SHARE in Pittsburgh – Session 15802

Introduction to the Hardware Management Console UI and API

Monday, August 4th 2014

Jason Stapels
HMC Development
jstapels@us.ibm.com

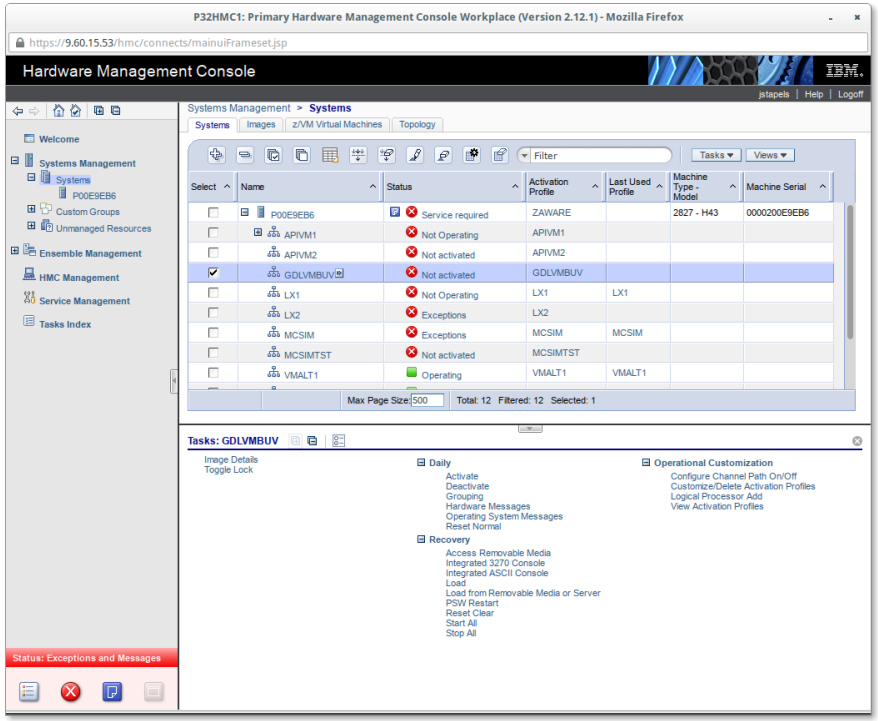
Agenda

- HMC User Interface
  - Tree Style and Classic Style
  - Changing Layout Preferences
  - Animated Tours & Tutorials
  - Classic Style Layout
  - Tree Style Layout
  - Wizard / Details Tasks
- HMC Application Programmer Interfaces
  - Overview
  - CIM
  - SNMP
  - Web Services API

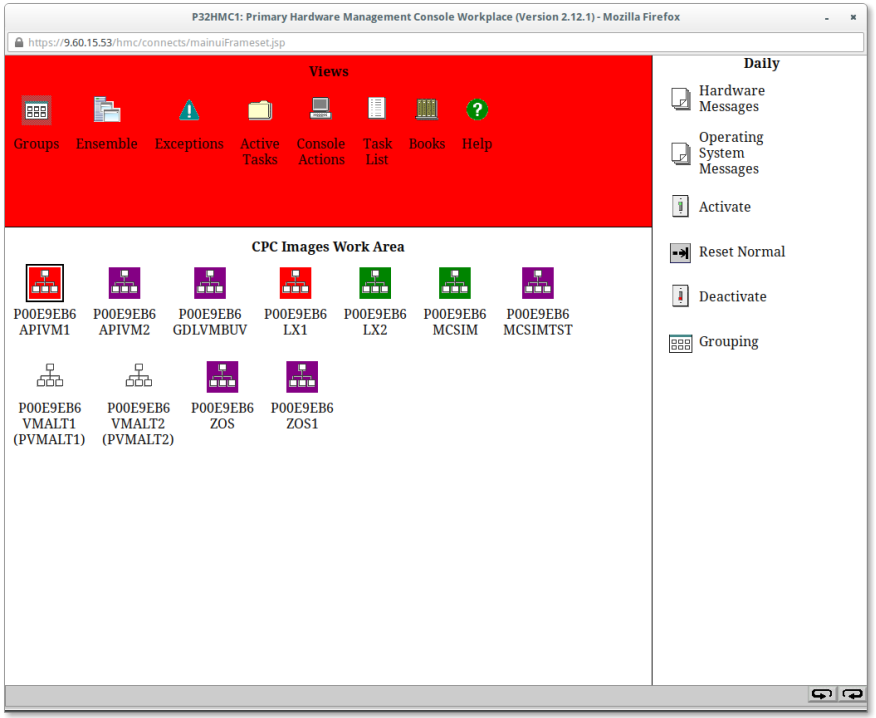
HMC User Interface

HMC User Interface – Default UI Style

Tree Style (default)

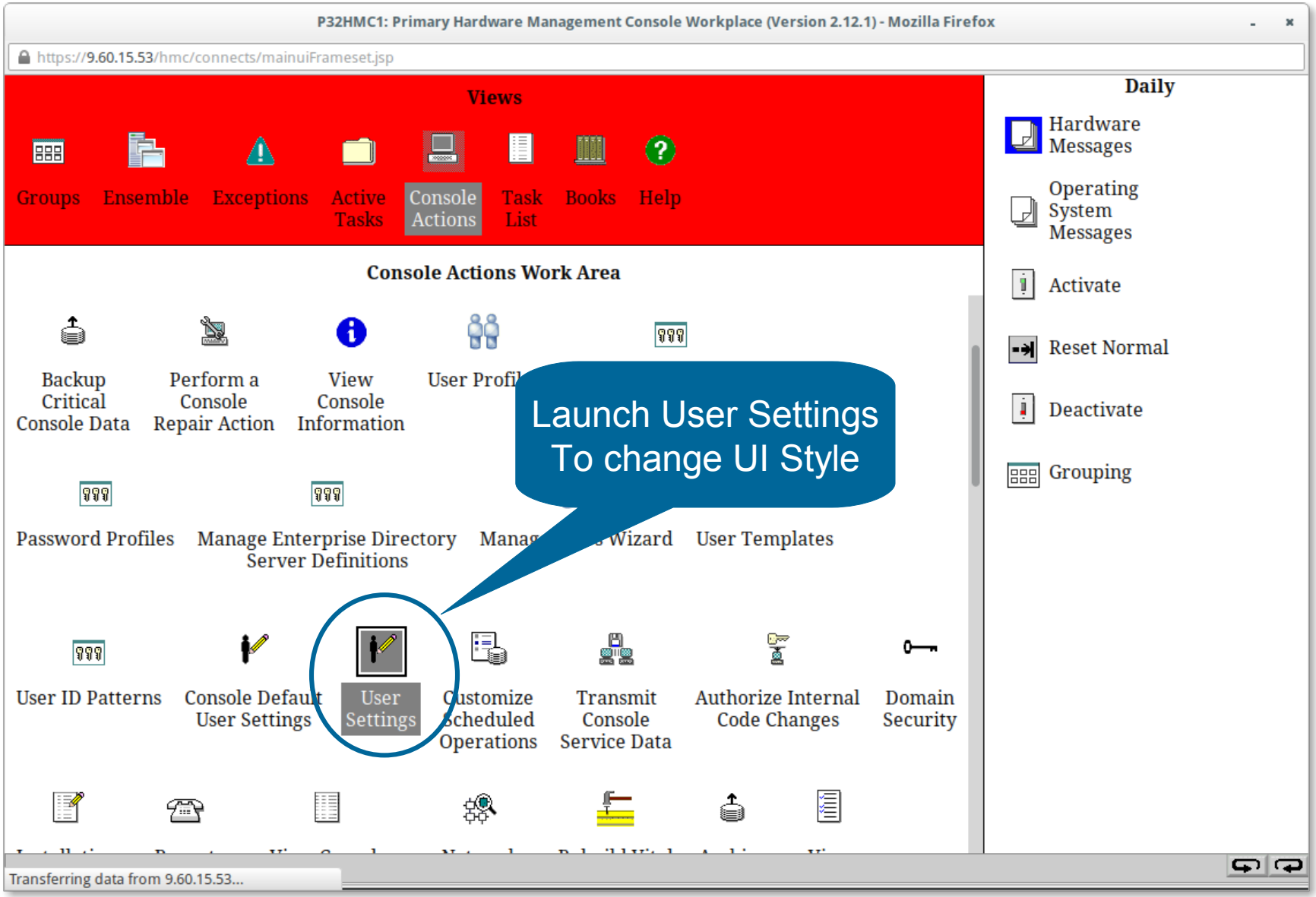


Classic Style (optional)

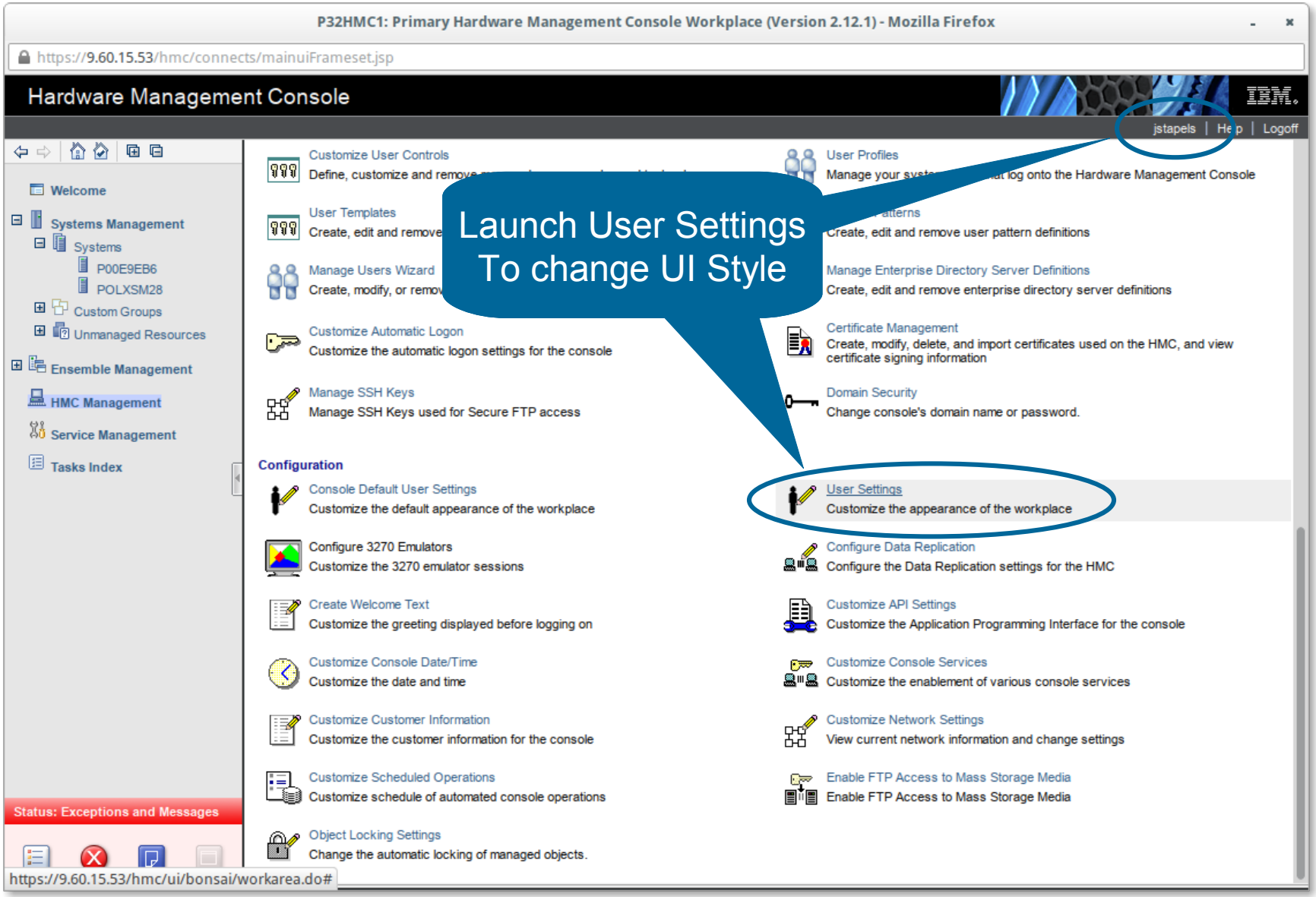


- New users and new installs use Tree Style as default
- PEMODE and SERVICE Ids default to “Classic” style
- Upgrades will retain existing user preferences
- UI style change is immediate – no log off required

HMC User Interface – User Settings (Classic UI)

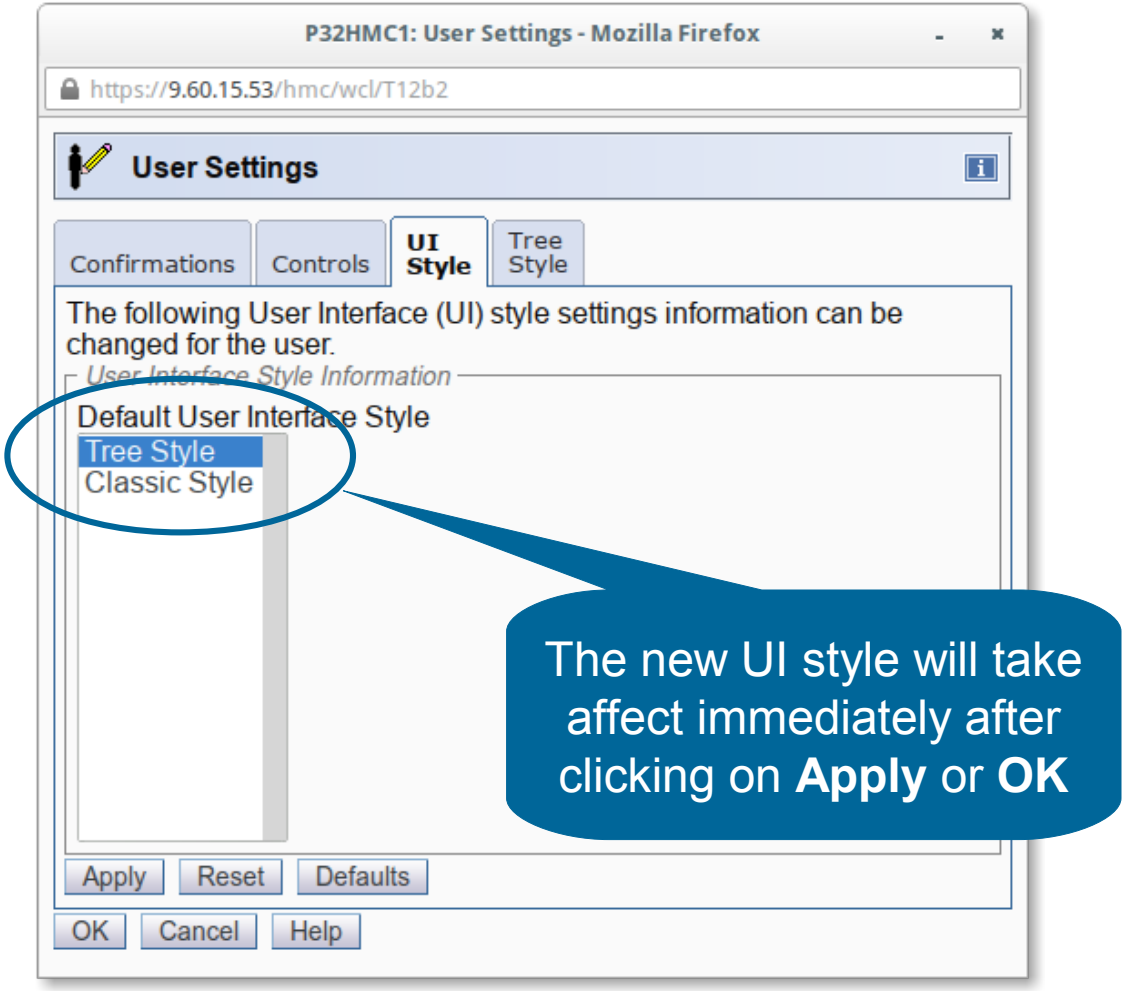


HMC User Interface – User Settings (Tree UI)



