



At 235m, One Canada Square (centre) was the tallest building in Europe. The Little Sig will be held at 5 North Colonnade (shown directly below this caption)

The next BITUG event is the Little SIG, held at Barclays, Canary Wharf, on 7th December 2017



## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Welcome to the Autumn 2017 BITUG Newsletter

It seems a long time ago that we were advertising the eBITUG event which we held in May this year. If you attended I hope you enjoyed it, if you could not make it, why not? It was the largest event BITUG has run for many years and we are starting to look at when and where we are going to run our next larger European one.

If you haven't already, there is still the opportunity to leave eBITUG feedback on the BITUG website, [www.BITUG.com](http://www.BITUG.com) under the Events tab.

As usual BITUG run two events a year and our next one is the little SIG which is being held at one of Barclays Bank offices in Canary Wharf on the 7th December. As with previous Little SIGs, this is a single track event with a packed agenda. Teas, coffees and lunch is served and is free to all members of BITUG. As we are using another companies' office for this event it will be

pre-booking only (No one will be allowed in if they have not registered in advance). Also, there is a limit on the number of attendees, so book early to avoid disappointment. For up to date details and booking form see the BITUG website [www.BITUG.com](http://www.BITUG.com) and click the Little SIG page under the Events tab.

To wrap up my final Chairman's Chat before I step down as BITUG Chairman at the end of this year I would like to say a big thank you to all members who have supported us throughout the year, especially the Vendors and HPE for their continued support, but especially to the committee. If you attend one of our events you can personally thank them.

Neil Barnes  
NonStop Management  
Lloyds Banking Group  
2017 BITUG Chairman

## NONSTOP DIARY DATES

### BITUG Little SIG

7th Dec 2017  
Barclays Canary  
Wharf, London

### BITUG Big SIG

9th May 2018  
Trinity House, London

### GTUG Euro Hotspot

14-16th May 2018  
Leipzig, Germany

### Technical Boot Camp

10-14th Nov 2018  
San Francisco, USA



# CIRCLING BACK TO NONSTOP

By Richard Buckle

Just looking back at past publications it has been a while since my last article for BITUG. While it is true to say that times have been very busy of late it is also equally true that HPE is keeping us all jumping with one announcement after the other. It seems that we only have a brief time to absorb the impact from one announcement before another pops up on our screens. Who would have guessed, for instance, that UK based company, Micro Focus, would rocket up to being the sixth or seventh largest “pure play” software vendor on the planet? And who would have thought that NonStop would not make the cut and remain with HPE as it missed being labelled “non-core?”

If you missed the short post published September 28, 2017, on the LinkedIn blog, Pulse, It’s raining here in Colorado; snow falling in the mountains. Does anyone else see a freeze coming? Within the data center?, you can copy this link into your browser:

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/its-raining-here-colorado-snow-falling-mountains-does-richard-buckle/>  
you will see that I reference there a recent article that appeared in InformationWeek, Will Edge Computing Replace the Cloud? You can copy this link into your browser: <https://www.informationweek.com/cloud/will-edge-computing-replace-the-cloud/a/d-id/1328929>

The curious aspect of this May 23, 2017, article is that commentator Andrew Froehlich highlights what many analysts have started considering – with the advent of IoT and the appearance of more powerful Edge products, could cloud computing prove to be dead on arrival.

According to Froehlich, “times are changing. We can now manufacture tiny, yet powerful system on chip (SoC) devices for a very low cost. Additionally, the Internet of Things (IoT) movement is creating an environment where a centralized computing model may not be ideal. By pushing computation duties back to the edge, you eliminate (network congestion and latency) - and ultimately improve overall application performance.” By now we have all read of how HPE CEO Meg Whitman has become a vocal champion of “empowering the intelligent

edge,” but how far do you go in this respect. More importantly, what are the ramifications for the NonStop community should this scenario play out as Froehlich suggests?

