

# CICS Portfolio eNewsLetter

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December 20th 2011

This edition is available at:

[ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/http/cics/enews/CICS\\_eNewsLetter\\_December\\_2011.pdf](ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/http/cics/enews/CICS_eNewsLetter_December_2011.pdf)

## Contents

Editorial .....	2
Product highlights.....	4
2012 Events .....	6
CICS Resources .....	8
Business Partner news .....	11
Feedback .....	13

## Editorial

### 2011 review

As we approach the holidays and the end of the year, let's take a quick look back at some key CICS moments in 2011:

- This year was IBM's Centennial, and CICS was awarded one of the 100 Icons of Progress. To read more about the CICS icon, and learn about some of the other 99, visit:  <http://www.ibm.com/ibm100/us/en/icons/cics/>
- After two years in development, we shipped CICS TS for z/OS V4.2. If you haven't looked into it yet, you'll find that it's crammed full of all sort of Xmas goodies like System Events, Transaction Tracking, OSGi, threadsafe IMS, Axis2 and IPIC function shipping, long password phrases, and much more. You can learn more about CICS TS V4.2 using the links in this eNews.
- Our business partners have also been busy, upgrading their software to work with CICS TS V4.2. To date, 147 partner software products support the latest version – still time to meet our target of 150, guys! See the links below to the Global Solutions Directory on Partnerworld.
- After four years since we first made it available, our progress with CICS Explorer has moved on apace. We added a new plug-in for IBM File Manager, and updated the plug-ins for the other PD Tools. IBM Session Manager also got a new plug-in, and the plug-in for CICS Interdependency Analyzer V3.2 added lots of new capabilities. We also shipped CICS Explorer V1.1 with a much improved z/OS perspective, and you can learn a lot more about that in Joe Winchester's blog on developerWorks.
- People have been able to write Java in CICS for years, but this year we delivered WebSphere eXtended Transaction Runtime which helps you to modernize and enable COBOL assets as services within WebSphere Application Server, providing unified management and seamless integration with Java workloads. Learn more about WXTR by following the link below.

Our development teams continue their work to enhance CICS portfolio run-times and tools, so keep a close eye on the CICS eNews to keep up to date with product announcements. If you would like to take a closer look at some of our current developments, you can join our CICS Family beta program (details below).

If you would like to influence the content of future CICS portfolio product releases, you can raise requirements using our new RFE (Request for Enhancement) system which has now replaced the old FITS system. See below for more details.

Finally, the whole of the CICS team would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope that 2012 proves to be a good year for all of us.

Editors:

John Knutson

Nick Garrod



## Product highlights

### Available: Application Performance Analyzer Plug-in for Eclipse V11

Used in conjunction with the CICS Explorer and IBM Application Performance Analyzer V11, this plug-in provides a workstation interface to Application Performance Analyzer (APA). APA supports the application across subsystems, with Observation Sessions constructed to monitor a single CICS Region, multiple CICS regions using APA's multiple address space support, 16 named Transactions or Transaction Groups, or for up to 8 CICS Terminals.

Reports reveal the resources consumed by an application; providing overview and detail level views all the way down to the application source code statements. Support to observe TSO, Started Tasks, Batch Applications, DB2, DB2 Stored Procedures, DB2 DDF, IMS, Websphere MQ, Software AG ADABAS, comes standard with APA. Also included is support for languages such as COBOL, PL/I, Assembler, C/C++, JAVA running on z/OS. and Software AG's NATURAL - again, all standard with APA.

The latest update for version 11, delivered via PTF, makes the Eclipse GUI equivalent to the ISPF interface. The S09 report (recommendations) has been enhanced with additional VSAM, and zAPP or zIPP recommendations, and DB2 explain support. Added communication aides have been which allow emailing reports, "sticky notes" feature for commenting on reports, and the ability to save or browse the reports in HTML. Also access to the reports is made safer and simpler with the addition of password phrase support and SSL support. Lastly, the memory requirements for APA can be modified to meet the needs of the customer

### CICS 2011 product deliverables

It's been a busy year in development, so I've listed all of the 2011 CICS-related deliverables below:

