

IBM Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit

Highlights

- Help increase productivity and efficiency by decentralizing basic RACF security commands to CICS terminals
- Extend security controls and security administration of CICS applications to RACF by leveraging a sophisticated API
- Conserve central RACF security resources by reducing the volume of basic administrative tasks
- Leverage ease-of-use features and granular control to help maintain RACF security

In today's distributed environments, decentralized administration for IBM Resource Access Control Facility (RACF®) security is a practical necessity. Without it, central administrators can find themselves bogged down in routine tasks, such as user additions and password changes, as users and support staff place hundreds of daily requests for tasks they could easily have performed locally. The challenge lies in extending administrative privileges without compromising system security and without requiring the users to start another application to issue a security request. User support staff need these privileges, yet they have little or no knowledge of RACF-compliant commands.

In many corporate environments, business information is largely accessed via IBM Customer Information Control System (CICS®). Allowing users to manage some of their security requests from a CICS transaction can help save

the cost of educating users about the security management tool and eliminate the time it takes to switch to an external tool.

IBM Tivoli® zSecure CICS Toolkit adds mainframe administration capabilities, such as password resets and authorization management, to the CICS environment from a user-friendly menu that shows only delegated functions and options to your users. The software provides you with the flexibility to distribute security authorization management via CICS transactions — for use by local administration. By using Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit, you can extend selected, basic administrative privileges to field administrators and still maintain control over the types of commands that distributed users can administer.

Decentralizing security administration helps free up central security administrators from routine tasks and

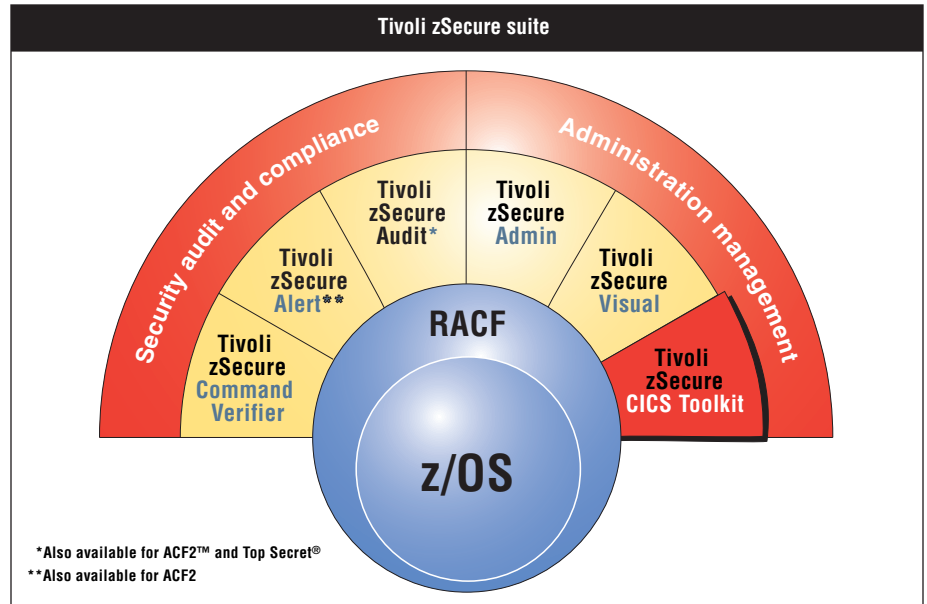
ultimately increases productivity levels in the field — enabling central administrators to focus on more business-critical issues, such as improving security and service levels.

Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit enables you to:

- Manage RACF security administration through CICS applications.
- Decentralize RACF security administration.
- Customize RACF administration.
- Achieve greater granularity than with current RACF methods.
- Provide users with an easy-to-use administration tool.
- Empower decentralized users to perform basic functions such as resetting passwords, revoking user access and running select reports.

Help boost productivity levels of field administrators

Once you have delegated basic security functions to your offsite administrators, they can manage select security functions without needing detailed RACF training. Your field administrators can quickly issue commands through a user-friendly menu for functions like password resets for failed user logins and user additions. The easy-to-use Tivoli zSecure



Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit helps manage RACF security administration through CICS applications. It is part of a family of products designed to provide an optimum interface for managing mainframe security.

CICS Toolkit menu enables users to stay within the CICS application, rather than forcing them into another environment, such as time sharing option (TSO) or interactive system productivity facility (ISPF) screens, to issue security commands to the mainframe.

With Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit, application programmers do not need to know the RACF database or its layout to create a customized RACF security management application. In fact, Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit can deliver improved time to value, since programmers only need knowledge of CICS

application programming and calling conventions in the Toolkit manual.

Leverage sophisticated API capabilities to execute select RACF security functions

Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit helps leverage your mainframe as a critical business resource by extending the RACF security database. If you have an application on your Web server that communicates with CICS on your mainframe, your CICS application can use the advanced COBOL application programming interface (API) capabilities in Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit to execute select RACF security functions.

Such functions could be verification of a user ID and password entered on the Web interface against the RACF database or retrieval of information about a user ID and its privileges from the RACF database that gets passed on to the Web application. The Web application can then use this information to configure the menu shown to the user, using the security functions in RACF to control your Web server and Web applications. By leveraging this sophisticated API, Web applications can use RACF functions for security administration, authentication and access control. Another added value of using RACF as the center for security is its auditability through IBM Tivoli zSecure Audit.

Customize screens

You can easily customize Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit screens by using the API, which can be contacted by any CICS program with a standard CICS command area. Use the API to tailor the look of your screens to the requirements of a specific installation and show as little or as much as you want to your decentralized administrators. In addition, you can customize the RACF commands that Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit supports. The API even allows an authorized application to verify the password of another user.

With customized screens in Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit, you never have to worry about providing too much information to decentralized administrators, because the screens will only show the options and fields that you have selected to your local administrators.

Perform resource access checks

The API facilitates access checks of more than 2,000 resources, enabling you to easily replace an application's internal security with RACF security and helping to significantly improve the application's performance. Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit can also reduce the burden of maintenance programming and administration from CICS application developers, helping free them to focus on improving functionality.

Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit enables your CICS application to use RACF to set access policies, which will be retrieved directly from the RACF database. This helps separate duties so application support staff are not authorized to manage authorities and privileges in applications. In addition, Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit can implement third-party resource checks via most resource classes.

Support security of legacy applications

Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit also enables you to enhance the security

Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit at a glance

System requirements:

- IBM z/OS® or z/OS.e
- CICS
- RACF

and auditability of legacy and home-grown applications, by using the API to centralize — in the RACF database — the security of applications built for CICS.

Ease-of-use features and granular control help maintain RACF security

Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit uses fill-in-the-blank CICS menus to allow local administrators to issue commands without specialized group, system or TSO access.

Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit also lets you assign authorizations at the local function level to specific sets of users and resources — such as separate authorizations for resetting a password or permitting user access — to help increase the granularity of your RACF environment.

Leverage the Tivoli zSecure product family

Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit is part of a family of Tivoli zSecure products designed to help mainframe administrators increase productivity and measure and verify the effectiveness of their mainframe security and security



policies. The robust security features in the Tivoli zSecure product family represent the IBM commitment to delivering the industry's best security interface for your mainframe.

For more information

For more information about how Tivoli zSecure CICS Toolkit can help you decentralize security administration to the RACF mainframe, contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit ibm.com/tivoli

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