IBM Z Software Migration Capacity Planning Aid NEWS

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IBM Z Software Migration Capacity Planning Aid (IBM zSoftCap) is a product of IBM Capacity Planning Support Tools (IBM CPS Tools), part of the IBM Washington Systems Center (IBM WSC). The tool is available to IBM employees, IBM Business Partners, and IBM Clients. It can be obtained from the following websites:

- IBM Employees: **https://supportcontent.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6354073**
- IBM Business Partners: contact **cpstools@us.ibm.com**
- IBM Clients: **https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6354117**

Support Contact

Support concerning IBM zSoftCap function, usability, satisfaction, etc. is available as follows:

- Email: **zpcr@us.ibm.com**

Registration

Registration is necessary to use IBM zSoftCap. You will be prompted the first time that IBM zSoftCap is initialized. The same registration process is required for each of the other IBM CPS Tools. The purpose of registration is:

1. Maintain an email contact should important information relative to IBM zSoftCap need to be disseminated.
2. Understand usage for the purpose of justifying resources needed to maintain the tool.

Registration via internet requires access to a URL. In certain instances, installation firewalls may need to be updated to allow internet access, per the table below.

IBM CPS Tools Registration URL
https://cps-registration.mn91mph658q.us-south.codeengine.appdomain.cloud/

If registration via internet fails, an email registration process is available.

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Java Runtime Environment

IBM zSoftCap requires the IBM Java runtime environment. The IBM JRE supporting this tool is independent of any other installed Java environment. There is no way to configure this tool to use any Java other than the IBM JRE.

IBM Employees   Obtain materials from the IBM Intranet website specified above.

Windows users obtain the necessary IBM JRE (Java 17) by downloading/installing **IBM zSoftCap**, available as **zSoftCapInstallWithJava.exe** (~48 MB). This install package includes the IBM JRE.

IBM Business Partners   Obtain materials from a controlled access Box folder.

Windows users obtain the necessary IBM JRE (Java 17) by downloading/installing **IBM zSoftCap**, available as **zSoftCapInstallWithJava.exe** (~48 MB). This install package includes the IBM JRE.

IBM Clients   Obtain materials from the IBM Internet website specified above.

Windows users obtain the necessary IBM JRE (Java 17) by downloading/installing **IBM zSoftCap**, available as **zSoftCapInstallWithJava.exe** (~48 MB). This install package includes the IBM JRE.

Note: When other Java runtime environments have been installed and configured with Java security enabled, a fresh install of IBM CPS Tools Java may fail to execute properly. This has been observed in a very small number of IBM CPS Tools Java installations. Should this situation occur, a potential solution is to:
1) Uninstall the other Java
2) Uninstall IBM zSoftCap (will also uninstall IBM CPS Tools Java)
3) Re-install IBM zSoftCap
4) Re-install the other Java

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Registration

A user registration process has been implemented to assist in monitoring the distribution and use of **IBM zSoftCap**. Registration is required for continued usage. **You should be connected to the internet in order to register**.

Until your registration process is completed, a registration form will appear each time **IBM zSoftCap** is started. **IBM zSoftCap** may be used up to 3 times without submission of the registration information. After that, the registration process must be completed before the function of the tool can be accessed.

Fill in the requested fields (e.g., name, company name, geographical location, and e-mail address) and click the ⬚ **Register (Internet)** ⬚ button. **The primary value of providing a valid e-mail address lies in our ability to notify you of any critical news relating to IBM zSoftCap usage and/or updates**. Use of your e-mail address will be limited to this purpose only.

There may be cases where a company's firewall will prevent internet registration. In this case, click ⬚ **Register (e-mail)** ⬚. This will:

- Attempt to initiate a properly addressed e-mail for you
- Invoke a dialog box with instructions to copy the encoded registration request information into the e-mail note.

Send the e-mail as addressed and wait for an e-mail response (generally within a few hours). Note: Do not modify the Subject line, as its text is used to trigger an automated registration response. Once the registration response is received, copy it into the Registration Response Code area and click ⬚ **Complete Registration** ⬚.

