



CICS Explorer Traveler's Guide CICS EXPLORER THE "NEW FACE OF CICS"

SHARE 2013 – Boston Session 13344

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www.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/explorer/



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Session Objectives



NO.	DEPARTURES
1	What is it and Why do I care?
2	Installation and Configuration
3	Workspace Logistics
4	Deployment Considerations
5	CICS Explorer Navigation (Live Demo)
6	What's New in CICS Explorer v5.1?
7	Summary



What is it and Why do I Care?

IBM's "New Face of CICS"

- Eclipse Based graphical tooling interface for CICS
- Connects to CICS via the CICSPlex Web User Interface (WUI) System Task
- Utilizes the existing CICSPlex (CPSMOBJ) Security rules

Capabilities

- User friendly
 - Easy to find what you are looking for
 - Ability to dynamically/easily/quickly manipulate your screen, so that you are only a few clicks away from the information, you REALLY need
- Expandable, via Plug-ins
 - For Shops that have CICS Tools, Explorer provides an integrated view
 - Even for Shops without CICS Tools, Explorer provides an integrated view of their CICS Environment
- Currently CICS Explorer can be used to perform many, but not ALL Administration Functions

IBM Direction

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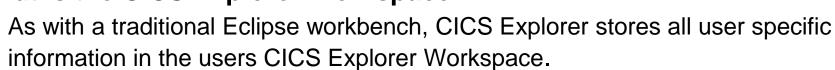
- IBM has made a significant commitment to Explorer
 - New releases GA approximately every 90 days
 - IBM has set up a CICS Explorer Forum, for users to comment, ask questions, etc.
 - From a Changing workforce perspective, IBM feels that Explorer will help shorten the learning curve for new IT Professionals
 - Features like CICS Event Processing, CICS Application Bundling, etc. REQUIRE CICS Explorer





Workspace Logistics

• What is the CICS Explorer Workspace?



- User Credentials
- Last User display
- Installation Perspectives
- Java OSGI Bundles (SDK) Etc.

- Connections (Depends on Deployment)
- CICS Event Processing Projects
- CICS Application Bundle Projects

Default Location: "C:\Documents And Settings\username\.cicsexplorer"

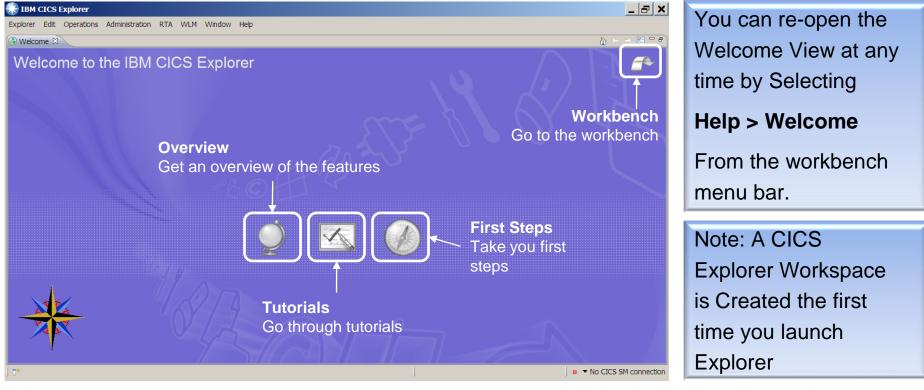
Do I Care What's in the Individual User's CICS Explorer Workspace?

 When considering Deployment Options, you MUST consider if it's necessary to preserve the contents of Individual User Workspaces, and plan accordingly





- Download the Appropriate CICS Explorer Base and Plug-in(s)
 - www.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/explorer/
- Starting CICS Explorer for the First Time
 - The workbench starts and the Welcome View is displayed