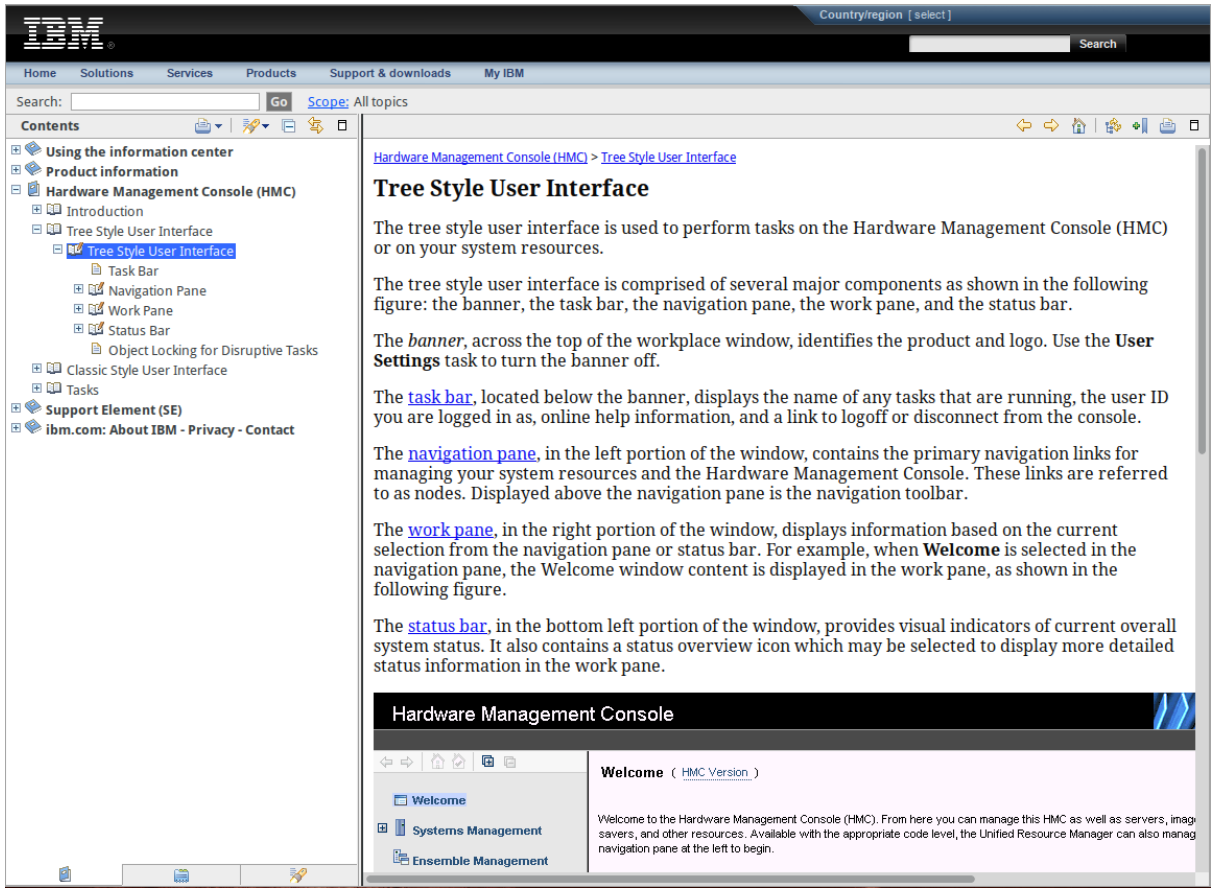
HMC User Interface – User Settings (UI Style)

- Select **UI Style** tab and then choose the user interface style



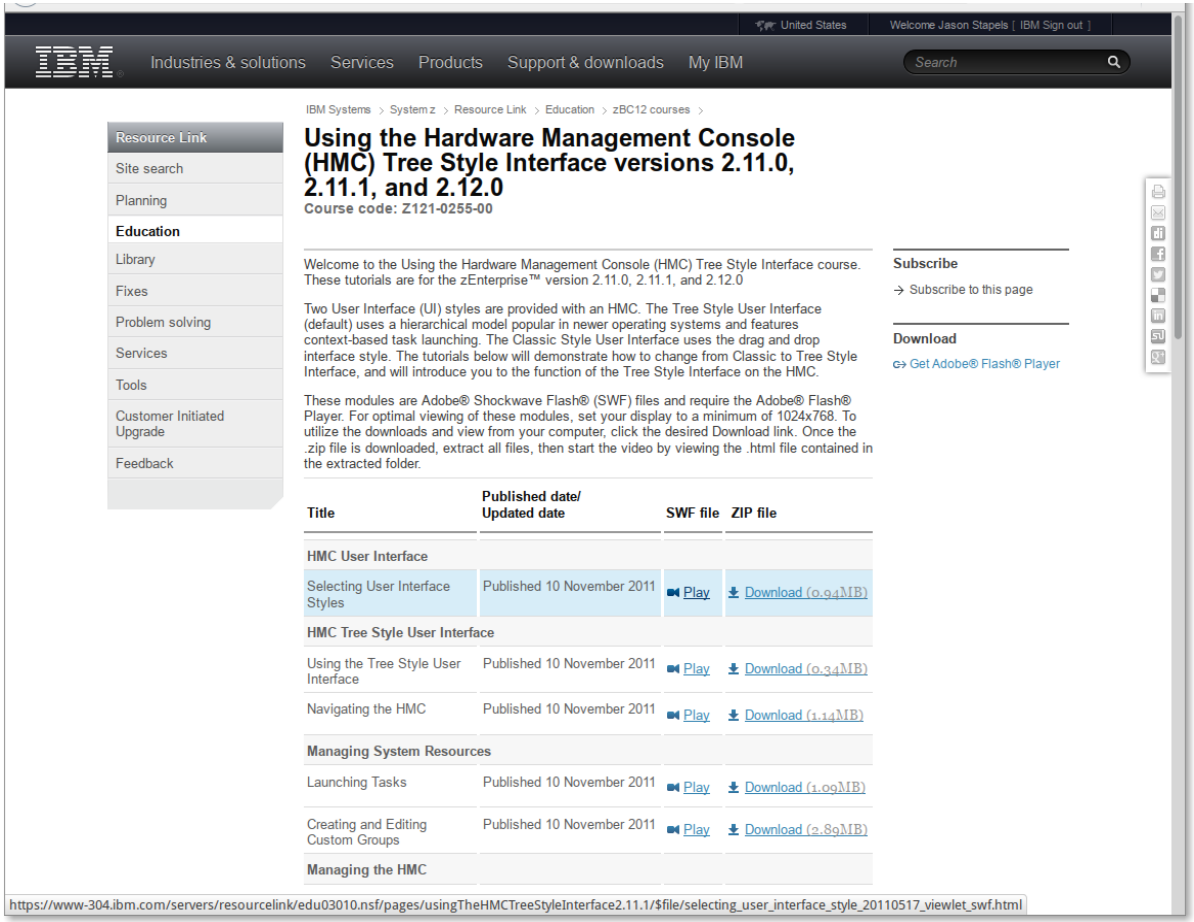
HMC User Interface – Getting Help

- Help can be found on IBM Information Center
  - http://pic.dhe.ibm.com/infocenter/hwmca/v2r12m1/index.jsp

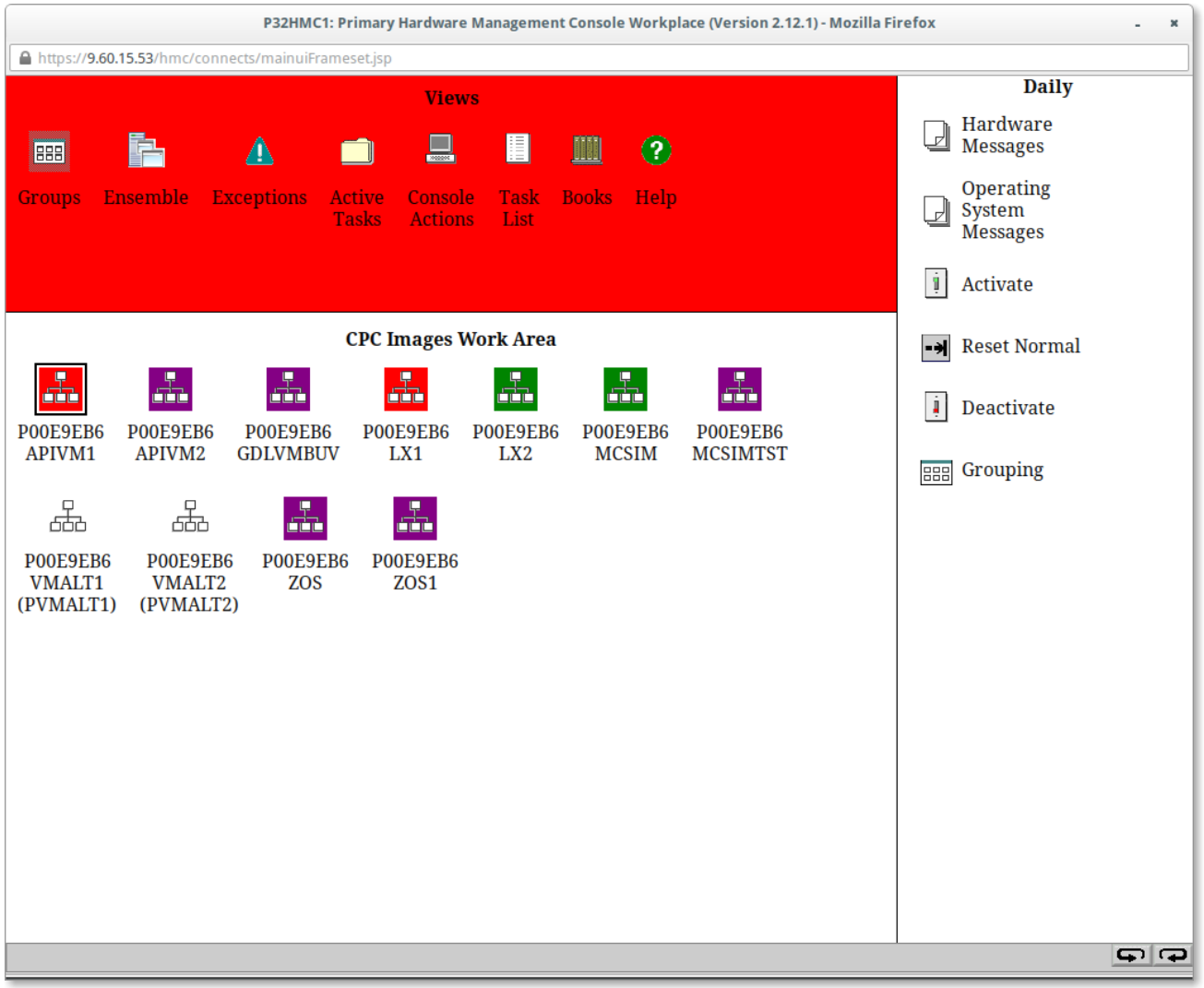


HMC User Interface – Getting Help (cont.)

- Walkthroughs & tutorials can be found on IBM Resource Link
  - http://www.ibm.com/servers/resourcelink

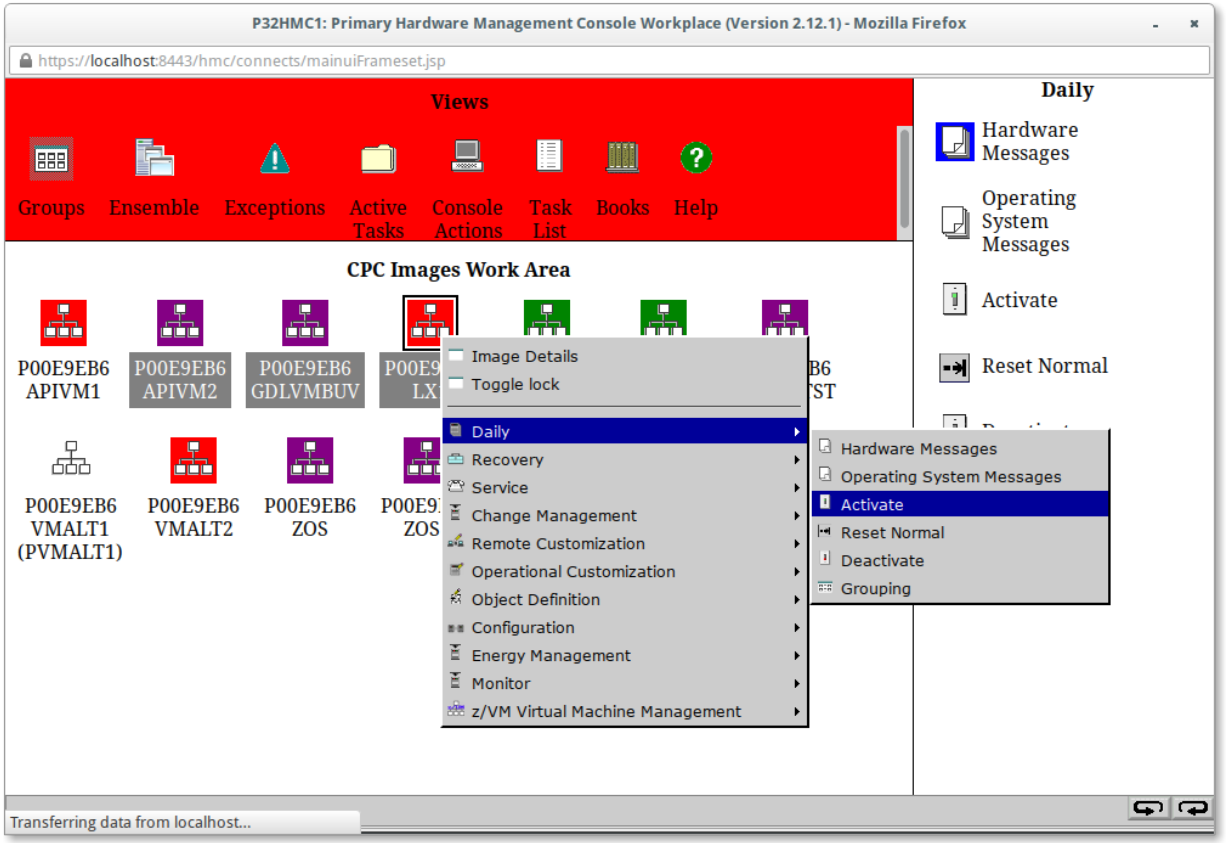


HMC User Interface – Classic Style Layout



HMC User Interface – Classic Style Layout (cont.)

