



IBM

IMS

NEWSLETTER

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Las Vegas, Nevada

IBM Information
>>> **On Demand**

2007

Featuring:

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Dr. Ambuj Goyal
Mike Borman
Emilie McCabe
Stephen Covey
Donna Summer
Dana Carvey
Chris Anderson
The Flying Elvi

All the info you need begins on page 2!

Volume 0702

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Join us October 14–19, 2007, at Mandalay Bay Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada for IBM Information On Demand 2007, the premier information management event for business and IT executives, managers, professionals, DBAs, developers, and business partners.

IBM Information On Demand 2007 incorporates seven previous Information Management conferences, including IBM IMS™ Technical Conference, IBM DB2® Technical Conference, Content Management Technical Conference, Business Intelligence Customer Solution Summit, Master Data Management Conference, Information Integration Live, and Americas UserNet Conference.

Highlights:

- More technical and business sessions on IBM information management than any other conference
- Over 200 customer speakers
- Complimentary certification exams
- Huge Expo: 150 business partner booths and over 130 IBM solutions showcased
- Motivational speakers and many networking opportunities

New for 2007:

- 600 technical skill sessions and 120 business leadership sessions
- FileNet UserNet Conference
- Mock trial on compliance
- Community receptions, Birds-of-a-feather sessions, and product roadmaps
- Innovation awards
- More repeat sessions
- Twice the number of hands-on labs

Technical skill building program

4-1/2 days, Monday-Friday

The breadth and depth of IBM Information On Demand 2007 technical sessions help you build skills across a wide array of IBM technologies, learn about all of IBM's new software products and releases, and get behind-the-scenes views of how others are solving their toughest information management challenges with IBM technology.

The 4.5-day technical program includes over 600 sessions - plenty of opportunities to learn about new topics, dive more deeply into products and technology, provide input to IBM's development community, and get hands-on with IBM products and solutions.

Technical skill building track for IMS

Data Servers - System z™ - IMS and Tools

This track focuses on what you need to know to be successful with IMS transaction and database systems. Your IMS systems are the workhorse of your organization. These sessions include tips and tricks to get even more out of your data and systems, best practices to save you time and effort, and the latest tech-

nology information you can incorporate into your enterprise architecture. Learn how to integrate existing IMS applications and data into your service-oriented architecture (SOA) strategy, and see how IMS can help your organization to respond to rapid changes in market, capture new markets, improve products, better address regulatory issues, strengthen business partnerships, lower IT overhead, increase profits, and better align IT with long-term business goals! Get the latest information about IMS and tools, including best practices for upgrading to IMS Version 10, and the newest IMS tools that have been added to the IMS Tools portfolio. In addition, you can take advantage of hands-on labs for in-depth training! Sample session topics include:

Basics and general interest

- IMS: What's New and What's Next
- Exploiting the Power of the Mainframe - Latest News from System z
- IMS Trends and Directions
- A Beginner's Guide to IMS Databases
- IMS V10 DB and DBRC Enhancements
- IMS V9 What's New Since General Availability
- IMS Version 10 Overview
- IMS Connect and OTMA 101
- IMS V10 TM Enhancements
- Configuring and Managing IMS for Maximum Availability
- TCP/IP for Beginners
- IMS for New Users
- Java for Beginners
- IMS Tools Update with an IMS Audit Management Expert
- IMS Tools Knowledge Base - Get the Facts

Integration/open access for application development/connectivity

- IMS SOAP Gateway Overview and Update
- IMS OTMA Implementation
- IMS Connect Implementation
- IMS On Demand Integration Solutions for SOA
- IMS Message Formatting Services (MFS) Web Solutions
- IMS Version 10 XQUERY support
- Direct IMS DB Access from WebSphere - Open Doors to IMS Data
- XML Database Support
- What You Need to Know About IMS/RRS
- IMS Connect Client Implementation
- What's New in IMS TM and Connect
- Are Your IMS Systems Adhering to Regulatory Compliance
- IMS V10 Installation Considerations

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IMS Auditing Made Easy

One of the many challenges with auditing today is how to accurately collect and correlate audit data into a useful representation that auditors can easily use to adhere to regulatory compliance regardless of the size of the shop. Another challenge is that auditors are often dependent on developers or database administrators to set up or gather the audit information required. There are two keys to auditing success: segregating the duties to ensure integrity, and centralizing the data to be audited to eliminate the quagmire of collecting data from many systems.

IMS Audit Management Expert (AME) is a tool that collects and correlates data access information from the IMS and SMF logs. It allows auditors to view that data from a GUI without extensive interaction with IMS database and system administrators, and without requiring auditors to have access to the mainframe or IMS systems. Auditors can view information of interest and export that information, if they choose, into a comma separated value (CSV) file.

