IBM Software Group

Automated Performance Management: Strategies, Tips, And Techniques

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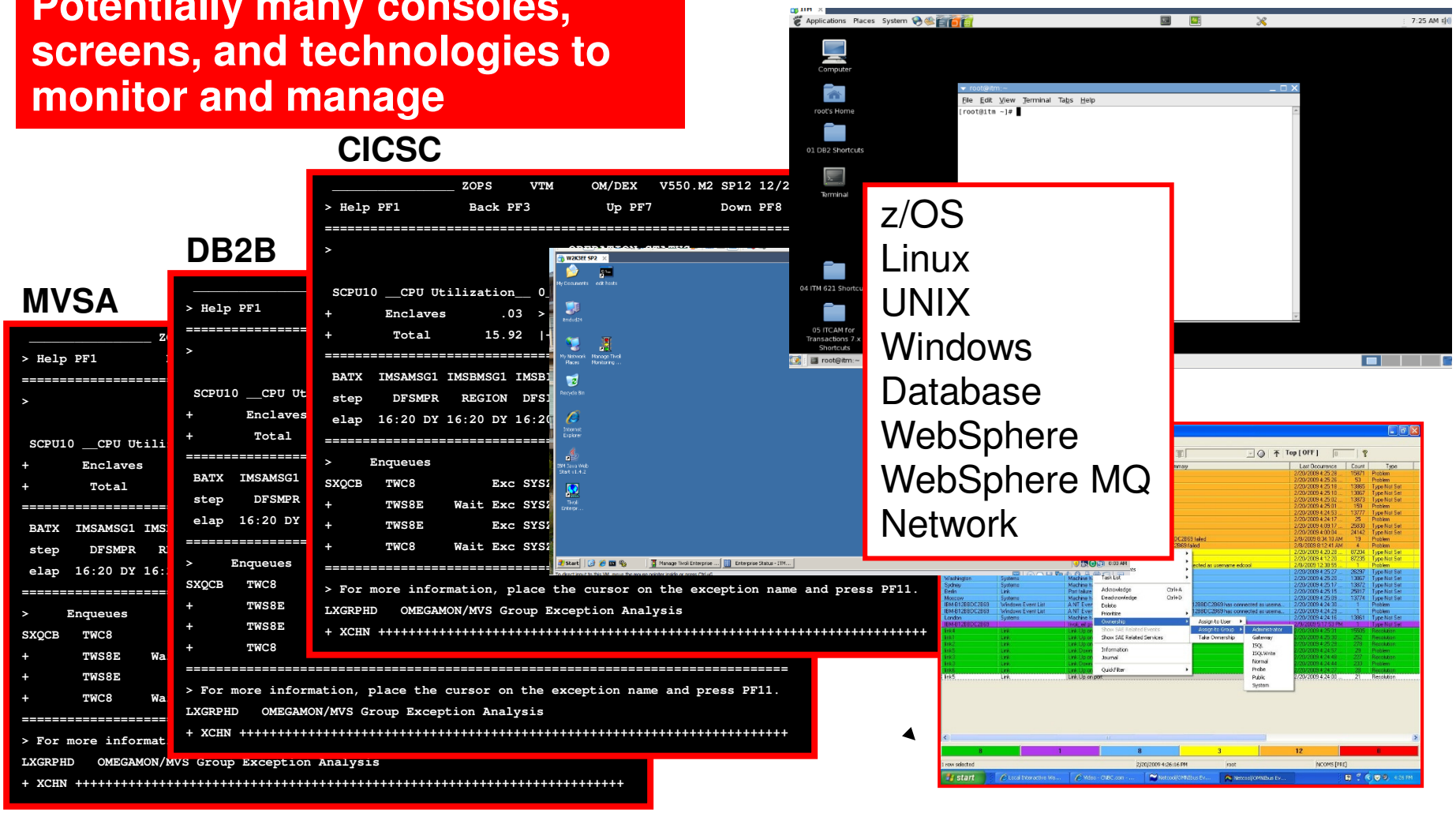
Session #16730
Monday, March 2nd: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Agenda

- Why Integrated Automation?
- Where Automation?
- What is Automated Performance Management?
- Integrated Performance Automation
  - Tools, Tips, Techniques
  - Situations and Policies
- Examples And Best Practices
- Recommendations

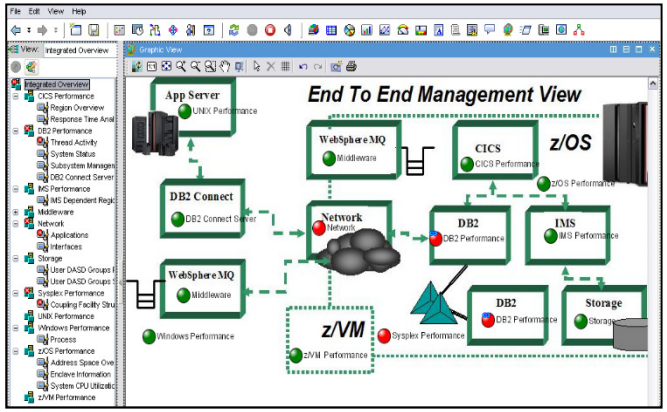
Why Integrated Automation?
Islands Of Automation Complicate Management

Potentially many consoles, screens, and technologies to monitor and manage



Automated Performance Management Addressing Islands Of Automation

- Many technical platforms, components and core technologies to manage
  - Often each with it's own group of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)
  - Potentially with it's own set of management tools
- The problems
  - Complex SME tools with different User Interfaces
  - SME tools that do not integrate or share information
    - More difficult to navigate
    - More difficult to do problem identification, isolation, and resolution
  - More challenging to automate corrective actions without clearly defined integration



Recommendation – Where feasible pursue a more integrated approach

Where Automation?
Automation Many Occur At Many Levels

- Traditional z/OS console automation
  - Automated resource management
    - System start up and shut down
  - Console message management – message suppression
  - Resource and application management
    - Abend/failure management
    - Subsystem support management
      - WTORs - log management – archive management
- Automation within monitoring and analysis technologies
  - Command and corrective action capabilities within tools
  - Alerts and notifications
- Event/Network management
  - Alerts, notifications and corrective actions managed by the "Manager of Managers" – example Netcool OMNIbus

z/OS console
Address spaces
Messages
Resource status

Monitoring
Resource monitor
Analytics
Real time
History
Alerts – messages

Event Management
Event correlation
Notification
Correction

A Goal For Many Shops
Make Systems Management More 'Proactive'

- In many shops systems management tends to be done 'ad hoc'
  - Some alert generation – varies by shop
    - Some shops very alert driven – many are not
  - Often notification consists of 'call the help desk'
- Many customers want to be more 'proactive'
  - Definition of proactive may vary
    - Proactive for some installations may mean more rapid alert and notification of technical and/or business application issues
    - Proactive for some installations may mean notification ***prior*** to the problem
      - Alert when utilization indicates a potential issue in the future
      - Alert when I'm within 90% of the wall
    - Proactive may mean an automated workaround or resolution

What Is Automated Performance Management?

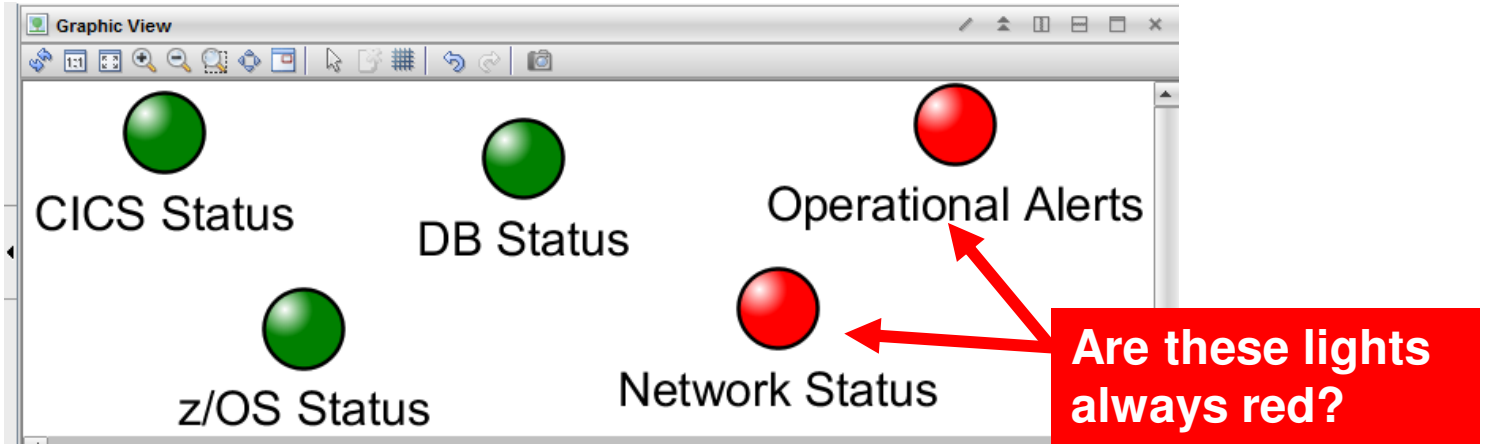
- Exploiting and leveraging the intrinsic monitoring and management capabilities of performance monitoring combined with event management and automation
  - Make automation more powerful and robust
    - Incorporate performance metrics into automation routines
  - Make monitoring more powerful and robust
    - Add message awareness to monitoring tools
  - Incorporate information from the application and/or subsystem performance level
  - Incorporate systems and application knowledge of the staff into automation routines

- The benefits - Become more 'proactive'
  - Improved and more meaningful/timely alerts and notifications
  - Improved understanding of systems and systems management
  - Reduce the time for problem identification and isolation
  - Improve MTTR (mean time to resolution)
  - Where possible solve problems at machine speed

Benefits Of Automated Performance Management

- Traditional console automation tools focus on console messages and events
- Monitoring information expands the scope of automation
  - Include performance metrics
    - CICS or IMS response time metrics
    - z/OS CPU, paging, and resource utilization metrics
    - Database status and performance metrics
  - Monitoring metrics expand the scope of automation
    - Makes automation more responsive and proactive
      - Avoid application issues and outages
    - Enables more application level automation

Make Alerts More Meaningful
The Challenge Of 'The Always Red Light'

