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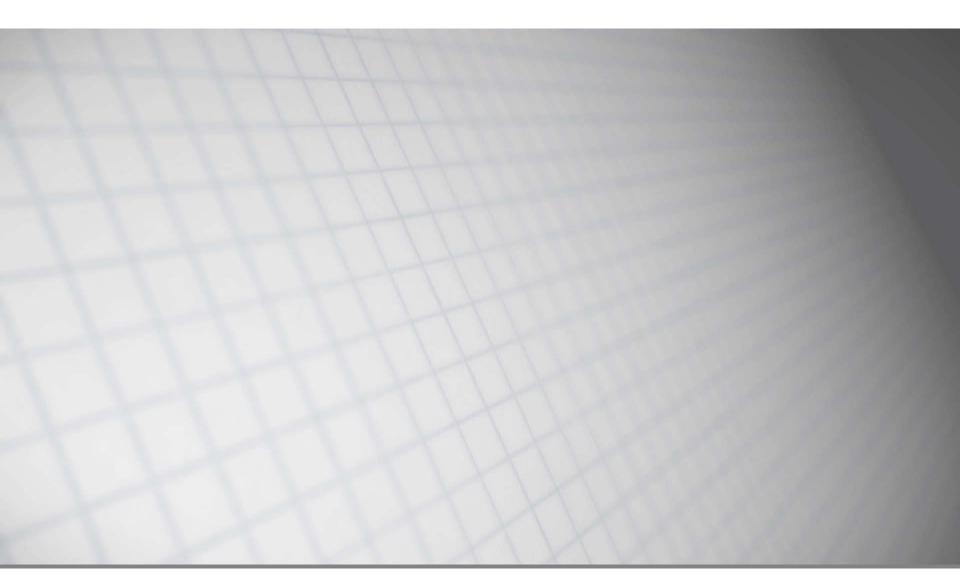
ABL Structured Error Handling





Mike Fechner, Director, Consultingwerk Ltd. mike.fechner@consultingwerk.de

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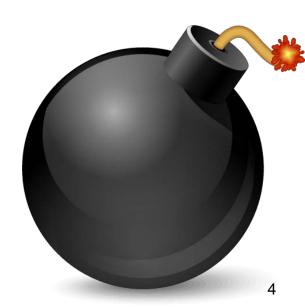


Consultingwerk Ltd.

- Independent IT consulting organization
- Focusing on OpenEdge and .NET
- Located in Cologne, Germany
- Customers in Europe, North America, Australia and South Africa
- Vendor of tools and consulting programs
- 25 years of Progress experience (V5 ... OE11)
- Specialized in GUI for .NET, OO, Software Architecture, Application Integration

Agenda

- Traditional/Classic Error Handling recap
- Structured Error Handling
- Combining Structured and Classic Err. Handling
- STOP Conditions
- Error Handling best practices



Runtime "conditions"

- (Runtime) <u>Error</u>
- Application <u>Error</u>
- Stop Conditions

Quit Conditions

Classic Error Handling

- Block oriented error handling
- Error handling directives (ON ERROR ...)
- Intuitively used by experienced ABL developers
- Made more sense in TTY data entry

- NO-ERROR option on a number of statement
- ERROR-STATUS System Handle
- RETURN ERROR < return value>
- NO-UNDO for variables and temp-tables

Error handling sequence in a block

- •
- Stops execution of current block

- Display error message
- Undo transaction or sub-transaction (if present)

Branch action (RETRY, LEAVE, NEXT)

Default branching options per block type

Table 2: Default branching on error

Block Type	If user input detected	If iterating	Otherwise
DO TRANSACTION	RETRY	NEXT	LEAVE
FOR	RETRY	NEXT	
REPEAT	RETRY	NEXT	LEAVE
End blocks (CATCH/ FINALLY)	_	_	THROW
Routine-level blocks	RETRY	_	LEAVE
Trigger procedure file	RETRY	_	RETURN ERROR

Routine-level blocks

- .p file, .w file
- Internal procedure
- User-defined function
- Database trigger
- User-interface trigger
- Class method, including
 - Constructor
 - GET/SET
 - Destructor

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DO TRANSACTION:

FIND FIRST Customer EXCLUSIVE-LOCK .

DISPLAY Customer.CustNum

Customer.Name

Customer.SalesRep

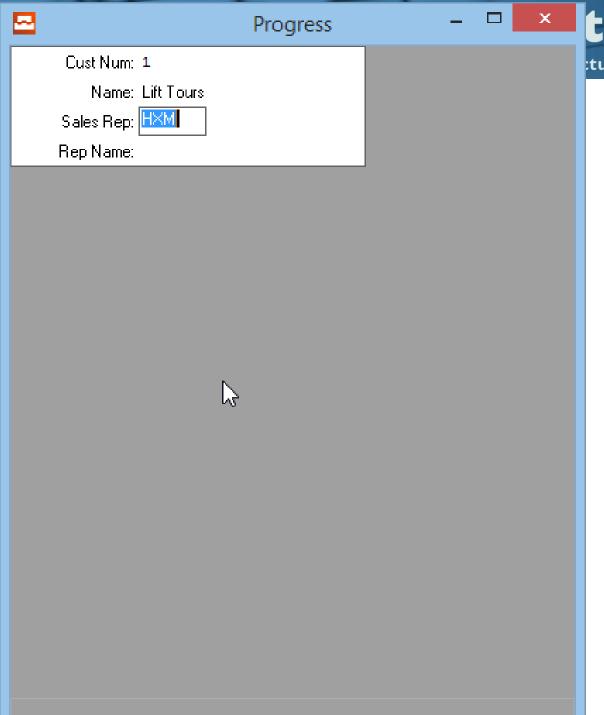
WITH 1 COL 1 DOWN .

