

Sybase and PowerBuilder User Group Switzerland - History 1998

Sybase and PowerBuilder User Group Switzerland

19 November 1998 Hotel Senator, Zurich

This full day meeting was attended by approximately 25 people. The SPBUG would like to thank SYAP AG, Baar for having sponsored the coffee breaks.

General Assembly

We started with the annual general assembly and Arthur Hefti presented an overview of the 1998 activities. The group had only two meetings, one in Zurich and the other in Lausanne, but also sponsored the Swiss I*Net Conference in June 1998 in Lucerne. At the time of the assembly there were 36 corporate and 16 individual members and it was decided that the due rates remain unchanged (CHF 100.-/year for individual, CHF 300.- for corporate members).

Steering Committee

There were some changes in the Steering Committee. Peter Krag (SYAP AG) left the position of VP and has been replaced by Rolf André Klaedtke who is also responsible for the SPBUG website. Andreas Theis volunteered to join the committee. The committee and the group thanks Peter Krag for his support and would like to welcome the new board members. If you'd like to contact any of the steering committee members, check out the Contacts page.

PowerTimes

CATSoft Development GmbH will sponsor the PowerTimes subscription for the SPBUG members. As for other subscribing user groups around the world, PowerTimes will be sent out electronically (as an Adobe Acrobat file), saving on printing and distribution costs. This cost was over CHF 3'000.-- for the year 1998. Members are therefore asked to communicate their e-mail address to the secretary, Mrs Celia Hegarty in order to continue receiving PowerTimes !

Presentations

Werner Warger from PowerSolutions (Austria) showed and explained the PFC-based framework he designed for a project at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich. Thanks to Werner for his work and also for his flexibility, as it was initially marked on the agenda that he would present in the afternoon only but had then to start right in the morning.

After a break we had Alan Walsh's presentation "COM/DCOM with PowerBuilder". Alan is working as analyst/programmer at Indiana University (USA) and was invited as the main speaker. He presented the basics of COM and gave us many interesting examples about COM and PowerBuilder.

Especially appreciated was his lively and entertaining presentation style as well as the fact that he developed all sample code live in front of the audience. The presentation was split into two parts which totalled 3 1/2 hours. The SPBUG thanks Alan for his excellent job! The slides and all sample code are available on the Resources page.

The meeting was rounded up by a PowerBuilder 7 Sneak preview. Well, at least this was the plan... unfortunately, due to the fact that the speaker from Sybase USA canceled his coming, Sybase Germany sent somebody else... who didn't seem to know PowerBuilder. He struggled in the presentation and seemed quite helpless. Sybase Switzerland officially apologized for that presentation. The real Sneak Preview presentation slides are available online to all members. The address has been communicated by letter. If you are a member and have not received that letter, then please contact the secretary, Mrs Celia Hegarty

29 April 1998 World Trade Center, Lausanne

This half day meeting was attended by about 18 members. As expected, most members of the region around Zurich (and other German speaking parts of Switzerland) didn't attend. Were they wrong ? Well, the meeting was interesting, even though the agenda had to be changed on a very short notice. Especially the tools presentation by Arthur was interesting: the tools had been introduced in PowerTimes already, but it's still different seeing them in action rather than "just" reading about them.

The topics were:

"JazzAge ActiveX Factory and PowerBuilder" by Mr Philippe Monteil from JAZZAGE Software SARL

The following tools were presented by Arthur Hefti, resp. Rolf André Klaedtke:

- PB Browser from Michael Niemann
- PB Delta from Ken Howe
- Casual Writer from C.K. Hung
- PB Spy from SoftApproach Corp.
- aRe PowerScript Indenter from aRenDeeco, Inc.

The presentation by Robert Turrall on "How Sybase is involved in the World Cup" was interesting and gave some background information on the biggest sports event this year. Personally, I didn't like the prize draw, because I didn't win anything *Smile*, but others were more happy, especially the person who won a copy of PowerBuilder 6.0 Enterprise, sponsored by Sybase USA !

A copy of every tool that has been shown was also given away as well as T-Shirts and a copy of JazzAge ActiveX Factory, sponsored by JAZZAGE Software SARL in Lausanne.