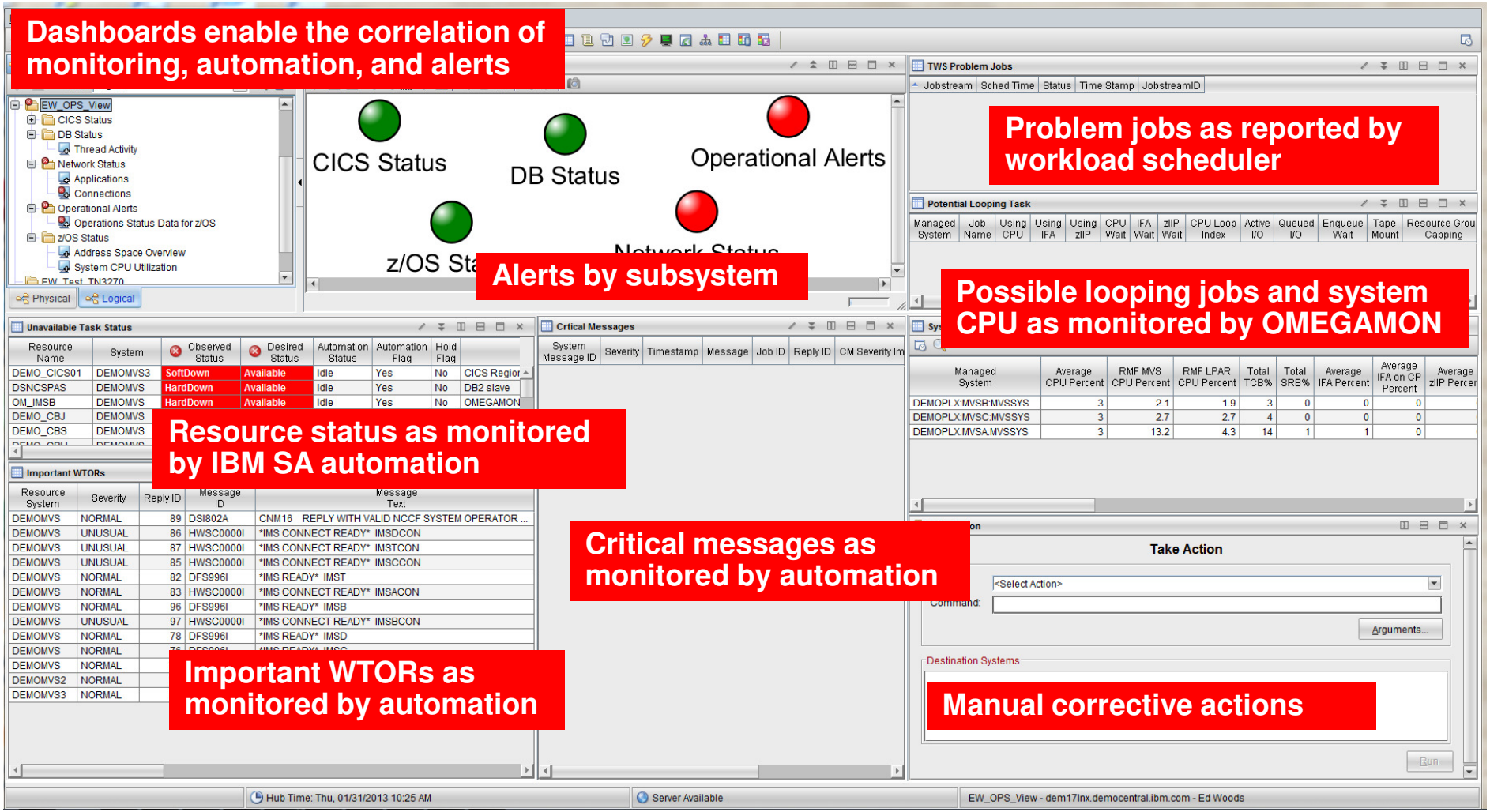


- Alerts should be:
  - Actionable, meaningful, useful
- Integrating automation information with monitoring makes alerts more accurate and meaningful

Alerts
General Recommendations And Rules Of Thumb

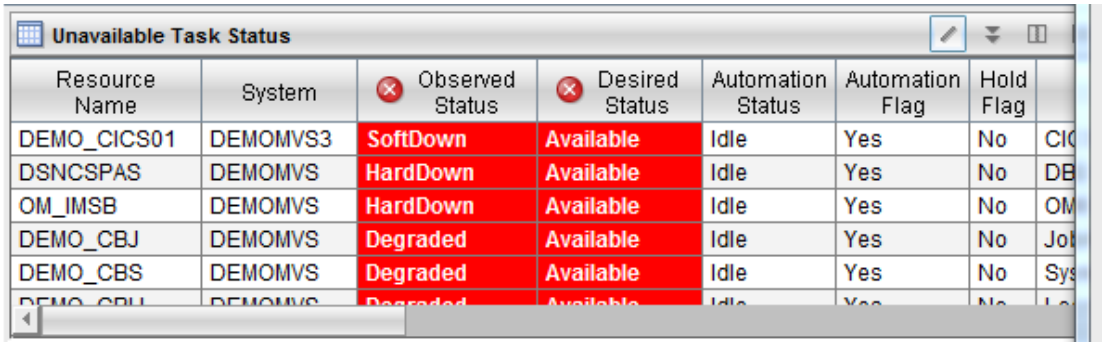
- Automation integration helps make alerts Meaningful, Actionable, and Useful
- Meaningful alerts
  - Alert should be flexible – make the names understandable
  - Adopt an alert naming convention
    - Makes it easier to identify customer created versus product provided situations
- Actionable alerts
  - Have appropriate notification
    - A workspace with an alert icon, command/message notification
  - As a standard have expert advice
  - Have pre-defined take actions where appropriate
- Useful alerts
  - Eliminate phony alert indicators – tune out the noise
  - If an alert fires it should indicate an actual issue
    - An alert, an owner, and a consequence

Leverage The Integration Of Automation To Make Alerts And Dashboards More Relevant



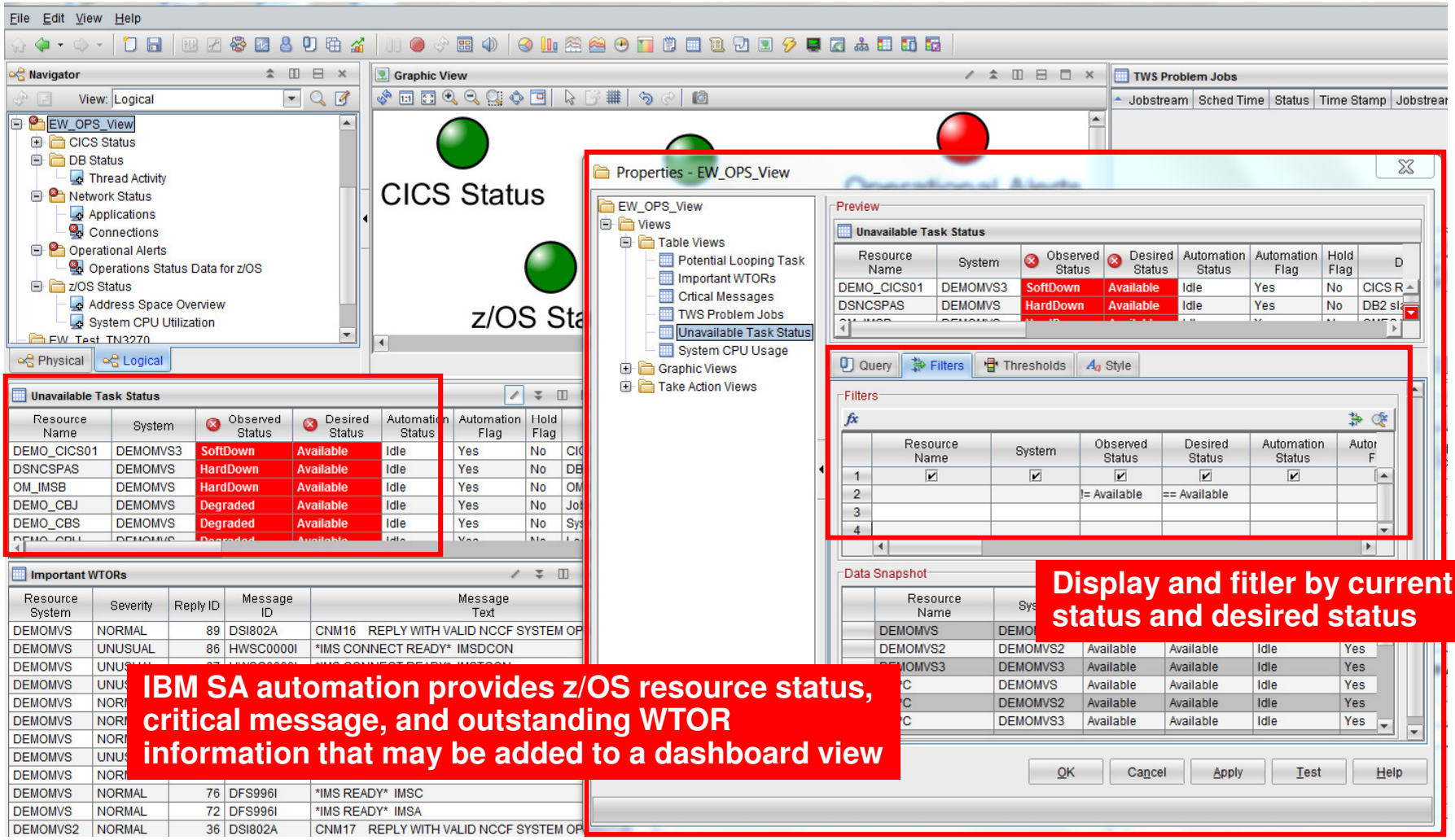
Exploiting The Integration Of Automation And Monitoring

- Leverage automation to make alerts more relevant and useful
  - Automation contains task availability information
    - Current task status, desired status, availability calendar
  - Use to filter out unwanted alerts
    - Example – avoid CICS availability alert during normal outage window
- Leverage automation to expand the scope of alerts
  - Add console message information to alerts
    - Example – Subsystem messages, application error messages, outstanding WTORs

