

IBM Z Open Automation Utilities provides new services to help developers work with IBM z/OS data sets directly from the shell, Java, or Python

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At a glance

IBM Z^(R) Open Automation Utilities helps z/OS^(R) developers to automate tasks that access z/OS resources. It enables easier calling of z/OS utilities compared with JCL by providing a natural coding experience on UNIX System Services (USS) and interfaces in modern programming languages.

Overview

Job Control Language (JCL) has been used for a long time for performing or automating a set of steps on the IBM^(R) z/OS operating system. Though JCL has evolved with the times, it is inevitably foreign to people familiar with environments such as Linux^(R), UNIX, and Microsoft Windows.

On z/OS, as an alternative to using JCL, developers can write scripts to automate tasks in the USS environment. Such scripts are easier to understand and to manage, and many open source tools are also available in USS.

However, there is a gap in some cases, and z/OS developers have to fall back to submitting JCL jobs, which requires z/OS specific knowledge. In addition, JCL jobs are asynchronous, which means you must submit them to batch and wait for the result; thus, they do not fit in well with the rest of the script, which is typically synchronous.

Z Open Automation Utilities fills in the gap by providing the underlying runtime to support executing automation tasks on z/OS via Java, Python, and shell commands. With Z Open Automation Utilities, you can run traditional z/OS commands, such as IEBCOPY, IDCAMS, and IKJEFT01, as well as perform a number of data set operations in the scripting language of your choice.

Z Open Automation Utilities is designed as a natural way for programmers familiar with Linux and UNIX to use the USS environment to access traditional z/OS resources such as data sets directly, without the need for JCL. The utilities have a name and a syntax that are familiar to UNIX developers. For example, you can use the `dls` command to list data sets, which has a syntax and output similar to those of the `ls` command that is available on UNIX and Linux environments.

The Z Open Automation Utilities commands are true USS commands and support piping and redirection of `stdin`, `stdout`, and `stderr`. This makes it easy and natural to incorporate the Z Open Automation Utilities commands into your shell and bash scripts, with no complex dependencies.

Manual pages are provided for the Z Open Automation Utilities commands so that you can learn the details of the commands in the same way that you would for other Linux or UNIX commands.

Z Open Automation Utilities provides easy-to-use class libraries for accessing z/OS resources such as data sets directly from the language you want, without requiring installation or configuration of other software.

You can also create your own libraries in other programming languages, such as Node.js, for z/OS operation by using the shared library provided by Z Open Automation Utilities.

Z Open Automation Utilities is available at no charge as a stand-alone offering, and is also included in IBM Dependency Based Build, IBM Developer for z/OS, and IBM Application Delivery Foundation for z/OS.

Key requirements

For up to date information, see the [Software Product Compatibility Reports](#) website.

Planned availability date

March 13, 2020

Program number

Program number	VRM	Program name
5698-PA1	1.0.2	IBM Z Open Automation Utilities V1.0.2
Program number	Subscription and Support Program number	
5698-PAS	IBM Z Open Automation Utilities S&S	

Business Partner information

If you are a Direct Reseller - System Reseller acquiring products from IBM, you may link directly to Business Partner information for this announcement. A PartnerWorld ID and password are required (use IBMid).

[BP Attachment for Announcement Letter 220-087](#)

Offering Information

Product information is available on the [IBM Offering Information](#) website.

Publications

Document title	Document number
IBM Z Open Automation Utilities License Information	GC27-9149-00
IBM Z Open Automation Utilities Program Directory	GI13-5015-00

For up to date information, see [IBM Knowledge Center](#).

Services

Software Services

IBM Software Services has the breadth, depth, and reach to manage your services needs. You can leverage the deep technical skills of the lab-based software services team and the business consulting, project management, and infrastructure expertise of the IBM Global Services team. Also, IBM extends the reach of IBM Software Services through IBM Business Partners to provide an extensive portfolio of capabilities. IBM provides the global reach, intellectual capital, industry insight, and technology leadership to support a wide range of critical business needs.

