

Seminar Abstract

Internationalization

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COURSE OVERVIEW:

In recent years there has been an increasing interest in and demand for serious and standardized support for culture-independent data processing. This is happening within countries having multiple languages and cultures (such as Canada, Belgium, and Switzerland). And as national economies become linked there is a steadily increasing demand for software export. However, users prefer to deal with program interfaces using their own cultural conventions, and rightly so.

This $2 \times \frac{1}{2}$ -day presentation introduces the concept of internationalization (I18N) and outlines some of the problems as well as some of the solutions. Since the C language (and now C++) is by far the leader in providing I18N support, there will be considerable coverage of that support.

The first half-day is not hardware or operating system-specific while the second half-day covers Windows NT and Visual C++ specifics.

GOALS:

Provided students meet the prerequisites, at the end of the course, they should understand the following concepts:

- Internationalization
- Localization
- Locales
- Multibyte characters
- Wide characters
- Have an appreciation for the support available in standard C/C++ environments
- Have an appreciation for the effort required to achieve some form of I18N support
- Have an understanding for the support available in Windows NT and Visual C++

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Programmers and managers interested in a general overview of I18N and who want to learn some of the terminology. Also those who are evaluating the support provided for I18N by various development systems.

PREREQUISITES:

A working knowledge of C/C++.