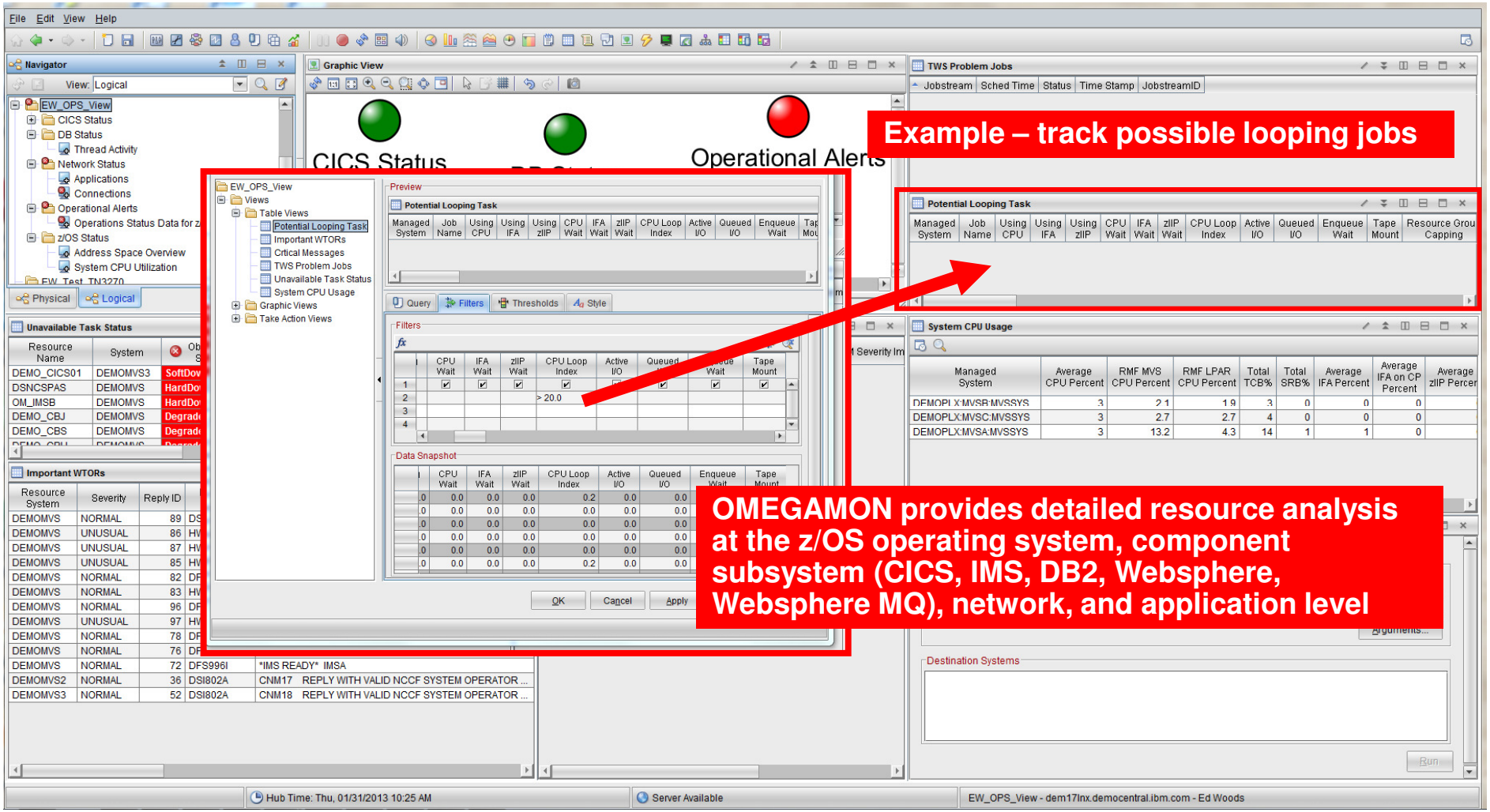


Resource Name	System	Observed Status	Desired Status	Automation Status	Automation Flag	Hold Flag	
DEMO_CICS01	DEMOMVS3	SoftDown	Available	Idle	Yes	No	CIC
DSNCSPAS	DEMOMVS	HardDown	Available	Idle	Yes	No	DB
OM_IMSB	DEMOMVS	HardDown	Available	Idle	Yes	No	OM
DEMO_CBJ	DEMOMVS	Degraded	Available	Idle	Yes	No	Jol
DEMO_CBS	DEMOMVS	Degraded	Available	Idle	Yes	No	Sys

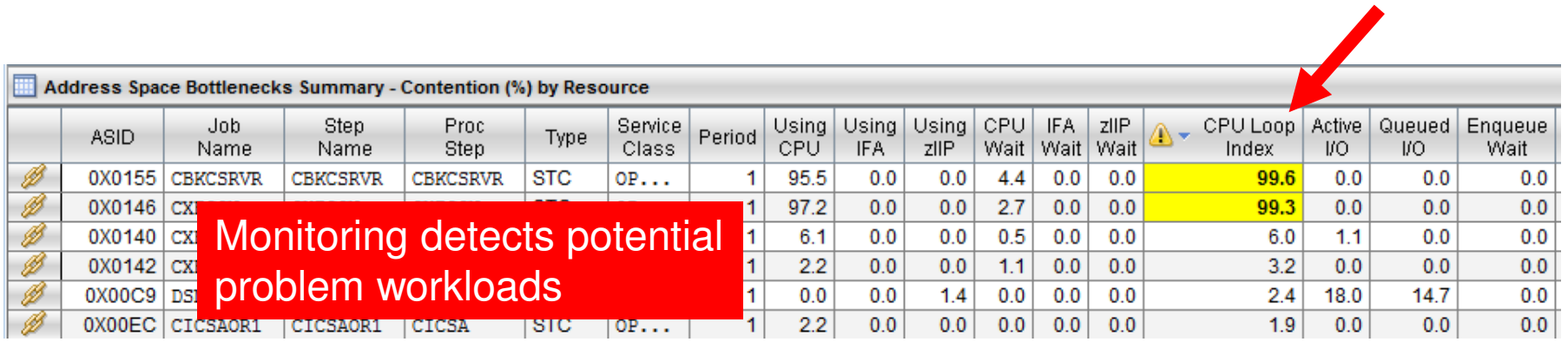
Consider Resource And Status Information From Automation When Defining A Monitor View



Integrate With Resource And Analysis Information From z/OS Monitoring (Such As OMEGAMON)



Exploit Monitoring To Detect Problem Workload

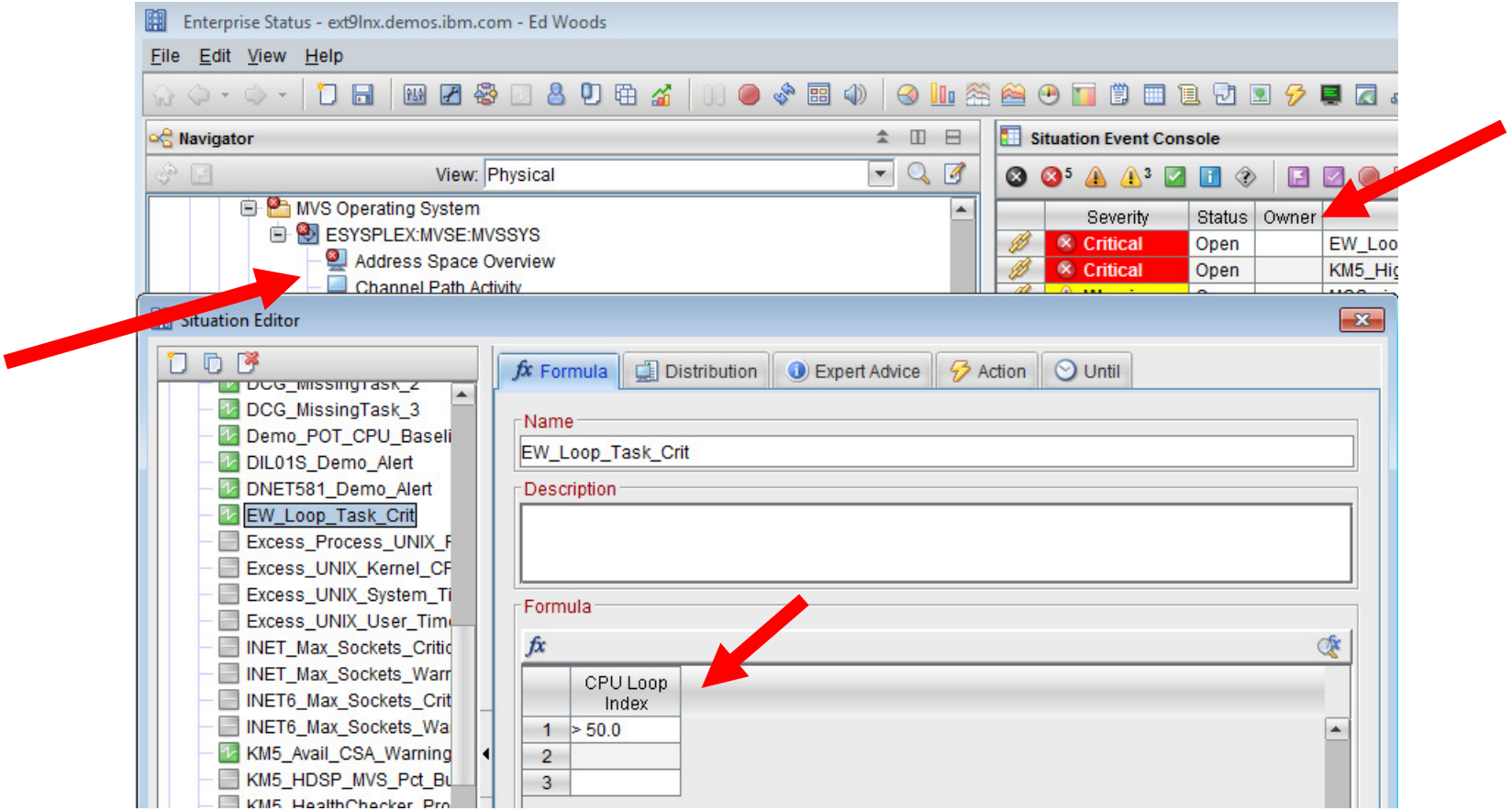


Address Space Bottlenecks Summary - Contention (%) by Resource

ASID	Job Name	Step Name	Proc Step	Type	Service Class	Period	Using CPU	Using IFA	Using zIIP	CPU Wait	IFA Wait	zIIP Wait	CPU Loop Index	Active I/O	Queued I/O	Enqueue Wait
0X0155	CBKCSRVR	CBKCSRVR	CBKCSRVR	STC	OP...	1	95.5	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.0	0.0	99.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
0X0146	CX					1	97.2	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	0.0	99.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
0X0140	CX					1	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	6.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
0X0142	CX					1	2.2	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
0X00C9	DS					1	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	18.0	14.7	0.0
0X00EC	CICSAOR1	CICSAOR1	CICSA	STC	OP...	1	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0

