

Deploying CICS regions with the z/OS Provisioning Toolkit

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I have an idea!



Drawing by TomBrough openclipart.org

z/OS Provisioning Toolkit

A modern solution for the rapid provisioning of z/OS development environments.





System programmers maintain control of the provisioning process by creating templates for provisioning subsystems using z/OSMF workflows



Self service provisioning can be enabled through use of the **IBM Cloud Provisioning and Management for z/OS** plug-in for the **IBM z/OS Management Facility** (z/OSMF), which controls developer access and sets appropriate provisioning limits.



The toolkit is fully supported and available now to all z/OS V2 clients at **no additional charge**.



z/OS Provisioning Toolkit What's in the box?

Automation workflows:

- Provision / deprovision CICS
- Provision / deprovision z/OS Connect EE

Command line tool zospt

- Build image describing subsystem configuration
- Run image to provision configured subsystem

The workflows run in a workflow engine provided by z/OSMF

zospt builds images describing how subsystems should be configured.

zospt drives z/OSMF through its REST API to provision subsystems and customize their configuration

Additional workflows compatible with **zospt** are available for IBM MQ and WebSphere Liberty



IBM supplied CICS workflows How can they help?





What can the CICS workflows do?



An introduction to the capabilities in the automation

Provision

- CICS TS V5.1+
- CMAS and CICSplex
- MAS / WUI into existing CICSplex
- Individual regions with / without CICS Explorer connectivity

Customize

- The provisioning process
- The configuration of the CICS regions
- Whether to use a pre-existing CSD, or create a new one for each CICS region

Connect

- CICS to existing DB2
- CICS to existing MQ Qmgr
- CICS to provisioned MQ Qmgr
- z/OS Connect EE to provisioned CICS region

Capabilities

- Add embedded Liberty JVM server listening on http / https / debug port
- Add support for SOAP based Web services
- Add support for JSON based Web services
- Add support for Node JS applications

The CICS Workflows



How are they configured?



Stan Cicero Senior System Programmer



Stan fills out a simple properties file to describe his environment.



Evaluating the workflows



Use the getting started scenario in z/OS PT 1.1.2



Accelerating development and test

From

File ticket with IT department

Justify request

Wait for capacity to become available

Wait for someone to implement

Loop around till correctly configured

Days/weeks later, region is ready







What does it really mean?

- The provisioning process is fully **automated**.
 - Subsystems are available on demand and can be deprovisioned when no longer required.
- **Approvals** for new subsystems are agreed up front.
 - "We agree that over the next year product team X can use a maximum of 10 regions."
- System programmers still maintain **control** over the configuration of the regions.
 - Limited freedom to customize the regions for specific applications could be granted.
- The automation that is run during provision and deprovision is **reviewed and approved**.
 - The automation steps are run under agreed automation ids.
- **Network resource pools** are available for the provisioned regions.
 - Regions can be assigned ports and APPLIDs from a pool.



How is this achieved on other platforms?



Self-service provisioning How the z/OS Provisioning Toolkit works







Using images with the z/OS Provisioning Toolkit



Use Case – Using a pre-defined image



Alan provisions a region running the insurance app using an image provided by a system programmer

2018-04-12 12:01:20	IBM z/OS Provisioning Too	olkit V1.1.0
IMAGE NAME	CREATED	SIZE
<pre>cics_bank_app</pre>	2018-04-11T14:30:41	10240B
cics_insurance_app	2018-04-11T14:30:41	10240B
cics_no_app	2018-04-11T14:30:41	10240B



Alan Andersson COBOL App Developer /u/alan:>zospt run cics_insurance_app --name alan 2018-04-12 12:06:36 IBM z/OS Provisioning Toolkit V1.1.1 2018-04-12 12:06:36 Running image cics_insurance_app. ... 2018-04-12 12:07:55 Container alan has been started.

Use Case - Building custom images



Jash wants to provision CICS + Liberty + his application



Jash Jayaraman Java App Developer

Jash builds his application using a simple zosptfile and can provision his environment in 3 minutes...



Take that first step



Trying the CICS getting started scenario



- Use the zospt command line utility to run a workflow in z/OSMF and provision a CICS region
- Pre-requisites
 - Access granted to run workflows in z/OSMF in a sandbox environment
 - Authority in the sandbox to:
 - Allocate data sets.
 - Add a procedure into a PROCLIB.
 - Issue console commands.
 - An APPLID that can be used by the provisioned CICS region

Take that first step



Trying the CICS getting started scenario

- 1. Download and unpax the zospt command line tool and workflows
- 2. Configure the connection from zospt to z/OSMF
- 3. Fill in the cics.properties file to configure the provisioning process
- 4. Run the provision using the zospt command line tool
- Each step in the provisioning process submits a JES job
- Each step in the provisioning process runs under the users own ID
- If a step fails, you can use the submitted JCL and the job output to help diagnose why



Demo

Trying the CICS getting started scenario

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Resources to help you get started

Provisioning CICS made simple!

- Download z/OS PT from
 - <u>z/OS PT product page</u>
- Blog posts
 - A step by step guide to provisioning your first CICS region from a 3270 terminal
 - <u>Customizing your z/OS PT provisioned CICS regions</u>
- Videos
 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PyznEBFajKg</u>
 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_q48arq828Y</u>
- Knowledge Center
 - <u>Getting started with CICS by using z/OSMF workflows</u>
- IBM Cloud Provisioning and Management for z/OS
 - Enhancements delivered in June 2018 to improve the getting started experience
 - Product Page



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