- IBM Session Manager for z/OS V3.1
  - Datasheet  
[ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/http/cics/tools/IBM\\_Session\\_Manager\\_datasheet\\_G1130566.pdf](ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/http/cics/tools/IBM_Session_Manager_datasheet_G1130566.pdf)
- Transaction Server V4.2 is now GA
  - Web page <http://ibm.com/cics/tserver/v42>
- CICS Interdependency Analyzer V3.2
  - Web page <http://ibm.com/cics/ianaly>
- CICS Explorer V1.1
  - Download <http://www-01.ibm.com/software/http/cics/explorer/download/>
- WebSphere eXtended Transaction Runtime V1.0
  - Web page:  
<http://www-01.ibm.com/software/webservers/appserv/extended-transaction-runtime/index.html>
- File Manager Plug-in for Eclipse V11 - SupportPac CNOM
  - Download  
<http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=1083&uid=swg24029358>
- CICS Dynamic Scripting Feature Pack V1.1
  - Support Letter:  
<http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg21566483>
- CICS Transaction Gateway V8.1

- Web page: <http://ibm.com/cics/ctg>
- CICS VSAM Transparency V2.1
  - Web page: <http://ibm.com/cics/vt>
- IBM WebSphere Operational Decision Management for z/OS , V7.5
  - Announcement letter:  
[http://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/ShowDoc.jsp?docURL=/common/ssi/rep\\_ca/9/897/ENUS211-429/index.html&lang=en](http://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/ShowDoc.jsp?docURL=/common/ssi/rep_ca/9/897/ENUS211-429/index.html&lang=en)
- WebSphere MQ for z/OS V7.1 Announcement letter:  
[http://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/ShowDoc.jsp?docURL=/common/ssi/rep\\_ca/4/897/ENUS211-394](http://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/ShowDoc.jsp?docURL=/common/ssi/rep_ca/4/897/ENUS211-394)
- IMS 12 Database Manager Announcement letter:  
[http://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/ShowDoc.jsp?docURL=/common/ssi/rep\\_ca/3/877/ENUSZP11-0453/index.html&lang=en](http://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/ShowDoc.jsp?docURL=/common/ssi/rep_ca/3/877/ENUSZP11-0453/index.html&lang=en)
- IBM Rational Developer for System z V8.0.3 Announcement letter:  
<http://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/cgi-bin/ssialias?infotype=AN&subtype=CA&htmlfid=897/ENUS211-358&apname=USN>

## CICS Family Beta Program

CICS runs a beta program for customers and business partners who want an insight to the upcoming CICS portfolio releases and who are willing to give feedback helping to refine and polish new features. For further information please contact the CICS Early Program team at the following email address [CICSEP@UK.IBM.COM](mailto:CICSEP@UK.IBM.COM)

## New RFE requirements system replaces old FITS

RFE is a major improvement over FITS, allowing you to enter your requirements directly, view their status on-line, and add comments or vote on other customers' requirements, unless they've been flagged as private. You can now raise and track requirements for CICS Transaction Server, CICS Explorer, TXSeries, WXTR, the IBM CICS Tools, and CICS Transaction Gateway using the new IBM RFE system. Existing FITS requirements are currently being processed, and will either be transferred to RFE or closed and returned.

On the Search RFE page, <https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/rfe>, select Brand: **WebSphere**.

Select Product Family: **Transaction Processing** - for CICS Transaction Server, TXSeries and WXTR.

Select Product Family: **Enterprise Tooling** - for the CICS Tools.

Raise CICS Explorer base requirements against the Explorer component of CICS TS.

Raise plug-in requirements against the Explorer component of related product.

## 2012 Events

### System z Summit seminars – 6 North America cities – Jan-Mar 2012

Business as usual is a thing of the past, as the introduction of IBM® zEnterprise™ is proving. In this era of reduced IT budgets and more demanding requirements, the unique capabilities of zEnterprise are helping organizations optimize workload deployment on best fit technologies with a common management infrastructure that also helps drive down costs. This integration of data serving and analytics gives you valuable insight and enables fast and flexible delivery of new services to drive innovation.

