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Canada's Association of Information Technology (IT) Professionals



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Ruth Morton IT Pro Advisor
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[Interview] Part 2: Teresa Hennig, International MS Access Authority

This is the next blog in the [continuing series](#) of interviews with leading professionals. In this series of blogs, I have an exclusive interview with Teresa Hennig. Teresa is an international authority on MS Access, a top user group leader, a best selling author and a recognized and profiled MVP.

Enjoy! Stephen Ibaraki, [FCIPS](#), [I.S.P.](#), [MVP](#)

The MVP Program



Stephen: Teresa, you were recently profiled in the internal Microsoft publication InsideTrack, due to your outstanding contributions and leadership over many years. We thank you for taking the time to share experiences and insights with our audience.

Teresa: I was so surprised by the invitation to be interviewed. This was my first MVP summit, so I wasn't sure if being interviewed was pretty much part of the Summit. But, even if it was, I still felt incredibly special to be selected.

As excited as I was about participating in the MVP Summit, I really didn't know what to expect. Here I was, meeting with brilliant developers and leaders from around the world. Some of these people are like icons that have shared their expertise for years. So nothing prepared me for the overwhelming sense of community, welcome and acceptance that we experienced. For that short week, we were family and now we all have new friends for life.

Both the Summit and the InsideTrack interview are opening doors to new opportunities. Talking with you, now, is a perfect example. And, I truly appreciate it. For me, this interview provides another avenue to connect with others and to share some of my experiences, express appreciation and encourage more people to get involved.

Stephen: There's an estimated 200 million ICT professionals worldwide, 3500+ are nominated and selected for their outstanding technology/community contributions as Microsoft Most Valuable Professionals (MVPs) from 90+ countries, and in more than 90 technologies. MVPs are an independent body of leading, top-ranking global experts and much like "Fellows" found in many organizations recognized for their excellence. From this initial 200 million, several MVPs were specially chosen to be profiled and interviewed for InsideTrack. Congratulations on this unique honour!

Teresa: That is soooo amazing. Of course, at the time, I didn't realize the magnitude of the honor that I had received. With thousands of remarkable and distinguished people around the world to choose from, Microsoft chose me to be featured in their paper.

Leading my user groups and supporting the membership is just a normal part of my life. So, it was thrilling to be interviewed and featured in Microsoft's paper. Thinking about it still makes my heart race. Obviously, being an MVP is a tremendous honor, but that interview was a true testament to the benefits that I am bringing to the community. It definitely energizes me to do more.

At the beginning of this year, I vowed to welcome opportunities and to travel and enjoy new challenges. And, that is exactly what is happening.

Look for more with Teresa in the next blog.
I also encourage you to share your thoughts here on these interviews or send me an e-mail at sibaraki@cips.ca.

Posted: Tuesday, May 15, 2007 8:00 AM by [odnitmar](#)
Filed under: [Stephen Ibaraki](#), [Interviews](#)

Comments



John Osley Director Community Evangelism
MoroSoft Canada



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[John Osley](#) said:

As a UG Leader myself and someone passionate about "making a contribution", I can only salute what Teresa has accomplished. In that "jaw dropping" would be a good description. It's very easy to see why she was one of only 5 to be singled out for special recognition from 3600+ MVP's. Something which is far more important than her achievements is the genuinely humble way that she comes across. Stephen, I am sure that that during the interview, Teresa very solidly exemplifies what the MVP program is about.

If I find myself needing advice on AOOcc I will certainly wish out for Teresa on the private MVP newsgroup. I have a contract coming up soon which involves helping a client move from AOOcc 87 to AOOcc 2007. So that might be sooner rather than later.

Teresa commented that this special recognition energized her to strive for more. I believe her example should be something that energizes you all to do the same.

Cheers

Graham Jones

May 15, 2007 12:52 PM

[Stephen Ibaraki, FCIPS, ISP, sbaraki@clar.ca](#) said:

I would agree with you Graham. Teresa exemplifies service and community and she works hard to support the broader ecosystem of IT users. You two have a lot in common Graham as you do the same. When you connect with Teresa on AOOcc, it would be great to see your blog, on what's can you can share from the experience.

Cheers,

Stephen Ibaraki

May 17, 2007 2:55 PM

[Teresa Hennig](#) said:

Thank you Graham. I am indeed honored by your response. It is my goal that the interview will become a reference tool for user groups and others.

Feel free to contact me directly - for your project and to exchange ideas about user groups. On June 18th, I'll be hosting and moderating a panel discussion for user group leaders. The schedule and registration will be available at www.IKETA.org.

Cheers and sunny smiles

Teresa Hennig

May 17, 2007 3:00 PM

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