

CA Compress™ Data Compression for IMS for z/OS



At a Glance

CA Compress™ Data Compression for IMS for z/OS (CA Compress) is an easy to use tool that helps you to reduce the DASD storage requirements for IMS databases.

Key Benefits/Results

- **Stay within limits.** Stay under the OSAM and VSAM maximum sizes.
- **Save space.** Reduce storage requirements for IMS data.
- **Reduce I/Os.** Retrieve and store more IMS data per I/O operation for faster response time and improved utility processing.

Key Features

- **Compress IMS data.** Minimize DASD space requirements and simplify management.
- **High-yield compression.** Compression yields as high as 70 to 80 percent.
- **Simulation.** Compression simulation for analysis purposes.
- **Choice of compression algorithms.** Select from multiple compression algorithms to get maximum compression for your data.
- **Data integrity.** Use check byte comparison for complete data integrity.

Business Challenges

Even if you are not adding new IMS Full Function databases, the databases you have are likely growing as more data is added, especially from web-based applications. IMS allows you to store your data in either OSAM or VSAM databases. However there is a limit on the size of these databases – 8 gigabytes for OSAM and 4 gigabytes for VSAM. If you are approaching these size limitations, you have only a few options. You can migrate to a Fast Path database, implement partitioning with HALDB or compress the data. Compressing the data is the least disruptive to your current database environment and processes.

Solution Overview

CA Compress provides comprehensive IMS compression capabilities. It helps you to precisely control which segments of a database to compress and how much compression to implement on a segment. You control how much overhead will be required to obtain that compression, and how much flexibility the segment will retain during and after compression.

CA Compress has adopted key features that are designed to simplify your use of CA Compress and help enable your staff to install, deploy and maintain it more effectively and quickly. CA Chorus™ Software Manager (CA CSM) automates CA Compress acquisition, installation, configuration, deployment and maintenance and removes SMP/E complexities.

CA Compress is easy to use and implement, and reduces the DASD space requirement for IMS databases. It is implemented with standard z/OS and IMS interfaces and may be used to immediately implement compression of existing IMS databases.

Critical Differentiators

In addition to the compression of the data, CA Compress also provides capabilities to help with:

- **Forecasting of IMS requirements.** Helps you to determine anticipated benefits for a database that has not yet reached its expected size.
- **Transparent compression.** Automatically compresses data as it is written to the IMS database and decompression occurs after it is read, making the process invisible to users of the IMS database.

- **Independence of IMS version.** Provides integrity for your data and helps provide that your compressed data is always retrievable.
- **Record Definition Language (RDL).** Helps you optimize the balance of compression yield and processing overhead to meet your objectives.
- **Compression analysis.** During this ISPF or batch analysis, CA Compress reads and simulates compression of sample data extracted from any database under consideration for compression. You can then view the amount of compression and relative performance that can be expected for each segment in the database.
- **Activating compression.** Compression is specified by identifying the CA Compress service as the Segment Edit/Compression exit in the SEGM statement within the DBD.
- **Database support.** CA Compress supports all databases where the COMPRTN= specification is valid, including Fast Path usage
- **Command Control Manager.** A common component, Command Control Manager (CCM), is provided to help you issue IMS commands in sets and across all the IMS systems in an IMSplex.

Related Products/Solutions

CA Compress is part of the CA Database Management Solutions for IMS for z/OS that provide comprehensive IMS database and transaction management capabilities.

For more information, please visit ca.com/ims

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