Note: If **IBM zSoftCap** had been terminated, restart it and click ⬚ **Register (e-mail)** ⬚ and continue with the dialog box instructions.

Registration is only required once, the first time that **IBM zSoftCap** is started. Once registered, access to the tool is unlimited. Occasionally, as major versions of **IBM zSoftCap** become available, your registration will be renewed. The renewal is done automatically if internet registration is allowed. Otherwise, the e-mail registration process is necessary.

Capability to modify or remove your registration is provided under **Registration** on **IBM zPCR's** *Control Panel* window menu-bar.

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Installation Tips, Usage Notes, and Problem Solutions

1. The **IBM zSoftCap** tool and its supporting Java are intended to be installed to their own program folders. The default assignments are subfolders under **C:\CPStools**, which may be changed at install time. **Do not install to "*C:\Program Files"*** since various user files are written to several install subfolders.

2. The current development environment for **IBM zSoftCap** is Windows 11**. IBM zSoftCap** has been successfully installed and run under Windows 11 and 10. However, reported problems can be addressed only if they can be recreated under Windows 11.

3. Users no longer require Window's *Administrator* authority to install or run IBM CPS Tools. A tool can only be run on the userID to which it was installed.

4. The IBM Java runtime environment requires a minimum of 512MB of memory in order to run smoothly. If less than 512MB is available, IBM zSoftCap will not initialize.

5. A monitor resolution of 1024x768 or higher is required. Some windows may require the entire vertical or horizontal dimension at this resolution (see next item).

6. The Windows task bar, if set to *Always on Top*, some windows may not be entirely visible without moving the tool's window. This situation can be corrected by going to Windows task bar properties and un-checking *Keep the taskbar on top of other windows*.

7. Erratic Behavior and Abend Situations: Most of the reported execution problems have been traced to outdated graphics drivers and Java activities that invoke "Hardware acceleration". To identify this as the problem, you should turn "Hardware acceleration" off (go to *Desktop properties*, click on the *Settings* tab, click the *Advanced* button, click the *Troubleshoot* tab, and move the slider to "*None*"). If this solves the problem, you can try to find a more current graphics adapter driver version, or continue to run with the accelerator slider at a reduced setting.

Documentation

Available for download from your IBM CPS Tools distribution site:
   o *IBM zSoftCap User's Guide* in PDF format

Included with the IBM zSoftCap package distribution materials:
   o *IBM zSoftCap Help System* (User's Guide without screen captures)

Disclaimer

The performance data contained in this tool was derived by IBM in a controlled environment. A client's actual performance results may vary significantly. Accordingly, IBM provides no representations or assurances that a client will obtain the same or similar results.

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Current Version / Latest Changes

V6.1.3 (07/22/2025)

- Added support for z/OS-3.2
- **IBM Java**: A newer version of the IBM Semeru 64-bit runtime environment is included with the version 6.1.3 install package. Therefore, you may be required to uninstall the previous IBM zSoftCap version before installing **IBM zSoftCap 6.1.3**.

V6.1.2 (04/08/2025)

- Added support for IBM z17 9175-ME1
- **IBM Java**: A newer version of the IBM Semeru 64-bit runtime environment is included with the version 6.1.2 install package. Therefore, you will be required to uninstall the previous IBM zSoftCap version before installing **IBM zSoftCap 6.1.2**.

V6.1.1 (06/28/2024)

IBM zSoftCap is now a single install package available to IBM Clients, IBM Business Partners, and IBM employees alike. Function remains equivalent to that of V6.1 available since 08/08/2023. Documentation is now identical for all users.

- **IBM Java**: A newer version of the IBM Java runtime environment is included with the version 6.1.1 install package. Therefore, you will be required to uninstall the previous IBM zSoftCap version before installing **IBM zSoftCap 6.1.1**.
- Added Documentation menu on the main Software Migration Scenario window which provides access to What's New and the User's Guide.
- Corrected minor problem with html output for Summary Report

V6.1 (08/08/2023)

C6.1 (08/08/2023) – Client Version

- Added support for z/OS-3.1.
- Corrected problem concerning registration via email

V6.0 (04/04/2023)

