IBM CICS Transaction Server for z/VSE, V2.2 delivers enhanced CICS web support and ease of use

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Overview

IBM® CICS® Transaction Server (CICS TS) for z/VSE®, V2.2 is the only release that is supported on z/VSE V6.2. This release replaces CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.1 and delivers:

- An upgrade of CICS Web Support (CWS) to HTTP 1.1 for improved performance and security and to support the latest web browsers and applications
- Enhancements to the CICS API
- Enhancements to the CICS Explorer® to more easily manage CICS resources

Effective January, 28, 2018, CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.1 (5655-VSE), which is licensed under the IBM client agreement, is withdrawn from marketing.

Key prerequisites

The minimum required level of operating system for CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 is z/VSE V6.2 (5686-VS6).

For additional information, refer to the Hardware requirements and Software requirements sections.

Planned availability date

December 1, 2017

Description

CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 replaces CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.1. Version 2.2 is latest release of CICS TS for z/VSE and is designed for use only with z/VSE V6.2. It delivers:

- Enhancements to the CICS Explorer to more easily manage CICS resources:
  - Define new CICS resources and modify or delete existing resources.
  - Monitor, control, and update dynamic storage areas and global temporary storage queue statistics.
  - Support resource definitions views for selected CICS resources.
• An upgrade of CICS Web Support (CWS) to HTTP 1.1:
  -- CWS is upgraded to comply with HTTP 1.1 to provide support for the latest web browsers and applications. To improve performance and security, new function is added, such as:
    -- Persistent connections
    -- Pipelining
    -- Chunking
• Enhancements to the CICS API to provide support for:
  -- UTF-8 and UTF-16, for use in data conversion, when using the channels and containers API
  -- APPEND parameter for PUT CONTAINER, to append specified data to existing container data
  -- BYTEOFFSET parameter for GET CONTAINER, to retrieve data at a specified offset in a container
  -- Date and time stamp formats that are in general use across the internet
  -- Language Environment™ (LE) MAIN for Assembler applications

Accessibility by people with disabilities

A US Section 508 Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) containing details on accessibility compliance can be found on the IBM Accessibility website.

Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act

CICS TS for z/VSE V2.2 is capable, at general availability, when used in accordance with associated IBM documentation, of satisfying the applicable requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, provided that any assistive technology used with the product properly interoperates with it. A US Section 508 Product accessibility information can be requested.

Hardware and software support services

SmoothStart/installation services

IBM SmoothStart Services and Installation Services are not provided.

Reference information


Availability of national languages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Availability date</th>
<th>Language</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>z/VSE V6.2</td>
<td>December 1, 2017</td>
<td>US English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2</td>
<td>December 1, 2017</td>
<td>US English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Starting with Version 6.1 and later, the z/VSE operating system is delivered in US English language only.

Translation information, if available, can be found at the Translation Reports website.
Program number

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program name</th>
<th>VRM</th>
<th>Program number</th>
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<tr>
<td>CICS TS for z/VSE</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>5655-VSE</td>
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</table>

Business Partner information

If you are a Direct Reseller - System Reseller acquiring products from IBM, you may link directly to BP Attachment for Announcement Letter 217-351 for this announcement. A PartnerWorld ID and password are required (use IBMid).

Technical information

Specified operating environment

**Hardware requirements**  
Processor  
CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 runs on any IBM Z machine that supports the required z/VSE operating system.

**Software requirements**  
**Operating environment**  
CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 requires at least z/VSE V6.2 to be installed. CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 will not initialize in an environment with a lower level of operating system installed.

**CICS Explorer**  
The latest version of CICS Explorer runs with CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2, and is enhanced to add update and control capabilities to manage selected CICS resources more efficiently. Details on how to download CICS Explorer for CICS TS for z/VSE V2.2 are available.

**Compatibility**

**Performance considerations**  
Not applicable.

**User group requirements**  
Requirements for CICS TS can be created, viewed, and voted for, in the IBM RFE community.

The following Request for Enhancements (RFEs) are satisfied or partially satisfied in CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RFE number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29423</td>
<td>Lift 32 KB data limit for Web services (SOAP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50582</td>
<td>Remove 32K limitation in z/VSE SOAP support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61922</td>
<td>Exploit CICS Channels and Containers in Web Services (SOAP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CICS TS requirements</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29302</td>
<td>CICS Web Support: Support for CHUNK parameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFE number</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50583</td>
<td>Support HTTP/1.1 for CICS Web Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61923</td>
<td>UTF-8 support in CICS TS conversion services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Planning information**

**Packaging**

**Physical delivery**

The Licensed Program Specifications for CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 is shipped with the product on DVD (GC34-7365), together with the machine-readable material.

Certain other items, such as specification sheets of related IBM products, might be included.

