

## EPV Technologies Newsletter

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<http://www.epvtech.com>



### 1) **Tech Papers** - Group Capacity and the mystery of the unenforced limit

Most sites pay IBM, and other ISV, software bills based on the WLC software pricing policy; in this policy the license fees depend on the CPU usage (in MSUs) rather than the machine capacity.

CPU usage is calculated based on a 4-hour rolling average[1]; depending on the workload characteristics this value can be much lower than the power of the machine, which is normally sized to guarantee the service levels during a few peak hours.

The bad news is that the WLC software license fee is a monthly fee based on the maximum value of the measured 4-hour rolling average. The complexity of today's systems and workloads, together with human errors can make it very probable that a company would pay for the full capacity of the machine most of the time.

To guarantee the expected savings IBM introduced the possibility to set limits to the MSU which can be used in the 4-hour rolling average:  
by a single LPAR, defined capacity limit;

by a group of LPARs, group capacity limit.

The defined capacity limit can be very useful to avoid certain LPARs, normally running non business critical workloads, can increase the software costs. The group capacity limit is much more important; it can guarantee that you don't pay more than the limit value (or more than the sum of the limit values if more than one LPAR group has been created). This is the reason why the majority of the z/OS sites use group capacity limits, for protection against the risk of unplanned software costs. Unfortunately it can happen that the group capacity limit is not enforced as expected leading to undesired results.

After a short introduction to Group Capacity concepts, we will discuss this issue based on the experience of one of our customers.

*If you want to receive the paper you can reply to this e-mail writing "**Group Capacity and the mystery of the unenforced limit**" in the subject*

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## **2) Tech News - Upcoming Conference in May 2012**

EPV Technologies will present at the following conferences:

a) CMG-Italia XXVI Annual Conference, Florence, Italy

- "Measuring DB2 Applications",  
10 May 2012, 13:00, Session 1

- "Ten Practical Rules for Application Performance Testing ",  
10 May 2012, 15:15, Session 1

More details at: [www.cmgitalia.org](http://www.cmgitalia.org)

b) UKCMG Annual Conference, Oxford, UK

- "X-ray your systems",  
14 May 2012, 11:30

More details at: [www.ukcmg.org.uk](http://www.ukcmg.org.uk)

c) IBM System z Technical University, Berlin, Germany

- "Measuring and Tuning Websphere MQ",  
23 May 2012, 11:45, room Paris

- "Exploiting CPU Measurement Facility Sampling",  
24 May, 14:30, room Montreal

- "Measuring the Websphere Message Broker",  
25 May 2012, 8:45, room Paris

More details at: [www.gse.org](http://www.gse.org)



### 3) Tech Notes - EPV for z/OS NL V10

EPV for z/OS NL V10 is in General Availability.

EPV for z/OS NL is a thin repackaging of EPV for z/OS Plus.

The idea is to provide a tool to analyze very quickly what happened on a specific z/OS system some hours ago (without waiting the next day to have a complete picture of all the systems).

Only part of the EPV for z/OS reports are produced. Only one system at a time can be analyzed.

EPV for z/OS NL is a licensed product.

*If you want to know more please reply to this e-mail writing **"EPV for z/OS NL V10"** in the subject*

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