How do you take advantage of it? Our zEnterprise Technology Summit is designed to give you practical tips, guidance on where to focus your efforts and sound ideas on how to develop a long-term plan for implementing what you learn in this seminar. Attend one of our local seminars on zEnterprise solutions and learn how it can help you make smarter decisions that reduce costs and reduce the burden of managing a complex data centre.

#### *Track 3: Smarter Development and Deployment*

- Sessions 2 and 3: Quickly identify, research and fix abends in a critical System z production
- Session 4 and 5: Research and fix a performance problem in a critical CICS production

#### *Track 4: Application Infrastructure Modernization for Business Agility*

- Session 4: CICS - Architecting for your future and why CICS matters to you
- Session 5: CICS - Minimize costs and maximize your CICS investments.
- Session 6: CICS - Strength throughout the ecosystem. Are you tooled up?

Track 3 is aimed at application developers while track 4 will appeal to architects, system programmers, and IT management.

Both tracks will include extensive live demos of the scenarios using IBM CICS Explorer and Rational Developer for System z in conjunction with plug-ins for numerous IBM CICS Tools and Problem Determination Tools. In addition, there are tracks on zEnterprise, DB2, and data centre operations.

The dates and venues are listed below. For more information and to register, please visit: <http://www-01.ibm.com/software/os/systemz/summit/>.

- January 26 - Toronto, Ontario - Hyatt Regency Toronto
- February 2 - Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX - Embassy Suites, DFW Airport
- February 7 - Washington, DC - Washington Hilton
- February 21 - Atlanta, GAW Midtown
- February 23 - Los Angeles, CA - Crowne Plaza, Los Angeles Airport
- February 28 - New York, NY - Sentry Center

**IMPACT – North America – Las Vegas – April 2012**

# Impact2012

The Premier Conference for Business and IT Leadership

**Innovate. Transform. Grow.**

April 29 – May 4 Las Vegas, NV

**REGISTER TODAY FOR Impact 2012 - Join us to explore new tools and technology being delivered for CICS users around the world**

The globalization of the interconnected world requires organizations to not simply "change" how business and IT leaders work together - but how business and IT can drive improved "leadership" in an ever changing and complex environment. In today's world, evidence shows that organizations that consistently drive leadership in innovation can quickly transform to meet their customers' demands, outperform their competitors and successfully grow their business.

Impact 2012 will change the way Business and IT leaders work by bringing together customers, prospects and Business Partners to interact and hear from top technical experts, business executives and analysts. The conference will be held in Las Vegas, April 29 - May 4 and will deliver world-class education about WebSphere, CICS, BPM, SOA, cloud, mobile solutions and share valuable insights detailing how companies can respond to critical business issues and align their business needs to IT.

We are building an exciting agenda for CICS users that will help you to discover innovative ways to lower cost, improve return on investment, and optimize business results.

Register at <http://www.ibm.com/impact>

**Events 1H 2012 - for diary planning**

To help you all to plan your attendance at some of the events with significant CICS-related content, here's a list of the major conferences that we'll be at next year:

- Pulse, Las Vegas, Nv, March 5 - 7
- SHARE, Atlanta Ga, March 12 - 16
- German Guide. Kloster Banz, Bad Staffelstein, April 25 - 27
- Impact, Las Vegas – April 29 – May 4
- GSE Nordic, Oslo, Norway, May 21 - 23
- Innovate, Orlando Fl, June 4 - 8

**Virtual CICS user group - What's new in CICS Transaction Gateway V8.1 17 January 2012**

Presenter: Andrew Smithson, CICS Transaction Gateway Development Software Engineer with IBM Hursley. To register, visit:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/153618953>

## CICS Resources

### IBM Redbooks

#### CICS Transaction Server from Start to finish – SG24-7952

If you don't know much about CICS, or it's been a few years since you last worked with it, then this brand new IBM Redbook is right for you. I can't do better than to quote directly from the abstract:

*"We review the history of CICS and why it was created. We review the CICS architecture and discuss how to create an application in CICS. CICS provides a secure, transactional environment for applications that are written in several languages. We discuss the CICS-supported languages and each language's advantages in this Redbooks publication.*

