 Dinner
7:30 – 9:00 Meeting

Place: **Montgomery Inn**
9440 Montgomery Road
Montgomery, OH 45242
513.791.3482

Topic: **Security on the iSeries**
Speaker: **Matt Graybiel**
NetIQ

Cost: (includes coffee, tea, milk)
\$ 27.50 Members
\$ 40.00 Non-members
\$ 5.00 Meeting only

Reservations required, before noon, Friday, May 6, 2005 by calling 513-357-6173 or send an email with your company name, phone number and each attendee's name to tsmug@tsmug.org.

No cancellation after above date and time.

See our web page for directions via MapQuest, www.tsmug.org/meetings.html

President's Corner

David W. Corfman, CCP

After some, ahem, encouragement from my wife, I cleaned off some bookshelves in my study. Not surprisingly, I came across technical magazines from ten years ago that I had squirreled away. I thought I'd share the highlights from the May 1995 issue of Midrange Computing to show how things have changed in ten years:

FSIOP Arrives – LAN File Server on an AS/400 Card - The File Server I/O Processor (FSIOP) has been through many name changes since then, but is still an Intel-based file server. Back then it was a 66MHz 486 processor with up to 64MB of memory, and used OS/2 as the operating system. OK, that part has changed.

AS/400 WWW Home Page - Actually, it was only a side box to a more prominent article on *The Tape Storage Revolution*. My, how things have changed. Tape storage is slowly becoming passé, and we use the Internet for everything.

CASE Corner - This was an article on how to attain success using CASE tools from a half dozen CASE implementers. Remember how CASE was going to reinvent programming? I recognize only one of the tools still available.

One article in that issue is still a constant: *Security Patrol*, a column on AS/400 security by the guru of security, Wayne O. Evans. Our May meeting continues this age-old concern, which is growing every year. Come find out how your iSeries is vulnerable in ways you didn't even imagine. Two experts from NetIQ, a leader in iSeries security products, will show how people can get to and change information on your

system *anonymously*. They demonstrated it on my company's development iSeries, making for a humbling experience.

My last two years on the Board of Directors for TSMUG has been a rewarding experience. I've had a great time leading this group, where my focus has been on being an unabashed advocate of the iSeries for the entire community. We can all be advocates for this platform, which may be seeing another dawn with renewed support from IBM. Continue your support of the iSeries and TSMUG. I'll see you at the meetings.

A WebSphere Overview

Presented by Joel Neidermann from IBM
janeider@us.ibm.com
March 8, 2005

Joel Neidermann gave us an insider's view of WebSphere on the iSeries. He highlighted the WebSphere family of products, which includes:

- WebSphere Commerce
- WebSphere Portal
- WebSphere Studio
- WebSphere Application Server
- WebSphere MQ
- WebSphere Business Integration
- HATS - Host Access transformation Server

WebSphere Portal is getting lots of attention these days. It provides access widespread and diverse data sources from anywhere, anytime, by anyone you allow.

Joel presented the iSeries Developers Roadmap, a chart which provides a path for improved program development using better tools, better user interface, better portability, and better scalability. On the left of the

chart is where iSeries customers start on the roadmap, using SEU for program development for green screens. The next step is better tools, using WebSphere Development Studio client to develop and debug RPG and COBOL programs on the desktop, then deploy to the iSeries. The chart continues through web-facing and Java development.

WebSphere Express for iSeries Version 6 was just announced, and is shipped with the i5/OS V5R3. You can run most of the web-facing tools with this copy of WebSphere. Another feature of Version 6 is the ease of installation and administering. Hoorah!

Joel finished his presentation by emphasizing that the entire WebSphere portfolio CAN run on the iSeries. Other WebSphere products can also run on logical partitions on the iSeries, including Linux and AIX OSs, and Windows and Linux OSs on the integrated xSeries.

The meeting concluded with an enlightened discussion of some members' implementations of WebSphere Application Server and Commerce.

WebSphere Portal

Jeff Welsh

Seamless integration of applications is becoming more and more important as the world we live in becomes more and more complicated. One way of accomplishing this is with WebSphere Portal.

What Can It Do For Me?

WebSphere Portal-Express and Express Plus offer IBM eServer iSeries clients with a great way to integrate existing, as well as new applications, into a robust, reliable and scalable portal environment on iSeries.

Clients implementing WebSphere Portal Express can provide a single, personalized interface for employees (B2E), suppliers (B2B) and/or consumers (B2C).

Using iSeries Access for Web, iSeries clients can take the first step with their portal integration plans by portal-enabling 5250 applications. Over time, clients will be able to improve end-user satisfaction and productivity, increase revenue, and reduce the complexities of integrating multiple solutions from IBM and Business Partners.

