

User Groups IBM i




What, Where,
Role, Why join, Why create

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Vice-President & Events Organizer
Common Belgium since 1992
The Former President, Common Europe
2016 - 2022
The Former IT Director, Institut Jules Bordet
University of Brussels, Belgium
IBM Champion since 2012

Origin

1960 COMMON (North America)

Various Local User Groups in many states

Creating community globally	
	
	
IBM i Midwest User Group (IMWUG)	
Large User Group (LUG)	
Michigan (Rochester): Southeast Michigan IBM i Users Group	
Michigan IBM i Power Systems Technical Education Conference (MITEC)	
Michigan (Grand Rapids): West Michigan IBM i Users Group	
Mid-Atlantic Group of IBM i Collaborators (MAGIC)	
Minnesota (St. Paul): QUSER	
New York (Syosset): Long Island Systems Users Group (LISUG)	

1962 COMMON Europe
Single user group
Later many country user groups
e.g. Data3, AVE/38 ...

1987 – Many Country
User Groups took the
name COMMON

Europe

Europe – Common Europe

- Austria – Common Austria
- Belgium – Common Belgium
- Czech Republic – Common Czech Republic
- Denmark – Common Denmark
- France – Common France
- Germany – Common Germany
- Italy – FAQ400
- Italy – IT Pass (Italy)
- Luxembourg – Common Luxembourg
- Netherlands – Common Netherlands
- Norway – Common Norway
- Poland – Common Poland
- Russia – AIX Portal
- Slovakia – Common Slovakia
- Spain/Portugal – COMMON Iberia
- Sweden – Data 3 (Common Sweden)
- Switzerland – Common Switzerland
- Switzerland – Common Switzerland (Romandie)
- UK – I-UG

South America

- Argentina (Buenos Aires) – COMMON Argentina
- Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) – COMMON Latino
- Peru (Miraflores) – COMMON Peru

Asia / Oceania

- Japan (Tokyo) – COMMON Japan (SUC)
- Korea (Seoul) – SISA Korea

1. Role of IBM i User Groups



Knowledge Exchange and Skills Development



Solution Provider and IBM Engagement Channel:



Professional Networking Hub





Ecosystem Enablement and Modernization support:

Advocacy and Community Building

Advisory Councils

Client Input is Key to IBM i – Driving Value and Satisfaction



COMMON

Large Users Group (LUG)

COMMON Europe

IBM i Club (Japan)

ISV Interlocked Development

ISV Advisory Council

Ideas

Credit – Steve Will (IBM i Strategy)

Ideas (previously known as requirements)

Submit Ideas



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This portal is to open public enhancement requests against IBM Power IBM, create and manage groups of Ideas, or create an idea explicitly see use the [IBM Unified Ideas Portal \(https://ideas.ibm.com\)](https://ideas.ibm.com).

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What Is The Common Europe Advisory Council (CEAC)

MISSION

CEAC is a technical advisory council consisting of a representative sample of end user members from one of the Common Europe organisations. It is used as a forum for a dialogue with IBM on strategic and long term issues.

<https://comeur.org/what-is-ceac/>

When did IBM i Advisory Councils start?

AS/400 Advisory Council 1991

AS/400® Advisory Council

September 17, 1991

Attn Mr Shrirang Deshpande
Centre des Tumeurs de l'Universite'
Libre de Bruxelles
Institut Jules Bordet
rue Heger-Bordet 7
B 1000 Bruxelles
BELGIUM

Subject COMMON Europe AS/400 Advisory Council Meeting Amsterdam,
Netherlands, October 13-15, 1991

Dear Mr Deshpande

On behalf of IBM Application Business Systems Development Management, THANK YOU for committing your time and talents to the upcoming first meeting of the COMMON Europe AS/400 Advisory Council. IBM is pleased to begin this new relationship with both you and COMMON Europe.

My requirement of 2006 bringing Open Source on our beloved platform- PHP on System i


System i Customers Can Use World's Most Popular Web Scripting Language to Create Modern Web Applications

Cupertino, CA – April 3, 2006 – Zend Technologies, Inc., the PHP company, today announced that the world's most popular Web scripting language, PHP, will be ported to IBM's "all-in-one" System i business computing solution. This is a multi-year agreement to deliver Zend's PHP portfolio of products and solutions to i5/OS, the flagship operating system for IBM System i, providing customers with an integrated, open Web application deployment environment.

The Jules Bordet Institute is a leading university hospital devoted to prevention, screening, patient care, research and education in cancer. A System i customer, the Institute is a recognized European Comprehensive Cancer Center with collaborations all over the world. "We're very excited about IBM's agreement with Zend, which gives us the ability to more rapidly develop Web applications, making us more agile and responsive to new business requirements," said Ranga Deshpande, Ph.D., ICT Director of the Jules Bordet Institute. "We also expect that the agreement will provide us access to a large, new application portfolio as well as promising, young talent to help us keep innovating our business."

From: Jim Herring <jherring@us.ibm.com>
Sent: mardi 4 avril 2006 19:39
To: Deshpande Ranga
Cc: Joanna Brewer; Thomas McBride
Subject: Re: PHP native on the iSeries - thanks Jim
Attachments: pic13208.jpg

Ranga - I thought of you last Sunday as the CEO for ZEND was on stage announcing this great new partnership. This is the dawn of a new era of application development on System i and I'm glad you kept after us to deliver it.