UPDATE Customer.SalesRep .

FIND Salesrep OF Customer NO-LOCK .

FIND Customer NO-LOCK .





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DO TRANSACTION:

FIND FIRST Customer EXCLUSIVE-LOCK .

DISPLAY Customer.CustNum

Customer.Name

Customer.SalesRep

WITH 1 COL 1 DOWN .

ASSIGN Customer.SalesRep = "xyz".

FIND Salesrep OF Customer NO-LOCK .

FIND Customer NO-LOCK .

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DO TRANSACTION:

FIND FIRST Customer EXCLUSIVE-LOCK .

DISPLAY Customer.CustNum

Customer.Name

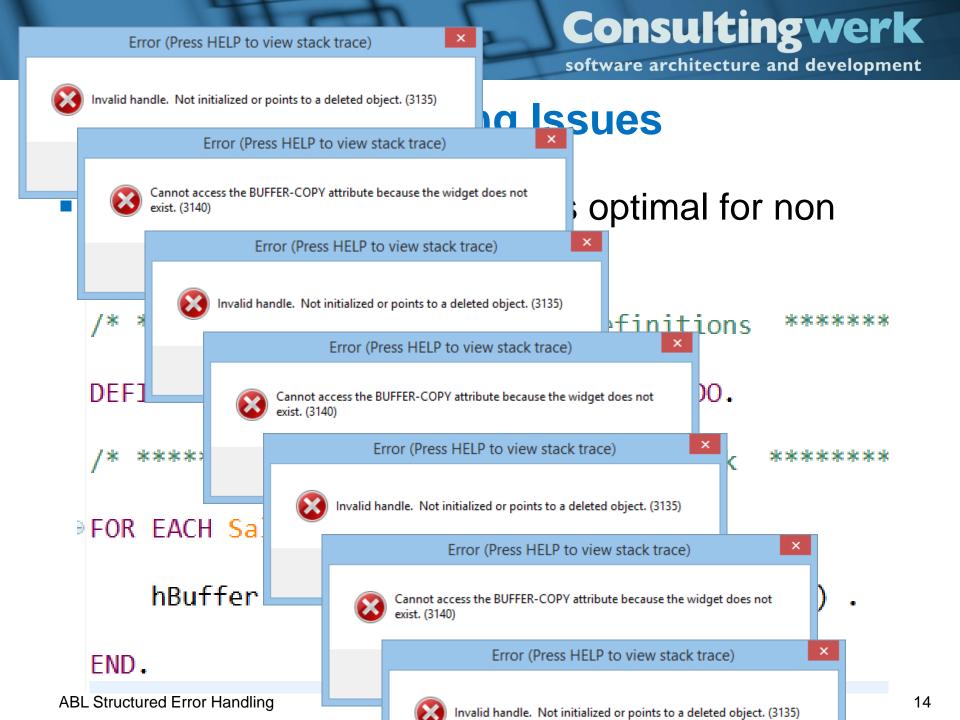
Customer.SalesRep

WITH 1 COL 1 DOWN .

ASSIGN Customer.SalesRep = "xyz".

FIND Salesrep OF Customer NO-LOCK .

FIND Customer NO-LOCK .



Classic Error Handling Issues

- Calling statements with NO-ERROR leaves ERROR-STATUS behind
- ERROR-STATUS:ERROR and RETURN-VALUE need to be reset by
 - ERROR-STATUS:ERROR = FALSE NO-ERROR
 - RETURN "".
- Otherwise confusing if (pending) error was already handled or not

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Structured Error Handling

- Alternative way of handling errors in the ABL
- Adds error handling constructs known form OO languages such as C# and Java to the ABL
- Based on OO-ABL elements
- Usable and useful with procedural code without exception (such as classic error handling can be used in OO)
- Available since 10.1C, enhanced in 10.2A (garbage collection), 11.3 (block-level default), 11.4 (serializable error classes)

FINALLY

- Clean up code block, can be attached to the end of every undoable block
- Executed when block succeeds, errors, executed per iteration of block (loops)
- Can be nested
- Available since 10.1C

 Must use! For everyone using dynamic queries etc... every code that requires clean up at runtime

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DEFINE INPUT PARAMETER pcQueryString AS CHARACTER NO-UNDO.

DEFINE VARIABLE hQuery AS HANDLE NO-UNDO.

CREATE QUERY hQuery .

hQuery:SET-BUFFERS (BUFFER Customer:HANDLE) .

hQuery:QUERY-PREPARE (pcQueryString)

hQuery:QUERY-OPEN () .

It should become your routine to add FINALLY Block close enough to CREATE object statement

FINALLY:

IF VALID-HANDLE (hQuery) THEN
DELETE OBJECT (hQuery) .
FND FTNALLY.

