The world of CICS, what's going on? In this August edition, the CICSbuzz team has been busy collecting the most important updates and the most exciting news about CICS. So here we are...

What's been happening in CICS?

New release of GENAPP
We are glad to announce that the GENAPP SupportPac, a general insurance application that allows you to test out a variety of functions and components of CICS TS, has recently been updated. Now GENAPP Lite V5.1.0.2 has full support for SOAP and JSON web services in CICS TS V5.2. To find out about other enhancements to GENAPP and to download it, please visit this page.

Application Developers: New CICS Certification
We've just launched a new CICS Application Developer Certification. This new intermediate level certification is oriented at application developers who design, debug and deploy their enterprise apps with CICS TS V5.2. Get started here.

CICS TS V5.2 Developer Trial
Thinking of updating your CICS TS to CICS TS V5.2? Why not try the no-cost CICS TS V5.2 Developer Trial? It will allow you to test the latest capabilities and enhancements yourself before you buy the actual product! Download it here.

Business Partners: take a Mobile Test Drive!
Looking for business growth? Mobilize your CICS applications! The CICS Mobile Test Drive for ISV Business Partners provides a System z environment for mobile application development and testing for 60 days free of charge. Develop mobile apps to interface with IBM Worklight Server and access applications running under CICS. The current test drive system based on CICS TS V5.1 with the Mobile Extension Feature Pack will be updated to CICS TS V5.2 within the next three months. For further information, please contact Bruce Lin at blin@us.ibm.com or view this pdf.

WIN: Mainframe Mobile App Throwdown
System z users: it's time to take mobile to the next level in your company in our app-building contest. You could win an iPad®, a pass to IBM Enterprise2014, and even a week with our IBM experts to help turn your app into a reality! We've built a getting started guide, and you'll also have access to an IBM zMobile Expert to help with your questions.

CICS Media

Podcasts
Want more information on Cloud in CICS? Then hear CICS Cloud Guru, Matthew Webster, talking about Multi-Versioning in CICS.

Listen to the Liberty in CICS podcast to hear Phil Wakelin, CICS Java Expert, talking about the value of Liberty in CICS.

Tune in to the GENAPP podcast, where Stewart Smith from the CICS test team focuses on functions and capabilities of GENAPP.

Slideshare
Have you heard about Slideshare yet? Slideshare is an internet based slide hosting service. Check out the CICS Slideshare account to find the latest CICS decks.

Reading list

The 5th edition of the Software Strategies analyst paper shows IBM Problem Determination tools once again lead the market. Read the Executive Summary to find out more.

Learn about the causes of storage violations and what improvements have been introduced to CICS to reduce these violations in the new article Reducing the Potential for CICS Storage Violations by Russ Evans.

Discover how to make applications available in CICS automatically from this new CICSdev blog entry by Ian Burnett.

Upcoming events

CICS TS V5 Tales from the Trenches: It's all about Efficiency (13 Aug)
Please join this webcast presented by Andy Bates, CICS TS Product Manager, and Russ Teubner, CEO of HostBridge Technology, to hear how CICS TS V5 delivers even greater efficiency and operational efficiency.

Australian Tour (26 August - 5 September)
Renowned CICS Technical Specialist Mark Cocker will be visiting several cities in Australia to talk about CICS. This is a splendid opportunity to hear about the latest capabilities as well as more established function, and quiz Mark on how to derive the best value from your CICS system. See your local client representative for more details or contact nick_garrod@uk.ibm.com for an invite.
Dates:
Mon 25 Aug - Brisbane
Wed 27 Aug - Sydney
Fri 28 Aug - Canberra
Mon 01 Sep - Melbourne
Wed 03 Sep - Adelaide
Fri 05 Sep - Perth

IBM Enterprise 2014 (6 - 10 October)
Enterprise 2014 is the premier enterprise infrastructure event, which brings together the IBM System z Technical University, IBM Power Systems Technical University and Enterprise Executive Summit. Register before 7 September to save some money by receiving an early bird discount.

IBM Websphere Technical University (28 - 31 October)
Attend this 4 day long conference in Dusseldorf to keep up with the latest trends in such growth-fuelling technologies as CICS, WebSphere MQ, IBM Integration Bus and more. See the full agenda for the conference here and hurry to register.

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