

Tree e-times

A Publication of Treehouse Software, Inc.

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Treehouse representatives are traveling around the world to meet with customers and prospective customers. The photo above was taken in Sydney, Australia.

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Download A Free Trial of DPS X-Link, the Instant XML Gateway for ADABAS.

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Treehouse Software, Inc.

Times Have Changed...

But It's Still All About the Metadata

by Joseph Brady and Dan Vimont

What's the big deal with metadata?

Metadata is a very big deal to any enterprise, because it is literally "data about your data". Metadata describes how, when, and by whom data was collected, and how the data is formatted (data structure, and the relationships between entities within the data). Metadata includes schema, table, index, view, and column definitions. It is essential to understand information stored in data warehouses, and in recent years this understanding has become increasingly important in XML-based Web applications.

So, the big deal with metadata is that it is vital in helping users find the data they need, thus enabling them to determine whether a data set will meet their needs BEFORE they spend the time and money to obtain and process it. And having an integrated product set that offers highly-automated metadata management, plus full ETL and CDC functionality (there is only one for ADABAS — Treehouse Software's **tRelational/DPS**) you can easily harness the often-neglected power of your "data about your data".

Treehouse products are the real deal

For over 11 years, organizations worldwide have been using **tRelational** and **DPS** (Data Propagation System) for migrating legacy ADABAS data into RDBMS-based Internet/Intranet/ERP/Data Warehouse applications. ***tRelational maps it, and DPS pumps it.***

tRelational optionally auto-generates complete RDBMS schema from existing ADABAS files and alternatively allows easy mapping of ADABAS fields to already existing data warehouse or ERP schema. After **tRelational** does the mapping, **DPS** can then materialize (initially load) and propagate (subsequently keep synchronized) the ADABAS data into the RDBMS without requiring direct access to ADABAS.

"The tRelational modeling tool also supports complex data mapping and various data transformations. If there's any chance your data warehouse will grow beyond the basic requirements of your initial design, it would be cost effective to consider this solution."

Brian Johnson
Database Administrator
Eaton Corporation

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Editor's Notes

by Joseph Brady

Free, On-line Demos of TSI Products

Would you like to see TSI products in action before you request a trial? To set up a live, on-line demonstration of any TSI product, simply fill out the short form on the Treehouse Software Web site at www.treehouse.com/webexform.html. All you need is an Internet connection and a current Web browser to see how TSI products work right on your PC screen.

Become a Beta Test Site for New TSI Product Releases

We are looking for current North American customers to become Beta test sites for new releases of TSI products. If you are interested in becoming a Beta test site, please fill out the short form at www.treehouse.com/betasites.html, and a TSI representative will contact you.

Find out the Latest on TSI Products

To find out about current versions of TSI products, compatibility (operating systems, languages, etc.), and support information for all of our products, view the TSI Product Status Matrix on-line at www.treehouse.com/prodstatus.shtml.

T ree•times

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Wayne Lashley Named COO of Treehouse



Wayne Lashley

Treehouse President **George Szakach** has appointed **Wayne Lashley** to the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO). Wayne has been with TSI for over six years and has served as TSI's Director of Technical Operations for the past two years.

As COO, Wayne oversees product development, technical support, documentation and QA, sales, marketing, partner relations, service delivery and corporate technology.

Wayne has accumulated more than 22 years of Software AG product experience in a career that began in the late 1970s. Prior to joining Treehouse, Wayne held IT technical and management positions in software development, academic, financial services, government and primary industry sectors. These positions involved responsibility for programming, analysis, testing, standards and quality assurance, documentation, configuration management, emerging technologies, business intelligence systems, database administration, development support, software procurement, product management and service delivery. Wayne has a Bachelor of Science degree from McGill University, Montreal.

"George has entrusted me with the day-to-day responsibilities of running operations at Treehouse. It is a challenge to coordinate all the necessary activities of employees, partners, and marketing representatives, both in core and emerging technologies, yet it is rewarding because we will assuredly continue to build on our success."

Wayne Lashley
COO, Treehouse Software

Treehouse Announces New Sales Manager



Orion Wolff

We are pleased to announce that **Orion Wolff** has rejoined Treehouse in a sales management role. As Sales Manager, Emerging Technology, Orion is responsible for sales and marketing of TSI's newer offerings and will work closely with our strategic and technology partners.

