



# Even More Reasons to Attend the 2008 COMMON Annual Meeting and Exposition

By Manzoor Siddiqui

Judy Orendorff

**T**he COMMON 2008 Annual Meeting and Exposition promises to be bigger than recent conferences, and will deliver on becoming the premier i5/OS education and networking event. The quality of the education and invaluable networking opportunities will still be the driving force for this annual gathering of the COMMON membership and the i5/OS community. You may all have your own individual reasons as to why a COMMON Conference is an event not to be missed, but here are a few to think about.

### Top 10 Reasons to Attend:

#### 10) Cost-effective Education

COMMON conferences have been cited as the most cost-effective means to gain in-depth i5/OS education.

#### 9) Direct Access to IBM

Gain first-hand knowledge about the latest i5/OS innovations through direct access to IBM developers and executives.

#### 8) Professional Development

New sessions will be offered that focus on professional development to help you grow professionally and address daily non-technical challenges.

#### 7) Emerging i5/OS trends and technologies

More sessions available on emerging i5/OS trends and technologies that will impact you and your work environment in the near future.

#### 6) Broad Range of Educational Formats

Variety of educational formats to choose from, including pre-conference workshops, sessions, labs, Integrated Seminars, and case studies.

#### 5) Largest i5/OS-related Exposition

The COMMON Exposition is the largest i5/OS-related solutions featuring over 80 exhibitors, giving you a chance to see first-hand demonstration of products and solutions.

#### 4) Gain Knowledge for Immediate Use

The hands-on labs and workshops provide knowledge and education that you can take away and immediately put into practice at your organization.

#### 3) Invaluable Networking Opportunities


Invaluable face-to-face networking opportunities with industry peers and recognized experts within the System i community.

#### 2) More Session Hours and Education Options, Including V6R1

Choose from over 500 educational sessions and hands-on labs, offered in a wide range of topics that include V6R1, and delivered by recognized industry experts.

#### 1) Focus on Education, Networking, and Fun

COMMON's first Annual Conference promises to deliver a great combination of education, networking, and fun.

If you have other reasons to attend the COMMON Annual Meeting and Exposition, then tell us—we want to know from you what you find invaluable. You can e-mail me directly at [manzoor\\_siddiqui@common.org](mailto:manzoor_siddiqui@common.org), or find me in Nashville. Learn more about the 2008 Annual Meeting and Exposition at [www.common.org/annualmeeting](http://www.common.org/annualmeeting). 



**Manzoor Siddiqui** is COMMON's Marketing Manager. He can be reached at [manzoor\\_siddiqui@common.org](mailto:manzoor_siddiqui@common.org).

## Sunday, March 30

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

Registration open (Workshop Attendees Only)

8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Registration open

8:00 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Pre-conference

1:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Workshops

12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

COMMON Expo open

1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

First-Timers' Session

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

First-Timers' Social

3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Coffee Break in Expo

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Opening Session

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Welcome Reception

in COMMON Expo

iSocial – Ask the Experts

Night

## Monday, March 31

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration open

8:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

COMMON Expo open

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Attendee Lunch in Expo

2:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

iSocial – All Attendee

Reception in COMMON Expo

## Tuesday, April 1

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration open

8:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

COMMON Expo open

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Attendee Lunch in Expo

2:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

5:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

The Comfort Zone

6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

iSocial – Fun Night

## Wednesday, April 2

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration open

8:00 a.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Special Interest Group (SIG)

6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Luncheon

7:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Meeting of the

Members (MoM)

iSocial – Recognition Night

## Thursday, April 3

7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Registration open

8:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Concurrent sessions

5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

iSocial – Main Event