We are pleased to present you with our eighth issue of 2013. This issue is packed with several great articles, timely advice, and reports from CMG events around the world.

Please don’t forget that the CMG 2013 Conference is only 6 weeks away, and registration is well underway. For many years, we have held the Conference during the entire first week of December. At the request of our members, we have moved the Conference to the first week of November. Our annual, international Conference for 2013 will be November 5-7 in La Jolla, California.

We have also changed the Conference name from CMG’13 to Performance and Capacity 2013 by CMG. This is to reflect the large number of changes being introduced this year and to reflect more accurately what attendees will gain by participation - more specifically, insight into the latest information and experiences related to Performance and Capacity Management of all IT platforms.

When you come to Performance and Capacity 2013 by CMG, you will benefit from presentations on cloud solutions, virtualization, centralized and distributed systems covering performance analysis and capacity planning across operating systems, storage, and networking. The disciplines are applied at hardware resource, application service and business efficiency levels, including performance and capacity aspects of IT Service Management, Performance Testing and Application Performance Management.

We will also continue our fantastic training track throughout the conference, which we call CMG-T, as well as optional technical workshops on November 4 & 8. You will also have many opportunities to have discussions with other practitioners in our field about specific successes, issues or challenges you may have in your own IT environments.

Mark your calendar now! Plan to come to the Performance and Capacity 2013 by CMG Conference this November!

Finally, we would love to hear from you; feel free to send your thoughts/comments/questions and concerns to either Bill or me. You can send your thoughts to me at sguender@brocade.com or to Bill at B.Jouris@yahoo.com. Of course, there is always the formal route via the website www.cmg.org/measureit/submit.html. We read and respond to all comments.

Contents

1  Peter HJ van Eijk, PhD  Transaction Structures: the part is not the whole

Article 8 of the Performance Engineering cookbook series. In an earlier note on response times, Peter mentioned that not all transactions are atomic, or are viewed in the same way by all stakeholders. This article continues the discussion. Whatever is perceived by the users or consumers as a single transaction is almost often the result of the integration of a series of more detailed transactions by one or more service providers.

2  Stephen Balzac  The Eureka Moment

Quite simply, a “Eureka Moment” is that instant when you realize that the solution to a problem you’ve been working on is staring you in the face and you hadn’t seen it. In other words, it’s a sudden flash of insight.
Another great ‘What I Learned this Month’ article from Scott. This month Scott discusses one of the techniques to help control the software cost in a System z environment: moving some processing to the zIIP or zAAP specialty engines.

Margaret gives us a summary of the recent, successful MCMG report.

Alex gives those of us running Linux some handy “how to advice” in this article.

Steve travelled to Brazil on a business trip and attended the CMG Brazil Conference.

Wayne gives us the details of the successful August 13th STLCMG meeting in this article.

‘Technical debt’ is the term coined in 1992 by Ward Cunningham, inventor of wikis and a signatory to the Agile Manifesto Doctrine, to describe application design trade-offs generally made to speed applications to production at the lowest price possible. Where once we believed that application code wouldn’t last more than five years, many companies are still running code written in the ‘70’s and ‘80’s.

Tom provides his usual useful summary of upcoming regional and international events.

Steve reviews Stephen Balzac’s new book “Organizational Psychology for Managers”.

Call for Content

MeasureIT is published as a free service to the IT community dedicated to capacity management and performance engineering - both CMG members and non-members alike. Be sure to share this link with friends and colleagues. Every issue is made possible through the hard work and dedication of the MeasureIT volunteer staff, and the contributions of willing writers.
If you have not yet logged onto the MeasureIT site, go to the MeasureIT home page, http://www.cmg.org/measureit/ and fill out the subscription request form. We can also now be found on Facebook and you can follow us on Twitter.

Check out your area and see if there is a regional USA chapter near you or an international chapter that you might attend. All the chapter details are available on www.cmg.org/groups and their events are on the CMG calendar at http://www.cmg.org/cgi-bin/calendar.pl. Tom Kelman has gathered all the latest info together for your perusal in item 5 above.

We are always interested in receiving your comments and submitted articles. Help us make MeasureIT even better in 2013 for you and the other 10,000 readers.