Most recently, Orion worked for Vivisimo, Inc., where he served as Corporate Sales Manager, successfully leading the enterprise search company's growth within the U.S. commercial market. During Orion's tenure, the company experienced significant growth in both customers and revenues and was recognized as one of the leading vendors in the enterprise search industry.

Previously, Orion had worked for TSI until approximately three years ago in our Sales Department, so he is familiar to many customers and staff members at TSI.

Orion holds a B.S.B.A. in Marketing, Magna Cum Laude, from Robert Morris University.

We all wish Orion success in his new role!

Times Have Changed... *But It's Still All About the Metadata*

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tRelational offers these comprehensive and powerful features:

- RDBMS data modeling and mapping of ADABAS structures to RDBMS structures.
- Optional auto-generation of complete RDBMS schema (Tables, Columns, Primary Keys, and Foreign Keys) based upon existing ADABAS file structures. Periodic Groups and Multiple Value Fields in an ADABAS file become child tables in the generated RDBMS data model.
- Generation of DDL statements to create RDBMS structures in the target relational database.
- Analysis tools for (1) determining which alphanumeric ADABAS fields should be mapped to "VARCHAR" RDBMS columns, (2) analyzing which ADABAS descriptors are candidates for an RDBMS primary key or alternate index, and (3) analyzing the physical characteristics of ADABAS PE and MU fields to determine the kind of RDBMS structures to which they should be mapped.

The screenshot shows a mainframe terminal window titled '1: z/OS - TN3270 Plus'. The window displays a menu bar with 'Host', 'Edit', 'View', 'Setup', 'Macros', 'Internet', and 'Help'. Below the menu is a message: 'Please enter parameters and press <ENTER> to generate'. The date and time are shown as '2006-03-16' and '10:42:40'. The window title is 'DATA MODELING AND MAPPING' and the sub-title is 'DATA MODEL SUMMARY'. A sub-menu 'Data Model GENERATION' is open, showing the following parameters:
Data Model: DEMO-EMPLOYEES
Table Generation Options
Generate Table(s)
from File: DEMO-EMPLOYEES
DBID: 10 File Nbr: 101
Userview: DEMO-EMPL-BASIC
File-Level
Primary Key: PERSONNEL-ID
(Descriptor, Superdescriptor, *ISN)
Child Table options (derived from PEs & MUs):
Y Generate Primary Keys
Y Generate Foreign Keys
N Generate Tables for Level 1 Group Fields
At the bottom of the window, there are buttons for 'DPS', 'Find', 'Enter-PF1---PF2---PF3---PF4---PF5---PF6---PF7---PF8---PF9---PF10', 'Help', and 'Cancel'. To the right of the window, the session identifier 'KSH1 SC0TCP11' is displayed. A callout box on the right side contains the text: '**tRelational lets you generate a data model — automatically**' and describes three options for developing RDBMS data models and mapping ADABAS fields to RDBMS columns: Option 1: Auto-generation, Option 2: Importation of existing RDBMS schema elements, and Option 3: Detailed definition and manipulation of schema and mapping elements.

The Auto-generation function can be a huge productivity aid. By simply invoking this function and specifying an ADABAS file structure, a fully-functional corresponding RDBMS schema (Tables, Columns, Primary Keys, Foreign Key relationships and constraints) and appropriate mappings are created virtually instantaneously. The table and column names, datatypes, lengths, and mappings/transformations are all automatically tailored specifically for the RDBMS product, platform, and version—the user need not be an expert in the RDBMS. This function is available both in mainframe **tRelational** and in the companion **tRelationalPC**.

The auto-generated model can be immediately used to generate both RDBMS DDL and parameters for **DPS**. Within minutes of identifying the desired ADABAS file or files to **tRelational**, the physical RDBMS schema can be implemented on the target platform and **DPS** can be materializing and propagating data to load into the tables.

It is important to note that these modeling options complement each other and can be used in combination to meet any requirements. Auto-generated schema elements can be completely customized "after the fact", as can imported elements. Auto-generation can be used at the file level to generate complete tables and table contents at the field level to quickly define and map one or more columns within a table or even to denormalize MU/PE structures into a set of discrete columns.

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TSI and Partners Invigorate the Worldwide ADABAS/NATURAL Community

by Wayne Lashley



Marc Duval (left) and Karl Habres (right) of CCA flank TSI's Wayne Lashley with Terrible Towels during one of our events in Australia.

