What’s new in CICS TS V5.4

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Java EE 7 Full Platform

✓ Support for applications written to the Java EE 7 Full Platform specification
✓ CICS asynchronous API
✓ CICS policies – system and task rules enhancements
✓ Security and resiliency enhancements
✓ EXCI support for channels and containers
✓ New mechanism for controlling MQ trigger and bridge monitors
✓ Enhancements that simplify or automate common workflows
CICS TS now supports Java applications that are written to the Java Enterprise Edition 7 (Java EE 7) Full Platform specification, using the embedded version of IBM WebSphere Application Server Liberty (Liberty).

Java applications that are hosted in CICS TS are integrated with CICS tasks by default. They provide a simple and powerful mechanism of modernizing CICS applications by using Java EE 7 features and capabilities.

Support added to V5.3 by APAR PI77502
Support for applications written to the Java EE 7 Full Platform specification ...
Link to Liberty

- Use EXEC CICS LINK to invoke a java program.
- Support for Link to Liberty added to V5.3 by APAR PI63005
The ability to LINK to a Java EE application from other languages has been added.

Non-Java programs, such as COBOL and PL/I programs, can now pass large volumes of structured parameter data to Java EE applications by using the standard CICS API.

**PROCEDURE DIVISION.**
**MAIN-PROCESSING SECTION.**

* Logic to create Container1 here ...  
  EXEC CICS PUT CONTAINER(‘Container1’)  
  CHANNEL(‘CCHA’)  
  FROMCODEPAGE(‘IBM037’)  
  FROM(WS-DATA)  
  END-EXEC.

* LINK to program of choice passing channel  
  EXEC CICS LINK PROGRAM(‘PROGRAMB’)  
  CHANNEL(‘CCHA’)  
  END-EXEC.

* Read response container  
  EXEC CICS GET CONTAINER(‘Response’)  
  CHANNEL(‘CCHA’)  
  INTO(WS-RESPONSE)  
  FLENGTH(WS-RESPONSE-LEN)  
  END-EXEC.

* Logic to check response container here ...  
  RETURNTOCICS.  
  EXEC CICS RETURN END-EXEC.  
  EXIT.
public class GetandReturnChannel {

    @CICSProgram("PROGRAMB")

    public void link() throws CicsException {
        Task t = Task.getTask();
        if (t != null) {
            String containerName = "Container1";
            Channel channel = t.getCurrentChannel();
            Container container1 = channel.getContainer(containerName);
            String data = container.getString();
            Container response = channel.createContainer("Response");
            response.putString("OK was sent: " + data);
        }
    }
}
IBM Record Generator for Java V3.0

Standalone Java utility which generates Java helper classes to describe COBOL or Assembler data structures.

Simplifying the development of Java programs which interact with record orientated data.

Supersedes JZOS Record Generator V2.4.6

Available 29th September 2017

developer.ibm.com/mainframe/products/record-generator-for-java/
IBM Record Generator for Java V3.0
CICS TS remote development feature for Java

The CICS TS remote development feature for Java enables Java EE developers to develop local applications that call CICS programs on a remote CICS TS.

The JCA interface is used, meaning that the application can then be installed and run in Liberty in CICS without any changes.
CICS TS remote development feature for Java

No requirement for CICS TG
Development use only
CICS TS remote development feature for Java

HTTP

Production Liberty Server

J2EE 7 Web Application

JCA

COBOL Application
Simplified CICS bundle resource lifecycle

The management of the CICS bundle resource lifecycle is also simplified.

It is now easier and quicker to export, install, and remove all types of CICS bundles.

CICS definitions and installed resources now also hyperlink to zFS Unix File System paths.
Improved ability to purge tasks running in a JVM server

The operations experience is also enhanced by using the improved management of JVM servers and associated CICS tasks.

CICS is now better able to remove disruptive tasks from the JVM server using the purge option, and can now remove associated threads and tasks in a more orderly sequence when disabling the JVMSERVER.
zIIP offload improvement

Allows a Liberty HTTP request to attach the CICS task on a T8 (Java) TCB
   Exploits Liberty thread pooling
   Reduces TCB switching
Also available on CICS TS V5.3
   APAR PI54263

www.developer.ibm.com/cics/2016/05/17/improving-ziip-eligibility/
CICS TS for z/OS Performance Report

New draft version now available with V5.4 performance data.

