

Experience so far

Results from the TM/SLM Early Availability Program

TM/Service Level Manager™ is installed and running in four sites – a health management organization, a financial services company, a general insurance organization, and a clinical services company. This allows MVS Solutions to prove the product in a number of different environments before being generally available.

“The product has been reassuringly stable, and that makes it a pleasure to be the on-site person for the first installations.” says Martin Wills, senior product specialist at MVS Solutions. “The participants in the program have been eager and enthusiastic.”

In Phase 1 of the EA Program, each participant used their respective sandbox environment to install the product and become familiar with its capabilities. They set up the requisite Service Classes and other

parameters and built some simple Service Groups. MVS Solutions provided a 100-job test stream to quickly allow the staff to build experience and confidence.

From there each organization moved to Phase 2, running some real work – usually ad hoc jobs on a development or pre-production machine. The results were smooth, almost anti-climactic. One participant let it run for a week without any problems or disruptions – “I forgot I left it on!”.

By mid-September, participants are continuing this phase by including work with higher resource requirements, or by allowing higher volume workloads to be SLM-managed.

One participant is ready to move to Phase 3, implementing TM/SLM in their everyday environments. They are starting off with a machine running 15–20,000 batch jobs per day, and are putting the procedures in place for that to happen⇒

Presentations at two conferences

z/OS Batch Basics

Ken Deering presents a history of batch and explains fundamental concepts and facilities including JESplex/SYSplex, the structure of a job, and how a job is processed.

Though designed for people new to batch, even experienced batch technicians have said the material filled in gaps in their knowledge.

Dynamic Initiators That Really Work

In this presentation, learn how dynamic initiators are the cornerstone to implementing service-oriented management of queues, initiators and execution service classes.

Martin Wills explains why MVS Solutions developed dynamic initiator management for ThruPut Manager Automation Edition. ✕

Datacenter World, Dallas, TX
z/OS Batch Basics
Grapevine 5 Room
Tuesday
September 18, 2007
8:00 am

IBM z/Expo, San Antonio, TX
Dynamic Initiators That Really Work
Room 218
Wednesday
September 19, 2007
10:35 am

Everyone welcome.

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IEF373I STEP/GTP /START 2007166.1211
IEF374I STEP/GTP /STOP 2007166.1218 CPU 1MIN 41.87SEC SRB OMIN 07.52SEC VIRT 24K SYS 284K EXT 16K SYS 11572K
***** TM/SLM Job Summary *****
*
* Read on Node KANSAS, System ETP3 Executed on Node KANSAS, System ETP3
*
* Service Group Information:
* Control Center: FINANCE Description: Finance Department at HQ
* Type : AD HOC Description: General Workload
* Queue Time Information
*
* Actual 00:01:02 Delay 00:01:02 Effective 00:00:00
* Target 00:02:00 Service Delivered: Before Target
*
* Queue Time Delays
* Datascenter..... 00:00:00 Operations..... 00:00:00 JTS..... 00:00:00
* JSS..... 00:00:00 Scheduling Environment.. 00:00:00 User..... 00:00:00
* Binding/Environment.... 00:00:00 Limiting..... 00:00:02 DJC..... 00:00:00
* DBS..... 00:00:00 Resource Conflicts..... 00:00:00 DCS..... 00:00:00
* HSM Recall..... 00:00:30 Virtual Volume Staging.. 00:00:30
*
* Execution Time Information
* Elapsed 00:07:35 Delay 00:00:05 Effective 00:07:30
* Service Units 2.208M Effective Service Unit Rate 4852.86 SU per second
*
* Execution Time Delays
* DBS 00:00:00 DCS 00:00:00 HSM Recall 00:00:00 Allocation 00:00:05
*
*****
IEF375I JOB/$SLMS400/START 2007166.1211
IEF376I JOB/$SLMS400/STOP 2007166.1218 CPU 1MIN 41.87SEC SRB OMIN 07.52SEC

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The TM/SLM Job Summary is a popular feature. It appears at the end of each job and provides service statistics for that job. In this example the queue time delay is due to HSM recalls (30 seconds), limiting (2 seconds), and virtual volume staging (30 seconds).

in October. They are expecting to solve some of their service issues and have their workload distributed more evenly, automatically favoring more important workload if resources get tight.

Not unexpectedly with an Early Availability Program, there have been issues to address. For instance, activating a policy assumed a file had been initialized. Now the product tests for this condition and completes the activation correctly.

Customers have also made suggestions based on their experience. One participant noted that the initiation of batch jobs such as IMS processing regions don't fit the standard workload model. MVS Solutions is responding by developing specialized handling for this type of job.

“Though each of the issues needs to be dealt with, I’m pleased that there have been no problems which made us need to rethink the basic design. It’s holding up well as greater volumes are added to the SLM-managed workload.”, reports Selby Shanly, a senior developer at MVS Solutions.

One of the more popular features is the TM/SLM Job Summary at the end of each job. It shows the statistics for the job including up to eighteen types

of delays TM/Service Level Manager keeps track of. “My users have never had so much feedback on service performance. It shows them exactly why their job was delayed, and they really appreciate the insight.”

Murray Martin, VP of Sales and Marketing, summed up the experience, “This has been a busy and exciting time. The results are so encouraging and I’m sure we have a winner on our hands. We are on target to announce TM/Service Level Manager is generally available (GA) as of November.” ☐

TM/Service Level Manager™, the heart of ThruPut Manager® Automation Edition, is controlled by service-oriented policies to provide unprecedented batch automation and optimization in the z/OS JES2 environment.

ThruPut
Manager 6
Automation
E D I T I O N

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