Do you take note of the regular Treetimes sidebar item "Tales From the Trails"? It usually begins with "Over the past few months, TSI representatives have been very busy..." and goes on to list a number of locations worldwide where customers have recently received visits from TSI.

Back in the days when I was a TSI customer, while perusing Treetips, Treetimes' predecessor, I used to marvel at how those TSI people really got around. These days, with employees not only in the United States, but also in the UK and Germany, it's expected that we'll be visiting sites across Europe and North America regularly. But for the past year, we've also been doing some special events and visits on every continent but Antarctica!

Many of you have attended these enthusiastically-received events where TSI, TSI partners, and Software AG representatives have presented the latest in products for simplifying the management of ADABAS/NATURAL environments and sharing of data—ADABAS and more. Attendees have learned how TSI's **DPS X-Link**, **tRelational/DPS**, **DPSync**, **NatQuery/NatCDC**, and other products can help customers lower the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) and enhance the value of ADABAS and NATURAL.

It has been very gratifying for those of us involved in the planning and execution of these events to be able to work closely with our worldwide marketing representatives and partners to jointly offer these information sessions to our customers. It has also given us the opportunity to meet with all these partners directly, understand local customer issues, and customize our agenda and presentations to address these issues. In a number of cases, customers

have hosted the events on their own facilities—testament to how they view TSI and our products and services. We are grateful to these customers for their generosity.

We have hosted events in the UK with assistance from IBM Corporation and DataMirror Corporation, and in Belgium and Germany in conjunction with VersaTec IT Services. In South Africa, the events were largely organized by Bateleur Software (Pty) Ltd., with involvement from Software AG. Events in Brazil were facilitated by 3CON Consultoria e Sistemas Ltd. Most recently, we've held events in Australia with the aid of CCA Software Pty Ltd. and Software AG.

During our travels, we have had opportunity to make on-site visits with customers and discuss their needs, and our offerings, in detail. Besides in the aforementioned countries, we have visited customers in Argentina and in Austria, Luxembourg, Spain, Switzerland and elsewhere in Europe. We have also visited E-Net Japan to discuss the Japanese ADABAS/NATURAL market and make plans for educating customers there about TSI products.



TSI representatives, along with staff from our Brazilian marketing representatives, 3CON Consultoria e Sistemas Ltda. had a joint booth at the Mostra TIC Trade Show in Brasilia. Mostra TIC is hosted by Serpro for public sector accounts.

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TSI and Partners Invigorate the Worldwide ADABAS/NATURAL Community

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It is a lot of work to put on such events. There are facilities to book, invitations to send, customers to call, travel arrangements to make, presentations to prepare, and even items like simultaneous interpretations to arrange. But this investment of time—and money—by TSI and our partners is paying off. Customers have been telling us that they are glad to see how our events are re-energizing the worldwide ADABAS/NATURAL community. In Australia, for example, the country's SAGGROUP has not convened for several years and was considered moribund. During our events, there was much discussion of reviving the group and scheduling a Software AG user conference



TSI UK Sales Representative, Mark Jones gives a presentation at our UK event.



TSI tribesmen Wayne Lashley, Dan Vimont, Michael Szakach, and Mark Jones prepare to give presentations at our South African event.

we'll be hosting around the United States and Canada in conjunction with our partners DataMirror and BEA Systems, Inc. And stay tuned for news about a very special event for our North American customers.

At TSI, we're committed to informing and helping our customers, worldwide, to better manage their applications, data and IT environment. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event.

If we haven't visited your part of the world lately, and you would like to have us do so—and perhaps even have your site host an event—please contact TSI. •

later in the year. We are pleased to have played a role in these positive developments.

So now that we have completed a full year of delivering events around the world with each of our marketing representatives, what's next? More of the same, of course.

In late March and early April of this year, we returned to Brazil for additional events. A new round of events is currently underway in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland for late April and early May. Later this year we'll be scheduling events in places like Spain and France. And on and on.

We won't be neglecting North America, either. Look for upcoming announcements for information sessions



While in Bonn, Chris Bradley from NatWorks, Inc. points to a market with a vaguely familiar name.

Times Have Changed... But It's Still All About the Metadata

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How do I get RDBMS metadata into and out of tRelational?