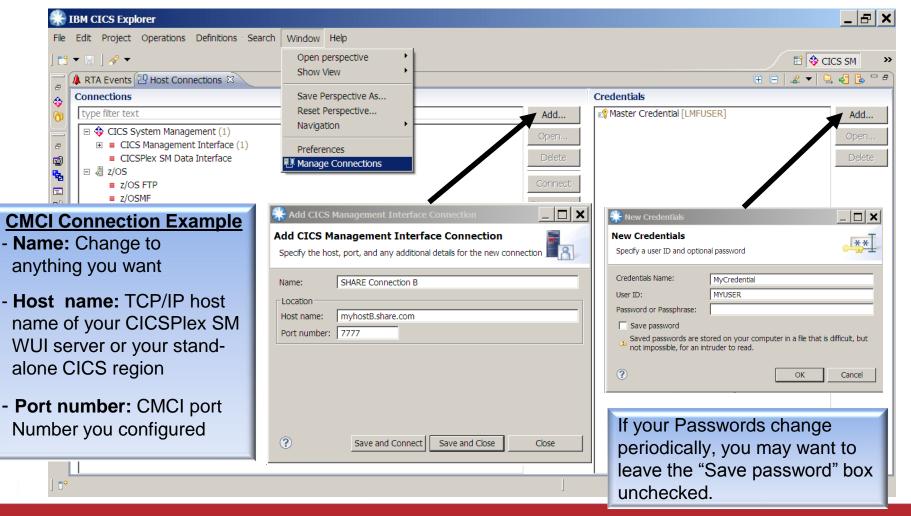
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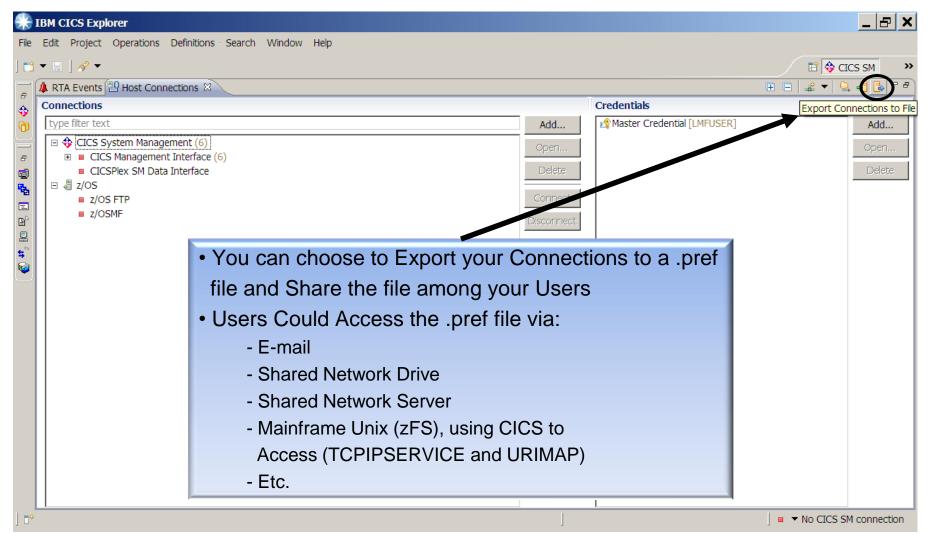
- Connections and Credential Administration (CICS Explorer v1.1.1 +)
 - The README file details the steps

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Credentials contain user information that will be used by Connections



Connection Sharing (CICS Explorer v1.1.1 +)





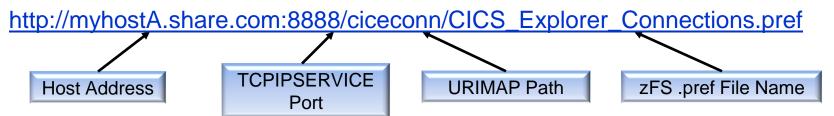
- Connection Sharing (Using zFS Example)
 - Use CICS Explorer to Export your current Connections to a .pref file
 - Upload the .pref file to zFS (XMIT ASCII)
 - Permissions for the zFS (.pref) file must allow the CICS Region Userid READ Access
 Example zFS Location: /explorerconn/
 Example File Name: CICS_Explorer_Connections.pref
 - Create a CICS TCPIPSERVICE definition, using an Open Port and your defaults Example TCPIPSERVICE Name: LMFCONN Example TCPIPPORT: 8888
 - Create a CICS URIMAP with the following Attributes Specified Example URIMAP Values:
 - HOST :*
 - PAth :/ciceconn/* (Any Name you choose. Used in the URL)
 - **Tcpipservice** : LMFCONN (See Example TCPIPSERVICE Name Above)
 - Mediatype : text/xml
 - HFsfile : /explorerconn/CICS_Explorer_Connections.pref (See Above)
 - Install the TCPIPSERVICE and URIMAP in Your CICS Region