CATCH

- Block to handle runtime errors in the surrounding block
- When error occurs:
 - Block execution (iteration) stops
 - Transaction or sub-transaction undone
 - CATCH block execution
- CATCH Block allows to inspect the error
- Any undoable block is a TRY block (no explicit TRY block needed in the ABL)

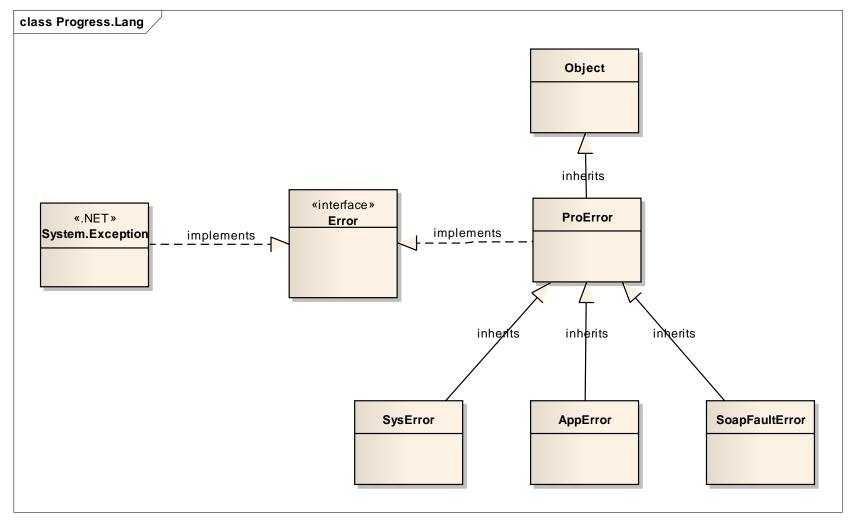
Consultingwerk nent Progress iCustNum Cust Num DEFINE 4.711 **** 水水水水 REPEAT: UPD/ Message (Press HELP to view stack trace) FINE m DISF Error reading customer CAT OK Hilfe END END. ABL Structured E 21

CATCH

- CATCH block filters errors by type
- Multiple CATCH blocks can handle specific errors
- Should order CATCH blocks by specific to generic types
- First CATCH block matching the error that occurs handles it, following CATCH blocks will not handle the error

```
REPEAT:
       UPDATE iCustNum .
                                                             development
       RUN Test (iCustNum) .
       FIND Customer WHERE Customer.CustNum = iCustNum .
       DISPLAY Customer.CustNum .
       /* Handle application error */
       CATCH apperr AS Progress.Lang.AppError:
           MESSAGE "Application error: " apperr:ReturnValue
               VTFW-AS ALFRT-BOX.
       FND CATCH.
       /* Handle all remaining errors */
       CATCH err AS Progress.Lang.Error:
           MESSAGE "Error reading customer"
               VIEW-AS ALERT-BOX.
       END CATCH.
  END.
  PROCEDURE Test:
       DEFINE INPUT PARAMETER ipCustNum AS INTEGER NO-UNDO.
       RETURN ERROR "Fourty two" .
ABL END PROCEDURE .
```

Error classes





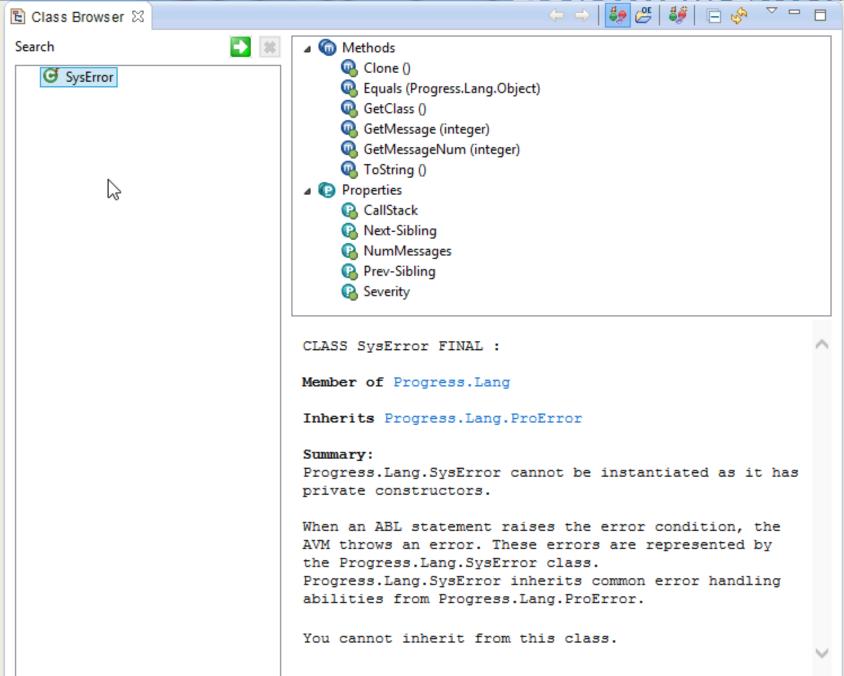
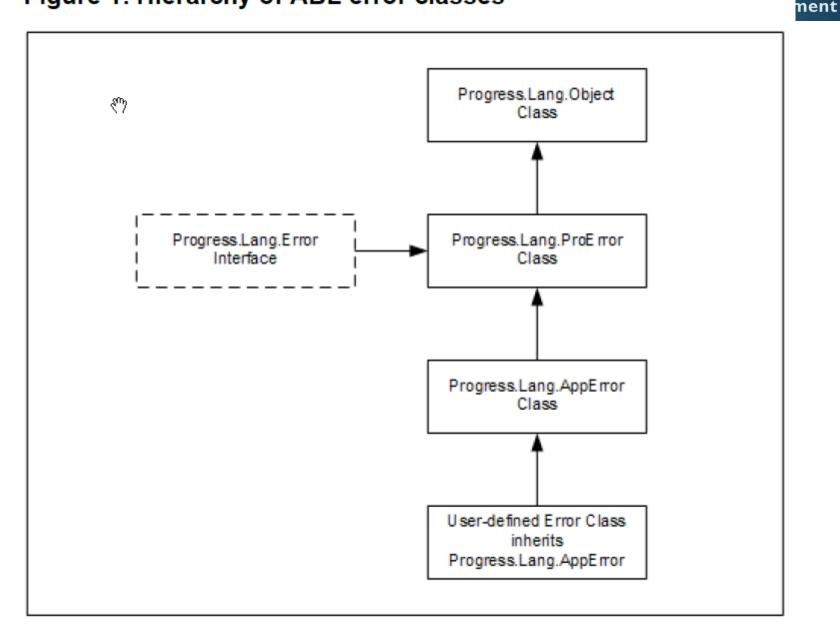




