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### 1) **Tech Papers**

### **How much capacity can your mainframe really deliver ?**

In recent years most performance analysts have started using the zPCR tool, provided by IBM, to assess the existing mainframe capacity and to evaluate possible upgrades.

Four sets of information are required to perform a zPCR study:

- hardware characteristics;
- PRSM configuration (by LPAR);
- operative system level (by LPAR);
- workload characteristics (by LPAR).

The first three are easy to obtain using RMF, EPV for z/OS or other tools.

Before the availability of z10, understanding workload characteristics also looked very simple. According to IBM most of z/OS production systems in the world could be well represented by a LoIO-Mix workload. A formula based on the ratio between the DASD I/O rate and the MSUs used allows you to verify if a system should be considered as LoIO. EPV for z/OS tracks the changes over time of this ratio (in the IOM index view) for each system collected.

After z10 became available, IBM started warning about a "new" workload appearing as LoIO but making the hardware perform less efficiently. This workload is called, in LSPR terms, DI-Mix.

The difference between LoIO-Mix and DI-Mix is very big; the same machine will provide 20-25% less capacity when running DI-Mix compared to a LoIO-Mix workload.

In this paper we will briefly discuss:

- z10 hardware implementation;
- why using the right workload characteristics is so important;
- how to identify a DI-Mix workload.

*If you want to receive the paper you can reply to this e-mail writing "How much capacity can your mainframe really deliver ?" in the subject*

## 2) Tech News

### Events in 2010

#### **CMG Canada 2010**

Senmesoft, EPV distributor in Canada, will sponsor the CMG Canada 2010 conference to be held in Toronto on 13rd and 14th April 2010.

EPV Technologies will present the following papers:

- "Capacity Planning Issues in 2010";
- "Saving Money (and Your Mainframe)".

Senmesoft will also present a vendor session discussing EPV products.

More details soon at: <http://regions.cmg.org/regions/cacmg/index.html>

#### **UKCMG TEC 2010**

The UKCMG TEC 2010 Conference will be held on **17 and 18 May 2010** at the Oxford Belfry Hotel, Thame, Oxfordshire

More details soon at: <http://www.ukcmg.org.uk/tec2010conference.html>

#### **IBM System z Technical University**

The IBM System z Technical Conference will be held on **17-21 May 2010** in Berlin.

More details at: <http://www-304.ibm.com/jct03001c/services/learning/ites.wss?pageType=page&c=T156786F45994W11>

#### **XXIV CMG-Italia & EuroCMG**

The XXIV CMG-Italia Annual Conference will be held on **25 and 26 May 2010** in Rome. This year conference will host the XIII edition of the EuroCMG with presentations coming from other CMGs.

The conference themes will be:

- Reducing Mainframe Costs
- Virtualization & Cloud Computing

More details soon at: <http://www.cmgitalia.it>

## 3) Tech Support

### IBM TS7700 spontaneous reboot

According to messages sent to the IBM-Main discussion list a user experimented a spontaneous reboot of the TS7700 virtual tape (Hydra) with a consequent downtime of more

than 20 minutes. It seems to be a known problem of the 1.5 microcode. The problem is fixed in the 1.6 microcode.

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