



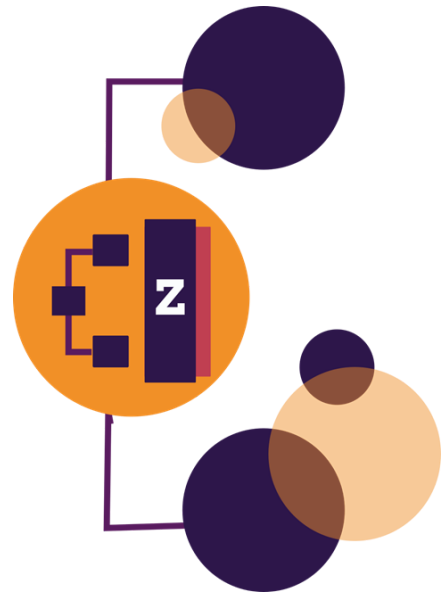
**z/OS® Connect Enterprise Edition open beta, Java 8™, CICS® Events in ODM Decision Server and more!**

We have some brilliant informative blogs and articles from experts in z Systems, as well as information on the z/OS Connect EE open beta and Java 8 developments. So to get the latest updates on what the CICS team have been busy doing to make your CICS experience better, be sure to read on.

## z/OS Connect EE Open Beta

This upcoming open beta is a great opportunity to see what the value z/OS Connect EE can offer, including intuitive tooling enabling developers to easily create RESTful APIs for z/OS assets. For more information about the open beta click [here](#).

Learn how z/OS Connect EE can unleash the value of z Systems in the API Economy in our new video and don't miss out on our hybrid cloud video coming soon:



## Java 8 Now Supported in All Releases



The CICS team are happy to announce that Java 8 support has now been delivered for CICS TS V5.2 and V5.1.

Take a look at Phil Wakelin's [blog](#) which explores how this is a key factor in [meeting the challenges of variable IT](#) using CICS TS, as well as discussing some of the crucial performance benefits IBM Java 8 provides.

## Announcements



### Latest versions of CICS Explorer & CICS Tools plug-ins for CICS Explorer

The most recent versions of CICS Explorer and CICS Tools plug-ins for CICS Explorer updates are to include 5.3.0.2. To find out more about how this can benefit you, follow this [link](#).

### End of Service Announcement

On the 30 April CICS will be ending their service on the following products: CICS CM 2.1, CICS DA 1.1, CICS IA 3.1, CICS PA 3.2 & 3.1, CICS TG 8.0, CICS VR 4.3. For more information about the end of service please consult our product lifecycles page [here](#).

### CH15: The CICS Time Machine

Want to make it easier to test time dependent CICS applications? The CICS Time Machine SupportPac, CH15, allows you to do this supporting CICS TS releases from V4.1 through to V5.3. Learn more and download [here](#).

### New Enhancements with CICS Transaction Gateway V9.2

The release of CICS Transaction Gateway V9.2 enables continuous integration testing for JSON web services and all remote CICS Transaction Gateway applications. To find out more about performance improvements, added support for z/OS V2.2, Microsoft™ Windows™ 10, Ubuntu Linux™ 14.04 LTS operating system releases, and more on their usage of Java 8, follow this [link](#).

# Blogs, Articles and Redbooks



## [CICS Serviceability Enhancements to Dump and Trace](#)

Andy Wright and Darren Beard from the CICS development and support teams give some great insights into the enhancements made in CICS dump facilities. They also provide additional information to assist with CICS problem determination. To read more about the ongoing work to extend and update CICS functionality, take a look at their Enterprise Tech Journal [article](#).

## [Integration of CICS Event Support with ODM Decision Server Insights](#)

Take a look at the new support that makes integration of CICS events with ODM Decision Server Insights quicker, simpler and more intuitive. For more details as to what this new development can offer, follow this [link](#).

Catherine Moxey from the CICS team brings you a series of blog posts on the [CICS Developer Center](#) giving useful information into how CICS and IBM ODM can derive additional business value and insight. In her latest posts, find out about how easy it is to emit and consume CICS events in ODM Decision Server Insights. To see Catherine's blog series follow these links:

- [Part 1: More Rapid Business Insight with ODM and CICS Integration](#)
- [Part 2: Emitting CICS Events for ODM Decision Server Insights](#)
- [Part 3: Consuming CICS Events in ODM Decision Server Insights](#)

## Redbooks

### [How Walmart Became a Cloud Services Provider with IBM CICS](#)

Get some real customer insight into how CICS can help modernize businesses in this exciting new Redbook made in collaboration with Walmart Stores, Inc.®. In this Redbook learn about the benefits of becoming your own cloud service provider through Walmart Stores, Inc.® implementation.

### [IBM CICS Performance Series: CICS TS for z/OS V5 Performance Report](#)

Gain a broad understanding of CICS TS for z/OS V5 performance, available for the first time in the Redbook format. Understand the significant performance improvements that you can realise from upgrading to CICS TS V5.3. Whether you are a system architect, performance analyst or application developer, this is the Redbook for you!

## Upcoming Events

[Transforming z Systems for the Mobile, Digital & API Economy, 18-20 May 2016](#)

**Montpellier, France**

Join IBM world experts at this three day client event exploring topics in the evolution of the API Economy, best API practises as well as how to secure govern and enhance APIs to reach new markets.

For more information or to register, follow this [link](#).

**GSE Nordic Region Conference 2016, 1-5 June 2016****Reykjavik, Iceland**

Get the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas and experiences with IT Specialists from CICS, DB2, IMS, and Mainframe Infrastructure Groups in this brilliant conference at the Hotel Icelandair Natura.

**IBM z Systems Technical University, 13 – 17****June 2016****Munich, Germany**

Learn how to harness the power of IBM z Systems solutions in this exciting in-depth technical training event.

**SHARE, 31 July - August 5 2016****Atlanta, Georgia**

Want to build your technical skills in zSystems? SHARE is a great place to learn! From DevOps to Mobile and Cloud, go to SHARE to not only learn about these topics but also build a strong network with hundreds of IT enterprise professionals attending.

**IBMTechU Comes to You****Various**

Keen to grow your z Systems skills? Why not look at zTech on the road where technical experts deliver their mainframe knowledge to you. These three-day events are held in many locations including: Atlanta, Dubai, Rome, San Francisco and Chicago between April and November 2016. For more information, or to register for any of these locations, click [here](#).

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Very good

Okay

Could do better

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