For as long as I have been in computing – and yes, I gave up my career as a newspaper grunt working beneath the presses to become a programmer – the pendulum has swung back and forth between centralized and distributed. Through the years we have seen arguments for and against NonStop being part of the centralization story even as its role has moved between front-end processor, intelligent node and yes, database server. For almost a decade we have seen the power curve evolve to where everyone in business has a PC, a smartphone and / or tablet and even an intelligent watch. We talk to our computers and increasingly, interface with them through hand gestures and even eye movements. SoC availability makes the realm of science fiction seem somewhat dated – how many of us recall Dave dismantling HAL in the movie 2001: a space odyssey simply by pulling out flash memory. In 1968 we didn’t have flash memory but it serves to remind us that oftentimes, fact imitates fiction.

Could we see NonStop running on the edge? Could we see a huge momentum shift whereby NonStop balances its presence inside the datacenter with NonStop outside the datacenter, far removed to the very extremity of computing presence? Certainly, it isn’t unimaginable that with CoS that Intel will be involved nor can we pretend that there won’t be support for the Intel x86 architecture available to support your favorite Windows application or even a popular VM such as Microsoft Hyper-V. The next time you see such edge and data center drawings on your office whiteboards, grab a red pen and draw a big circle around both of them and write as boldly as you can – NonStop lives here! Point is, if you have been around computing as long as many of us have been – it is not wise to rule out any possibility no matter how far-fetched it may sound today. On the other hand, should NonStop find a home out on the edge and in numbers that dwarf the current population of NonStop system deployments, what new opportunities might be created?

Futurists have always contributed

to pushing technology deeper into our psyche and there have been numerous instances where the likes of Arthur C Clarke and even Star Trek have influenced the designs of some pretty important technologies – think satellites in geostatic orbits and MRI systems as well as the popular flip-phone from AT&T. However, a future where the traditional data center disappears entirely and where popular computing models like cloud computing seem a little too far-fetched for many of us. Even Froehlich makes the point in his article that, “even in situations where edge computing does make sense today - as is the case with IoT - we still need the cloud. While it makes sense to perform portions of IoT analysis at the edge, the data still will likely need to be collected and centrally stored. A cloud architecture is the obvious way to accomplish that goal.”

In all reality the odds that NonStop finds a role out on the edge seems a long shot as there aren’t any applications dependent on NonStop coming to market. And yet, musing on the possibility is something that is ongoing among those inside and out of HPE. When you consider the business value from having an intelligent edge that is always on, running 24 x 7, ingesting data from devices creating events non-stop, then it is hard to rule out the possibility. However, NonStop playing a role within clouds? That is a lot more likely to happen and much sooner than any possible take-up on the edge. The compelling business value proposition that comes with NonStop residing in the cloud is indisputable – having hybrid IT that just doesn’t fail creates a new baseline for applications that have to run 24 x 7 in somewhat hostile environments.

Many years ago, HPE NonStop consultants pulled together a prototype product called GuardianAngel with the intent of supporting the outflow of transactions to external server-farms at times of peak loads. With the help of the InfraSoft team in Sydney, this prototype was productized and made available as maRunga – Australian aboriginal for clouds, no less. The product generated some interest but never developed traction in the marketplace – why would you push any transactions (even simply inquiries) off the NonStop platform particularly when it had so much headroom with the biggest models of

NonStop? Turns out, the problem is coming back under the spotlight – simplifying hybrid IT lacks considerable infrastructure (and APIs) to make deployments of traditional systems and clouds easy to do. Perhaps where GuardianAngel and maRunga were headed has merit in today’s world.

I am not going to argue in favor of dusting off these decade-old technologies but as you return to the topic of whether the data center survives, as a cloud or otherwise, the reality is that as in the past where the swinging pendulum always seemed to return to the centralized model, there is a fundamentally sound reason for keeping the data center. For the same reason the human body with all of its intelligent extremities still depends on a brain, it is perhaps the easiest model to

implement and maintain. There is an equally compelling case to be made for new products that embrace NonStop and make it a part of that data center, cloud or otherwise. Perhaps it will leverage NSADI. Perhaps it will leverage something entirely different. And much faster! Whatever transpires, NonStop will continue to bring resilience and reliability to a world that continues to evolve and whether that deployment continues to be centralized or moves to the edge, for the NonStop community is of lesser relevance. The most important topic of all remains – yes, we are still talking about NonStop and the value proposition it brings to businesses everywhere. And you can take your red felt pen and draw a big circle around that statement and smile as you pass it to your colleagues!