IMS Audit Management Expert components

The IMS Audit Management Expert, illustrated in figure 1, is comprised of:

- A server: The audit server is the central control point for an IMS Audit Management Expert network. The reporting GUI connects to the server to get the authorizations and the location of the audit repository. After it is authorized, the reporting GUI directly connects to the audit repository to load the audit data for the user. The server acts as the clearance for all user security (username, passwords, and more are all cleared through the server for both the GUIs).

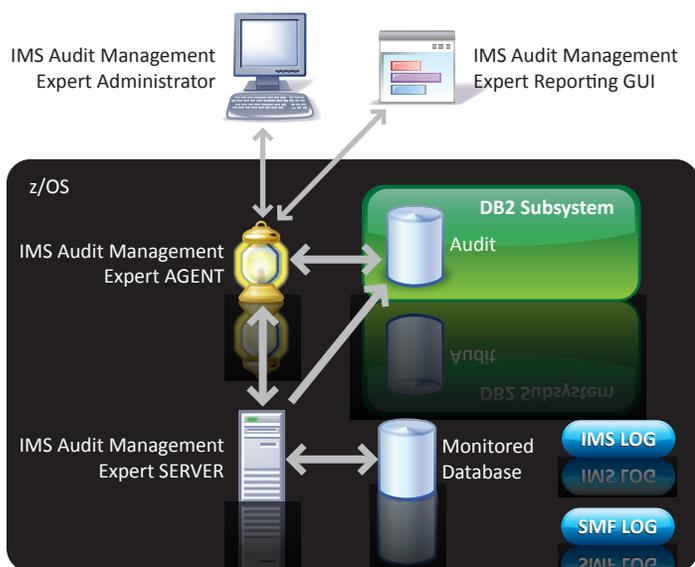


figure 1

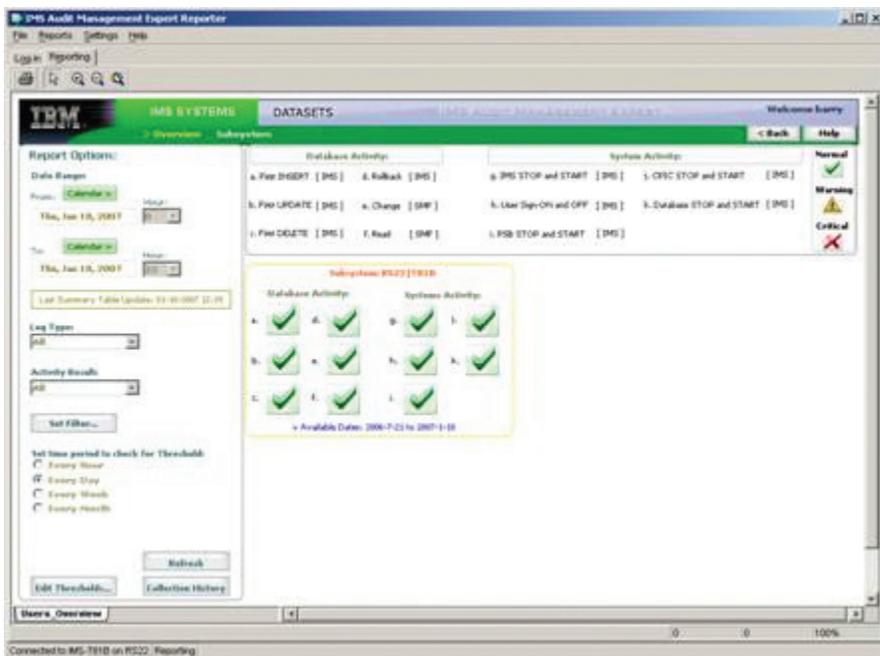


figure 2

Passwords are encrypted for security. The server can be a started task or batch job.

- Agents: An agent or agents are responsible for collecting and filtering data based on predefined criteria. Agents can be a started task or batch job. One agent per IMS RECON set is audited.
- Two clients:
 - The Administrator UI is a Windows™ GUI that provides administrators with a facility to assign users and groups, assign privileges (who can view the data and for how long), choose which IMS systems to monitor, what to collect and when, and more.
 - The Reporting UI is a Windows GUI that provides auditors with options to examine the data in the audit repository.
- Audit repository: The repository consists of the data collected in the form of DB2 tables and views.

What can be collected?

