



**We have some early gifts for you...** That's right! This November, CICS® is excited for the new. We have for you a new Developer Centre website complete with a new blog about our CICS TS V5.3 open beta, plus a string of new podcasts are on their way for the series "Did You Say Mainframe?" Moreover, CICS Operational Insight have some exciting new ideas to help with workload profiling and z/OS LPAR insights, and the Virtual User Group have a newsletter and event updates that should not be missed! If that's not enough, don't forget it's the 1 month countdown to our CICS TS V5.3 release! Keep reading to find out more...

### New Developer Center Website

#### It's clearer, it's easier, and it's here...

After years of faithful service, we're upgrading our existing CICSdev site to a brand new Developer Center, which is now available for all to use! Members of the CICS team have been working hard to give you a smoother and more appealing website to check out our latest CICS blogs, videos, and more. We're also expanding our presence on dwAnswers, IBM's question and answer forum, with an all-encompassing Smart Space - via [CICS Q&A](#) - for all of your CICS related questions! Take a look at it the DevCenter [here](#).



#### Core improvements in the CICS TS V5.3 Open Beta

In addition, check out this new blog on the CICS DevCenter page! In the follow up from CICS's recent TS V5.3 announcement, take a look at this CICS DevCenter blog by Alison Lucas explaining what new and improved things we now have available on the CICS TS V5.3 open beta. Learn about changes to security, cloud enablement, performance, reliability and also CICS Explorer. Sounds like your kind of thing? Read it [here](#).

### 1 MONTH COUNTDOWN TO THE CICS TS V5.3 LAUNCH!

#### Find out more about it with our handbook!



To find out more about what's inside our upcoming CICS TS V5.3 release on 11 December this year, check out our new glossy handbook. Learn about the three key areas that CICS have focused their new version on: service agility, operational efficiency, and cloud with DevOps. Also read a few introductory words from our VP of z Systems Software, Mike Perera. Read it [here](#).

### Podcasts

#### Did you say Mainframe?

To help you learn more about our exciting new release, CICS TS V5.3, Nick Garrod in his "Did You Say Mainframe?" podcast series chats to CICS team experts about all the new additions and improvements coming your way this December. In one of the latest podcasts Nick Garrod and Mark Cocker discuss the three key focus areas for CICS TS V5.3. Also, make sure you listen out for the next in the series where CICS Technical Strategy and Planning expert, Mark Cocker, discusses the efforts and achievements of DevOps with application deployment.



We have a whole bundle of podcasts coming up to get you ready for our new release, so be sure to [check them out!](#)

## From Newsletter to Newsletter



### Virtual CICS User Group Newsletter

Want to learn more about what CICS has to offer for you? Then subscribe to the Virtual CICS User Group newsletter for updates on upcoming meetings such as David Lawrence's discussion on "Creating an Agile Development Environment while reducing Costs" on 12 January 2016, or recent articles and presentations available for your technical growth. Take a look at this edition [here](#).

## CICS OI



### CICS OI have put their thinking caps on...

The CICS OI team have been working hard to come up with not one but two new insight ideas to do workload profiling and z/OS LPAR insights. Take a look at their idea development by checking out their home page [here](#).

### CICS OI blog: Working with our customers - the power of positive feedback!

Our CICS team loves to receive feedback, it gives us the opportunity to grow with your ideas and tailor our products for our customers. Sam Smith discusses the rewarding experience of good feedback from recent customer calls and how it benefitted the CICS OI team for future endeavours. To find out more about how your feedback can help us and help you in the long run, follow this [link](#).

## Webcasts



### Upcoming Lunch 'n' Learns

19 November 2015, 1pm (ET) - [How quickly can you recover mission critical VSAM data?](#)

What would you do if your VSAM data was lost or destroyed? Could you recover the data to the same point in time where the failure occurred? Eric Higgins, Certified IT Specialist-CICS Tools, discusses the risks of taking the reliability from IBM z Systems for granted and shows you how to recover compromised VSAM structures to the point of failure using IBM's VSAM Recovery (VR) tool. Register [here](#) now!

10 December 2015, 1pm (ET) - [What's new with CICS Tools V5.3?](#)

In line with the launch of TS V5.3, Joe Gailey, Client Technical Specialist, CICS Tools on z Systems, welcomes you to listen in on what new stuff CICS Tools V5.3 has to offer. Don't miss out, [register](#) today!

## Events



### 21 - 25 February, Las Vegas, Nevada - InterConnect 2016

That's right, the premier cloud and mobile conference is coming up again next February! For those new to this event, InterConnect is for those building new business models, transforming industries, and creating better results. It is an event for anyone from an IT leader to a designer to a cloud expert; as long as you strive to build better business this is the place for you. Get the "Super Saver Rates" by registering before November 30th and save up to £700 compared to on-site rates! Click the link [here](#) to register.

### 7 - 10 March, Wiesbaden, Germany - IMS Technical Symposium 2016

For all those IMS users or for those who are interested, early registration is now open for the largest IMS-exclusive technical conference in the world! With a mixture of Hands on Labs, demos, and over 50 technical topics, this symposium will help sharpen your competitive edge and build expertise. Register now to find out about the newest release of the premiere transaction and hierarchical database management system: IMS 14, as well as its role in cloud, analytics, and mobile. Sound good? Register by clicking [here](#).

**In case you missed it!**

**CICS joined in with the spooky festivities...**



As you may know, the CICS team like to have a little bit of fun! If you missed our Facebook post for Halloween, check out what Jack 'o' lantern CICS made for you this year! Follow this [link](#) to see our page.

**...And the firework fun!**

To celebrate some of the fun for Bonfire Night, CICS also treated its Facebook followers with our own CICS Guy Fawkes. Have a look at what we did [here](#).

**How did we do today?**

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Very good



Okay



Could do better

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CICSbuzz editors: John Knutson, Nick Garrod, David Harris & Samantha Catling.

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Registered office:  
PO Box 41, North Harbour,  
Portsmouth, Hants. PO6 3AU