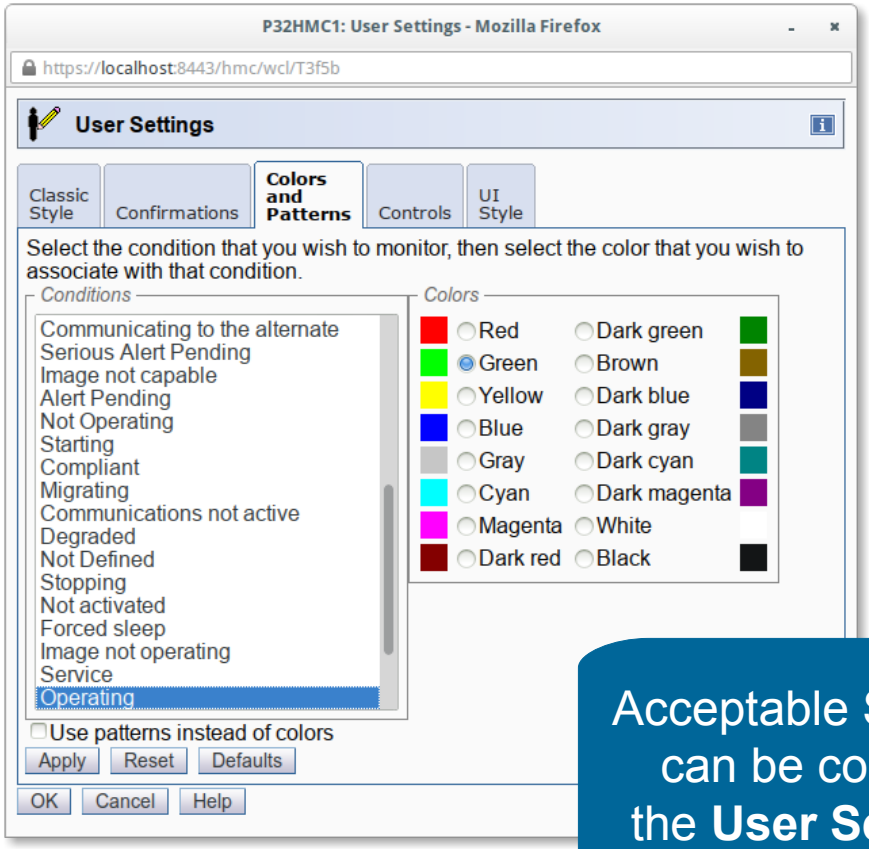
- Tasks can be launched against targets:
  - Through a right-click pop-up menu
  - Dragging and dropping on the task

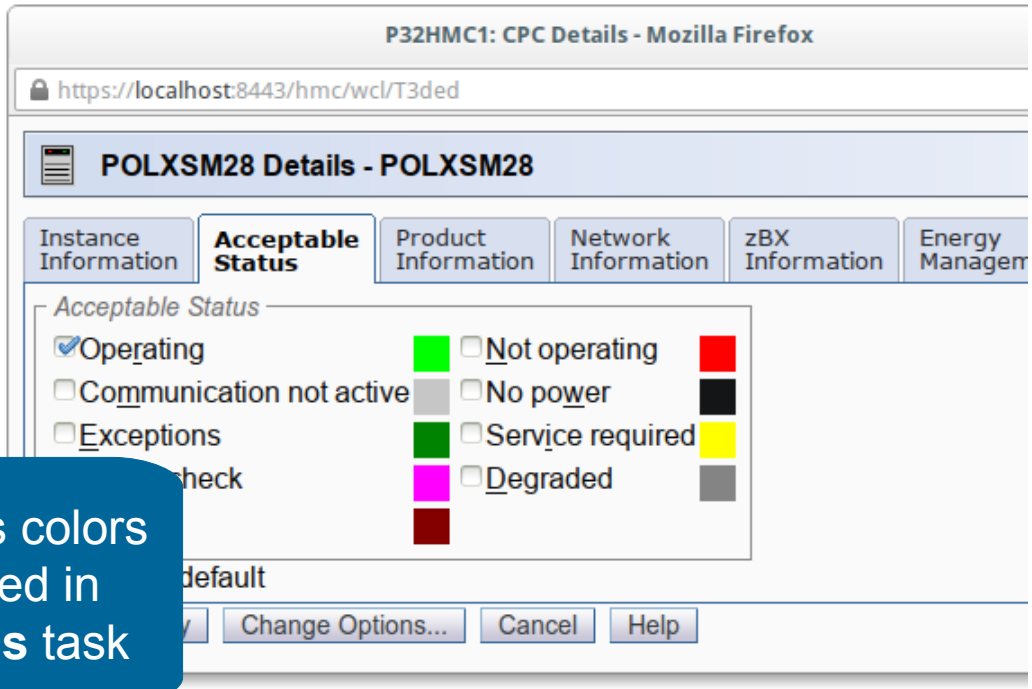


HMC User Interface – Classic Style Layout (cont.)

- Classic Style UI uses colors and patterns to identify statuses
  - Configured in the **User Settings** task

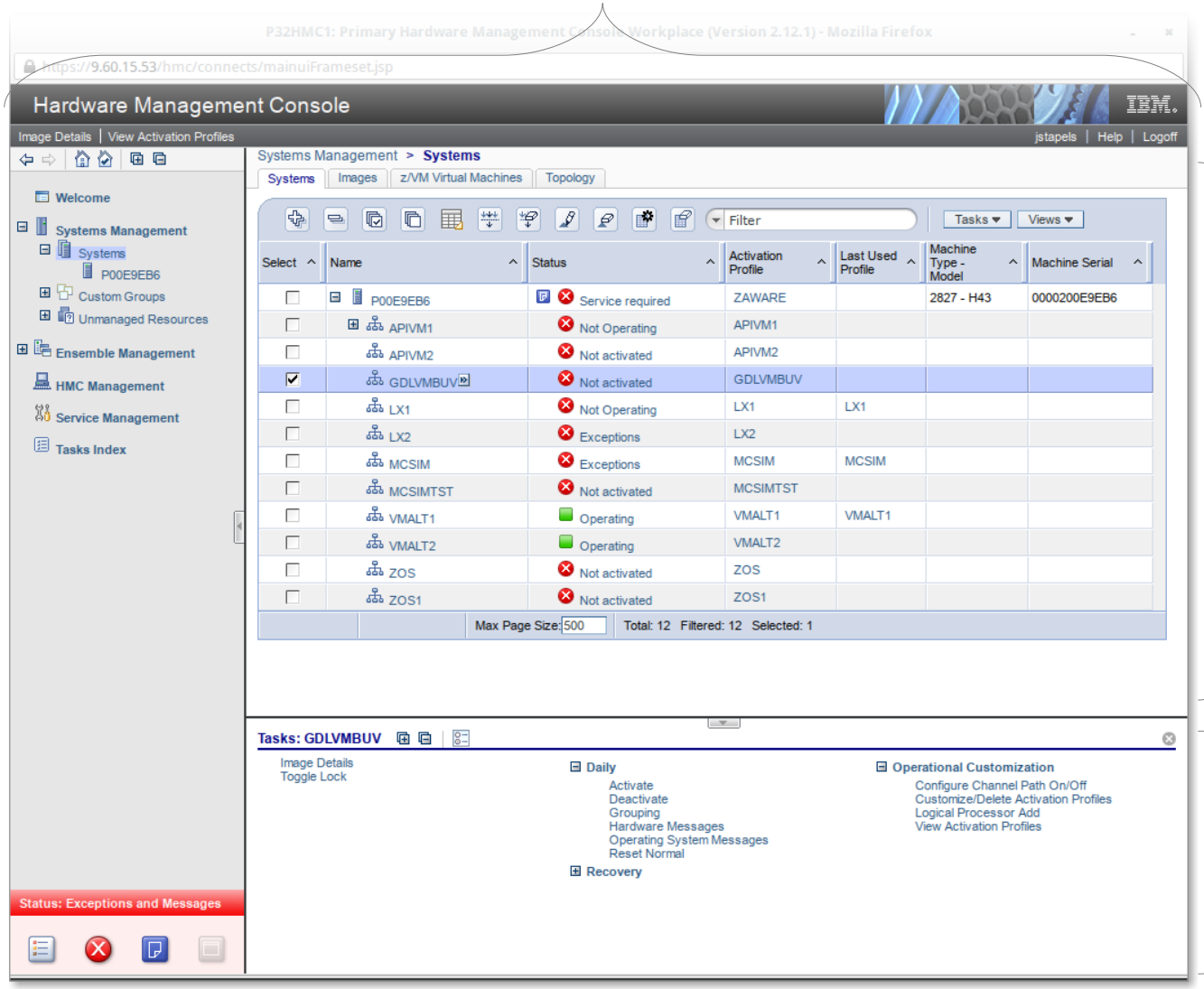
User Settings





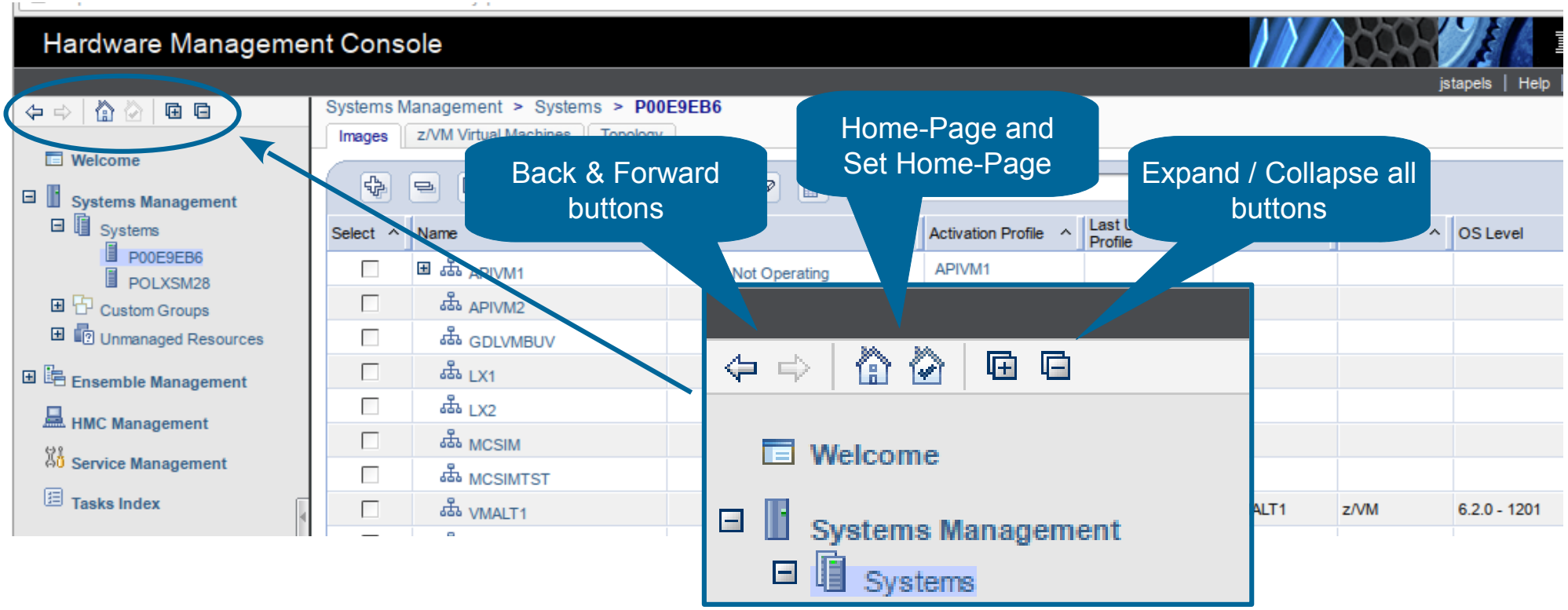
Acceptable Status colors can be configured in the **User Settings** task

