

# COMMON Expands Educational Opportunities

By Manzoor Siddiqui

## COMMON Directions

**C**OMMON Directions 2008 is our newest educational conference offering, with two days of wide-ranging, i5/OS educational sessions. The two days will be jam-packed with 50 – 60 educational sessions on a variety of leading-edge topics, presented by the most respected speakers in the industry. The inaugural COMMON Directions conference will take place in Dallas, Texas at the Radisson Hotel Central Dallas on Thursday, September 25 and Friday, September 26, 2008.



Attendees of COMMON Directions will also benefit from having access to a smaller, tabletop-style Expo. They will be able to view and get hands-on demonstrations of the latest solutions available to them from a limited number of exhibitors. This new educational conference promises to be a two-day version of all that you have come to expect from

a traditional COMMON conference. COMMON Directions expands upon our “COMMON... Customized” education model, providing the COMMON membership and the i5/OS

community yet another option to maximize their i5/OS education, while minimizing time away from the office. Learn more about COMMON Directions at [www.common.org/directions](http://www.common.org/directions).

## COMMON Focus

COMMON Focus 2008 is our annual workshop conference event, featuring three days of intense, focused education through all-day workshops. This year the workshop conference will take place in the San Francisco area at the San Francisco Airport Crowne Plaza in Burlingame, California from Sunday, October 5 through Wednesday, October 8, 2008.

COMMON Focus 2008 will offer at least 15 all-day educational workshops, both in lab and lecture-style formats, providing in-depth i5/OS education across a wide range of topic areas. Attendees can attend only one workshop per day, which gives them the opportunity to focus their educational needs on a specific topic each day. This smaller, more intimate event, with a limited number of attendees, allows for more one-on-one interaction with the speakers and one another.



It will kick off on the evening of Sunday, October 5th with a Welcome Reception, where attendees and workshop instructors can meet and network. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided each day, along with several breaks, giving attendees time to interact with each other.



COMMON Focus 2008 will also feature a tabletop-style exhibition, with a limited number of exhibitors. Attendees will be able to get hands-on demonstrations of the latest i5/OS-related solutions. This innovative educational conference will be three days of intense learning. It is an educational opportunity that you don't want to miss. Learn more at [www.common.org/focus](http://www.common.org/focus). **CC**



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## COMMON Calendar of Upcoming Events in 2008

March 30 – April 1, 2008	2008 COMMON IT Executive Conference – Nashville, TN	
March 30 – April 3, 2008	2008 COMMON Annual Meeting and Exposition – Nashville, TN	
April 17, 2008	Webcast: DB2 for i5/OS – Tuning for Performance	
April 28 – May 19, 2008	Webinar: ILE Essentials for RPG Programmers by Susan Gantner	
May 15, 2008	Webcast: What's New in Lotus Domino 8 Server	
July 17, 2008	Webcast: Implement a WMS with Success	
September 25 – 26, 2008	2008 COMMON Directions Conference – Dallas, Texas	
October 5 – 8, 2008	COMMON Focus 2008 Workshop – San Francisco, CA	
April 26 – 28, 2009	2009 COMMON IT Executive Conference – Reno, NV	
April 26 – 30, 2009	2009 COMMON Annual Meeting and Exposition – Reno, NV	