EPV for z/OS

IT Cost Under Control

Question	Answer
Q1 Why do we need EPV for z/OS when we already have monitors for z/OS and z/OS subsystems?	EPV for z/OS is a post-processing solution. It's not an alternative to online monitors but the perfect complement to them.
Q2 Why aren't online monitors enough?	Real-time monitors allow you to react immediately when facing critical conditions. A post-processor allows you to understand why the critical situation happened in the first place, then detect and avoid potential problems in the future.
Q3 We already use other tools. Why do we need EPV for z/OS?	Most tools provide you with lots of data. Starting from that, EPV provides ready-to-use information. EPV for z/OS provides a comparison on how your subsystems are working compared to the theoretical best use, thus highlighting abnormal behavior. In this way, it is much easier to manage even very complex installations.
Q4 Does EPV for z/OS require SAS?	No. EPV for z/OS has two versions: one requiring SAS and the other with no prerequisites. Both produce the same information and reports. If you already have a SAS based solution, it is easy to put EPV on top of that. In the future, if you want to replace SAS with EPV, you'll still get the same results.
Q5 What is the difference between EPV for z/OS and EPV for z/OS (SAS based)?	EPV for z/OS is the same product as EPV for z/OS (SAS based). It is developed in Perl and uses an SQL database instead of using SAS.

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Q6 Which DMBS can EPV for z/OS run on?	EPV for z/OS supports MySQL, Maria DB, MS SQL Server and Impala/Hadoop.
Q7 Where does EPV for z/OS get its input?	EPV for z/OS runs stand-alone taking input directly from SMF and other required data sources. EPV for z/OS (SAS based) runs on top of SAS/MXG or SAS/ITRM, taking input from their performance databases (PDBs).
Q8 Does EPV for z/OS need to run on z/OS?	No. EPV for z/OS can run on any platform where Perl and supported DBs run. EPV for z/OS (SAS based) can run on any platform where SAS/MXG or SAS/ITRM runs.
Q9 Are there technical prerequisites on z/OS (such as APF libraries, exit modifications, etc.) to run the EPV for z/OS solution?	No. There are no technical prerequisites.
Q10 Is it possible to eliminate SMF processing on the mainframe completely using the EPV for z/OS solution?	We suggest you manage your SMF processing off the mainframe. Today many techniques allow you to do that. EPV for z/OS can process SMF every time a dump is produced. This guarantees that even huge sites with many LPARs have all the reporting ready early in the morning.
Q11 What if I don't want to wait until the next morning to see the EPV reports?	No problem. EPV for z/OS includes a feature called Refresh Mode (RM), which can be run in parallel with standard EPV for z/OS. RM can be configured to produce EPV reports whenever you like, thus providing near-real-time analysis (with some delay). The delay depends on the amount of data to be processed, network speed, server CPUs, etc.
Q12 Is it possible to do a trial? How many days will it take to install EPV for z/OS?	We can take a sample of your SMF data (8 hours, 24 hours, etc.) to produce a meaningful demo or manage a complete trial installation, which generally only requires a couple of days.

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Q13 We don't have the time to study another product. What is the effort needed to use EPV for z/OS?	EPV for z/OS is straightforward to install and immediately useful. All the reports provided have help screens describing the metrics and the meaning of the various views. Fast navigation paths help the user get the best out of the product without any training.
Q14 Why should my organization adopt the EPV for z/OS solution; what are the short-term & long-term benefits?	Our experience is that when you first install EPV for z/OS, a lot of tuning opportunities are revealed. The long-term usage lies mostly in capacity planning activities and in spotting anomalies as soon as they start to appear. Additionally, many areas within your organization will soon rely on the reports produced by EPV, basing their working discussions on EPV's common "trusted" data.
Q15 What is the typical customer profile for the EPV for z/OS solution?	We serve small, medium and large computing enterprises. The typical clients are skilled, professional people who understand the value of the product along with others who have limited knowledge. We believe that every computing enterprise running a z/OS system should use EPV for z/OS. The results provided by EPV are useful to technicians, technical managers, with some views designed specifically for IT executives.
Q16 What pricing models are available for the EPV for z/OS solution?	EPV pricing is based on the number of partitions regardless of configuration. There are no price increases for MIPS upgrades. Different pricing models can be tailored to fit the customer's circumstances.
Q17 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 for z/OS solution?	It really depends on the situation. Sometimes EPV can replace another tool. Moving SMF processing off the mainframe is another major opportunity. However, one of the biggest advantages of EPV is how it increases productivity. You can easily estimate the amount of time saved in performance analysis and capacity planning activities.

It's always the right time to switch to EPV

HW & SW COST SAVINGS

PERSONNEL COST SAVINGS

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT

PERSONNEL SELF-TRAINING

LOW PRICE

COMPLETELY AUTOMATIC

OUT-OF-THE-BOX REPORTS

GUIDED NAVIGATION

NO PRE-REQUISITES

ALL PLATFORMS SUPPORTED

We are not simply a software vendor.
We will always be at your side helping you reach
your business goals.
EPV: people you can trust.

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