- Release to release comparisons

Includes studies of:

- CICS tasks for Liberty Applications
- Asynchronous API
- EXCI support for channels and containers

www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg248298.html
IBM SDK for Java 7.0 and 7.1 End of Service

Withdrawal Announcement 916-121 – August 2, 2016

To be withdrawn from service on September 30, 2019:

• IBM 64-bit SDK for z/OS, Java Technology Edition V7.0.0 and V7.1.0

WebSphere Application Server Liberty base – Removal Notices

Liberty fix pack 19.0.0.3:

• In this fix pack, the Liberty kernel will be recompiled and can no longer run with Java SE 7.

Blog post “Java 8 recommended for CICS TS V5”
CICS asynchronous API

✓ Support for applications written to the Java EE 7 Full Platform specification.

✓ **CICS asynchronous API**

✓ CICS policies – system and task rules enhancements

✓ Security and resiliency enhancements

✓ EXCI support for channels and containers

✓ New mechanism for controlling MQ trigger and bridge monitors

✓ Enhancements that simplify or automate common workflows
A new asynchronous CICS API enables developers to incorporate programming logic that follows the 'parent-child' logic model in their CICS applications.

This allows application processes to run in parallel, enabling developers to create more responsive applications that are designed to minimize response times.
The new asynchronous CICS API is supported across different programming languages using a simple set of functions:

- RUN TRANSID
- FETCH CHILD
- FETCH ANY
- FREE CHILD

Applications that utilize this new API benefit from the comprehensive statistics, monitoring and transaction tracking capabilities.
CICS policies – system and task rules enhancements

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CICS policies now include system rules

Policies are now expanded to support a new set of system-based rules.

This simplifies CICS systems management by providing a single place to create and manage both task-based and system-based policy rules.
CICS policies – additional enhancements and simplification

Policies now provide the same capabilities as CICS system events and with a number of additional advantages. These include:

✓ combining multiple rules in a single policy
✓ writing a message to the CICS log in addition to emitting an event
✓ removing the requirement to define a capture specification for each event
New policy rules editor in CICS Explorer

A new policy rules editor in the CICS Explorer replaces the more limited functionality provided by the previous policy definition wizard. Additional capabilities include:

✓ editing existing policies
✓ defining multiple rules in a single policy
✓ specifying a user-defined abend code for the abend action on task rules
CICS policy system rules replace CICS system events

- CICS system events are now deprecated and may be removed in a future release of CICS.
- CICS policies are the strategic replacement for the CICS system events technology.
- All events emitted by policy make use of the existing CICS events infrastructure.
- The underlying CICS events infrastructure and CICS application events remain strategic.
- APAR PI83667 provides support for Policy system rules for all CICS TS V5 releases.
Security and resiliency enhancements

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CICS TS implements three security-related IBM Health Checker for z/OS checks

CICS TS now supports three new IBM Health Checker for z/OS checks, each of which define security best practices.

If a CICS region becomes non-compliant, a Health Checker exception message will be issued.

This support available in prior releases via APAR PI76965 and APAR PI76963

CICS_CEDA_ACCESS
CICS_JOBSUB_SPOOL
CICS_JOBSUB_TDQINTRDR
Support for Workload Manager Health API

CICS TS can now utilize the z/OS Workload Manager Health API as a means of controlling the flow of work into a CICS region.

This can allow a CICS region to have a warm-up process after system initialization, to help to ensure that the CICS region is ready to receive work.
Support for Workload Manager Health API

SIT parameter

WLMHEALTH=OFF
WLMHEALTH=20,25

SPI Command

EXEC CICS SET WLMHEALTH
OPENSTATUS() INTERVAL() ADJUSTMENT()

Allows regions to be open/closed for listening

Interval = 20 seconds
Increment = 25%

20 s = 25%
40 s = 50%
60 s = 75%
80 s = 100%
Workload Manager Health API exploiters

TCP/IP Sysplex Distributor & port sharing
- Avoids new TCP/IP connections being sent to CICS regions that are not ready
- Works with all TCP/IP listeners, CICS Web support, EZA sockets, Liberty …
- Allows JVM servers and web service pipelines to fully initialize
- Shutdown of TCP/IP services now sends HTTP close headers

MQ adapter
- Prevents trigger message floods at startup

CICSPlex SM WLM
- WLM dynamic routing will avoid AORs with WLMHEALTH = 0
CICSPlex SM MAS internal tasks run as CICS system transactions

CICSPlex SM MAS internal tasks now run as CICS system transactions and are implemented under the standard CICS CAT1 security category.

