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IBM Z Software Newsletter

Application Developers, Enterprise Architects
and System Programmers Edition

Welcome to the April Edition of the IBM Z® Software Newsletter for Application Developers, Enterprise Architects and System Programmers.

This edition includes launches and trials of products and features, such as IBM® CICS® Transaction Server for z/OS®, IBM Wazi Developer for Red Hat® CodeReady Workspaces, IBM Z Open Editor and IBM RSE API Plug-in for Zowe™ CLI, to smooth your journey to hybrid cloud and application modernization.

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Key events for your calendar

- Are you making the most of your z/OS Transactional Runtimes?**
May 6, 2021 | Online
- With a focus on hybrid cloud, many organizations are already underway on the journey to unlock the value of existing application and data assets built in CICS and IMS. Join us as we look at the capabilities, use cases and successes of those already adopting cloud native DevOps and moving towards positioning CICS and IMS at the core of their future strategies.
- Register here
- CICS Technical Exchange**
On demand | Online
- The second CICS Technical Exchange took place on April 21st, with a focus on Application Development. As well as a continuous delivery summary there were presentations and demos on Ansible support for CICS and short introduction to a new Redpaper on Application Modernization. Listen to the on-demand recording of the event on the IBM Z and LinuxOne community!
- Please note: the password is CTE21Apr2021
- Watch the replay here
- Bring your own IDE to hybrid cloud development on IBM Z**
On demand | Online
- IBM Z offers a Bring Your Own Integrated Development Environment (BYO-IDE) option for application programmers to develop z/OS application components in an environment that they are familiar with.
- Register here
- Key strategies to deliver value through mainframe application modernization**
On demand | Online
- If one of your 2021 goals is to modernize enterprise applications for hybrid cloud and gain growth by utilizing digital channels, join our thought leaders as they share key strategies that have been successful in transforming application landscapes and DevOps cultures to achieve business results.
- Register here
- Crack the application modernization challenge with new analytical capabilities**
On demand | Online
- In this latest major upgrade of IBM ADDI, we will introduce a new cloud native solution in the ADDI portfolio and provide performance enhancement for fast, integrated analysis in the CI/CD pipeline.
- Come join us in the technical deep dive.
- Register here
- Delivering Business Agility with an Integrated Pipeline**
On demand | Online
- The integrated pipeline extends modern software delivery practices to all platforms including IBM Z. The backbone of the value stream is the pipeline, and using the capabilities offered by the IBM Z DevOps portfolio, z/OS development teams can integrate and deliver seamlessly via an integrated pipeline.
- Join us and learn how your enterprise can respond to ever changing business requirements.
- Register here

Latest product updates and announcements

- IBM CICS Transaction Server for z/OS 5.6 April update in resilience and management**
- IBM CICS Transaction Server for z/OS 5.6 continuous delivery April update announcement is now available, with enhancements to resilience and management features. Check out the announcement!
- Find out more here
- Hot off the press! IBM Z Development and Test Environment (ZD&T) V13.1**
- We thought V13.0 and V13.0.1 were good but we could do even better. So today, we are excited to announce the release of V13.1. It supports cloud integration to speed up the environment provision time to private or public cloud.
- Find out more here
- IBM Unveils New Capabilities to Accelerate Hybrid Cloud Application Modernization**
- IBM announces new and updated DevOps capabilities, including new IBM Wazi Analyze capabilities, that aim to increase agility for developers.
- Find out more here
- Intelligent application analysis in Wazi to accelerate hybrid cloud application modernization**
- IBM Wazi Developer enables cloud native hybrid application development spanning IBM Z and multi-cloud platforms using a standard DevOps toolchain. Check what's new in Wazi Developer 1.2.0!
- Find out more here
- REXX development made easier with a modern REXX editor**
- In the ongoing effort to bring z/OS application development into the rich ecosystem of modern code editors, the REXX programming language is the next major addition.
- Enabled in IBM Z Open Editor 1.2.0, IBM Wazi Developer 1.2.0, and IBM Developer for z/OS 15.0.1, the Language Server Protocol (LSP) implementation for REXX will make REXX development easier and more accessible with a plethora of language features.
- Find out more here
- Everything you need to know about IBM RSE API Plug-in for Zowe CLI 1.2.0**
- We are excited to announce the release of IBM RSE API Plug-in for Zowe CLI (RSE CLI plug-in) 1.2.0. Read about the updates in this blog.
- Find out more here
- Scaling up the audience with IBM Z Open Editor and Wazi Developer 1.2.0**
- IBM Z Open Editor 1.2.0, together with its companion application Zowe Explorer 1.13, and its packaging in IBM Wazi Developer 1.2 are available now.
- Find out more here
- Improve test automation with IBM Z Virtual Test Platform (ZVTP) 1.2.0**
- We are on an accelerated path to delivering enhancements based on valuable feedback provided by clients who have adopted ZVTP into their test automation solution. Here are the enhancements delivered as part of ZVTP 1.2 continuous delivery update.
- Find out more here
- What's new in IBM Developer for z/OS (IDz) 15.0.1**
- IDz continues to remove barriers that might be associated with z/OS application development within enterprises, by adding features that are common and expected by modern developers.
- Learn about the latest updates to IDz 15.0.1 in this blog.
- Find out more here
- Accelerating your application discovery and analysis with IBM Application Discovery and Delivery Intelligence (ADDI) V6.0.0**
- IBM ADDI V6.0.0 is now generally available.
- With this major release, IBM ADDI brings many new and upgraded capabilities that help developers discover the application relationships and understand the impact of changes with more agility.
- Find out more here
- GitLab + IBM Dependency Based Build (DBB)=Build Test and Deliver faster with IBM Z and z/OS**
- IBM announced GitLab Ultimate for IBM Cloud® Paks, expanding our DevOps offerings across the business allowing clients to get a comprehensive solution with DevOps toolchain for modernization.
- Find out more here