The types of data that can be collected and written to the repository include:

- access to database data sets and image copy data sets as recorded in the IMS or SMF logs
- user access to the IMS systems via SIGNON
- PSB and database change-of-state activity
- system STOP and START activity
- database open and close
- update activity
- scratch status
- renames, deletes, or alters

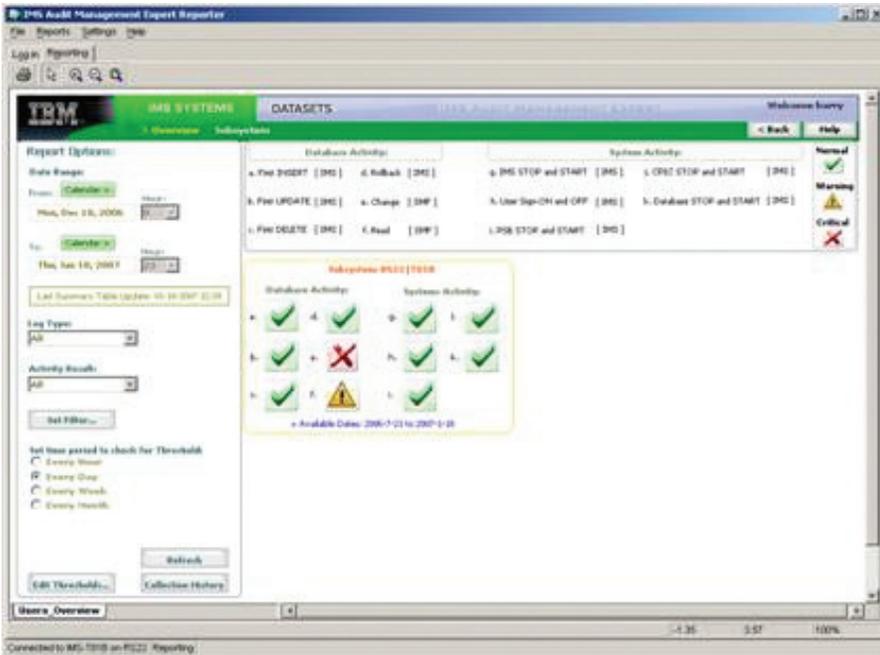


figure 3

Reporting User Interface

The reporting user interface provides auditors with options for examining the data in the audit repository. After logging on to the reporting user interface, the screen shown in figure 2 is displayed. A calendar is shown on the upper left hand side of the screen to enable auditors to select the number of days of data they want to view.

In figure 3, the box of check marks, red 'x', and warning sign are the warning thresholds. These thresholds are set by the auditor. For example, an auditor can set the thresholds to flag certain conditions as normal or not. For example, if there are 50 or fewer changes to a database, this is flagged as normal. Anything over 75 should be flagged as critical. These flags are indicators so the auditors know if they want to drill down further to find out exactly what occurred. An example of setting thresholds is shown in figure 4.

The IMS collector uses the RECONS to discover log data sets. If the RECON and the logs can be accessed by the IMS collector, audit data is collected. Databases must be registered with DBRC.

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Controlling the amount of data collected

Auditors do not want to collect data for everything in IMS. Their focus is data of interest. Therefore, filter policies can be created and activated to collect only the data in which an auditor is interested.

Administration User Interface

The administrator, usually a lead auditor, uses the administrator user interface to add users, optionally assign users to groups (those with the same access), and assign privileges – identifying who can view the data and for how long, who can add users, and who can identify IMS systems from which to collect data. If an external auditor needs to view data for one work week, the administrator can set up their password to expire in 5 days. All passwords are encrypted through the product, so they cannot be viewed.

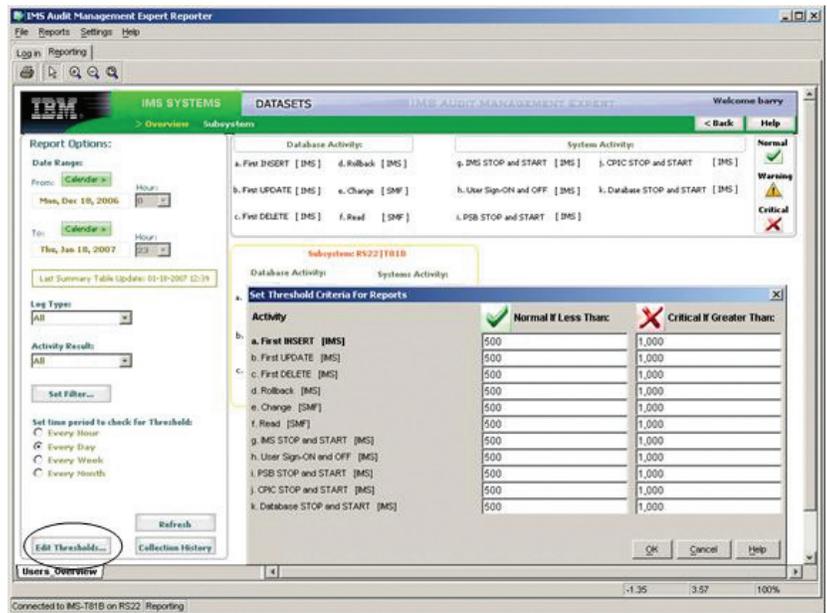


figure 4

Preparing for IMS V10's member online change by migrating to global online change

ACBLIB member online change

IMS Version 10 introduces a new capability called ACBLIB member online change (MOLC), which enables the user to add or change specific PSB and DBD resources online.