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## GRAVIC NEWS

### TWO NEW PUBLICATIONS

Gravic published a white paper, Shadowbase Synchronous Replication – Product Overview. Shadowbase synchronous replication (Shadowbase Zero Data Loss, or Shadowbase ZDL™) resolves two key issues of asynchronous replication: data loss on source system failure and data collisions when running an active/active environment. By eliminating data loss and effectively setting the Recovery Point Objective, or RPO, to zero, Shadowbase ZDL protects your valuable data from having to be recreated after catastrophic failure. [bit.ly/2wrc1xK](http://bit.ly/2wrc1xK)

Gravic published an HPE Shadowbase data integration case study on Prescription Drug Fraud Prevention. Prescription drug claims fraud is big business, costing billions of dollars. To help a country’s government healthcare agency stem the losses, a centralized claims fraud adjudication and prevention decision support system was implemented. The agency chose HPE Shadowbase data replication software to provide real-time replication from an HPE NonStop claims processing system to feed the new decision support environment. Shadowbase SOLV enabled the new system to load with no application downtime. This case study provides an excellent example of how new services can be rapidly implemented by using HPE Shadowbase Data and Application Integration facilities. [bit.ly/2xkpKpZ](http://bit.ly/2xkpKpZ)



# E-BITUG 2017 REVIEW



**E**BITUG set the bar for European NonStop User Group events according to Dr Michael Rossbach at the closing ceremony.

The event had a perfect mix of HPE, Partner and Customer sessions with 3 parallel tracks providing something for all the 250+ delegates.

HPE set the theme talking about what had been planned 12 months ago, what had been delivered and what is coming next. Customers and Partners not only enjoyed the openness of the future sessions but how HPE has delivered on the strategy and the relevance to cloud strategies and data lakes for the new IT. Deployment options, continual integration and DevOps were all part of how NonStop participates in IT's Transformation. The enhancements to capability, portability and deployment of SQL/MX along with the use of micro-services frameworks supported the modernisation theme for developers along with new HPE and Partner capabilities for business continuity data replication and also data integration on and off platform.

Customers presented on their migration to NonStop X, a cornerstone to the adoption of Virtualised NonStop and Cloud deployment.

Payments vendors outlined new solutions for card issuing, prepaid cards and electronic benefits payments as well as payment SaaS.

There was a large focus on securing NonStop platforms, payment solutions and software subsystems in line with PCI-DSS and general industry concerns over security. Choice was plentiful and sessions covered forthcoming requirements as well as tool capability.

Management services and solutions also took centre stage with automation tools and cloud analytics demonstrating once again a modern platform.

Daimler discussed their world-wide dependency on NonStop for vehicle manufacture and how their plans for the future would remove paperwork making systems even more critical.

1:1 meetings and NDA sessions with HPE as well as Virtualised NonStop demos rounded out the event as well as the second under 40s SIG meeting following the one last year at TBC.

It was great to see that Jimmy Treybig (Venture Capitalist and Tandem ex-CEO) not only presented the Keynote on Industry Disruption for Enterprise companies but was present throughout both days of the conference.

The social events during the conference were also heavily attended giving a great opportunity for networking and enjoying London during a very pleasant couple of days weather.

BITUG and GTUG are working to share experiences and ideas to maintain the momentum of a European NonStop User Conference in future.



The eBITUG Vendor Fair was a hive of activity with 20 different companies exhibiting their products and services



## DARK DR – AVOID ITS COSTS WITH ACTIVE/ACTIVE

By Bill Highleyman

Traditional disaster recovery (DR) methods utilize an active/passive architecture, one in which there are two redundant servers. One server actively processes the application, and the other server is a backup system. From an operations viewpoint, the server remains "dark" until it is needed. Hopefully, it will work. In contrast, the servers in an active/active system both process transactions. Neither is "dark." No crossed fingers and prayer during an unplanned outage. Should one server fail, all transactions are routed to the surviving server. Even with the disadvantages of Dark DR, more commonly known as an active/passive system, it remains a necessary architecture to provide redundancy for critical applications that cannot run in an active/active environment. HPE and several of its partners offer Dark DR and active/active solutions.

