

CA NetMaster® Network Management The Leader in CA Utilization of zIIP Engines zIIP Processor Exploitation and Measurement

Challenge

In 2006, IBM introduced the System z Integrated Information Processor (zIIP) specialty engine. z/OS mainframe products can work with the operating system to have all, or a portion of, their service request block (SRB) enclave work directed to the zIIP. Because work that runs on a zIIP may incur far lower software charges than the same work run on a general purpose processor under some of IBM's pricing models, zIIPs can drastically reduce mainframe TCO. zIIP engines are also less expensive, so costly general processing cycles can be saved for other work.

You have probably become aware of the potential dollar savings from zIIP utilization; and perhaps your interest has grown as industry cost pressures mount. Today, when you consider buying a mainframe product, you will want to know about its zIIP utilization. zIIP utilization is a major factor for customers assessing the true value of a new management software purchase.

Opportunity

CA NetMaster® Network Management provides robust, comprehensive IP and SNA network monitoring and diagnostic functions for the z/OS mainframe environment. These include low-overhead real-time IP packet tracing, IP traffic analysis, and extensive Enterprise Extender support. CA NetMaster Network Management, with its goal of same day support for zIIP processors, has the most advanced zIIP utilization functions of any CA mainframe products.

Many competitive products make deliberately vague and general assurances about their zIIP 'support'. Many of these claims are misleading. Some products only use the zIIP when something they do defaults to running on the zIIP through no action of their own. Some products merely report on zIIP-related figures, but do not use the zIIP themselves. The zIIP abilities of CA NetMaster Network Management include directing zIIP exploitation using CA NetMaster Network Management's own code, as well as options to monitor and measure the zIIP eligibility and usage of CA NetMaster Network Management.

Large proportions of the CPU cycles used by CA NetMaster Network Management can be zIIP-eligible, depending on the exact workload mix. One example: a large company independently verified that close to 100 percent of the CPU used by CA NetMaster® Network Management for TCP/IP ran on their zIIP over one six-day testing period. zIIP exploitation capabilities are a major advantage to large enterprises seeking to manage their costs, and CA NetMaster Network Management does this exceptionally well.





Solution

All CA NetMaster® Network Management and File Transfer Management products include these zIIP capabilities:

- zIIP exploitation by the main task of the CA NetMaster product address space. This address space does most of the CA NetMaster high-level procedure execution.
- Quick and easy implementation of zIIP enablement, controlled by a simple parameter.
- Options to log messages showing both zIIP-eligible and actual zIIP resident CPU time.

CA NetMaster Network Management for TCP/IP includes these additional zIIP capabilities:

- zIIP exploitation by the Packet Analyzer subtask of the CA NetMaster Network Management SSI address space. The Packet Analyzer does all the low-level SmartTrace packet filtering and packet collection, and all IP traffic analysis. Running this on a zIIP enables monitoring of heavy packet flow rates with little to no impact on the general processors.

You can use IBM Workload Manager for advanced custom zIIP prioritization and control solutions.

Benefits

- By better exploiting your zIIP engines through CA NetMaster Network Management, you could have a comprehensive z/OS network management solution at a considerably lower cost.
- You can control, monitor, and verify the eligible and actual zIIP utilization of CA NetMaster Network Management in your own unique network and processor environment.

Next Steps

- If you are interested in CA NetMaster Network Management, contact your CA sales representative for more information. We have a new white paper on the zIIP tests results, which we plan to make available to the public soon.
- Check out recorded webcasts available on ca.com.