C6.0 (04/04/2023) – Client Version

- The newly announced IBM z16 3932-A02/AGZ has been added,

V5.8a (07/07/2022)

C5.8a (07/07/2022) – Client Version

- Added support for CICS TS-6.1

V5.8 (04/05/2022)

C5.8 (04/05/2022) – Client Version

- The newly announced IBM z16 3931-A01 has been added,

V5.7 (09/30/2021)

C5.7 (09/30/2021) – Client Version

- Added support for z/OS-2.5.
- Added support for CICS TS-5.6

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V5.6 (04/14/2020)

C5.6 (04/14/2020) – Client Version

- The newly announced IBM Z z15-T02 has been added,

V5.5a (01/20/2020)

C5.5a (01/20/2020) – Client Version

- Added support for CICS TS-5,5

V5.5 (09/12/2019)

C5.5 (09/12/2019) – Client Version

- The newly announced IBM Z z15-T01 has been added,
- Capacity deltas for z/OS-2.4 have been added.

V5.4b (04/30/2019)

C5.4b (04/30/2019) – Client Version

- CPSJavaV8 has been updated to SR5 from SR3 to overcome some minor CPS tool execution issues. zSoftCap must be updated to v5.4b in order to startup correctly with this new CPSJavaV8. Old versions of zSoftCap will not startup with this new CPSJavaV8.

V5.4a (05/01/2018)

C5.4a (05/01/2018) – Client Version

- Added support for IMS V15.

V5.4 (04/10/2018)

C5.4 (04/10/2018) – Client Version

- Added support for the z14-ZR1 processor family.

V5.3 (11/03/2017)

C5.3 (11/03/2017) – Client Version

- Added support for z/VSE-6.2 and CICS/TS-2.2. Comparisons can be made to z/VSE-6.1, 5.2, or 5.1.

  Note that the version of CICS is mandated by the version of z/VSE specified. There is no longer a need to select the CICS version.
- Corrected a problem that prevented z/OS-2.3 from being assigned to the current environment. One might want to do this when planning CICS or IMS upgrades while the z/OS version is 2.3.
- z/OS-1.9 and prior: Corrected CICS and DB2 capacity deltas.
- Updated User's Guide and online help.

V5.2 (09/26/2017)

C5.2 (09/26/2017) – Client Version

- Added support for z/OS-2.3.

  Note: Performance of z/OS-2.3 is considered to be equivalent to that of z/OS-2.2 for all zSoftCap defined workload components.
- Changed branding to *IBM Z* (formerly *z Systems*)
- Updated User's Guide

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V5.1 (07/17/2017)

C5.1 (07/17/2017) – Client Version

- Newly announced *IBM Z z14* processor models are supported for both z/OS and z/VSE. Note that capacity deltas between z/OS, CICS, and IMS will not be affected, since the software versions are always assumed to be running on the same hardware.

- Updated User's Guide

V5.0a (06/16/2017)

C5.0a (06/16/2017) – Client Version

- Added support for CICS TS-5.4 on z/OS

V5.0 (06/24/2016)

C5.0 (07/08/2016) – Client Version

- *zSoftCap* has been updated to use the new IBM Java v1.8 (64-bit) runtime (this change applies to all CPS Java-based tools). To obtain the CPS Java8 upgrade:
    - *IBM Employees* must install **CPSJavaV8**. Newly installed CPS tool versions will use CPS Java8. Old CPS tool versions will continue to use CPS Java7. Once all of your CPS tools have been updated to CPS Java8, **CPSJava32** may be uninstalled.
    - *IBM Business Partners* must install *zSoftCap V5.0*. The package includes CPS Java8 (a zSoftCap package without Java is no longer distributed). When Installshield detects that the proper Java version is already installed, that portion of the install will be skipped.
    - *IBM Customers* must install *zSoftCap C5.0* (available at a later date). The package includes CPS Java8 (a zSoftCap package without Java is no longer distributed). When Installshield detects that the proper Java version is already installed, that portion of the install will be skipped. **zBNA** and **zPCR** are also similarly packaged with CPS Java8.

- *zSoftCap function* remains identical to that of the previous version. A slight discrepancy in z/OS and IMS results when larger N-way models were defined was corrected.