



IBM Software Group

z/OS® V1R9 Communications Server

Removal of APPC application suite (ASUITE)



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This presentation describes the removal of APPC Application Suite (ASUITE) from the z/OS V1R9 Communications Server.

Background - APPC application suite

- z/OS Communications Server has issued a statement of direction for the APPC Application Suite functions. It was stated that z/OS V1R8 Communications Server will be the last release to support APPC Application Suite.
- APPC Application Suite product has the following functions:
 - ▶ APPC Connectivity Tester (APING) - A tool to check connectivity.
 - ▶ APPC File Transfer Protocol (AFTP/ACOPY) - A file transfer program modeled after TCP/IP's FTP.
 - ▶ APPC Name Server (ANAME) - A name server for mapping SNA LU names to aliases.
 - ▶ A3270 Emulator Server (A3270) - The A3270 server allows users on workstations to establish a 3270 emulator connection to the host using APPC communications. The A3270 server function does not have a user interface.
- The APPC Application suite is a set of client/server facilities that runs on APPC sessions. Some of the facilities also provide an API so that additional applications can be developed which access these facilities
 - ▶ APING - Client and Server
 - ▶ ANAME - Client, Server and API
 - ▶ AFTP - Client, Server and API
 - ▶ A3270 - Server

The APPC Application Suite was introduced in the early 1990s to provide some simple peer-to-peer based utilities for the then-emerging APPN (Advanced Peer-to-Peer Networking) world, and to help generate interest in APPC-based application development. The APPC Application Suite are LU 6.2 programs. They provide the common end-user tasks such as file transfer, terminal emulation, connectivity testing, and name registration. They also provide API supports.

Problem - Similar functions provided by z/OS

- For most of these functions, more full-featured alternative applications exist in modern integrated SNA/IP networks. Consider the following alternatives:
 - For A3270, consider migrating to TN3270. TN3270 provides a much richer capability assuming IP connectivity exists between the client and server.
 - For APING, use the DISPLAY APING command that has been provided as a native VTAM® command for many years.
 - Several other IBM and vendor products provide SNA file transfer capability (such as NetView® FTP) which can be used to replace AFTP. TCP/IP's FTP capability is also a good alternative if an IP infrastructure is in place between the client and server.

SNA/IP provides similar functions to APPC Application Suite. There is no need to have the similar functions provided by the same product. So, the APPC Application Suite function will be removed.

Solution - Removal of APPC application suite

- The APPC Application Suite will no longer be shipped with the z/OS Communications Server product.
- The z/OS V1R9 Communications Server discontinues support of the APPC Application Suite.
- APPC Application Suite still supported on VM and lower releases of z/OS Communication Server.
- Note that this statement of direction does not affect the status of the APPC API provided as part of the SNA APIs within z/OS Communications Server. The APPC API continues to be an integral part of z/OS CS
- Applications using APPC Application Suite functions will not work.
 - ▶ Remove any applications using APPC Application Suite AFTP API macros.
 - ▶ Remove any applications using APPC Application Suite ANAME API macros.
 - ▶ Datasets and other information should be cleaned up if APPC Application Suite was installed in an earlier release.

Alternatives, now exist for the more useful utilities, and there is no longer any need to generate new interest in the mature APPC APIs. Therefore, z/OS V1R9 Communications Server discontinues support of the APPC Application Suite.

These are the steps to cleanup datasets and other information of the APPC Application Suite if you installed it in an earlier z/OS release:

- Delete AFTP client REXX exec.
- Delete ACOPY client REXX exec.
- Delete AFTP server REXX exec.
- Remove the transaction program (TP) profile of the AFTP server (AFTPD). This is the profile that defines AFTPD to MVS/APPC.
- Delete APING client REXX exec.
- Remove the transaction program (TP) profile of the APING server (APINGD). This is the profile that defines APINGD to MVS/APPC.
- Delete ANAME client REXX exec.
- Remove the transaction program (TP) profile of the ANAME server (ANAMED). This is the profile that defines ANAMED to MVS/APPC.
- Remove the A3270 application major node definition from VTAMLST.
- Delete initialization files of AFTP programs (AFTP, AFTPD, and ACOPY), the ANAME server, and the A3270 server.
- Delete VSAM dataset with the APPC Application Suite messages.

Refer to the z/OS New Functions Summary and the z/OS Migration books for additional information.

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