

## SHARE 2024 Kansas City August 4-8, 2024

By Ed Webb of SPARTA

Held at Loews Kansas City Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri

### Items of Interest

#### SHARE 2024 Kansas City is also SHARE 143

Technical Agenda <https://www.share.org/Events/SHARE-KansasCity-2024/Technical-Agenda> ???

Presentations are currently only available via the SHARE app on your mobile device

They will be available to members in the Kansas City proceedings whenever that's built

<https://www.share.org/Events/Past-Events/Proceedings>

search for SHARE Kansas City 2024 ???

### 04Aug2024 Sunday

#### z/OSMF Software Management Hidden Gems

By Kurt Quackenbush, z/OSMF Software Management and SMP/E

What is z/OSMF?

Web Server on z/OS

Software Management is app running under z/OSMF

Software Instance

Install new software from Portable Software instance

Define SI for existing application

What can you do with a Software Instance?

Maintenance Reports with End of Service

Based on product information files on a download server

HOLDDATA

When did you get last HOLDDATA from IBM or other vendor?

Use Missing Critical Service

Deploy (Install) Software

Configure Deployment - use Model Step based on your existing installed software

Merge Target Data Sets during deployment in Data Sets step

Delete temp catalog aliases after install from Software Instance panel

Perform Workflows for a Software Instance

Software Update (APPLY PTFs)

Updated with UI96759 (3.1 only) for SU

Now install by Name (corrective), by Source ID (recommended), by Fix Category (functional updates)

REWORK is date PTF became available (started by IBM in late 2023)

Vendor recommended updates are selected automatically

You can unselect these recommended if desired

Settings (upper right on Software Update main screen)

per System

New is SMP/E userid - that is what userid should run the SMP/E Software Update work

Programming Interfaces

All REST APIs (Representational State Transfer)

Invoked by HTTP client program

Query SMP/E CSI

- Use Reference center icon at bottom left of home page
  - To get to REST API to use “Swagger” to try the API in real time
- z/OSMF Software Management Ansible Content
  - Some z/OSMF automate actions in Red Hat Certified Content for IBM Z
    - Roles describe what can be automated
    - 5 roles available for SM
    - Sample SM playbook in git repo
- Software Instance UUIDs
  - CSI and System Matching Game!
    - Currently be installation’s conventions
  - z/OSMF SM generates a UUID (Universally Unique Identifier) for all SI, including target
    - Practically unique within all z/OS servers everywhere!
    - Stored in LPALIB module via USERMOD in z/OS Post Deploy workflow step
    - Available via REST API and also Display IPLINFO command
- Controlling authorization
  - ZMFAPLA Security Class
    - IZUDFLT.ZOSMF.SOFTWARE\_DEPLOYMENT.DATA.\*\*
      - CONTROL for z/OS sysprogs
      - READ for others to query
  - Categories can be defined if you need them to control authorization

## 05Aug2024 Monday

### SHARE Opening and Keynote

#### PkWare

- Data Security
- Quantum Safe Solutions

#### Rocket Software

- How AI Help You Modernize
- Predict and automate by leveraging Predictive AI
- Generative AI is challenging
  - Data pipelines for reuse
  - Access to unstructured, semi-structured, and structured data
  - Governance and business policies
  - Skills Gaps
- Quickly and safely deliver conversational document experiences on business information, driving efficient...
  - simplifying mainframe operations
    - Productivity increase with AI assistants
    - Persistent knowledge with assignation of users’ Z environment

#### Keynote

- Retired Navy Seal Dan O’Shea
- Message to Garcia?

A daring escapade of Captain Andrew S. Rowan, West Point graduate, 1881 (1898) to deliver message from President McKinley to Cuban insurgent leader Garcia “somewhere in the mountains of Cuba” [Mr. O’Shea’s description is based on a story by Elbert Hubbard (1899) that was not true but was very popular-there was no message, Rowan was just a U.S. spy who worked for a few hours with Garcia. See Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A\\_Message\\_to\\_Garcia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Message_to_Garcia) ]

Courteous initiative, focus on mission essential tasks, faith in chain of command, understand and

carry out commands (in Mr. Hubbard's telling "a stiffening of the vertebrae which will cause them to be loyal to a trust, to act promptly, concentrate their energies: do the thing—"Carry a message to Garcia!"")

