

The Current State of CORBA

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CORBA allows distributed systems to be built from software written in multiple programming languages, running on multiple operating systems and hardware platforms. It levels the playing field for Ada developers -- placing them on an equal footing with those writing software in C++ and Java.

This talk will describe the new elements of the CORBA standard. As CORBA has evolved, Ada developers have been able to make use of additional new standard CORBA elements. These include a Real-Time CORBA standard (aimed at both hard and soft real-time systems), Asynchronous Messaging Specification (for more flexible remote operation invocations), Objects by Value, and the upcoming CORBAcomponents initiative to allow the building of systems in the same style (and interoperably with) Enterprise Java Beans. Changes to the IDL-to-Ada mapping will be described as well.

Brad Balfour is the Director of Technology Services for Objective Interface Systems. His primary duties involve working with users of ORBexpress, Objective Interface's CORBA ORB. He is responsible for providing both mentoring and training in the use of CORBA for real-time and embedded systems. Prior to joining Objective Interface Systems, Mr. Balfour spent more than 10 years providing mentoring and training on Object-Oriented Development, Software Engineering and Ada. Mr. Balfour has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science from the University of Maryland.