2. Why you should join a User Group



Immediate and Long Term
Access to Practical Expertise

Continuous Learning at Low Cost

In-person Learning:

COMMON NA
PowerUP, Navigate
India, LatAm, Japan

Americas
Local user
group events

Europe: CEC
Country user
group events

On-line Learning: webinars + FOCUS

Boot Camps

iBegin	IBM i System Administration	Integrated File System (IFS)
Programming in ILE RPG	Security	SQL

Content Library – 400 hours

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OAuth: What it is, how it works and why you want to use

Contains 1 Component(s)


[Overview](#) | [Speaker\(s\)](#)

OAuth is a critical security framework for modern web and mobile applications, enabling without sharing user credentials. We will start with the history, foundational concepts and We then describe the different types of OAuth clients and the appropriate authorization the different types of tokens, explain JWTs, and introduce OpenID Connect. Whether you someone looking to understand OAuth in more depth, this session will provide a solid in

Career and Market Visibility



Early Insight into Trends and Roadmaps



Influence and Voice

3. Why You Should Create a User group in Your Area

Why You Should Create in Your Area (If None Exists)

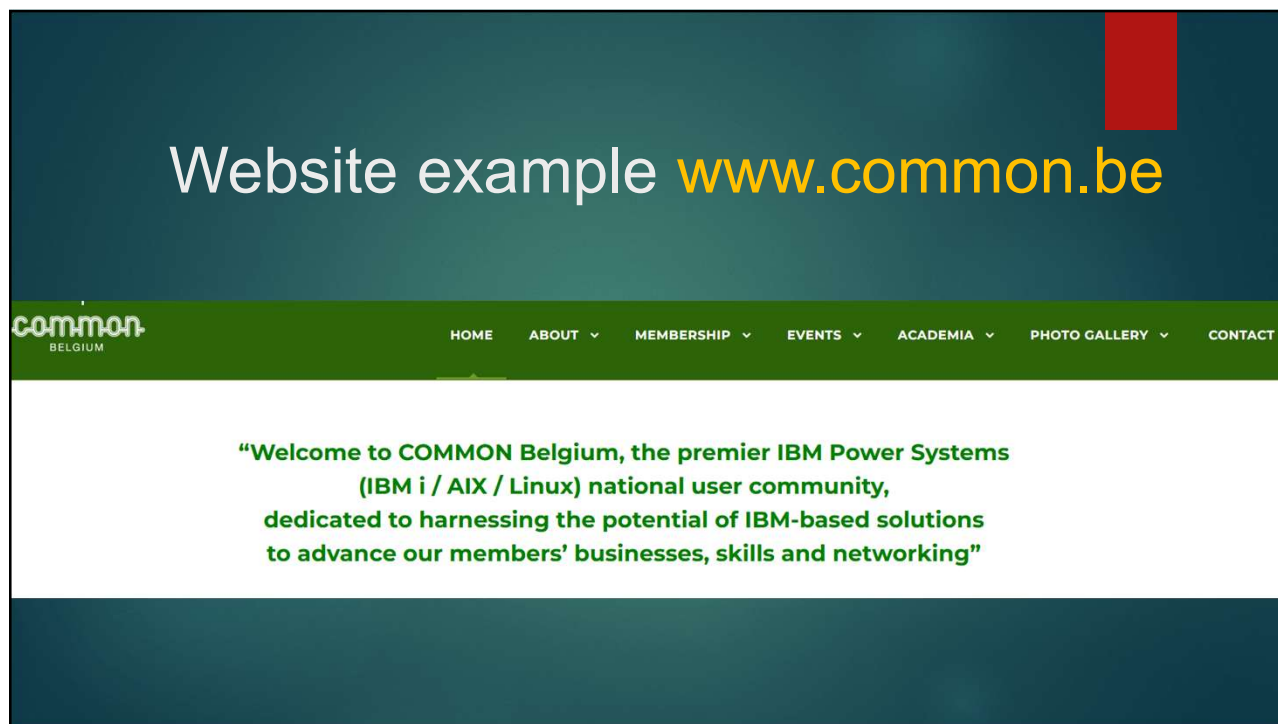
- ▶ Address a Clear Market Gap
- ▶ Strengthen the Local IBM i Ecosystem
- ▶ Establish Thought Leadership and Credibility
- ▶ Enable Localized, Relevant Content
- ▶ Attract Solution provider Support and Sponsorship

Step-by-Step Guide to Setting Up an IBM i User Group **A practical, no-nonsense playbook**

- Step 1 – Define the Purpose (Before Anything Else)**
- Step 2 – Form a Small Core Team (3–5 People Max)**
- Step 3 – Define Governance or Code of Ethics
(Lightweight, Not Bureaucratic)**
- Step 4 – Engage IBM Early**
- Step 5 – Build the Sponsor Model**

Setting Up an IBM i User Group -

- Step 6 – Define the Content Strategy**
- Step 7 – Agenda Planning (Per Event)**
- Step 8 – Logistics & Operations**
- Step 9 – Marketing & Community Building**
- Step 10 – Measure and Adjust**
- Step 11 – Time for the last existential step - statutes**



Setting Up an IBM i User Group -

Hard Truths (Experience-Based)

- ❖ Groups fail due to lack of leadership, not lack of interest.
- ❖ Technical credibility is everything. Lose that, you lose the group.
- ❖ One strong organizer is worth ten passive supporters.
- ❖ Momentum matters more than perfection.

Ultrashort take aways

1. User groups exist to educate, connect, advocate, and modernize the IBM i community.
2. *Joining one accelerates your learning, expands your network, and increases your strategic influence.*
3. Creating one fills a critical gap, builds local capability, and positions you as a leader in the ecosystem.

Thank You!

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Questions, comments?