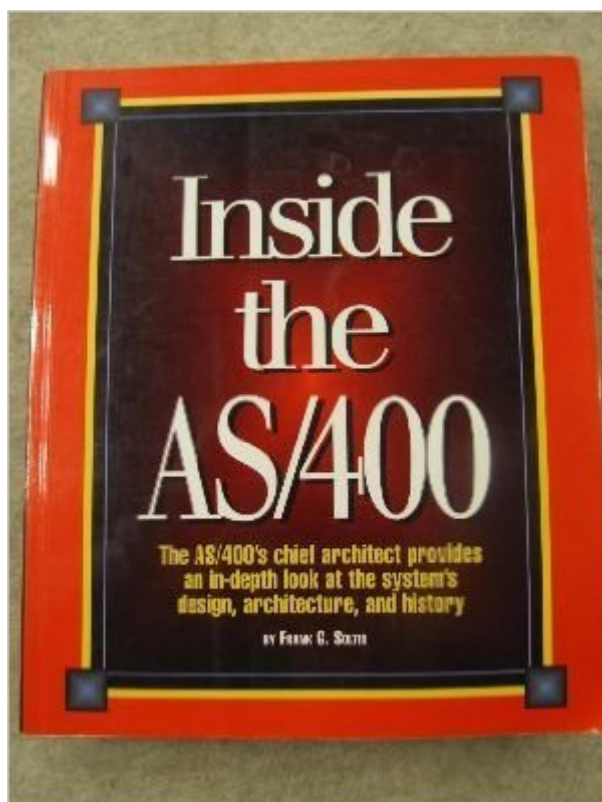


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Inside The As/400



Synopsis

As an AS/400 professional, don't miss this classic on the history, design and revolutionary architecture of the AS/400. Key technical points are identified by the symbolic use of one, two or three chili peppers, depending on the degree of intensity. As the chief architect of the AS/400, Frank Soltis has a fascinating story to tell about the best-selling multiuser computer ever produced.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a former IBM developer for Enterprise Systems, I can detect/identify with some of the historical happenings. Be nice if there were more anecdotes. In a way, I'm sorry GSD wasn't spun off during the anti-trust era with a pile of cash and allowed to fulfill the dream. The author does point out one of the virtues of Rochester Development -- very few ideas and people can be traced back to the early days at MIT of Eniac and Multics. This branch of computer history and the AS/400 unique architecture need preservation! System/38 - AS/400 architecture is important because it gets incredible interactive performance out of low power hardware, and should be part of any architect or designer's education. The secret is that everyone shares everything -- addresses, data, programs -- in a huge space that persists forever. Players are vetted at two levels before being let onto the playground, and only one hardware check (against pointer corruption) is needed to guarantee security. Because it's all one space, there is never a context switch that will purge hardware caches or replace hardware tables. Switching between users is trivial and without the performance penalty paid in any Virtual Machine or multiple address space system. Because it's persistent, there is no

garbage collection (though cleanup done at each boot can make restarting take a while). The programming cost for all this is double compilation using (some IBM controlled) tools designed for application programming, relational data base, transaction processing, client/server, and object orientated. Anything wanting intimacy with the hardware (think Diablo or WoW) is not a good program to get running on an AS/400!

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