

EPV Technologies Newsletter

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Past numbers of this newsletter are available on the web at <http://www.epvtech.com>.

1) Tech Papers

Where do my batch jobs spend all this time? - Part1

In an era of smart web applications fully exploiting the virtualization concept to ultimately run in the cloud, it is astonishing to realize that batch processing is still such an important component of the workload of any z/OS environment.

As batch processing is not usually triggered by a user waiting for an immediate response, the importance of batch in performance tuning and capacity planning activities is often underestimated.

Batch jobs usually run overnight, during the so called "batch window". During this time, online activity is restricted or even completely forbidden. So a good first reason to tune batch jobs is to be sure that the batch window will end before the agreed online start time. This is becoming more and more important because batch activity is still growing at many sites while the batch window is normally shrinking due to 24X7 online demand.

Other reasons to tune batch jobs are:

- batch activity may encroach on the online shift; even when not delaying the online start, it may degrade overall system performance and increase costs, especially for customers using the WLC software cost policy;
- many batch jobs were designed years ago so it may be possible to achieve substantial performance improvements by using up to date technologies.

The bottom line is that tuning batch jobs is an important task.

In order to do that, the first mandatory step is to be able to answer to a very important question: "Where do my batch jobs spend all this time?".

In this paper we will try to provide that answer by analyzing in detail the SMF 30 metrics.

*If you want to receive the paper you can reply to this e-mail writing **"Where do my batch jobs spend all this time? - Part 1"** in the subject*

2) Tech News	Upcoming conferences in June
<p>EPV Technologies will present at the following conferences:</p> <p>a) z@tps conference - TPS DATA - Karlsruhe - Germany</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "EPV Trends and Directions: EPV for z/OS and EPV for DB2", 8 June 2011, 10:00 • "Microsoft project - SAS replacement", 8 June 2011, 11:30 • "SMF113 in detail", 8 June 2011, 13:30 <p>b) Scottish Regional Meeting - Edinburgh, Scotland - UK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Capacity planning Issues with z196", 14 June 2011, 11:25 <p>More details at: http://www.tps-data-de.com and http://www.ukcmg.org.uk/</p>	

3) Tech Notes	IX EPV User Group
<p>The IX EPV User Group will be held in Rome on 11th October 2011. The EPV User Group is a "not to miss" event for all Performance Analysts; it will give you the opportunity to share ideas with qualified experts and to listen to some of the EPV customers experiences. The most interesting features provided by the latest versions of all EPV products will also be presented. Preliminary agenda will be published in the next newsletter. In the mean time mark the date in your agenda to avoid missing this event.</p>	
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