HMC User Interface – Tree Style Layout



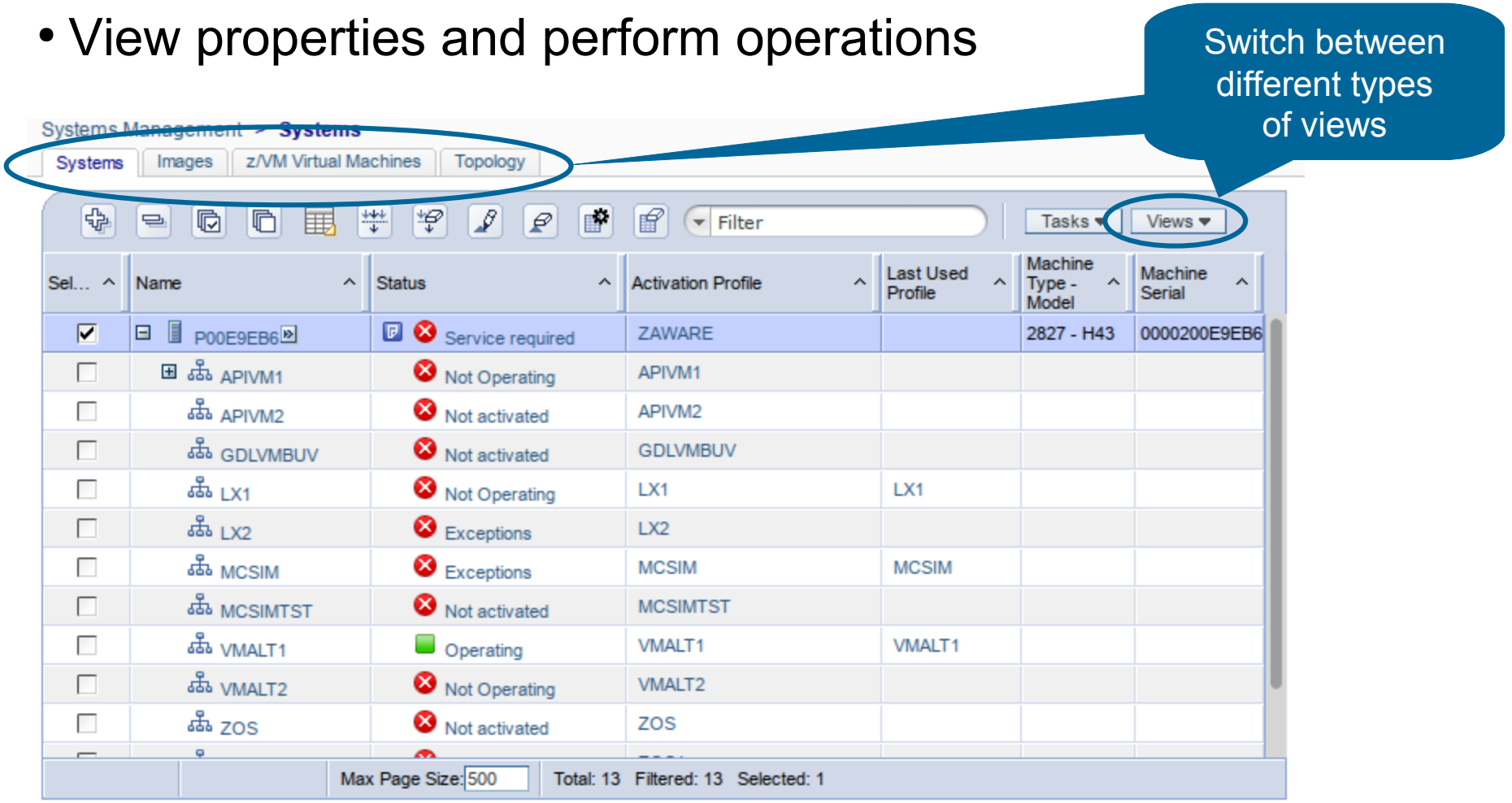
HMC User Interface – Navigation Area

- Allows quickly jumping between sections of the Tree UI
- Navigate between previous selections
- Set a homepage



HMC User Interface – Work Pane

- Lists objects based on your current navigation area
- View properties and perform operations



HMC User Interface – Work Pane (cont.)

(1) Expand / Collapse All

(2) Select / Deselect All

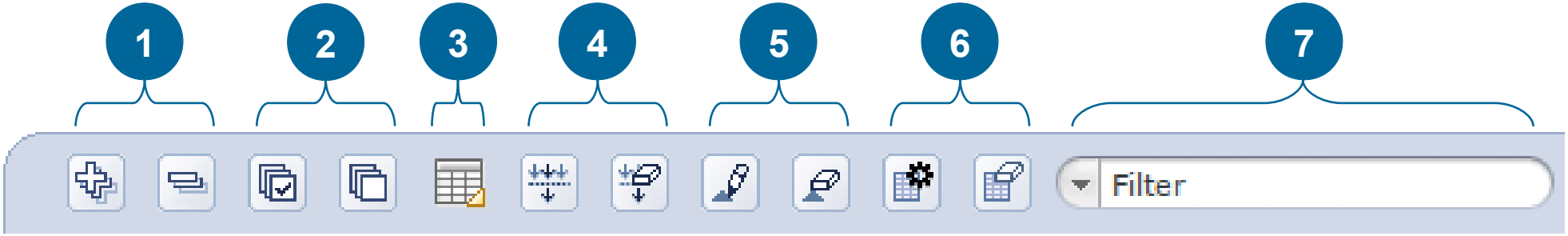
(3) Export Data

(4) Configure / Clear Filtering

(5) Edit / Clear Sorting

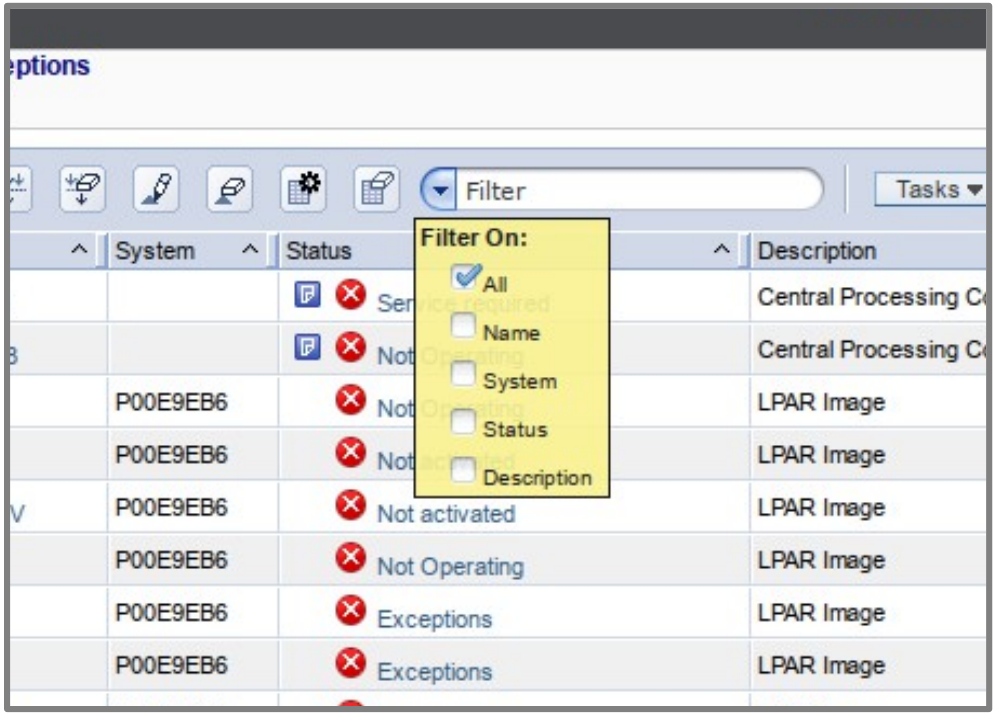
(6) Display / Hide / Reset Columns

(7) Filter on Specific Text



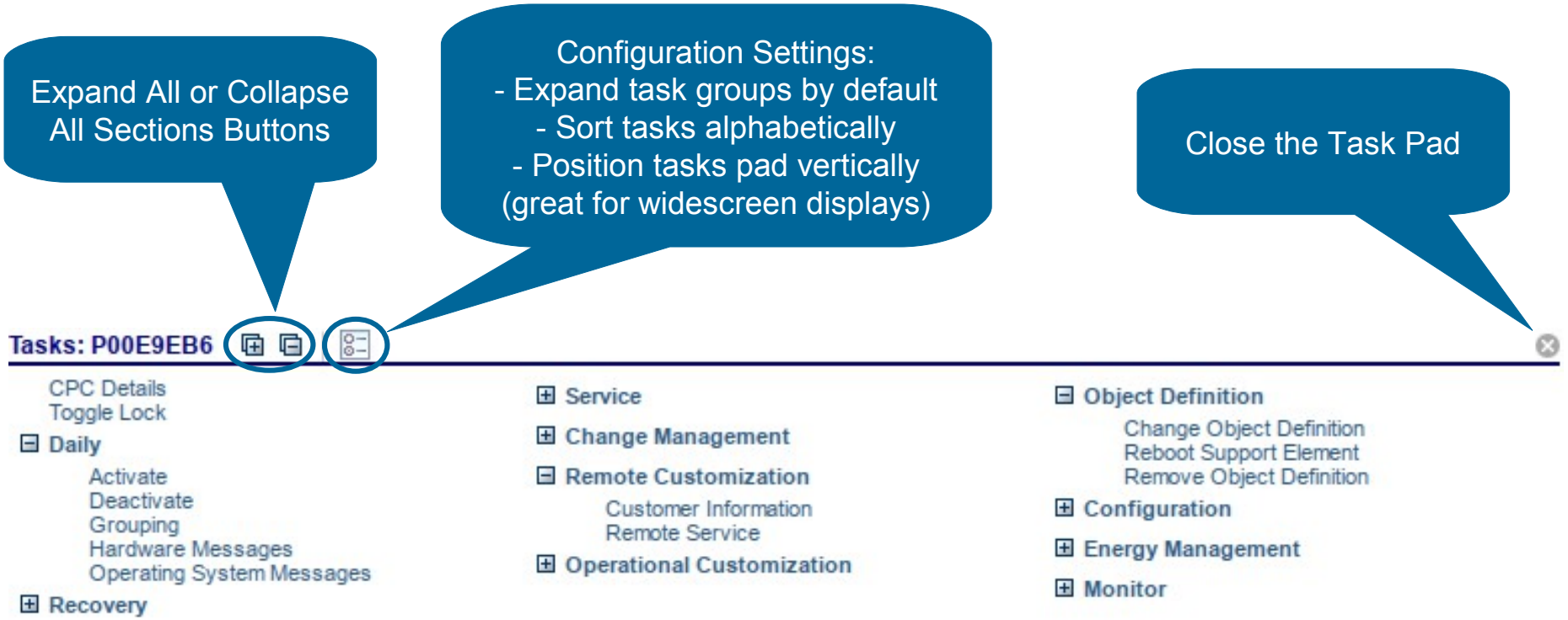
HMC User Interface – Work Pane (cont.)

- When filtering, you can select criteria to search against:
  - All
  - Name
  - System
  - Status
  - Description



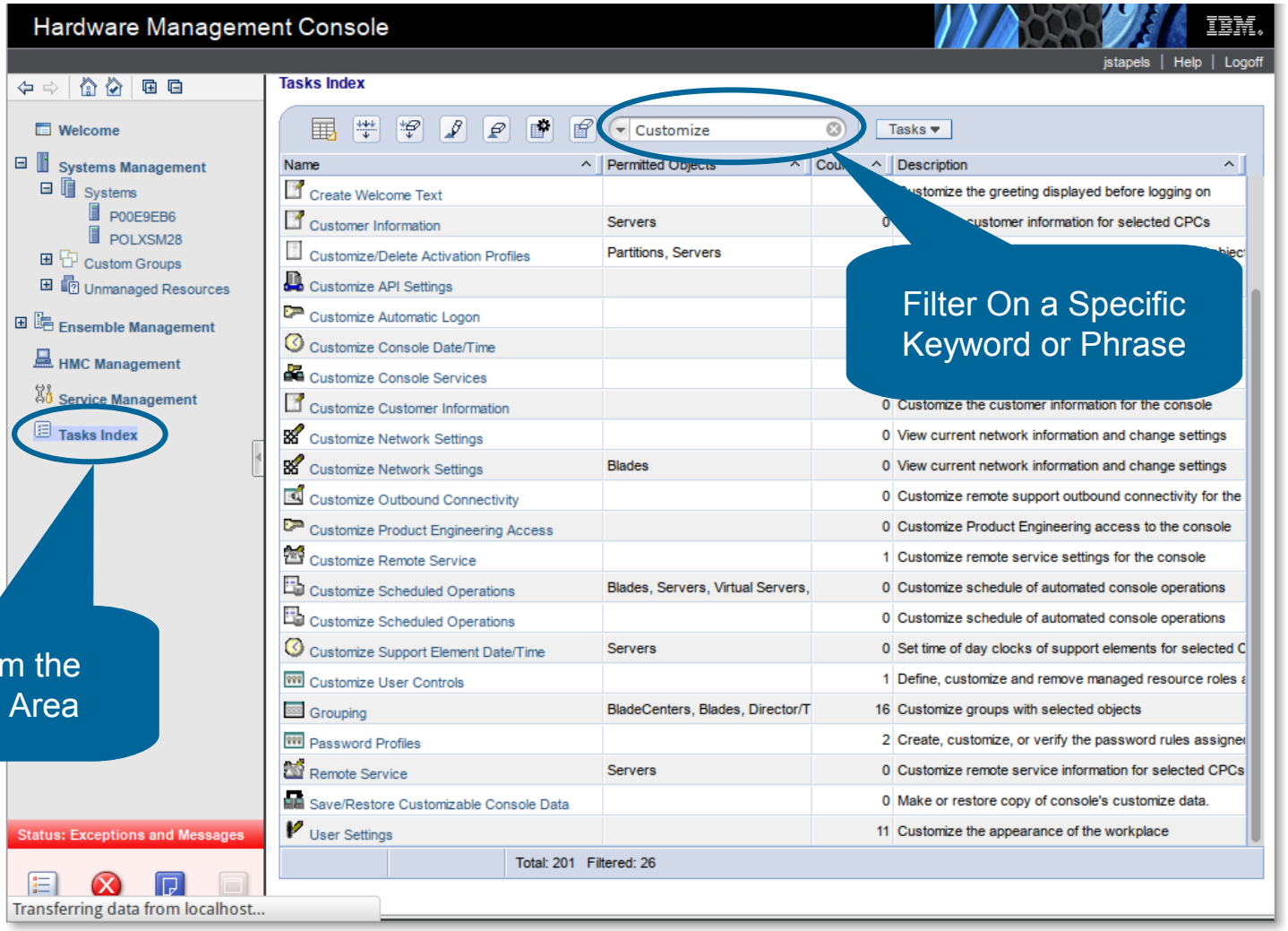
HMC User Interface – Tasks Pad

- Displays valid actions based on the selected object(s)
- Automatically hides actions if the target(s) would be invalid



