

CA Compress™ Data Compression r5.2

CA COMPRESS™ DATA COMPRESSION IS AN EASY TO USE TOOL THAT ENABLES YOU TO REDUCE DASD STORAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR VSAM AND PHYSICAL SEQUENTIAL DATA SETS.

Overview

CA Compress Data Compression transparently compresses data sets before they are stored on DASD. When the data set is read back from DASD, CA Compress Data Compression automatically decompresses the information. Application programs all function normally with CA Compress Data Compression.

Benefits

CA Compress Data Compression reduces the DASD space requirements for the VSAM and physical sequential data sets for which it is implemented. This reduces the need for additional DASD purchases and also reduces data set backup and restore times. Analysis of the space savings along with required overhead can be performed for existing data sets before deciding whether or how to implement compression for any data set.

The CA Advantage

CA Compress Data minimizes DASD space requirements for VSAM and physical sequential data sets, providing savings through reduced DASD space and shorter backup/restore times. Different compression schemes offer the right balance of CPU overhead versus DASD space for each data set. CA Compress Data Compression supports CA's Enterprise IT Management (EITM) vision to unify and simplify IT management by simplifying DASD management.

CA Compress Data Compression Reduces DASD Space and Costs

CA Compress Data Compression provides comprehensive compression functionality for VSAM and physical sequential data sets. With CA Compress Data Compression, you can control precisely how much compression to impose on a data set and know how much overhead is required to obtain that compression. The compression that CA Compress Data Compression provides reduces the need for additional DASD purchases and also reduces data set backup and restore times.

Key Capabilities

CHOICE OF IMPLEMENTATION METHODS CA Compress Data Compression provides a wide choice of implementation methods that can provide maximum compression, minimum CPU overhead or an appropriate balance between compression and overhead. This flexibility enables you to select the compression algorithm and implementation mode that best meet your organization's needs.

FIXED, OPTIMIZED COMPRESSION TABLES Several standard Huffman tables are distributed with CA Compress Data Compression and provide a high degree of compression for the most common types of data. Taking advantage of these tables means you do not need to create and maintain your own compression tables.

CUSTOMIZED COMPRESSION TABLES CA Compress Data Compression lets you develop compression implementations specifically designed for your data sets. This customization takes into account a data set's unique file and record characteristics. In addition, CA Compress Data Compression uses the data currently in the data set to develop the most efficient compression tables for that file. Its compression analysis facilities also let you experiment with the compression process and fine-tune the compression implementation.

STANDARD IBM HARDWARE COMPRESSION DICTIONARIES Several standard dictionaries built using different types of data are distributed with CA Compress Data Compression.

DATA INTEGRITY CHECKS CA Compress Data Compression ensures the accuracy of your data by performing an integrity check on every record during compression and expansion processing. CA includes integrity checking in its implementation of IBM Hardware Compression, providing additional integrity to Hardware Compression.

TRANSPARENT SUPPORT FOR BOTH VSAM AND PHYSICAL SEQUENTIAL DATA SETS CA Compress Data Compression provides fully transparent support for VSAM KSDS and ESDS data sets and physical sequential data sets using QSAM or BSAM. Physical sequential data sets are also supported in an application transparent mode through CA Compress Data Compression Subsystem Services.

ENHANCED VSAM PERFORMANCE VSAM Performance Enhancement (VPE) reduces I/O overhead while processing VSAM data files. As data is read and written by the application program, it is expanded and compressed as necessary. VPE is a stand-alone component of CA Compress Data Compression and can be used independently to improve access to both compressed and uncompressed data sets.

INTERACTIVE USER INTERFACE The CA Compress Data Compression Interactive User Interface lets you interactively select data sets, execute test compression, evaluate compression statistics and implement compression on the data sets. This interface also provides a wide selection of maintenance and utility functions that support data compression.

VSAM SPACE RELEASE The VSAM space release function lets you free unused space.

COMPRESSION ANALYSIS REPORTING Each test compression run generates a clear and concise Compression Testing Report that provides statistics for various compression algorithms and DASD utilization information.

EXCLUSION PROCESSING The exclusion processing feature lets you process compressed files without expanding the data. For example, data sets controlled by CA Compress Data Compression are typically excluded from compression and expansion during backup and recovery processing.

INTEGRITY SAFEGUARDS Safeguards prevent inadvertent access to compressed VSAM data sets when CA Compress Data Compression is inactive, avoiding possible corruption.

Benefits Provided By CA Compress Data Compression

CA Compress Data Compression is an easy to use and implement tool for reducing DASD space requirements for VSAM and physical sequential data sets. It is implemented with standard z/OS interfaces and is transparent to all of your application programs.

PRODUCT	FUNCTION	FEATURES	BENEFITS
CA Compress Data Compression	Compress VSAM and physical sequential data sets to reduce DASD space	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Easily implement compression for selected data sets• Choose from different strategies to balance realized compression versus CPU overhead• Analyze compression space savings versus overhead costs for existing data sets before implementing compression	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Step-by-step guidance through the compression analysis process• Implement compression only for selected data sets• No special interfaces needed• Reduced DASD space requirements and backup/restore times

The CA Advantage

With CA Compress Data Compression, you can easily compress VSAM and physical sequential data sets to reduce DASD storage requirements. CA Compress Data Compression allows you to analyze quickly various levels of compression and the corresponding overhead for existing data sets. You can then implement compression for selected data sets using the appropriate level of compression to achieve the desired results. CA Compress Data Compression supports CA's Enterprise IT Management (EITM) vision to unify and simplify IT management by simplifying DASD management.

Next Steps

CA Compress Data Compression can provide significant savings in DASD space requirements and in shortened backup/restore times. Its ease of implementation and use makes it a valuable asset in your software portfolio.

To learn more, and see how CA software solutions enable organizations to unify and simplify IT management for better business results, visit ca.com/products.