

Re: How proprietary is the "COBOL file system"

Re: How proprietary is the "COBOL file system"

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Cobol/comp.lang.cobol/2007-10/msg00153.html>

- *From:* "Pete Dashwood" <dashwood@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 4 Oct 2007 12:49:00 +1300
-

"Robert" <no@xxxxxx> wrote in message
news:3t68g3tm4h7belscncl6pacdl8aulomcur@xxxxxxxxxx

On Wed, 3 Oct 2007 17:31:25 +1300, "Pete Dashwood"
<dashwood@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote:

Did you have any comment on the video? I'd be interested in your opinion.

I was disappointed. I expected better from a Microsoft visionary.

Ah, I was expecting nothing, never having heard of him before I saw the interview.

I wasn't expecting a theoretician who produces beautiful design with
crappy
implementation. Universities have a surplus of that type. But I wasn't
expecting a code
monkey either, the type who tries to overcome weak design with skillful
implementation.
That's Anders. His test for design quality is totally pragmatic, throw it
against the code
wall and see what sticks.

It's an approach I have used myself on occasion... :-)

I was also put off by his solipsism. If he didn't think of an idea, it's
trivial.

Re: How proprietary is the "COBOL file system"

I don't think that's fair, Robert. He seemed to me to be fairly self-effacing, given his track record.

There he was 'inventing' parallel processing, as though no one had thought of it before. He was 'inventing' query processing. He doesn't acknowledge that databases have been doing both for twenty years, and he dismisses their query processing as something anyone could write in a short time.

Anders and the interviewer agree that Query Expressions, Functional Programming and Lambda are ideas from older unsuccessful languages (such as Anders' own Prolog), but only Microsoft has the skill to dust them off and make them useful.

Given that they work for MS who are paying for the video, I think we have to expect SOME tub thumping. I thought it was not too in-your-face. But then, I have no problem with MicroSoft... :-)

What hubris. If they want to implement others' ideas, which is fine, they should stick to models that are fully developed.

If we all did that, there'd be very little development of new models... :-)

OK, thanks for your comments. There are some further videos (not necessarily with Anders) where they actually demonstrate query expression code and explain why it is structured the way that it is, rather than as standard SQL. These are more about nitty-gritty coding than about personalities.

I'm experimenting with it at the moment, but it looks very promising.

Personally, I don't care who invented (or re-invented) what, as long as I can get it in an easily assimilable form and as long as it adds value to what I'm doing.

I'm pretty happy with C# for those reasons.

Pete.

Re: How proprietary is the "COBOL file system"

Re: How proprietary is the "COBOL file system"

—
"I used to write COBOL...now I can do anything."

.