MOLC differs from the original IMS online change because it eliminates the requirement to switch the entire active and inactive online change libraries. Therefore, only the individual members involved in the MOLC are quiesced. The immediate advantages are higher resource availability and higher efficiency.

MOLC complements another new IMS Version 10 capability known as Dynamic Resource Definition (DRD), which allows the user to dynamically create, change, or delete resources in the IMS.MODBLKS data set. MOLC enables the user to add the ACBLIB PSB or DBD resource that corresponds to the resources in the IMS.MODBLKS data set created using DRD.

Global online change as a prerequisite for ACBLIB member online change

Before MOLC can be used, global online change (GOLC) must first be set up. GOLC was introduced in IMS Version 8, and it coordinates the online change process across all IMS systems in an IMSplex. Migrating to GOLC before moving to IMS Version 10 will position your shop to take advantage of MOLC because it is a prerequisite for this capability.

The driver of global online change is existing local online change function supported by the Common Service Layer (CSL). Therefore, setting up the CSL is part of the GOLC migration process. The CSL consists of three components:

- Resource Manager (RM): coordinates the phases of GOLC among the IMS systems in an IMSplex, with no requirement to have a resource structure.
- Operations Manager (OM): enables command entry from a single point of control with its application programming interface and selects one IMS system to be the "command master." The command master ultimately receives a consolidated command response that represents the processing results from all IMS systems.
- Structured Call Interface (SCI): allows communication between the IMSplex components by providing a common interface.

Global online change uses each of these CSL components in its processes.

Global online change migration process

A white paper entitled "Position for IMS V10's Member Online Change with Global Online Change Migration" is available. It includes a more detailed description of the migration process. It also includes more detail on how to use GOLC, post-migration considerations, fallback instructions, and several diagrams. To locate this white paper, visit the online Techdocs library at w3-03.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atmsmastr.nsf/Web/TechDocs and search for WP101048 in the White Papers category.

To summarize the GOLC migration process here, we have included a high-level overview:

1. Set up and start the Common Service Layer.
2. Prepare the OLCSTAT data set.
 - a. Allocate the OLCSTAT data set.

To use GOLC, the OLCSTAT data set must be allocated, initialized, and specified in the DFSCGxxx PROCLIB member. IBM recommends that the OLCSTAT data set be allocated with the following attributes, which allows for up to 65 IMS systems:

DSORG: Sequential
RECFM: V
LRECL: 5204
BLKSIZE: 5208

After the OLCSTAT data set has been allocated and catalogued, it must be initialized with the Global Online Change utility before the first coldstart of the first IMS in the IMSplex.

- b. Initialize the OLCSTAT data set.
3. Add global online change parameters to the DFSCGxxx PROCLIB member.
 4. Shutdown IMS.
 5. Remove MODSTAT references from the IMS control region startup JCL, then coldstart IMS.
 6. Repeat the migration procedure for each IMS system.

ACBLIB member online change is a key capability in IMS Version 10 in that it supports today's on demand business environments. The first step to exploiting MOLC is migrating to the global online change foundation. In doing so, you will be positioned to immediately use MOLC to add and change individual ACBLIB resources online. You can use DRD to create the PDIRs/DDIRs for the PSBs/DBDs individually added with MOLC. Clearly, migrating to GOLC now will put your shop in an advantageous position for IMS Version 10.

