IBM CICS Transaction Gateway for Multiplatforms V7.0 delivers enhancements including systems monitoring capabilities

Overview

CICS® Transaction Gateway (CICS TG) for Multiplatforms V7.0 can perform real-time monitoring of CICS TG systems. This important capability delivers a window into the CICS TG “black-box,” enabling its activity to be monitored proactively. Abnormal occurrences can be detected and resolved before impacting production operations.

Systems administrators and capacity planners can analyze system utilization metrics, and perform online problem determination of these CICS TG system functions. Critical information about the connection management and the transaction throughput is accessible.

CICS TG for Multiplatforms V7.0 also delivers the following enhancements related to extended networking support:

- The ability to process Internet Protocol v6 (IPv6) connections, providing the better routing, enhanced security, and global scalability that is delivered in this latest version of the IP standard
- A new configurable server idle timeout option to reduce network overheads of many attached clients
- Extensions to Systems Network Architecture (SNA) support to include the Linux™ on Intel®, Linux on POWER™, and Sun Solaris environments, allowing you to maintain your SNA infrastructure or migrate away from TCP/IP environments

There are also enhancements related to advanced security enablement. Support for the Transport Layer Security (TLS) 1.0 protocol enables more stringent encryption capabilities and better interoperation with a variety of secure clients.

Key prerequisites

Hardware Requirements — Both the CICS TG for Multiplatforms V7.0 and the CICS Universal Client V7.0 run on any hardware capable of running the relevant operating system and prerequisite software.

For more details, refer to the Hardware requirements section.

Operating systems — Refer to the Software requirements section.

Planned availability dates

- November 24, 2006, electronic software delivery
- December 15, 2006, media and documentation

At a glance

CICS Transaction Gateway (CICS TG) for Multiplatforms V7.0 introduces a range of new capabilities:

- Real-time systems monitoring capability of the Gateway daemon, allowing detection of out-of-line conditions before function is impacted
- Extensions to networking support, including support for IPv6 connections, and extended SNA networking support
- Improvements to security capabilities, including Transport Layer Security (TLS) 1.0 support

For ordering, contact:
Your IBM representative or the Americas Call Centers at 800-IBM-CALL

Reference: YE001

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CICS TG for Multiplatforms V7.0

CICS TG, a market-leading Java™ 2 Platform, Enterprise Edition (J2EE) connector, is production proven for over a thousand customers as a high-performing, security-rich, and scalable method of service-oriented architecture (SOA) access to CICS. CICS TG:

- Delivers J2EE standards-based access to CICS applications, while requiring minimal changes to CICS and usually no changes to existing CICS applications
- Enables the rapid deployment of CICS applications as services in an enterprise-wide SOA
- Allows the reuse of existing CICS applications as services in comprehensive and sophisticated J2EE and Web services solutions hosted on powerful application servers such as WebSphere® Application Server
- Allows CICS applications rapidly to be service-enabled by connecting them to new environments — such as the Enterprise Service Bus (ESB), the heart of an SOA

The strategic interface within CICS TG that enables this connectivity is the J2EE Connector Architecture (JCA) Common Client Interface (CCI), a core component of J2EE that defines a programming standard to all enterprise information systems (EISs). JCA is now a popular method of connectivity because of its ease of implementation and high qualities of service. Using Java Servlets or Enterprise JavaBeans (EJB) components, the External Call Interface (ECI) can be utilized to allow access to CICS COMMAREA-based applications. A choice of TCP/IP or SSL connectivity options is supported.

Enhancements in CICS TG for Multiplatforms V7.0

CICS TG for Multiplatforms V7.0 provides significant enhancements over previous releases in three principle areas:

- Systems monitoring capability
- Extended networking support
- Advanced security enablement

Systems monitoring capability

**Online statistics:** Online analysis of Gateway daemon system resources is supported, aiding faster problem analysis and better capacity planning. This function allows systems administrators and capacity planners to analyze system utilization metrics and to perform online problem determination.

Statistics are provided concerning a number of important metrics including configurable system limits, internal thread usage, and processed transaction requests. The proximity of the workload to the levels set in the configurable limits can be obtained. If necessary, action can be taken to reduce the need for planned outages or prevent the occurrence of unplanned downtime.

These statistics are made available through the extended ctgadmin command-based system administration interface on the distributed platforms.

**External statistical API:** Exploitation of the new CICS TG online statistics function is also available through the provision of an external C language API. Use of this interface allows custom-built solutions or third-party monitoring applications to exploit this new functionality and incorporate it in integrated monitoring applications.

