

# RACF Performance Tuning

Or, “How to squeeze the MOST out  
of an already great product !!”

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Wednesday April 27th 2005

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## Today's Agenda

- Database size and content
- Fastpathing options
  - Global / Raclisting
  - types of calls
  - VLF
- Splitting the DB
- Use of the CF (i.e RACF sysplex datasharing)
- Use SAFtracing
- Questions ??

## Database size and content

- Know your database.. Use IRRUT200 often (for several reasons)
- Purge unnecessary stuff
- Use IRRRID00
- The “Lean and Mean” approach
- If that doesn’t offer enough relief .... then

## Fastpathing options

- Properly tuned GLOBAL access. Grants access, never denies...
  - dataset
  - other classess
- RACLISTing - just about everything in all general resource classes.....
  - exceptions TAPEVOL and very volitile (adds, changes, deletes of profiles, making RACLISTing impractical)

## Fastpathing options - continued

- Types of calls (update activity - database administration AND heavy LOGON activity)
- VLF caching - tie in to RACF Sysplex Communications mode (a feature new at z/OS V1R2)

## Splitting the DB

- **Easy, except for HOW MANY and WHERE?**  
(I realize the seriousness of this topic....)
- **Requires an extremely innate knowledge of access patterns (what data is accessed and when?)**
- **Can alleviate ENQ contention** (the minor name of our database enqs (DASD and storage blocks) is the database name piece.)
- **Increase the buffered blocks by a factor of the split number**

## Use of the CF (aka RACF SDS)

- A more costly option, UNLESS you have an underutilized CF in house...
- Defining structures, and a few other items
- First getting to RACF SYSPLEX Communication (recommended REGARDLESS of CF usage plans)
- Doing the requisite testing and operator training....
- Go for it

## Use SAftracing

- Not a performance topic per se, BUT can be useful in this and other situations.
- Finding out WHAT sort of activity is occurring.
- An ICHEINTY (database manager calls) TRACE properly analyzed (example key usage over time in a histogram) could predict access patterns and possible split points
- Update activity from VERIFYs - tuning of VLF and possibly CICS (usrdelay).



## Questions ??

- In case of none - a little entertainment and a public service announcement...
- Ask me about the ONLY dumb question ever asked (in other words, DON'T be afraid to ask in this or any forum!)
- The RACF list forum is a great source of good information, about RACF from a variety of season experts.

