

Facing the Challenges of Today

Oxford University ADSM Symposium

Jerry Lawson

The Hartford Financial Services Group

jlawson@thehartford.com

Agenda

- Who am I, and what is The Hartford?
- What are the issues I have had to deal with lately?
- What are my suggestions for the future?

Who am I, and what is The Hartford Financial Services Group

- America's second oldest insurance company -- founded in 1810
- Formerly part of ITT
- Insurance operations worldwide

Who am I...

- ADSM piloted in 1994 (Version 1)
- Went into production with Version 2, MVS Server
- 950+ clients (700 desktop, 250 servers)
- Primarily Win95, & NT, but also Sun, OS/2 and Macintosh

Caveats

- JES3 Parallel Sysplex
- Not the biggest
- Not the highest volume
- I've got “war stories”, but then...

Issues that I have dealt with in the past year or so...

- Why is this an issue?
- First there was Y2K....
- New Workloads
- Staff Count Dances
- Y2K

Issues, continued...

- Server migrations
- Cost of running the Server...
- Did I mention Y2K?
- Migration to Version 3

What are my suggestions for the future?

- The Quest for the Holy Grail...

Developed by the GUIDE MVS Group in the early 1990s. A bunch of dinosaurs were sitting around discussing “the good old days”, and the reality that each generation seems to have to rediscover some of the same fundamental things, over and over.

The Grail

- Principle of Least Astonishment
- Virtue of Laziness (change for the sake of change is never a good idea)
- Time spent reinventing the wheel...
- William Tell Near Miss Award

What would I like to see?

- Single copy of common files (.exe, .dll, etc.)
- Self Updating clients
- Duplicate DB Backups as part of the base product
- performance enhancements...

