



Cyprus .NET User Group

March 31, 2009

In Cyprus, March was and still is an eventful month. In March 16, many of us attended **Momentum 2009 Heroes RELOADED**; the official Microsoft Cyprus event for both IT Pros and Developers. With one track for IT Pros and another one for Developers, some really interesting sessions discussed about new, enhanced, and emerging Microsoft technologies. Some of the technologies featured in the Developers track are: *ADO.NET, Entity Framework, LINQ, Sync Framework, Azure, ADO.NET Data Services, WCF, WF, WPF, ASP.NET, AJAX*, and much more!

Cyprus .NET User Group, committed to the .NET and SQL Server community in Cyprus, continues its regular monthly events and dedicates this month's event to the **ADO .NET Entity Framework** and **LINQ to Entities** technologies. These two correlated topics were presented in the Momentum 2009 event. With this month's event, we continue our study on these technologies through a deep-dive session, discussing and demonstrating how we can fully utilize them, interact with them and take advantage of their features in order to make it possible designing and developing database applications in Visual Studio 2008 with **Reliable** and **Scalable** Data Access.

The ADO .NET Entity Framework and LINQ to Entities **(by Artemakis Artemiou)**

During the development cycle of a database application, the developer may face issues having to do with the fact that the logical (relational) and related infrastructure cannot match the application's needs. This happens as relational schemas are often normalized in such a way, in order to be able to be shared across multiple applications. Still, this does not allow the relational schemas to be somehow "aware" of the business concept of the database application. As a result, developers often find themselves in the position of trying to remember whether a database table is called Employee or Employees, how the employees of the various departments are separated within the same table and so on. This requires going over the database's schema diagram repeatedly which is a task consuming valuable time.

The ADO .NET Entity Framework provides a solution to this problem by allowing the creation of conceptual models mapped to the corresponding relational models. In this session, the Entity and Entity sets principles are introduced. The process of creating a conceptual model mapped to a SQL Server 2008 database, based on the ADO .NET Entity Framework's Entity Model using Visual Studio 2008 will be discussed (demonstrated). Significant features like inheritance and entity splitting will be presented during the mapping process. The available ways of issuing queries against entities: (i) Entity SQL; and (ii) LINQ to Entities, will also be examined with emphasis on the latter.

An event will take place on Tuesday, March 31st at the conference room of Microsoft Cyprus, with start at 19:00.

For more information please visit the CDNUG website (<http://www.cdnug.net>).