EPV Technologies

Newsletter

January 2025

THIS MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

- **EPV Education 2025**
- **IBM Redbooks – IBM z/OS Container Platform**

EPV Education 2025

We are glad to announce a new initiative: the EPV Education training courses.

For 2025, the following will be held:

- the EPV Administrator training course, designed to provide participants with a more in-depth knowledge of the management and exploitation of EPV products; 4-5 March 2025;
- the MyEPV Developers training course, designed to provide participants with all the information necessary to produce and manage MyEPV reports; March 12th, 2025.

Both courses are virtual and reserved to EPV customers, partners and invited guests.

Agenda

EPV Administrators – Day 1			
March 4th, 2025			
Start	**End**	**Session**	**Teacher**
09:30	10:30	The EPV Infrastructure	Matteo Bottazzi
10:30	11:00	Products installation	Matteo Bottazzi
11:00	11:30	Coffee break	
11:30	12:30	Products customization	Matteo Bottazzi
12:30	14:00	Lunch break	
14:00	15:00	Products update to a new release	Matteo Bottazzi
15:00	16:00	Products migration to a new version	Matteo Bottazzi
16:00		End of first day	

EPV Administrators – Day 2			
March 5th, 2025			
Start	**End**	**Session**	**Teacher**
09:30	10:30	Base and advanced thresholds	Massimo Orlando
10:30	11:00	CICS Transactions and Db2 packages performance deviation	Massimo Orlando
11:00	11:30	Coffee break	
11:30	12:30	EPV UI dynamic queries	Massimo Orlando
12:30	14:00	Lunch break	
14:00	15:00	Non-mandatory SMF records you should collect	Dana Cohen Austrowiek
15:00	15:30	Collecting additional information from Db2 and MQ	Dana Cohen Austrowiek
15:30	16:00	On-demand reports for CICS, Db2 and MQ	Dana Cohen Austrowiek
16:00		End of course	

MyEPV Developers – Day 3			
March 12th, 2025			
Start	**End**	**Session**	**Teacher**
09:30	10:00	Environments	Stefano Rotunno
10:00	11:00	Page creation 1 (basic report, menu)	Stefano Rotunno
11:00	11:30	Coffee break	
11:30	12:30	Page creation 2 (load report, repeat, move)	Stefano Rotunno
12:30	14:00	Lunch break	
14:00	14:30	Scheduling	Carlotta Ottaviani
14:30	15:00	Drill down navigation	Carlotta Ottaviani
15:00	15:30	External report	Carlotta Ottaviani
15:30	16:00	Pre-processing	Carlotta Ottaviani
16:00		End of course	

More information and subscription form at: www.epvtech.com

IBM Redbooks – IBM z/OS Container Platform

"IBM z/OS Container Platform (zOSCP) allows you to run containerized z/OS UNIX applications.
Developers can build applications and consume resources in a self-service model, while in a secure and isolated environment on z/OS.
It includes z/OS implementations of the industry-standard tools that you need to work with containers, from building images through to advanced orchestration."

Download it at: https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/SSYWOXV_1.1.0/pdf/PDF-Administering-Guide-all.pdf

Customer question

Hello, I see IBM introduced IFCID 396 in Db2 13 to provide information about index page split. To what I know this information is already provided since Db2 10 in IFCID 359. What is the value of this new IFCID?

EPV Technical Support answer

IFCID 359 provides information about all IX-page splits. It requires class 4 of the performance trace to be active and, as you can imagine, it produces a lot of records.

IFCID 396, introduced in Db2 13, provides information about abnormal IX-page splits only.
It requires class 3 of the statistics trace to be active and, hopefully, produces a small number of records. An IX-page split is considered "abnormal" if it takes more than 1 second.

The information provided includes the following metrics:

- QW0396DBID, DB id of the index;
- QW0396PSID, page set id of the index;
- QW0396MEMID, data sharing member on which the split occurred (0 if not in data sharing);
- QW0396PARTNUM, index partition number;
- QW0396URID, id of the UR that triggered the index split;
- QW0396PAGENUM, page number of the index;
- QW0396GBPD, whether the index page set is GBP dependent;
- QW0396ELAPSETIME, elapsed time for the split, in milliseconds.

WLM Update

Service Definition Coefficients and Options

Since z/OS 2.5 the Service Definition Coefficients are not customizable anymore.
CPU and SRB are internally set to 1 while MSO and IOC are set to 0.
This will make all calculations based on service units much simpler and avoid wrong WLM decisions due to memory and I/O usage.

```
Coefficients/Options  Notes  Options  Help
-------------------------------------------------------------------
          Service Coefficient/Service Definition Options

Enter or change the Service Coefficients:

CPU  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . _____    (0.1-99.9)
IOC  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . _____    (0.0-99.9)
MSO  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . _____    (0.0000-99.9999)
SRB  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . _____    (0.0-99.9)

Enter or change the service definition options:

I/O priority management  . . . . . . . . NO    (Yes or No)
Enable I/O priority groups . . . . . . . NO    (Yes or No)
Dynamic alias management  . . . . . . . NO    (Yes or No)
Deactivate Discretionary Goal Management NO    (Yes or No)
```

For what concerns the Service Definition Options the default is still NO for all of them.

I/O Priority Management

Most customers run with I/O Priority Management enabled.
This is the IBM advice.
It means that I/O priorities should be managed separately from dispatching priorities, according to the goals of the work providing performance benefits (I/O queuing reduction) especially if you do not use HyperPAV and SuperPAV.
It also means that I/O using and delay samples are included in velocity calculation.

Is I/O Priority Management really needed?

- I/O requests associated with the system-provided service classes SYSTEM, SYSSTC, or SYSSTC1 - SYSSTC5 are not managed by the I/O priority manager;

- It may happen that some service classes have unnaturally high velocities due to I/O Using. In these cases, the work may suffer significant CPU delay before WLM decides to help the service class.

I/O Priority Groups

Most customers run with I/O Priority Groups disabled.
It can be used to protect work which is extremely I/O-sensitive.

When you assign a service class to I/O priority group HIGH, you ensure that work managed by this service class always has a higher I/O priority than work managed by service classes assigned to I/O priority group NORMAL which is the default for service classes.

To enable I/O Priority Groups you also need to enable I/O Priority Management.

Dynamic Alias Management

Specifying YES will cause workload management to dynamically reassign parallel access volume aliases to help work meet its goals and to minimize IOS queueing.

It is only useful when Dynamic PAV is used. It is not useful with HyperPAV or SuperPAV.

If I/O priority management is set to NO, WLM will make alias moves that minimize overall IOS queueing, but these moves will not take service class goals into consideration.

Deactivate Discretionary Goal Management

Most customers run with Deactivate Discretionary Goal Management disabled.

Certain types of work, when overachieving their goals, can potentially have their general-purpose processor resources "capped" in order to give discretionary work a better chance to run.

If you specify yes, you deactivate this kind of resource donation and workload management cannot help discretionary work.

Quotes

"The greatest victory is that which requires no battle."
Sun Tzu

We care about your Privacy. EPV Technologies is GDPR-compliant.

You may have heard about the new General Data
Protection Regulation ("GDPR"), that comes into effect May 25, 2018.
It was introduced to unify all EU countries to a unique data regulation, ensuring that all
data protection laws are applied identically within the EU.
It also protects EU citizens from organisations using their data irresponsibly and
puts them in charge of "what", "where" and "how" information is shared.

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