

Serving Up Client/Server



You have heard a lot about Client/Server as a way to structure functionality on a network. Perhaps your head is a-buzz with ideas that have no real grounding in how you put this Client/Server stuff to work. We have taken the challenge in this issue to “put a face” on Client/Server—to show some new products in that arena, and to discuss new aspects of existing products. If you are wondering where to go from now until Network Centric Computing becomes a reality, this issue will help give you some ideas.

With Version 4.1.4 of AIX comes a new product that helps to integrate more than 10,000 AIX solutions with both IBM-compatible and Macintosh personal computers. Read about AIX Connections to find out how this product puts the power of an AIX server on every client screen. This issue brings two treatments of an essential technology for client/server computing: Distributed Computing Environment (DCE). For pointers about laying out your client/server installation using DCE, be sure to see the DCE Cell Performance article. To explore putting DCE into a heterogeneous environment that includes other technologies (such as NFS and AFS), read the DCE DFS Interoperability article. For a successful installation from the real-world, check out “PDM Implementation Framework,” which explains how IBM is using networks to solve complex data management problems.

Client/server also highlights the problem of keeping the network and servers running dependably. This issue gives you two articles that address a solution to that problem: High Availability. Read about the new version of HACMP to learn of the latest improvements in that product. A second HACMP article tells you

how to write cluster-aware client applications. To extend your networking into a global arena, read about X.25, a globally available networking technology.

Solution developers should see the article about FlowMark to learn of an opportunity to join the Flowmark Partners in Development program. Also read about the porting facilities that are now available on the East Coast at the Solution Partnership Center—East. An article about a Configuration Management Control System (PCMS) and the popular AIX Questions section complete the issue.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Noren".

George Noren

George Noren, IBM Corporation, Internal Zip 4103, 11400 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78758. Internet: geo@austin.ibm.com. Since joining IBM in September 1979, Mr. Noren has written manuals for System/34, System/36™, and AIX on both the RT® and RISC System/6000® platforms, and was a member of the InfoExplorer™ design team. He has also worked as system administrator for several AIX server machines and their clients, and is currently responsible for the Prototype Evaluation Labs in Austin. Mr. Noren studied engineering at Illinois Institute of Technology, holds a BA in English from the University of Minnesota and an MBA from St. Edwards University in Austin.



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