Rob Jones - CICS TG V8.1

November, 2011



CICS Transaction Gateway Version 8.1



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Agenda

- -What is CICS TG?
- -What's new in CICS TG V8.1?
- -Reference resources

IBM

CICS Transaction Gateway – The smart choice

CICS Transaction Gateway delivers smart connectivity for your enterprise





INTERCONNECTED

Optimised for WebSphere Application Server but **open to all**. CICS TG delivers connectivity for other JEE applications servers, in addition to Unix/Linux and Microsoft® .NET environments



INSTRUMENTED

Systems monitoring delivers improved visibility of workload for greater management of resources, including interoperability with Tivoli Omegamon XE and CICS PA, along with visibility in the CICS Explorer



INTELLIGENT

High availability delivers scalability and fail-over support across the IBM System Z Parallel Sysplex



What is the CICS Transaction Gateway?







What is the CICS Transaction Gateway?

Integration of CICS with WebSphere, JEE and others

- All in-support versions of CICS Transaction Server & TXSeries products
- All in-support releases of WAS on all platforms (including WAS CE) through JCA resource adapters
- Highly flexible and configurable to suit many possible topologies
- Supports APIs for Java and other languages C/C++, COBOL, Microsoft® .NET Framework (Visual Basic ®, C#)





What is the CICS Transaction Gateway?

Interconnection with CICS

- Primary inbound connector to CICS from multiple platforms
- A server-grade software product capable of multi-user, multi-application connectivity to CICS from local server applications and remote clients
- Non-invasive to existing CICS resources after connection definitions
- CICS connectivity protocols
 - IPIC (All platforms)
 - EXCI (System Z)
 - SNA or TCPIP (Multiplatforms)



CICS Transaction Gateway V8.1

Open Integration and modernization

Announce October 4th 2011, GA December 2nd 2011 **Optimized for WebSphere**

Extend your CICS assets into more environments than ever!

• JEE 6 compatible including 64-bit application servers

- Support for WebSphere Application Server V8.0
- Support for OEM JEE 6 certified application servers
- More flexible deployment options for two-phase commit (XA) transactions

APIs suiting many application development needs

- Channel/container program support
- Java applications and applets
- C applications (also interoperable with C++/COBOL)

 Microsoft .NET Framework-based applications including 64-bit

Integrated with CICS Explorer



CICS EXPLORER



Open to all

Scalable high availability

- Sysplex wide two-phase commit
- Configurable Dynamic Server Selection (DSS) on z/OS, available out of the box
- User exit for DSS on Multiplatforms

Security enhancements

- Password phrase support with CICS Transaction Server for z/OS V4.2
- New, improved security APIs (ESI) for Password Expiry Management (PEM)
- PEM over IPIC, facilitating SNA to TCPIP migration, adding ESI support on z/OS

Updated Desktop Edition

- Providing an upgrade path to Windows® 7 operating system for CICS Universal Client users
- Further capabilities not available in CUC e.g. Java APIs, statistics, monitoring © 2011 IBM Corporation







Availability & Scalability – DSS on z/OS

Out of the box Dynamic Server Selection

- -An alternative to CICS Request Exit, not a replacement
- -No programming skills required, quick and easy to implement
- -No application changes required, interoperable with XA transactions
- -Integrated with CICS TG statistics and monitoring

New Gateway daemon configuration options on z/OS

- -New configuration file sections DSSGroups, DSSPolicies
- -A DSSGroup defines a lists of CICS servers, and a selection algorithm
 - The selection algorithm can be RoundRobin or FailOver
- -A DSSPolicy maps application requests to a DSSGroup
- -Logical Servers are now deprecated; migrate to the new syntax

CICS Request Exit still provides maximum flexibility for more complex routing decisions, allowing custom written server selection logic

EJB

JEE AS



AOR1 AOR2 AOR3 AOR4 V8 for z/OS IPIC / IPIC / allows EXCI EXCI **Dynamic** Server CTG1 CTG2 CTG3 CTG4 Selection with XA LPAR 2 LPAR 1 **TCPIP Shareport TCPIP Shareport** z/OSSysplex **Sysplex Distrubutor** (or equiavlent) CICS TG V8 on z/OS CTG1-4 form a Highly Available Gateway group Each Gateway daemon can resolve an indoubt XA **Connection Factory** <ServerName=XXX> transaction on behalf of another HA group member **JEE** application server