- Example - OMEGAMON bottle neck analysis may be used to determine potential problem workloads
  - CPU Loop Index detects potential looping tasks
  - CPU Loop Index may be viewed as an ‘analytic’ to score the likelihood of the loop
- Use automation to notify and address looping task issue

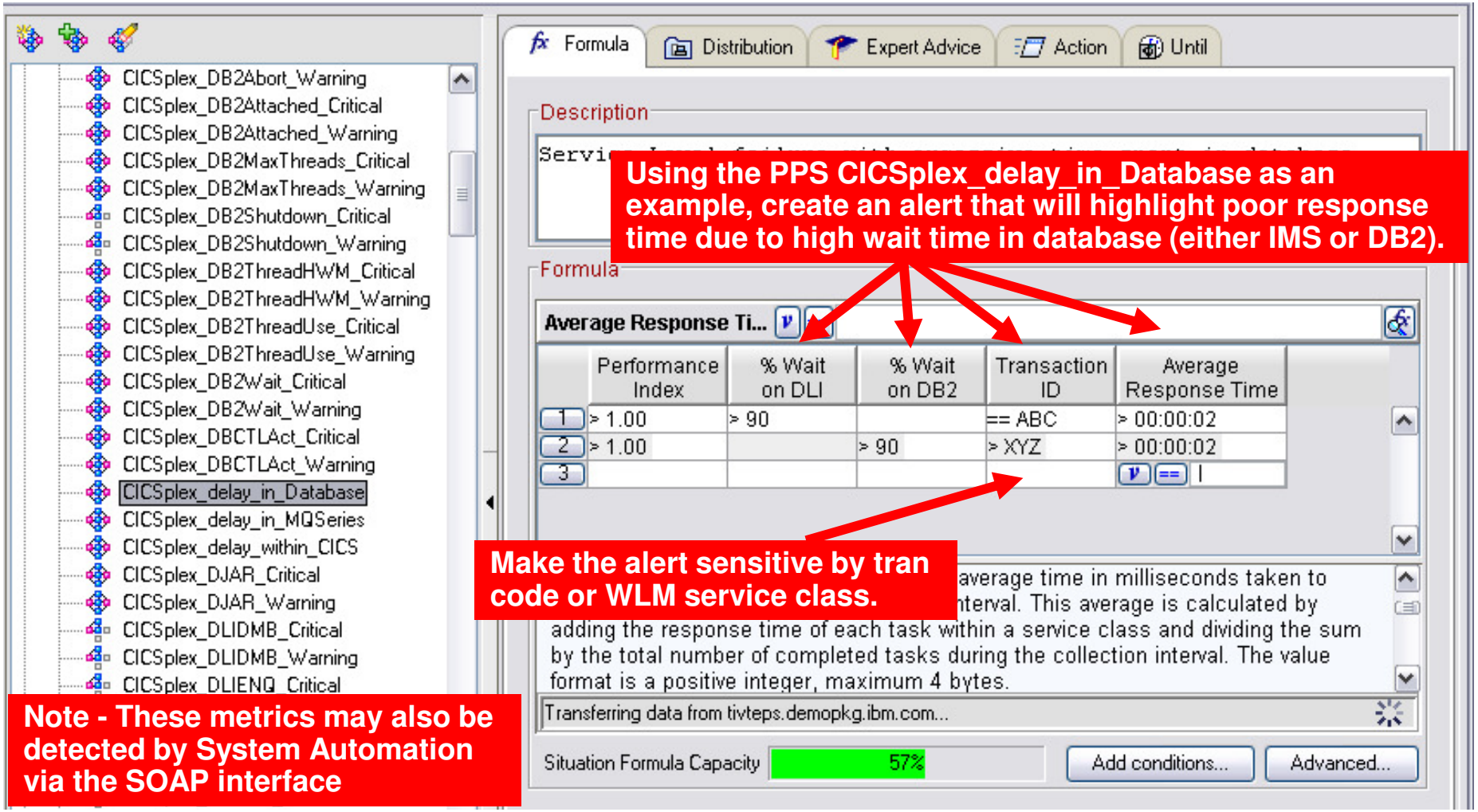
Monitor Critical Metrics To Create Useful Alerts



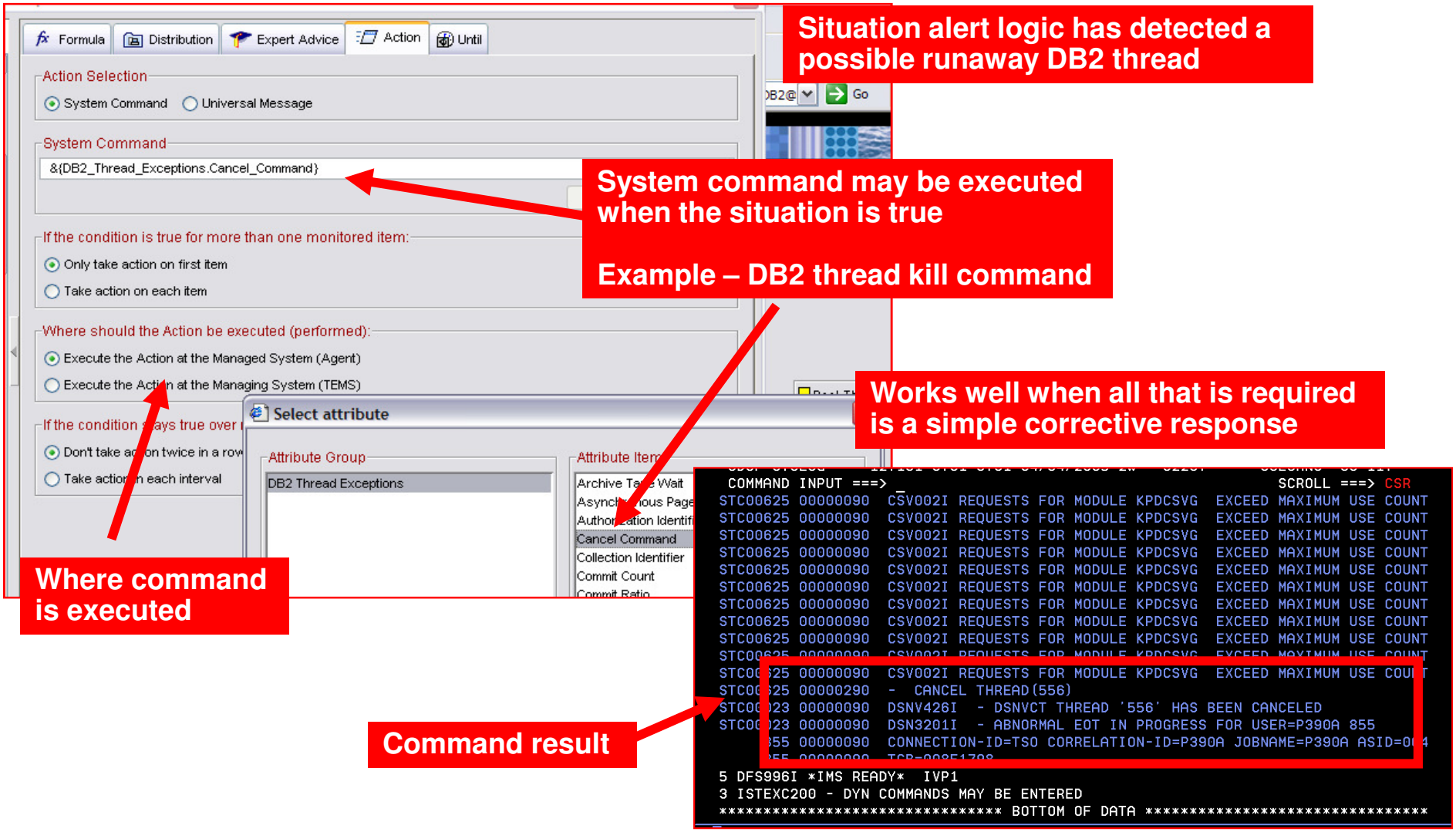
- Alerts (aka ‘Situations’) are building blocks to drive further analysis and automation possibilities

CICS Performance Example

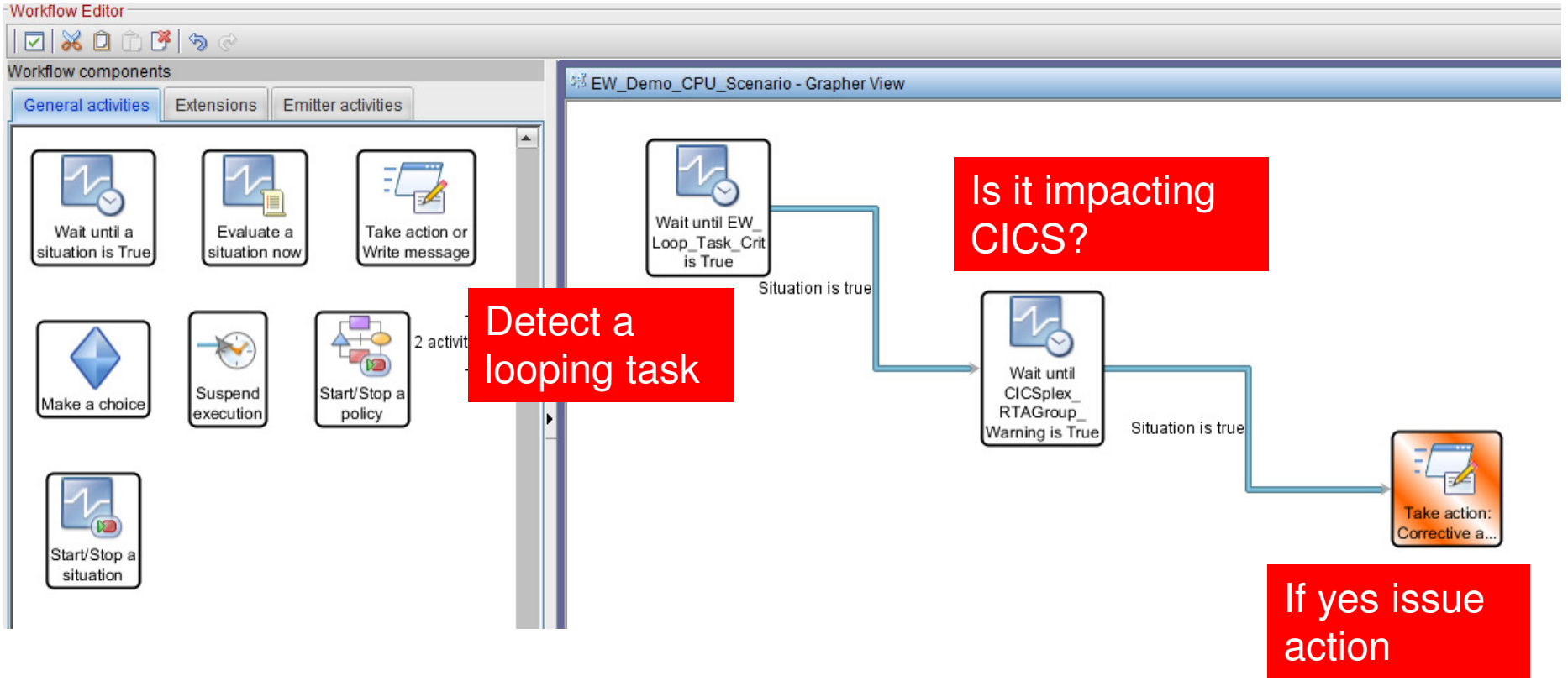
Exploit Boolean Logic To Make Alerts More Meaningful



