BIF/ICI HealthCheck for Db2 z/OS

Breaks down the ICIs into BIF & non-BIF groups

BIF/ICI HealthCheck

(Freeware)

Offers a batch run and batch report for easier decision-making:

- Do we have a BIF/ICI problem?
- Should we investigate more?

Identify BIFs (in Db2 12 and 13) that may cause problems in the future.

Detect static and dynamic SQL, matches to the relevant plans, collections, and packages.

Quantify the BIFs in ICIs (Incompatible Change Indicators) and count their occurrences

WLX BIF/ICI Detection

(Full version)

Shows text of static and dynamic SQL

Offers two separate presentation formats: Standard and Expanded

Exports to Excel for project management

The GUI is a Zowe App, or Plug-in for IBM Datastudio, or native in Eclipse

CDDC Continuous Delivery Deployment Checks

Uses BIF/ICI Detection as an option to check on Function Level, Catalog, Level and Code Level.

Background

In programming, you quickly learn the benefits of BUILT-in-FUNCTIONS (BIFs). They can reduce unnecessary coding - and therefore save time and money. When IBM is preparing to release new Db2 Versions, they point out problems that could arise with older versions of certain BIFs: CHAR, VARCHAR, TIMESTAMP, to name a few and there are also incompatibilities (ICIs) that are not BIFs. This was due to IBM moving towards the ANSI compliant SQL standard. IBM stated that the output of certain data formats in applications would be different. IBM also recognized that there would be massive effort required at sites to make all of the necessary changes, and offered certain toleration measures in order to maintain compatibility between release levels.

Using ZPARM BIF_COMPATIBILITY, or APPLCOMPAT (Db2 11 and above), a Db2 subsystem can be forced into behaving as if it were still running a prior version. The compatibility options make planning for the migration somewhat easier and support application stability. This strategy permits companies to delay the necessary program changes by allowing for consistent BIF behaviour, even after migration.

At some point, however, companies will have to expend the effort to address these issues. You still have to know where the BIF/ICIs are used and which programs are affected.

To estimate the scope of the problem, and the effort in manpower and time required, you need a quick and easy-to-use tool.

The **BIF/ICI HealthCheck** Freeware is the solution. It identifies Applications affected by incompatibilities. The tool generates a batch report to show how many are found in both static and dynamic SQL (The complete SQL text is only shown in the full product version).

Download your copy of the BIF/ICI HealthCheck Freeware from our website.