

JDEtips *Journal*

Unlocking the Value of Your JD Edwards® World® and EnterpriseOne® Investment

Undocumented Features... Timesaving Solutions... Best Practices

Home | Consulting | Training | JDEtips Journal | Document Library | Tip of the Month | Software Solutions | Testimonials | Community

November/December 2008 Volume IX Issue 6

COVER STORY

6 ♦ Manufacturing / Shop Floor Management

E1

Discrete Work Order Line Scheduling, by Jim Evans.

Use finite forward scheduling to maximize your production processes and minimize time and costs.

DISTRIBUTION / WAREHOUSE MANAGEMENT

19 ♦ Inventory Control Made Easier with Default Locations, by Tyler Simonon.

W E1

Learn how adding a couple of extra steps up front in the Inventory Control process can save you time and money in the long run.

FINANCIALS / GENERAL LEDGER

28 ♦ Budget Forecast Setup and Processing in EnterpriseOne Versions 8.10 and Up, by Bob DeMartino.

E1

Take a tour of the new budget forecasting feature available in E1 8.10 and higher.

TECHNICAL / CUSTOMIZING E1

46 ♦ EnterpriseOne Standard Deviation, by Mike Wright.

E1

While a non-standard request, you may someday need to add a standard deviation calculation to a JDE® report. Discover how this can be done right in E1.

TECHNICAL / CNC

55 ♦ Tools Release 8.98 and EnterpriseOne 9.0—The “Dot Zero Release That Wasn’t”, by Gregg Larkin.

E1

If you thought all dot zero releases were “buggy”, this latest offering may surprise you.

TECHNICAL / WORLD

61 ♦ World Menu System Tips, by Rick Snell.

W

There’s a wealth of information found in World’s menu system. Here are some tips for making the most of three key files.

CIO CORNER

76 ♦ The Big Project – Part III: Communication, Communication, Communication, by CJ Rhoads.

W E1

Is everyone who needs to know “in the know” with your project details? CJ explains why with projects, there’s no such thing as over-communication.



From The Publisher

Who ya gonna call?

I’m afraid Ghostbusters went out of business recently—apparently their line of credit dried up.

Depending on which IT or Marketing expert you read on a given day, you should:

A. Decrease your marketing budget immediately by 10%-20%.

From the Publisher continued on page 2

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 ♦ JDEtips Online / New White Papers
- 4 ♦ Services
- 5 ♦ Consulting and Training
- 80 ♦ JDEtips Software Solutions
- 83 ♦ JDEtips Contacts

ORACLE PARTNER

E1 EnterpriseOne

W World

 Return to Table of Contents



Publisher: Andy Klee
Director of Publications: Laura Donovan
Managing Editor: Colleen Low Larkin
Editor: Emil Marx
Graphic Designer: Mark Hunter

Klee Associates, Inc.

JDEtips ONLINE

Be sure to visit the JDEtips Document Library to download these new white papers.

- E1** **ON TECHNICAL / CNC**
Installing JD Edwards Tools Release 8.97 Part II: Enterprise and Java Servers, by Bill Loban.
In the first installment of this series, Bill Loban stepped us through the installation of the Server Manager utility on the deployment server and the server agents on other servers. In this paper, it's time to download and install tools release 8.97 on to the enterprise and Java application servers. Bill provides the steps to make this possible.
- E1** **ON TECHNICAL / CNC**
Oracle® Single Sign-On for JD Edwards EnterpriseOne – Part I Oracle Internet Directory Integration with Microsoft Active Directory, by Charles Anderson.
If your company's IT security policy requires users to change passwords at a frequent rate, and each user averages, say, five to ten passwords – one for each application – that can be a time consuming process for them. It's an even greater challenge for those tasked with managing User IDs and passwords. This is where the beauty of Oracle Single Sign-On for JD Edwards EnterpriseOne and other Oracle applications comes into play. By following the steps provided by Charles Anderson, you can shorten the time for both users and administrators by creating a single sign-on that requires one User ID and one password per user to access their JDE and Oracle applications. This is part one of a three-part series. This issue, we cover installation of the Oracle Internet Directory, including special considerations you'll want to keep in mind.

From the Publisher continued from page 1

- B. Increase your marketing budget to improve your market share and drive your weaker competition out of business.*
- C. Decrease IT spending immediately, especially the training budget.*
- D. Increase your IT spending to improve business processes and position yourself for future growth.*
- E. Slash spending on future capital projects that do not show 100% ROI within 1-2 years. That means put off your major JDE upgrade, and focus on incremental improvements for the system you've already spent millions of dollars acquiring, implementing, and managing.*
- F. Upgrade to the latest (but stable) release of JD Edwards so that you are better positioned to take advantage of the inevitable recovery a year or two or more from now.*

Sound familiar? Are you seeing conflicting, biased opinions on what to do? One of my favorites comes directly from SAP themselves. SAP is – you guessed it – halting new spending on information technology. The Wall Street Journal quoted SAP executives:

“We will review all planned investments in IT equipment, hardware, software, facilities, and company cars, as well as internal IT projects,” the co-CEOs wrote in the email. “Do not order any new equipment at this time.”

