Catalog Baseline

Ensure a synchronized catalog environment

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Save time – and avoid catalog scrubbing and synchronization issues – with Catalog Baseline.

- Ensure a fast, successful recovery
- Prevent errors
- Extract generation data sets from the catalog
- Back up ICF catalog definitions and aliases
- Extract non-VSAM alias definitions

A common problem during disaster recovery exercises is invalid content in the production ICF master and user catalogs. A powerful and preferred strategy is to provide a complete, but empty, ICF user catalog environment with aliases intact, and let data recoveries re-populate the catalog contents. The empty catalog methodology is simple, clean, and a reasonable alternative to spending time and resources cleaning out unwanted catalog entries in populated user catalogs.

However, manually tracking catalog contents such as GDG base definitions and non-VSAM alias definitions can lead to errors during recovery. User catalogs may be missing or not connected, GDG base definitions may be missing, and non-VSAM alias definitions may be missing

Fast and effective

With Catalog BaseLine, you can prevent errors and save time during disaster recovery exercises. Catalog BaseLine supports disaster recovery on OS/390® and z/OS® systems with empty ICF catalogs, reducing catalog scrubbing and synchronization issues. Catalog BaseLine also includes a facility to synchronize multiple master catalogs, saving you a great deal of time during a recovery, when every minute is crucial.

Prevent errors with three functions that can be used individually or together: catalog redefinition, GDG base population, and non-VSAM alias definition. Catalog BaseLine ensures your system catalogs are ready for data recovery – with the contents you expect them to have – when the process begins.

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Why Catalog BaseLine?

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Catalog Redefinition

By automatically locating the system's master catalog, Catalog BaseLine automatically identifies and captures the definitions of the production user catalogs including installation data ALIASes to be reconnected to the master catalog, replicating the primary site configuration. The empty catalog definitions can be performed using either IDCAMS batch or ABARS ALLOCATE formats and the ALIAS definitions can be performed using IDCAMS batch.

GDG Base Population

Catalog BaseLine can also identify and package generation data group (GDG) base definitions for replication into the empty recovery catalogs to support generation data set (GDS) recovery. The captured GDG base definitions can be in either IDCAMS batch or ABARS ALLOCATE formats, providing maximum flexibility for duplicating this critical infrastructure.

Non-VSAM Alias Population

Catalog BaseLine can also identify all non-VSAM ALIAS definitions so they can be replicated into the empty recovery catalogs. These structures are essential to accessing the data correctly.

When you're using the recover-into-empty-catalog strategy, Catalog BaseLine provides an automated capture process in a high-speed, supported, and flexible package to ensure recovery success.

Choosing a Process Mode

Each of the functional process modes, GDG and UCAT, creates portable information packages to transport to an alternate operating system location. If both processing modes are selected, both kinds of information will be found in the resulting output. However, recovery plans often dictate different procedures for GDG and UCAT recovery. In these instances, separate executions of Catalog BaseLine would be appropriate, with GDG processing and UCAT processing specified respectively.

Find Out More

Visit www.mainstar.com for technical articles and additional information on how Catalog BaseLine and Mainstar's other innovative data access solutions can help you. To see for yourself how Catalog BaseLine helps you reduce catalog scrubbing and synchronization issues, contact us at product_info@mainstar.com to arrange a personal briefing or a free trial.

Feature	What It Does	Benefit
Catalog redefinition	Backs up and recovers the catalog structure ito re-create and reconnect the enterprise's ICF user catalogs to one or more master catalogs.	Achieve faster recoveries while protecting your catalog structure.
GDG processing	Extracts and builds the necessary GDG bases to re-create the enterprise's GDG base structures at the recovery site.	Ensure GDS recovery at the recovery site during target system processing.
Non-VSAM alias definition	Identifies all non-VSAM ALIAS definitions so they can be replicated into the empty recovery catalogs.	Safeguard structures that are essential for accessing the data correctly.
Process mode options	Allows you to run the modes together or individually.	Obtain exactly the information you need.