

Central Canada DB2 Users Group

71 Underhill Drive, Suite 136, Toronto, Ontario, M4A 2J8 - Email: ccdb2@ca.inter.net

"Misconceptions and Old Wives' Tales – on DB2 Database Maintenance and Recovery"

Brenda Honeycutt
Segus, Inc.

Platform: z/OS (Intermediate to Advanced)

Every DBA strives to maintain a healthy DB2 environment every day. However, there are numerous lingering misconceptions about database health to which many organizations fall prey. These misconceptions occur because DBAs believe in, or apply concepts that are, objectively false. Like old wives' tales, some misconceptions exist simply because they have been passed down from older generations. In terms of DB2, this means that even best practices true for older DB2 versions may no longer be best. This presentation comprises a number of the most common ones about DB2 maintenance and recovery.

- I. Lies, damned lies, and statistics.
 - a. Dispelling the delusions about using real-time statistics.
 - b. Eliminating unnecessary RUNSTATS.
- II. All backups are there, but . . .
 - a. Are you migrating too early to tape. Why you should wait.
 - b. Virtual tape storage is as good as DASD. Not! Hard and fast rules concerning VTS.
 - c. Oops, the archive logs are on tape. Serious considerations for logs on tape.
 - d. Use mirroring instead of dual logging. Why this concept fails.
 - e. Fast, faster, flash it! FlashCopy hailed as ""the end of the image copy"". Choosing objects wisely for FlashCopy.
 - f. Copying indexes?
- III. Recovery Ready, Set, Go
 - a. What about recovery time objectives? Do you have any idea what your RTOs are?
 - b. Small objects are fast to recover; < misguided notion.
 - c. Large objects with high update rates. The risk of recovering such objects from nightly backups.
 - d. A, B, Z's of ZPARMs: Why ZPARM defaults are not one-size-fits-all.
 - e. The coupling facility performs great! But, how will it perform during a recovery.
 - f. Multi-volume data sets rule! Don't kiss your RTOs goodbye with this concept.
- IV. Using logs for database auditing? Reasons why you shouldn't.

See Our Web Site at: <http://pages.ca.inter.net/~ccdb2>