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## XML: THE STATE OF THE UNION

The annual XML conference produced by the GCA is still the largest single XML event, even though there are now a lot of other well-attended developer-oriented XML conferences. XML 2000 was also the most well rounded U.S. conference this year in terms of attendees. During the opening keynote I asked for a show of hands and it looked like almost 40% of the approximately 3000 attendees were *not* developers. Nothing gets implemented without developers, but business and IT managers do have *something* to say about the projects that will get funded and staffed. In any case, the attendee mix make it the best event of the year for getting your hands around both what is hot, and what is actually being done with XML. Because of the event's history and the fact that the majority of early XML implementations focused on web publishing and content management, XML 2000 was also a great place to look for the latest content-oriented application approaches, tools, and experience.

Bill and David produced a *Gilbane Report* show daily at the conference and were all over the show floor, in the conference sessions, and in the hallways and social events to pick up the latest news and buzz. Topic Maps, Schemas, XSLT, XML content management, the Semantic Web, and continuing efforts to get XML from Microsoft Word were some of the areas they found getting a lot of attention.

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