



Caché: A More Powerful Database Engine for Today's Applications

What do TD Ameritrade, Domino's Pizza, the Department of Defense and Point Software, Inc. all have in common? Each of those organizations embraces InterSystems' Caché as a database engine of choice for key software development.

Caché dominates in several business sectors, including health care, banking, financial management and the federal government. Even computer industry giant IBM chose to incorporate Caché technology into its global customer support system. Clearly, Caché is showing itself to be a leader in the database market.

The question is why? Why are so many developers seeking out Caché? We can tell you why we selected Caché. The reasons are many.

Speed

The speed of software is determined by how efficiently it performs its tasks. Caché achieves efficiency in a few ways.

Caché is "object oriented." An "object" can be anything with its own properties; in terms of municipal government, it might be a parcel, a water meter or a tax bill. Traditional relational databases use the approach of scattering the information for an object across multiple data tables. Caché's approach is to retain all the information for an object in the

same "container," expediting its retrieval.

Another reason for Caché's agility is that it uses InterSystems' Enterprise Cache Protocol (ECP) as the means for applications to communicate with the database. By using ECP, an application can cache (store a local copy of) the data it requests from the Caché database. The application can then go to the cache the next time it needs that information rather than making a trip to the database.

So just how fast *is* Caché? To give you an example, Point's ReportNET is able to render 20,000 excise bills to the report viewer in less than 5 seconds by using Caché.

Flexibility

Caché is a highly accessible database engine. It supports the most commonly used programming languages of today, such as Java, C++ and C# ("C Sharp"). We found this flexibility quite appealing as it gives us the ability to select the right "tool" for each programming project, rather than have one selected for us by a third party that may not be a good fit for the job.

Rapid Program Development

As a veteran software company, the ability to bridge our "legacy" applications into a modern footprint was of great importance to us. Caché's Ob-



jectScript language allows for the reuse of existing data models without any loss of functionality. By incorporating ObjectScript into our ReportNET project, we were able to shave off thousands of hours of development time.

Scalability

Communities grow over time both in terms of their size and their needs, so a scaleable solution is crucial. Caché yields massive scalability by incorporating technologies such as a multidimensional data model, ECP, and the Caché Virtual Machine. Collectively, these technologies allow for the easy addition of databases and users at the time and amount you require.

The Company behind It

Caché is a solid product backed by a solid company.

InterSystems Corporation's company profile is an impressive one. Founded in 1978, InterSystems has longevity in the industry. It is a worldwide company, headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts and operating in 26 other locations spanning six continents. Most remarkable of all, though, is its commitment to its customers. InterSystems invests its time in their success by offering an array of educational venues, by being highly responsive, and by giving personal attention to their needs and goals. With InterSystems' technology, Point Software and its customers are well-positioned for the future.

To learn more about Caché and InterSystems, visit:

<http://www.intersystems.com/>



Calendar of Events

Date(s)	Event	Location
Oct. 1-5	IAAO Course 101: Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal <i>Sponsored by the Connecticut Chapter of IAAO</i>	Newington Public Library Community Room 95 Cedar Street Newington, CT
Oct. 9-11	MMAO Fall Conference	The Williams Inn 1090 Main Street Williamstown, MA
Oct. 15-19	IAAO Course 101: Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal <i>Sponsored by the Massachusetts Chapter of IAAO</i>	Burlington Town Annex Public Meeting Room 150 Concord Street Burlington, MA
Oct. 24	MCTA Fall Conference	The Log Cabin 500 Easthampton Road Holyoke, MA
Nov. 15	CTx Member Meeting	Aqua Turf Club 556 Mulberry Street Southington, CT

Point Software's Offices Closed on December 24

Point Software recently revised its holiday schedule to add Monday, December 24, 2007. Please be aware of this date so that you may update your office calendars accordingly.

Tax Billing Conversion Reminder

By now, all quarterly towns running Point's collection system should have received their second-half tax billing conversion questionnaires. If you have not, please contact our customer service department at 1.800.368.9538.

We would also like to remind customers that we need your *complete* conversion package before we can begin the conversion process and that the earlier we receive it, the better. All required items (listed below) must be received by **December 17, 2007**.



- Completed conversion questionnaire
- Copy of the tax collector's database on CD-ROM
- Real estate and personal property legal files from the assessor
- Control totals from the legal files
- Signed LA-4 report
- Signed district LA-4 report, if you have districts
- Betterment & lien totals report, if you have betterments & liens
- Exemption totals report, if you have exemptions
- Supporting files, if applicable, from other CAMA vendors
- Approved tax rate

Tech Tips

Most of us consider the body or message section of an e-mail to be its most important part. After all, that's where the bulk of the information goes. However, some careful thought should be given to the e-mail header – consisting of the “To,” “CC,” “BCC” and “Subject” lines – before it heads out to the recipient's in box. Here are a few guidelines to consider:

1. Add the e-mail address(es) last. It seems natural to complete the “To” line first since it comes first, but doing so leaves you open to accidentally sending the message before you have completed it – like if you click the “Send” icon when you meant to click the “Insert File” icon.
2. Think about the purpose of your e-mail when deciding whether an address should go in the “To,” “CC,” or “BCC” line. Use the “To” line for recipients whom you want/need to reply to you or to take some action. Use the “CC” line for recipients whom you just want to keep “in the loop” and whom the “To” recipients should know received the message. Use “BCC” (blind CC) for recipients whom you want to hide from the other recipients. That may sound sneaky, but think of it as a way of both reducing message clutter and preventing e-mail addresses from being given away unnecessarily.
3. Don't put your subject line in all caps. This is YELLING.
4. Make your subject clear but concise. Your recipients should have a good idea of what the e-mail is about before opening it. With so many e-mails coming in every day, they need to prioritize. However, they should be able to read the subject quickly. Don't ramble.