



What's New at Robelle

Robelle launches a new product and celebrates milestones:

Suprtool for Redhat Linux Is Shipping :

As you probably know, we have been working on Suprtool/Open, a project to make Suprtool available on every platform (well, actually any platform that supports Oracle or the Eloquence database). Naturally we run in Native Mode on HP's Itanium and recently we completed a port to the x86 platform.

With other products, user migration may require you to recode and retest your applications with only a subset of functionality, but Suprtool/Open is a complete migration, not just an emulation or partial migration (of course it includes the Stexport and Suprlink and Suprtool2 modules).

We have Suprtool for Sun and AIX, and may be shipping for Microsoft Windows shortly. If you have any interest in protecting your investment in Suprtool scripts, please contact Neil

Armstrong our Software Architect:

neil@robelle.com

<http://www.robelle.com/SuprtoolOpen/>

Eloquence Database Enhanced

Eloquence is the portable, fast, and reliable IMAGE-compatible database from Marxmeier Software. The new full-text-search "FTS" enhancement offers additional ways of searching the contents of Eloquence databases beyond what key search and index items allow.

The new version of Eloquence no longer requires Omnidex in order to do full-text search - and it supplies all of the 8xx mode intrinsic calls, so to Suprtool it's a seamless implementation. Essentially Eloquence now has the features that used to require a purchase of Omnidex as well.

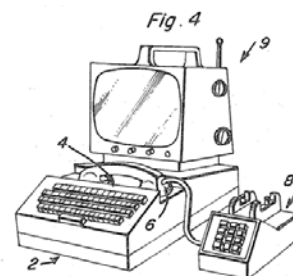
All is instantly available in Suprtool! For more information, please visit

<http://eloquence.marxmeier.com>

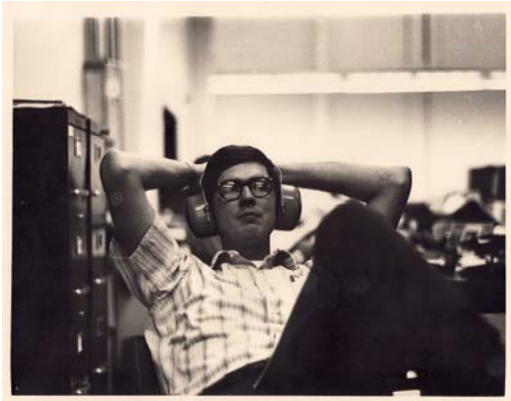
35 year anniversary of Robelle By Bob Green

Robelle started on Saturday, April 14, 1977 in Tsawwassen, a suburb of Vancouver, noted for its sunshine, a big ferry terminal and for having the only road access to a cut-off piece of the USA called Point Roberts. I was a thirty-year old programmer working for an HP 3000 site. It was time to make my move. I had an idea for a very fast text editor designed for HP3000 programmers, which I called Qedit (for Quick Edit). A year later I got the idea for Suprtool, a very fast extract and sort tool for databases and files.

The office was in my apartment. In those days, there was no easily available Internet (and even if there had been, you could not easily connect to an HP 3000 via Internet). But the 3000 did have serial modem ports, so I bought a portable computer terminal (actually just a small box with a keyboard and an Acoustic Coupler to hold the phone handset, and a connection for a TV monitor. Connection speed was a blazing 28 characters per second.



From the age of 19, I worked at Hewlett-Packard in California in the computer division (it was very new and small. The software lab had less than 10 people). I did many interesting jobs as the division grew, including programmer, tech writer, training instructor, and software tech support. I couldn't find any photos of the original Robelle office, below is a picture of me relaxing at my HP desk:



Here is a photo of me from early Robelle days, on my tour of the jet plane plant of Grumman Aerospace in Long Island NY. I think the plane in the picture is a navy F6 for carriers. I also saw the F16 being built, when they were pretty new. That day I had lunch with Ray Beadle (our contact, in the picture) and the plant manager. Ray explained how I had helped them bid on a huge deal, by giving them free right to use Suprtool on somebody else's HP 3000 server in an Asian country, so they could simulate the cost of alternate bids in real time (i.e. how many spare parts, how many jets, how much profit, what could they bid?). The manager asked me how many millions a year we billed them. At the time, it was about \$2400 per year, which I told him!



20 Years For Neil Armstrong

On June 8, 2012, Neil Armstrong completes 20 years of helping to make Qedit and Suprtool great products. Neil worked at one of our customers in Ontario, then worked for us in British Columbia, then worked for us in Alberta. At one point Neil moved to Anguilla in the Caribbean to work on Robelle software with Bob Green, our President. Lastly he moved back to Canada and works on Suprtool and Qedit near Niagara Falls.

Neil is currently our Software Architect, chief systems programmer and a big help for difficult technical support questions.

Here is a photo of Neil in the 2004 John T Memorial Bike Race in Anguilla, with Bob cheering him on. We all wish Neil a happy 20th anniversary.

