CA SYSVIEW® Performance Management

Best Practices Guide

Release 13.5

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CA Technologies Product References

This document references the following CA Technologies products:

- CA SYSVIEW® Performance Management (CA SYSVIEW)
- CA Graphical Management Interface (CA GMI)

Contact CA Technologies

Contact CA Support

For your convenience, CA Technologies provides one site where you can access the information you need for your Home Office, Small Business, and Enterprise CA Technologies products. At http://ca.com/support, you can access the following:

- Online and telephone contact information for technical assistance and customer services
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- Product and documentation downloads
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Best Practices Guide Process

These best practices represent years of product experience, much of which is based on customer experience reported through interviews with development, technical support, and technical services. Therefore, many of these best practices are truly a collaborative effort stemming from customer feedback.

To continue and build on this process, we encourage users to share common themes of product use that might benefit other users. Please consider sharing your best practices with us.

To share your best practices, contact us at techpubs@ca.com and preface your email subject line with "Best Practices for *product name*" so that we can easily identify and categorize them.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

This section contains the following topics:

Purpose of this Guide (see page 7)
Audience (see page 7)
Mainframe 2.0 Overview (see page 7)
Mainframe 2.0 Features (see page 8)

Purpose of this Guide

The guide provides a brief introduction to CA's Mainframe 2.0 strategy and features, and describes the best practices for installing and configuring CA SYSVIEW.

Audience

The intended audience of this guide is systems programmers and administrators who install, configure, deploy, and maintain CA SYSVIEW.

Mainframe 2.0 Overview

Mainframe 2.0 is our strategy for providing leadership in the mainframe operating environment. We intend to lead the mainframe marketplace for customer experience, Out-Tasking solutions, and solution innovation. After listening to customer needs and requirements to keep the mainframe operating environment viable and cost-effective, we are providing new tools to simplify usage and to energize this operating environment for years to come.

CA Mainframe Software Manager™ (CA MSM) is an important step in realizing the Mainframe 2.0 strategy. CA MSM simplifies and standardizes the delivery, installation, and maintenance of mainframe products on z/OS systems. CA MSM has a browser-based user interface (UI) with a modern look and feel for managing those solutions. As products adopt Mainframe 2.0 features and CA MSM services, you can acquire, install, and manage your software in a common way.

CA MSM provides software acquisition and installation that make it easier for you to obtain and install CA mainframe products, and apply the recommended maintenance. The services within CA MSM enable you to manage your software easily based on industry accepted best practices. The common browser-based UI makes the look and feel of the environment friendly and familiar.

We follow the IBM z/OS packaging standards using SMP/E, with some additional CA qualities of service added, to make installation simple and consistent. Additionally, through the synchronization of product releases and the use of common test environments, we will declare a yearly mainframe software stack that includes many new releases with enhanced functionality. This stack is certified for interoperability across the CA mainframe product portfolio and the base IBM z/OS product stack.

Mainframe 2.0 Features

Mainframe 2.0 has the following main features:

CA Mainframe Software Manager (CA MSM)

Delivers simplified acquisition, installation, and deployment capabilities using a common z/OS-based web application delivered through a browser-based UI. CA MSM includes the following services:

Product Acquisition Service (PAS)

Facilitates the acquisition of our mainframe products and services, including product base installation packages and program temporary fixes (PTFs). This service integrates the inventory of products available on your system with CA Support, providing a seamless environment for managing and downloading software and fixes onto your system.

Software Installation Service (SIS)

Facilitates the installation and maintenance of our mainframe products in the software inventory of the driving system. This service enables you to browse and manage the software inventory using a web interface, and automates tasks for products that use SMP/E to manage installation. You can browse downloaded software packages, and browse and manage one or more consolidated software inventories (CSIs) on the driving system.

