

CA Mainframe Program Restart Manager for IMS for z/OS



At a Glance

CA Mainframe Program Restart Manager for IMS for z/OS (CA Mainframe Program Restart Manager) helps save time, lower risk and prevent the delays and the possible errors that can occur when restarting certain IMS jobs. It also provides capabilities to enhance database performance and application management.

Key Benefits/Results

- **Automation.** Automating restarts help to avoid common errors such as accidentally restarting from the beginning.
- **Minimize risk.** Reduces the input of checkpoint and restart log information, helping to avoid errors.
- **Save time.** Prevent delays when restarting application programs running in batch message processing (BMP) regions or DL/I batch mode.

Key Features

- **Restart on a different IMS database.** In a data sharing environment (IMSPlex) you can restart a failed IMS BMP on a different IMS database.
- **Batch backout manager.** Automate the back out activities after a batch program fails by providing initialization activities when an IMS batch job starts with checks to see if a batch backout is required from the last execution.
- **Batch log tracker.** Assists DLIBATCH processing by helping provide that logs are allocated and databases are available before the batch program executes.
- **Retry BMP jobs.** Avoid deadlocks or running out of PI pool space by coding a special option that automatically retries BMP jobs with specified ABEND codes before they end.
- **ISPF interface.** List all jobs that are pending restart and issue commands to restart them or remove them from the system.

Business Challenges

IMS database administrators (DBAs) typically have to manually intervene when restarting IMS batch jobs. Manual intervention may result in several common errors. For example, the ABENDED batch job's log can be entered incorrectly in the //IMSLOGR DD, the checkpoint ID can be entered incorrectly, or the job can accidentally be started from the beginning (instead of restarted). These common errors can have major consequences such as data loss.

Solution Overview

CA Mainframe Program Restart Manager can automate the restart of application programs as long as a program has checkpoints and restart logic. The product records checkpoint information for each batch job in checkpoint tracking data sets. Later, if a failure occurs and the step is to be restarted, it finds the most recent checkpoint ID, allocates the appropriate log data sets to IMSLOGR, and passes the checkpoint ID to IMS, so IMS can perform a restart.

As a result, restarting a failed IMS batch job is exactly the same as starting a batch job the first time: no JCL changes, no looking up the log data set names and adding them to the job's JCL, no coding checkpoint IDs. This is transparent to the application program.

CA Mainframe Program Restart Manager has adopted key features of CA Chorus™ Software Manager (CA CSM) that are designed to simplify your use of CA Mainframe Program Restart Manager and help enable your staff to install, deploy and maintain it more effectively and quickly.

Critical Differentiators

In addition to automatic restart, the CA Mainframe Program Restart Manager lets you:

- **Manage checkpoint calls.** Reduce the number of checkpoint calls recorded by IMS if the checkpoint frequency is too high.
- **Force ABENDs for specified return codes.** Designate that specific non-zero return codes be processed as ABENDs, and retain checkpoint tracking data sets for later restart processing.
- **Change parameter values.** Make changes to certain BMP region or DL/I batch job parameter values. For example, if you wish to implement data sharing, automatically change IRLM to Y and specify an IRLMNM.
- **Stop or hold BMPs.** Issue commands to either stop a BMP job or to put a BMP job on hold. Once needed processing is complete, issue a command to automate restarting the BMP.
- **Prevent automatic restart.** Bypass program restart and start the job from the beginning.
- **Command control manager.** This common component helps you issue IMS commands in sets and across all the IMS systems in an IMSplex.

Related Products/Solutions

This product is one member of the Database Management Solutions for IMS for z/OS from CA Technologies that provide comprehensive support for IMS database and transaction management.

For more information, please visit ca.com/ims

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