Somehow, I doubt they are giving the same advice to their clients.

One day after the above quote hit the blogosphere, SAP responded to the Wall Street Journal with this comment:

(This)...suggests an inaccurate portrait of our management decisions about cost savings while maintaining strategic investments into our own IT. SAP is not

From the Publisher continued on page 3

STELTIX
BUSINESS CONSULTING

JDEtips Consulting and Training Partner for the UK and Europe

www.steltix.com

(formerly Axelion)

From the Publisher continued from page 2

halting its own tech spending. Instead, the company continues to make strategic investments in IT projects that directly impact our ability to grow our business globally and that assure we can provide world-class services to our customers. We expect our customers and prospects to continue strategic IT spending over the next months, while somewhat narrowing their focus more to IT projects that deliver quick returns.

Cutting costs in non-customer facing areas is what management is expected to do in times of uncertainty. Our call on employees to stop ordering 'new equipment' for standard IT infrastructure like cell phones, photocopiers, printers, laptops, etc. as well as an appropriate review of all planned investments and projects is a prudent and necessary step.

We've even asked our CIO to identify strategic IT projects that would help us to optimize SAP's business processes."

I agree 100% with what SAP is saying in the above quote. You have my permission to get it printed up and framed on the wall of every IT employee and key business user in your company. (To save \$ on frames, contact Lori.Stone@ERPtips.com - she's the expert!) For those of you who would like to participate in and review survey results from IT management on these issues, check out this link:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=09ZaluPWfER_2b54qMreWRcA_3d_3d

AMR Research (the ERP pundit firm), in an article titled: **Tactical Tips for CIOs in Uncertain Economic Times**, says:

Despite the economy, companies are still looking to fill talent gaps. Look at your staff and assess your needs for the near term and the future. How are you going to retain your best folks? Talk to them as openly as you can about

what is going on inside your company so they do not panic through lack of accurate information.

Reward your best performers financially as well as with training and assignments that broaden their focus and increase their visibility within the organization. Refine their objectives to influence the desire to consolidate and reuse. At the same time, this is a good opportunity to clean out your deadwood and consider external sourcing options.

One more quote, and then I'll say what I think. Dr. C.J. Rhoads, author of many JDEtips CIO Corner articles, says:

If we use the periods of slowness to improve our processes, we are utilizing our resources most effectively and efficiently. What many companies do when the economy slows is to increase the amount they spend on marketing in order to bring in more customers.

But if customers don't have the money to spend on the products and services of those companies, these companies are wasting their money. If, instead, the company increases the amount of money spent on IT, then resources are used more effectively.

Using the downtime to plan for, install, and implement new technologies (that fit into the hedgehog concept, of course) will enable the company to better meet the needs of the customer. When the economy returns, the company will be able to take advantage of the smoother processes and increased volumes to put money away to cover the increased costs during the NEXT recession. Both the company and the customer win in the long run. (Note: The full text of CJ's article is available at www.JDEtips.com/ITSpending.asp.)

Here's what I think you should do. Take the best ideas and create the strategy that makes the most sense for your company. I think there's

some truth in everything mentioned above. The key is spending your IT funds to achieve several goals—while more focus on ROI is logical, it isn't the only criterion for evaluating IT projects. Spend your time and money growing your market share, improving business processes, and getting more out of the ERP solution you already own.

It should be no surprise to anyone that I passionately believe our training programs are an excellent investment in these turbulent economic times. Here's just one example: Your shipping department confirmed the wrong line on a sales order. That usually means extra work – entering a credit to fix the problem, since there's no way to reverse a ship confirm. Wouldn't it be nice to know how to fix the problem before an incorrect invoice is printed and on its way to your customer? We teach that, along with hundreds of other techniques. And that's just one of 25 classes that we teach on a regular basis.

Over the last eight years I think we've done an excellent job of presenting the information you need to help you achieve maximum results with your JD Edwards software. Attendance at JDEtips University and our onsite classes continue to set new records. Future issues of JDEtips Journal will focus even more directly on cost-saving tips.

We're ready to help you continue to succeed at JDE, to not just survive, but also to thrive in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Andy

Andy.Klee@ERPtips.com

Toll free: 1.877.832.2594 ext. 210

International: 1.970.856.4811 