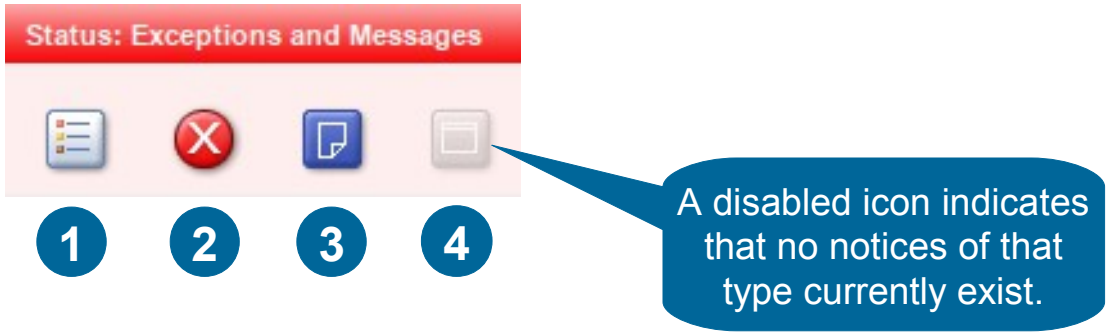
HMC User Interface – Tasks Index

- Lists all available tasks making it easy to search for a specific task

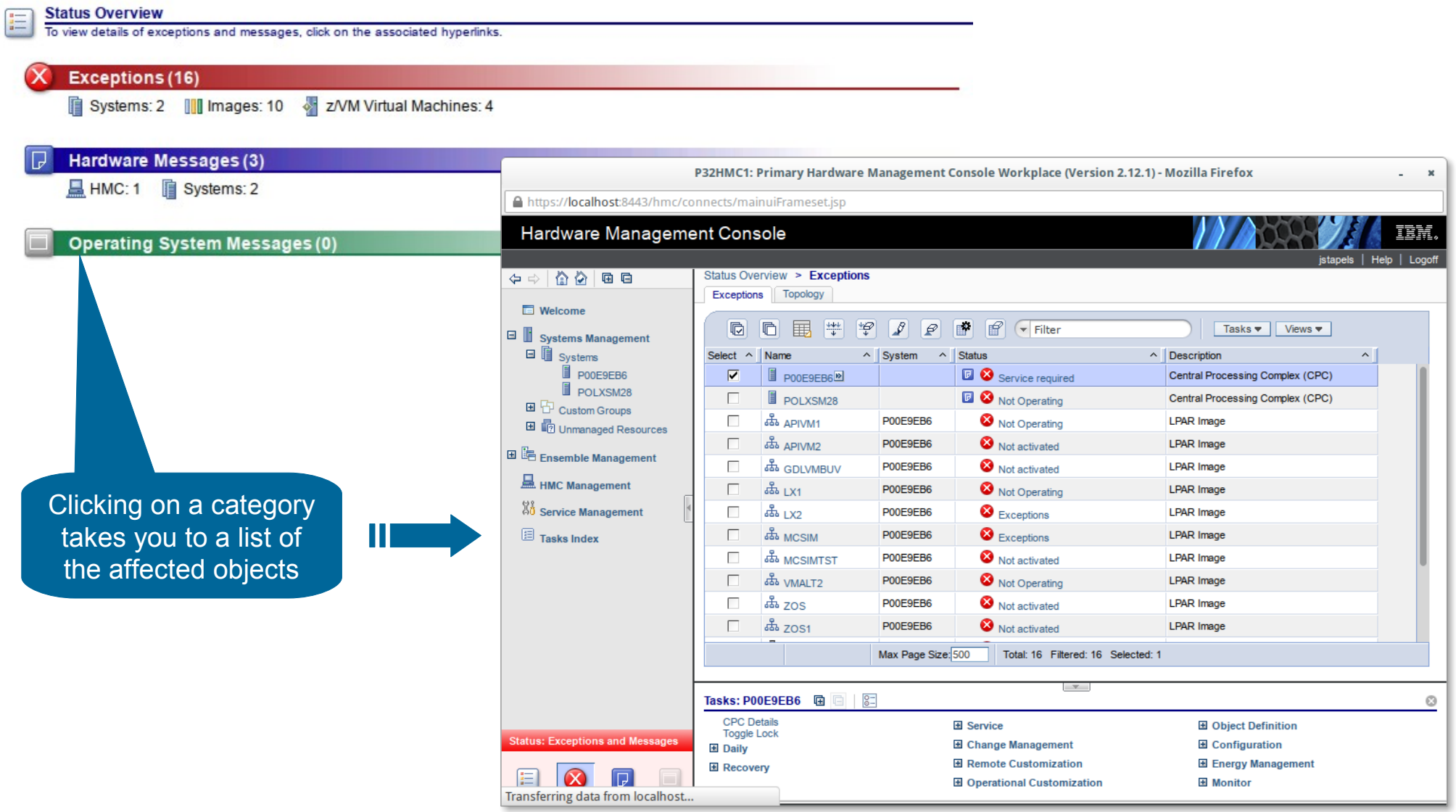


HMC User Interface – Status Area

- At a glance view showing the status of your machines
- Quick jump to:
  - (1) Status Overview – Shows a summary of all affects objects
  - (2) Exceptions – List all objects with exceptions
  - (3) Hardware Messages – Lists all objects with hardware messages
  - (4) Operating System Messages – Lists all objects with OS Messages

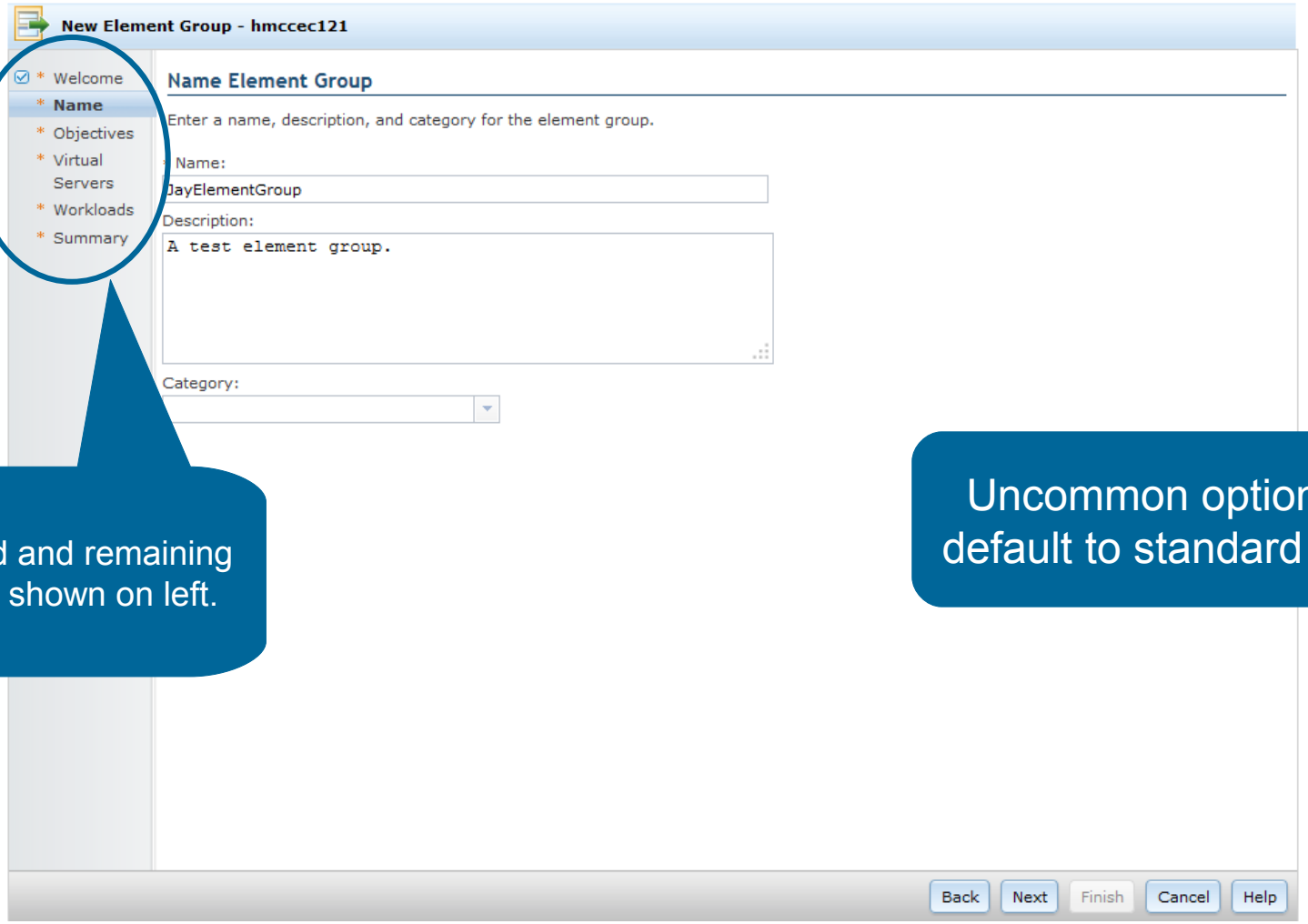


HMC User Interface – Status Area (cont.)



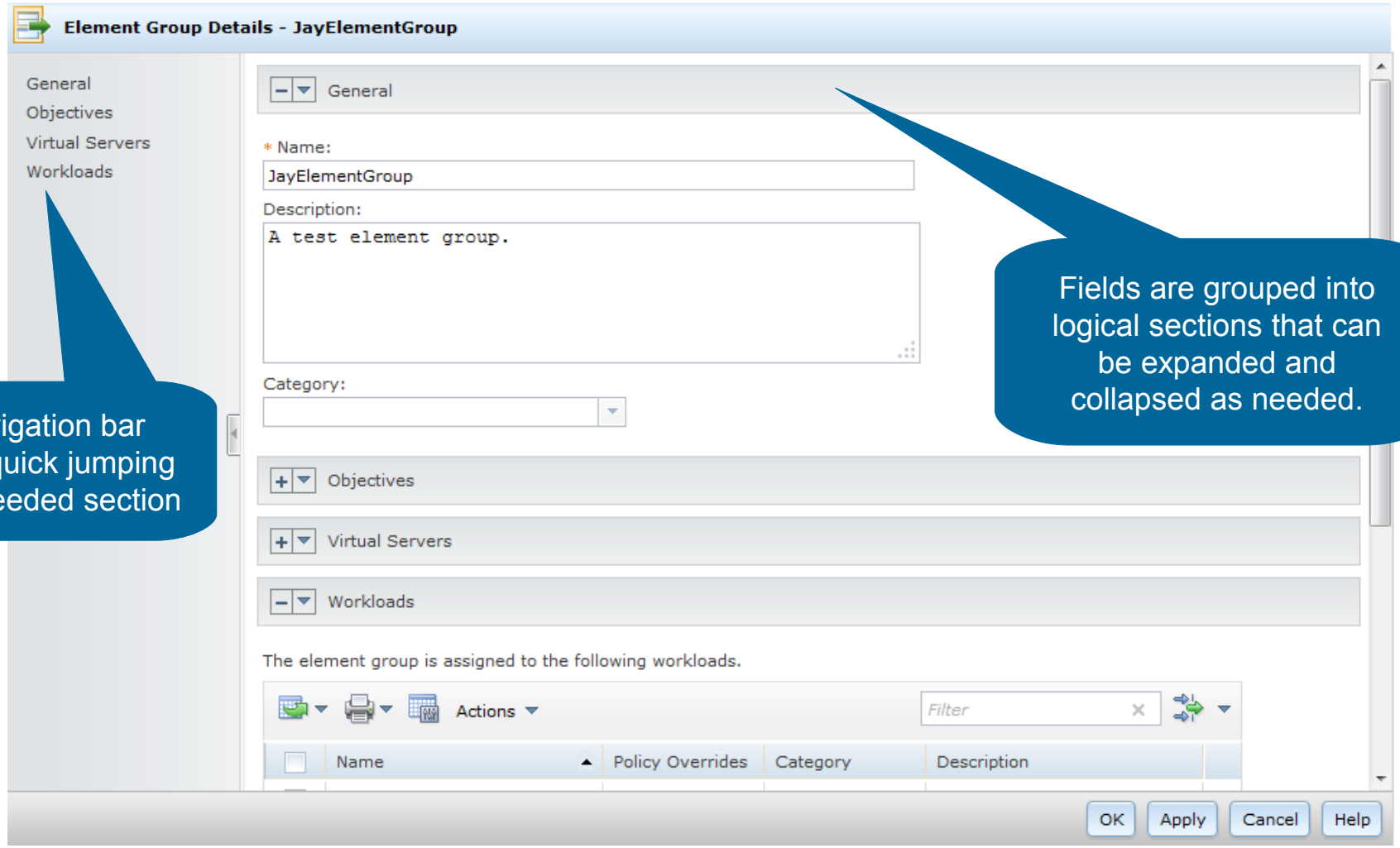
HMC User Interface – Wizard Tasks

- Wizard style tasks guide you step by step



HMC User Interface – Details Tasks

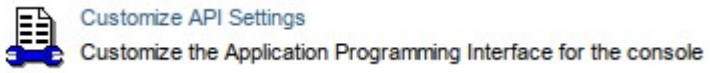
- Details tasks show all available options on a single panel



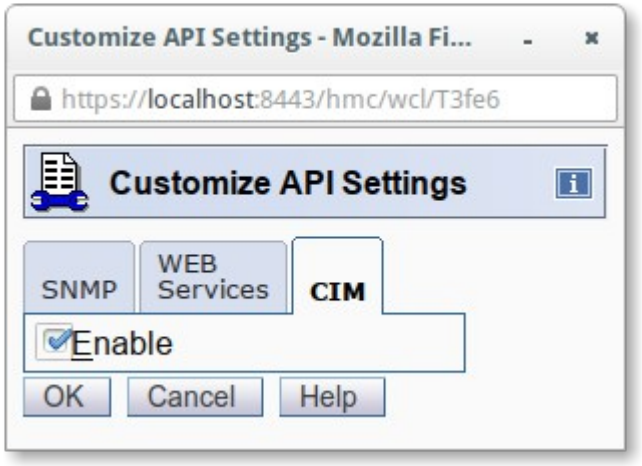
HMC APIs

HMC APIs – Overview

- Application Programmer Interfaces (APIs) are designed to provide an open set of interfaces and a workstation platform for system management application providers
  - They specify how you can write your own components to interact with an HMC and the objects it manages
- The HMC provides three types of APIs
  - Common Information Model (CIM) Management Interface
  - Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP)
  - Web Services API
- Enabling the APIs is done through the **Customize API Settings** task