*"We analyze situations from a system programmer's viewpoint, including how the systems programmer can use CICS facilities and services to customize the system, design CICS for recovery, and manage performance. CICS Data access and where the data is stored, including Temporary storage queues, VSAM RLS, DB2, IMS™, and many others are also discussed."*

<http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247952.html?Open>

#### New: Introduction to CICS Dynamic Scripting

<http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247924.html?Open>

### Webcasts

#### SHARE eLearning Webcast - Early Look at CICS TS V4.2 Performance

To view replay, please visit: <http://www.share.org/SHAREeLearning/Webcasts/tabid/700/Default.aspx>

#### Architecting Smarter Banking Solutions with CICS and Rational Tools

To view replay, please visit: <http://www.rational-ug.org/webcastDetail?wid=133>

#### What is New in CICS Explorer V1.1

To view replay, please visit: <http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27022483>

#### Running and Debugging Dynamic Scripting Applications under CICS

To view replay, please visit: <http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27022439>

#### Understanding your CICS Interdependency Analyzer Data

To view replay, please visit: <http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27021671>

#### Smarter development for System z: Top-rated toolset boosts staff productivity

To view replay, please visit: <http://ibm.co/pLucbQ>



## Podcasts

The following four podcasts can all be found here:

<http://www-01.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/tserver/v42/library/index4.html>

- System Events in CICS TS V4.2
- CICS Explorer enhancements Part 1
- CICS Explorer enhancements Part 2
- CICS Explorer and Java

## Analyst papers

**Lustratus (Steve Craggs) - New project platform selection for CICS users**

Download paper from:

[ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/pdf/Lustratus\\_Research\\_Paper\\_New\\_project\\_platform\\_selection\\_for\\_CICS\\_users.pdf](ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/pdf/Lustratus_Research_Paper_New_project_platform_selection_for_CICS_users.pdf)

## Videos

**CICS TS V4.2 Business Value - in English, Dutch, French, and German**

English: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmZtTde-c98> and

<http://www-01.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/tserver/v42/library/index2.html>

Dutch: <http://youtu.be/7Y-Jdk6OTOM>

French: <http://youtu.be/Z96ISI6s004>

German: <http://youtu.be/vH6zzPYpETE>

## Demos

### Event processing

*System events*

[ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/system\\_events\\_flv.flv](ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/system_events_flv.flv)

*Application Events scenario CICS TS V4.1*

[ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/EP\\_demo\\_flv.flv](ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/EP_demo_flv.flv)

*Application Events scenario extended for CICS TS V4.2*

[ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/cics\\_v42\\_ep\\_flv.flv](ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/cics_v42_ep_flv.flv)

*Event processing search capability*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lt5o0AcbX88>

*Assured and separate events*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3v\\_-ZYShOA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3v_-ZYShOA)

*Setting a disabled file system event*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X\\_i7UBriL00](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_i7UBriL00)

*Setting threshold events*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NFMhdiKz46M>

## Transaction Tracking

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxseWIfabOM>

## Podcasts

Podcast NG

## Articles

### zJournal Winter edition

This winter edition of zJournal include three article on CICS TS for z/OS V4.2 and one on CICS TS for VSE: <http://www.mainframezone.com/z-journal/winter-issue-2012>

- Thx
- CICS Transaction Server for z/OS V4.2 and Threadsafe Database Control for IMS
- CICS Transaction Server for z/OS V4.2: Scalability Enhancements
- IBM CICS System Management: New CICSplex SM WLM Features in Version 4.2
- Common COBOL/VSE Applications for Use in CICS and Batch Environments

## Blogs etc

### Joe Winchester – CICS Explorer architect

<https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/mydeveloperworks/blogs/JoeWinchester/?lang=en>

### The Master terminal

<http://themasterterminal.com>

### Mike Vizard – Journalist and blogger

All of Mike's CICS-related posts blog posts can be found here:

<http://www.itarchitectforumblog.com/content/cics/>

### CICS Community Forums - cicsworld.com

Just link to <http://www.cicsworld.com>.

