EPV Technologies

Newsletter

May 2026

THIS MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

- **Is my z17 performing as expected ? - Part 1**
- **EPV Next Generation 2026 report**

Is my z17 performing as expected ? - Part 1

Every time a new IBM machine is announced the LSPR benchmarks are published. They provide an indication of the performance of the new machine compared to the existing ones.

Based on these numbers, on the usage of available tools, such as IBM zPCR, and on their capacity planning methodology, customers decide the characteristics of the new machine model which better fit their application needs for the next years.

Once the upgrade has been completed some customers are happy, some are not satisfied, others simply are not able to understand if they get the expected performance benefits.

We regularly receive requests from some customers to help them evaluate the new machine's performance. This has also happened when upgrading to z17.

Their question is always the same: "Is my new machine performing as expected?".

In this paper we suggest a methodology which can help you answer this question, by setting and checking your expectations, choose the right data and the most relevant metrics to compare old and new machine performance.

This methodology was used in a real case which will serve as the guiding thread of the document.

If you want to receive this paper, you can reply to this e-mail writing **"Is my z17 performing as expected ? - Part 1"** *in the subject.*

EPV Next Generation 2026 report

The 6th edition of the EPV Next Generation conference has been held on May 19 and 21, 2026.
Amongst many new features available through the normal maintenance, an exciting combination of EPV Real Time and MyEPV Dynamic, has been presented.
As usual, many customers from various countries participated to the conference and gave positive feed-backs.

If you were unable to attend and are interested in some of the topics presented, please contact us and we will find a way to share the news.

Customer question

Is there a metric in SMF 30 records that reports the delay in assigning an initiator to a submitted job?

Sometimes we encounter saturation in job execution classes and would like to understand which jobs are affected.

EPV Technical Support answer

The SMF30SQT field of SMF 30 records measures the "initiator wait time". It represents the elapsed time a batch job was eligible to run but was waiting for a JES initiator, in the assigned job class, to become available to start the job.

High values in SMF30SQT indicate that batch jobs are waiting too long for processing resources, suggesting that the JES initiator configuration needs to be reviewed.

Log reads

During normal activities MQ logs are only read when applications roll back uncommitted, persistent messages.

To satisfy requests for back out, unit-of-recovery records are read from the in-memory buffers, the active log, and the archived logs.

Records can be retrieved from three distinct locations; these are the metrics provided:

- QJSTRBUF; it is the number of read log requests satisfied from in-memory buffers; it is the best option; you should expect that most of read requests are satisfied using memory buffers;
- QJSTRACT; it is the number of read log requests satisfied from active log data sets because the requested data was no longer available in memory; it indicates that the backing out application could be a long running task not committing enough; you should also check if the OUTBUFF parameter (log buffers) is set too low;

- QJSTRARH; it is the number of read log requests satisfied from archive log datasets because the requested data was no longer available in the active logs; it indicates that the backing out application could be a very long running task not committing for a long time; you should also check if the number and size of active logs is appropriate

In case of high QJSTRACT or QJSTRARH values, information to identify the culprit application can be obtained by activating the Class 3 accounting trace and looking at the QWACBACK (rollbacks) and QWACCOMM (commits) fields.

Quotes

"I alone cannot change the world,
but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples."

Mother Teresa

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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