Corrective Actions May Be Attached Directly To Alerts Example - Addressing A "Runaway" DB2 Thread

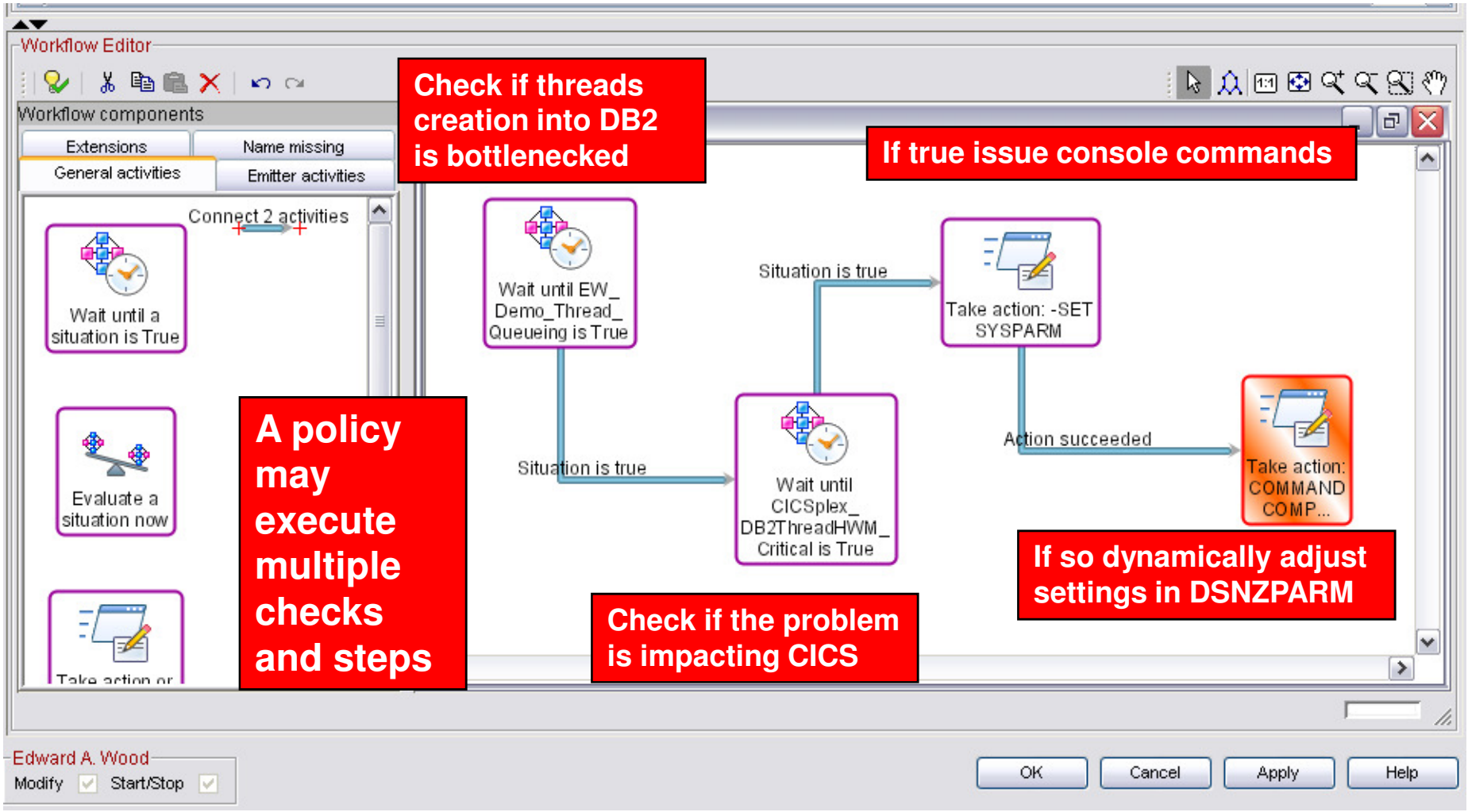


More Sophisticated Automation Scenarios May Require A More Detailed Approach



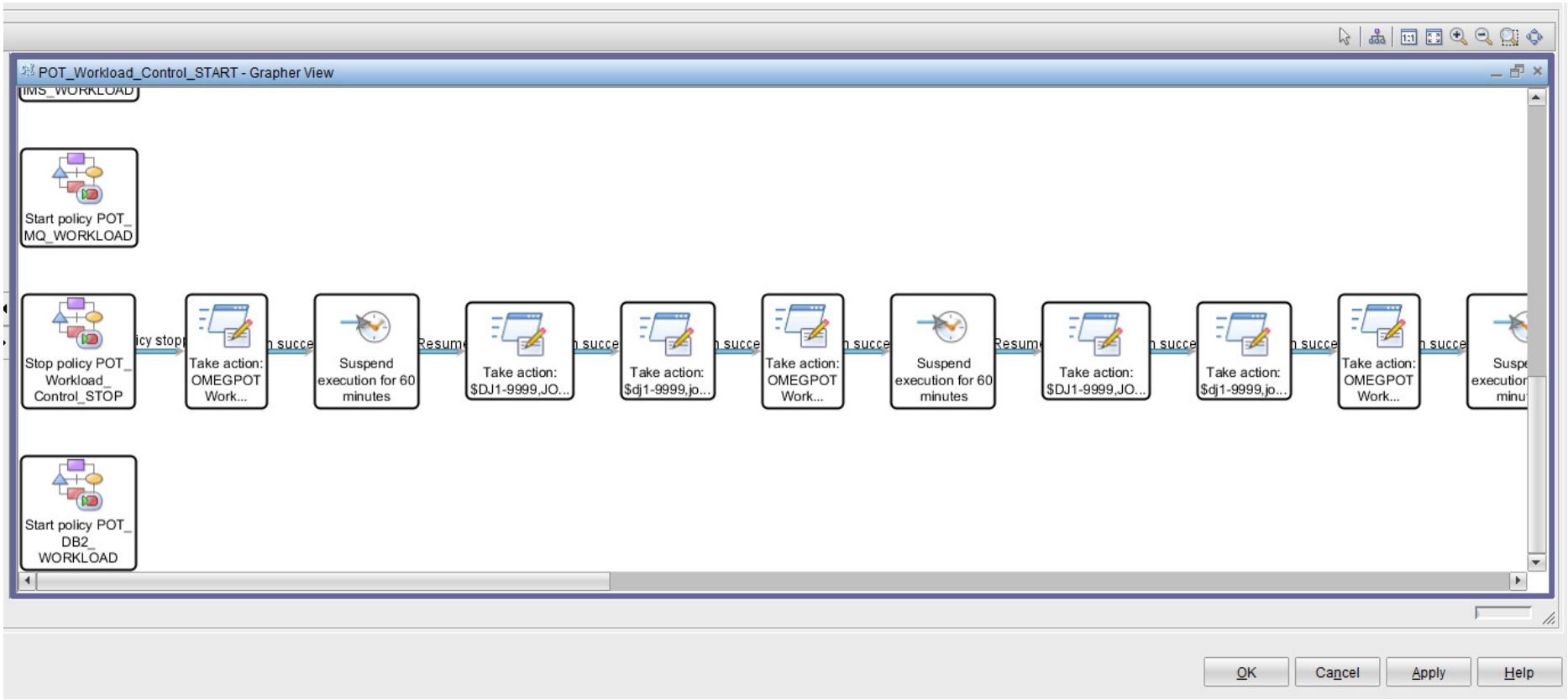
- Policy automation enables the easy integration of monitoring and automation
- If there is a problem workload
  - Determine the impact of the issue before executing corrective action

Alert Correlation Via A Policy Mechanism Expands The Concept Of Automated Performance Management



Using Policies To Automate Multiple Components

Example – Using Policy Automation To Manage PoT Workloads



- Policy automation may be applied to various components and platforms
- Monitor, manage and maintain complex workloads