Additionally, this improves CICS TS resiliency by avoiding the possibility that a user could inadvertently purge critical system management tasks.

Fig.1 Internal MAS tasks not displayed for CICS V5.4 MAS

Fig.2 For WLM V5.3 AOR has routing bias of 6 by default, V5.4 has 0.
CICS 3270 Intrusion Detection Service

Detects if a 3270 terminal emulator invalidly modifies a protected field.

The CICS 3270 Intrusion Detection Service (IDS) can help alert you to 3270 protocol violations as they occur in CICS Basic Mapping Support (BMS) applications.

CICS TS also integrates with the new z/OS Communication Server IDS function to identify potential protocol violations in real time, for both BMS and native 3270 data streams.
Read-only versions of CEDF and CEDX

New CICS transactions CEDG and CEDY are introduced, which examine application programs safely when debugging in a production environment, without the risk of inadvertently overwriting sensitive in-memory storage.

CEDG = R/O CEDF
CEDY = R/O CEDX
Additional security infrastructure enhancements:

✓ CICS TS now supports mutual authentication for Kerberos so that a client who uses Kerberos can verify the identity of the CICS TS server.

✓ The default CICS start-up configuration has been changed such that only CICS regions defined to RACF will be allowed to generate RACF passtickets.

✓ Daily logging of userids that only use web access is now mandatory and the performance of this logging is improved.

✓ Pre-set userid terminals that do not have terminal specific security can now be configured to share System Authorization Facility (SAF) security registration.
EXCI support for channels and containers

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New EXEC CICS commands for batch programs

The EXCI interface enables standalone applications that run on z/OS to programmatically interoperate with CICS-hosted applications and APIs. This interface is now enhanced to add support for CICS channels and containers. It provides a mechanism to exchange large volumes of structured parameter data between batch applications and CICS applications.
Target program can be in a CICS region running an older release of CICS

Any CICS applications coded to the channel and containers API and invoked using Distributed Program Link (DPL) can also be invoked unchanged from an EXCI client, including CICS applications that run on earlier CICS TS releases that support channels and containers.
This new API can also be used as a way to pass data between programs that run outside CICS, such as programs that make up a batch application, even if the application does not communicate with CICS.
For large payloads, channel uses less CPU than commarea

![Graph showing CPU per request (microsec) vs Bytes transmitted for large payload, with channel and commarea lines.](image)
New mechanism for controlling MQ trigger and bridge monitors

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MQMONITOR – a new RDO resource

CICS system administration of applications that utilize MQ is simplified.

A new resource definition online (RDO) defined resource MQMONITOR provides control over the transaction ID and user ID under which a monitor task runs.

CICS can now automatically start and stop MQ monitor tasks, which are based on the status of the MQCONN resource.

OVERTYPE TO MODIFY
CEDA ALTER MQMonitor(MON1)
 MQMonitor : MON1
 Group : MYGROUP
 DESCRIPTION ==> _
 Status ==> Enabled
 MONITOR ATTRIBUTES
 Autostart ==> Yes
 MQData ==> (Mixed Case) ==> 
 ==> 
 MONUserid ==> USER123
 Qname ==> YOUR.QUEUE.NAME
 Transaction ==> CKTI
 APPLICATION ATTRIBUTES
 Userid ==> USER456
MQMONITOR

Can be used to control an MQ bridge / trigger or user written monitor

Configure the transaction ID, User ID that the monitor runs under.