Read the full article at:

[www.availabilitydigest.com/public\\_articles/1208/dark\\_dr.pdf](http://www.availabilitydigest.com/public_articles/1208/dark_dr.pdf)



For many, eBITUG was the first opportunity to witness Virtualised NonStop in action



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# BITUG LITTLE SIG

**DATE:** 7th December 2017  
**TIMES:** 8.30-16.35  
**VENUE:** Barclays, 5 North Colonnade, Canary Wharf

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

You must register in advance (see Little SIG page at www.BITUG.com) and you must bring photo ID with you on the day – it may be requested by security staff.

If you don't bring photo ID, you may not be able to access the building.

Teas, coffees and lunch are provided free of charge to all attendees.

Registration closes once all places are booked or on the 1st December – whichever comes first.

**VENUE ADDRESS:**

Barclays  
5 North Colonnade  
Canary Wharf  
London  
E14 4BB

Please note: 5 North Colonnade is *not* the main Barclays tower block, it's a different building near Canary Wharf DLR station.

For latest event information please visit the BITUG website: www.BITUG.com

08:30	09:15	<b>Registration, Welcome and Coffee - Lunch Room</b>
09:15	09:25	<b>Introduction / Agenda / Health &amp; Safety / Barclays thankyou</b>
		<b>BITUG committee</b>
09:25	10:10	<b>NonStop, Bootcamp + Roadmap update</b>
		<b>Iain Liston Brown (HPE)</b>
10:10	10:55	<b>NonStop State of the Nation update</b>
		<b>Dave McLeod (HPE)</b>
10:55	11:10	<b>Coffee &amp; Networking - Lunch Room</b>
11:10	11:55	<b>Java Performance Analysis + Tuning on HPE NonStop</b>
		<b>Damian Ward (VocaLink / Mastercard / BITUG)</b>
11:55	12:00	<b>Changeover</b>
12:00	12:45	<b>ATALLA HSM Update</b>
		<b>Darren Burkey (Microfocus)</b>
12:45	13:45	<b>Lunch - Lunch Room</b>
13:45	14:30	<b>IBM MQ 8</b>
		<b>Dave Ward / John Kinchen (IBM)</b>
14:30	14:35	<b>Changeover</b>
14:35	15:20	<b>vNonStop</b>
		<b>Tom Vrouwe (HPE)</b>
15:20	15:35	<b>Coffee &amp; Networking - Lunch Room</b>
15:35	16:20	<b>NonStop Server Firmware Update Overview</b>
		<b>Keith Charters (HPE)</b>
16:20	16:25	<b>Changeover</b>
16:25	16:35	<b>BITUG AGM and close</b>
		<b>BITUG committee</b>

## NONSTOP INSIDER ONE YEAR YOUNG



By Margo Holen

Watching hot air balloons drift about in the skies overhead as they were totally at the mercy of the prevailing wind currents, may be of interest to those on the ground or even those who are passengers in their baskets but rudderless, all at sea, isn't for everyone. And yet, this was the location where the finishing touches were applied to the anniversary issue of NonStop Insider and the editorial of this issue included a passing reference to the colorful spectacle that takes place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, each year and is a potential "bucket list" item for many.

The mission for NonStop Insider had been clear from the outset and all involved were determined not to let it float away from the desire to "reach out to the NonStop community and provide a platform to share and learn about every facet of NonStop, from every corner of NonStop." And so it is celebratory balloons that are more in order as anyone in the publishing industry can tell you, any magazine physical or digital that makes it through the first year has good reason to celebrate. When it comes to the NonStop community however, it is this very community pitching in and helping develop the content that has made this all possible.

