NERSP Brews Java, NetRexx

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NERSP Brews Java, NetRexx

NERSP users can now take advantage of Java®, a state-of-the-art, object-oriented World Wide Web (WWW) language used to program "applets" -- self-enclosed applications that run on the user's computer and then disappear.

According to its developer, Sun Microsystems, Inc., Java was created to solve several modern programming problems, and provide an Internet-based programming language.

Java extends the capabilities of the WWW's HyperText Markup Language (HTML) by allowing Web users to transparently download new functionality to their computers, regardless of platform.

Applets vary. Companies can spice up WWW home pages on the Internet by embedding animation, stereograms, or 3-D animated buttons as applets in HTML code. Other uses are limited only by the imagination. There are applets for spreadsheet, drawing, and writing tasks, as well as other functions that would otherwise be provided by a stand-alone application.

Programmers are excited about Java applets because they are portable; the "code" or program resides on the host website's computer; and they are secure and more stable than C or C++ programs, according to Sun.

Java allows programmers to write code that will display the same on any platform, whether you have a Mac, Windows, UNIX, or OS/2 machine.

Java is derived from the C++ language, so programmers who know C++ probably will enjoy a good head start on their Java programming future.

Documentation about Java can be found at: http://www.javasoft.com/.

The path to the Java compiler on NERSP is /usr/java130/bin/javac. Other relevent files may be found beginning in /usr/java130.

NetRexx Makes Java Programming Easier

NERSP users will also be able to use NetRexx to program for the Java environment. NetRexx, a dialect of Rexx, makes programming for Java a bit easier. It ultimately compiles as Java code. NetRexx is a combination of the languages Java and Rexx.

The end results are similar, but the code is more efficient in NetRexx. According to NetRexx literature, NetRexx uses 35% fewer lexical tokens and 20% fewer keystrokes than Java.

NetRexx documentation can be reached through the NERSP home page listed above or through http://www2.hursley.ibm.com/netrexx.

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all UFIT documentation. Please send your comments to:
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