**Electronic delivery**

PDF versions of CICS product documentation are also available for download from the IBM Publications Center. See the section on Product Documentation for details.

At general availability of CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2, clients can also download and use CICS Explorer. This release of CICS Explorer can be used with each supported release of CICS TS for z/VSE and is available as a no-charge optional feature.

**Security, auditability, and control**

Information about security is available in both the online product documentation for CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 and z/VSE V6.2.

CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 uses the security and auditability features of the operating system under which it is running.

The customer is responsible for evaluation, selection, and implementation of security features, administrative procedures, and appropriate controls in application systems and communication facilities.

**Ordering information**

**Order VM SDO and VSE SIPO through the internet**

Shopz provides an easy way to plan and order IBM Z software upgrades. This now includes VM and VSE. Using Shopz, you can quickly generate orders for VM SDOs and VSE SIPOS. Additionally, Shopz will ensure your order is technically correct (that is, ensures any co-req or pre-req or incompatibility conditions are resolved to ensure timely order placement and processing). Shopz is available in the United States and several countries in Europe. In countries where Shopz is not available yet, contact your IBM representative (or IBM Business Partner) to handle your order through the traditional IBM ordering process. For more details and availability, go to the Shopz website.

**New licensees**

Orders for new licenses can be placed now. Registered customers can access IBMLink for ordering information and charges. Shipment will not occur before the availability date. Unless a later date is specified, orders entered before the planned availability date will be assigned a schedule date of one week following availability.
• Orders entered after the planned availability date will be assigned a schedule date for the week following order entry.

Shipment will begin on the planned availability date.
• Orders that ship before the planned availability date will receive CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.1.
• Orders that ship after the planned availability date will receive CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2.

New users of CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 should specify:

Type: 5655 Model: VSE

Non graduated charges.

**Advanced Entry Workload License Charges (AEWLC)**

To order a basic license, specify the program number and quantity of MSUs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entitlement ID</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S017VB2</td>
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<td>Basic MLC, AEWLC</td>
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</table>

**IBM Z entry license charge (zELC)**

To order zELC software, specify the zELC monthly license option.

Program name: CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2
Program ID: 5655-VSE

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<td>Basic MLC, zELC</td>
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**Midrange Workload License Charges (MWLC) in IBM z/VSE V6**

Basic license structure

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Entitlement ID</th>
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<td>Basic MLC, MWLC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Basic machine-readable material**

Not applicable

**Customization options**

Expedite shipments will be processed to receive 72-hour delivery from the time IBM Software Delivery and Fulfillment (SDF) receives the order. SDF will then ship the order by overnight air transportation.

**Unlicensed documentation**

**Product documentation**

CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 product documentation is provided in two ways:
• Online, from IBM Knowledge Center
• Downloadable PDF manuals, from the z/VSE documentation library
New functions provided by this release are described in the *CICS TS for z/VSE Enhancements Guide (SC34-2685)*.

**Online information in IBM Knowledge Center**

Online documentation for CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.2 is hosted in IBM Knowledge Center. IBM Knowledge Center provides information for over 2,500 IBM products. The information that was previously provided in product Information Centers is in IBM Knowledge Center. IBM Knowledge Center provides integrated tools for finding, filtering, customizing, saving, and sharing information.

Benefits include:

- **Consolidation.** IBM Knowledge Center is one place to go to find information about all IBM products.
- **Consistency.** There were differences in the presentation and function of Information Centers between products.
- **Customization.** Clients can use IBM Knowledge Center filtering capabilities to select the information that is most relevant to them, and build that information into customized collections for viewing online or in PDF. IBM updates to the information are automatically reflected in such collections.

For more information, refer to [IBM Knowledge Center](https://www.ibm.com).

**PDF manuals**

Documentation for CICS TS for z/VSE V2.2 is also provided for download in PDF format from the [z/VSE documentation library](https://www.ibm.com).  

**Other CICS publications**

Other CICS publications are available in IBM Redbooks®, such as *Migration to CICS Transaction Server for z/VSE (SG24-8390)*.

Subsequent updates (technical newsletters or revisions between releases) to the publications shipped with the product will be distributed to the user of record for as long as a license for this software remains in effect. A separate publication order or subscription is not needed.

**Terms and conditions**

The terms for CICS TS for z/VSE, V2.1, licensed under the IBM Customer Agreement (ICA), are unaffected by this announcement. For further details, refer to Software Announcement [215-362](https://www.ibm.com), dated October 5, 2015.

**Statement of good security practices**

IT system security involves protecting systems and information through prevention, detection, and response to improper access from within and outside your enterprise. Improper access can result in information being altered, destroyed, or misappropriated or can result in misuse of your systems to attack others. Without a comprehensive approach to security, no IT system or product should be considered completely secure and no single product or security measure can be completely effective in preventing improper access. IBM systems and products are designed to be part of a lawful, comprehensive security approach, which will necessarily involve additional operational procedures, and may require other systems, products, or services to be most effective.