To learn more about IBM Software Services, contact your Lab Services Sales or Delivery Leader.

Technical information

Specified operating environment

Hardware requirements

For up to date information, see the [Software Product Compatibility Reports](#) website.

Software requirements

For up to date information, see the [Software Product Compatibility Reports](#) website.

IBM Support

[IBM Support](#) is your gateway to technical support tools and resources that are designed to help you save time and simplify support. IBM Support can help you find answers to questions, download fixes, troubleshoot, submit and track problem cases, and build skills. Learn and stay informed about the transformation of IBM Support, including new tools, new processes, and new capabilities, by going to the [IBM Support Insider](#).

Security, auditability, and control

Z Open Automation Utilities uses the security and auditability features of the host hardware or software.

The client is responsible for evaluation, selection, and implementation of security features, administrative procedures, and appropriate controls in application systems and communication facilities.

Ordering information

Consult your IBM representative.

Ordering z/OS through the internet

Shopz provides an easy way to plan and order your z/OS ServerPac or CBPDO. It will analyze your current installation, determine the correct product migration, and present your new configuration based on z/OS. Additional products can also be added to your order (including determination of whether all product requisites are satisfied). For more details and availability, go to the [Shopz](#) website.

Charge metric

The charge metrics for this licensed product can be found in the following License Information document:

Program identifier	License Information document title	License Information document number
5698-PA1	IBM Z Open Automation Utilities V1.0.2	L-CWDG-BKM5SU

Select your language of choice and scroll down to the "Charge Metrics" section. Follow-on releases, if any, may have updated terms. See the [License Information documents](#) website for more information.

Basic license

To order, specify the program ID number and the appropriate license or charge option.

Program name: IBM Z Open Automation Utilities

Program ID: 5698-PA1

Entitlement identifier	Description	License option/Pricing metric
S018H1R	Z Open Automation Utilities	Use-Based License One-Time Charge Value Units
S018H1R	Z Open Automation Utilities	MultiVersion Measurement No Charge Value Unit
Orderable supply ID	Language	
S018H1S	English US	

Subscription and Support Program ID: 5698-PAS

Entitlement identifier	Description	License option/Pricing metric
S018H1V	Z Open Automation Utilities S&S	SW Subscription and Support Annual Support Charge Value Units
S018H1V	Z Open Automation Utilities S&S	SW Subscription and Support Monthly Support Charge Value Units
S018H1V	Z Open Automation Utilities S&S	MultiVersion Measurement S&S No Charge Value Units
S018H1V	Z Open Automation Utilities S&S	Decline Subscription and Support No Charge Value Units
Orderable supply ID	Language	
S018H1W	English US	

On/Off CoD

IBM Z Open Automation Utilities is eligible for On/Off CoD with a temporary use charge calculated based on MSUs per-day usage.

Program name: IBM Z Open Automation Utilities

Program number: 5698-PA1

Entitlement identifier	Description	License option/Pricing metric
S018H1R	Z Open Automation Utilities	On Off Capacity on demand Temporary Use Charge MSU-DAY(s)

Subscription and Support Program ID: 5698-PAS

Entitlement identifier	Description	License option/Pricing metric
S018H1V	Z Open Automation Utilities S&S	SW Subscription and Support Annual Support Charge Value Units
S018H1V	Z Open Automation Utilities S&S	SW Subscription and Support Registration (minus Supply right) No Charge Per MSU
Orderable supply ID	Language	
S018H1W	English US	

Customized Offerings

Product deliverables are shipped only through CBPDO and ServerPac. These customized offerings are offered for internet delivery. For more details on internet delivery, go to the "Help" section on the [Shopz](#) website.

IBM recommends internet delivery. However, if you still require physical media, you can choose DVD.

Many products can be ordered in ServerPac the month following their availability in CBPDO. z/OS can be ordered through CBPDO and ServerPac on the planned availability date. Many products will also be orderable in a Product ServerPac without also having to order the z/OS operating system or subsystem.