Figure 1: Hierarchy of ABL error classes



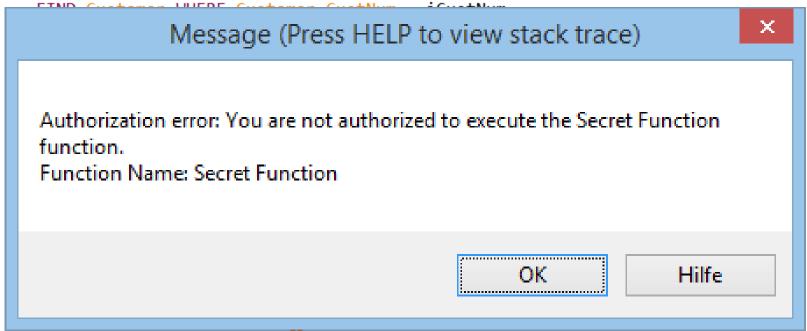
Custom Error Class

```
USING Progress.Lang.*.
CLASS CustomErrors.NotAuthorizedException INHERITS AppError:
   DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY FunctionName AS CHARACTER INITIAL "undefined" NO-UNDO
   GET.
   SET.
   CONSTRUCTOR PUBLIC NotAuthorizedException ():
       SUPER ().
        THIS-OBJECT: AddMessage ("You are not authorized to execute this function.", 0).
   FND CONSTRUCTOR.
   CONSTRUCTOR PUBLIC NotAuthorizedException (pcFunctionName AS CHARACTER):
       SUPER ().
       THIS-OBJECT: FunctionName = pcFunctionName .
       THIS-OBJECT: AddMessage (SUBSTITUTE ("You are not authorized to execute the &1 function."
                                            pcFunctionName),
                                0) .
   END CONSTRUCTOR.
```

Ι

CATCH Custom Error

RUN Test (iCustNum) .



END.

```
PROCEDURE Test:

DEFINE INPUT PARAMETER piCustNum AS INTEGER NO-UNDO.

IF USERID ("sports2000") <> "mikefe" THEN

UNDO, THROW NEW NotAuthorizedException ("Secret Function") .
```

Demo

 Locate Consultingwerk.Exceptions.Exception in http://help.consultingwerkcloud.com/smartcompo
 nent_library/release/

Raising errors ... THROW

- DEFINE VARIABLE err AS <myerror> .
 err = NEW <myerror> (parameter) .
 err:CustomProperty = 42 .
 UNDO, THROW err .
- UNDO, THROW NEW <myerror> (parameter) .
- RETURN ERROR NEW <myerror> (parameter) .

AppError constructors

- NEW AppError ()
- NEW AppError (CHARACTER)
- NEW AppError (CHARACTER, INTEGER)
- Attention: AppError (CHARACTER) and AppError (CHARACTER, INTEGER) behave differently
- Signature suggest the INTEGER is for an optional parameter

AppError constructors

- UNDO, THROW NEW AppError ("this text is NOT shown").
- UNDO, THROW NEW AppError ("this text is shown to the user", 42).
- First statement initializes an AppError with a ReturnValue assigned (RETURN ERROR)

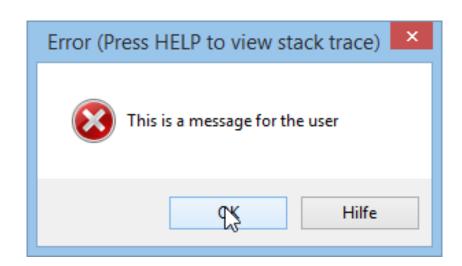


- Second statement initializes an AppError with a message and severity/number assigned!
- AVM only displays errors with message

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UNDO, THROW NEW AppError

("This is a message for the user", 42).