## Business Partner news

### IBM CICS Redbook Sponsorship Program for IBM Business Partners

[https://www-304.ibm.com/partnerworld/wps/servlet/ContentHandler/isv\\_ben\\_prb\\_redbooks](https://www-304.ibm.com/partnerworld/wps/servlet/ContentHandler/isv_ben_prb_redbooks)

### Software developer solutions supporting CICS TS V4

We're proud to showcase our CICS TS V4 early adopters. Customers and IBM sellers are always looking for solutions that leverage the latest innovation in CICS development. We are now showcasing the IBM Business Partner who are early adopters of CICS TS V4.1 and CICS TS V4.2 and the solutions they offer. Check it out! Just visit: <http://www.ibm.com/cics/partners>

IBM Business Partners interested in showcasing their solutions simply need to update the Partnerworld Global Solution Directory for their solutions to indicate support for CICS TS V4.1 and CICS TS V4.2. If you are looking for a particular product and cannot find it on this list, please contact [cicsetp@uk.ibm.com](mailto:cicsetp@uk.ibm.com) for questions/details.

- CICS TS V4.1 [http://www.ibm.com/partnerworld/gsd/searchprofile.do?name=CICS TS V4.1](http://www.ibm.com/partnerworld/gsd/searchprofile.do?name=CICS%20TS%20V4.1)
- CICS TS V4.2 [http://www.ibm.com/partnerworld/gsd/searchprofile.do?name=CICS TS v4.2](http://www.ibm.com/partnerworld/gsd/searchprofile.do?name=CICS%20TS%20v4.2)

### Impact 2012

At Impact 2012, you can also experience a day designed exclusively for business partners! -The Business Partner Summit on Sunday, April 29, is action packed, with a keynote featuring top IBM WebSphere executives sharing their insights on opportunity in the marketplace. In addition, the numerous breakout sessions will cover a range of topics that will help you refine your growth strategies with IBM WebSphere. Mark your calendars now and plan your travel itinerary to take advantage of this valuable day.

Sponsorship opportunities are even better than ever! Last year, more than 70 Business Partners showcased their solutions to over 8000 Impact attendees. Flexible sponsorship packages provide a great return on investment for organizations of every size. Don't wait - early bird pricing is available now - and see details below for an exclusive zZone sponsorship at Impact.

Register at <http://www.ibm.com/impact> and, as a Business Partner, save over \$300 off your Impact 2012 registration.

### SPECIAL OFFER for members of Destination z - Welcome to the zZone

<http://www-03.ibm.com/systems/z/destinationz>

For the fourth year running, we are pleased to offer a zZone exhibitor package for IBM Business Partner who are members of the Destination z. community. Below are the offer details and how to register for the zZone. The zZone fills quickly and you're encouraged to act now to maximize your immediate marketing visibility.

zZone Sponsorship

- price: \$13,500
- 6 packages available - only 3 remaining as of 12/1/2011

Included in the package:

- 1 Full Conference pass + 1 Exhibitor pass per partner
- 1 reserved seat per partner at the General Sessions
- 75 words (versus 50) in the Conference Deliverables
- Sponsor Acknowledgment at General Sessions - Recognize the zZone... "group of vendors who focus on System z solutions"
- zZone banner over the peds on the EXPO floor
- 1 Breakout or BOF session per ped, based upon availability. Will assigned based upon "first come, first serve".
- Additional 5% off your Impact 2011 package who sponsor in either Lotusphere, Pulse, Innovate, IOD (US based version) Conferences in 2011
- Participation in a "zZingo" card. Completed card entitles your booth visitors to a complimentary chair massage.
- Qualify for IBM Redbook Special Offer
- Social Networking benefits

For questions regarding the zZone sponsorship package at Impact 2012 outlined above, please contact Pari Lasch at 312-541-0567 ext. 654 or via e-mail at [pari@corcexpo.com](mailto:pari@corcexpo.com).

**Note:** All statements and claims in this section represent the views of the named business partners and should not be viewed as validation or recommendation by IBM. Business partners may submit copy, with direct relevance to CICS, for publication in future CICS eNewsLetters by emailing the editor at [Knutson@uk.ibm.com](mailto:Knutson@uk.ibm.com).

## Feedback

### eNews

To provide feedback and comments on CICS Portfolio eNews, please email the editor at [Knutson@uk.ibm.com](mailto:Knutson@uk.ibm.com).