An important selling point for **tRelational**, is its flexibility in allowing users to design data transfer architectures that utilize their metadata in a variety of ways, such as:

1. A “public” (read-only) API to access all metadata (ADABAS file structure, RDBMS data-model, and ADABAS-to-RDBMS mapping information) in **tRelational**’s dictionary.
2. A “private” (read/write) API, which can be made available to partners. (This is, in fact, the API used by our GUI front-end to **tRelational**: **tRelationalPC**.)
3. Full “exportation” of all contents of the **tRelational** dictionary into tables in any of our supported RDBMSs, which obviates the need for your programmers to learn about and access our API — all they have to do is query the RDBMS tables!
4. Full “exportation/importation” of all metadata objects stored in the **tRelational** dictionary through fixed-format flat files (called the “TRELOAD” and “TREUNLD” functions).
5. Implicit “exportation” of RDBMS data model documentation in the form of DDLs, complete with table-level and column-level comments derived from their corresponding ADABAS structures. A number of advanced data modeling tools, including ERwin from CA, can directly import DDL, making for incredibly easy metadata transfer.

Exciting New Features in tRelational v4.3

tRelational’s “auto-generation” capabilities continue to grow, now including:

- the generation of RDBMS Views derived from PREDICT Userviews!
- emulation of ADABAS special descriptor functionality in your RDBMS, through generation of appropriate combinations of columns, mappings, indexes, and triggers!

Real-World Observation About Data Mapping/Modeling

"In my long, jaded history, I know that success in a data warehousing project will bring new requirements -- 100 tables becomes 200 tables; weekly updates become nightly; new fields are added on existing replicated tables, which also have to come down, etc., etc. All of this maintenance has increasing total cost of ownership, and the process itself must continually meet needs and expectations of the users."

I suggest going with a tool instead of trying to build one from ADASEL, PLEU, or ADACDC extracts. Building your own means maintaining your own forever instead of letting people who do nothing but that, figure out how to use the fastest technologies available to provide a scalable solution.

As far as packages go, ADABAS Event Replicator is the newest product to enter this space, although it's based on the Entire Transaction Propagator. It's probably the best product for ADABAS-to-ADABAS database mirroring (i.e., D/R solution or ADABAS-based data warehousing). It's not so good if you need more than rudimentary table/column changes, as it doesn't come with a data mapping/modeling tool.

We have an ORACLE-based data warehousing environment here as well, and have been using tRelational/DPS for several years now. Treehouse Software first introduced this product set in 1994, so it's actually the most mature product in this market space. We have more than doubled the number of tables and quadrupled the amount of data we replicate in our increasingly shortened nighttime replication window. The tRelational modeling tool also supports complex data mapping and various data transformations. If there's any chance your data warehouse will grow beyond the basic requirements of your initial design, it would be cost effective to consider this solution.

Ever since Treehouse partnered with NatWorks, they actually offer two different solutions for data propagation to serve different needs. If you even consider building your own solution, don't do so until you've looked at both of these. One or the other is sure to fit, and be cost effective in comparison."

Brian Johnson
Database Administrator
Eaton Corporation

The choice is simple...

As you can see, the impressive list of features and options in **tRelational/DPS** puts TSI years ahead of any would-be competitors out there. Keep checking TSI’s Web site at www.treehouse.com for the latest developments. •

Happy South African Customer...

SARS boosts productivity with ADABAS data extract tool

(Issued by C-Cubed Communications, and reprinted with permission from Bateleur Software Solutions (PTY) LTD)

South African Revenue Services (SARS) has freed up programming resources, boosted productivity, and optimized its budget by installing **tRelational** and **DPS**, the ADABAS-to-RDBMS data transfer solution from Bateleur Software Solutions.

Isaac Tau, Data Warehouse Manager of SARS, says: "We needed a tool to extract data from our ADABAS database and load it into our DB2 data warehouse. Most of our business systems are run from the ADABAS database, but the majority of the tools available don't have the functionality to extract the data."

SARS' data warehouse is enterprise-wide and supports the entire operation. It contains data for all eight of the separate systems administered by SARS, including the Income Tax System (ITS), PAYE, VAT, Customs (Import and Export), and UIF.

According to Tau, **tRelational** was the only solution capable of meeting SARS' requirements. "After following the proof of concept and tender process, we found **tRelational** and **DPS** (Data Propagation System) was the only solution for transferring legacy ADABAS data into an RDBMS-based data warehouse," he says.

Bateleur Software Solutions is the official South African distributor for Treehouse Software, the US-based developer of **tRelational** and **DPS**. Bateleur is responsible for implementing and supporting the solution for SARS.