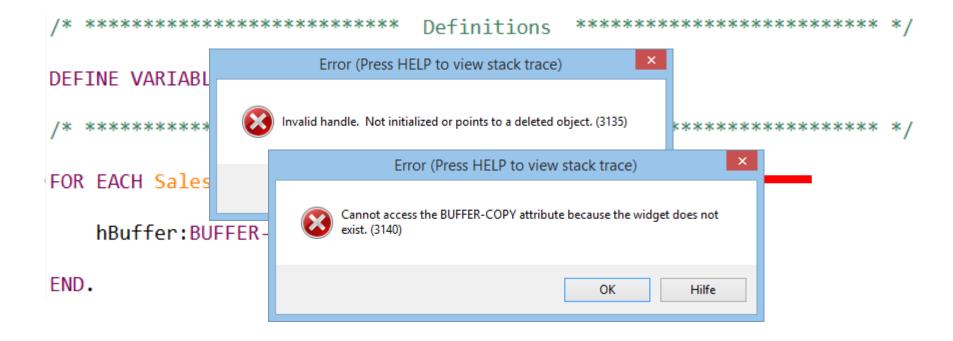


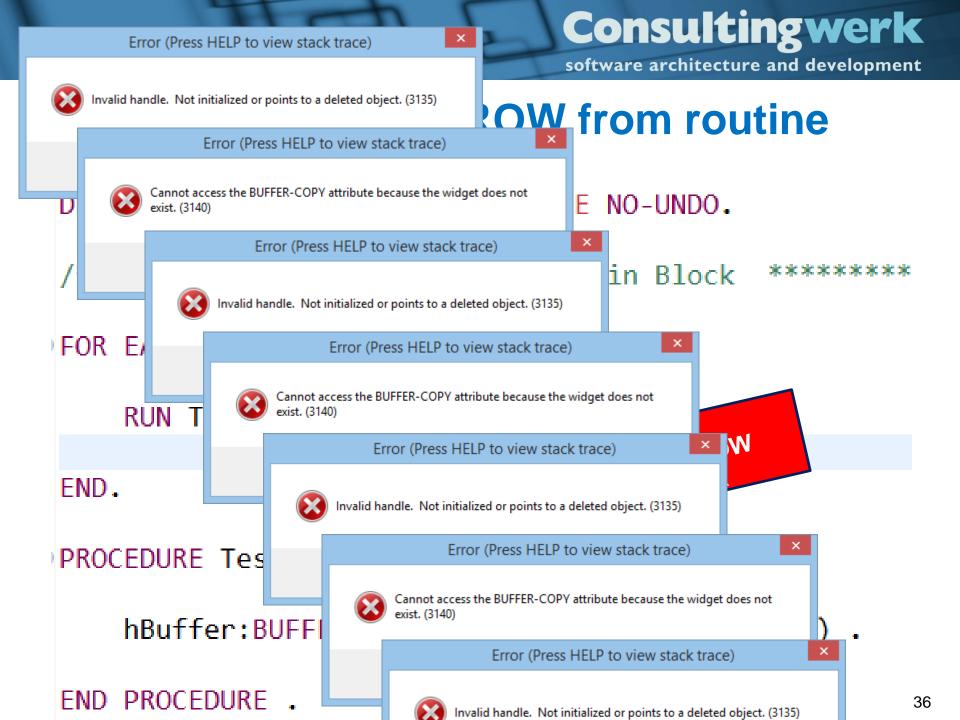
THROW Branch option on blocks ...

- <block statement> ON ERROR UNDO, THROW:
- FOR EACH Customer ON ERROR UNDO, THROW
- When errors occur in the block, pass error for handling to next outer block
 - Next outer block may also throw
- Iterating block will <u>NOT</u> iterate any further
- First error terminates everything
- No more infinitive loops caused by errors!

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Problem: UNDO, THROW from routine

```
DEFINE VARIABLE hBuffer AS HANDLE NO-UNDO.
                                                 UNDO, THROW
         *************
                                   Main Block
FOR EACH Salesrep ON ERROR UNDO, THROW:
                         No option for ON ERROR UNDO, THROW
    RUN Test .
                            on routine-level block
FND.
PROCEDURE Test:
    hBuffer:BUFFER-COPY (BUFFER Salesrep:HANDLE) .
```

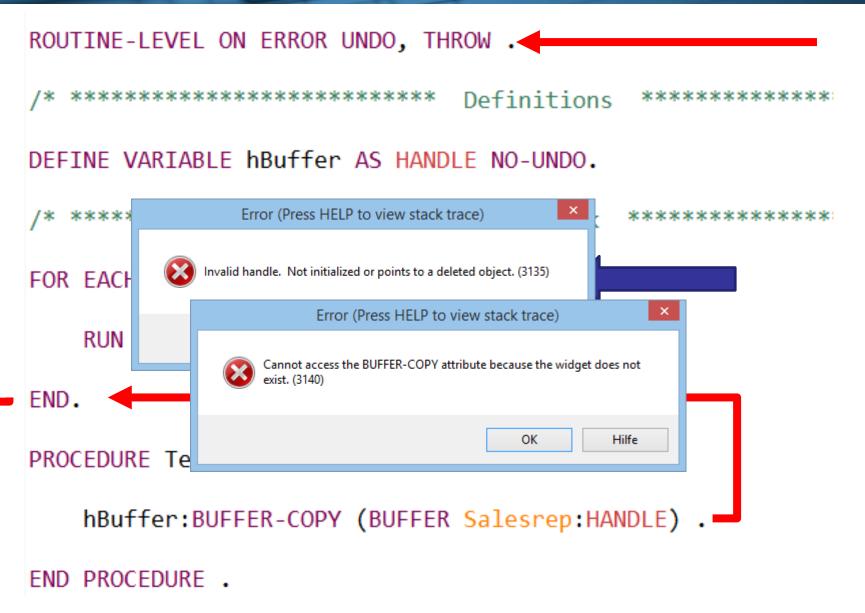
END PROCEDURE .

