

Z JOURNAL

z/PRODUCT PROFILE: HSM/AR FROM OPENTECH SYSTEMS BY STEVE McGRANGE

INSIDE Z

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HSM/AR From OpenTech Systems

Eliminates Batch Wait Time for HSM Data Set Restores

Hurry-hurry-hurry! Stop! Wait and wait. Hurry-hurry-hurry! Stop! Wait and wait. This is what happens to batch jobs when data sets have been archived by IBM's DFSMSHsm (HSM). While excelling as a storage management and productivity tool used to migrate inactive data from primary DASD to alternate storage, HSM frequently slams the brakes on batch processing in order to recall a data set it has archived. The result is delays in batch processing—delays that are variable in length, depending on the location of the file in auxiliary storage. Worse, these are delays that compress the batch window and threaten the availability of the revenue-producing, online systems.

Helping to avoid the delays by pre-loading all required files before they are needed by batch jobs is HSM/Advanced Recall (HSM/AR) from OpenTech Systems. HSM/AR improves investments made in HSM by making it more efficient for batch processing: Data sets migrated by HSM can be quickly recalled by HSM/AR before batch processing occurs to avoid delays and ensure the integrity of the dwindling batch window. Reducing or eliminating the HSM recall wait times in production job cycles ensures:

- Faster application processing in a shorter batch window
- Increased and earlier availability of online applications such as CICS and IMS
- Improved throughput for the batch window: Eliminating delays means the ability to squeeze in more processing to support new business system requirements.

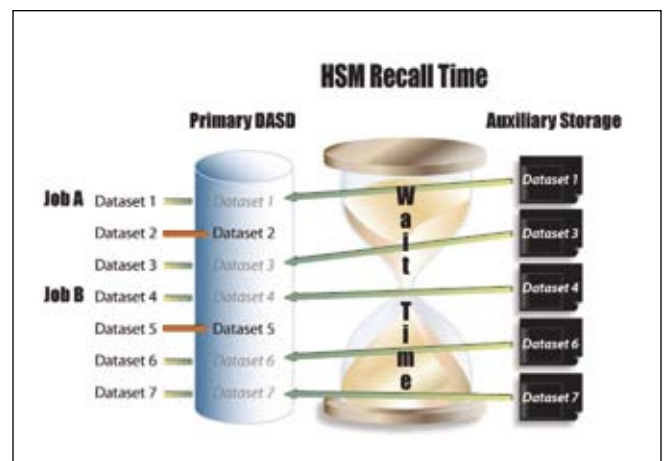
More important, the advantage provided by HSM/AR becomes most noticeable when running those infrequent and periodic batch job streams: the weekly, monthly and annual cycles that are jammed into daily cycles and typically require data that is most likely to have been archived.

Delivering Data Early to Avoid Delays

Think of batch processing as an automobile race: The data is the "fuel" that keeps the process going. A driver forced to wait for the pit crew to locate the fuel before proceeding would face loss after loss.

That's why racing teams usually schedule pit stops. And that's why HSM/AR recalls the data needed by batch jobs before the jobs begin running. Eliminating the wait time helps ensure faster processing and that deadlines can be met.

HSM/AR taps into the information stored within job scheduling systems such as CA-7 from Computer



Associates, Control-M from BMC Software, ESP from Cybermation, or other sources to identify data sets that have been migrated by HSM. It then matches migration information with the date and time those data sets will be needed by production jobs. Immediately prior to the scheduled execution of the jobs—or at a time controlled by the data center operations team—HSM/AR will issue the HSM "HRECALL" command so that HSM will recall and make the data available in time for production processing. The result is the elimination of batch processing delays due to HSM recalls: The files are there when they are needed for processing.

Equally important, HSM/AR has built-in intelligence that keeps tabs on data sets that need to be recalled and those it has already restored. No data set will be recalled more than once.

Possible Savings

An easy way to calculate possible savings is to figure the average cost of a delay, then the amount of time HSM/AR can save by performing an early recall. For example, what would the total savings be for a company if HSM/AR recalls 2,000 data sets per month and saves an average of 5,000 minutes? **Z**

HSM/AR is available from OpenTech Systems, 405 State Highway 121, Building C, Suite 130, Lewisville, TX 75067.
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Website: www.opentechsystems.com.