

Database Design Points to Ponder

The most successful software applications are never completed – they evolve with the enterprises they serve.

Daniel D. Corkill *20th-century software executive*

Those who are enamored of practice without science are like a pilot who goes into a ship without rudder or compass and never has any certainty where he is going. Practice should always be based upon a sound knowledge of theory.

Leonardo da Vinci *Renaissance Man*

Be attentive. Be intelligent. Be reasonable. Be responsible.

Bernard Lonergan *20th-century philosopher*

Spare the integrity, spoil the data.

Mike Britten *20th-century programmer*

Programming today is a race between software engineers striving to build bigger and better idiot-proof programs, and the universe trying to produce bigger and better idiots. So far, the universe is winning.

Rick Cook *20th-century NASA mission manager (Mars Pathfinder project)*

Not really a database point, but one of my favorites:

Every truth passes through three stages before it is recognized. In the first, it is ridiculed, in the second it is opposed, in the third it is regarded as self-evident.

Arthur Schopenhauer *19th-century philosopher*