ROUTINE-LEVEL ON ERROR UNDO, THROW

- Declarative statement, available since 10.1C
- Must be placed before any executable statements, including DEFINE's
- May be after USING
- Changes ERROR Branching option for ALL routine blocks in compile unit to ON ERROR UNDO, THROW
- No effect on loops, DO TRANSACTION, DO ON ERROR

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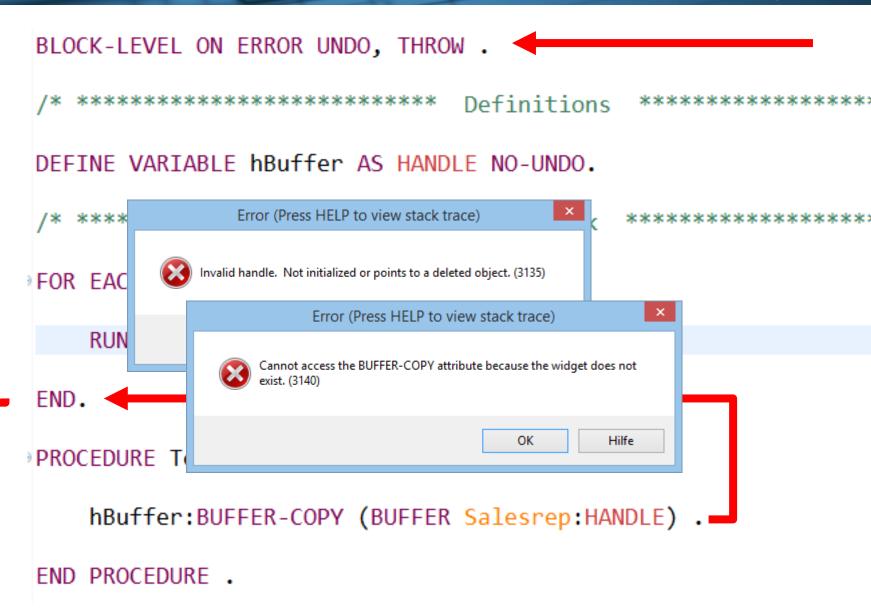


BLOCK-LEVEL ON ERROR UNDO, THROW

- Declarative statement, available since 11.3
- Must be placed before any executable statements, including DEFINE's
- May be after USING
- Changes default ERROR Branching option for ALL blocks in compile unit to ON ERROR UNDO, THROW
- May be redefined on loops, DO TRANSACTION, DO ON ERROR

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BLOCK-LEVEL ON ERROR UNDO, THROW

- Don't get used to BLOCK-LEVEL ON ERROR when still deploying to 10.1C – 11.2
- Don't switch between ROUTINE-LEVEL and BLOCK-LEVEL using PROVERSION preprocessor
- Error handling should be tested during development
- And behave 100% the same way at runtime
- Surprises in error handling are expensive ...

Re-THROW

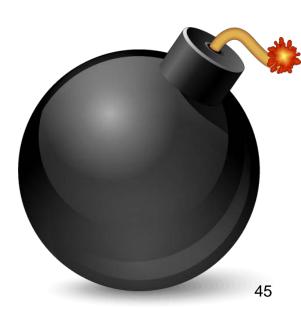
```
*****************
                              Definitions
                                          *******
 BLOCK-LEVEL ON ERROR UNDO, THROW.
 DEFINE VARIABLE hQuery AS HANDLE NO-UNDO.
     **********
                              Main Block
 hQuery:QUERY-OPEN ().
 FIND Salesrep WHERE Salesrep.SalesRep = "HXX" NO-LOCK .
GCATCH err AS Progress.Lang.Error:
    /* Ignore ** Salesrep record not on file. (138) */
    IF err:NumMessages = 0 OR err:GetMessageNum (1) <> 138 THEN
       UNDO, THROW err .
 FND CATCH.
```

Re-THROW of Progress.Lang.SysError

- Runtime error often the root cause for application raised error
- Application raised error may be adding context
- Unexpected SysError should be re-thrown
- May require to "track" possible runtime error numbers – no (complete) list of errors expected per ABL statement or Widget method available

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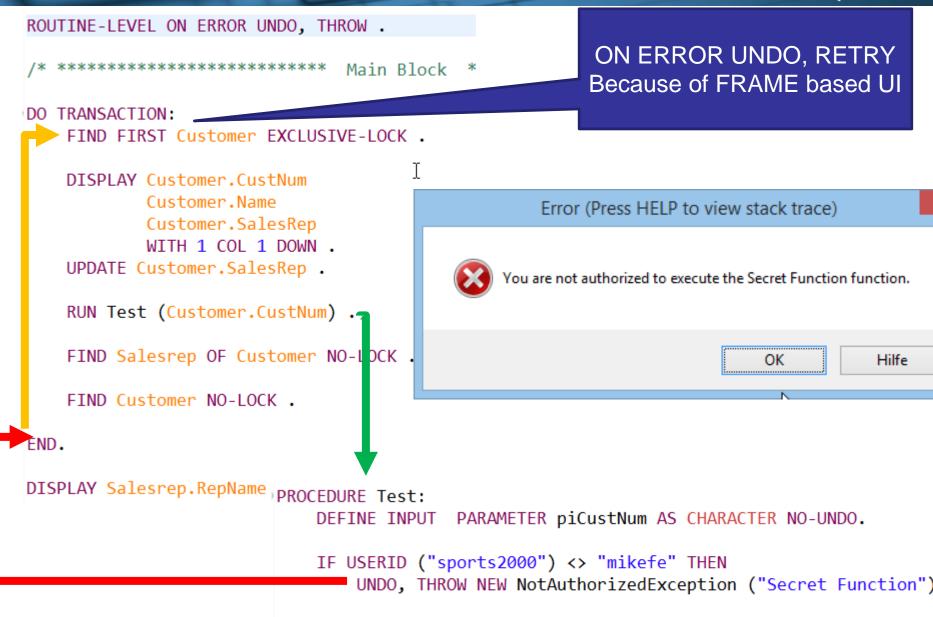


