EPV Technologies

Newsletter

March 2026

THIS MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

- **EPV Next Generation 2026**
- **An additional location for the Db2 IFCID flat file**

EPV Next Generation 2026

The EPV product suite continues to evolve, introducing new products and technologies.
In this virtual conference, we will focus on the latest and greatest.

EPV Next Generation 2026 will be held on May 19 and will be repeated on May 21, 2026.
It is reserved for EPV customers, partners and invited guests.

Subscription form available at: www.epvtech.com

An additional location for the Db2 IFCID flat file

You can now find DSNWMSGS in either of the following locations:

- The most current version of DSNWMSGS is available at https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/657513
- An “older” version of DSNWMSGS is available in the *prefix*.SDSNIVPD(DSNWMSGS).

Customer question

We run z/OS 3.2 and we are planning to exploit the possibility to access SMF in memory.
We saw that the maximum size for each in-memory resource is 2GB.
How can we check if it is enough for our workload?

EPV Technical Support answer

The simplest and best solution is using the new SMFR command provided in SDSF.
In this example you can note that we have defined two resources of 128MB each:

- the first has been used to collect SMF 70:78 (**Types**) but at the moment there is no application connected (**ActConn**);
- the second has never been used; its goal is to collect SMF 1157:1161.

```
 Display  Filter  View  Print  Options  Search  Help
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
SDSF SMF REAL TIME RESOURCES SOW1     SOW1              LINE 1-2 (2)
COMMAND INPUT ===> SMFR                                 SCROLL ===> PAGE
NP    NAME          Status  BufferInUse   BufMax   BufHWM  ActConn Types
      IFASMF.MEMEPV ACTIVE    108101336  134217T  108181T        0 70-78
      IFASMF.OTEL   ACTIVE            0  134217T        0        0 1157-1161
```

BufferInUse is the number of bytes currently in use.
BufMax is what we set in the INMEM parameter when we have defined the in-memory resources (in thousands as indicated by the T at the end of the number).
BufHWM is the HighWaterMark reached (in thousands as indicated by the T at the end of the number).

Other useful commands are: **DISPLAY SMF,M** and **DISPLAY SMF,O**.

Log task utilization due to I/O suspensions

In general, you should use dual logging for production, to minimize the risk of losing data Dual logging is activated by default (the TWOACTV parameter is set to YES).

Metrics, produced by the statistics trace class 1, allow you to analyze log 1 and log 2 activity in detail, also distinguishing between 1-page writes and multiple-page writes.

For each of the above four cases the following metrics are provided:

- QJSTIOCOUNT, number of writes
- QJSTIOCI, number of pages written
- QJSTIOTOTIO, total I/O write time
- QJSTIOTOTSUS, total I/O suspension time

They can be used to get the following derived metrics:

- page written per second (*QJSTIOCI / interval*)
- I/O writes per second (*QJSTIOCOUNT / interval)*
- pages per I/O write (*QJSTIOCI / QJSTIOCOUNT)*
- write I/O time (*QJSTIOTOTIO / QJSTIOCOUNT)*

You should expect measurement values to be the same for log 1 and log 2.
If this is not the case, you should analyze the performance of the disk volume and I/O path where the log performing worse has been allocated.

The same analysis should be done if the write I/O time is excessive (also if it is the same for log 1 and log 2).

Finally, can estimate the average non-I/O time by using the following formula
(QJSTIOTOTSUS - QJSTIOTOTIO) / QJSTIOCOUNT

This value should be very small; a high value indicates that the logging process is delayed for some reason not related to I/O (e.g. CPU queue).

Quotes

"To reach a port, we must sail - sail, not tie at anchor - sail, not drift."
Franklin D. Roosevelt

We care about your Privacy. EPV Technologies is GDPR-compliant.

You may have heard about the new General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR"), that comes into effect May 25, 2018.
It was introduced to unify all EU countries to a unique data regulation, ensuring that all data protection laws are applied identically within the EU.
It also protects EU citizens from organisations using their data irresponsibly and puts them in charge of "what", "where" and "how" information is shared.

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