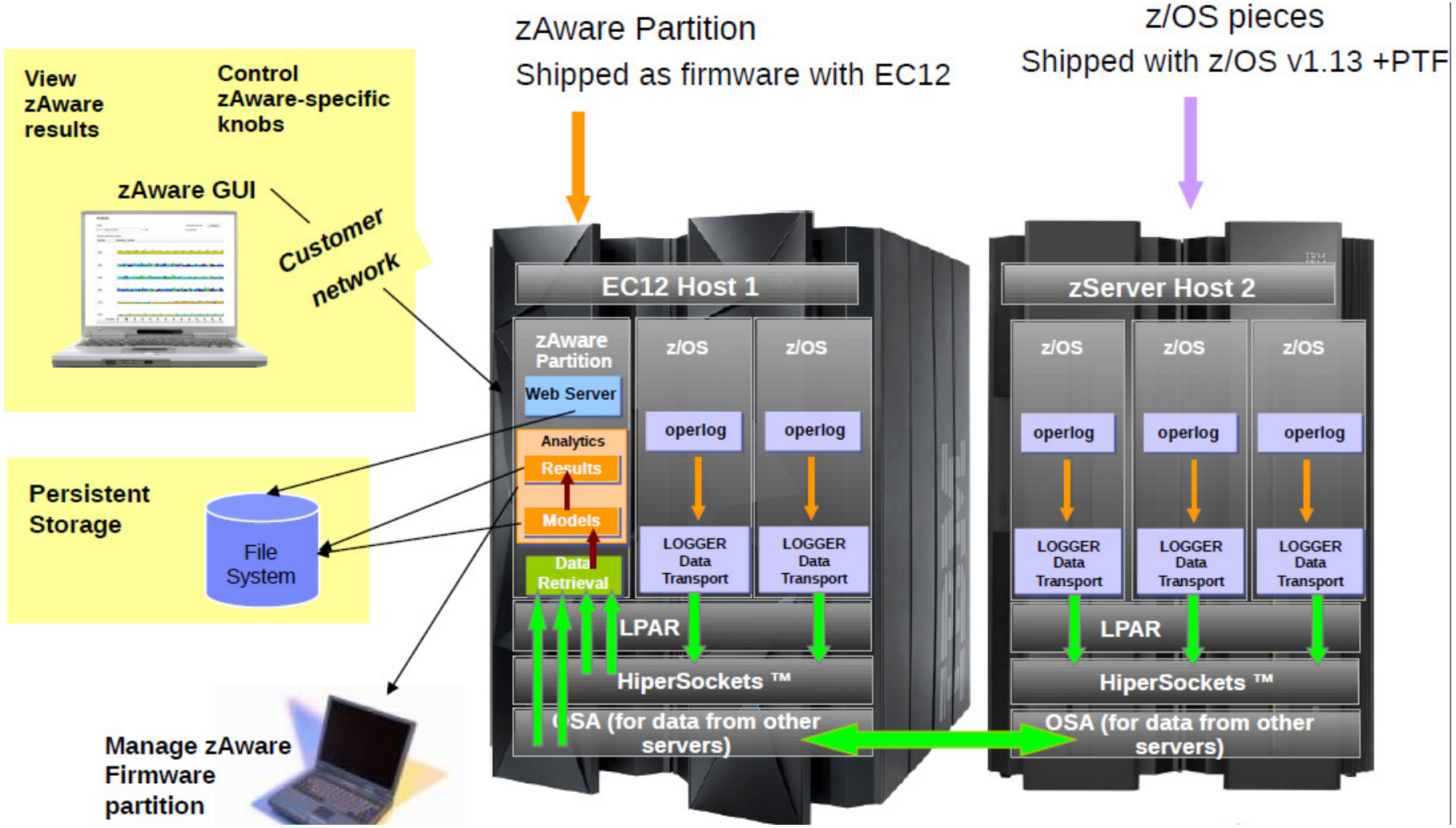
Some More Examples Of Typical Automated Performance Management Scenarios

- ***z/OS example*** - possible z/OS looping task
  - **Monitored symptoms** – high CPU loop index as measured by OMEGAMON >> WLM missing goals >> high overall system CPU usage
  - **Automation response** – adjust priority of problem task or if desired cancel the task
- ***DB2 example*** - DB2 object lock conflict
  - **Monitored symptoms** - long running SQL call >> high In-DB2 time >> longer thread elapsed time
  - **Automation response** - Increase priority of "owner" (as determined by automation) >> "Kill" problem thread
- ***IMS example*** - High IMS message region occupancy time
  - **Monitored symptoms** - IMS transactions queued >> longer IMS transaction scheduling time >> longer IMS response time >> lower IMS transaction processing rate
  - **Automation response** – automation starts additional message regions to handle workload >> issue IMS commands to adjust classes
- ***MQ example*** - Lower MQ message input rate >>
  - **Monitored symptoms** - Higher MQ message queue depth >> lower transaction processing rate >> longer CICS/IMS transaction response time
  - **Automation response** – issue calls to assess potential bottlenecks in CICS/IMS processing >> automation action based on results

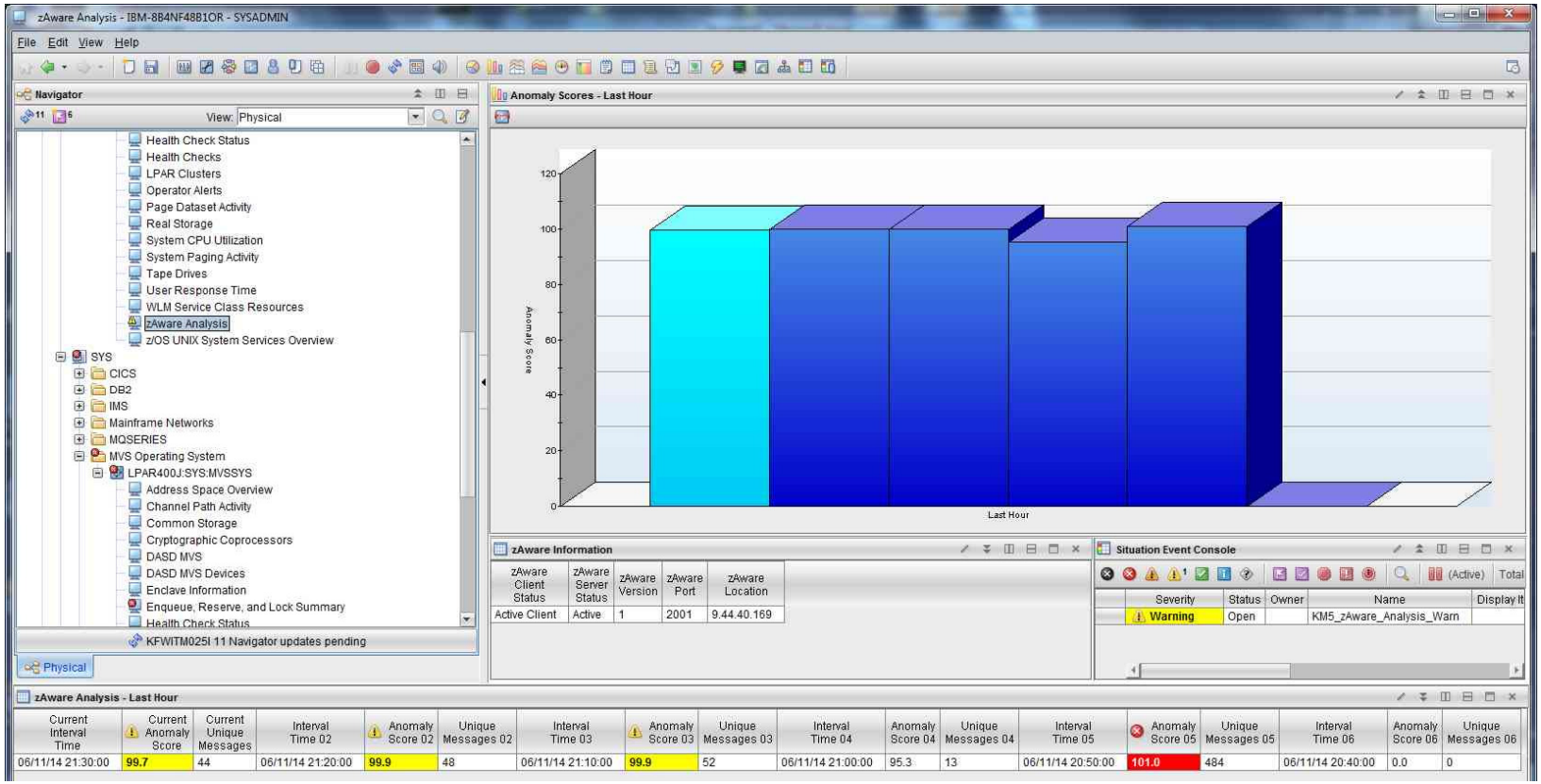
Understanding Critical z/OS Messages About zAware

- IBM zAware – IBM System z Advanced Workload Analysis Reporter
- Monitors z/OS OPERLOG including all messages written to z/OS console, including ISV and application generated messages
  - Early detection and focused diagnosis can help improve time to recovery
- Technology based on machine learning developed by IBM Research
  - Pattern recognition techniques look at the health of a system to pinpoint deviations from the ‘norm’
  - High speed analytics facilitates the ability to consume large quantities of message logs
- Allow establishment of procedures to prevent reoccurrence
- IBM Red Book - http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redbooks/pdfs/sg248070.pdf