Leaders must paint clear goals for the company's mission

### **z/OS System Programming and Hardware KickOff**

By Art G. of Huntington Bank, Becky Parchman of BMC, John Shebey III of IBM

See handout

#### **IBM Critical APARs by John Shebey III**

OA66647 z/OS Unix with Shared File System sysplex

Fixes New Function PTF (UJ94645/6) Error

PTF target is August 9

Recovery steps are available

OA66785 z/OS Unix with Shared File System sysplex

Fixes another error in UJ94645/6

If use NEWROOT swap, then rolling IPL of sysplex to recovery

APAR still open

OA66439 RSM HIPER Pervasive

Base z/OS 3.1 and with certain PTF in 2.5

During Summary Dump Processing, Lock not released, random abends

PTFs available July 1, 2024

#### **Red Alert**

20240621 Db2 V12 and V13 for z/OS users: undetected data loss

#### **PSP buckets (preventive service buckets)**

No longer published on the web

Not being created for new IBM Z products

Existing PSP buckets still available via <https://www.ibm.com/ibmlink>

#### **z/OS Simplification Over The Years**

by John Petreshock, z/OS Principal Product Manager and Shelley Brand, IBM

z/OSMF and other products' work over past 20 years

Design Thinking started about

z/OS 2.2

z/OSMF changes, WAS Liberty instead of full WAS - reduced footprint and CPU

z/OS 2.3

autostart z/OSMF

RACF PARMLIB, parallel sysplex in z/OSMF

Software Management to use common process to download portable software packages

z/OS 2.4

zCX, SCA, desktop interface, multi-tasking

Assembler Exit Reduction

z/OS 2.5

NOSQL VSAMDB data set on z/OS

Sysplex CFRM Policy Editor

z/OSMF Software Management (July 2022) for ServerPac install

Assembler Skills Reduction

More C headers

- JES2 policy-based exit reduction
- RMM plug-in for z/OSMF
- z/OS 3.1
  - z/OS Change Tracker
  - CFRM policy editor for CF sizing
  - z/OSMF REST services for Workflows and Ansible
  - Cloud Device Access (CDA) services for single API to get data across all Cloud data platforms
  - AI capabilities for WLM

#### Other efforts

- IBM Z Ordering for “free software”
- Open Enterprise SDK Python
- IBM Z Open Automation Utilities (ZOAU)
- IBM Open Enterprise Foundation products
- IBM Z Community Skills and Training
  - Badges, Mainframe Skills Council, New-to-Z community groups

#### **IBM Z Platform Simplification Mission**

- Reduce green screen use
- Mainframe departments getting smaller

#### New Users

- Distributed team member with 20+ years experience
- IT leaders who never worked on mainframe team
- Recent college graduates

#### Pain points from new System Programmers

- Onboarding is years of effort and doesn't fit career path expectations
- Educational material may be difficult to obtain in school or on the job
- Specific skills needed to learn are difficult, unique skills with high stakes
- Long time before new users can tinker, and longer still before new users are given core

#### responsibilities

#### **IBM's efforts**

- 4 simplification principles
  - Consolidate, standardize, remove unnecessary or obsolete, educate
- Simplification governance board
  - Support IBM product teams to simplify
  - Identify work groups

#### Developed specific projects design

- Announced and active
  - Watsonx Assistant for Z
  - Watsonx Code Assistant for Z
  - AI integration into z/OS
- Projects under consideration
  - Infrastructure as code
  - New user experience for z/OS
- Cross-platform work groups under consideration
  - APIs for SYS management
  - Terminology standardization
  - Reducing configuration parameters
  - Automation strategy (levering Ansible)
  - Installation
  - Problem analysis and resolution

- Ideas - user-friendly console
  - z/OSMF console requires login
  - Green screen looks old
  - Z hardware configuration is difficult for new users
- z/OS Client Engagement
  - z/OS Sponsor Users
  - z/OS Function alpha
  - z/OS Function Beta
  - z/OS Release beta....
- Contact Shelley.brand@ibm.com to participate

