



## Customer Experience: A Bank in New Zealand and Mainstar's Catalog RecoveryPlus

### A Bank in New Zealand

A large bank in New Zealand had a high level qualifier (HLQ) that was growing at an exponential rate. Because the availability of the bank's data is critical, they decided to avoid this risk by isolating the HLQ into a new catalog. The problem was that the entries that needed to be moved included almost 2,000,000 records – and they had to contend with severe timeframe constraints.

In the past, this would have been an impossible task. Until Mainstar's **Catalog RecoveryPlus (CR+)**, a full-function, high-speed MERGECAT facility simply did not exist. **CR+** MERGECAT is designed to provide greatly improved speed and safety over IDCAMS REPRO MERGECAT, making it feasible to split and merge catalogs with ease and unparalleled speed. The bank licenses **CR+**, so they used this opportunity to take advantage of its MERGECAT facility.

### Using MERGECAT

The customer initially executed **CR+** MERGECAT with SIMULATE. The SIMULATE parameter allows the user to perform diagnostics on the source catalog to quickly identify and correct any potential errors that might be encountered, prior to executing MERGECAT in live mode.

After MERGECAT SIMULATE was clear of errors, the customer scheduled a MERGECAT activity on the weekend to execute the process. Prior to executing the MERGECAT function, the user stopped their scheduling package so no production or housekeeping batch jobs would execute that might interfere with the MERGECAT process. As a safeguard, the user also performed a backup of the source catalog.

The user then executed MERGECAT in live mode. When MERGECAT executes, part of its internal process is to lock the source and target catalog while the merge process takes place. This security step guarantees the highest level of integrity. **CR+** also populates a journal file that allows backout or restart should the process be interrupted.

The MERGECAT function took 2 hours and 19 minutes to move 1,986,502 records to the new catalog. This timing equates to 14,291 entries per minute or 238 entries per second. With **CR+** MERGECAT, the user was able to easily move the alias and entries from one catalog to another. The end result from the IDCAMS EXAMINE output supplied is displayed below:

```
IDC01710I DATA COMPONENT CONTAINS 1986502 RECORDS.
```

### Conclusion

For reliable z/OS data access, the integrity of the ICF catalog environment is key. In addition to using **CR+** for backup and recovery support, this customer uses the powerful day-to-day utility functions of **CR+** to effectively manage their ICF catalog environment. With **CR+** MERGECAT, they were able to complete their catalog load-balancing project safely and quickly.

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