

## **eventACTION and ussACTION Release Notes – Version 8.06**

### **Event Logger (BETA)**

The new Event Logger component of eventACTION provides the ability to write event information as SMF records and as syslog formatted messages.

eventACTION SMF records are formatted to conform to the IBM specifications for standard SMF record header with subtypes. They also conform to the IBM specifications for extended SMF record header Version 1 (introduced in z/OS 2.3).

Syslog formatted messages can be sent to remote systems via TCP (in the format described in IETF's RFC 5424), or sent to the syslog daemon (syslogd), which can send them to any destination configured in syslogd. These destination types can be used to send to external monitoring tools such as SIEM products.

The documentation package includes a document that provides deployment instructions.

**Note:** This feature is currently under Beta test and is subject to further change. Please notify Action Software International if you wish to test this feature, and provide feedback regarding the results of your testing.

### **Reference Tracking Projects (RTP)**

Reference Tracking Projects now keeps 31 days of daily reference counts. The Daily Counts are accumulated by Project, SMF, Member name, Data set name, Userid, Jobname, Task type and Program name. The first reference of the day will start a new daily count. If there are already 31 days of daily counts recorded then the oldest day will be removed to make way for the new day. The Daily counts are used in reporting when the option "Over Previous Days" is specified. The maximum number of days you can specify for this option is 31.

### **Reference Tracking (RT)**

A new option has been added: "User Rcrd". This option has two values YES/NO. If you specify NO then User Counts will not be recorded and will not be available with the USR line command. The default value is YES, which will record the User counts. Specifying NO is suggested for data sets that are used by a large number of users.

A new statistics display option has been added to display the merge of primary and alias statistics data into one entry. The merged entry will be prefixed by a lower-case p to indicate it is a merged entry. There is a new primary command SHOW which allows the displaying of merged statistics and optionally the merged entry followed its alias entries (prefixed by a lower-case a). See help panels for a full description.

### **ussACTION Network Compare (BETA)\***

ussACTION Compare has been enhanced to allow comparing files between systems in different Changeplexes. Compare output is presented in the same side-by-side format as is used for local compares.

**Note:** This feature is currently under Beta test and is subject to further change. Please notify Action Software International if you wish to test this feature, and provide feedback regarding the results of your testing.

### **ussACTION syscall hooks**

New syscall hooks for chaudit() and fchaudit() have been added to track and control changes made to the audit attributes of files defined to ussACTION.

### **ussACTION - ussPXC (Product Execution Control for USS)**

This feature, which was previously in Beta test, is now generally available.

ussPXC enables tracking and control of the execution of executable objects in the HFS and zFS file systems.

Sites running ussACTION can enable this feature by adding the following line to the MZCPRMxx parmlib member used to start eventACTION:

```
USSPXC=YES
```

## ussACTION Change Distribution

This feature, which was previously in Beta test, is now generally available.

The Change Distribution Component of ussACTION allows you to send changed files to other sites or hosts that do not share the HFS/zFS file system with the host where the change is made. When a file is changed, it is sent via FTP to the target host/site, where it replaces the same file name in either the same named directory or in a differently named directory.

Sites running ussACTION can enable this feature by adding the following line to the MZCPRMxx parmlib member used to start eventACTION:

```
USSCD=YES
```

## ussACTION - Detect new subdirectory created in root

This feature, which was previously in Beta test, is now generally available.

Normally 'SUBDIR=YES' is not allowed to be specified when defining the root '/' to ussACTION for Change Tracking or Reference Tracking. This is to prevent unintentional and unnecessary definition of subdirectories such as /tmp in the root to ussACTION, resulting in costly CPU and disk I/O overhead. New or old subdirectories in the root must be added to ussACTION manually as a precautionary measure.

With this feature, a newly created subdirectory will be added automatically to ussACTION for Reference Tracking and Change Tracking. A backup will be taken for the new subdirectory either immediately or by the overnight daily job. It is strongly recommended any new subdirectory created in the root and added to ussACTION for Change Tracking and Reference tracking should be carefully reviewed to determine if it may cause excessive CPU and disk I/O overhead.

Sites running ussACTION can enable this feature by adding the following line to the MZCPRMxx parmlib member used to start eventACTION:

```
USSRSD=YES
```

## ussACTION Change Manager - selectively control files

This feature, which was previously in Beta test, is now generally available.

Traditionally ussACTION Change Manager is used to protect the entire directory, i.e., all the files within the directory cannot be changed without an approved Changed Request.

A new feature is now available to selectively control changes to a specified list of files within a directory. This can be useful when sharing a directory between users or for directories where only certain files are sensitive.

This feature is now activated by default when ussACTION starts. Once this feature is activated, you can define a directory, specifying Change Request is not required and then use the file options to name the files that require Change Requests for making changes.

## Health Checker - Reference Tracking of proclibs

This feature, which was previously in Beta test, is now generally available.

A new health check has been added to check exclude definitions. If HASJES20 has been excluded from Reference Tracking, this check will issue warning messages for libraries defined to RT with OPTION=PROC.

Unlike previous health checks, this new health check runs in the eventACTION main task address space.

## About Action Software International

Action Software International is a division of Mazda Computer Corporation.

Located in Toronto, Canada, Mazda Computer Corporation has been producing superior systems and network management software since 1980. The Company's products are widely deployed within Global 2000 companies, as well as numerous government and institutional sites.

Mazda Computer Corporation's mission is to provide easy to use high performance systems management solutions to the IBM z/OS system user community, based on highly functional products and exceptional customer service.

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