Shopz and CFSW will determine the eligibility based on product requisite checking. For more details on the Product ServerPac, go to the "Help" section on the [Shopz](#) website.

Production of software product orders will begin on the planned availability date.

- CBPDO shipments will begin one week after the planned availability date.
- ServerPac shipments will begin four weeks after the planned availability date.

Terms and conditions

The information provided in this announcement letter is for reference and convenience purposes only. The terms and conditions that govern any transaction with IBM are contained in the applicable contract documents such as the IBM International Program License Agreement, IBM International Passport Advantage^(R) Agreement, and IBM Agreement for Acquisition of Software Maintenance.

Licensing

IBM International Program License Agreement including the License Information document and Proof of Entitlement (PoE) govern your use of the program. PoEs are required for all authorized use.

This software license includes Software Subscription and Support (also referred to as Software Maintenance).

Software Maintenance

The following agreement applies for Software Subscription and Support (Software Maintenance) and does not require client signatures:

- IBM Agreement for Acquisition of Software Maintenance (Z125-6011)

This program is licensed under the IBM International Program License Agreement (IPLA) and the associated Agreement for Acquisition of Software Maintenance, which provide for support with ongoing access to releases and versions of the program.

This program has a one-time license charge for use of the program and an annual renewable charge for the enhanced support that includes telephone assistance (voice support for defects during normal business hours), as well as access to updates, releases, and versions of the program as long as support is in effect.

IBM Z Operational Support Services - SoftwareXcel is an option if you desire added services.

License Information number

The following License Information document applies to the offering in this announcement:

Program identifier	License Information document title	License Information document number
5698-PA1	IBM Z Open Automation Utilities V1.0.2	L-CWDG-BKM5SU

Follow-on releases, if any, may have updated terms. See the [License Information documents](#) website for more information.

Limited warranty applies

Yes.

Limited warranty

IBM warrants that when the program is used in the specified operating environment, it will conform to its specifications. The warranty applies only to the unmodified portion of the program. IBM does not warrant uninterrupted or error-free operation of the program or that IBM will correct all program defects. You are responsible for the results obtained from the use of the program.

IBM provides you with access to IBM databases containing information on known program defects, defect corrections, restrictions, and bypasses at no additional charge. For further information, see the [IBM Support Guide](#).

IBM will maintain this information for at least one year after the original licensee acquires the program (warranty period).

Program technical support

Technical support of a program product version or release will be available for a minimum of two years from the general availability date, as long as your Software Subscription and Support (also referred to as Software Maintenance) is in effect.

This technical support allows you to obtain assistance (by telephone or electronic means) from IBM for product-specific, task-oriented questions regarding the installation and operation of the program product. Software Subscription and Support (Software Maintenance) also provides you with access to versions, releases, and updates (CD releases, Long Term Support Releases, or fixes) of the program. You will be notified, through an announcement letter, of discontinuance of support with six months' notice.

If you require additional technical support from IBM, including an extension of support beyond the discontinuance date, contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner. This extension may be available for a fee.

For additional information on the IBM Software Support Lifecycle Policy, see the [IBM Software Support Lifecycle Policy](#) website.

Money-back guarantee

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with the program and you are the original licensee, you may obtain a refund of the amount you paid for it, if within 30 days of your invoice date you return the program and its PoE to the party from whom you obtained it. If you downloaded the program, you may contact the party from whom you acquired it for instructions on how to obtain the refund.

For clarification, note that for programs acquired under any of IBM's On/Off Capacity on Demand (On/Off CoD) software offerings, this term does not apply since these offerings apply to programs already acquired and in use by you.

Volume orders (IVO)

No.

Passport Advantage applies

No.

Software Subscription and Support applies

Yes. During the Software Subscription and Support period, for the unmodified portion of a program, and to the extent problems can be recreated in the specified operating environment, IBM will provide the following:

- Defect correction information, a restriction, or a bypass.
- Program updates: Periodic releases of collections of code corrections, fixes, functional enhancements and new versions and releases to the program and documentation.
- Technical assistance: A reasonable amount of remote assistance by telephone or electronically to address suspected program defects. Technical assistance is available from the IBM support center in the organization's geography.