Software Deployment Service (SDS)

Facilitates the deployment of CA Technologies mainframe products from the software inventory of the driving system. This service enables you to deploy installed products that are policy driven with a set of appropriate transport mechanisms across a known topology. The enterprise system topology can include shared DASD environments, networked environments, and z/OS systems. Policies represent a combination of metadata input and user-supplied input. Metadata input identifies the component parts of a product. User-supplied input identifies the deployment criteria, such as where it will go and what it will be called.

Software Configuration Service (SCS)

Facilitates the configuration of mainframe products from the software inventory of the driving system to the targeted z/OS mainframe operating system. The SCS guides you through the configuration creation process, and through the manual steps to implement the configuration. In addition, the SCS includes an address space communications service running on each targeted z/OS system.

Electronic Software Delivery (ESD)

Enables you to get our products from an FTP server. We have improved this process so that you no longer need to build a tape to install the product.

Best Practices Management

Integrates with IBM Health Checker for z/OS to verify that deployed software follows our best practices. The health checks continually monitor the system and software to provide feedback on whether the software continues to be configured optimally.

Best Practices Guide

Provides best practices for product installation and configuration.

Chapter 2: Installation Best Practices

This section contains the following topics:

Install Using CA MSM (see page 11)
Keep Current on CA Common Services (see page 11)
Install on Test System First (see page 12)

Install Using CA MSM

Use the CA Mainframe Software Manager (CA MSM) to acquire, install, and maintain your product.

Business Value:

CA MSM provides a web interface, which works with ESD and standardized installation, to provide a common way to manage CA mainframe products. You can use it to download and install CA SYSVIEW.

CA MSM lets you download product and maintenance releases over the Internet directly to your system from the CA Support website. After you use CA MSM to download your product or maintenance, you use the same interface to install the downloaded software packages using SMP/E.

Additional Considerations:

After you install the product, follow the appropriate steps in the *CA SYSVIEW Installation Guide* to set it up. CA MSM can continue to help you maintain CA SYSVIEW.

More Information:

For more information about CA MSM, see the *CA Mainframe Software Manager Guide*. For more information about product setup, see the C*A SYSVIEW Installation Guide*.

Keep Current on CA Common Services

Make sure you have installed the most current release of CA Common Services.

Business Value:

The latest release of CA Common Services contains the most current infrastructure updates allowing you to use newer features of CA SYSVIEW, including licensing changes, service desk integration, and product health checks. Staying on the current release and service pack of CA Common Services helps you avoid problems encountered by others, getting you up to speed sooner and without as many problems.

Install on Test System First

Perform your installation and initial evaluations of the product and its components on a test system. New releases of CA SYSVIEW are always compatible with previous releases, letting you run a new release on a test system while still running the older version on a production system.

Business Value:

Evaluating CA SYSVIEW in a test environment helps you detect any possible problems before you roll out the product to a production system.

Chapter 3: Configuration Best Practices

This section contains the following topics:

Data Collection Metrics for Optimal Performance (see page 13)

Data Collection Metrics for Optimal Performance

Make sure you limit the data collection by enabling or disabling the collection metrics.

Business Value:

When you need to collect information but not on all possible resources and metrics, limiting the data collection provides many benefits.

In this situation, disabling unwanted or unneeded data collection metrics reduces CPU cycles and the amount of storage used by the data collection data spaces. The reduction in data space storage also reduces the amount of real storage used by the SYSVAAST data anchor address space.

Additional Considerations:

The CA SYSVIEW data collector components collect, monitor, and provide exception processing for many resources and metrics.

Use the following CA SYSVIEW parmlib members to limit the data collection by enabling or disabling the collection metrics:

- MVSVARS - Defines the MVS metrics.
- MQSVARS - Defines the WebSphere MQ metrics.
- IMSVARS - Defines the IMS metrics.
- TCPVARS - Defines the TCP/IP metrics.
- CICSSTAT - Defines the CICS metrics.

More Information:

For more information, see the CA SYSVIEW online help and the chapter "Data Collection" in the *Administration Guide*.

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