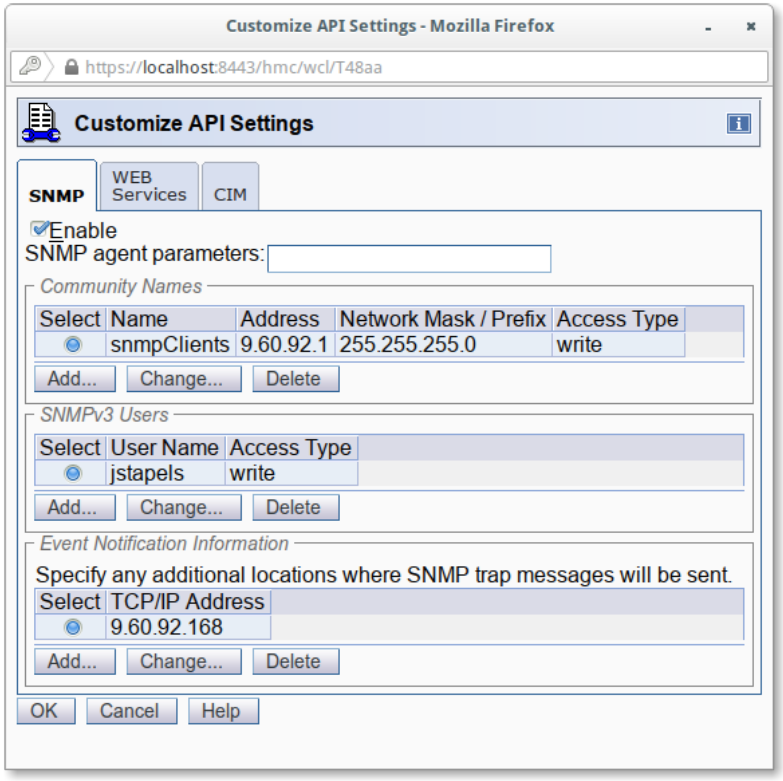


HMC APIs – Using CIM



- Enable on the HMC
  - Launch the **Customize API Settings** task
  - Select the **CIM** tab
  - Check the **Enable** checkbox
- Configuring your CIM client
  - HMC only accepts SSL (HTTPS) client connections
  - Use the TCP/IP address of your HMC
  - CIM server listens for requests on TCP port 5989
  - Authenticate using the user name and password of an existing HMC user
  - Ensure user profile is configured to **Allow remote access via the web**
- Documentation available on **IBM Resource Link**:
  - SB10-7154-06 *System z Common Interface Model Management Interface*

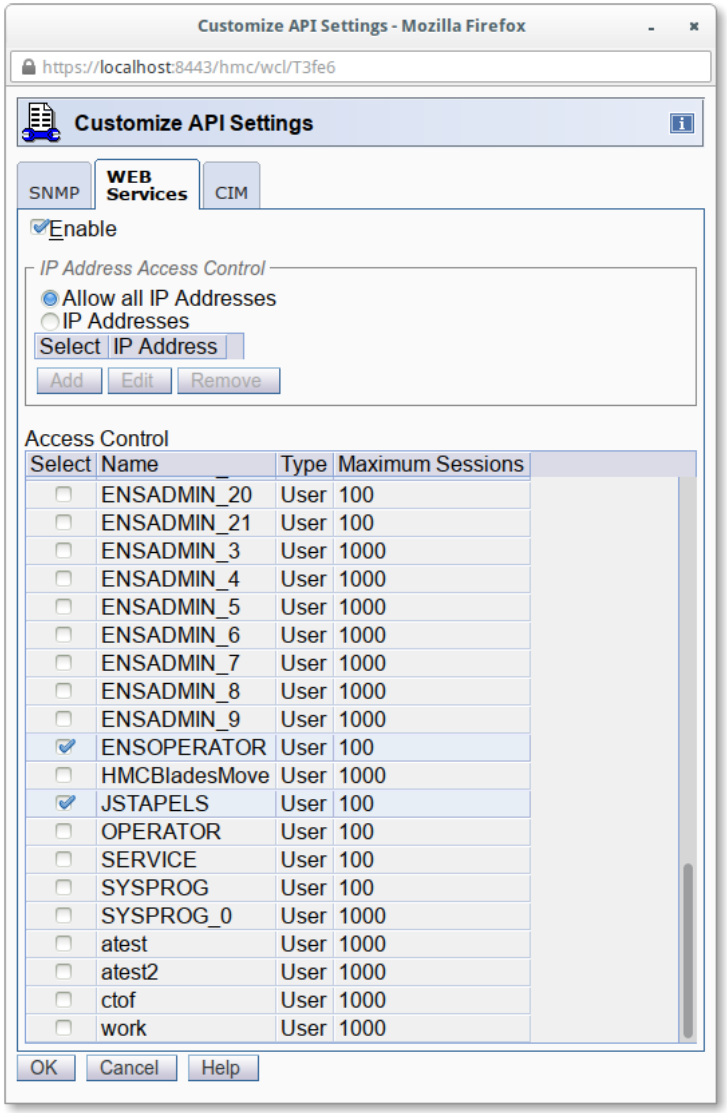
HMC APIs – Using SNMP



- Enable on the HMC
  - Launch the **Customize API Settings** task
  - Select **SNMP** tab and the **Enable** checkbox
  - Enter in a community name and network
  - Add an SNMP user and select an access type
  - Enter the TCP/IP address of any SNMP trap servers (traps are sent to TCP port 162)
- Configuring your SNMP client
  - The HMC uses the standard SNMP UDP/TCP port 161
  - Authenticate using the configured community, user name and password
- Documentation available on **IBM Resource Link**
  - SB10-7030-16: *System z Application Programming Interfaces*

HMC APIs – Using Web Services API

- Enable on the HMC
  - Launch the **Customize API Settings** task
  - Select the **WEB Services** tab
  - Limit access based on IP as needed
  - Enable access control by user name
- Configuring your API client
  - HMC accepts standard SSL encrypted (HTTPS) requests on TCP port 6794
  - Authenticate using the user name and password
  - Ensure user profile has been configured to **Allow access to management interfaces**
- Documentation available on **IBM Resource Link:**
  - SC27-2626-00a: *System z Hardware Management Console Web Services API*



HMC APIs – HMC Web Services API Characteristics

- HMC Web Services API is the latest API implementation
  - Includes existing SNMP/CIM function
  - This API is the focus for future evolution
  - Existing SNMP and CIM APIs remaining in place with their existing capabilities, may be extended on a case-by-case basis
- Design based on current industry design practices
  - Requests and responses structured as web services based on REST design patterns
  - Data is represented in Javascript Object Notation (JSON)
  - Status and property change notifications delivered via Java Messaging Services (JMS)
  - HMC provides an embedded JMS broker configured to support API specific use
- HTTP over TCP/IP Sockets is underlying network transport, SSL for connection security

HMC APIs – What is a REST-oriented Web Service?

- REST = **Re**presentational **S**tate **T**ransfer
  - A style of software interface design
  - Simplifies client – server interactions
  - Introduced in 2000 by Roy Fielding (phD dissertation)
  - Used widely in today's world wide web services
  - Based on HTTP protocol
- Fundamentals
  - All actions are against a specific resource
  - The resource instance is identified in the HTTP URI for the web service call
  - Type of operation on that resource is specified by using HTTP "method"
- Standard HTTP methods apply across all resources
  - GET – Collect information about a resource
  - POST – Create a new resource, perform other type of operation
  - PUT – Complete update of a resource (all properties)
  - DELETE – Delete a resource
- Generic Examples:
  - To get list of virtual servers: GET /api/virtual-servers
  - To get information about a virtual server: GET /api/virtual-servers/1234

HMC APIs – Request Flow (Simplified Example)

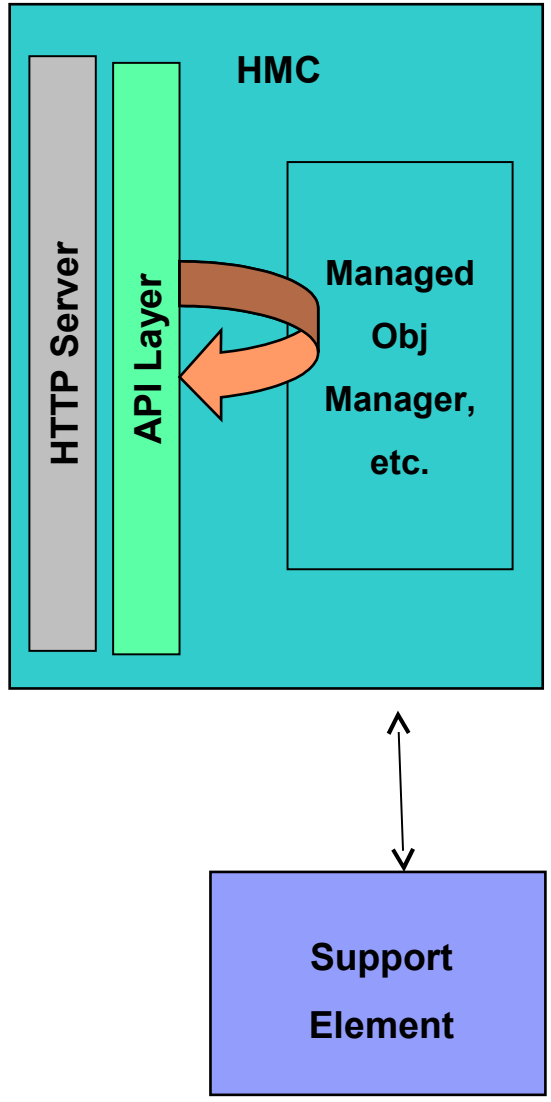
Socket Connection

```
To myhmc:6794 using SSL
```

HTTP Request

```
GET /api/ensembles
```

HTTP Response

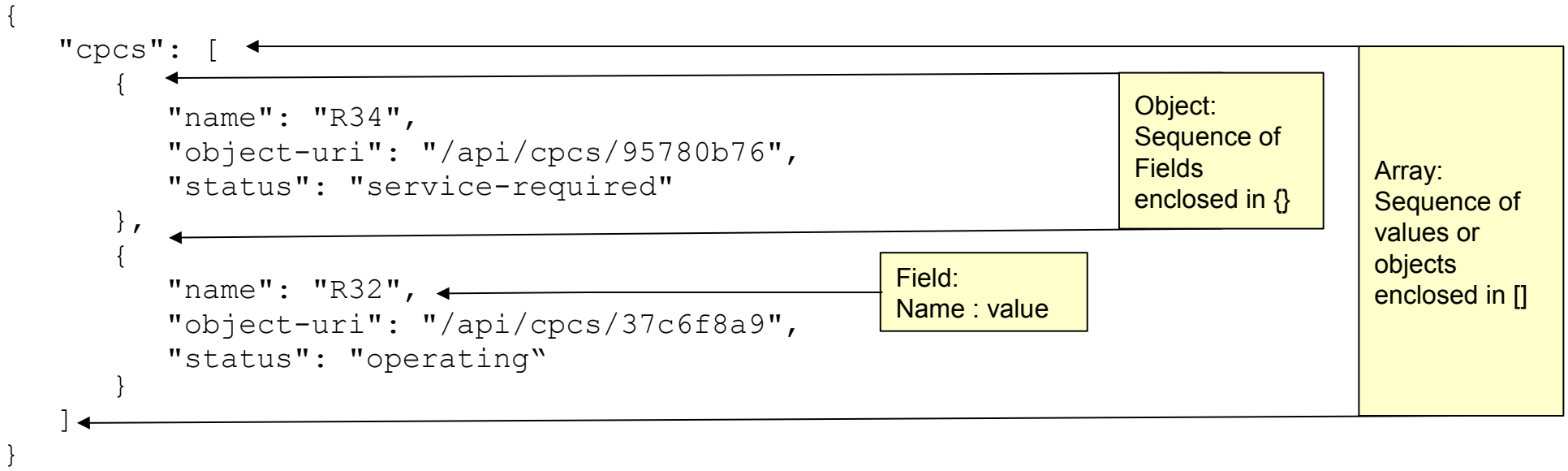



```
200 OK
content-type: application/json;charset=UTF-8
{"ensembles": [
  {
    "name": "HMC_R74_ENSEMBLE",
    "object-uri": "/api/ensembles/1f7ffb02-de39-11e0-88bd-00215e67351a",
    "status": "alternate-communicating"
  }
] }
```

JSON notation used for request and response bodies

HMC APIs – Javascript Object Notation (JSON)

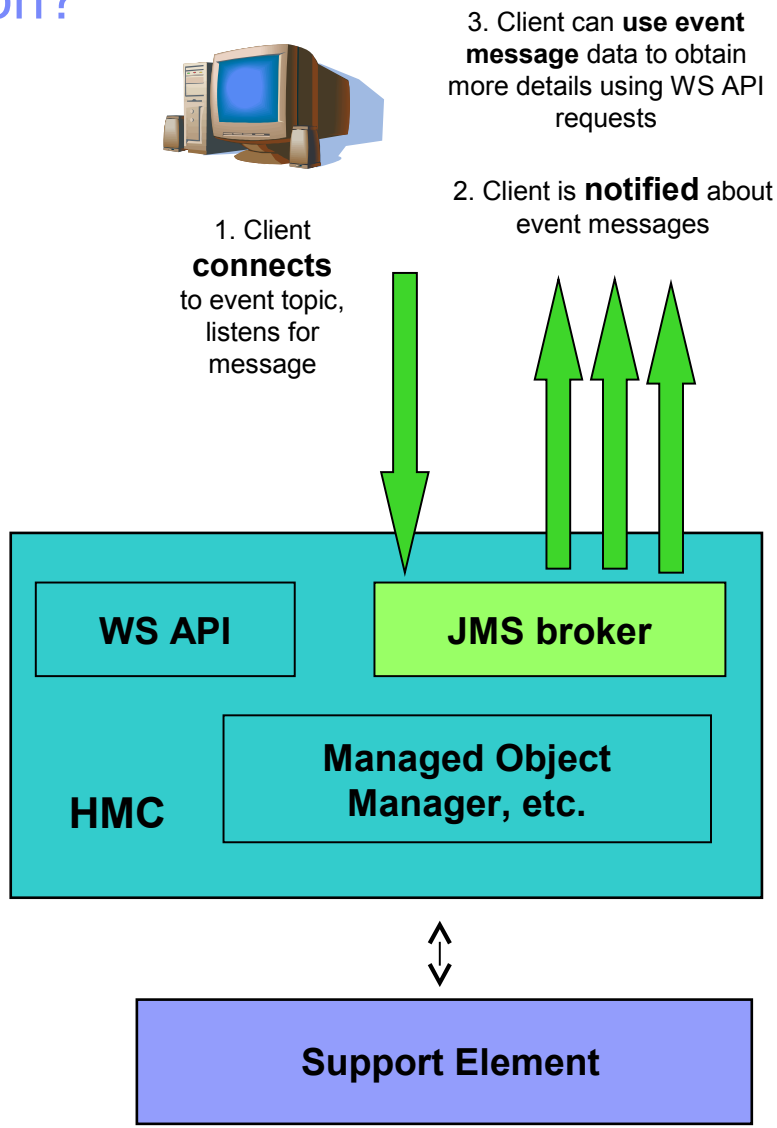
- Lightweight data interchange format for use between applications
- Much simpler than XML, but still expressive enough
- Used by Google, Yahoo, Web 2.0 applications etc.
- Syntax and tutorials available at www.json.org
- JSON parsers widely available (eg. At json.org)
- Becoming the standard notation used with REST-style APIs



HMC APIs – What is Asynchronous Notification?

