EPV Technologies Newsletter

Number 07–2013
29 July 2013

In this number:

1) Tech Papers - From SMF to Excel: graphs and reports in one click - Part 2
2) Tech News - EPVziptx announcement
3) Tech Support - DB2 APAR PM88804

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

1) Tech Papers - From SMF to Excel: graphs and reports in one click - Part 2

z/OS performance analysts love numbers, the more they have the better it is. The reason is that numbers allow us to clearly understand an issue in all its detail.

Managers, on the other hand, are ardent supporters of Napoleon's quote: "Un bon croquis vaut mieux qu'un long discours" (A good sketch is better than a long speech). Like Napoleon, they love graphs; they leave the tactics (the detailed analysis) to their generals.

How to reconcile these different attitudes?
As my ancestors used to say: "Ubi maior minor cessat"; so performance analysts have to spend part of their time transforming their much loved numbers into graphs when they have to discuss or report something to their managers.

Preparing graphs on z/OS is possible but it requires specific tools which are normally expensive, not easy to use and produce low quality results. This

is the reason why most of z/OS sites produce their graphs and reports using MS-Excel.
However producing MS-Excel graphs starting from z/OS data is not really straightforward; it requires a process which is mostly manual and time intensive.

In this paper we show how to save a lot of time and effort by exploiting EPV HTML pages and DBs to produce MS-Excel graphs and reports in a single mouse click.

If you want to receive the paper you can reply to this e-mail writing " **From SMF to Excel: graphs and reports in one click - Part 2**" *in the subject*

---

2) Tech News - EPVziptx announcement

EPVziptx is a tool which is now included with the EPV zParser product. It runs in USS in z/OS providing low cost compression for fixed or fixed blocked text files.
It is written in JAVA in order to exploit zAAP or zIIP and uses standard JAVA classes available in z/OS. EPVziptx executes through a standard z/OS batch job. In just one step it produces a standard zip file which can be moved to a Windows environment, uncompressed and used.
EPVziptx automatically takes care of EBCDIC to ASCII conversion and end-of-line management (CRLF).
The appropriate code-pages can be used by setting JCL parameters.

Pre-requisites
JDK 1.6.0.

Installation
Inside the tool's directory you will find two members, a JCL and a jar. The jar must be copied inside a USS file (binary transfer) and called from the JCL that needs to be copied in a JCL library (ascii transfer) and customized.

Customization
The following customization steps have to be performed:
- set the path to the JAVA home directory (JAVA),
- set the path to the jar folder (INSTDIR),
- set the input to a dataset name (INPUT DD),
- set the output to a file or to a dataset name (OUTPUT DD).

Results
The customized JCL will compress the input file and produce a zip file which has to be moved to Windows using a binary transfer.
The consumption relative to the compression step is 99% on zAAP (or zIIP if zAAP on zIIP is used).

Contacts

EPV zParser customers can contact EPV technical support at
epv.support@epvtech.com to get the EPVziptx tool.

---

3) Tech Support - DB2 APAR PM88804

"DISCARDDATA of REAL STORAGE frames results in RSM serialization to
manage the frame status and page faults for those frames which were
unbacked with KEEPREAL(NO). The combination of these on an LPAR
where paging typically does not occur, results in significant CPU
overhead …"

More details at: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?
crawler=1&uid=swg1PM88804