AUTOSTART starts the monitor as the MQCONN resource is enabled

Integration with WLM health to avoid a CICS region being flooded

OVERTYPE TO MODIFY
CEDA ALter MQMonitor (MON1 )
MQMonitor : MON1
Group : MYGROUP
DESCRIPTION ==> _
Status ==> Enabled
MONITOR ATTRIBUTES
Autostart ==> Yes
MONData ==> (Mixed Case) ==> 
MONUserid ==> USER123
Qname ==> YOUR.QUEUE.NAME
Transaction ==> CKTI
APPLICATION ATTRIBUTES
UserId ==> USER456
MQMONITOR interaction with WLM Health

- If WLM health is enabled
  - CICS postpones starting of MQMONITORs until WLMHEALTH > 0%
  - If WLM health percentage is < 100 % message GET rate is limited
  - When WLMHEALTH drops to 0%, all MQMONITORs are stopped

DFHMQ0370 MQMONITORs are currently restricted to nnn MQGETs per second
Improvements for Java applications accessing MQ servers

In addition, the MQ resource adapter can be configured as a JMS provider in the CICS Liberty JVM server. MQ servers on any platform are now supported as a JMS provider.

When using MQ on z/OS on the same LPAR, cross-memory bindings can be used to optimize performance.

Java Applications that use the MQ Classes for Java or the MQ Classes for JMS in the OSGi JVM server to access MQ for z/OS, can gain a performance benefit from reduced TCB switching.
Enhancements that simplify or automate common workflows

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IBM z/OS Provisioning Toolkit

The IBM z/OS Provisioning Toolkit is a simple command line utility for the rapid provisioning of z/OS development environments.

System programmers can easily manage the provisioning process by preconfiguring the environments using z/OSMF workflows.

Application developers can provision and deprovision z/OS applications environments in minutes, without requiring any z/OS specific administration skills.

Uses IBM Cloud Provisioning and Management for z/OS to control developer access and set appropriate provisioning limits.

The toolkit is fully supported and available now to all z/OS V2 clients at no additional charge.
IBM z/OS Provisioning Toolkit

The toolkit provides a simple command line interface to drive the automatic provisioning process: run, start, stop, rm (remove).

Creating portable application images allows developers and testers to provision and run development environments in a single action, in minutes.
CICS Explorer quick filter enhancements

The quick filter capability of CICS Explorer is redesigned to easily create additional views that focus on specific information.

Quick filters can be added to existing views and a full set of equality operators are now available.
Import and export of view configurations

Quick filters can also now be quickly saved to permanent view configurations to provide rapid access to frequently used information.

View configurations can be exported for sharing across teams and for back-up purposes, and can now be imported into CICS Explorer instances from a central web server.
Support for new deployment tasks in DFHPLOYEE

DFHPLOYEE can now perform PIPELINE SCAN, PROGRAM NEWCOPY and PROGRAM PHASEIN operations.

This enables automation to be written to update these resources without requiring the direct use of the CICSPlex SM API.

APAR PI72104 adds this capability to earlier CICS TS V5 releases.

```plaintext
* Change the instance of an installed PROGRAM, in a CICS system or group of CICS systems. Use this command with the PHASEIN option to phase in a new version of a PROGRAM without disrupting active tasks or NEWCOPY option to use a new copy of the PROGRAM when the PROGRAM ceases to be in use by any transaction.

SET PROGRAM(PROGRAM1)
  SCOPE(GROUP1)
  PHASEIN;

SET PROGRAM(PROGRAM2)
  SCOPE(GROUP1)
  NEWCOPY;

* Use this command with the SCAN option to initiate a scan of the web service binding directory that is specified in the WSDIR attribute of the PIPELINE.

PERFORM PIPELINE(PIPENAME)
  SCOPE(GROUP1)
  SCAN;
```
System autoinstall of program definitions for Language Environment

Upgrades are simplified because system autoinstall is now used to install program definitions for Language Environment (LE) as required. Only those programs that are used will have their definitions installed.

This drastically reduces the number of installed definitions and removes the need for LE definitions to be refreshed for each individual CICS region when z/OS is upgraded.