• Connection Sharing (Using zFS Example - Continued)

 Based on the Example Attributes, you can now open a web browser and type the following URL address to Test the Setup:



• The following is an example of what should be Returned in the Web Browser

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
```

```
_ <connections providerID="1234567892894-1">
```

```
_ <type type="com.ibm.cics.sm.comm.sm.connection">
        <configID CONFIG_NAME="SHARE Connection A" CREDENTIAL_ID="1234567896008-0"
        PORT_NAME="7777" SERVER_NAME="myhostA.share.com" configID=" SHARE Connection A
        host="myhostA.share.com" name=" SHARE Connection A " port="7777" />
        <configID CONFIG_NAME="SHARE Connection B" CREDENTIAL_ID="1234567896008-0"
        PORT_NAME="7777" SERVER_NAME="myhostB.share.com" configID=" SHARE Connection B
        host="myhostB.share.com" name=" SHARE Connection B " port="7777" />
        <configID CONFIG_NAME="SHARE Connection C" CREDENTIAL_ID="1234567896008-0"
        PORT_NAME="7777" SERVER_NAME="myhostB.share.com" configID=" SHARE Connection B
        host="myhostB.share.com" name=" SHARE Connection B " port="7777" />
        <configID CONFIG_NAME="SHARE Connection C" CREDENTIAL_ID="1234567896008-0"
        PORT_NAME="7777" SERVER_NAME="myhostC.share.com" configID=" SHARE Connection C
        host="myhostC.share.com" name=" SHARE Connection C " port="7777" />
        </type>
        </connections>
```

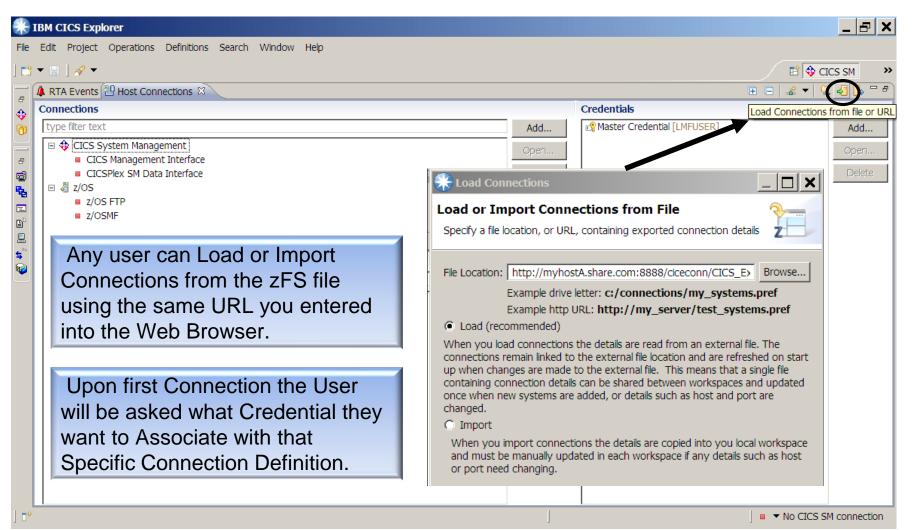


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Connection Sharing (Using zFS Example – Continued)





Deployment Considerations



Intended Users

- Number of users
- Current WUI Users
- User Type (Admin, Read, Mixed)
- Will certain groups use Plug-ins?
- User Support

Upgrade Administration

- Frequency (GA Every 90 Days)
- Upgrade method
 - Full Replacement
 - Automatic Update
 - Archive Site File
- Plug-in Upgrades

- Installation Specific Audit Requirements
 - Change Control
 - Processes and Procedures
 - Service Level Agreements

Workspace Administration

- Is it important to preserve today?
- Will it be important to preserve?
 - CICS Event Processing, Application Bundling, etc. Project Administration
- Backup
- Recovery
- Connection Administration



Deployment Considerations



• Option One - Local on Each User Workstation