- Asynchronous Notification
  - WS APIs require remote client to repeatedly pull (poll) from HMC server to keep data current
  - Asynchronous notification prevents need for constant polling from remote client.
  - Allows HMC to push a notification to a remote client about events or state changes on the resource being managed by the HMC/SE e.g. a server is being deactivated

- JMS: Java Message Service
  - Used for asynchronous notification
  - JMS is an industry standard for messaging, based on J2EE
  - HMC embeds Apache ActiveMQ as its JMS provider
  - Non-Java clients can connect to broker as well, using STOMP protocol



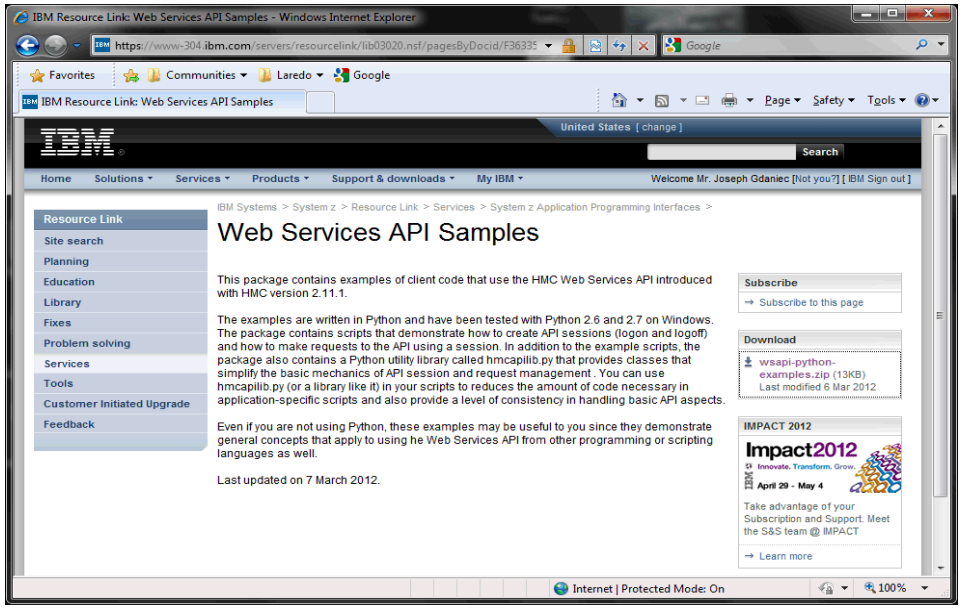
Client Programming Considerations

- Web Services API design is client platform and client programming language neutral
  - This is a key reason behind the choice of a HTTP/Web Services style
  - Client platform can be Windows, AIX, Linux, zLinux, Mac, or z/OS or…
  - Clients can be written in programming languages like C/C++ or Java, or scripting languages like Python, Perl, etc.
  - No need for install HMC-specific client-side libraries to use APIs
- In choosing a client language, look for the following either as built-ins or available via add-on libraries:
  - Support for HTTP
  - Support for SSL
  - Support for creating and parsing JSON documents
  - (Optionally) Support for JMS connections to ApacheMQ using either OpenWire or STOMP protocols (if asynchronous notification capabilities are to be used)
- Python is a very good choice because support for all of the above is readily available

Getting Started with the API: Samples

- Python sample code is available on ResourceLink: http://www.ibm.com/servers/resourcelink

  Then navigate:
  Services / API / Web Services API Samples



- Package provides simple logon/logoff test script and a script that demonstrates how to create and delete a virtual server using the WS API
- Samples are based on a sample Python utility library (hmcapilib.py) that demonstrates best practices in using the API
  - Handles repetitive aspects of making API requests: logon, logoff, converting to/from JSON, setting HTTP headers, etc.
  - Includes error checking and capturing of error status/reason on errors

Q&A

SHARE in Pittsburgh – Session 15802

Notes:

Performance is in Internal Throughput Rate (ITR) ratio based on measurements and projections using standard IBM benchmarks in a controlled environment. The actual throughput that any user will experience will vary depending upon considerations such as the amount of multiprogramming in the user's job stream, the I/O configuration, the storage configuration, and the workload processed. Therefore, no assurance can be given that an individual user will achieve throughput improvements equivalent to the performance ratios stated here.

IBM hardware products are manufactured from new parts, or new and serviceable used parts. Regardless, our warranty terms apply.

All customer examples cited or described in this presentation are presented as illustrations of the manner in which some customers have used IBM products and the results they may have achieved. Actual environmental costs and performance characteristics will vary depending on individual customer configurations and conditions.

This publication was produced in the United States. IBM may not offer the products, services or features discussed in this document in other countries, and the information may be subject to change without notice. Consult your local IBM business contact for information on the product or services available in your area.

All statements regarding IBM's future direction and intent are subject to change or withdrawal without notice, and represent goals and objectives only.

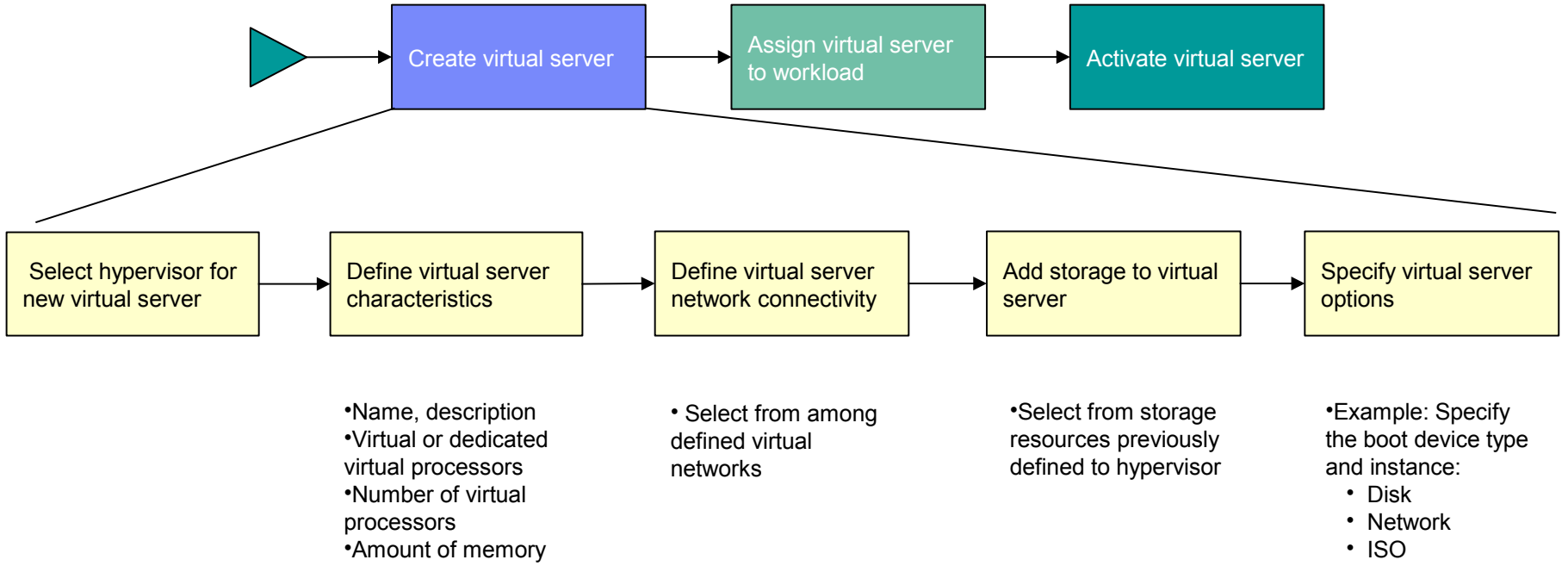
Information about non-IBM products is obtained from the manufacturers of those products or their published announcements. IBM has not tested those products and cannot confirm the performance, compatibility, or any other claims related to non-IBM products. Questions on the capabilities of non-IBM products should be addressed to the suppliers of those products.

Prices subject to change without notice. Contact your IBM representative or Business Partner for the most current pricing in your geography.

Backup API Slides

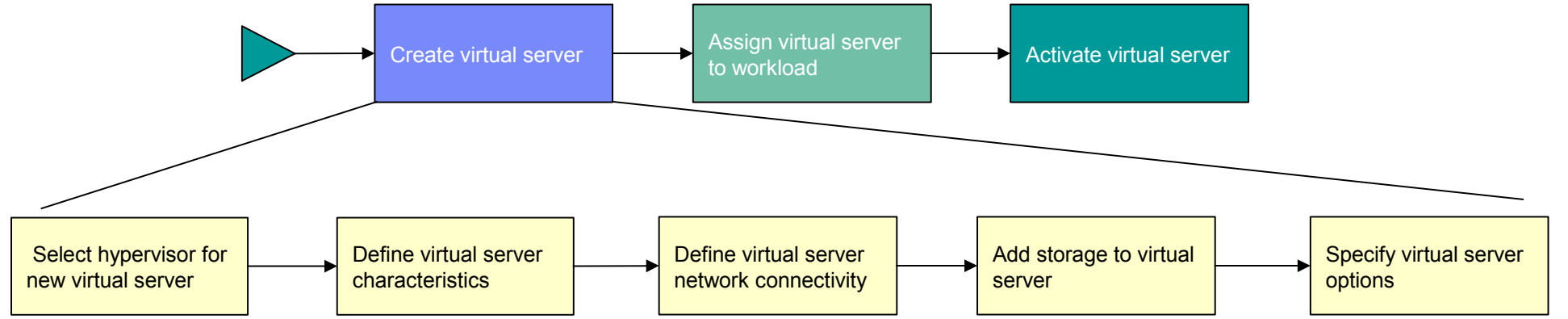
HMC WS API and UI Provide Same Level of Function

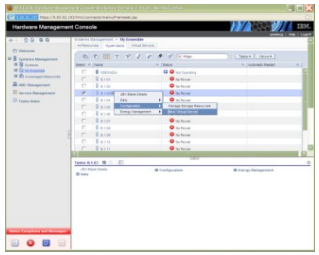
- Example: Creating a Virtual Server on an IBM Blade
- Regardless of the interface used, this is accomplished through a series of steps:

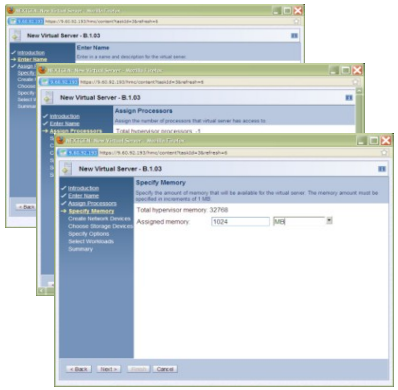


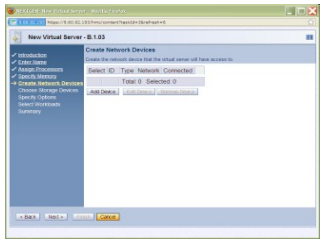
HMC WS API and UI Provide Same Level of Function (con't)

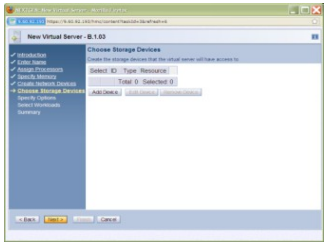
- HMC UI: Steps are accomplished using panels in a wizard-style task

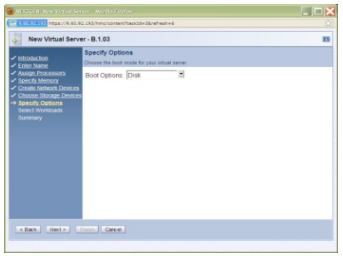








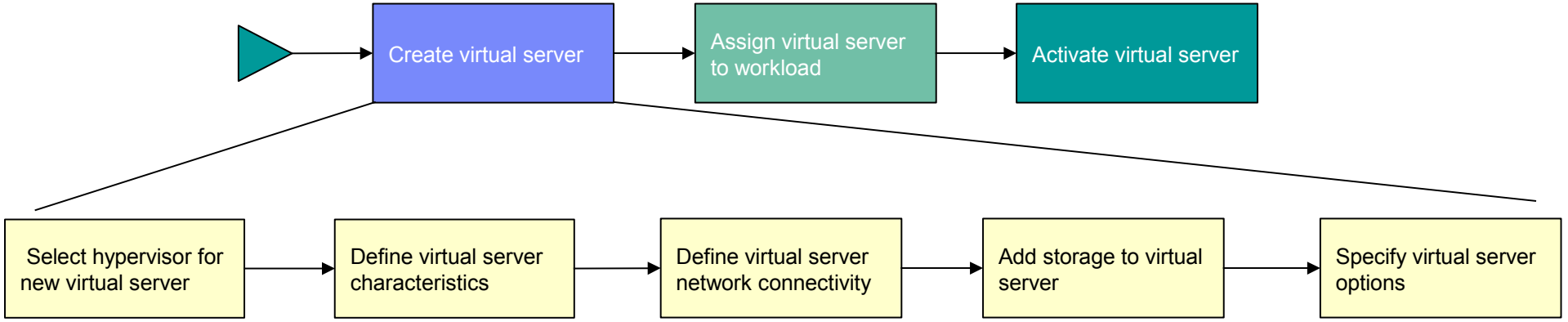




HMC WS API and UI Provide Same Level of Function (con't)

- WS API: Steps are accomplished by calling management primitives of the API

Note: Function names listed below are conceptual, not the actual API syntax



- Call List Hypervisors function to obtain a list of hypervisors
- <Invoking application selects desired hypervisor>

- Call Create Virt Server function specifying selected hypervisor as target and basic VS parameters to get base VS created

