

# CA SMF Director r12.6



Mainframe systems are capable of processing hundreds of millions of business transactions each day, as a result of the continuing advances in system capacity and speed. This processing growth is reflected in an increased volume of log data being written by the z/OS operating system's System Management Facility (SMF). CA SMF Director is an outstanding solution for more efficiently managing these huge data volumes. It is designed to minimize operational overhead by providing the SMF data is read through only once and fulfills all subsequent uses of the log records in a production environment. CA SMF Director simplifies the operational burden of SMF management by automating the process and organizing the data for more efficient archival and retrieval.

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## Overview

As mainframes continue to be the platform of choice for organizations to host business critical applications, managing the increasing volumes of data has become a challenge. The solutions that worked so well when the data center was small do not scale to manage the cross-geography, cross-time zone data. CA SMF Director makes it easier, faster and less expensive to get access to mainframe systems data.

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## Business value

Mainframes produce incredible volumes of systems management data—essential information for solving systems problems, preventing future issues, understanding business costs and more. However, as the data center evolves, the information becomes more unmanageable and less usable. CA SMF Director can help you transform this data more affordably and efficiently into useful information for the many constituents who need to use it.

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## Features

### Mainframe 2.0

CA SMF Director has adopted key Mainframe 2.0 features that are designed to simplify your use and administration of CA SMF Director and enable your staff to maintain it more effectively and quickly.

- **CA Mainframe Software Manager™:** CA Mainframe Software Manager (CA MSM) is designed to automate CA SMF Director acquisition, installation, deployment, configuration and maintenance and remove SMP/E complexities. CA MSM helps save time and resources when compared with the manual steps used to perform these tasks.
  - The **Software Acquisition Service** is designed to help you to more easily move product installation packages and maintenance from CA Support Online directly to your mainframe environment and prepare them for installation.
  - The **Software Installation Service** standardizes CA SMF Director installation, which includes a new, streamlined Electronic Software Delivery (ESD) method that allows CA SMF Director to be installed using standard utilities. This service also provides standardized SMP/E product installation and maintenance via APARs and PTFs, and simplifies SMP/E processing through an intuitive graphical user interface and an intelligent Installation Wizard.
  - The **Software Deployment Service** enables you to more easily deploy CA SMF Director in your mainframe environment.
  - The **Software Configuration Service** enables you to more effectively configure CA SMF Director, if it has been acquired, installed, maintained and deployed using CA MSM.
- **Best Practices guide:** This guide provides information on CA SMF Director installation, initial configuration and deployment to help shorten the learning curve for staff who are responsible for the installation and management of this product.

### What's new in CA SMF Director r12.6

- Configuration granularity which gives you the ability to define archival properties for SMF Records managed by CA SMF Director at any level
- A new capability called substreams, which is designed to provide the flexibility of logstream archival of SMF Data to customers who use SMF MAN Files, and allows you to create substreams for data that has a need for special archival processes
- Automated dumping user exits which make it easier to change SMF dump defaults to match your needs

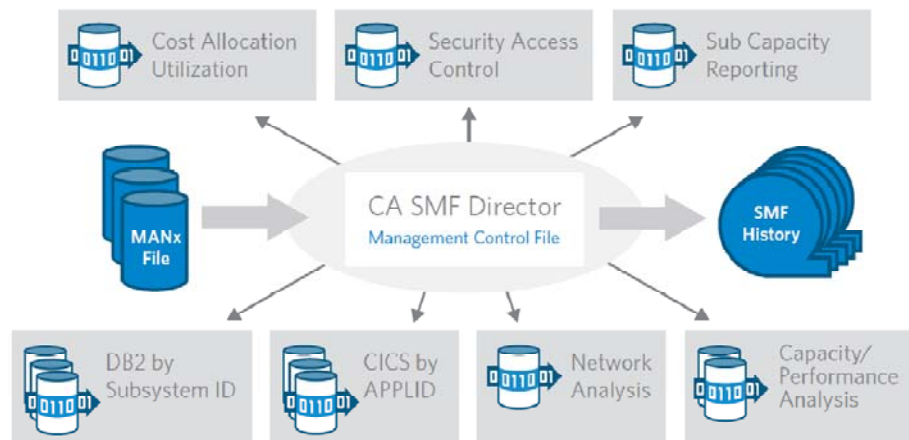
### Other key features

- SMF dataset dump process automation
- SMF data virtualization that provides access to your data any time
- Simultaneous archival creation for maximized throughput and faster data availability
- Simultaneous SMF dump and split file creation for application-specific purposes
- Easy on-demand extracts of data at any time
- Fully integrated support for IBM z/OS 1.9 and above SMF System Logger for SMF data
- Support for dynamic switching between SMF log streams and MAN files
- “Line in the sand” tracking that eliminates the need to specify start or end date or time
- Flexibility to extract data by logical system, system ID or a combination of both
- The ability to automatically open CA Service Desk requests if problems are encountered when dumping SMF data

FIGURE A.

Simultaneous archival and split file data flow

CA SMF Director offers one-step processing of SMF data.



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## Delivery approach

CA Services provides a portfolio of mainframe services delivered through CA Technologies internal staff and a network of established partners chosen to help you achieve a successful deployment and get the desired business results as quickly as possible. Our standard service offerings are designed to speed deployment and accelerate the learning curve for your staff. CA Technologies field-proven mainframe best practices and training help you lower risk, improve use/adoption and ultimately align the product configuration to your business requirements.

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## Benefits

SMF data is critical as the primary source of input for analysis in regards to system capacity planning, system performance reporting, subsystem performance reporting, root cause analysis, utilization trending, security access control, database integrity, sub-capacity reporting, cost allocation and system auditing activities. CA SMF Director automates the process of managing this data, making it readily available to all users as they need it.

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## The CA Technologies advantage

CA Technologies has 30 years of recognized expertise in robust, reliable, scalable, and secure enterprise-class IT management software. CA SMF Director is a key component of the Mainframe 2.0 initiative from CA Technologies to change the way the mainframe is managed forever by helping you maximize the value of our mainframe products and by providing a simplified experience and innovative solutions that deliver value quickly and flexibly.