

## **eventACTION and ussACTION Release Notes – Version 8.00**

### **Unlimited Backup Data**

The options panels now allow for the keyword MAX instead of a number. This means that this option is ignored when it comes to cycling. By setting the number of backups to MAX, there will be no limit and the entries will only be deleted when the expiry date passes. This option is useful for sites that have time-based retention requirements for backups for compliance purposes.

If you also use MAX for the expiry date, then backups would be kept forever.

### **Preloading Backup Data**

A new job (MZCBKUPS) in the CNTL library will turn on the pending bits for datasets so that the DAILY job can take backups for any missing members under the eventACTION userid. You can use masking and system symbols to cover many datasets and volumes. This facility is useful for sites that want to have a “baseline” for changes to specified resources.

The SIM parm allows you to verify which datasets will be backed up before actually performing backups.

The TAPE parm will force the backups to offline storage immediately, and not to the database. This could be useful if you are backing up a large number of datasets and you don't want to fill up the database.

### **Command Manager**

A new feature has been added to allow notification messages (emails, WTOs) to identify the userid or jobname that originally issued the ROUTE command to route MVS or JES commands to other LPARs.

To activate this feature, you must add the following parmlib initialization statement on all affected LPARs:

```
CMD_ROUTE_ISSUER=YES
```

The initialization statement will not take effect until eventACTION is restarted. Since the setting affects both the originating system and the target system of the ROUTE command, the change should be made on all systems sharing the eventACTION database at the same time.

### **System Symbol Substitution**

Dataset names and volumes can now have system symbols in their definitions. Symbols are substituted by their values to create resolved name entries when definitions are loaded at eventACTION startup.

Every hour, the symbol table will be checked and if there are any changes, the definitions will be updated.

The next release will handle the symbol table update event, and USS directories and file names.

### **Health Checker**

A new health check is now available to run in the eventACTION main task address space. The new check will perform the following functions:

- Exclude definition check.

This check will examine the contents of eventACTION exclude definitions. If HASJES20 is excluded from RT, this check will issue warning messages for libraries defined to RT with OPTION=PROC.

- PXC definition check

This is same as the existing PXC definition check which has been moved to run in the main task address space.

The following parmlib initialization statement is required in order to activate the maintask check:

```
MAINTASK_CHECK=YES
```

## Date & Time Windows

The processing of date/Time Windows that were first introduced in eventACTION 7.12 has been altered by employing a hierarchy according to the type of window; this provides greater flexibility in the use of these windows for control purposes.

Date and Date Range windows are equally the highest priority, then Weekday windows and then Time windows. This allows you to specify a chain of connected windows that have overrides further down the chain. The processing to validate the current date, day and time starts naturally starts with the very first window in the chain; if this window is a lower level than a date window (i.e. weekday or time) then it is assumed all higher level requirements are met. For example, if the first window is a Weekday type, the date will be assumed to be matching; if the first window is a Time type then both the date and current weekday are assumed to match.

When processing the connected windows, anytime a window is encountered which is of a higher type than the previous one, then the matching process will treat this next part as a new override. All windows in the chain are always processed to look for the best fit that ensures all three components (date, weekday and time-of-day) are met.

### Example:

You define a perpetual change request for a series of resources but you only want them to be changed during specific hours every Friday and a different set of hours on Saturday.

To do this, define a Weekday window for Friday only and then connect to it a Time window specifying the hour range(s); then connect to it another Weekday window specifying Saturday only and then connect to it another Time window for the range of hours on Saturday.

If you want a different set of weekdays and times for a particular set of dates, then you could connect to the chain a Date window and proceed with a further chain of weekdays and or times.

## ussACTION Selection Panel

You can now issue the SEL primary command from the USS options and changes panel, in the same way as you can in eventACTION on the z/OS MVS side. The SEL command displays a panel that can be used to provide more specific selection criteria than what can be specified on the panel column headers.

## ussACTION Directory Options

Masking characters are now handled correctly in the definitions. A new field (MSK) will distinguish between actual mask characters and directory names.

Unlike the z/OS MVS side, masking is on a directory level. For example, /a\*b\*c\* will match /aaabbbccddd but not /aaa/bbb/cc.

/a\*/b\*/c\* would be the correct mask to match /aaa/bbb/cc.

SUBdir can also be used with masking and the longest matching mask, with or without SUBdir, will be used.

You can use the OPTS command in the main USS panel to check which option will be used for a particular file.

Note that the entries are case sensitive.

Because you may have defined masks previously, there is a new line command (MASK) which will reset the definitions. If a mask character is found, the MSK field is set to YES, otherwise it is blanked. You only need to do this once. Then you can go through the entries and correct any definitions that are not what you meant. Entering DO MASK in the primary command area will check all visible entries.

## ussACTION Change Tracker

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

A new feature is now available to selectively control changes to a specified list of files within a directory. This can be useful for sharing a directory between users.

To activate this feature, the following parmlib initialization statement is required:

```
USS_PROT_SFCDR=YES
```

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.

## **ussACTION Change Control**

The Resources Changed Log (accessed via the CHGL command on a change request) has been enhanced to better document the resources changed under permission of the change request; a second line has been added per resource to indicate the SMFid and the change event.

Date & Time Windows are also supported for ussACTION change requests in the same way as the regular dataset/member change requests.

## **ussACTION Reporting**

A new Detailed Files Changed (UFCD) report has been added which processes the Files Changed information similar to the DSDETAIL (Datasets Changed Details) report. This report searches for changes that match the selection criteria and then compares the backup copy to its previous one to indicate how the contents of the file have changed.

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