

BP114

Notes/Domino MythBusters

Bob Balaban, Vice President, Binary Tree

Rocky Oliver, Vice President, TeamStudio



Agenda

- Speaker introductions
 - ▶ The part of “Bob” in today's presentation will be played by Bob Balaban
 - ▶ The part of “Rocky” in today's presentation will be played by Rocky Oliver
- Various myths about Notes, Domino and related topics
 - ▶ Some will be confirmed
 - ▶ Some will be exploded
 - ▶ Is it possible to make a cement truck disappear?
- Q & A



Speaker Intro: “Bob Balaban”

- Developer at Lotus/Iris 1987-1997
 - 123/G, 123/W, Notes Agent Manager, LotusScript/Java back-end classes for Notes...
- Founded Looseleaf Software, 1997
 - Wrote many articles, some software products, and a book, *Programming Domino 4.6 With Java*
 - Provided consulting services — expertise in solutions architecture, integration (Notes/Domino & J2EE, N/D & .NET), client and server plugins (DSAPI, Extension Manager...)
- Re-joined IBM August 2005
 - Notes/SAP integration, 2006
 - Programmability/AppDev Architect for Notes and Domino, 2007
- Joined Binary Tree, Inc., February 2008
 - Leading some new business initiatives, writing some code

Speaker Intro: "Rocky Oliver"

- Began my Notes/Domino life with Lotus - Word Processing Division in 1992; re-joined IBM/Lotus Software June 2005, left (again) in Jan 2008
- Co-author, Notes and Domino 6 Programming Bible (Wiley, April 2003)
- Contributing author, Special Edition: Using Notes/Domino 6 (Que, 2001)
- Co-author, Teach Yourself...LotusScript for Notes/Domino 4.6 (MIS Press, 1997)
- Written many articles for various publications
- Speak at numerous technology conventions, such as Lotusphere, Lotus Devcon/IBM DeveloperWorks Live, ADVISOR Devcons, and various European conferences
- Currently Chief Evangelist for Teamstudio
- Lotus Geek (blog): www.LotusGeek.com

What About the Cement Truck?

- Sometimes what you think is impossible isn't
- Other times it most certainly is...
 - ▶ How about making a cement truck disappear?
 - ▶ Depends on how you define "disappear"...



So: Some Things Are True

- Some myths are TRUE
- Some myths are FALSE
- Some are.... In between (WEASELS!)

Myth 1: "NSFDB2 Allows Unlimited Database Size"

- As of Notes/Domino 8, storing server databases in Db2 is Generally Available
 - ▶ Db2 provides massive storage scalability and indexing
 - ▶ Use "Access Views" to provide Notes-style access/display of Db2 data
- The myth is that putting the data in Db2 allows you to exceed the 64gb size limit on NSFs
- Survey says: **FALSE**
- NSFDB2 dbs are artificially capped at 64gb, to avoid problems when you create "normal" NSF replicas
- BTW: you can get bigger "logical" NSF size in v8.5 by using DAOS to store attachments outside the NSF file
 - ▶ Does NOT work with NSFDB2

Myth 2: "NSF is a proprietary, closed system"

- Yes, the actual *structure* of an NSF may be a "closed" architecture, but so what?
 - ▶ Many, many other "open systems" are actually closed and proprietary under the hood
- The question to ask is: Does the system support the *standards* I need to do my job?
- Survey says: **WEASEL**
- As the times change, Notes/Domino changes right along with them
- Notes/Domino supports a myriad of standards and APIs
 - ▶ COM/OLE, HTML, Java, Visual Basic, XML, C, C++, DSAPI, LDAP, CIDR, IOCP, ODBC, JDBC, iCAL, IMAP, POP3, Smart Tags, Web Services (client or server), SOAP, WSDL, MIME, S/MIME, SOCKS, CORBA, Javascript, MS IIS, JSP, SSL, RSA, x.509, DB2, RSS, ATOM, ODF, SOA, etc. **
 - ** There are many more, but you get the idea!

Myth 3: "Notes Cannot Be Affected By Email Virusus"

- (Thanks to Gregory Engels for this one!)
- Option Declare
- Const MB_YESNO = 4 ' Yes and No buttons
- Const MB_ICONQUESTION = 32 ' Warning query
- Const IDYES = 6 ' Yes button pressed
- Sub Postopen(Source As Notesuidatabase)
- While 1
- If (Msgbox ("Format c:?", MB_YESNO + MB_ICONQUESTION) = IDYES) Then
- Exit Sub
- End If
- Wend
- End Sub
- Survey says: **FALSE**

Myth 4: LotusScript Garbage Collection Means Never Having to Say You're Sorry"

- LS garbage collection is automatic
 - ▶ i.e., no recycle() as in Java
- So you NEVER have to worry about memory!
- Survey says: **FALSE**
- For example:

```
Dim e as NotesACLEntry  
Dim s as new NotesSession
```

```
set e = s.currentdatabase.acl.getfirstentry
```

Myth 5: Java is Slower Than LotusScript

- Because LS is “more integrated into Notes/Domino”
- Survey says: **FALSE!**
- Both languages use the same architecture (compiled code executed by an interpreter, to be cross-platform)
- Back-end classes use the EXACT SAME (C++) CODE!
- Plus, Java has JIT (JIT Happens!)
 - ▶ Convert java byte codes to executable on-the-fly

Myth 6: LotusScript is Slower Than Java

- “Because Java has Just-In-Time compiling (JIT)”
- Once again, survey says: **FALSE!**
- JIT doesn’t make that much difference.
- Go on, measure it! Special prize for anyone who can show reliable numbers!

Myth 7: "Option Declare" is Optional

- Doesn't help the developer much anyway.... Right??



Myth 7: “Option Declare” is Optional

- Survey Says: **FALSE**
- While you *can* write “good code” without Option Declare, it definitely makes it easier to do so by using it
- It also tells *other developers* that this code at least has the variables declared correctly
 - ▶ Also a good early indicator that this developer *probably* knows what he/she is doing

Myth 8: Domino Sucks at Web Apps

- Survey says: **WEASEL!**
- Pre-8.5, it is certainly POSSIBLE to do excellent Web apps on Domino
- It's just REALLY HARD
- 8.0 and 8.5 have lots of improvements

Myth 9: Lotus Notes Can't Print

- Well, there is one way...



Myth 9: Lotus Notes Can't Print

- Many improvements have been made
 - ▶ Document preview, integration with PDF
- Survey Says: **WEASEL**

Myth 10: GetNthDocument is slower than GetNext

- This has been around since LotusScript was invented
- “I wish I hadn’t added GetNthDocument in the first place” – Bob Balaban
- Here’s the reality
 - ▶ There really are situations where GetNthDocument is faster; however it can be daunting (and time consuming) to try to create those situations, and the speed advantage is negligible – therefore **you should simply use GetNextDocument always**
(Except when you can’t)
- Survey Says: **WEASEL**

And Now....Some Quickies

- Myth 11: DXL Doesn't Work
- Myth 12: LotusScript is Dead
- Myth 13: Notes is Dead

And...One Final Myth to Bust

- Myth 14: There will never be an African American President of the US in our lifetime
- Survey Says: **FALSE**

Thank you!

Q & A

rock@teamstudio.com

<http://www.lotusgeek.com>

bob.balaban@binarytree.com

<http://www.bobzb.og.com>

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