## What's New in z/OS 3.1: Kansas City Edition

By Marne Walle, Steve Warren and Dave Surman of IBM

AI-Infused OS - WLM is first product

AI-platform, application modernization, simplification, security and resiliency, data serving and sharing

z/OS 2.4 is end of service (EOS) at end of September 2024

IBM z16

3931 high end server; 3932 single frame server including rack-mounted version

Integrated accelerator for AI in Telum chip

Enhanced zIIP Eligibility, particularly for Python-based applications

Crypto/ICSF enhancements

z/OS Validated Boot

Foundation Changes

Application Development Resources

AI on z/OS

Python AI Toolkit for IBM z/OS (no charge)

AI Toolkit for IBM Z and LinuxONE (Linux on Z or zCX on z/OS)

IBM ML for z/OS 3.2 (MLz Enterprise)

IBM ML for z/OS Core (MLz Core)

zCX to run containers on z/OS

NFS persistent storage

zCX Foundation for Red Hat OpenShift

Single Node OpenShift (SNO) supported (4Q2023)

IBM Z and LinuxONE container registry

z/OS Container Platform (zOSCP)

See Wed. 2:30 session

Latest Compiler Offerings on z/OS

IBM Open XL C/C++ 2.1 compiler

Open Enterprise SDK for Python, IBM Z Open Automation Utilities (ZAOU), and IBM Open Enterprise Foundation for z/OS at no charge and no service charge

Java releases are determined by Oracle, not IBM

z/OS 3.1 required Semeru 11 (IBM support extended to Nov2025), now requires S17 and expect S21 before z/OS 3.1 End of Service (EOS)

zShell (Zsh) on z/OS

EzNoSQL APIs

Usability and Skills

z/OSMF Desktop Productivity Enhancements

BYOD Labs Monday 2:30, Tuesday 2:15, and Wed. 1:15

PARMLIB (38 members supported) Syntax Validation REST APIs

Mon. 1:15, What's New in z/OSMF

z/OS Release Upgrade Enhancements

Workflow is part of z/OS at /usr/lpp/bcp/upgrade/

z/OSMF Software Management Installation of z/OS 3.1 ServerPac

z/OS Software Package Signing supported by SMP/E and z/OSMF Software Management

Verifies content and vendor integrity

z/OSMF to run TSO as surrogate User ID

z/OSMF Software Management improves zFS processing

z/OSMF Software Update task enhanced

z/OSMF Feedback Collection enhancement

Scalability and Performance

z/OS memory to 16TB (with restrictions)

Dedicated Real Memory Pools

z/OS Unix Skulker enhancements

RMF priced feature improved

zWIC priced feature (Workload Interaction Correlator)

Advanced Data Gatherer

Availability

z/OS Anomaly Mitigation - PFA, RTD, SLIP/PER

Systems Management

AI System Services for IBM z/OS

IBM SMF Explorer with Python

Jupyter Notebooks and Python

JES2 Policies, JOB notifications, Resiliency - Tuesday, 2:15 pm session

SDSF priced feature Wed. 2:30 pm

z/OS Change Tracker including new Compare Resources

Networking

Data Serving and Storage - cloud storage enhancements

Cloud Data Access

DFSMSHsm

Union File System

Data Set File System - z/OS Unix direct access to z/OS data sets

z/OS Health Check and conversion utility

Security

z/OS Authorized code Scanner and Monitor priced feature

## Watsonx

IBM Watsonx Assistant (zWA) and Code Assistant for Z (zWCA)

91% of respondents hiring for mainframe work in the next years

Want to get to market faster yet have talent constraints

**watsonx Code Assistant for Z 2.0 (zWCA) was available on June 19, 2024**

Application development, explanation and transformation

4Q2023 availability

GenAI teaching models about Z

Understand, refactor, optimize - code explanation is important

VS Code extensions with various assistants

Transform and validate

Focused on COBOL, and COBOL>Java transformation

zWCA 2.1

adds JCL support for explanation

COBOL code optimization (not GenAI)

Roadmap:

4Q2024 PL/I code explanation

Explanation support in Eclipse (IDZ)