Extended networking support

**IPv6 support:** CICS TG for Multiplatforms V7.0 processes Internet Protocol V6 (IPv6) connections from remote Java clients, providing for better routing, enhanced security, and global scalability delivered in this latest version of the IP standard.

**Server idle timeout:** On the distributed platforms, a new configuration option is provided by CICS TG. It will allow TCP/IP or SNA network connections from the Client daemon to CICS servers to be timed out during periods of inactivity. This helps network administrators to reduce overhead when managing large networks of attached clients.

**SNA support for Solaris and Linux:** This function will enable support for IBM Communications Server for Linux on POWER and Linux on Intel, and for SNAP-IX V7 for Sun Solaris, providing SNA connectivity to CICS for those customers who need to maintain their SNA infrastructure or who need to move away from TCP62 environments.

Advanced security enablement

**TLS support:** In addition to the existing support for SSL 3.0, support is provided for the TLS 1.0 protocol for secure connections into the Gateway daemon. Exploitation of TLS enables more stringent encryption capabilities and better interoperation with a variety of secure clients.

Other capabilities

**Support for Java V5**

CICS TG V7.0 also provides exploitation for the IBM SDK, Java 2 Technology Edition, V5. This includes support for the following configurations:

- Optimized support of the IBM Java Runtime Environment by the Gateway daemon
- Deployment of the JCA resource adapters into the WebSphere Application Server V6.1 run-time environment
- Expanded list of supported J2EE application servers to include the 64-bit Java Runtime Environment for WebSphere Application Server

CICS Universal Client for Multiplatforms V7.0

CICS Universal Client V7.0 delivers simple and low-cost integration with CICS from Microsoft™ Windows™, Linux and UNIX® systems. It provides access from a single user workstation to the tried and trusted transactional capabilities of IBM CICS Transaction Servers (CICS TS) and TXSeries™ CICS servers.

CICS Universal Client communicates with CICS servers through External Call Interface (ECI), External Programming Interface (EPI) and External Security Interface (ECI). External Call Interface helps optimize client and server operation and improve programmer flexibility by keeping business logic on the server and presentation logic on the client. EPI enables the client to programmatically interact with 3270 data-stream-based transactions. There are also 3270 emulation capabilities that enable a workstation to function as a 3270 display or printer for CICS applications. ESI enables appropriate user applications to verify that a password corresponds to an existing user ID, and allows passwords to be changed to facilitate better user ID and password management.
Programming interfaces are provided in C/C++, COM (for Visual Basic or Visual Basic Script support), and COBOL. It provides TCP/IP, TCP62, and SNA LU6.2 networking options to connect to your CICS systems.

Single user licences of CICS Universal Client should be considered by anybody looking to distribute single-user, low-cost CICS access across the enterprise. CICS Universal Client V7.0 provides the following enhancements over previous versions:

**Enhancements in CICS Universal Client V7.0**

**Server idle timeout:** On the distributed platforms, a new configuration option is provided by CICS TG, which will allow TCP/IP or SNA network connections from the Client daemon to CICS servers to be timed out during periods of inactivity. This helps network administrators reduce overheads when managing large networks of attached clients.

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**Accessibility by people with disabilities**

The following features support use by people with disabilities:

- Operation by keyboard alone
- Optional font enlargement and high-contrast display settings
- Screen readers and screen magnifiers tested for use by people with visual impairment
- Suitable for people with hearing impairment

Softcopy PDF documentation is shipped with the product. PDF documentation supports optional font enlargement, high-contrast display settings, and can be operated by the keyboard alone. Alternative text is not provided for screen-reader users and the documentation contains syntax diagrams which may be unsuitable for use with screen readers or screen magnifiers. Fully accessible softcopy documentation, with alternative text for diagrams, and with syntax diagrams displayed in an accessible format, will be made available on request.

**Section 508 of the U.S. Rehabilitation Act**

CICS TG for Multiplatforms V7.0 and CICS Universal Client V7.0 is capable as of December 15, 2006, 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 Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) can be requested via the IBM Web site at


**IPLA and subscription and support considerations**

IPLA licenses can be transferred from one machine to another within, but not limited to an enterprise. You may aggregate the capacity for all the processors the product is operated on to achieve a more economic price. This will result in a single Proof of Entitlement (PoE). It is your responsibility to manage the distribution of Value Units within the limits of the entitlement of the product license.

Subscription and Support must cover the same capacity as the product license entitlement. Subscription and Support will be available in the country in which the agreement is made.