- Each user has an individual copy installed on their workstation
- Very little Administrative Control

Option Two - Shared Network Drive

- Installed/Accessed from a Shared Network Drive
- Depending on Network Configuration may have response time issues

• Option Three - Citrix Server

- Installed on a Network (Citrix) Server
- Full Administrative Control
- Allows you to leverage Citrix Scripting

Other Resources

For any Deployment option where the .exe file is shared you should review the Eclipse guidelines for multi-user installations

http://help.eclipse.org/indigo/index.jsp?topic=/org.eclipse.platform.doc.isv/reference/misc/multi %255Fuser%255Finstalls.html



Deployment Considerations



Option Four – JWS (Java Web Start)

- An IBM developerworks article, "Deploy CICS Explorer using Java Web Start" was published, on April 19, 2012
- IBM officially announced JWS at the IBM IMPACT 2012 conference, in conjunction with an IBM United States Software Announcement (ALET 212-119), dated April 24, 2012
- JWS is an industry standard solution for deployment of Java applications from the web, not a component of CICS Explorer.
 - A CICS Explorer Installation Administrator would:
 - Download a version of CICS Explorer
 - Customize it to the Installation standards.
 - Package the customized version as a JWS JNLP (Java Network Launching Protocol) file.
 - The JNLP file is then stored in an accessible installation location.
 - The first time a user points their browser to the JNLP file, a copy of CICS Explorer is loaded into the user's browser cache.
 - If a new JNLP file is deployed, the Installation user's copy is updated at the next execution.





Accessing Help and What's New

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							Version 1.0.0.3 provides a fix for CICS
							Explorer™ APAR IZ65446. Parent topic: What was new in previous versions
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							Version 1.0.0.6 adds further
							enhancements to IBM® CICS Explorer™.
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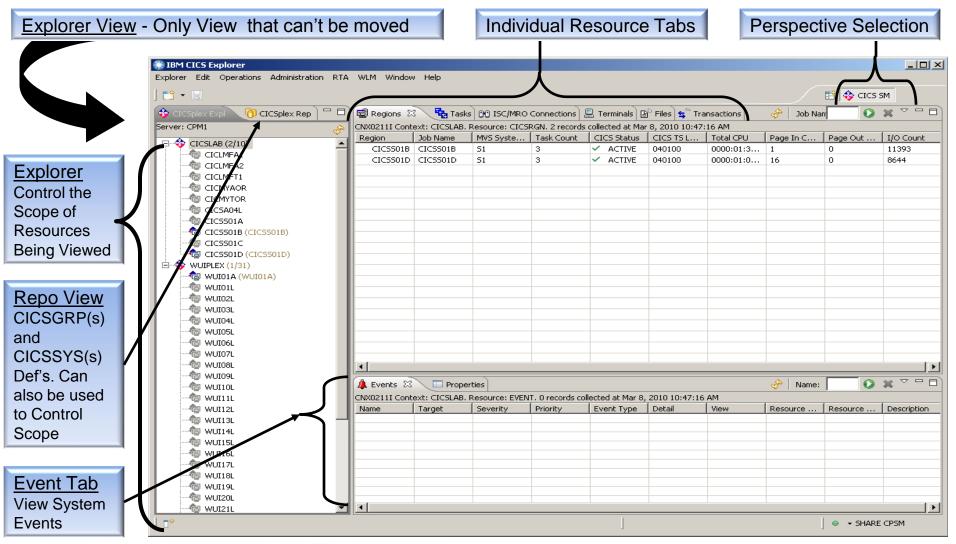
The frequency of New CICS Explorer Releases makes the Internal Help function a great (UTD) information source.

Each New Release includes a "What's New" section, detailing new functionality





Screen Layout