In this latest issue, there are a number of complements made about the publication but perhaps even more interesting are submissions coming from HPE and even Micro Focus – a trend we hope to see strengthen in the coming months. What makes the publication as good as it has become are the subscribers themselves – even HPE is making sure each issue is widely read within the company. However, just as important for the NonStop community is the inclusion in the magazine of the well-known thought-leaders within the NonStop community and it gives them a forum to cover whatever topic is of interest to them and allows them to tap deeper into the NonStop community than otherwise would have been possible.

So now it is onto the second year and it looks to be a big one as we see many changes coming for the NonStop community. With NonStop X and V developing traction and the possibility of completely new markets beckoning, there will likely be even more balloons in the air come this time next year. And for that, NonStop Insider has only you all to thanks – so yes, we thank each and every one of you for all the support you provided in 2017! Should you have not read the latest, anniversary issue of NonStop Insider then make sure you visit www.NonStopInsider.com



## EARLY CHRISTMAS PRESENT

**FREE 2-IN-1  
MOUSE MAT AND  
SCREEN CLEANER  
FOR UK BITUG  
MEMBERS**



Every year we like to create a BITUG mouse mat and 2017 is no exception. We've previously gone for hard mats made from recycled CD cases, but in a change this year we've decided on a dual-purpose microfiber mouse mat/screen cleaner - we certainly hope you find it useful.

One has been posted out to all UK-based BITUG members along with this newsletter and we'll also have a some spares that we'll be giving out at the Little SIG in December.

Many thanks to this year's mouse mat sponsors for making it possible:

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# I HPE NONSTOP NEWS

Since the summer of 2017 announcements for HPE NonStop have all been in the software category, many associated with the L17.08 RVU for NonStop X and Virtualised NonStop. These announcements are summarised below:

## VIRTUALISED NONSTOP

In Q3 2016 HPE has had to comply with L17.08 has seen the support for Virtualised NonStop 1.1 which, on top of existing support for OpenStack with Ubuntu 16.04 KVM, sees support for Red Hat OpenStack 10 support (also qualified against the L17.02 RVU).

## OS ENHANCEMENTS

In addition L17.08 has brought about Enscribe limit increases with 32KB blocks, 27,576 byte records and alternate keys of up to 2KB now allowed. On the OSS file system front file ownership can now be re-assigned and file opens per CPU is now

up to 336k. On the Tape IOP side in L17.08 then BR2, BR, SQL/MX BR and other utilities can benefit from improved transfer rate due to enhanced blocksize support. Some Safeguard pattern and audit enhancements have been made as well as improved integration with Netbatch.

## ECLIPSE

In the development arena, although independent from the L17.08 RVU, the NonStop Development Environment for Eclipse has been updated to NSDEE 7.0 which supports Eclipse 4.6 (NEON) and the C/C++ development tooling (CDT) 9.2

## JAVA

For the Java ecosystem then Oracle Java SE 8 Update 131 has been introduced as NonStop Server for Java 8 update 2 for NonStop X and Virtualised NonStop with L17.08. The Java Hotspot compiler can be configured to run in a different IPU from the user application. NSJI, the NonStop Java Infrastructure, has additional features in L17.08 with large message

transfer from 32KB to 2MB as well as a ddl2bean tool to convert DDL objects to Java beans. Additionally asynchronous IO operations on sockets and better monitoring of NSJI entities are included in NSJI.

## MIDDLEWARE

On the middleware front, TS/MP 2.7 has been introduced with L17.08. This enhances weight based PATHMON links for incoming transaction requests. This also helps Domain rebalancing.

## WEB VIEWPOINT

Finally Web Viewpoint (WVPT) and Web Viewpoint plus (WVPT+) have been enhanced for H06, J06 and L series systems with a new interface which does not have a Java dependency and supports multiple browser technologies not just Internet Explorer. WVPT and WVPT+. They can display current live performance statistic in summary and detailed format, can interface (if required) into Remote Analyst and allow alerting against customised threshold settings.

## BITUG COMMITTEE

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Neil Barnes - **LBG**

**Incoming Chairman**  
Damian Ward - **VocaLink**

**Treasurer**  
Matt Whiteman - **SC Bank**

**HPE Liaison**  
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