Combining Structured and Classic Err. Hndl

- THROW and classic error handling fully compatible
- AppError or any of the runtime error handled based on branch action of receiving block:
 - RETRY
 - NEXT
 - LEAVE
 - RETURN

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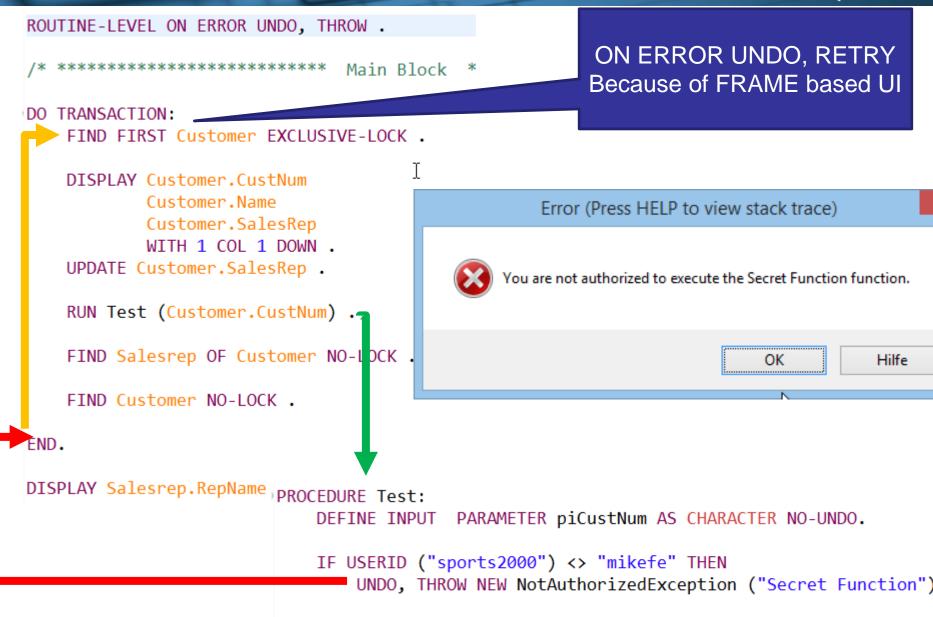


END PROCEDURE .

ABL Structured Error Handling

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END PROCEDURE .

ABL Structured Error Handling

Combining Structured and Classic Err. Hndl

- All errors available through ERROR-STATUS system handle
- AppError with ReturnValue same impact as RETURN ERROR <return-value>

Recommendation

- Do not add ROUTINE-LEVEL or BLOCK-LEVEL
 Error Handling to existing code without testing!
- Users may be used to executing reports with a few "Item record not on file" messages
- Adding ROUTINE-LEVEL or BLOCK-LEVEL error handling will severely impact the program flow.
- Users may not be able to receive the report they need to get their job done

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STOP Conditions

- Critical system error
- RUN non-existing .p file
- r code CRC does not match schema
- trigger r. code not matching the CRC stored in DB schema
- DB connection missing/lost
- ...
- STOP-AFTER (unfortunately)

STOP Condition handling

- UNDO blocks until it reaches an ON STOP Block
- AVM may decide to skip ON STOP and proceed with reverting ...
- Eventually may restart client startup procedure
- FINALLY Blocks are NOT executed!





Convert STOP into AppError

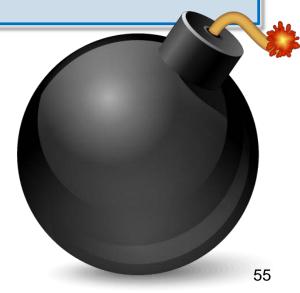
- STOP can be handled by RETURN ERROR
- FINALLY will be executed

```
DO ON STOP UNDO, RETURN ERROR NEW StopConditionException
    (SUBSTITUTE ("A stop condition has been raised while waiting for the backend.~nBackend component: &
                 pcEntityName),
     0):
    RUN VALUE(THIS-OBJECT:ServiceInterfacePath + "/proSIfetchDataset.p":U) ON hAppServer
                                    (INPUT pcEntityName,
                                     OUTPUT DATASET-HANDLE phDataset,
                                     INPUT-OUTPUT DATASET-HANDLE hContextDataset BY-REFERENCE) .
END.
FINALLY:
    {Consultingwerk/OERA/delete-dataset.i phDataset deleteerr}
    THIS-OBJECT:OnCollectContextFromServer (Consultingwerk.EventArgs:Empty) .
    IF VALID-HANDLE (hContextDataset) THEN
        DELETE OBJECT hContextDataset NO-ERROR .
END FINALLY.
```

