Enterprise Computing – Hands On! (ECHO!)

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Agenda

- Background
- Why an iBook?
- ECHO! iBook Structure
  - Volumes
  - Chapters
- Working with z/OS (Vol. 1) – Technical Content
Background

- The *Introduction to the New Mainframe* Redbook is widely recognized and used in introductory Enterprise Computing classes.
- However, labs in the *Introduction to the New Mainframe* Redbook are simplistic.
- Students often comment that the best part of an introductory Enterprise Computing class is the hands on labs.
- Meaningful labs are difficult and time consuming to design and build.
- Even well designed labs don’t always work as planned.
  - Which can lead to student confusion and frustration.
- How does learning take place in the workplace?
  - Not by reading manuals.
What to do?

- What is a student to do?
  - Ideally, have an expert demonstrate and describe the use of various hands on lab techniques
  - Instructors – clone thyself!

- What is a Professor to do?
  - Develop unique labs for students? (time consuming, difficult)
  - Do we all need to develop a lab to cover the same technologies & techniques?

- or….
  - Use a resource that simulates working with a z/OS expert and
  - Develop a set of demonstrations that we are all likely to want to use

- An interactive learning tool that covers basic z/OS skills – an iBook
Why an iBook?

- Apple devices are pervasive
- iBook authoring software is free
- I’ve experimented with the Apple iBook and now have some experience creating an iBook
- Once materials are developed for an iBook, it should be possible to convert them to other e-book formats (e.g. Kindle) if there is an interest or need for doing so
- A modern delivery mechanism for mainframe information
Why an iBook?

- **iBook capabilities include:**
  - interactive diagrams
    - allow students to explore and learn visually
  - interactive questions (and answers)
    - help reinforce the technical material and help ensure that the student has understood key points
  - movies
    - can be used to demonstrate the use of various technologies instead of using static “screen shots” and text
  - interactive text (hypertext)
    - easily moves the reader/student to an appropriate part of the book for explanation or reference
ECHO! – Could be a Series of iBooks

- Vol. 1 – Working with z/OS
- Vol. 2 – Working with RDz
- Vol. 3 – Working with Business Intelligence and Analytics Tools
- Vol. 4 – Working with Websphere
- Vol. 5 – Etc.
ECHO! iBook Chapter Structure

- Each iBook Volume will have chapters that will consist of three sections:
  - Introducing… a Technical Topic
    - Short; could simply reference the appropriate Introduction to the New Mainframe Redbook chapter
  - Demonstrating…. a Technical Topic
    - Including interactive self assessment to test understanding
  - On Your Own… using the demonstrated skills, techniques, tools
    - The student uses the demonstrated skills, techniques, tools to reinforce what they have seen demonstrated
Working with z/OS (Vol. 1) – Technical Content

- Chapter 1 – Background/Introduction
  - What the iBook is about
  - system programming activities using z/OS.
  - How to effectively use the iBook

- Chapter 2 - Using a TN3270 Emulator
  - a. Obtaining, Installing, and Setting Up a TN3270 emulator

- Chapter 3 – Using native TSO
  - a. TSO Logon/Logoff
  - b. Working in “native” TSO

- Chapter 4 – Using ISPF
  - a. ISPF Panels, Navigation and HELP
  - b. ISPF Customization
  - c. Working with sequential and partitioned datasets - basics
Working with z/OS (Vol. 1) – Technical Content

- d. ISPF Editor – Basics
- e. ISPF Editor – Advanced
- f. Entering a TSO Command in ISPF
- g. Working with datasets using ISPF DSLIST - advanced

**Chapter 5 - Working with CLISTs**
- a. Creating a CLIST
- b. Running a CLIST
- c. Debugging a CLIST

**Chapter 6 - Working with REXX**
- a. Creating a REXX EXEC
- b. Running a REXX EXEC
- c. Debugging a REXX EXEC
Working with z/OS (Vol. 1) – Technical Content

- Chapter 7 – Using z/OS UNIX and the z/OS UNIX Shell
  - a. Working with files and directories
  - b. Working with z/OS UNIX security
  - c. Using redirection
  - d. Using pipes

- Chapter 8 – Working with z/OS Messages and Codes
  - a. LookAt (becoming obsolete)
  - b. MVS QuickRef

- Chapter 9 – Submitting JOBs and working with SDSF
  - a. Creating a JOB
  - b. Submitting a JOB
  - c. Checking JOB output using SDSF
Working with z/OS (Vol. 1) – Technical Content

- Chapter 10 – Using z/OS Utilities
  - a. Using IEBGENER
  - b. Using IDCAMS
  - c. Need to investigate which other utilities should be included here

- Chapter 11 – z/OS IPL
  - a. An example IPL

- Chapter 12 – Using z/OS Operator Commands
  - a. Using DISPLAY commands
  - b. Using REPLY commands
  - c. STARTing, STOPping, and CANCELing work
  - d. Using the SET and MODIFY commands
  - e. Using the VARY command
  - f. Using JES2 commands

- Chapter 13 – Using zOSMF
  - a. Content TBD
Summary

- An iBook that complements the current *Introduction to the New Mainframe* text will be developed.
- The focus of the initial iBook will be on developing basic z/OS skills working with z/OS.
- Other technical areas could conceivably be developed in subsequent iBook “volumes”.
- ECHO! could become the “lab manual” for the *Introduction to New Mainframe* text.
Questions? Suggestions?