**Product positioning**

One of the key attributes of an SOA is its ability to reuse existing program assets. For many organizations, their key existing program assets are CICS-based applications. CICS TG allows CICS applications rapidly to be service-enabled by connecting them to new environments, such as the ESB, the heart of an SOA.

To enable comprehensive composite-application-serving infrastructures, CICS TG provides connectivity from WebSphere SOA foundation servers to CICS TS for z/OS. The strategic interface within CICS TG that enables this is the JCA adapter, a core component of J2EE that defines a programming standard to all EISs. JCA is a popular method of J2EE connectivity because of its ease of implementation and high qualities of service.

JCA provides delegated management of connections, transactions, and security that are transparent to application developers. In a managed environment, like that of WebSphere Application Server, system contracts enable these management capabilities. They help to make the JCA a robust solution for integrating COMMAREA-based CICS applications with J2EE applications running in WebSphere Application Server.

Tightly coupled connectivity solutions such as JCA, along with other J2EE standard services such as Java Message Service (JMS) and Java Database Connectivity (JDBC), can coexist with loosely coupled Web services to take advantage of the agility of On Demand Business.

Choosing the right deployment platform for your gateway is important. CICS TG V7.0 currently supports the following platforms:

- z/OS
- Linux on IBM eServer® zSeries®
- AIX®
- Linux on Intel
- Microsoft Windows
- HP-UX
- Sun Solaris
- Linux on POWER

Connectivity is provided on these platforms from all supported WebSphere Application Server environments to all supported CICS servers.

The qualities of service of CICS TG are highest when deploying on the z/OS platform. The comparison of the qualities of service delivered on each platform and in each configuration is discussed in the publication, *Integrating WebSphere Application Server and CICS TS using the Java Connector Architecture* (G224-7218).

The CICS TG is the strategic connector between TXSeries CICS servers and WebSphere Application Servers.

CICS TG will continue to support the J2EE connectors as they evolve, and will continue to deliver enhanced integration, standards, and customer value.

**Trademarks**

POWER and TXSeries are trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation in the United States or other countries or both.
Offering Information

Product information is available via the Offering Information Web site
http://www.ibm.com/common/ssi

Also, visit the Passport Advantage® Web site
http://www.ibm.com/software/passportadvantage

Publications

Information for CICS® TG for Multiplatforms and CICS Universal Client V7.0 is delivered in the form of an Information Center based on the Eclipse platform. Delivery in this form exploits a common framework that is now employed by many other IBM products.

Powered by Eclipse technology, the Information Center consists of an Eclipse Help System, together with the information for CICS TG as a plug-in. This brings a range of benefits to the user. One of these is the use of a common framework which is now the infrastructure of choice adopted by many IBM products. This framework gives a common look and feel, and consistency of behavior. The infrastructure also allows users to customize their own Information Centers using plug-ins from multiple products, or to write their own plugins.

Information Center

The Information Center for CICS TG for Multiplatforms and CICS Universal Client V7.0 is shipped on CD-ROM with the product. This Information Center applies to both CICS TG for Multiplatforms and CICS Universal Client V7.0.

From November 10, 2006, the Information Center can also be accessed at this Web site
http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/cicstg/v7r0m0/index.jsp

Transaction Processing and Data Collection Kit

The Transaction Processing and Data Collection Kit is now available on DVD (SK3T-6996) as well as CD-ROM (SK2T-0730).

The Online Library Transaction Processing and Data Collection kit contains multiple product libraries related to CICS, IMS™, DB2®, and other IBM transaction processing and database products. The information is viewable using the IBM Softcopy Reader, or any of the BookManager® READ products. Some of the information is also provided as PDFs (Portable Document Format). For viewing information, this kit provides the IBM Softcopy Reader, which runs under Windows™ 2000 or Windows XP.

Technical Information

Hardware requirements

CICS TG V7 and CICS Universal Client V7 will run on any of the following hardware supported by an operating system listed in software requirements:

- IBM System z™ machine supported by Linux™
- 32-bit or 64-bit IBM eServer® pSeries® system supported by AIX® or Linux
- 32-bit or 64-bit Sun SPARC system supported by Sun Solaris
- 32-bit or 64-bit HP PA-RISC 1.1 or 2.0 system supported by HP-UX
- Intel® Pentium®, AMD Opteron or Intel EM64T supported by Microsoft™ Windows or Linux (32-bit kernel support only)

Software requirements

The following is a summary of the supported software for the CICS TG and CICS Universal Client. For complete and up to date information including specific versions and fixes required, refer to the IBM Web site