CICS TG for z/OS V8: HA/XA support with DSS

- Uses XA-capable ECI connection factory
- Defines a single connection factory with a symbolic CICS server name



Availability & Scalability – DSS on z/OS example configuration





Availability & Scalability – DSS for Multiplatforms

User exit based Dynamic Server Selection added to Multiplatforms

- New Dynamic Server Selection capability for Multiplatforms is added in V8.1 through inclusion of the CICS Request Exit
- -Provides DSS for applications using *remote mode* ECI and ESI
 - Java base classes, JCA (ECI), ECI Version 2, CICS TG .NET API
 - CICS connection using protocols SNA, ECI/TCPIP, IPIC
 - Supports channel and container ECI requests with IPIC
 - Allows dynamic interaction through the command line interface
- -Strategic replacement for older Client daemon C-language user exits
- -Compatible with Support Pac CA1T, providing rich DSS options

Note: No XA in remote mode, or IPIC SSL for MP remote mode



Availability & Scalability – DSS for Multiplatforms



CICS Request Exit configuration

-Specify CICS Request Exit Java class in GATEWAY section

cicsrequestexit=com.ibm.ctg.samples.ha.FailOverExit



Availability & Scalability – IPIC connection lifecycle

IPIC connection lifecycle improvements

- -When a CICS region is unreachable through IPIC, connectimeout (default 60 seconds) must elapse between each connection attempt
- Each application requests for the same IPIC connection queues, leading to cumulative response times
- -Time to failover in HA topologies can be unacceptable

New IPIC connection property

- -Server retry interval specified in seconds, per IPIC connection definition via new keyword **SrvRetryInterval**
- -Shortcut for requests serially queuing for connectimeout
- -Equalize response times for queuing requests during a failure window
- -Permits a shorter time to failover in HA topologies



Availability & Scalability – IPIC connection lifecycle





Availability & Scalability - IWD

Cloud integration – IBM Workload Deployer V3

- -IBM Workload Deployer now includes support for CICS connectivity
- -JEE Enterprise Applications requiring access to CICS are composed visually, using MQ, WebServices or CICS TG for connectivity
- Enterprise Applications deployed into the cloud benefit from elastic scalability, maximising efficient use of resources

Example Cloud/CICS topology:





Open platform integration – Microsoft .NET Framework

Run time improvements for Microsoft .NET Framework

- -The CICS TG .NET API is now **fully interoperable with 32- and 64bit** applications, and runs purely in "managed mode"
- -The run time dependency upon the ECI Version 2 run time library (ctgclient.dll) has been removed

Improved CICS TG API for Microsoft .NET Framework

- -ECI requests now formally support CICS channels and containers
 - Relief from the 32KB COMMREA limit
- -ESI requests now available for Password Expiry Management
- ECI and ESI requests include support for password phrases, for use with CICS TS for z/OS V4.2





Open platform integration – JEE 6

CICS TG support for Java Enterprise Edition 6

- -The CICS connectors included with CICS TG V8.1 exploit JEE 6 / JCA 1.6
- -JEE 6 certified application servers (e.g. WAS 8.0) benefit from
 - A single ECI resource adapter (*rather than two*) including support for both XA (two-phase commit) and non-XA transactions
 - A more flexible approach to setting the transactional capabilities of the CICS ECI resource adapter
 - Lower administrative and maintenance overheads
- Resource adapters compatible with JEE 5 (or earlier) application servers are available use with CICS TG V8.1 in <u>remote mode only</u> from Support Pac CC03



IT Simplification – Usability improvements

Usability improvements for z/OS configuration

- –The Gateway daemon on z/OS can now read configuration from a Partition Dataset member, or as a sequential dataset, as well as Unix System Services (zFS / HFS)
- –Allows JCL, environment variables and configuration data to be stored within a single PDS if desired – encapsulating all CICS TG for z/OS configuration data and related JOBs in a single location
- -Easier to review, manage, apply version control, backup or duplicate Gateway daemon configurations

