

Sybase and PowerBuilder User Group Switzerland - History 2000

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20 June 2000 Hotel Senator, Zurich, 10

Well over 30 members and guests were present at this meeting, once again held in Zurich. Our main speaker, Dean Jones from PowerObjects, Inc. (USA) first gave an introduction to Application Servers and what they're good for, concentrating on EAS (Enterprise Application Server) from Sybase.

After a break, WizArt Software and CATsoft introduced the WizTom Translation Wizard, an interesting tool (more info at www.wizart.com). After lunch, Sybase provided some general news as well as some info on PowerBuilder 8.

The rest of the afternoon was again dedicated to Dean Jones, who went on with the topic "Building web applications with PowerDynamo, ASP and JSP", only interrupted by a break. The presentation was very interesting and generated many questions, which were answered promptly by Dean.

In fact, members were so interested and captivated, that even after the "official" (or at least announced) end of the meeting we went on with the presentation and Q&A session. Thanks to Dean for his excellent work and to WizArt/CATsoft who sponsored part of the meeting cost.

8 November 2000 Hotel Senator, Zurich

Rolf André Klaedtke welcomes 17 members to the general assembly and after a few words about the SPBUG and the steering committee he introduces the guest speaker, Christophe Coenraets, Technical Evangelist from Sybase USA.

Christophe gives a very interesting presentation where he introduces various hot topics like J2EE, EJB (Enterprise Java Beans), Java Server Pages, Servlets, XML and how to use these in web-based and C/S development. His presentation covers the main part of the full-day meeting and generate a lot of interest and questions.

Before lunch we welcome Christophe Dufourmantelle from Novalys (France) who shows the very interesting product Visual Expert. Many questions show that he has awakened the interest of his audience. We would again thank Novalys for sponsoring part of the cost of the meeting.

Lunch is offered by the SPBUG.

During the general assembly part of the meeting, Rolf André Klaedtke informs the members that all current steering committee members are leaving the committee for various reasons (the secretary, Celia Hegarty, has moved to Singapore. Thanks to Celia for her work). If no members would join the group's committee, then this would be the

last meeting !!

Fortunately, Preben Hansen, who had already shown his interest some time ago, has confirmed his interest to join the steering committee. During the meeting, Leah Rollhaus volunteers for a position as well. Both receive the congratulations and applause from the audience. But it is clear that they cannot run the SPBUG alone ! So, we are still looking for interested people to join the group. A letter will be sent to all members with more information and a survey.

The treasurer being absent because of military service, the group is informed that financially speaking the group is healthy. It is regrettable that both elected revisors (Jean de Bosset and Andreas Flückiger) are not present at the meeting, so the discharge for the accounting cannot be given to Martin Rothenberger, who is leaving his job as the treasurer after several years of service. The SPBUG wishes to thank Martin for his work during the past years. The necessary accounting information will be sent to all members who will then have to give their OK by mail.

Finally, there are some giveaways. The names are extracted by Christophe Coenraets: Marcus Capaul is the lucky winner of a copy of the book "Taming Jaguar" by Mike Barlotta, generously sponsored by Manning Publications. The big winner of the brand new Palm 3c is Leah Rollhaus who just minutes before has joined the steering committee ! Perfect winner...

The SPBUG also wishes to thank the ETH (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology), represented by Marcus Capaul, who has put a projector at our disposition for the meeting.

Finally, Andreas Theis presents a nice gift to the president of the SPBUG, Rolf André Klaedtke, who has served the group for many years (he's the only member who attended every single meeting since the beginning of the group) and who will continue to take care of the website. Andreas Theis said that despite his earlier announced retirement, he may continue to stay in the steering committee. Thanks, Andreas, in the name of the SPBUG and all members.

Christophe Coenraets then introduced a beta version of PowerBuilder 8, which he used to develop the same application that he had developed earlier during his presentation. Impressive and well appreciated.

The steering committee asks that all members will fill in our survey to provide some feedback and hopes that there will be more members present at the next meeting.