z/OSMF 2.1 User experience
Session: 15122

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Agenda

- Experiences of early ship program customers
  - Scope of customers – the early adopters
  - What they tested – the new functions in z/OSMF 2.1
  - Configuration experience
  - z/OSMF plugins experience
  - Issues found (and fixed)

- Conclusion
The early adopters

z/OSMF 2.1 had a very wide variety of early adopter client profile

- Clients across multiple industries
- Clients across multiple geographies
- Clients of various sizes
- Clients with varies experience
  - First time z/OSMF users
  - Experienced users
    - New install
    - Migration
New functions in z/OSMF 2.1

Feedback received on following functions

- z/OSMF rebase on Websphere Application server 8.5 for z/OS Liberty profile
- Updated configuration for z/OSMF 2.1
- New and improved Configuration Assistant for Communication server for z/OS
- Workflows
- Existing plugins
Issues found and fixed

- JAVA 7 pre-requisite for z/OSMF 2.1
  - Hard requirement for JAVA 7 64 bit was removed; and made into a pre-requisite when ordering z/OSMF 2.1 by itself

- Documentation updates
  - Valuable feedback received on flow and content of documentation
  - Updates incorporated into the configuration guide by GA
  - Improved structure of the configuration guide with focus on first time setup for new users and migration for existing users
  - An Appendix section added on the product agnostic security setup requirements, which is very well received.
Feedback on configuration

Massive improvement seen in switch from WASOEM to WAS Liberty!!

• “Overall this was a vastly improved config and setup process. The general response times with the application significantly improved as well. A Far better release”
• “ z/OSMF customization is far better than previous releases – took less than 2 hours to build a new instance;”
• “Very easy job to create new z/OSMF instance”
• “WOW!!! This is vastly improved over former releases. The process is far more straight forward and the time required is far less. I am impressed. It was under two hours to build the z/OSMF V2.1 base instance, and another 3 hours in total to add ALL plug-ins to that instance.”
• “I successfully migrated z/OSMF 1.13 to 2.1 in our sandbox sysplex in about 5 hours.. The migration process went quite smoothly. Startup of IZUANG1 und IZUSVR1 is very fast! The startup of IZUSVR1 takes 15-20 seconds in our 2-way sandbox sysplex running with 8GB storage!”
• “By far the biggest improvement was the the z/OSMF installation with the removal of the requirement for WAS OEM. This made install, implementation, and the running of z/OSMF, much improved”
• “This config was much simplified without WAS OEM”
Feedback on Plugins

- **Configuration Assistant:**
  - Nice improvements, easy to use, better performance; provides an easy (way) for edit and review
  - not as much help information compared to CA for z/OS V1R12

- **Workflows:**
  Good concept, like to see more workflows from IBM and ISVs, easy to manage and control z/OS task progress.
  - “Very good concept and can see it being useful as more workflows become available (from IBM and ISVs)”
    - Expect to see sample workflows on the z/OSMF web site
  - Satisfied with the intention to do a more controlled implementation on different parts. Looking forward to see new things installed this way. Plugin (Workflow) provides a guided set of steps that help user perform activity on z/OS. More easy to manage and control the z/OS task progress. and it can help to ensure the steps user perform are in the correct order. But now, customization for workflows is complex, it needs to modify XML files manually. We hope it can provide a nice configuration interface in the future.
  - “We don't like to have to Code “workflows” in XML files outside of the tool. “
    - Note: This requirement is understood. For now it is a manual process to use the samples as guides and an external XML editor to create workflows.
  - Some concern about not wanting to be forced to do what a program makes me do.
    - Note: Workflow can be customized, and steps can be skipped or overridden.

- **ISPF**
  - Liked ability to have multiple simultaneous sessions
Feedback on Plugins (contd.)

• **Workload Management**
  - “Used it to define a service definition, install a service definition, and activate service policy. Easy to use, Workload Management also provides best practices about how to define a service definition, which should be very helpful for user to optimize the service definition. The cross reference between the service definition elements, saves time for the performance analyst”.

• **Incident Log**
  - “Run incident log test end to end including submitting diag data to IBM - nice , very easy to use - managed to get z/OSMF to use PDUU. Benefits: - reduced time for gathering problem documentation (dumps, syslogs, logrec)”
  - “Incident log application is very useful for us to send diagnostic data to PMR site.”
  - Request to handle migrated dumps better in the future.

• **Software Management**
  - Auto retrieve of maintenance information saves time and effort
  - Retrieving the information on maintenance will save time and not require system programmers to run search jobs
  - Like the improvement on zFS information.
  - The product reports are helpful for beginners in z/OS
  - “One positive surprise in z/OSMF was that the performance of Software Instance Validation was a lot better than expected. In order to validate the entire z/OS serverpac we expected to take 10-15 minutes or so, and in fact the entire verification was done in probably 1-2 minutes. Very nice surprise!”
Overall

**Documentation**
- “The IBM z/OS Management Facility Configuration Guide is very good. I’m not experienced in the OMVS environment but I managed to make basic configuration successfully without help. I liked very much the whole process to customize zOSMF.”
- The new structure has been very well received, including the chapter on setting up in multi system environment.

- z/OSMF has been stable presenting very few problems.
- Customers saw better performance when using z/OSMF 2.1 from the web browser when compared to the previous release.
- The startup completed a lot faster and with less impact on system resources then previous version.
- New customers were able to get through configuration by following the configuration guide.
- Redbook draft was also used by some.
THANK YOU!!

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