

# CA Fast Unload® for DB2 for z/OS



## At a Glance

CA Fast Unload® for DB2 for z/OS (CA Fast Unload) helps you reduce the time required to unload DB2 data, thus improving the availability of corporate data.

### Key Benefits/Results

- **Superior performance.** High-speed data extraction.
- **Extensive formatting and data conversion options.** Unloaded data can immediately be used by other applications.
- **Granular data selection.** Unload only the rows and columns that you need.

### Key Features

- **Increased data availability.** Provides a range of features that help to reduce database downtime and its impact on database performance.
- **Customized output.** Can export data into multiple load formats during the unload process, eliminating the need for additional parsing and processing.
- **Maximized DBA productivity.** Provides various features that help to simplify the efforts involved in formatting unloaded data for easy loading back into the target environment.

## Business Challenges

Data movement can be a time-consuming process that seriously impacts the availability of data. You need a high-speed utility that uses advanced, concurrent data-processing techniques to unload data from DB2 tables or from copies of DB2 tables at a high speed while maintaining system performance.

## Solution Overview

### ▪ Data availability

- Multitasking: Unloads objects concurrently.
- High-speed unload: Reads directly from data pages and image copies.
- Online unload: Keeps objects in read-only mode to maintain data integrity or in read-write mode for full access by other applications.
- Partition independence: Locks only the partitions being unloaded.

### ▪ Customized output

- SELECT statements: Accepts any valid SQL SELECT statement. Supports several clauses not supported by DB2.
- Output formats: Unloads data in load, fixed, variable, DSNTIAUL, external, and comma-delimited formats.

### ▪ Productivity

- Data conversion: Converts data types and field lengths. Translates data to other character sets.
- Old table versions: Reads source DDL to unload from image copies that no longer match the table definitions.
- OBID changes: Converts OBIDs.
- Large object support: Supports spanned records with rows longer than 32 KB.
- Flashcopy support: Unloads from Flashcopies, including specifying the most recent concurrent one.
- Unload by object size. Objects are unloaded largest to smallest. When done in parallel, this can improve performance.

## Critical Differentiators

- **Partition ranges.** Can skip partitions when unloading.  
For example unload partition 1, 2, 5, and 10.
- **VSAM level access.** Does not require an active DB2 subsystem to unload the data.
- **Image copies.** Unloads from image copies, even when the table no longer exists in the catalog.
- **Native processing vs. DB2.** Provides SQL-ACCESS EXTENSION option, which uses native CA Fast Unload access methods to process SQL statements and switches to DB2 SQL processing only for those SELECT statements that are not supported.

## Related Products/Solutions

CA Fast Unload integrates with these CA Technologies products:

- **CA Fast Load® for DB2 for z/OS.** Loads data from CA Fast Unload output data sets.

For more information, please visit [ca.com/db2](https://www.ca.com/db2)

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