For CICS TG

Operating systems

- AIX V5.2 or AIX V5.3 (with 32-bit and 64-bit kernels)
- Linux on System z: RHEL 3 (with 31-bit kernel), or RHEL 4, SLES 9, SLES 10 (with 64-bit kernels)
- Linux on Intel: RHEL 3, RHEL 4, SLES 9 or SLES 10, (with 32-bit kernels)
- Linux on POWER™: RHEL 3, RHEL 4, SLES 9, or SLES 10, (with 64-bit kernels)
- Solaris V9 or Solaris V10 (with 32-bit or 64-bit kernels)
- HP-UX11i V2 (with 32-bit or 64-bit kernels)
- Microsoft Windows 2000, Windows XP or Windows 2003 (with 32-bit kernels)


J2EE Application Servers

- WebSphere® Application Server V6.1
- WebSphere Application Server for Multiplatforms V5.1 or later (when used in remote mode) Note that this requires the correct resource adapter for the level of

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WebSphere being used. For details refer to the appropriate page of the support Web site.

**CICS Universal Client**

**Operating systems**
- AIX V5.2 or V5.3 (with 32-bit and 64-bit kernels)
- Linux on System z: RHEL 3 (with 31-bit kernel), or RHEL 4, SLES 9 or SLES 10 (with 64-bit kernels)
- Linux on Intel: RHEL 3, RHEL 4, SLES 9, SLES 10, NLD 9 or SLED 10 (with 32-bit kernels)
- Linux on POWER: RHEL 3, RHEL 4, SLES 9 or SLES 10 (with 64-bit kernels)
- Solaris V9 or Solaris V10 (with 32-bit or 64-bit kernels)
- HP-UX11i V2 (with 32-bit or 64-bit kernels)
- Microsoft Windows 2000 or Windows XP (with 32-bit kernels)

**Compatibility:** The following compatibility statements apply to either the CICS TG for Multiplatforms V7.0, CICS Universal Client V7.0, or both:

**Compatibility**

TCP62: As previously announced on October 4, 2005 in CICS Transaction Gateway for z/OS® V6.1 Software Announcement 205-248, (RFA 42019) CICS TG V7.0 and CICS Universal Client V7.0 will be the last releases that will contain TCP62 support for the AnyNet® protocol communicating with remote CICS systems using SNA over TCP/IP protocol encapsulation. After these releases, this function will be removed from the products.

For continued use of SNA over TCP/IP, it will be necessary to migrate TCP62 server definitions to SNA and implement another IBM Communications Server TCP/IP protocol encapsulation solution, such as Enterprise Extender or Remote API client support.

For information on the removal of AnyNet support from z/OS Communications Server, refer to the z/OS and z/OS.e statements of direction announcement, Software Announcement 203-266, dated October 7, 2003, and the z/OS V1.7 preview announcement, Software Announcement 205-034, dated February 15, 2005.

**Terminal Servlet:** CICS TG has removed support for the Terminal Servlet. It is recommended that users migrate to using either a CICS 3270 bridge solution, or to an IBM Host Integration solution.

**CICS TG base classes:** CICS TG V7 will continue to support the following features of the CICS TG base classes
- Generic replies for asynchronous ECI requests
- Non-validated message qualifiers for asynchronous ECI requests
- Non-validated units-of-work for ECI requests
- The AutoJavaGateway class

The recommended approach is to disable generic replies for asynchronous ECI requests, to validate all units of work and message qualifiers, and to use the JavaGateway class as these features may be enforced in a future release of the CICS TG.

For compatibility reasons, the CICS TG base classes are only supported within the Web container in WebSphere Application Server V6.1. Users should note the following limitations:

- All ECI requests must be nontransactional. This means that only the field ECI_NO_EXTEND is supported on the ECIRequest constructor as the Extend_Mode.
- All ECI requests must be synchronous; that is, only the fields ECI_SYNC or ECI_SYNC_TPN are supported as the call types.
- The EPIRequest class is not supported with WebSphere Application Server. Use the EPI support classes (Terminal, Screen, and Field) instead.

Users are encouraged to move J2EE applications to a JCA connector-based solution in order to take advantage of ease of application development and higher qualities of service.

**Applets:** Applet support remains in CICS TG for Multiplatforms V7.0, but it is expected to be removed in a future release. Users should be encouraged to move any applet based solution to a servlet or J2EE solution.

**Common Connector Framework (CCF):** CCF was an early IBM proprietary method of connecting to Enterprise Information Systems such as CICS. CCF has evolved into the standards based Java2 Enterprise Edition Connector Architecture (JCA; also known as J2C).