Angelique Greenhaw

IT Specialist, System z Software



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Manageability

- IMS Security
- Solving Problems with IMS Using OMEGAMON XE for IMS
- Monitoring an IMS Connect Environment Using OMEGAMON XE for IMS on z/OS
- IMS Common Service Layer Overview and Implementation
- IMS Operations Management with CSL
- IMS V10 Systems & Operations Management Enhancements
- The IMS Health Check Process
- Resolving IMS Problems Quickly
- IMS Maintenance Recommendations
- Fixing Your IMS Database
- IMS V10 Dynamic Resource Definition
- Debugging IMS Abends with IPCS
- Making IMS Database Problem Solving Easier
- Adding User Options to the IMS IPCS Panels
- IMS Diagnostics - Several Possible Subtopics
- Using Log Records to Diagnose Full Function Database Problems

Scalability in performance/capacity

- IMS HALDB Implementation
- IMS V10 Parallel Recon Access
- Addressing the Reorganization Dilemma
- IMS Backup & Recovery - Just Make it Manageable
- Monitoring and Tuning IMS I/O Performance

Business leadership program

2-1/2 days, Monday-Wednesday

The Business Leadership program is an intensive, 2.5-day curriculum designed specifically for corporate executives, IT managers, and key decision makers in the world's top industries. The 120 sessions in this program feature innovative ideas and successful strategies to show you how to grow your business, improve customer service, reduce costs, manage risk, and tackle leadership challenges you face in your managerial role. Many of the concepts are illustrated by real-life stories told by the executives who made it happen. They got IT right and transformed their businesses.

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Understanding IMS OTMA Flood Control for your TCP/IP messages

The use of TCP/IP has grown at a rapid rate. Today, a large number of mission-critical applications are written for the TCP/IP socket interface, with transactions that are submitted to IMS using IMS Connect and OTMA. IMS customers want those applications to be available all the time, 24 by 7. However, due to the high volume of TCP/IP transactions, the abnormal slow-down of transaction processing in IMS, or both, customers can experience the message flood problem, which results in a serious storage-related abend, such as an IMS control region outage ABEND878 or a system S40D abend. The cause of the message flood problem can be attributed to the high number of IMS transaction instance blocks (YTIB).

Each YTIB block is associated with a commit mode 1 (CM1) input/output message or a commit mode 0 (CM0) input message. (CM1 and CM0 are two types of messages that IMS OTMA supports. Customers of IMS Connect or MQSeries can send either a CM1 or CM0 message to IMS for transaction processing.) The YTIB block is created when IMS receives the CM1 or CM0 input message, and the block is deleted or reused after IMS sends back a response. For a CM0 input message, the YTIB block is deleted or reused after the input message has enqueued. Each YTIB block for an input message is approximately 8K bytes in size. It is allocated in the IMS extended private area (EPVT) until EPVT is full, then below the line in private area (PVT) storage. An MVS CDE, which is needed to map one YTIB, also consumes about 150 bytes of LSQA storage below the line.

It is possible that unconstrained growth of YTIB blocks could cause storage-related abends in IMS. If YTIB storage is allocated in below-the-line PVT, a 'squeeze' effect could result, in which the CDEs that allocated top-down LSQA run into the YTIB blocks that are allocated in the below-the-line PVT from the bottom up. The result could be an S40D abend and IMS resource cleanup failure. This condition could force an IPL to recover these resources.

There are two main reasons for YTIB growth.

1. A delay in processing the input transactions, such as stopped program, internal hang, no available message processing region, or message arrival rate exceeded the message processing rate. This type of problem can often be resolved by correcting the issue that is delaying processing of the input transactions.
2. When a CM1 transaction is processed, but fails to generate a CM1 IOPCB response. In most cases, IMS attempts to generate a DFS2082 message to satisfy the response requirement and free the YTIB. However, there are rare cases in which IMS cannot do this, so the input YTIB is left orphaned. One example of such a situation is when a CM1 transaction message switches and the new transaction is scheduled asynchronously. For example, if the new transaction is defined as IMS NONRESPONSE mode, and the OTMAASY setting is 'Y', then the new transaction is scheduled asynchronously (CM0). Even though the transaction replies to the IOPCB, it does not cause the YTIB to be freed. In this case, orphan YTIBs accumulate. If there are no apparent transaction queues, yet the YTIB limit has been reached, it is likely that orphaned YTIBs are the cause.

Solution:

The IMS OTMA message flood control APAR PK04461 counts the YTIB blocks against the specified limit to protect the IMS system from getting the storage abend. The command `/START TMEMBER membername INPUT maximum-input-count` can be used to set the maximum number of YTIBs for an OTMA client, such as MQSeries or IMS Connect. After the maximum limit is set, OTMA monitors the growth of the active input messages from an IMS Connect or MQSeries OTMA client. A DFS1988W warning message is sent to the console to indicate that a certain percentage of the YTIB limit has been reached. When the maximum limit is reached, a DFS1989E error message is sent to the system console. Any subsequent OTMA input message from the client is rejected with the NAK code X'30' until the flood condition is relieved. The `/DISPLAY OTMA` or `/DISPLAY TMEMBER` command shows FLOOD status when a client's YTIB count reaches the maximum. The FLOOD status is relieved and reset when the input messages have been processed, and the YTIB count has been reduced to 50% or less of the maximum value. Reissuing the `/START TMEMBER INPUT` command with a higher maximum value can also be used to reset the FLOOD status.