Logging improvements

-The Gateway daemon can now be configured to log CICS error messages returned over IPIC connections



IT Simplification – Usability improvements

Help on CICS TG warning and error messages

- -Assistance for Multiplatforms administrators
- -Delivered through the "ctgadmin" command line utility
- -Similar to CMAC transaction on CICS
- -Provides NLS enabled help text, including
 - Identification of the message inserts, where applicable
 - An explanation of the message
 - The system response to the message
 - The user response to the message



IT Simplification – Security improvements



External Security Interface (ESI) support with IPIC

- -The ESI API provides Password Expiry Management (PEM) facilities to remote applications needing secure access
- -Local or remote mode support for Java base classes
- -IPIC gives ESI support to CICS TG for z/OS for the first time
- -Requires an IPIC connection to CICS TS for z/OS V4.1, or later

Note: Prior to V8.1, only the Multiplatforms products supported ESI with SNA APPC connections



IT Simplification – Security improvements



Password phrase support

- -ECI and ESI APIs are enhanced to support password phrases
- Available for Java base classes, JCA, ECI Version 2, ESI Version 2 and Microsoft .NET Framework applications
- -Requires an IPIC connection to CICS TS for z/OS V4.2



IT Simplification – Monitoring and statistics

Enhanced request monitoring for ECI Version 2 and .NET APIs

- -Added ability to set client APPLID qualifier and APPLID
- -Assist monitoring of requests by application instance
- Assist correlation of CICS tasks to application requests when using IPIC connections and task association data, Origin Descriptor Record (ODR)

New statistics

- -Protocol handler (PH) bind address
 - PH_SBINDTCP, PH_SBINDSSL
 - Useful for multi-stack TCPIP configurations where Gateway daemon protocol handlers might be bound to a specific address
- -Gateway daemon (GD) I/O average response time
 - GD_LAVRESPIO, GD_IAVRESPIO
 - Useful for identifying network latency in overall response times





IT Simplification – Monitoring and statistics



New statistics

- -Gateway daemon (GD) I/O average response time
 - GD_LAVRESPIO, GD_IAVRESPIO



IT Simplification – CICS Explorer integration

Enhanced CICS TG plug-in for CICS Explorer

- –Updated to include latest statistics for V8.1
- -Improved connection administration
 - Import/export of CICS TG connection definitions
- -User defined Gateway groups
 - Alternative to automatic grouping my APPLID qualifier
 - Useful for providing a common view to all CICS Explorer users
- -Sortable columns in Gateways and Connections views
- -Enhanced Gateway daemon and CICS connection tests
 - Addresses potential issues related DNS resolution issues, especially with multiple TCPIP stacks on z/OS







Resources & Support

Resources & Support

CICS TG on-line information centres (live December 2nd, 2011)

- -z/OS: <u>http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/cicstgzo/v8r1/index.jsp</u>
- -MP: <u>http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/cicstgmp/v8r1/index.jsp</u>

Scenario sections provide useful example topologies with config details

ITSO Redbooks

- The Value of IBM System z and z/OS in an SOA, **REDP4152**
- -z/OS Identity Propagation, SG24-7850 (draft)
- -Using CICS Transaction Gateway with High Availability and the CICS Explorer, **REDP4782** (available soon)
- -Architecting Access to CICS within an SOA, SG24-5466
- Developer Connector Applications for CICS, SG24-7714
- -CICS TG V7.1 Systems Monitoring, SG24-7562
- -CICS TG for z/OS V6.1 (XA, WAS z/OS, security), SG24-7161
- -J2C Security on z/OS, **REDP4202**







Resources & Support

CICS TG Version 8.1 Announcement letter ENUS211-357

http://tinyurl.com/cicstg81announce

CICS TG Version 8.1 Datasheet GI13-0561

http://tinyurl.com/cicstg81datasheet

Whitepapers

"IBM CICS IP interconnectivity: New features in Version 4.2" ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/pdf/CICS_TS_V4.2_Connectivity_paper_final.pdf

"Delivering quick access to CICS systems using strategic integration options"

http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/ieduasst/stgv1r0/topic/com.ibm.iea.cicsts/cicsts/3.1z/Resources/G 224-7557-00.pdf