Plan your strategy

Leverage WebSphere Portal to develop a new and more productive 'desktop' that allows for a singular view of key iSeries assets. These assets include iSeries data, 5250 applications built in RPG or COBOL, collaboration applications such as Lotus Domino, Sametime, and Quickplace, and existing Web applications built upon the WebSphere software platform. Employees, sales, suppliers, distributors, and end users can benefit from an environment that provides all the information and resources they need to complete their work in a single, consolidated Web environment. This greatly benefits the IT administrator who no longer needs to provide administration support for individual desktop environments that access these assets separately.

iSeries clients should look to build their first portal environment to serve personnel involved in the internal operations of their company. Intranet-based portal can consolidate applications and data that support order processing, customer and inventory management, financial reporting, and human resource data.

A portal environment is accessed through a Web browser, where each 'portal page' is composed of one or more portlets, Java code

that services information or applications from a source within an IT infrastructure. Portlets can be custom built to access proprietary information sources, or leveraged from external sources. iSeries clients should consider the following portlet sources:

- IBM products that provide Web-based access to existing 5250 applications and also provide portal support, including:
- iSeries Access for the Web provides a portlet which allows 100% of iSeries applications to be part of WebSphere Portal Express.
- The IBM WebFacing Tool provided in WebSphere Development Studio, Advanced Edition for iSeries Version 5.1 provides limited support through the included iFrame portlet.
- WebSphere Host Access Transformation Services, Version 6.0 provides enhanced WebSphere Portal integration.
- The IBM Host On-Demand, Version 8.0 emulator can run within a WebSphere Portal environment.
- WebSphere Portal - Express, Version 5.0.2 provides portlets that provide access to the Lotus collaboration applications: Domino, Sametime, and Quickplace.

These are very exciting times for the iSeries. IBM is going to spend a billion, (with a B) dollars on the platform over the next two years. One of the more interesting things coming down the pike is the ability to have your green screen exposed as a web service. For a lot of companies that will not matter, but one thing is sure, browser applications are becoming the defacto standard to

interface with your systems. Websphere Portal gives you a good first step in that direction.

Boon or Boondoggle: **Business Conference Justification** **Kim Anderson**

I returned last week from a 3-day conference sponsored by my ERP software vendor. As the IT manager in my business, I have to self-justify the hit to my budget this represents. On a broader level, I should be able to explain to Company management what value this conference has to the business. Fortunately, I came away from this trip with a positive message. I might have learned a few things as well.

I do not believe I am the only manager to have returned from other business conferences thinking sheepishly that the trip was a waste. Some software conventions have a warmed-over, dry and recycled feeling that no amount of sales hype can conceal. Nevertheless, I remain a strong proponent for company participation in software-related conferences.

If your ERP vendor has an annual conference, this is generally a great opportunity to literally see your key business partner up on stage. You get the opportunity to hear about strategy, direction and challenges while sitting with your peers. This is one simple way for you to sense whether your software maintenance dollars are being used to build for the future, or your software vendor is only focused on “milking the cows”.

I like a conference that also has a blend of vendor booths and a variety of good breakout sessions. Of course, a lot of the value in a conference comes from connecting and re-connecting with other customers. Chances are good that you will make better decisions by comparing notes with others about similar business issues.

What did I learn? My ERP vendor Infor is still growing. (I wonder how big the conference will be if they include the MAPICS community as well.) They have made a commitment not to sunset any software products acquired. They will limit themselves strictly to the manufacturing and distribution vertical markets. But their acquisition strategy is platform agnostic! They believe that the iSeries and DB2 are only one of many viable platforms for the future: the differentiator will be the software functionality, and not the technical architecture. This is ambitious (and a bit scary) to say the least: but in this case, at this time, they have the resources to develop very aggressively.

So I learned something at this conference. If I have my way, I will convince others in my company (and not just IT) to go to next

year's event. The software we run on the iSeries is business critical after all.

Oh, and before we go to the conference next year, we will all solemnly swear not to have any fun :).

2005-2006 TSMUG Board of Directors Nominees

The following people are nominated for next year's Board of Directors: Jeff Welsh, Steve Spooner, Kim Sweet and Kim Anderson. Their positions are pending. Additional nominees are being accepted before and during the May meeting, where we will vote for the directors.

If you haven't held a board position, now would be a great time to "take a turn" on the board. We all need to support TSMUG and its mission in the community, and a year of service as a director supports our favorite platform, its related business community and your career. Contact one of the current board members to volunteer.

TriState Midrange Board of Directors

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