Mainstar VCR and FTR

Simplify and automate DB2 for z/OS system cloning and data refresh operations

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Mainstar Volume Clone and Rename (VCR) and its selectable feature Fast Table Space Refresh for DB2 (FTR) are storage-aware DB2 system cloning and data refresh solutions that use storage processor fast-replication facilities to clone DB2 systems and refresh table and index space data fast and effectively. VCR and FTR simplify, automate, and speed up DB2 system cloning and data refresh operations. VCR and FTR use less CPU, I/O, and storage resources than traditional methods while maintaining high availability of production data. VCR can also clone non-DB2 data.

- Clones DB2 systems and refreshes table and index spaces fast and effectively
- Reduces time and complexity through automation
- Reduces downtime and promotes high availability
- Significantly reduce costs by using less CPU and I/O resources
- Copy production data without sacrificing data availability
- Reduce errors by eliminating tedious manual tasks
- Refresh table and index spaces successfully by performing compatibility validation
- Perform DB2 system clone operations from a system level backup

DB2 for z/OS requires 24x7 availability. Fast, non-intrusive DB2 system cloning and data refresh solutions are required to enable high availability for these critical database management systems.

VCR facilitates cloning DB2 systems fast and effectively by using storage-based fast-replication facilities to copy data without using host CPU and I/O resources. It performs the volume copy processes, the DB2 meta-data management, and data set renaming operations so the cloned DB2 system can be used on the same or shared system. A DB2 system clone can be used to offload production systems, create test and problem determination environments, copy SAP and PeopleSoft interrelated data, and create data warehouse load environments.

VCR's selectable feature, FTR, facilitates DB2 table and index space refresh operations. It performs DB2 table and index space refresh operations using storage-based fast replication facilities to copy DB2 data sets fast and effectively without using host CPU and I/O resources. It validates table space compatibility and performs automatic object ID translation from source to target. Fast Table Space Refresh for DB2 can be used to refresh precisely what is needed when a full DB2 system clone is not required.

What Customers Are Saying

- Before VCR, it took 48 hours to clone a DB2 subsystem. Using VCR, it takes 30 minutes to clone the DB2 subsystem.
- Before VCR, it took 2 days, using 2 people to clone 6 DB2 subsystems for a total of 96 days per year. Using VCR, it takes 1 person 30 minutes per DB2 subsystem clone for a savings of 84 days per year.

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VCR and FTR for z/OS Features, Functions and Benefit Summary

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Feature	Function	Benefit
Storage-aware	"Storage-aware" database utilities use storage processor fast-replication to copy the data.	Speeds up the data copy processes and reduces CPU and I/O costs
Copy blades	Copy blades support slow and fast copy processes. Provide support for IBM, EMC, and HDS storage systems and fast replication facilities.	Provides flexibility in data copy methods. Supports all storage vendor hardware and fast-replication methods.
ISPF Interface	Allows the user to create DB2 system cloning or table space refresh jobs easily using interactive panels.	Easy to use interface simplifies DB2 system cloning and date refresh operations for improved productivity.
DB2 system cloning automation	Automates DB2 system cloning processes, copies DB2 data, and adjusts data and storage meta-data for use by a cloned DB2 system. Can also clone non-DB2 data.	Fast DB2 system cloning operations promote high availability and significantly reduce downtime and processing cost.
Flexible volume copy options	Allows volume copy selection by volser masks, storage groups, or any combination. Eliminates the need for individual volume specification.	Simplify storage volume identification and management used in the DB2 system cloning process.
Automatic volume pairing	Provides automatic pairing of source and target storage volume characteristics.	Simplifies fast-replication management usage and increases productivity.
Fast Rename Process	Eliminates external and internal volume name conflicts so the data can be used on the same LPAR.	Allows data to be cloned on the same or different LPAR with shared disk.
DB2 meta-data support	Updates the target DB2 catalog, directory, and BSDSs, during the DB2 systems cloning process. Eliminates the need for manual update processes.	Improves productivity, speeds the cloning process and reduces errors.
DB2 data sharing support	Clones DB2 data sharing, non-data sharing and data sharing to non-data sharing environments.	Simplify DB2 system clone creation and management regardless of data sharing status.
Table and Index Space refresh automation	Provides automation to refreshes DB2 table and index space data.	Fast data refresh operations promote high availability and significantly reduce downtime and processing costs.
Table space selection	Name selection features provide masking, include, exclude, and RI capabilities.	Simplify table and index space selection and copy exactly is needed.
LISTDEF-like interface	Minimizes the learning curve for database administrators to begin using FTR.	Increase productivity.
Object Translation	Translates DB2 object IDs that differ in the source and target systems	Automates DB2 object ID translation to simplify refresh operations and eliminate manual efforts.
Flexible data refresh options	Copy DB2 data sets to refresh table and index spaces within and across DB2 systems.	Provide flexible copy options for refreshing data.
Data Masking	Provides options to mask one or more columns during table space refresh process.	Provide data security anonymity. Example field changes include social security and credit card numbers, names, and addresses.

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Visit www.mainstar.com for technical articles and additional information on how VCR, FTR, and Mainstar's other innovative data access solutions can help you. To arrange a personal briefing or a free trial, contact us at product_info@mainstar.com.