User experience - simplify use

dynamic analysis with trace and other data

Later - PL/I to Java, JCL to Ansible, code generation for COBOL

<https://ibm-data-and-ai.ideas.ibm.com>

### **IBM watsonx Assistant for Z is focused on Operation Automation**

Chat support for productivity

Reduce learning curve, increase productivity, increase efficiency, reduce errors

AI assistant - chat experience, conversational, automated tasks (skills)

Simple, repeatable tasks

Leverage customized LLM with IBM Z domain-specific RAG to deliver trusted answer to any Z question

Recommend relevant automated skills

Customer specific knowledge, best practices, and documents to provide good answers

Builder - build skills catalog, create and personalize assistants

### **IBM Resiliency Dashboard for z/OS**

Matt Hodak, IBM Product manager and Juliet Candee, IBM is development lead

[Matthew.g.hodak@ibm.com](mailto:Matthew.g.hodak@ibm.com) and [candee@us.ibm.com](mailto:candee@us.ibm.com)

38 attendees including the 2 speakers

No handout

Resiliency is core value of z/OS but clients still experience avoidable incidents  
“system resiliency depends on configuration, currency, and feature exploitation”

Problem: resiliency-relevant data is large, dispersed, hard to interpret. Leads to late error detection  
outage, misconfigurations, and inconsistent experience

Solution: dashboard that shows contextual data about resiliency while analyzing and extracting  
relevant insights on how to improve system resiliency

### **Statement of Direction (SOD) with z/OS 3.1**

z/OSMF plug-in to summarize resiliency posture

Proactively address deficiencies and better planning for future improvements of resiliency

May be able to use z/OS 2.5 data but only runs on z/OS 3.1

### **Solution pillars**

#### **Best practices**

Health Check data

#### **Resiliency features**

Exploitation across systems and sysplex of key components which bolster resiliency

#### **Currency**

Track software and fixes to limit exposure for end-of-service and promote consistent upgrade practices

Any application help?

### **Architecture**

New z/OSMF plug-in

Not new data or application

Gathering data from diverse resources and providing consolidated view

Data Collector

Uses APIs to get data from other apps

Leverage z/OSMF Application Linking capability

Gather contextual data and link to other solutions

Integration with management functions and interoperability

IBM Function Registry (IFR)

Map of products IBM and other ISV

Available, Enabled, Used, How often function has been used

Suggestion to include End of Service data in IFR, must be a required label>value pairs

### **Best Practices**

Health Checker report for Minimal Viable Product (MVP)

Also using PFA and GDPS checks

Data center reports>drill down to specific data center

Number of checks success, exceptions, disabled

Monitor checks changing

Drill down to sysplex and then to system

View directly to Sysplex

By Health Check or by ....

### **Resiliency Practices**

14 IBM recommended features for MVP (minimally viable product)

Shows down-level systems (2.5) but 2.5 delivers no data

Component-development dependent

Shows feature info even if not any data

includes link to documents

And which features are enabled or not

### **Currency**

Missing critical fixes

Down to system level, actual APAR ids

## **z/OS 3.1 User Experience**

By Ed Jaffe of Phoenix Software International

Phoenix was first vendor in the world to deliver a z/OSMF PSI-based product set

SPEs a.k.a. New Function APARs [IBM.com/support/pages/new-function-apars-zos-platform](https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/new-function-apars-zos-platform)

IBM averaging 7.5 SPEs a week up from 6.5 at previous SHARE in March 2024

### **Security Configuration Assistant**

z/OSMF plug-in

Ed J. experimented with own Security Definition Facility

See /usr/lpp/sca/sdffile for SCA security definitions

### **CF Sizing**

Needs values which are unknown or hard to find, wish the app gathered some of the data itself

### **WLM Policy Advisor**

provide SMF data file but support for multiple systems (multiple files) is lacking

Color selection not great: red is bad, pink is OK - confusing

### **SMF Explorer with Python**



dependent on Python level

Requires a separate z/OSMF Server!

### **File and Data Set Upload and Download**

Just shows data set names, needs to show more info

Migrated data set shows as missing , not migrated

### **Multiple File and Data Set Search**

Filter and type ahead worked

### **REST API for Hardcopy Message Set**

### **REST API for System Symbols**

### **REST API for CFRM Policies**

### **Swagger Interface**

Ad hoc to test REST API

/zosmf/api/....