Articles, blogs and more

- Using Java with CICS survey**
- At IBM we are keen to understand our users and their needs, to help us create products that provide value to you. This survey aims to get a thorough understanding of the use of Java in CICS Transaction Server for z/OS. In particular, it is directed at those who develop applications or who manage the systems.
- The survey should take no longer than 10 minutes and we appreciate your insight.
- Find out more here
- Extend an existing Java™ application's build to produce a CICS bundle**
- Enhancements to CICS have created more possibilities of CICS applications with the most popular build systems in the Java world, Gradle and Maven.
- Follow the step-by-step tutorial to extend an existing Gradle or Maven build of a Java application to build a CICS bundle.
- Find out more here
- Client Concentrators Revisited**
- Have you ever asked "why is the CPU usage in my CHIN address space so high?" Check these options that can help reduce the CPU usage, using client concentrators.
- Find out more here
- Strengthening your network cryptographic posture with zERT**
- Security remains to be the top concerns for business. See how banking industry adopted zERT (z/OS Encryption Readiness Technology) in response, a component of IBM Z Pervasive Encryption. Latest enhancements are also included.
- Find out more here
- DevOps as Step One to Modernization**
- To approach application modernization within your organization, no matter where you are on your journey to hybrid cloud, you can always organization start by implementing DevOps.
- Here're three steps to help you get started.
- Find out more here
- Selfie-free messaging, with IBM Developer for z/OS**
- Have you ever noticed that all your favorite apps have their own messaging capability built right in to the app? We all use SMS text messages on a daily basis to communicate with friends and family. But we can also send messages using What's App, Facebook messenger, Instagram Direct Message, etc. Why should your favorite IDE be any different?
- Find out more here
- IBM Wazi Developer for Red Hat CodeReady Workspaces makes building COBOL, PL/I, and HLASM applications easier with User Build**
- User Build, the exciting new feature of the IBM Wazi Developer and IBM Z Open Editor VS Code extension, allows z/OS® developers who write COBOL, PL/I, or HLASM to build applications directly out of the editor.
- Find out more here
- Accelerate digital transformation with IBM Wazi Developer**
- Even if your workloads and applications are running on IBM Z, you can use cloud native technologies to quickly develop and deliver hybrid applications containing z/OS components with IBM Wazi Developer.
- Find out more here

Additional resources

- Z DevOps Talks: GitLab + IBM Z**
- Listen to Elliot Rushton, an Engineering Manager at GitLab, and Rosalind Radcliffe, a Distinguished Engineer and Chief Architect at IBM, discuss continuous integration with GitLab and IBM Z.
- Listen to the podcast
- Z DevOps Talks: Darren Surch talks Interskill Learning, badges, and computer-based training**
- IBM Z is embracing DevOps software development practices through training. Find out everything there is to know about badges, new developments at Interskill Learning, and the future of computer-based training.
- Listen to the podcast
- IBM Application Discovery and Delivery Intelligence for IBM Z 6.0 Overview Video**
- IBM Application Discovery and Delivery Intelligence is an analytical platform for z/OS application modernization that is designed to help developers and architects rapidly discover and analyze relationships between application components, data, and jobs to make changes safely and efficiently.
- Watch the video for a quick overview and a demo.
- Watch the video

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