

IBM z/OS V2.4 Operating System – Client Experiences

z/OSMF Security Assistant

“ Security setup is not an easy area to understand when configuring z/OSMF for the first time, and especially for companies that do not have RACF®. It took us awhile to translate the supplied sample jobs to their equivalent in ACF2. With the new z/OSMF Security Assistant available under z/OS® 2.4, it has made the task a lot easier and simpler.”

zFS to zFS Migration

“ Might not sound like much but this little enhancement allows changes to zFS file systems, such as moving, enlarging, encrypting (or just changing the key label), to be performing without any disruption or downtime to applications. Very useful.”

z/OS Container Extension (zCX)

“ This has to be one of the best enhancements for z/OS in recent times. We are talking about running native Linux® containers (provided s390 binaries are available) on z/OS without having to standup zLinux under z/VM®, or IBM LinuxONE™, with their associated management overhead, or the required knowledge/experience with z/VM. It benefits from the standard z/OS performance management and monitoring. It may be the first release but it’s looking good already. Further development can only make it better – talk about Mainframe Modernization!!”

– *Thomas Liu, z/OS Engineer at ANZ*

“ *z/OS 2.4 is the most stable and reliable release in Generali’s history of the ESP.*”

– *Horst Schmidt, Unit Head Mainframe, Generali*

“ z/OS V2.4 brought us many benefits improved system management, improved availability and security through a set of new functions, to our mission critical environments. The ease of installation and migration helped us to run smoothly the new z/OS release and deliver the service our users depend on.”

“ We have been impressed by the stability and quality of the new z/OS 2.4 code. The migration of our production environments from z/OS 2.3 to z/OS 2.4 has been done smoothly without any issue. The new operating system brings new functions that help CTIE improve system management in day to day operations with the new z/OSMF interface, the new Security Assistant feature and many other functions.”

“ The introduction in z/OS 2.4 of z/OS Container Extensions (zCX) function is important in support to future containerized applications based on Docker technology that might be deployed at CTIE. It enables the full integration with existing z/OS applications and data of new business applications. zCX will definitely help CTIE in the future to address new business challenges using new type of business applications and open source packages while improving overall agility, efficiency, and resiliency required in a digital world.”

– Marc Theis, Head of Mainframe and Production, Centre des Technologies de l'Information de l'Etat (CTIE)

“ IBM z/OS V2.4 demonstrates that in addition to maintaining compatibility with older z/OS versions, it also stays current with new market technologies. IBM Tailored Fit Pricing for IBM Z, IBM z/OS Container Extensions and IBM Open Data Analytics on z/OS are examples for new and good technologies.”

“ We have z/OSMF installed and conducted the "Security Configuration Assistant" test. This is a helpful new function. Before this function we needed to search the access in RACF. Now this new plugin makes the job easier.”

– Henrique L. C. Yule, Division Manager, Banco Do Brasil

“ CTIE started some years ago an application modernization project, developing a large set of new applications based on Java™ WebSphere® and Db2® on z/OS in addition to traditional CICS®, Cobol and Db2 applications. Many large zFS file systems are now in use at CTIE. The new z/OS 2.4 provides efficiency, availability and resiliency improvements with the introduction of new zFS functions very useful to CTIE:

- zFS File-level Backup and Restore function provides the ability to back up and restore individual z/OS UNIX® files residing in zFS file systems. This function integrated with DFHSM™ and DFDSS provides a more granular approach to storage management and helps CTIE to centralize data management across the z/OS platform.*
- zFS to zFS migration function now allows for the migration of data from one zFS file system to another zFS file system, without requiring the source file system to be unmounted. Files that are in use by the application during the migration process are automatically and transparently moved to the target file system without affecting the application, improving application availability.”*
 - Patrick Nosbaum, z/OS Team Lead, Centre des Technologies de l’Information de l’Etat (CTIE)*

“ With z/OS V2R4 IBM further improves z/OS and it’s capability for dynamic changes with handy features like zFS to zFS Migration without disruptions, while providing exciting new function with the support for Docker Containers on z/OS via zCX.”

– Stephan Munkelt, Systems Programmer, Dataport