### **z/OS System UUID**

Show which Software Instance in z/OSMF associated with which SMP/E CSI

### **Data Set Filesystem (DSFS)**

In 3.1, now supports JES SYSOUT data sets

Extattr utility enhanced

### **Union Filesystem (UFS)**

BPXPRMxx UFS setup

### **PROC [process] Filesystem**

### **Z Shell (Zsh) 5.8.1**

Using bash for a ....

### **z/OS UNIX recursive grep**

### **z/OS Authorized Code Scanner (90 days for self-service trial)**

helped Phoenix find a 20-year old integrity error in their code

### **Grafana-Based User Interface for RMF**

IBM.github.io/RMF/grafana/rmf-app/

### **DFSMSHsm ONLYIF command**

Rolled back to earlier z/OS

### **DFSMSHsm java hbackup**

hbackup changed to use Semeru 11

### **JES2 Resource Limits**

JOEs, TGs limits and actions NONE, WAIT, FAIL

### **ISPF PDSE Member Generations**

Tom Conley says you may need to update default Change action - NONE, NEWGEN, ...

### **Knowledge Center for z/OS**

Missing, use 2.5 version as a band-aid

### **Predictive Failure Analysis (PFA)**

### **IPCS IEAVHELP (follow-on to 2.6i)**

48 new commands

### **ASCB Above the 16M Line**

CBLOC VIRTUAL31(IHAASVT) was coded in DIAGxx

IBM services not affected but application code might break

### **ABDISPCC= EXEC JCL Keyword**

This is great! Waited a long time.

### **Semeru 17**

Mid-Term scare

Target system-requiredservice FIXCAT

## **What's New in zCX for Docker and Red Hat OpenShift on z/OS**

By Stev Glodowski and Steve Warren of IBM

### Containers

Linux containers run in x86 architecture or s390x architecture

X86 requires x86 hardware

S390x requires Z hardware

Linux on IBM Z

zCX (classic)

zCX for Red Hat OpenShift

IBM z/OS Containers Platform is not zCX, requires z/OS on s390x hardware

zCX does not have Kubernetes but zCX for OpenShift does Kubernetes

### **zCX for OpenShift**

IBM z14 or higher

z/OS system with 6 zIIPs and SMT-2 enabled - NO HA (High Availability)

Recommended: 3 z/OS LPARs with 6 zIIPs and SMT-2 enabled on multiple Z CPCs

- includes capability to run workloads

Only charged for Compute Nodes zIIPs

Ordered via Shopz

Enable on IFAPRDxx

Need Red Hat account and use the self-managed Red Hat OpenShift trial

<https://www.redhat.com/en/technologies/cloud-computing/openshift/container-platform>

WLM Resource Groups to manage zCX OCP

### **zCX for Docker (Classic) Enhancements**

Appliance 1.26.0 with zCX Workflow 1.2.0

Docker updated to 24.0.5

User Data File System conversion from Btrfs to zFS

Required for future compatibility and maintenance

Improves I/O performance

Additional storage to hold converted filesystem

ZCX\_DATA\* z/OSMF variables are converted/replaced with ZCX\_STOR\* names

Kernel updated to 5.4.0-167

New user data cleanup z/OSMF Workflow to remove user data VSAM LDSes after conversion

Service APPLIED and then workflow to move into the zCX appliance

### **zCX OpenShift Enhancements**

Single node (SNO) OpenShift cluster size

1 control node and compute nodes in single zCX Address Space

Lower resource footprint due to smaller cluster size

2 zIIPs with SMT-2

Multi-architecture (mixed platform) Cluster Deployment

Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform (RHAAP)

End-to-end automation platform (on zCX OpenShift)

CP4I (Cloud Pak for Integration) on zCX Foundation for RHOCP

IBM z/OS Container Extensions (zCX) Use Cases - see Redbooks

**06Aug2024 Tuesday**

**General Opening**

**IBM Fellow**

1940 - bits separated from machines  
2020 - qubits probabilistic answers

Bits, mathematics plus information, classical computing  
Neurons, Biology plus information - statistical frequency  
AI move classical with neurons  
Qubits marries physics and information - probabilistic