**Important:** IBM does not warrant that any systems, products, or services are immune from, or will make your enterprise immune from, the malicious or illegal conduct of any party.
Electronic Service Agent™ and the IBM Electronic Support web portal are dedicated to providing fast, exceptional support to IBM Systems customers. The IBM Electronic Service Agent tool is a no-additional-charge tool that proactively monitors and reports hardware events, such as system errors, performance issues, and inventory. The Electronic Service Agent tool can help you stay focused on your company’s strategic business initiatives, save time, and spend less effort managing day-to-day IT maintenance issues. Servers enabled with this tool can be monitored remotely around the clock by IBM Support, all at no additional cost to you.

Now integrated into the base operating system of AIX® V5.3, AIX V6.1, and AIX V7.1, Electronic Service Agent is designed to automatically and electronically report system failures and utilization issues to IBM, which can result in faster problem resolution and increased availability. System configuration and inventory information collected by the Electronic Service Agent tool also can be viewed on the secure Electronic Support web portal, and used to improve problem determination and resolution by you and the IBM support team. To access the tool main menu, simply type smitty esa_main, and select Configure Electronic Service Agent. In addition, ESA now includes a powerful web user interface, giving the administrator easy access to status, tool settings, problem information, and filters. For more information and documentation on how to configure and use Electronic Service Agent, go to the IBM Electronic Support website.

The IBM Electronic Support portal is a single internet entry point that replaces the multiple entry points traditionally used to access IBM internet services and support. This portal enables you to gain easier access to IBM resources for assistance in resolving technical problems. The My Systems and Premium Search functions make it even easier for Electronic Service Agent tool-enabled customers to track system inventory and find pertinent fixes.

Benefits

**Increased uptime:** The Electronic Service Agent™ tool is designed to enhance the Warranty or Maintenance Agreement by providing faster hardware error reporting and uploading system information to IBM Support. This can translate to less wasted time monitoring the symptoms, diagnosing the error, and manually calling IBM Support to open a problem record. Its 24 x 7 monitoring and reporting mean intervention is not required to report errors.

**Security:** The Electronic Service Agent tool is designed to be secure in monitoring, reporting, and storing the data at IBM. The Electronic Service Agent tool is designed to securely transmit either through the internet (HTTPS or VPN) or modem to provide customers a single point of exit from their site. Communication is one way. Activating Electronic Service Agent does not enable IBM to call into a customer’s system.

For additional information, go to the IBM Electronic Service Agent website.

**More accurate reporting:** Because system information and error logs are automatically uploaded to the IBM Support Center in conjunction with the service request, you are not required to find and send system information, decreasing the risk of misreported or misdiagnosed errors. Once inside IBM, problem error data is run through a data knowledge management system and knowledge articles are appended to the problem record.

**Customized support:** Using the IBMid entered during activation, you can view system and support information in the My Systems and Premium Search sections of the IBM Electronic Support page.

My Systems provides valuable reports of installed hardware and software using information collected from the systems by Electronic Service Agent. Reports are available for any system associated with your IBMid. Premium Search combines the
function of search and the value of Electronic Service Agent information, providing advanced search of the technical support knowledgebase. Using Premium search and the Electronic Service Agent information that has been collected from your system, you are able to see search results that apply specifically to your systems.

For more information on how to utilize the power of IBM Electronic Services, contact your IBM Systems Services Representative, or go to the IBM Electronic Support website.

**Prices**

For additional information and current prices, contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner.

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Program ID: 5655-VSE

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**Midrange Workload License Charges (MWLC) for IBM z®/VSE**

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**Variable charges**

The applicable processor-based, one-time charge will be based on the group of the designated machine on which the program is licensed for use. If the program is designated to a processor in a group for which no charge is listed, the charge of the next higher group listed applies. For movement to a machine in a higher group, an upgrade charge equal to the difference in the then-current charges between the two groups will apply. For movement to a machine in a lower group, there will be no adjustment or refund of charges paid.

**Order now**

To order, contact the IBM Digital Sales Center, your local IBM representative, or your IBM Business Partner. To identify your local IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, call 800-IBM-4YOU (426-4968). For more information, contact the IBM Digital Sales Center.

Phone: 800-IBM-CALL (426-2255)

Fax: 800-2IBM-FAX (242-6329)

For IBM representative: askibm@ca.ibm.com

For IBM Business Partner: pwcs@us.ibm.com

IBM Digital Sales Offices 1177 S Belt Line Rd Coppell, TX 75019-4642, US

The IBM Digital Sales Center, our national direct marketing organization, can add your name to the mailing list for catalogs of IBM products.
**Note:** Shipments will begin after the planned availability date.

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**IBM United States**