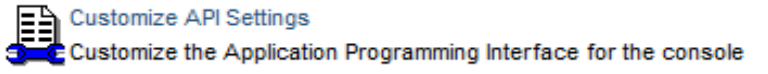
- Call List Virt Networks function to obtain current virtual networks
- <Select network>
- Call Add Virt Adapter function specifying new VS as target and virtual network parameters

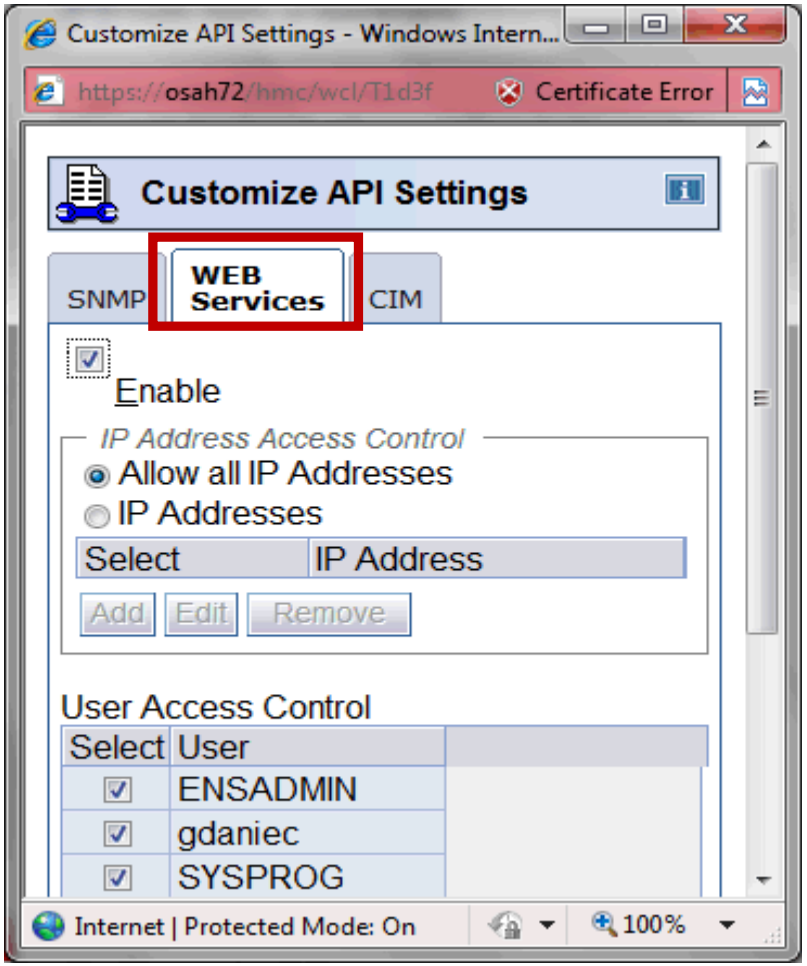
- Call List Stg Resourcces function to obtain list of available volumes
- <Select volume>
Call Add Virt Disk function specifying new VS as target and selected storage resource

- <Select boot device>
- Call Update Virt Server function to set boot device

Web Services API Enablement

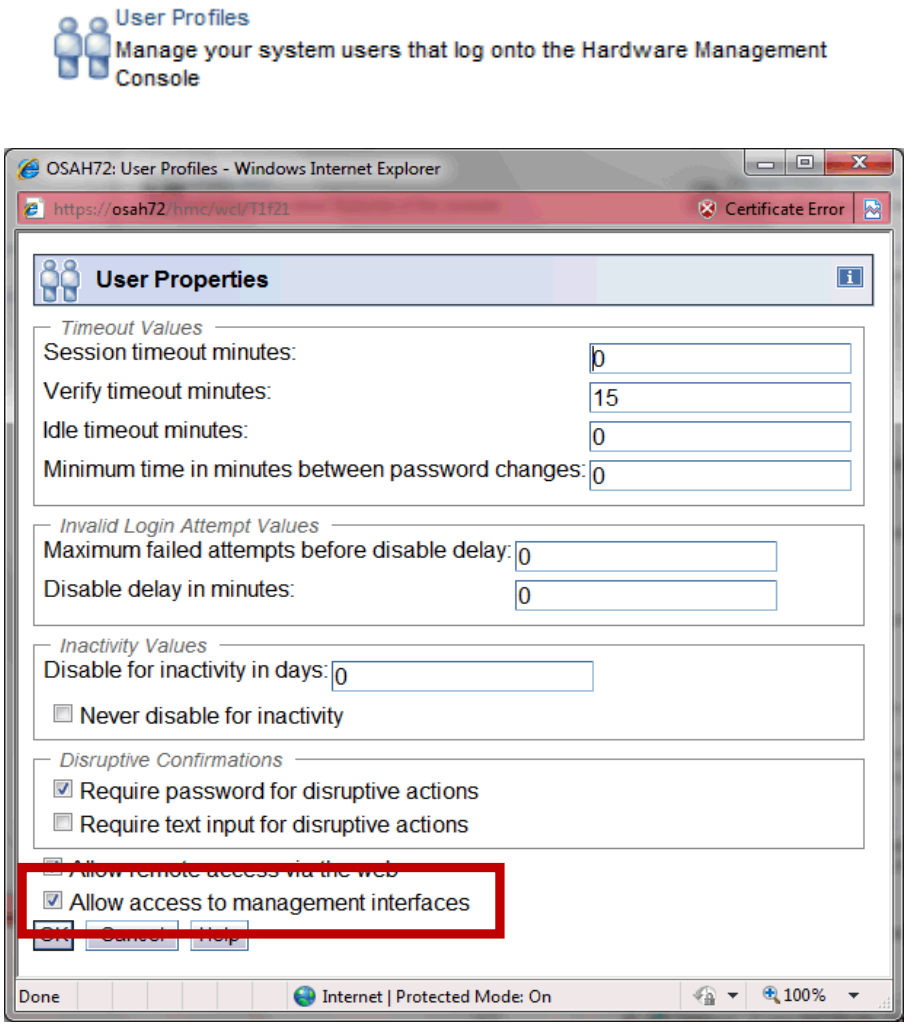
- WS API is Disabled by default
- Overall On / Off switch and other configuration via a new tab in the existing Customize API Settings task
- API enablement is done separately from enabling remove browser access to HMC
- Installation can also optionally control the IP addresses from which API connections can be made
- When enabled HMC listens for API connections on a different TCP/IP





Web Services API Access Control

- Connection to API requires authentication under an HMC application login identity
  - All connections to the API specify an HMC user name and password
  - HMC local or LDAP validation of user name and password supposed, same as UI
- New User Profile option controls whether an HMC user can use the API or not
- Individual requests are authorized using the HMC's authorization controls
  - Requests always performed under an HMC user context



Getting Started with the API: Some Script Snippets (using Python)

- API is session-oriented: All requests are made in the context of an API session

- Basic pattern for an API client:
  1. Establish SSL socket connection with HMC
  2. Logon to open an API session
  3. Make requests using that API session
  4. Logoff to close the API session

1. Establish an SSL socket connection with the HMC:

- Python code snippets illustrating these steps follows…

```
# Connect to HMC at address <host> with 300 second request timeout
conn = httplib.HTTPSConnection(host, 6794, timeout=300)
conn.connect()
```

Getting Started with the API: Some Script Snippets (using Python)…

2. Log on to the HMC to open an API session:

```
   # Log on to HMC as <userid> with password <password>
   logon_req = {"userid": userid, "password": password}
1  req_body = json.dumps(logon_req)
   req_hdrs = {"Content-Type": "application/json"}
   conn.request("POST", "/api/sessions", req_body, req_hdrs)

2  response = conn.getresponse()
   if response.status != 204:
      # If the response provides a body, always read it.
      resp_body = response.read()
   if response.status != 200:
      # Handle failure (eg. wrong psasword)
      raise Exception("Request failed (status: %d)" % response.status)

   # Retrieve session id from response for later use
3  logon_resp = json.loads(resp_body)
   session_id = logon_resp["api-session"]
```

Getting Started with the API: Some Script Snippets (using Python)…

3. Make requests using the API session:

```
# Issue request for HMC's properties
# Use the session id for the session we just created
req_hdrs = {"X-API-Session": session_id}
conn.request("GET", "/api/console", None, req_hdrs)

response = conn.getresponse()
if response.status != 204:
   resp_body = response.read()
if response.status != 200:
   raise Exception("Request failed (status: %d)" %
response.status)

# Convert result JSON into Python objects for processing
console_props = json.loads(resp_body)
print "HMC name is %s." % console_props["name"]
```

1 2 3

Getting Started with the API: Some Script Snippets (using Python)…

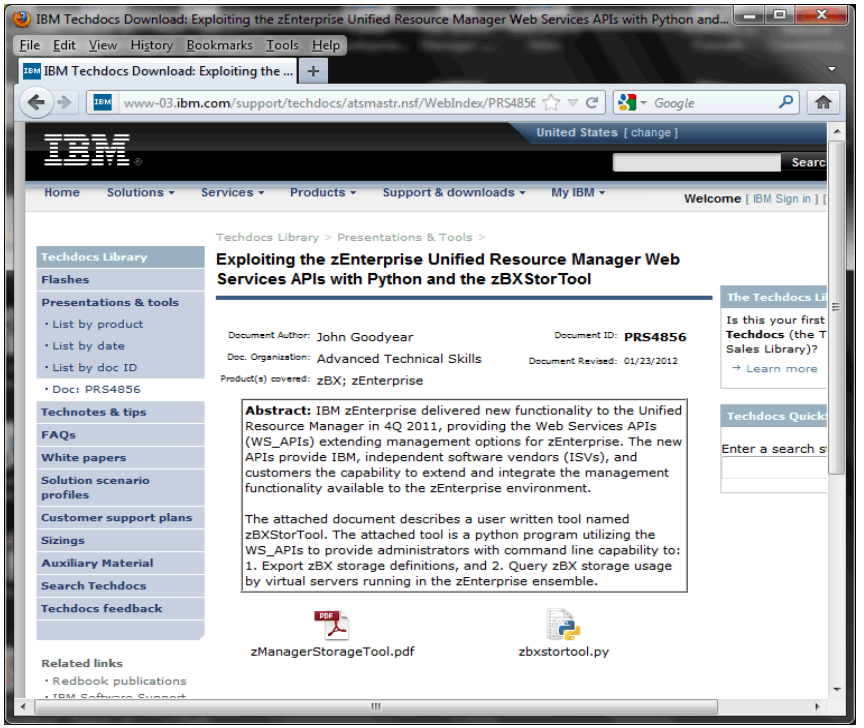
4. Log off from the HMC to close the API session:

```
# Log off from HMC to free session resources
req_hdrs = {"X-API-Session": session_id}
conn.request("DELETE", "/api/sessions/this-session", None, req_hdrs)

response = conn.getresponse()
if response.status != 204:
   resp_body = response.read()
if response.status != 204:
   raise Exception("Request failed (status: %d)" % response.status)

# On success, no response to process from Logoff
```

1

2

Usage Example: zBXStorTool

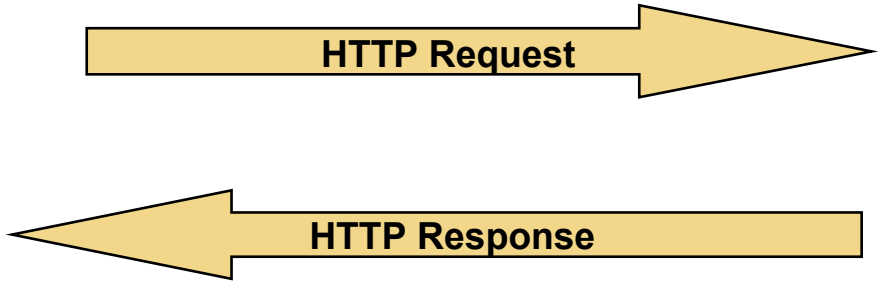


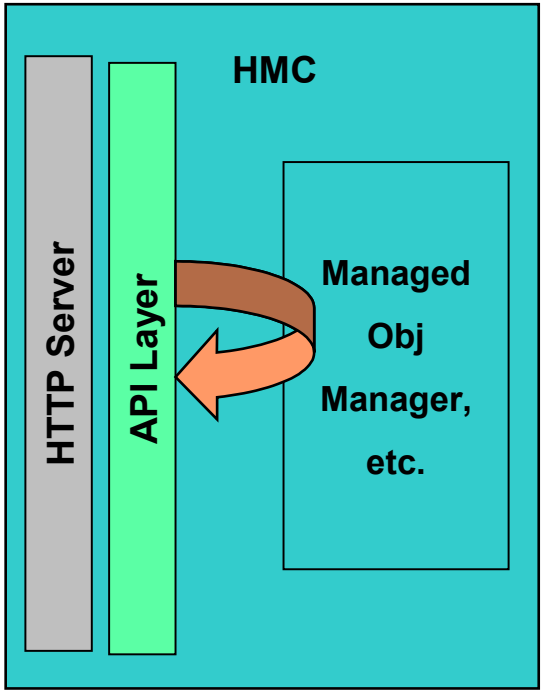
- Developed by John Goodyear of the IBM Washington Systems Center
- Provides functions that simplify storage administration for zEnterprise zBX:
  - Export storage definitions for entire ensemble or filtered by hypervisor
  - Show relationship between virtual servers and the storage resources they use
- Provides a more comprehensive example of WS API usage
- Available from the Techdocs Library as document # PRS4856 :
  - http://www.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atsmastr.nsf/WebIndex/PRS4856
- Python script and whitepaper with client programming hints and tips

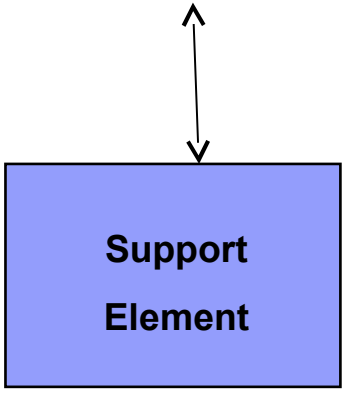
UsageExample: System z Mobile Application Proof of Concept

- Proof of Concept Mobile Application for monitoring and controlling a zEnterprise system from a mobile device
- Allows pe IT floor to g able subset o about the mach

Mobile Application Proof of Concept – Under the Hood







- Mobile device communicates directly with HMC using the new Web Services API. No intermediate management server needed.
- RESTful orientation of the API makes this easy to do using standard application capabilities on these types of devices