Hybrid clouds bring platforms together  
Classical, neurons, probabilistic

Synthetic Biological intelligence (SBI)  
Free energy principle - minimize surprise by predictions  
Crazy last 100 years  
Population and global CO2, inventions, patents  
Hockey stick (exponential) growth  
Passion is key

### **What's Up, Mainframe? By Zack and Lukas Podcast**

<https://medium.com/modern-mainframe/whats-up-mainframe-a-podcast-for-programmers-architects-687b444188ed>  
Stories Drive Everything

### **Priya Doty, BMC VP Solutions**

Multi-Platform is the New Normal  
Leverage AI  
Resiliency  
Predictive AI, Casual AI, Generative AI, Agentic AI

### **10467 Upgrade to z/OS 3.1: Planning**

By Aaron Kippins and Marne Walle of IBM  
41 attendees including 2 speakers

JES2 is only subsystem in z/OS 3.1, JES3 is not available from IBM (talk to Phoenix Software)  
z/OS Security Level 3 must be ordered explicitly (unless you're from a US government-embargoed country)

KC4Z removed, will be replaced on z/OS by DOC4Z sometime

CIM server dependency removed in z/OS Next

Bypassable Reqs - see Marne's Blog <https://www.marnasmusings.com>

Orderable no-charge products

Semeru 11 required for z/OS 3.1

Semeru 17 will be required for z/OS 3.1 by end of 2024

XML Toolkit no longer orderable with z/OS 3.1 (built-in now asa base element)

IBM Open Enterprise SDK for Python

IBM Z Open Automation Utilities (ZOAU)

IBM Z Open Enterprise Foundation

IBM AI System Services for z/OS - support for AI

SDK for Node.js 20 and 18

Semeru support cycle is 2 years while z/OS is 5 years so get use to changing Java Semeru releases during a z/OS life-cycle

FIXCAT for ...Semeru\*

/current symlink points to newest Java and may break applications that depend on older Java

DASD for Root is at 4GB, may have to go to EAV

Run Health Checks early and they will be run by z/OS 3.1 upgrade workflow

/usr/lpp/bcp/upgrade is workflow location (updated via PTFs)

### **10506 Upgrade to z/OS 3.1: Technical Actions**

By Marne Walle of IBM

38 attendees including 1 speaker

Upgrade, not exploitation

Type of action: Required, Required-IF, Recommended

Timeframe for action: Now, Pre-first IPL, or Post-First IPL

2.5 upgrade issue ZAD-related WSC TechNote 7162097

>> SSD-capable sysplex couple data sets are required for all sysplexes

Parameter passing in JCL will be in non-executable storage

Recommended: Update DIAGxx: CBLOC VIRTUAL31(IHAASVT)

Use less SQA below the 16Mb line

JES2 Resource Limiting enabled by default

### **Vanguard PSP**

By Brian Marshall of Vanguard Professionals

No handout

Patch Tuesday (a.k.a. Update Tuesday) refers to MS, Adobe, Oracle and others who regularly release software patches for their software.

User (organization) Testing before deploying fix to system

Mainframe sites are more conservative about testing before deployment

Patch management affected by legal regulations or guidelines, such as HIPAA, SOX, ...

SMP/E RECEIVE ORDER and Automated Service request Server Interface

Vendor-written RESTful API to obtain service for your system

18-19Jul2024 (Thu-Fri) CrowdStrike Falcon software update for Windows machine, may have been first worldwide outage

Blamed a bug in quality control tool that allowed error to pass through to Windows

No human involvement in QC?