You might be wondering, "How can I set the maximum YTIB limit for an OTMA client?" Consider the following approach:

1. Compare the size of the system maximum private area (which is determined by your CSA/ECSA and SQA/ESQA z/OS specifications) with the size specified on the IMS `REG= JCL` parameter. By ensuring that the sizes are the same, you can exploit everything available. That is, the `REG=` specification approximates the system specification.



- Determine how many YTIB blocks you can afford. Select a time when IMS has no significant OTMA queuing, and measure how much EPVT is left between what was specified on the REG= parameter and what IMS is actually using. You can either use OMEGAMON or IMF to do this, or simply create a memory dump of the CTL region and use the IPCS command IP VERBX VSMDATA,'SUMMARY,NOGLOBAL'. The bottom of the output includes a graphic map of virtual storage utilization, so you can see how much storage IMS is currently using. Check this after IMS has been up for a while and preferably when there is a significant load on the system. You could also get this data from RMF. Then you can estimate how many YTIBs you can afford at 8K per YTIB. Be conservative and reserve at least 10% of the free storage for anything else. Following this recommendation ensures that the resulting total number of queued YTIBs is the amount you want to allow.

Some Considerations:

- You might need to know how the OTMA client reacts to the flood condition. For IMS V9, use the OTMA APAR PK41502 with the MQ COREQ APAR PK32087 (there is currently no IMS V8 APAR). With these APARs, IMS sends a SUSPEND INPUT ALL message to MQSeries in a flood condition and a RESUME INPUT ALL message to MQSeries when the flood condition is relieved. Therefore, when a flood condition occurs, MQSeries stops sending to IMS, and automatically starts sending when the condition is relieved. Keep in mind that this could potentially move the queue of unprocessed messages to MQSeries.
- IMS Connect behaves differently. Firstly, it does not support the SUSPEND INPUT ALL message from IMS. Secondly, it does not have special handling for the NACK sense code for the message flood. It continues to send input messages which will get rejected.
- The current flood detection is on a TMEMBER level. Each TMEMBER or client is allowed a certain number of YTIB blocks. If there are multiple TMEMBERS connected to the same IMS system, we could get into a situation where no single TMEMBER has reached its flood, but the combined total YTIB storage could cause an IMS storage abend.
- You could change your applications to submit more CM0 messages instead of CM1 messages. This is because CM0 uses the YTIB only for processing the input. The YTIB is then released or reused after the CM0 input transaction is enqueued. However, CM1 uses the YTIB for both input and output processing.
- Consider applying the IMS Version 8 APAR PK47987 so that the OTMA flood control messages can be visible to the AOI exits.

Looking forward

The OTMA flood control APAR PK04461 provides a significant enhancement by monitoring the YTIB count to prevent a message flood condition. However, the development effort is not finished. IMS development continues to look into the automatic flood control approach by investigating the following two requirements:

- To monitor the input transactions to see if the TCP/IP end client already times out. If so, the input transaction should not be processed, and the associated YTIB block should be released. This could greatly reduce the flood condition.
- To monitor whether IMS is in a degraded condition. If so, then IMS Connect can reroute the TCP/IP message to a different IMS system for transaction processing. This improves the availability for TCP/IP end clients.

In IMS Version 10, a default YTIB count of 5000 is set for each TMEMBER. You can update it using either the IMS /START TMEMBER INPUT command, or an OTMA descriptor. IMS Connect can also set a lower YTIB count for its TMEMBER. For more information about any of these functions, please contact the authors.