Additional details regarding Technical Assistance, which includes IBM contact information, are provided in the [IBM Support Guide](#).

Software Subscription and Support does not include assistance for:

- The design and development of applications.
- Your use of programs in other than their specified operating environment.
- Failures caused by products for which IBM is not responsible under the IBM Agreement for Acquisition of Software Maintenance.

Software Subscription and Support is provided only if the program is within its support timeframe as specified in the Software Support Lifecycle policy for the program.

All distributed software licenses include Software Subscription and Support (also referred to as Software Maintenance) for a period of 12 months from the date of acquisition, providing a streamlined way to acquire IBM software and assure technical support coverage for all licenses. Extending coverage for a total of three years from date of acquisition may be elected.

While your Software Subscription and Support is in effect, IBM provides you assistance for your routine, short-duration installation and usage (how-to) questions, and code-related questions. IBM provides assistance by telephone and, if available, electronic access, only to your information systems (IS) technical support personnel during the normal business hours (published prime shift hours) of your IBM support center. (This assistance is not available to your end users.) IBM

provides Severity 1 assistance 24 hours a day, every day of the year. For additional details, go to the [IBM Support Handbooks](#) page.

Software Subscription and Support does not include assistance for the design and development of applications, your use of programs in other than their specified operating environment, or failures caused by products for which IBM is not responsible under this agreement.

IBM Operational Support Services - SoftwareXcel

Yes.

Other support

Passport Advantage.^(R)

Variable charges apply

No.

Educational allowance available

Yes. A 15% education allowance applies to qualified education institution clients.

Multi-Version Measurement

Multi-Version Measurement (MVM) replaces the previously announced Migration Grace Period time limit of six months and allows unlimited time for clients to run more than one eligible version of a software program. Clients may run multiple versions of a program simultaneously for an unlimited duration during a program version upgrade. Clients may also choose to run multiple versions of a program simultaneously for an unlimited duration in a production environment. MVM does not extend support dates for programs withdrawn from service.

For more information about MVM, including requirements for qualification, see the [MVM](#) web page. For a list of eligible programs, see the [IPLA Execution-Based](#) web page.

On/Off CoD

To be eligible for On/Off CoD pricing, you must be enabled for temporary capacity on the corresponding hardware, and the required contract, Attachment for IBM System z^(R) On/Off Capacity on Demand (Z125-7883), must be signed prior to use.

Statement of good security practices

IT system security involves protecting systems and information through intrusion prevention, detection, and response to improper access from within and outside your enterprise. Improper access can result in information being altered, destroyed, or misappropriated or can result in misuse of your systems to attack others. Without a comprehensive approach to security, no IT system or product should be considered completely secure and no single product or security measure can be completely effective in preventing improper access. IBM systems and products are designed to be part of a regulatory compliant, comprehensive security approach, which will necessarily involve additional operational procedures, and may require other systems, products, or services to be most effective.

Important: IBM does not warrant that any systems, products, or services are immune from, or will make your enterprise immune from, the malicious or illegal conduct of any party.

Prices

Registered external clients and IBM Business Partners can access [IBMLink](#) to view pricing information.

Specify "Price type," "Search type," and "Search value," then click "Search."

Note: Enter program number in the "Search value."

You can also contact your local IBM representative or IBM Business Partner for the applicable charges.

Order now

To order, contact the IBM Digital Sales Center, your local IBM representative, or your IBM Business Partner. To identify your local IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, call 800-IBM-4YOU (426-4968). For more information, contact the IBM Digital Sales Center.

Phone: 800-IBM-CALL (426-2255)

Fax: 800-2IBM-FAX (242-6329)

For IBM representative: askibm@ca.ibm.com^(R)

For IBM Business Partner: pwcs@us.ibm.com

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Note: Shipments will begin after the planned availability date.

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