CCF support has been removed in line with its removal from WebSphere Application Server and migration to JCA is required. An IBM Redpaper entitled Migrating Applications from CCF to JCA/J2C (REDP-3784), is provided to support migration to JCA.

For more information, refer to the WebSphere Application Server V5.1 Software Announcement 203-319, dated November 25, 2003.

**Planning information**

**Customer responsibilities:** Software Maintenance is included with licenses purchased through Passport Advantage and Passport Advantage Express. Installation and technical support is provided by the Software Maintenance offering of the IBM International Passport Advantage Agreement. This fee service enhances your productivity, with voice and electronic access into IBM support organizations.

**Packaging:** CICS TG for Multiplatforms and CICS UC V7.0 will be delivered via Passport Advantage. The software and documentation will be available for electronic download and on a CD-ROM in a Media Pack.

The Media Pack for CICS TG for Multiplatforms and CIC UC V7.0 will comprise:
- CD-ROM containing the program
- CD-ROM containing the publications
- Passport Advantage Pointer Sheet
- Quick Start Guide

**Security, auditability, and control**

CICS TG uses the security and auditability features of the host hardware or software.

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

IBM Services has the breadth, depth, and reach to manage your services needs. You can leverage the deep technical skills of our lab-based, software services team and the business consulting, project management, and infrastructure expertise of our IBM Global Services team. Also, we extend our IBM Software Services reach through IBM Business Partners to provide an unmatched portfolio of capabilities. Together, we provide the global reach, intellectual capital, industry insight, and technology leadership to support any critical business need.

To learn more about IBM Software Services or to contact a software services sales specialist, visit

http://www.ibm.com/software/sw-services/

To locate an IBM Business Partner, visit

http://www.ibm.com/software/solutions/isv

Ordering information

This product is only available via Passport Advantage. It is not available as shrinkwrap.

Product information

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Charge metrics definitions

Value Unit

A Value Unit is a pricing charge metric for program license entitlements which is based upon the quantity of a specific designated measurement used for a given program. Each program has a designated measurement. The most commonly used designated measurement is a processor core. However, for select Programs, there are other designated measurements such as users, client devices, and messages. The number of Value Unit entitlements required for a program depends on how the program is deployed in your environment and must be obtained from a Value Unit table. You must obtain a Proof of Entitlement (PoE) for the calculated number of Value Unit entitlements for your implementation. The Value Unit entitlements are specific to a program and may not be exchanged, interchanged, or aggregated with Value Unit entitlements of another program.

Processor (Value Unit)

A processor core is a functional unit within a computing device that interprets and executes instructions. A processor core consists of at least an instruction control unit and one or more arithmetic or logic unit. With multicores technology, each core is considered a processor. Not all processor cores require the same number of Value Unit entitlements. To calculate the number of Value Unit entitlements required, refer to the value unit table on the following Web site


With full capacity licensing, a Proof of Entitlement (PoE) must be acquired for the appropriate number of value units based on all activated processor cores available for use on the server.

Passport Advantage program licenses

CICS Transaction Gateway for Multiplatforms V7

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Passport Advantage customer: Media pack entitlement details

Customers with active maintenance or subscription for the products listed are entitled to receive the corresponding media pack.

CICS Universal Client V7.0.0

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Cross-platform product for use on System z

Order the part numbers that follow when there is an intention to acquire this cross-platform product for deployment on the System z platform. This set of part numbers provides the identical supply and authorization as the other set in this announcement. The distinction is to identify the planned deployment platform.

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On/Off Capacity on Demand

IBM CICS Transaction Gateway

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IBM CICS Universal Client

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Terms and conditions

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Agreement: IBM International Program License Agreement including the License Information (LI) document and Proof of Entitlement (PoE) govern your use of the Program. PoEs are required for all authorized use.

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This software license includes Software Maintenance, previously referred to as Subscription and Technical Support.

License information (LI) form number

- **Program name**
  - CICS Transaction Gateway for Multiprocessors V7
  - CICS Universal Client V7.0

- **Program number**
  - 5724-1B1
  - 5724-J09

- **Form number**
  - L-SBRY-6U2HB2
  - L-SBRY-6U2HC3

The program’s LI will be available for review on the IBM Software License Agreement Web site


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- For programs acquired under any of the IBM On/Off Capacity on Demand (On/Off CoD) software offerings, this term does not apply since these offerings apply to programs already acquired and in use by the customer.

Copy and use on home/portable computer: No

Usage restriction: Yes

The CICS Universal Client v7.0 is for single users on
Passport Advantage applies: Yes, and through the Passport Advantage Web site at

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This product is only available via Passport Advantage. It is not available as shrinkwrap.

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