

WHAT CAN I DO WITH EASY/EXIT FOR DFSMSHSM

Prioritize DFSMSHsm Recalls

Efficient recall processing is critical for system effectiveness and throughput. Yet by default, DFSMSHsm does not distinguish among types of recalls - a batch recall of an old test file is treated no differently than a recall of a critical production dataset. TSO users may wait while tape mounts for less important datasets are satisfied. The implementation of the Common Recall Queue in the Coupling Facility can make this problem worse, since recalls from all hosts are now serviced on a 'first-come, first-served' basis. EASY/Exit provides a simple solution through policies to determine recall priority. Higher priorities can be set for production data or TSO users, allowing these recalls to take place first. Recalls from specified hosts can be 'weighted' to give them more or less priority, as needed, even at different times during the day!

Provide Dataset-Level Migration Policies

DFSMSHsm migration is critical to provide sufficient primary DASD space to run the production workload. Yet the migration criteria used by DFSMSHsm is rigid and inflexible. 'One-size-fits-all' management classes for SMS data and volume-based attributes for non-SMS files give the storage administrator little control and result in either too much or too little data being migrated, wasting valuable system resources. EASY/Exit's flexible rules provide dataset-level granularity for both SMS and non-SMS data, allowing policies which eliminate the need for dozens of management classes, providing clear and flexible system-wide policies for all types of data. EASY/Exit rules can indicate which datasets should migrate directly to ML2 or should remain on ML1, which are eligible for compression, migration without backup, and Fast Subsequent Migration (remigration without data movement).

Insure Control Dataset Integrity

DFSMSHsm cannot operate without its control datasets. The MCDS, BCDS, and OCDS contain all of the essential information without which critical data can be lost forever. Yet these datasets can be notoriously 'dirty', so a current, accurate backup is vital. EASY/Exit rules can notify administrators immediately when CDS backup fails, and can automatically schedule tape copies of successful CDS backups to DASD so that tape drive usage is minimized while at the same time backup integrity is assured. EASY/Exit's ISPF allows administrators to see the status of the latest CDS backups at a glance.

Implement a DFSMSHsm Calendar

It's frustrating for users to return after a vacation or holiday and discover that DFSMSHsm has unnecessarily migrated datasets merely because they weren't used for a few days. Time and resources are wasted while datasets are restored, and users lose confidence in storage administration policies. Worse, if datasets required for production processing are migrated, expensive and embarrassing delays can result. EASY/Exit provides a simple way of implementing a 'calendar' to prevent desired types of DFSMSHsm processing, such as migration or dataset deletion from taking place when they are not required. No more calls from irritated users, no need to shut DFSMSHsm down altogether for a long weekend - only the specified functions are prevented, and normal DFSMSHsm processing can continue. Calendar rules are simple, flexible, and multiple calendars can be defined.

Other Functions

EASY/Exit's rules-based policies can be implemented at any or all of the DFSMSHsm exit points, allowing the storage administrator great flexibility in controlling DFSMSHsm primary and secondary space management, dataset migration, retirement, and deletion, and use of tape and DASD resources. Statistical information can be gathered, SMF records and messages written, and other functions performed, such as:

- migrate SDSP datasets from volumes no longer used for migration
- bypass ENQueue processing for selected datasets during backup
- prompt the operator to load tapes required for recalls into an automated tape library
- and many more!

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