Inside IBM zAware

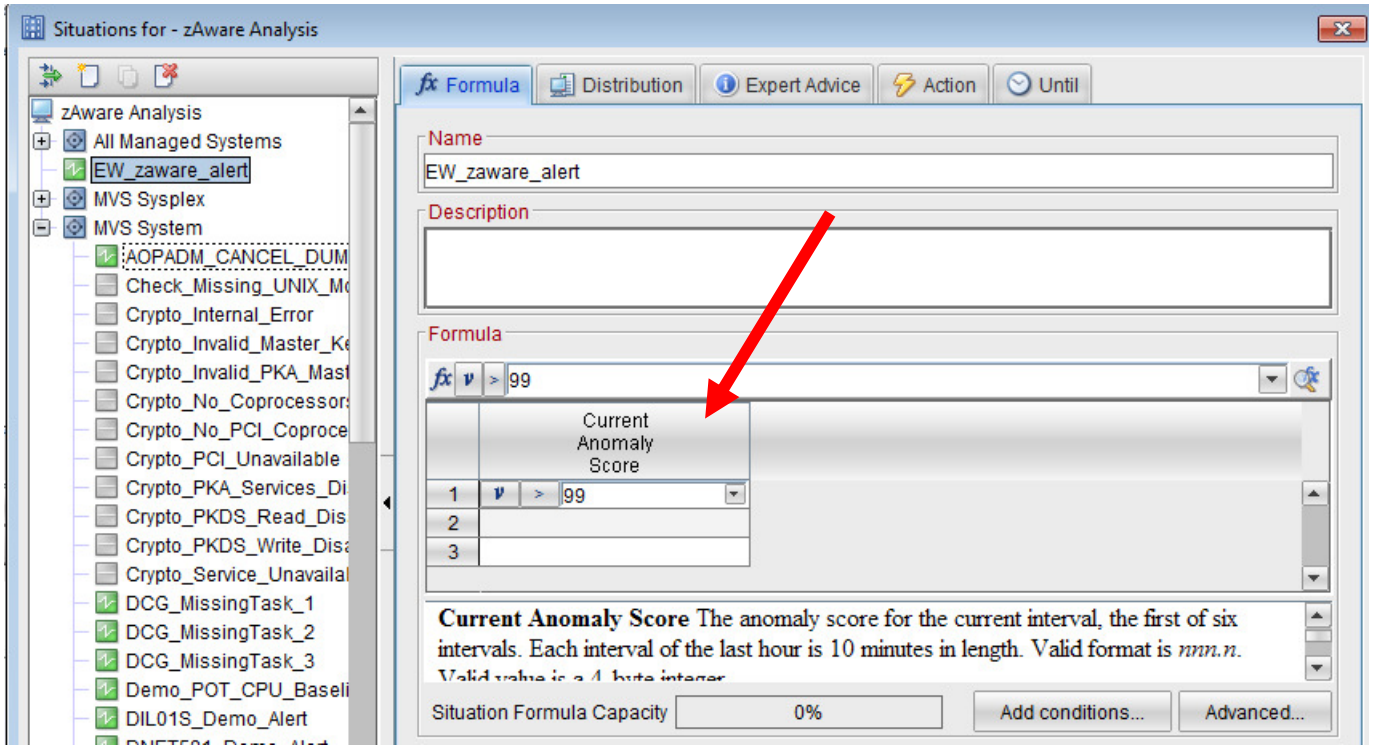


zAware And Performance Monitoring



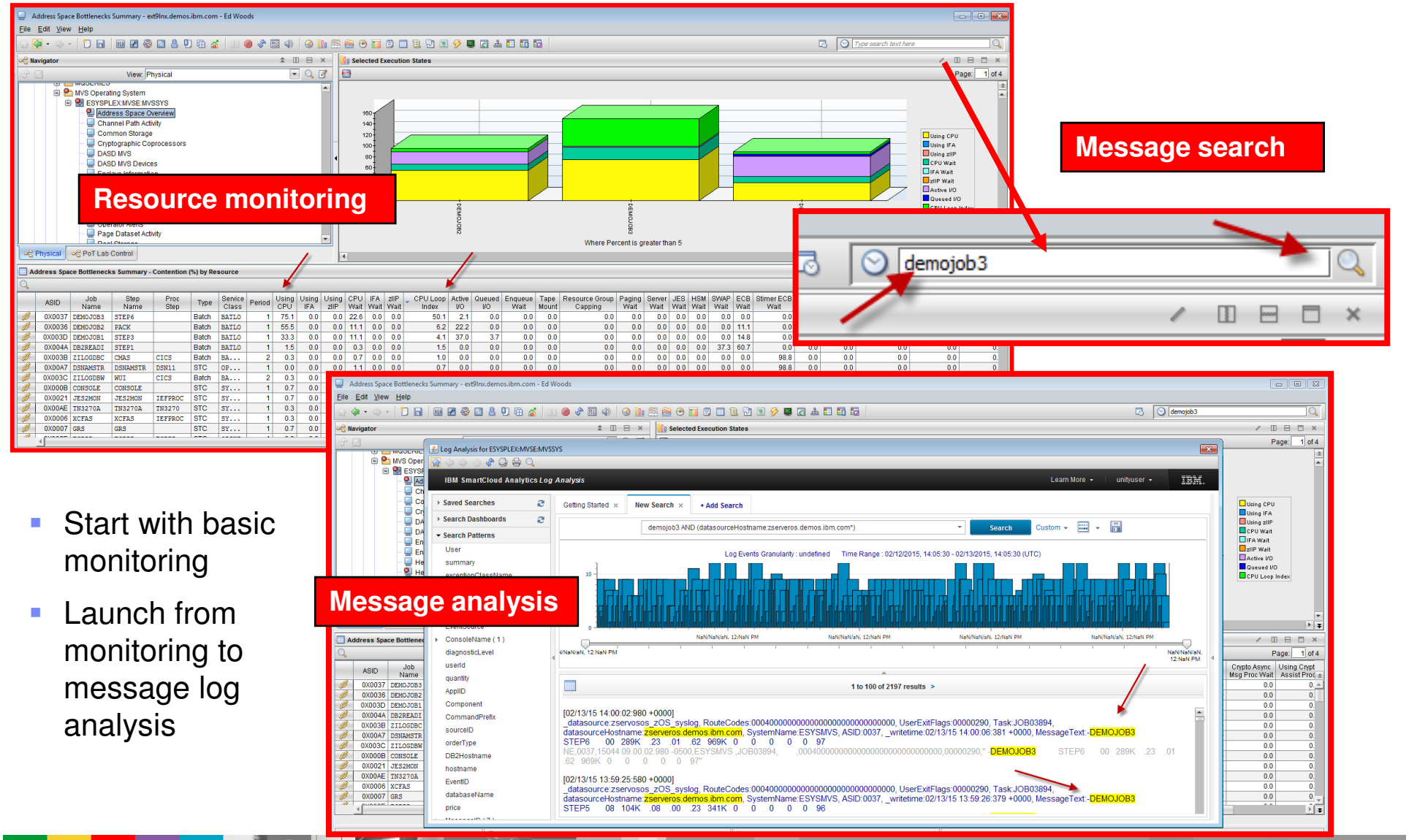
- A new anomaly score is generated for each 10-minute period
- Anomaly scores from 99.6 to 100.9 are considered to be warning indicators
  - Indicate that there is message traffic in the monitored z/OS LPAR that is unusual
- Anomaly scores of 101 are considered critical and are even more important to investigate

Alerting On zAware Anomalies



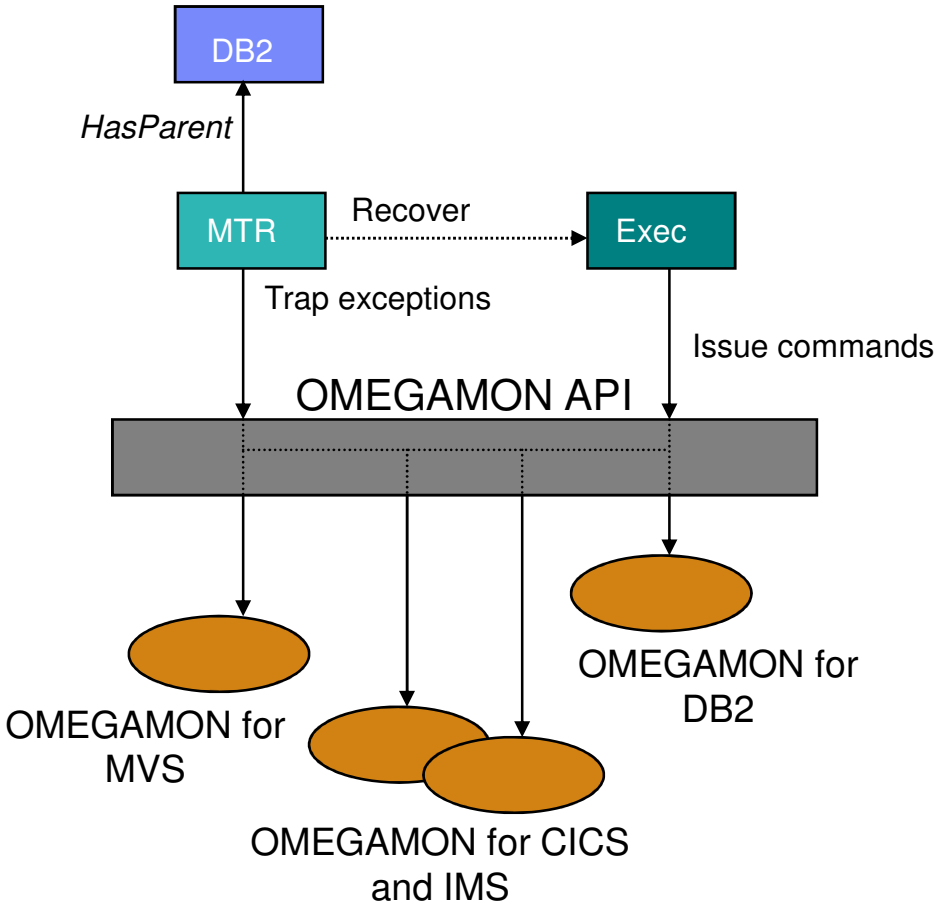
- As with other situation alerts scenarios, an alert on a zAware anomaly may be used to drive notification or other analysis actions