Southwest Airlines runs Win95 and Win3.1 so was not affected

### Monitor Vulnerabilities

PCI DSS, for example, requires site to protect systems and networks from malicious software  
NIST 800-115 calls for file integrity checking (FIM File Integrity Monitoring)

### Detect Changes to Executing Libraries and LMODs

- Some SMF records can help but EXCP not helpful
- Other issues

### Architecture

- Scan LPARs for given data sets and create message digests
- Discover running and maintaining state
- Save discovered data for reporting
- Continuous monitoring required
- Be alert to differences

### **z/OSMF Lab**

Several handouts for various z/OSMF applications

Used z/OSMF Diagnostic Assistant

Swagger to see PARMLIB validation API (Joey of IBM z/OSMF development provided private tutoring for me)

Used Software Update

### **Ansible for z/OS 101**

By Stewart Francis, CICS TSO Architect for Developer Productivity

No handout

Setup laptop for Ansible and on z/OS

General purpose automation tool

Tagline: "Turn tough task into repeatable playbooks"

Agentless architecture

Orchestrate multiple systems at same time

common usage

System provisioning, installing applications, managing users, updating certificates, continuous delivery, configuration management

Open source collections

Generically applicable to lots of scenarios, easy to write automation, standardize automation strategy, makes configuration as code more realistic, thousands of community developed extensions

Architecture

Control node (not z/OS) -->SSH/Python modules-->z/OS

(Could connect via nonSSH and use non-python but not with z/OS)

Ansible is Python application runtime, runs on the Control Node

Ansible Playbook YAML script to implement automation

Ansible Collection are stored at Galaxy

Ansible Galaxy

Ansible automation platform - Red Hat priced offering

Ansible is native to Unix-like OS, not natively in Windows but use WSL

Needs Python

- Pyenv manages different Python runtimes

- Install Python

Get Ansible-core is basic package (Ansible is core plus stuff)

- Pip install ansible-core

setup Ansible inventory

- Uses yaml-based format

- Set Ansible properties including where Python runtime is (like z/OS)

Use SSH keys (generate ssh-keygen and copy public key to z/OS)

- Has had problems with generate key on z/OS

- SSH key directory permission of rwx.....

set z\_environment\_vars

- \_bpxk\_Autocvt on

- \_Cee\_runopts xxx

- other vars

VS code Ansible extension from RedHat

- Create yaml playbook

- Hosts all

Ansible-playbook -i inventory.yaml first-playbook.yam. (Add -vv for debugging)

Uses z/OS Open Automation Utilities (ZOAU)

- Z/OS Unix library command line interface (CLI)

- lbn\_zos\_core

Update inventory

- Connect python and ZOAU via z\_environment\_vars

- pyz and zoau variables

Zos\_mvs\_raw to execute code on z/OS without JCL

- Program, ddnames, and such

See Ansible samples such as Z Ansible Playbook Samples

Video on mediacenter?

Red Hat Ansible Certified Content for IBM Z: Collections

## **07Aug2024 Wednesday**

No sessions attended as Ed W (me) is sick (Covid?-Negative tests)

Here's Wednesday sessions I planned to attend:

### **WSC System Programmer Hot Topics**

#### **z/OS & HW Planning for 2025 - CLOSED Meeting**

#### **2024 Security Trends and IBM z**

#### **Using Generative AI to Help Modernize System Programmers Tasks**

#### **Get Conversational Answers to z/OS Questions and Launch Automation with IBM**

#### **Watsonx Assistant for z/OS**

#### **Python 360: z/OS Management**

## **What Did We Learn about Your Systems during the WLM AI Initiator Project?**

### **z/OS 3.1 Release Beta Program Client User Experience**

#### **08Aug2024 Thursday**

No morning sessions attended while Ed W (me) decided whether to venture forth (still negative Covid tests)

Here's Thursday sessions I planned to attend:

#### **Configuration as Code for z/OS**

#### **z/OS 3.1 AI Framework Overview**

#### **CBTTape - Open Source for z/OS - Greatest Hits**

Here's Thursday sessions I did attend:

#### **ISPF Config for Fun and Profit**

By Tom Conley BMC

Slides have been uploaded  
WAC (World According to Conley)

