




EPV zParser for Big Data

IT Cost under Control

FAQ

Question	Answer
Q1) What is EPV zParser?	EPV zParser is the ideal solution to read mainframe data, such as SMF records, IMS logs, z/VM monitor records, outside of the mainframe and store the results in a SQL DB and/or in a data lake.
Q2) We already use SAS/MXG (or SAS/ITRM). Why do we need EPV zParser ?	EPV zParser is an alternative. In combination with EPV for z/OS it can replace any other post processing tool in the market.
Q3) Does EPV zParser require SAS ?	No. EPV zParser has no software pre- requisites.
Q4) Does EPV zParser need to run on z/OS?	No. EPV zParser can run in Windows, Linux, Unix systems and z/LINUX.
Q5) Are there technical pre-requisites on z/OS (such as APF libraries, exit modifications, etc), to run the EPV zParser ?	No. There are no technical pre-requisites.
Q6) Is it possible to completely eliminate SMF processing on the mainframe using the EPV for z/OS solution ?	We suggest that you carry out your SMF processing off the mainframe. EPV zParser can process the SMF produced every time a SYS_.MAN_ dataset or a logstream is dumped. This guarantees that even huge sites with many LPARS can have all their reporting ready early in the morning.
Q7) How can I use the data produced by EPV zParser ?	As data are in a DB or in a data lake you can easily exploit them by using the tools you already have or developing ad-hoc queries. Both in-house built and Business Analytics tools can easily be adapted to take input from EPV zParser.
Q7) What record types are handled by EPV zParser ?	EPV zParser handles all IBM standard SMF records plus user records on request. It also handles IMS logs, BVIR data collection, DCOLLECT, z/VM Monitor records, zLinux information and virtually any input in CSV format.

<p>Q8) We don't have the time to study another product. What effort is required to use EPV zParser ?</p>	<p>EPV zParser is straightforward to install and immediately useful. An efficient use of the product does not require specific training.</p>
<p>Q9) Why should my organization adopt the EPV solution ? What are the short-term & strategic benefits ?</p>	<p>With EPV zParser you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • replace old tools and procedures, which are much more costly and complex to manage; • process z/OS metrics on the platform which is most convenient for you; • avoid conflicts between SMF (and other mainframe data) processing and production workloads; • easily rebuild your Cost Accounting and Service Level Reporting applications, using more up to date rules.
<p>Q10) What is the typical customer profile for the EPV zParser solution ?</p>	<p>We have small, medium and large users. We believe that every Company with a z/OS system should use EPV zParser.</p>
<p>Q11) What pricing models are available for the EPV zParser solution ?</p>	<p>EPV zParser pricing is based on the number of partitions no matter what is the configuration: there are no pricing increases for MIPS upgrades. Different pricing models can be discussed to manage specific customer circumstances.</p>
<p>Q12) For every IT improvement or product acquisition activity, my department has to build a business plan; how difficult is such an activity for the EPV zParser solution ?</p>	<p>It really depends on the situation. Normally EPV zParser can replace another existing tool. Moving mainframe data processing off the mainframe is another major opportunity. However one of the biggest advantages of EPV zParser, especially when used together with EPV for z/OS, is how it increases information availability. You can easily estimate the amount of time that would be saved in performance analysis and capacity planning activities.</p>
<p>Q13) Is it possible to do a trial ? How many days will take to install EPV zParser ?</p>	<p>We can easily arrange a complete trial installation, which generally only requires a couple of days.</p>
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