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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?