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IT Cost
Under Control

EPV Technologies

Newsletter

March 2025

THIS MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

- **System Z compliance**
- **IBM Z Day: Special Edition**

System Z compliance

Security and compliance are two concepts that are interconnected, but a significant difference exists between them.

Security refers to the controls a company implements to protect its assets while compliance refers to meeting the standards and regulations a third party has set forth as best practices or legal requirements.

In recent years, compliance with regulatory frameworks has become more and more important in the IT world and, of course, also in System Z.

This is the reason why IBM developed a strategy for compliance on its platforms, providing a mapping of regulatory frameworks to IBM Z security capabilities.

In this paper we will look at the new SMF 1154 record which is dedicated to compliance controls and to what you must do to produce these records.

We will also show an example of Db2 compliance regulations and controls.

*If you want to receive this paper, you can reply to this e-mail writing **"System Z compliance"** in the subject.*

IBM Z Day: Special Edition

IBM Z Day: Special Edition is a free 1-day enterprise computing virtual conference for anyone and everyone! Hear the latest about IBM Z and join our lineup of global thought leaders who will highlight industry trends and innovation spanning AI, Hybrid Cloud, Quantum-Safe Security, and more! It will be held on 8 April 2025 from 10AM to 5PM ET.

You can register at: <https://ibmzday2025-se.bemyapp.com/>



Customer question

What is the difference between the VTS statistical records provided in BVIR or in the correspondent SMF records?

EPV Technical Support answer

VTS statistical records are obtained by querying an internal VTS facility, called Bulk Volume Information Retrieval (BVIR), by using the standard IEBGENER utility.

IBM also provides JCL and programs in <https://public.dhe.ibm.com/storage/tapetool/> to allow users, who don't want to manage a separate process from SMF, to get VTS statistical records from BVIR and write them as SMF user records. The default record number is 194.

Anyway, whatever method you use to get them, VTS statistical records provide the same information.

A graphic featuring a large, stylized arrow pointing to the right. The arrow is composed of several overlapping layers in shades of blue and grey. The text "WLM Update" is written in a dark blue, sans-serif font across the middle of the arrow.

WLM Update

Middleware Recovery Boost

To accelerate middleware start or restart processing, you can specify which regions initiate a recovery process boost when being recycled.

To allow middleware recovery boost, you need to define a WLM classification rule in the STC subsystem type, specifying YES in the Boost attribute. To find this attribute you must scroll right three times.

Subsystem-Type	Xref	Notes	Options	Help

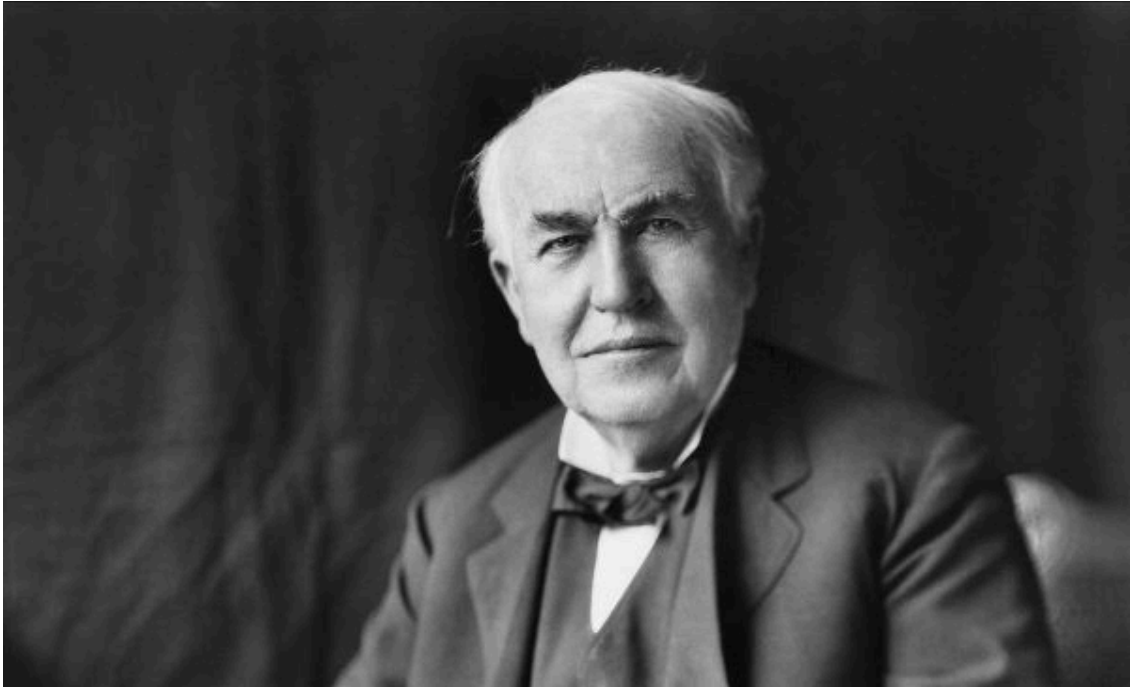
Modify Rules for the Subsystem Type				Row 1 to 5 of
Command ==>	-----			SCROLL ==> CSR
Subsystem Type . : STC		Fold qualifier names? Y (Y or N)		
Description . . . IBM-defined subsystem type				
Action codes: A=After		C=Copy	M=Move	I=Insert rule
B=Before		D=Delete row	R=Repeat	IS=Insert Sub-rule
<=== More				
-----Qualifier-----				Boost
Action	Type	Name	Start	
----	1 TN	TV1*	---	YES
----	1 TN	TV2*	---	NO
----	1 TN	TOR	---	YES
----	1 TN	AOR1	---	NO
----	1 TN	AOR2	---	NO

from <https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/zos/3.1.0?topic=rules-defining-recovery-process-boost-middleware-recycle>

For all the subsystem types other than STC, the Boost field is not applicable and contains N/A.

Individual recovery process boost lasts up to five minutes each, and you can use up to thirty minutes worth of these boosts in a consecutive 24-hour period (per LPAR).

Quotes



"Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine perspiration."
Thomas Edison

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