

March 11, 2009

Dear SYSchange® Customer:

SYSchange® Version 4.1.0 is now available to all maintenance-current customers.

To receive this new release, please contact Mainstar is one of the following ways:

- ✓ Download from the Rocket Customer Portal
- ✓ Send email to customersupport@mainstar.com
- ✓ Call Customer Support at 425-968-9200

If you do not have a Rocket Customer Portal userid please contact Customer Support.

Summary of key enhancements since the last release:

Support for IBM z/OS Release 1.10

As mainframe data centers upgrade their operating environments to the latest release of z/OS, SYSchange is ready to run in those environments. SYSchange runs on all levels of the z/OS operating system.

Performance Improvements

The first area needing performance improvement was during the SYSchange ISPF Initialization. In installations with over a hundred protected libraries, it would take a long time for SYSchange to build the list of protected libraries. The second area of concern was during the CHECKOUT/CHECKIN commands. These two performance issues have now been addressed by redesigning the key of the records in the SYSchange Control File and the Archive Control File.

Major Enhancements in Packaging and Deployment of the USS changes

SYSchange has been enhanced to fully support USS packaging and deployment. These enhancements enable users to identify changed files in the USS environment, package and deploy those changes to multiple LPARs utilizing the standard packaging technology inherent in SYSchange.

Creating a DUPLEX Package to Automate Deployment

Using OPTION=DUPLEX users may now create a package on SYSA and send the package along with the promote job to one or multiple systems (SYSB, SYSC, etc.) in order to apply the changes on the target systems all from a single point of control. Using this approach without having to log on to multiple systems, after a change is developed and tested on SYSA, by submitting batch jobs from the same session other systems will be updated. After promote, a notification is sent back to inform the user on SYSA of the success or failure of the promote operation.

Security Concern Using the CHECKOUT and CHECKIN Functions

During the CHECKOUT and CHECKIN functions, users were able to provide a //PARMLIB DD to point to their own version of the SYCPARMS member. Thus, any user could attain the Global Administrator role and circumvent the restriction of using the CHECKOUT function by the Global Administrator established during the installation of SYSchange. With this enhancement, if a user attempts to specify //PARMLIB DD in the jobs using the CHECKOUT or CHECKIN commands, the job will fail with a syntax error. In order to force the user to use the default PARMLIB and PARM member (at least for the CHECKOUT, CHECKIN or REMOVECHECKOUT functions), a new program is created which enables the user to set up such defaults.

New Command OPTION=NORECALL

When one or multiple PATTERN commands were used to build a LIST of data sets from the catalog for the PROTECT command, if there were archived data sets (specified by the VOLSERs ARCVOL or MIGRAT in the catalog), SYSchange in its normal processing would recall these data sets. This new command enables users not to cause a recall of the archived data sets.

New Command SHOW=CHECKOUT

This command allows users to generate a list of all “checked out” components in all protected libraries.

New Command REMOVECHECKOUT

This single command removes all “check out” records from the Control File. Unlike the CHECKIN command that “checks in” one specific member and backs up the member at the time of “check in”, this command removes all the records without taking backups. This command is available to the Global Administrator only.

With this new release, we have set a drop-support date for previous versions.

Be aware that as of September 30, 2009 maintenance and support will no longer be available for SYSchange®, version 3.3.0.

Please feel free to contact Customer Support at 425-968-9200 or Customersupport@mainstar.com with any questions you may have.

Best regards,

Mainstar Customer Support