15 Complete your sessions evaluation online at SHARE.org/BostonEval



Zoom In/Out of a View

Double Click the View Tab to Zoom in or Back out of a view

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WUI17L					CICSS01B	EYU9NXSD	ENABLED	1	1	ASSEMBLER	PRIVATE	NOCEDF	NOTREQUIRED
WUI18L					CICSS01B	EYU9NXSH	ENABLED	0	0	ASSEMBLER	PRIVATE	NOCEDF	NOTREQUIRED
WUI19L					CICSS01B	EYU9PS01	ENABLED	1	1	ASSEMBLER	SHARED	NOCEDF	NOTREQUIRED
WUI20L					CICSS01B	EYU9TS01	ENABLED	1	1	ASSEMBLER	SHARED	NOCEDF	NOTREQUIRED
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- Resizing a View
 - Float the Cursor over the inside edge of the view until it changes to a Double-Ended (vertical or horizontal) arrow.
 - Drag the edge to the desired size

Moving a View

- Position the Cursor on the Tab of the View you want to move
- Drag it to the area of the screen you want to position it in.
 - Your cursor will change to one of the following, indicating where the screen will be positioned.

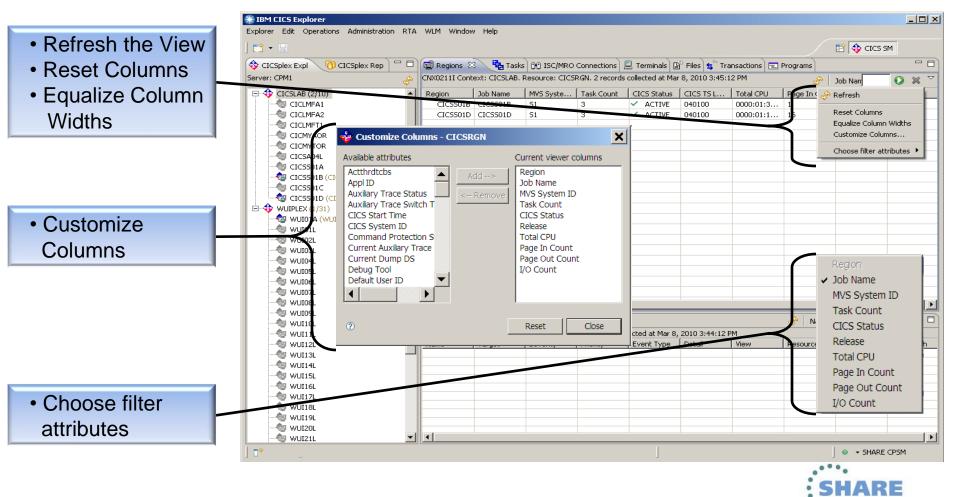
Cursor	Where the View will be moved
	Position above the Current View (the View that is underneath the cursor)
₽	Position Below the Current View
-	Position to the Right of the Current View
-	Position to the Left of the Current View
	Stack: The View is stacked as a Tab in the Current View
0	Restricted: Can't be positioned in Current Area
	Open a New Window. Drag outside the workbench to position in a new window. Note: Click on the New Window and Drag Back to position it back





In Boston

- Move Column Click on Column and Drag to the Desired Location
- From the View Menu you can:



Sort Column

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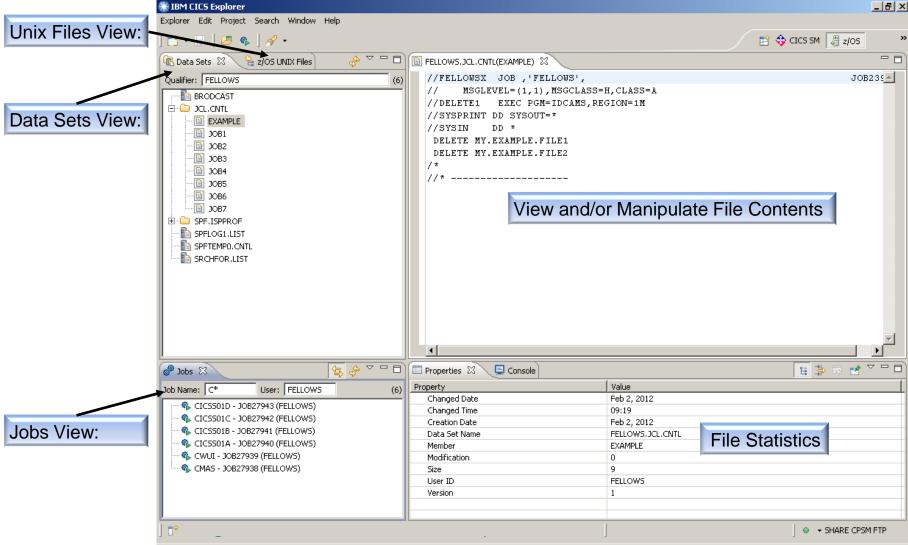




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Note: The FTP.DATA Server configuration file must specify JESINTERFACELEVEL 2

Connections - Result

• Workspace Preferences and History

- Select Preferences from the Window Menu
- Expand Eclipse Platform and Select Workspaces

BM CICS Explorer				
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- Switch Workspace Option
 - Select Switch Workspace from the File Menu, and Click Other

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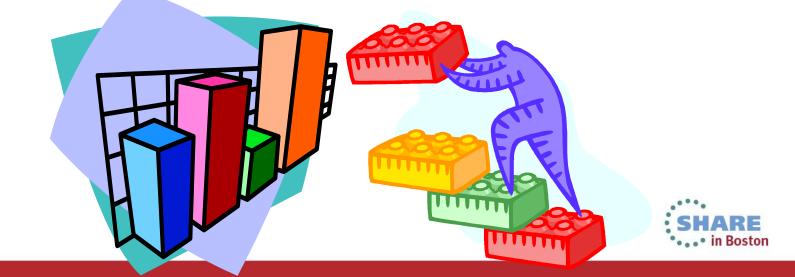
Support for z/OSMF



- In v5.1 you have the ability to connect to the z/OSMF product.
