By Steve McGrange

RMF Magic From IntelliMagic

Explore z/OS Disk Subsystem Performance From Your PC

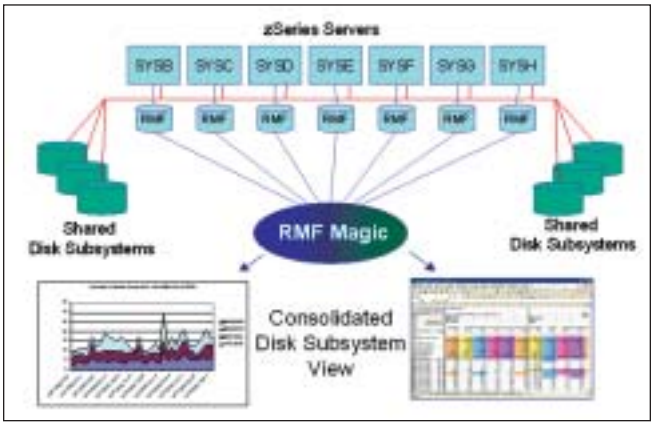
Today's high-volume storage servers are typically shared between hosts and Parallel Sysplexes, thereby increasing the complexity of tasks such as capacity planning, workload balancing, performance monitoring, data mirroring, and contingency planning. The information from a single zSeries server is insufficient, as is the data provided from a single RMF interval. What's needed is a global and historical view of the enterprise disk subsystems so analysts can quickly spot trends, identify anomalies, and maintain insight on I/O load patterns.

That's where RMF Magic helps. RMF Magic, part of the IntelliMagic product group for storage and capacity management, delivers the consolidated, global, and historical information needed to optimize z/OS storage investments and provides the insight needed to assist in planning the implementation of—and migration to—new technologies such as data mirroring, FICON channels, larger capacity physical disks, and more. RMF Magic reveals how, when, and where disk subsystems are employed across the enterprise, delivering the information needed to reduce over-provisioning of hardware resources. Equally important, the product helps you get answers to questions such as, "How can we improve service levels?", "Where can we gain maximum performance and value?", and "Where are we experiencing delays?"

Intelligent Data Consolidation for Disk-Centric Enterprise View

In about 30 minutes, RMF Magic can be installed, implemented, and ready to collect I/O load and disk performance data from RMF, eliminating the need to manually review and consolidate separate RMF reports. RMF Magic validates, consolidates, and compresses the RMF data generated by zSeries servers throughout the z/OS enterprise even if they run in different time zones. The data is transformed and normalized, and advanced algorithms create new metrics such as megabyte per second (MBs) read/write values for devices and complete subsystems—metrics that are missing in RMF reports. Equally important, RMF Magic reports about all the fields introduced with the ESS (2105) and DS8000 (2107) architecture, providing information such as response time of back-end devices and PPRC data rates, for IBM and PCM equipment that emulates the ESS.

Afterwards, the data is automatically placed on the PC for interactive analysis in a disk-centric view with an interface to Microsoft Excel. The tabular or graphical output created by RMF Magic allows analysts to concentrate on problem solving and analysis instead of losing time in writing database queries or manipulating Microsoft Excel. It provides the ability to quickly zoom into hotspots, visualize unbalanced I/O load distribution, and identify tuning opportunities. The concept of Interest Groups allows analysts to create reports or charts for a subset of devices. For example, RMF Magic can quickly and easily segregate DB2 table space volumes, weekday



work volumes, or devices that will be part of a data-mirroring environment. These segregation capabilities provide the level of information granularity needed for monitoring the hardware requirements for specific business systems and for planning projects such as FICON implementation, PAV, high-capacity disks, or remote mirroring solutions.

Ease of Use

RMF Magic is designed to get results quickly. Even seasoned zSeries specialists will like the single point of control offered by the Run Control Center, an interface designed to facilitate running RMF Magic batch jobs on a Microsoft Windows PC. A second dialog, the Reporter Control Center, provides access to a wealth of predefined tabular and graphical outputs, which makes it surprisingly simple to show relevant information from a huge data repository; there's no need to be a wizard in writing database queries or designing output formats.

RMF Magic is available from IntelliMagic,
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