The solution works by automatically generating complete RDBMS schema from existing ADABAS files and allowing easy mapping of ADABAS fields to an existing data warehouse. After **tRelational** does the mapping, **DPS** loads and propagates the ADABAS data into the RDBMS - without requiring direct access to ADABAS.

"The advantages are significant," Tau points out. "Previously, we had to write NATURAL code to extract data from ADABAS into a flat file. Using that method, an extract on 40 million records would take four to seven hours. With **tRelational**, it takes less than two hours."

We have saved an enormous amount of time, which is critical in the data warehouse environment. We've also enhanced productivity and freed up our programmers for other more strategic assignments. Although the cost saving has not been calculated, we are achieving more on the same budget."

In addition, SARS' efficiency has improved. Previously, all the database tables had to be reloaded every month, whereas the new system requires only changed tables to be loaded. Tau's team is able to supply data to the users more efficiently, as the data is loaded nightly.

"We are getting closer to a real-time environment. Instead of a one-month delay for delivering data, we are down to 24 hours," Tau says.



Bateleur Software Solutions (PTY) LTD is Treehouse Software's marketing representative in South Africa.

For more information on Bateleur, visit their Web site at www.bateleur.co.za.

Tree-times

Treehouse Software Products

ADABAS-to-RDBMS Data Transfer:

DPS - ADABAS-to-RDBMS data materialization (ETL), replication, and propagation (CDC) software

DPS X-Link - Instant XML-based read/write access to ADABAS

DPSync - Real-time ADABAS-to-RDBMS data propagation (CDC) software product set

tRelational - ADABAS modeling, mapping, and data analysis tool; DPS parameter generator

tRelationalPC - Windows-based graphical interface to make the tasks of modeling and mapping even simpler

Treehouse Remote Access (TRA) - Middleware that allows tRelationalPC to communicate with tRelational on the mainframe.

NatQuery - GUI-based tool that intelligently generates NATURAL code to handle all of the complexities of data extraction from ADABAS

NatCDC - Add-on to NatQuery designed to create immediately-useable data out of the ADABAS PLOG

UNIX:

SEDIT - XEDIT and ISPF/PDF compatible editor for UNIX and Windows

S/REXX - REXX-compatible language for UNIX and Windows

S/REXX Debugger - Optional graphical debugger for S/REXX programs

Software AG Related:

ADAMAGIC - Tool for converting mainframe ADABAS files into ADABAS for UNIX/Linux/Windows, flat file, or comma-delimited formats

ADAREORG - File reorganization tool for ADABAS

ADASTRIP - Data extraction utility for ADABAS

AUDITRE - Generalized ADABAS auditing facility

CHART for NATURAL - NATURAL application analysis and documentation tool

N2O - NATURAL application change management system

N2O/3GL - 3GL support within N2O for PANVALET, LIBRARIAN, ENDEVOR, and PDSS

PROFILER for NATURAL - NATURAL quality assurance and testing tool

SECURITRE - ADABAS and NATURAL security interface to RACF, ACF2, and TOP SECRET

TRIM - ADABAS and NATURAL performance monitor

TSI is a DataMirror DataWorld partner, and is authorized to market the full line of DataMirror products, including:

Integration Suite™ - Combines all of DataMirror's real-time integration software and global services.

Transformation Server™ - Real-time multi-platform data integration and transformation with zero-programming required.

iCluster™ - Manage clustered iSeries environments.

LiveAudit™ - Capture all data that is inserted, updated, or deleted to create real-time audit trails.

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Transformation Server/ES - Detects events as they occur in mission-critical production applications and creates useful business information to feed into the message queues of leading EAI, BPM, and SOA environments.

DB/XML Transform™ - Powerful Java-based, XML-driven engine for bi-directional data transformation between XML, EDI, database and text formats.

Constellar® Hub - Powerful ORACLE-based EAI tool.

TSI is a BEA Select Partner, and is authorized to bundle solutions involving DPS X-Link with BEA products including:

BEA WebLogic Server 9.0 - The world's leading J2EE application server.

BEA WebLogic Integration - Converge two otherwise disparate activities-application integration and application development.

BEA AquaLogic™ - The broadest line of Service Infrastructure products for successful SOA deployment. It consists of:

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BEA AquaLogic Data Services Platform™ (formerly BEA Liquid Data)

BEA AquaLogic Enterprise Security™

BEA AquaLogic Service Registry™

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