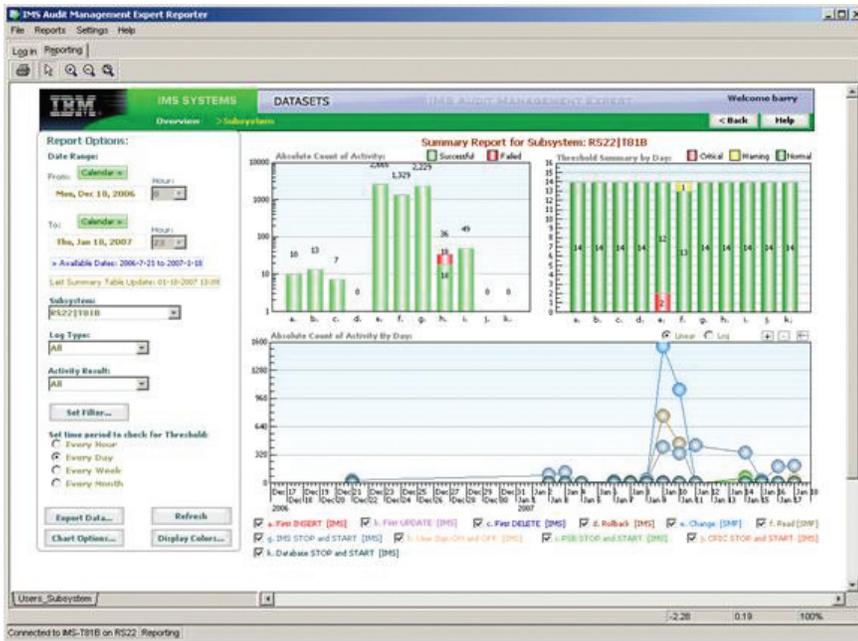
Jack Yuan

IMS Developer
jackyuan@us.ibm.com

Kevin Stewart

IMS Technical Support
kevstew@us.ibm.com





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In figure 5, in the lowermost graphic chart, auditors can determine the timeline for the data shown so they know specifically what they are viewing. The auditor can click on any of the round circles to get a tabular view with more information.

Detailed charts can also be displayed by job, user, database, and data set and then drilled down to gain further information on what occurred as shown in figure 6.

Summary

External auditors need to see that sufficient controls are in place. Because external audits are expensive, the more that can be done in-house to prepare, the better. IMS Audit Management Expert and DB2 Audit Management Expert help companies adhere to regulatory compliance while providing auditors with flexible, easy options to collect, control, and examine the data. By automating the auditing process and allowing audits to gain direct access to information, IMS Audit Management Expert supports better integrity and more accurate reports.

figure 5



Kelly Smith
Senior Product Manager
Rocket Software

figure 6



IMS Profiles



Ben Johnson has been with IBM, and IMS, since April 2003. His hiring marked a “big switch” in careers for the former San Francisco bicycle messenger. Ben traded in his bike for new responsibilities in IMS end-user documentation. He changed gears quickly, and now develops information for the *IMS Database Administration Guide* and *IMS Communications and Connections Guide*. His interest in that subject matter prompted him to conduct information usability sessions at IMS technical conferences, author articles for IBM technical publications, and take what he learned to develop a scenario on converting databases to HALDB. Currently, he is giving special attention to improving the IMS Connect documentation. Ben appreciates the sense of history that comes with IMS. “I take a certain amount of pride in just being associated with a product that....sets such a high standard,” says Ben. Outside of IBM, Ben enjoys teaching his 4-year old daughter about database management software (“not really,” he quips), but he does enjoy his family and his happy home.



Mauricio Adames might look familiar to you: he was the release manager for IMS Versions 8 and 9, and those roles made him the perfect candidate to lead the IMS Quality Software Engineering effort. Mo, as we call him, leads a team whose mission is to identify best practices for software engineering and integrate those practices into IMS. They are looking at test, tools, education, development, and more. “Coming up with the ideas is the most exciting part of the work,” says Mo, who enjoys the brainstorming aspects of his role. As a long-time IMS development manager, Mo appreciates the professionalism of the IMS team. “They believe in the product and want it to succeed, and I like to be a part of that.” A self-avowed technology “freak,” he’s tried nearly every gadget and currently swears by his iPhone. He is also an avid appreciator and collector of art (from Dali to Miro to Picasso), and is very involved in soccer (fútbol in his native Colombia), playing every weekend since 1974 and volunteering for World Cup matches!



Vidhya Srinivasan has been a member of the IMS SOA Integration Suite team ever since she graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta five years ago. Vidhya is the team lead for IMS SOAP Gateway, an XML-based connectivity solution that enables IMS applications to communicate outside of the IMS environment using SOAP. “I’m very interested in trying out new technology,” says Vidhya. “It’s great to see how passionate customers are about IMS,” she says, adding that she appreciates the opportunity to provide instruction to customers who are also interested in new technology. “IMS is a rock-solid mainframe product, but we also get to integrate it with emerging technologies.” Outside of her role as SOAP guru, Vidhya loves to travel (which conferences make easy!) and keep up with her 2-year old son.



The Latest in IMS Redbooks from the ITSO

The following IBM Redbooks were made available in December 2006:

IMS Performance and Tuning Guide, SG24-73244-00.

This book tells you why and how certain options can affect the performance of your IMS system. This book is not just an update of previous IMS performance reference redbooks, but rather intends to be a general guide for performance.

The information that you find here is based on experiences and data from actual production environments, IBM benchmarks, and input from experts. It will help you react to the constantly changing characteristics of your hardware and software environment keeping your IMS running efficiently.

