

Grill it !

CRAZY FIRE

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Linux picking up speed

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Success Story

NETEX

Move your data faster

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Diglets

Legacy nuggets

Summer vacation gives all of us a chance to spend time with our families which is what all those hours spent behind the screen should entitle you to do. It is good to reflect on the past year and add up the positives and the negatives.

Here, at Dignus, we deal with many customers who are pushing the limits of language usage. We very rarely hear a developer say that he wished he had written the application in Java. Yet, we are seeing many prospects for Systems/C++ that are regretting that they used Java for an application that required performance in execution. How can you determine whether C/C++ is the right solution or whether Java fits the bill?



Rule # 1 If it is associated with DSECT use C/C++.

Rule # 2 Ask if anyone has done it before using JAVA.

Rule # 3 Try benchmarking a small example.

Rule # 4 If speed is an issue at all, use C/C++.

Winners Circle



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No one moves data faster over long distances !



Grab a bowl and fill it with any combination of meats, seafood, and vegetables. Add your sauces carefully with 2-3 ladles of different sauces from mild to medium to spicy. One common syndrome of Mongolian Grill is "Maximizing your Bowl Filling" with competitive bowl optimization techniques causing Dignus staff to out-do most patrons. Sometimes bowls stacked high enough to cause broccoli nose bleeds make their way to the Mongolian warrior chefs. Then watch in amazement. Steam and aroma rise instantly to sear your meal.

Marketing Dimensions



Booth 305 will be the hot spot of the show with the Dignus theme and promotion "Hot Diggity Dog". Visit our booth and get tagged with our "Hot Diggity Dog" button and complimentary smoked sausage or IBM Reference Summary.



Hundreds of the world's most successful companies, with high volume time and mission-critical data transport needs, turn to NetEx® for solutions. With over 20 years of experience NetEx® delivers dedicated industry-standard IP network performance up to 3-14 times faster over long distances.

- NetEx/IP™, the highest performance data transport solution for open network infrastructures.
- NetEx/eFT™, an efficient and reliable enterprise data movement application that solves the inefficiency of FTP for batch and interactive operating environments.
- NetEx/HC™, the highest performance data transport solution for dedicated network infrastructures.
- New Product, standards based IP transport for remote storage networking to be available in October 2003. Look for NetEx® announcement.

"Dignus was able to play a valuable role in developing our State-of-the-Art software product. Systems/C is used in Native mode on our mainframe and has allowed us to speed our development times while having the technical support team at Dignus backing us up. Dignus has responded to our technical questions in a heartbeat and that has given NetEx® a competitive edge in the marketplace," said Bob Kingman, System Architect.



Dave's Corner

Linux... Linux... Linux...

The entire mainframe community has been bitten by the Linux bug; everyone is talking about it. Systems/C and Systems/C++ are currently **the only commercial C and C++ compilers available for mainframe Linux**, and we have released a new version of our Systems/ASM assembler that directly supports 31-bit and 64-bit Linux. It is our expectation that the transition to Linux can be helped by moving existing programs (assembler source) to Linux with the least "pain" possible.

Systems/ASM supports existing ASM syntax as close as we could make it in the Linux context. You can declare CSECTs, DSECTS, build macros, etc just like you're used to. Also, Systems/ASM supports debugging of this assembler source using the GNU gdb debugger (or any other Linux debugger installed on your system.)

When moving programs to Linux, you'll need to be aware of some changes. For example, the character set is ASCII not EBCDIC. Systems/ASM can handle that in most cases "automagically" - but =C'0' does not result in an 0xF0 character, rather it's 0x30. So, care needs to be taken there. Also, you'll need to be aware of different function linkage conventions and operating system interfaces.

Even though there are differences, some of our Beta customers have been very pleased with our offering and have been successful in **moving some very old ASM sources to the Linux/390 platform**.

In other news, we're pleased to have several new customers using our 64-bit C compiler and runtime. As IBM has recently announced, 64-bit machines are "the way" of the future. And, we want to help you get there. Although IBM is helping out with bi-modal support through z/OS 1.4, it's clear that migrating to a 64-bit machine and OS is probably in your not-too-distant future.

As always, we welcome your feedback. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact us!



Get With It !

by Mike

Our customer base is a collection of shops that are either replacing their current C or C++ environment, are exploiting our cross-compilation capability, or are implementing new applications or new application services. In fact, it seems a healthy number of our Systems/C and Systems/C++ customers are developing new applications or are integrating new code into their current application environment. (Who said there isn't any new development on the mainframe!)

Those new applications range from XML databases, to printing from the mainframe. Many are integrating C and C++ code that is available on the Net into their existing applications, from implementation of the XML parser, Xerces, to data compression, to operating system extensions. They utilize our product features that enable complete customization of the runtime environment as well as our our Direct Call (DCALL) support for easy integration into existing application and all operating system environments.

Many of our customers have found that by changing to our cross-compilation/assembly environment they can save a lot of money, time, and programmer morale. From the smallest shop to the largest, they have found that the instantaneous compilation turnaround time has drastically altered programmer productivity, going so far as to enable some to postpone buying a new mainframe for software development. (Sorry IBM 😊)

Other customers have discovered that there is great benefit derived by Dignus, LLC being a company for which mainframe development tools are our only business. From our continued support of the latest z/Architecture additions, to our state-of-the-art standards compatibility, to our innovative support of new environments (see our new Systems/ASM support for Linux), to our dedicated technical support, we are committed to providing the products needed for efficient product development.

If you are doing mainframe development, give Dignus a call.

Mike

Dignus, LLC provides unique mainframe programming solutions that offer savings in time and effort, while streamlining development costs.

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