"Integrating WebSphere Application Server and CICS using the JCA" ftp://ftp.software.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/pdf/WSW14013-USEN-00.pdf

"Transactional integration of WebSphere Application Server and CICS with the JCA"

ftp://ftp.software.ibm.com/software/htp/cics/pdf/WSW14013-USEN-00.pdf



Resources & Support

CICS Transaction Gateway articles

"Accessing CICS from Microsoft .NET applications using CICS Transaction Gateway"

http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/websphere/library/techarticles/1012_crockett/1012_crockett.html

"Exploiting the J2EE Connector Architecture: Integrating CICS and WebSphere Application Server using XA global transactions"

http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/websphere/techjournal/0607_wakelin/0607_wakelin.html

"High Availability Using CICS Transaction Gateway and CICS Transaction Server"

http://www.mainframezone.com/it-management/high-availability-using-cics-transaction-gateway-and-cicstransaction-serve

"CICS and Identity Propagation: Solving the End-to-End Security Challenge"

http://www.mainframezone.com/cics-websphere/cics-websphere-system/cics-and-identity-propagationsolving-the-end-to-end-security-challenge/P5

"Peering Into the IBM CICS Transaction Gateway Black Box"

http://www.mainframezone.com/it-management/peering-into-the-ibm-cics-transaction-gateway-black-box



More Resources & Support





Reference resources





CICS TG V8.1 - Supported hardware

- IBM System z® machine supported by z/OS or Linux®
- 32-bit or 64-bit IBM System p® supported by IBM AIX® or Linux
- 32-bit or 64-bit Sun SPARC system supported by Oracle Solaris
 Operating Environment
- 32-bit or 64-bit HP PA-RISC 1.1 or 2.0 system supported by HP-UX
- 64-bit HP Itanium® system supported by HP-UX
- Intel® Pentium®, AMD Opteron or Intel EM64T system supported by Windows operating system or Linux



CICS TG V8.1 - Supported operating systems

- z/OS V1.11 or later

- AIX V5.3 (32-/64-bit kernel), AIX V6.1, AIX V7.1 (64-bit kernel)
- Linux on System z: RHEL 5, SLES 10, SLES 11 (64-bit kernel)
- Linux on Intel: RHEL 5, RHEL 6, SLES 10, SLES 11 (32-/64-bit kernel)
- Linux on POWER® RHEL 5, RHEL 6, SLES 10, or SLES 11 (64-bit kernel)
- Sun Solaris V10 (32-/64-bit kernel)
- HP-UX11i V2 or V3 (32-/64-bit kernel)
- Windows Vista (32-/64-bit kernel) including Business, Enterprise and Ultimate editions
- Windows 7 (32-/64-bit kernel) including Business, Professional, Enterprise and Ultimate editions
- Windows 2008, and Windows 2008 R2 (32-/64-bit kernel) including Standard, Enterprise and Datacenter editions

Note: Standard edition includes Windows Small Business Server



CICS TG V8.1 - CICS server support

- CICS Transaction Server for z/OS V3.1, or later
- CICS Transaction Server for z/OS V4.1, or later
- TXSeries for Multiplatforms V6.1, or later
- TXSeries for Multiplatforms V7.1, or later
- CICS/VSE V2.3
- CICS Transaction Server for VSE V1.1.1
- CICS Transaction Server V5.4 for i5/OS, or later
- CICS Transaction Server V6.1 for iSeries, or later
- CICS Transaction Server V7.1 for i, or later



CICS TG V8.1 - JEE Application Server support

- IBM WebSphere Application Server V7.0
- IBM WebSphere Application Server V8.0
 IBM WebSphere Community Edition
- Other JEE application servers. Use the Installation Verification Test (IVT) provided with CICS Transaction Gateway V8.1 to check whether a specific JEE application server can be used. Examples:
 - Oracle Glassfish Server
 - Oracle WebLogic Server
 - JBOSS Application Server (Redhat)
 - Apache Geronimo (unbadged WAS CE)

CICS Transaction Gateway Desktop Edition <u>does not</u> include JEE support



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