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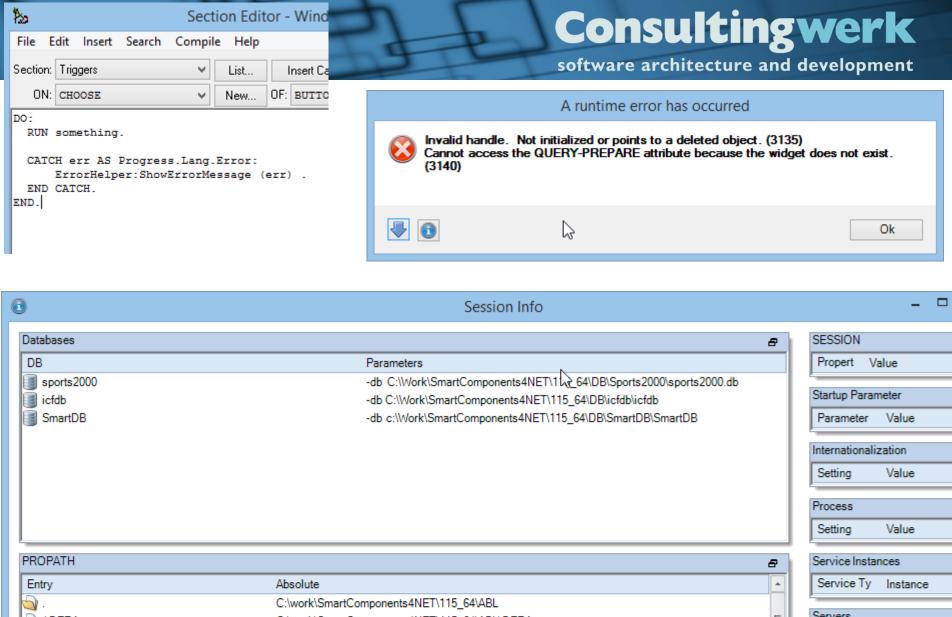


Errors should be exceptional

- Errors are called "Exception" in .NET and Java
- Don't use errors as alternative RETURN-VALUE
- Errors should not happen
- Error handling is an expensive operation
- Transaction will be undone

CATCH in every Event handlers

- When using structured error handling, every UI event handler should have a CATCH
 - Classic ABL GUI
 - TTY
 - GUI for .NET
- If you don't show messages by then the AVM will do
- Only way to create nice and feature-rich error dialog



PROPATH

Entry
Absolute
C:\work\SmartComponents4NET\115_64\ABL
Service Ty Instance

CATCH in worker methods

- Non UI code, batch routines, code that is calculating values etc.
- Worker methods on the other end, should not show error messages, all errors should be thrown
- Worker methods should only CATCH to handle automatically
 - open query if not open, then re-run
 - delete dynamic query widget, when QUERY-PREPARE-FAILED

Avoid NO-ERROR

This cannot be handled with a CATCH block

hQuery:QUERY-PREPARE ("...") NO-ERROR

- Only way to handle this is ERROR-STATUS:ERROR or explicit checks
 - IF AVAILABLE Customer

 ERROR-STATUS:ERROR valid until next statement is executed with NO-ERROR

InnerException Pattern

- Known from .NET
- Useful to "upgrade" certain runtime errors to application errors (similar to RE-THROW)
- Keep original error information, such as Stack-Trace, ReturnValue, error messages, custom properties
- When error happens, it happens, ... all I can do in some locations is to add context data, to simplify debugging
- See Consultingwerk. Exceptions. Exception and Data Access class

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```
CATCH err AS Progress.Lang.Error :
     /* Mike Fechner, Consultingwerk Ltd. 27.05.2014
        SCL-258 */
    ASSIGN THIS-OBJECT:QueryPurpose = QueryPurposeEnum:CatchBlock .
    DO ON ERROR UNDO, THROW:
         cDefault = THIS-OBJECT:SourceDefaultQuery (hBuffer:NAME) .
         CATCH innererr AS Progress.Lang.Error:
             /* ignore errors from here */
         END CATCH.
     END.
    ASSIGN THIS-OBJECT:QueryPurpose = QueryPurposeEnum:Invalid .
    ASSIGN oException = NEW FetchDataException (err,
                                                 err:GetMessage (1),
                                                 err:GetMessageNum (1),
                                                 cQuery,
                                                 cDefault) .
    DO iMessage = 2 TO err:NumMessages:
        oException:AddMessage (err:GetMessage(iMessage), 0) .
    END.
     oException:AddMessage (SUBSTITUTE ("Client-Query: &1"{&TRAN}, cQuery), 0).
     oException:AddMessage (SUBSTITUTE ("Default-Query: &1"{&TRAN}, cDefault), 0) .
    UNDO, THROW oException .
END CATCH.
```

Code Review

- Consultingwerk.Exceptions.Exception
 - InnerException Implementation
 - SessionInfo from AppServer to Client

Assertions

- Concept for validating method parameters
- Verify a value
- Throw an error when expected condition is not met
- Static methods
- Simple way to provide consistent errors for common issues

Example from BufferAssert

 Consultingwerk.Assertion.BufferAssert:HasField (hBuffer, "CustNum") .

```
Purpose: Verifies that the passed in buffer handle has a field with the
             given name
    Notes: Verifies that a valid buffer is passed in first.
    Throws: Consultingwerk.Assertion.AssertException
    @param phBuffer The Buffer handle to test
    Oparam pcFieldName The name of the buffer field
METHOD PUBLIC STATIC VOID HasField (phBuffer AS HANDLE,
                                    pcFieldName AS CHARACTER):
    HandleAssert:WidgetType (phBuffer, WidgetTypeEnum:Buffer) .
    IF NOT Consultingwerk. Util. BufferHelper: HasField (phBuffer,
                                                      pcFieldName) THEN
        UNDO, THROW NEW AssertException (SUBSTITUTE ("The buffer &1 has no field named &2." (&TRAN),
                                                     phBuffer:NAME,
                                                     pcFieldName),
                                         0) .
END METHOD.
```

Questions?



Don't miss my other presentations

- Monday 11.00: Telerik .NET for Infragistics
 Users
- Monday 16.45: DIY: Lists, Enumerators,
 Enumerations, Serialization
- Tuesday 11.00: Modernization the SmartComponent Library
- Tuesday 14.15: Structured Error Handling
- Wednesday 11.00: Telerik Kendo UI with WebSpeed

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