In this book, we introduce methods and tools for monitoring and tuning IMS systems, and in addition to IMS TM and DB system-wide performance considerations, we dedicate separate chapters for application considerations, IMS and DB2 interoperability, the Parallel Sysplex environment, and On Demand considerations.

Powering SOA with IBM Data Servers, SG24-7259-00.

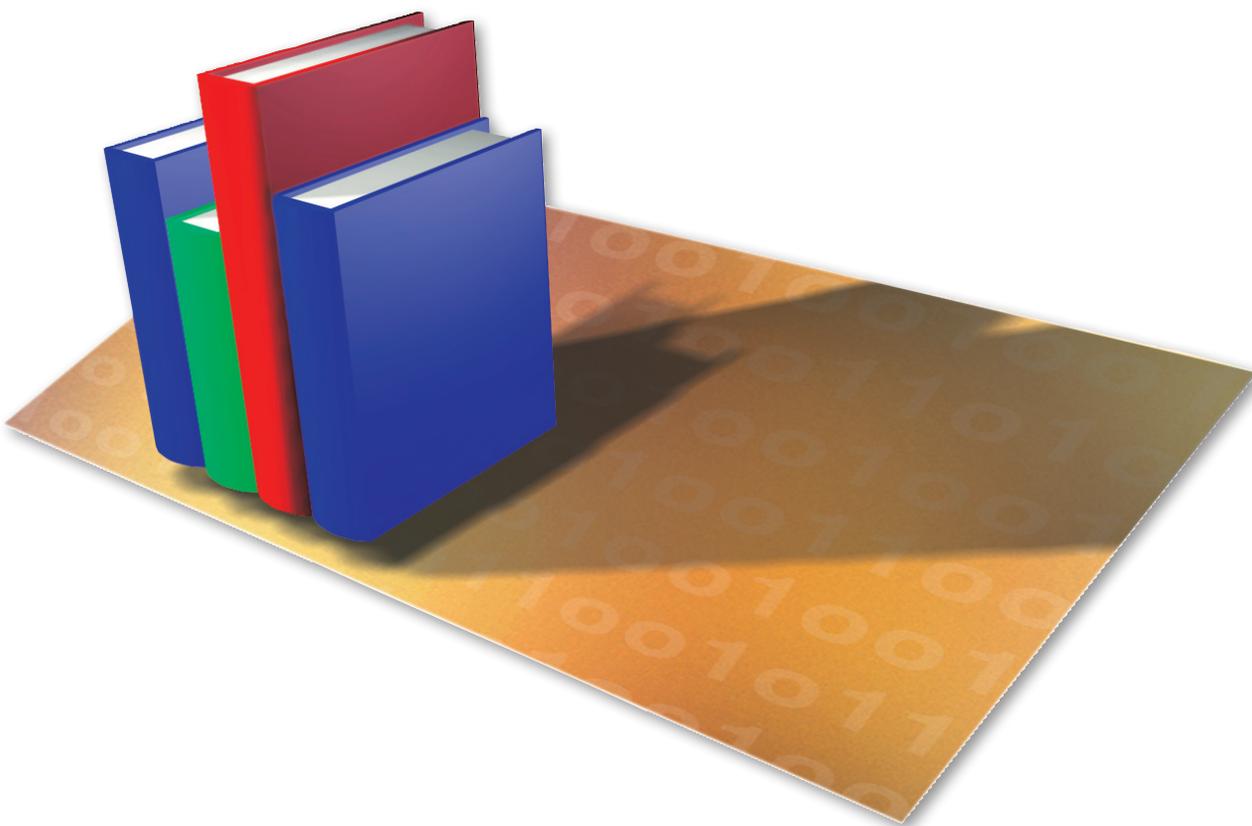
This book helps you to get started with SOA by showing the implementation of the minimum requirements: The creation of Web services that allow access to data that is stored in data servers or applications, and the realization of interaction services for business-to-consumer integration. The data servers included in our scenario are IMS, DB2 for z/OS, DB2 for Linux, UNIX, Windows, and Informix Dynamic Server.

A Residency is planned to run August-September, 2007. The intent is to produce an IBM Redbooks publication highlighting the new functions and documenting the installation and migration to IMS Version 10. This book is planned to be available for download from the Web before the end of 2007.

To join an IBM Redbooks residency project, attend a workshop, or download a book, draft, or tip, go to the IBM Redbooks Web site at ibm.com/redbooks.

Paolo Bruni

ITSO Information Management software Project Leader



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We'd love to hear from you . . .

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Our motto “The World Depends on IMS” was never more evident, and by extension, we can add that the world depends on all of you as well!

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Sandy Sherrill
Managing Editor

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IBM Corporation
555 Bailey Avenue
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