

SHARE in Boston



**Managing the complexities of Change
and
Software Asset Management**

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eventACTION Topics

- **Change tracking, options and control**
- **Reference tracking**
- **Manage Product Usage**
- **System command tracking and control**
- **ussACTION, for the z/OS Unix System Services (USS)**
- **Ease of use features**
 - **Online access via ISPF**
 - **Powerful side-by-side Compare**
 - **Extensive reporting facility**
 - **Email notification & alerts**
 - **Job/event scheduling**
 - **Interfaces to your current processes & procedures**

Change Tracking

- **Automated change tracking - records statistics and/or backups**
- **PDS(e), Sequential and VSAM datasets**
- **Changes via TSO, Batch or STC – any program**
- **Tracked info used for online & batch reports, compare, fast restore, external processes**
- **Data recorded: date, time, volser, userid, jobname, program name, DDname, change request, etc**

Change Tracking

Once tracked

- **Locate changes quickly, compare to previous, restore problem changes**
- **Compare provides for comparing almost any two files**
 - **current member versus an older backup or any two members**
 - **any two data sets (eg. 2 different parmlibs)**
 - **data on any two volumes**
 - **data between sites**
- **Extensive report facility allows for client customization**
 - **extensive ‘selection criteria’**
 - **reports can be viewed online or thru batch**
 - **all are available as email attachments**

Change Tracking Options

- **Options set at 4 levels: global, oid, dsn, member**
- **Option set at higher level, override at lower**
- **Admin decides # of statistics & backups, how long to keep, if controls / authorization / scheduling wanted**
- **Dynamic Definition function automatically tracks changes to APF, LNK, LPA & PARM list libraries**

Change Controls

- **active change control – controls/manages and prevents unauthorized changes**
- **Provides multi level control down to member**
 - **Control ‘live’ system IPL volume**
 - **Control specific data sets (eg. production, sensitive data)**
 - **Control a specific member of a PDS (eg. Parmlib members)**
- **Your site decides**
 - **Which resources have controls**
 - **What resources should have a change request**
 - **Which changes require authorization**
 - **Schedule for changes**
 - **Blackout windows**

Change Controls

The eventACTION controls process

- Easy ISPF interface to create a Change Request
- Change Request provides
 - What will be changed
 - Reason & description for the change
 - Instructions for change implementation & backout
 - The status of planned changes
 - When will the change be implemented
 - Who (if anyone) needs to schedule the change
 - Who (if anyone) needs to authorize the change
 - Change log containing comments by different users
- APIs available (to work with your processes)

Reference Tracker

- **Records references to data sets & to members of PDS**
- **Reference from TSO, batch or STC, using any program**
- **References are a change, read, or execute**
- **RT identifies**
 - **not referenced in specific number of days**
 - **unused members/datasets (library cleanup, unused products)**
 - **users of and usage frequency of datasets by system**
- **RTM includes execute-only references**
 - **usage of a product or any in-house program**
 - **how often, who uses, most frequent user, which system**
 - **usage of identically named members from different datasets (use of an old SAS library)**

Manage Product Usage

- **Identify, control / restrict usage of Products**
- **RTM can identify usage**
- **Product Execution Control (PXC) ensures that products only run on licensed systems**
- **Restrict usage to appropriate systems on which the product is licensed or is allowed to run**
- **Warn or fail restricted attempts to use**
- **RTM & PXC data available realtime and online**
- **Export data to external client specific processes, such as billing & software asset management**

Management Reports

- **Report facility covers all eventACTION features**
 - change tracking, data content changes, change requests, reference tracking info, command tracking, etc
 - provides audit data for compliance
 - management and detail reports
- **Extensive report facility allows for client customization**
 - extensive 'selection criteria'
 - reports can be viewed online or thru batch
 - all are available as email attachments

Command Manager

- **Track, control & log MVS operator commands**
- **Issued from operator terminals, TSO, batch, or started tasks**
- **Flexible command definitions including masking**
- **Authorize commands by user and location**
- **Particularly useful for managing the use of the 'SET' command**
- **Browse Command Manager log instead of syslog**
- **Enables quick search with selection criteria**
 - **Such as Program, who, console, date/time, etc.**

APIs to Other Products

- **Info/Man**
 - **bi-directional interface**
 - **change requests can originate in either *eventACTION* or Info/Man**
 - **your change management becomes an active and effective change control facility**
 - **while continuing to follow existing policies and procedures**
- **Distributed systems in development**
 - **Remedy**
 - **XML interface over TCP/IP**
 - **Product must have API support**

Additional Features

- **Email notification and alerts**
 - data/information can be sent even to non-TSO users
 - Alerts can be sent automatically for change events
- **Job/event scheduling**
 - automatically submit batch jobs at user defined times
 - schedule on daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly basis
 - manual submission and email options permitted
- **LULU**
 - Lu to Lu feature to connect multiple eventACTION environments
 - Automatically send Change Request information
 - Transmit & synchronize eventACTION options
 - Easily compare any volumes, datasets, and/or members
 - Backward or forward merge of changes as they occur
- **ELI**
 - External Language interface to extract data from database

ussACTION

- **For z/OS Unix Systems Services (USS)**
- **Automatic change and reference tracking for USS directories & files, supports HFS & zFS**
- **Changes & controls down to file level**
- **Reference counts at file level**
- **Backups & stats**
- **Easy backout of changes**
- **Side-by-side compare**
- **Online & batch reports**

Other Considerations

- **Complete / secure audit trail of all changes**
- **No unauthorized changes bypassed your Change Management System**
- **System controls to assist in z/OS compliance**
- **Basis for software asset management & library cleanup**
- **Assure Software providers that their products only run on licensed systems**
- **Repository for z/OS system data & Reporting for all data thru online & batch, with email & scheduling**
- **Investigate 'incidents' realtime (changes, program usage, operations)**
- **Interfaces to your current processes & procedures**

Other Considerations

- **Implementation & Administration**
- **Performance**
- **Who can use**
- **Financial industry clients**
- **More Information – www.actionsoftware.com/gi.pdf**