Investigate Message Anomalies And Issues



- Start with basic monitoring
- Launch from monitoring to message log analysis

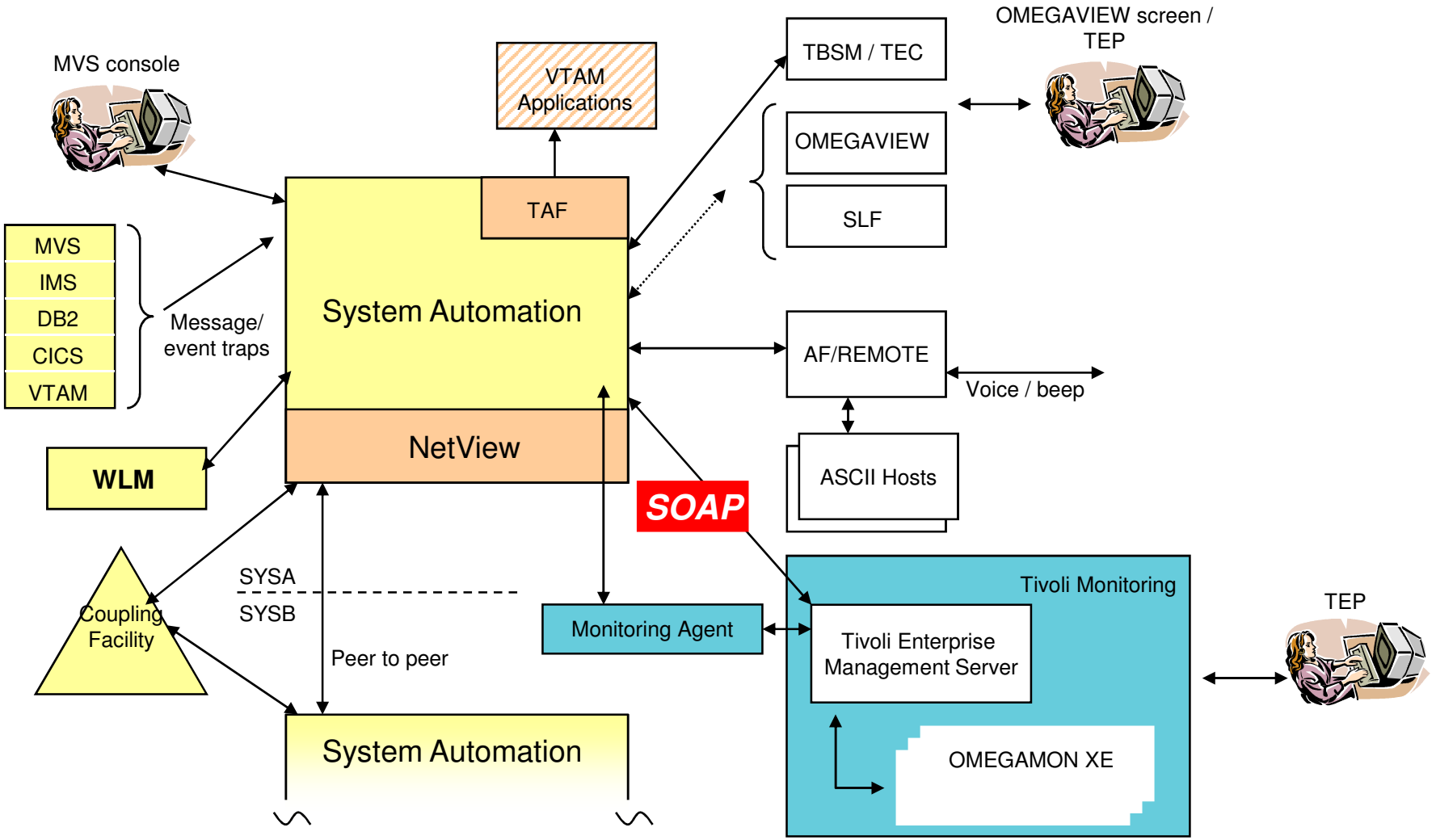
Automation Integrated With Monitoring Example – The Need For Bi-directional Interfaces



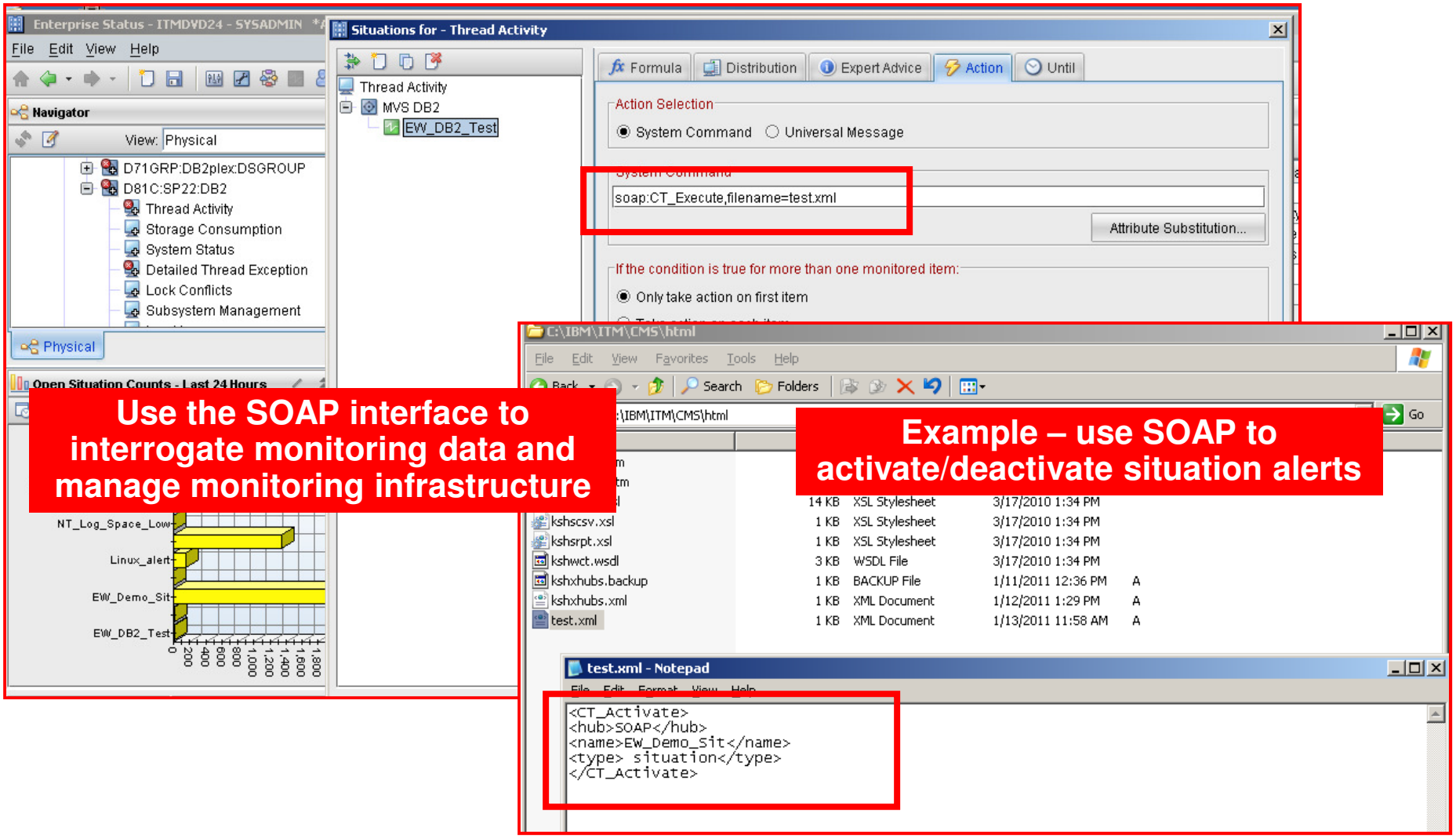
- **Use performance and availability information for Automated Performance Management**
  - **More metrics, more accurate decisions**
  - **Sources: MVS, DB2, CICS, IMS, Network, Webpshere, Websphere MQ, Storage monitoring**
- **Provides APIs to communicate with OMEGAMON monitors to**
  - **Monitor OMEGAMON exceptions**
  - **Monitor/manage situation status**
  - **SOAP interface enables detailed performance data interface to SA**
- **Provides exception monitor based on the Monitor Resource concept**
  - **Monitors „interesting“ set of exceptions**
  - **Sets application health state based on existence of such exceptions**
  - **Provides means to react and resolve exceptional conditions**

Interface means any metric captured by OMEGAMON may be analyzed via automation

SA / OMEGAMON Integration
SOAP Interface Enables Detailed Analysis



OMEGAMON, IBM System Automation And The Tivoli Enterprise Portal Provides SOAP Interface



Performance Automation Integration Within A Common Dashboard Or Portal

- The Portal provides manual commands and corrections
  - 'Take Action' provides for manual command capability
  - Commands may be predefined
- The Portal enables automated commands and corrections
  - Implement machine speed corrective actions, issue alerts, and allow for later human intervention
  - Use for automated commands for dynamic subsystem management and 'tweaks' as the workload and system changes
  - Two core types of automated actions
    - ***Situations*** - Use for simple "fire and forget" type of scenarios
    - ***Policies*** – Use for more sophisticated performance automation scenarios

About Situations And Policies

- Alerts (aka Situations) are the building blocks of systems management logic
  - Situations may be used to highlight performance and availability problems within key operating systems, subsystems, and mission critical resources
- Policies extend concepts established with situations and add additional functionality
  - Situations remain the essential starting point
  - Policies add additional function and flexibility
- Start with the basic building blocks and grow from there

Additional Situation Considerations And Recommendations

- Use the Product Provided Situations as examples or templates
  - Customization to user-created situations
- When creating and deploying a set of situations consider
  - The number of situations being deployed
  - The number of managed systems (i.e. z/OS LPARs and CICS tasks)
  - Refresh frequency of the situations
- Consider carefully the number of required situations
  - Use boolean logic to reduce the number of needed situations
  - Do not automatically make a warning alert to go with each critical alert
    - Create a warning if it will allow time to address an issue before going critical
  - Use managed system lists to send the right situations to the right managed systems
- Be aware of the situation refresh rates
  - Multiple situations on the same table with the same refresh rate may be optimized by the infrastructure
  - Potential to reduce monitoring overhead if done appropriately

Policies And System Automation Recommendations And Rules Of Thumb

- Policies are not a substitute for System Automation and REXX command script capabilities
  - Policies work well as an extension of situation capabilities
  - Policies work well to manage start/stop of situation logic
  - Policies work well to issue multiple actions and “feed” other tools
- IBM System Automation
  - Use for full function automation logic and routines
    - REXX exec script capabilities
  - Use for more complex logic and actions
  - Exploit the ability of the SOAP interface to pull in key performance metrics from OMEGAMON

Roadmap
Automated Performance Management

- Use a building block approach
- ***Situations*** - Start with identification and definition of situation alerts
  - Meaningful alerts that represent true potential issues
  - Use the analysis to identify critical monitoring metrics
- ***Policies*** – Use policies where appropriate
  - Situation management and correlation
  - Issuing commands for basic performance/availability issues
- ***Visualization*** – Define useful Tivoli Portal views
  - Customize screens in the Portal for specific audiences
    - Operations, applications, management
- ***System Automation*** – exploit the power of integration
  - Define example performance automation management scenarios
  - Leverage the process as a template for additional scenarios

Summary

- Exploit your Monitoring and Automation suite provides powerful automation capabilities in multiple core technologies
  - Automation console management
  - Resource monitoring
  - Network monitoring and Event management
- Automated Performance Management leverages the intrinsic integration capabilities of the various technologies
  - Automation integration with monitoring
  - Integrated monitoring and management (including cross platform)
- Leverage Automated Performance Management to improve problem isolation and MTTR
  - Understand the unique capabilities of integrated monitoring and automation
  - Use a building block approach to grow management logic over time

Thank You!!