In the beginning, ISPF Config was difficult  
Scattered configuration options  
IBM started with ISRCONFIG exec  
SMP/E USERMOD in ISR.SISPLPA  
OS/390 V2R8 set up ISPCCONF exec  
Better dialog, code changed to honor parameters  
Default part of ISPF, could be executed by any user  
Security concerns  
Setup then invoked ISPCCONF  
Target data set with member name  
Option 2 include defaults as comments  
Create and compile ISPCCONF Keyword file  
Choose options for parameters  
Output has changes at top of file with defaults afterwards  
Don't edit output to avoid syntax problems  
Build Config load module  
Skip ISRCONFG conversion (obsolete)  
Don't Build SMP/E USERMOD  
++DATA and ++PROGRAM not done so regression not identified  
Recover Keyword File  
Option 7 to recover from ISPCFIGx  
alphabetized text file  
USRCCONF - the newer way  
CUCI collection on CBTTAPE on 2017 file 967  
Modeled designed after ISPCCONF  
Repurpose ISPPCONF files into USRCCONF  
Create keyword file for all options July 2020  
In 2021, added more options

- Define settings, generate keyword file
  - Do not overlay ISPCCONF keyword file with USRCCONF
  - Set calendar colors
  - Set edit and browse strings
  - Force recovery on
  - Change UDLlist column arrangement, also Mount Table columns
  - Zkit=Low for calendar notes
  - Changed fields followed by default comments
- View keyword file
- Update ISR@PRIM for USRCCONF Keyword File
  - VPUT keywords
- WAC ISPF Configuration

### **Bit Bucket x'44'**

By Ed Jaffe of Phoenix Software (PSI), Mike Shorkend, Donna Hudi of PSI, Lionel Dyck, Tom Conley

### **Frustrated TSO/E Command Line**

- by Ed Jaffe
- Using RACDCERT
- Hard to read Red-colored text on screen
- No log of what you did
- commands from Ready don't use wide screen, wraps at 80 columns
  - Unless wide screen on other displayed panel
- Zowe CLI
  - Now Ed J uses z/OS UNIX prompt via SSH
  - Set alias for TSOCMD as T
  - Uses Rocket's terminfo from AppDev for Z
  - use DSFS to access output on JES SPOOL

### **Beam Me Up to z/VM**

- by Mike Shorkend
- small ISV running zPDT using z/VM
  - Hosting 3 z/OS systems
  - No Sysplex - only GRS Rings
    - Startup of 3 creates 2 GRS rings instead of one
  - Possible solutions
    - z/VM scheduling tools
    - REXEC allowing commands between systems
    - DIAGNOSE from Assembler program
      - OpCode is x'83'
      - ZVM supplies macro for DIAGNOSE
      - Need ADDRSPC=REAL, or PAGEFIX/PAGEFREE

### **Fully Wired System Programmer REBOOT**

- By Donna Hudi
- Originally by Sam Knutson starting at SHARE 20 years ago
  - LISTSERVs like IBMMain, MVS-OE, ISPF-L (died years ago but link goes to new site)
  - IBM Tech Xchange Community
  - Open Mainframe Project (OMP) Slack Channels
  - Redbooks, z/Arch PoOps
  - Blogs and Webinars - IBM Community and Open Mainframe
  - Interskill Learning - individual pricing available
  - IBM Z Explorer Learning Platform (was Master the Mainframe)



Interskill.com/zowe  
OMP COBOL Programming  
OMP MF Open Education  
CBT Tape cbttape.org still active  
Now part of OMP  
OMP Software Tools Research  
OMP: z/OS Open Tools

### **zFSTools for z/OS ISPF Application**

open source REXX and ISPF interface to zfsadm command parameters  
ZFS Shrink, others  
Shows generated commands  
Get dialog from GitHub and cbttape

### **Java Jive**

By Tom Conley  
Customer app needed Java17 but running V2R4  
IBM intends to support Java for all supported releases

### **It's a Small zFS, After All**

By Tom Conley  
challenges with zfsadm shrink  
Tom's Ideas for IBM zOS-I3390/3

### **CBT USERMOD Collection for ISPF (CUCI)**

By Tom Conley  
File 967 on cbttape.org  
Several enhancements for ISPF  
CUCI V1R8 for 20230704  
Fix issues and add capability to HIGHLITE  
Now PYTHON and JAVA supports ASCII as well as EBCDIC  
fixed problems  
Added /\* REXX \*/ to some execs that were missing them so HIGHLITE worked  
CUCI V1R9 coming soon  
YAML Highlighting  
Make all highlighting ASCII-aware