 - Using z/OSMF you can view the output of active jobs, and cancel or delete jobs.
 - See "Using the IBM z/OS Management facility" for more information.

Column Customization (Behavior Change)

- If you are connected to an LPAR and Customize the Columns in a view:
 - During the same CICS Explorer session, if you Connect to another LPAR the Column Customization will remain the same.
 - At the start of a New CICS Explorer Session, the View will show the Default (without your Column Customization). As soon as you Connect to an LPAR your Column Customization will be there



New Functions

- Ability to copy and paste resource data to a spreadsheet
- Ability to Perform a System Dump
- Ability to create a new resource from an existing definition
- Ability to create a z/OS UNIX file
- Ability to export a file or folder to a z/OS UNIX file system
- Ability to create a new data set
- Ability to rebuild the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) for a CICS region
- Connections use Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)

Perspective Changes

- The new Cloud Perspective contains a core set of views to help you get started with cloud administration.
 - Accessible from the Window > Open perspective > Other Menu on the toolbar



Seven New Operations Views

- Applications View
- Cloud Explorer View
- Data Tables View (CMDT)
- EP Adapter Sets View
- Physical Datasets View (DSNAME)
- Platforms View
- z/OS Workload Management View

Two New Definition Views

- Applications Definitions View Definitions Menu
- Platforms Definitions View
 Definitions Menu

Changes to Existing Views

- Tasks View New Field "MRO/LU6.2 session allocate wait time"
- Completed Tasks View New Field "IS Allocate Wait Time" (IPIC Session Wait)



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Operations Menu Operations Menu Operations > Files Menu Operations > Event Processing Menu Operations > Files Menu Operations Menu Window > Show View > Other > SM Administration Definitions



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Summary

NO.	ARRIVALS	QR Code
1	What is it and Why do I care?	
2	Installation and Configuration	
3	Workspace Logistics	
4	Deployment Considerations	
5	CICS Explorer Navigation (Live Demo)	
6	What's New in CICS Explorer v5.1?	
7	Summary	

