



Out in the wild... our new feature packs are released

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of CICSbuzz! Smiles abound in the CICS® offices because today marks the release of **two new CICS feature packs**, as well as the launch of the new **z/OS Explorer**, plus a new version of **CICS Explorer** (V5.1.1). We are also looking forward to the free, virtual **2013 IBM® zEnterprise® Technology Summit** on June 27; don't miss **Track 5** for some great CICS sessions from the comfort of your own desk - **register** for free today!

Out now: new and generally available

Not only have we just **released** two new CICS Feature Packs, and a new version of CICS Explorer, but z/OS Explorer is **out now** too!



CICS TS Feature Pack for Mobile Extensions V1.0

Extend your CICS applications to mobile devices! To find out more, visit the [mobile webpage](#) and see the technology in action in our [video demo](#).



CICS TS Feature Pack for Modern Batch V1.0

Combine batch and online workloads to minimise downtime and improve operational efficiency. Check out the [batch webpage](#) and our brand new [video demo](#) for more information.



IBM Explorer for z/OS V2.1

We are delighted to support the newly-released, Eclipse-based z/OS Explorer, providing you with a seamless user experience when working with mainframe products and z/OS. Visit the [z/OS Explorer webpage](#) for details.



CICS Explorer V5.1.1

This new version of [CICS Explorer](#) features:

- support for Eclipse 4.2.2 and z/OS Explorer V2.1
- enhanced support for definition/management of Platforms & Applications
- the ability to include OSGi applications in a CICS bundle
- support for additional national languages: Brazilian Portuguese, French, German, Korean, Spanish, and Traditional Chinese

It also comes preloaded with access to many new IBM plug-ins for Eclipse, including ones for z/OS Explorer, CICS Explorer, CICS Tools, Problem Determination Tools, plus IBM Rational and Information Management products. There are also updated plug-ins for several CICS Tools (CICS Configuration Manager for z/OS, V5.1.1; CICS Deployment Assistant for z/OS, V5.1.1; CICS Interdependency Analyzer for z/OS, V5.1.1; CICS Performance Analyzer for z/OS, V5.1.1; CICS Transaction Gateway for z/OS, V9.0.1), delivering updated capabilities, plus support for the latest CICS Explorer and Eclipse levels.

New updates: the CICS Showcase

We've just added a feature on our newly released products to the [CICS Showcase](#) web page. With videos, podcasts and papers, CICS Showcase is your portal to the newest CICS information in an easily digestible format.

Take a closer look today at www.ibm.com/cics/showcase



From mainframe to mobile: what the analysts say

There's a new analyst paper out from The Clipper Group, titled "[Enabling Your Mainframe Data on Mobile Devices](#)". The core question they address is whether you need to provide secure, timely and speedy access to critical data sitting on your mainframe from the mobile and diverse world of smart devices, and vice versa. If this is a hot topic for you, read on...



Getting the message: updated CICS SupportPac for sending emails

[CICS SupportPac CA1Y](#) provides a simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP) client to send emails and attachments from CICS Transaction Server. We've recently updated it - check out [release 1.3](#) to see what's new!



The right tools for the job

It's new and it's shiny... check out the new [IBM z/OS Tools video](#) to see how CICS and PD Tools, together with the Eclipse-based z/OS Explorer interface, can be used to help you manage and get the most out of your CICS systems.

While you're in the tools zone, why not take a look at our new [CICS Tools V5.1 Datasheet?](#)

Try it yourself: TXSeries V8.1 open beta

As part of the CICS family, TXSeries provides extensive transaction management and integration capabilities. Join the [TXSeries V8.1 open beta programme](#) to experience enhanced platform coverage, improved operational efficiency, greater enterprise integration, and increased serviceability.

Be there or be square: upcoming CICS events



27 June: IBM zEnterprise Technology Summit (free virtual conference)

Join the free, online [zEnterprise Technology Summit](#) to learn how the unique capabilities of zEnterprise fit into an enterprise private cloud, how integrated analytics can support better decision-making and how you can deliver new services faster and with more flexibility. Keep up on the technology, from hardware to software to the tools that maximize their value, and don't miss [session track 5](#), specially designed for application architects and managers, CICS programmers and administrators. [Register for free](#) today!



18 July: System z Webcast (free online event)

[Register](#) for our free webcast "[Dramatic improvements with IBM® z/OS tools: Here's how HSBC did it](#)" to learn about z/OS Explorer, a consistent framework for Eclipse-based tools for the entire z/OS platform, and (using HSBC as an example) how IBM tools like CICS Interdependency Analyzer can be blended seamlessly with CICS Explorer®, IMS Enterprise Explorer, and Rational® Developer for System z® to form a single, custom toolbox for all subsystems.



11-16 August: SHARE Conference, Boston, MA, USA

Join us at [SHARE](#) for some of the best in enterprise IT education, networking and innovations. We'll be running over 30 CICS-specific sessions just for you, so be sure to check out the [CICS session list](#). Our top tip? [Register](#) before June 28 for discounted early bird prices!

Some little gems: Business Partner resources

Call replays

System z: Agile Development and Deployment for the 21st Century, in which Ray Jones, IBM VP System z software sales, discusses how IBM's new announcements create an environment to continue to innovate in an agile world. Russ Teubner, CEO Hostbridge, talks about CICS vitality and his own experiences with his customers in building innovative solutions with CICS.

System z 2Q 2013 Quarterly ISV & SI Call features two hot topics:

zPCR: Processor Capacity Reference for IBM System z, and

Impact 2013: key announcements for ISVs & key features in CICS TS V5.1.



CICS Virtual User Group

Do you know about the [CICS Virtual User Group](#), an independent group sponsored by IBM Business Partner Fundi? It hosts frequent webcasts featuring CICS news from IBM, IBM Business Partners and CICS customer around the world. Hear from Partners including CA, C/Trek, Fundi, GTS Software, Hostbridge, Matter of Fact Software, Rocket Software and more; listen for yourself and join the conversation at www.fundi.com/virtualcics

Working with us

Get listed... are you supporting CICS V5.1? Make sure your entry is up to date in the [IBM Global Solutions Directory](#).

Share your story... we're always eager to hear news and success stories from our IBM Business Partners. Contact Partner Program Focal, [Diane Johnson](#).

To join our [growing list](#) of IBM Business Partners, contact cicsetp@uk.ibm.com

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Our crack CICS team all dressed up and ready to roll at the [GSE Nordic](#) conference held this week. **L-to-R:** software developers Indi Singh, Ledina Hido & Anthony Papageorgiou, marketing specialist Nick Garrod (seated), Distinguished Engineer Ian Mitchell, TechSales' Isabel Arnold & Senior Technical Staff Member Fraser Bohm.

CICSbuzz editors: John Knutson, Nick Garrod & Anna Bridgen
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