This capability is available with an APAR on CICS/TS 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3

Use only these Language Environment runtime libraries for all your high-level language application programs
New NOSUSPEND option on EXEC CICS named counter server commands

- Makes possible an immediate return to the application program during coupling facility structure rebuild.
- A new condition, BUSY with RESP2 500 means:
  - The NOSUSPEND option was specified on the command, and the coupling facility structure is not currently available during a rebuild.
New NOSUSPEND option on EXEC CICS named counter server commands

- Applicable to the following EXEC CICS named counter server commands:
  - DEFINE COUNTER and DEFINE D COUNTER
  - DELETE COUNTER and DELETE D COUNTER
  - GET COUNTER and GET D COUNTER
  - QUERY COUNTER and QUERY D COUNTER
  - RE WIND COUNTER and RE WIND D COUNTER
  - UPDATE COUNTER and UPDATE D COUNTER
Non-Java support for JSON web services

- JSON messages can now be processed in CICS regions with no Java configuration.
- You don't have to configure and install a JVM server
- Performance and throughput for many workloads will be better than when using a JVM server to process JSON
- Implemented by using program DFHPIJIT as the terminal handler of a provider pipeline
New options to dump non-CICS address and data spaces

- New options, JOBLIST and DSPLIST, are added to the INQUIRE SYSDUMPCODE and SET SYSDUMPCODE commands
- These new options can be used to dump non-CICS address spaces and data spaces when a CICS dump is triggered
Resources for getting started with CICS
Continuous Delivery of CICS TS also requires Continuous Delivery of education

The CICS Developer Center has a number of resources to help users make the most of CICS:

• Blogs – around 120 technical articles to date
• Samples – hosted on GitHub
• Support – Q&A forums
• Podcasts, videos, client success stories & more

developer.ibm.com/cics
Introduction to CICS

Video course series from IBM Redbooks
- Introduction to CICS
- Developing a RESTful Web application for Liberty in CICS
- Architecting Java solutions for CICS
- Extending a CICS web application using JCICS

Course introduction
- Services provided by CICS
- How CICS applications are defined
- Scaling CICS to meet demand

Why use CICS?
- Mission critical applications
  - Downtime measured in $100,000+
- Stock trading
- Credit cards

https://ibm.biz/cics-java-courses
Getting Started with Java in CICS

Video course series from IBM Redbooks
- Introduction to CICS
- Developing a RESTful Web application for Liberty in CICS
- Architecting Java solutions for CICS
- Extending a CICS web application using JCICS

What you’ll learn by the end of this course
1. Developing a RESTful Java web service
2. Using the CICS Java API
3. Deployment of web applications

What you’ll see in this course

ibm.biz/cics-java-courses
CICS Performance Series

A series of educational videos covering the key topics and considerations for understanding CICS performance.

Including:

• Making sense of MIPs, MSUs and SUs
• LPAR capping
• CICS & z/OS WLM

These videos and our IBM Redbooks publications can be found on one page in the Developer Center, here:

CICS resources

CICS TS V5.4 Overview
• All you need to know e-book: ibm.biz/cics54book
• Webcast: ibm.biz/cics-54-replay

CICS Developer Center: ibm.biz/cicsdev
• Tutorials, samples on GitHub, client success stories
• Performance Series: ibm.biz/cics-performance

IBM Redbooks Video Courses: ibm.biz/cics-video-courses
• NEW Introduction to CICS
• 3 CICS Java courses

CICS Social Channels
• Facebook: /IBMCICS
• Twitter: @IBM_CICS
• Youtube: ibm.biz/cicsvideos
• CICSbuzz monthly email newsletter: ibm.biz/cicsbuzz-subscribe
IBM Z Trial Program

Experience the value of the latest IBM Z capabilities today at no charge, and with no install required.

No charge, on-demand environment
With no lead times, and access to a no charge remote environment. Trying out IBM Z capabilities is now easier than ever.

No setup, no install
We provision an environment for you. With all the tooling and connections pre-configured, start trying out the latest IBM Z has to offer in minutes, not hours.

Hands-on tutorials
Experience the latest products and features on the mainframe, with short, step-by-step walkthroughs built in to your trial environment.

ibm.biz/ibmztrial
Available trials

- z/OS Connect Enterprise Edition
- Apache Spark on z/OS
- Application Discovery and Delivery Intelligence
- Information Management Systems (IMS)
- Db2 Administration Solution for z/OS

Coming soon

- Db2 Utilities Solution for z/OS
- CICS Transaction Server
- IBM OMEGAMON for JVM on z/OS
- IBM Cloud Provisioning and Management for z/OS
What's new in CICS TS V5.4

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