



DATASHEET

ADVANTAGES OFFERED BY ACC MONARCH

Allocation Control Center (ACC) Monarch is an IBM® z/OS® program product which provides comprehensive facilities for systemwide standards enforcement. ACC Monarch can automate routine storage management functions, standardize dataset allocation and use, and eliminate the need to change JCL or IDCAMS control statements.

Unlike many software companies, DTS Software develops all of its products in-house. ACC Monarch is supported and actively developed by its original authors, and is sold and supported by some of the most experienced storage management professionals in the business.

ACC Monarch standards can extend across the data center, enforced with powerful, easy-to-understand policy rules that control every aspect of dataset creation and access. ACC Monarch can manage all types of data, whether VSAM or non-VSAM, SMS or non-SMS, Db2, on any type of device.

ACC Monarch standards are extraordinarily flexible, allowing you to manage your datasets, devices, and JCL at the level you choose. All data sets, or some group of data sets, or a single data set can be selected for standards validation and enforcement, with dataset characteristics examined or overridden at the moment the dataset is allocated or used. Installations often establish customized policies for production versus test environments, or for particular types of application datasets.

The ACC Monarch Policy Rules Language uses a simple IF-THEN-ELSE that is straightforward and self-documenting. System standards for dataset size, buffering, format, placement, and more can be controlled easily, often using a single policy rule member. There is no need for a complex ISPF interface to keep track of multiple sets of rules and policies.

STANDARDS ENFORCEMENT

- Prevent production use of test resources and vice versa
- Over 300 variables describing dataset, device, and environment
- DSN, Job, Region, Buffers, Size, class, volume, unit, and more
- Selective, rules-based IF-THEN-ELSE standards
- User-Defined Messaging
- Examine/Correct JCL to meet standards
- Examine/Correct IDCAMS operands
- Enforce standards for both NEW and OLD datasets
- Control dataset creation, allocation, OPEN/CLOSE, rename, and delete

DEVICE SELECTION

- Standard or alternate device selection algorithms for DASD or tape
 - Max space, best fit, fragmentation index, performance, or “keep-away”
- Eliminate invalid UNIT or “dummy” volumes
- IGGPRE00/IGGPOST0 standards and overrides
- Tape device pooling/Restrict tape device or volume usage
- Automatically redirect tape to disk or disk to tape

The ACC Monarch Policy Rules Language has access to more than 300 variables that describe every aspect of device allocation, dataset creation, and dataset usage including OPEN/CLOSE and DELETE processing. The Policy Rules language, while easy to understand, contains full features such as nested IFs, DO-END groups, filter lists, tables, and called procedures. Standard pattern masking and even mathematical functions are available.

Messages and records defined in the ACC Monarch Policy Rules Language can alter users to standards violations or corrections made by ACC Monarch. Notifications and statistics can be sent to email, written to SMF or JES datasets, to the system log or TSO users, or other locations. Audit reports allow installations to identify problem areas and take action.

ACC Monarch includes both syntax-checking and sophisticated, comprehensive logic TRACE facilities for policy rules that make understanding and debugging policy rules simple. The single TRACE is easy to use and easy to read, unlike other products that may require several different, complex traces in order to diagnose errors.

ACC Monarch can use any of more than 300 policy rules variables available to enforce consistent standards across the environment. The ACC Monarch policy rules can be executed at many different points in the dataset life cycle, from the time the JCL is scanned to the moment the dataset is deleted. With ACC Monarch, you have the choice of simply recording a violation or statistic, rejecting a non-standard request, or dynamically updating the request on-the-fly to meet installation standards. Whether JCL attributes, SMS classes, IDCAMS control statements, or application dataset use, nearly anything that make sense to record or change can be done with ACC Monarch.



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DFSMS ENHANCEMENTS & FEATURES

- Examine and override SMS construct assignments
- Examine and use DFSMS configuration information
- Subpooling/volume selection within SMS storage group
- Create SMS Test Cases from allocation information
- ACS Routine Logic Tracing (SMSDEBUG)

VSAM FEATURES

- Intercept DEFINEs and examine/override/report cluster and dataset attributes
- Automatically change GDG definitions to GDG-E and set LIMIT and other attributes
- Enforce standards for RLS Logstream names and attributes
- Allow or prevent use of ERASE or other options for dataset DELETE
- Separate first volume data from first volume index component
- Provide or override VSAM buffering, including system-determined buffering (SDB)

ALERTING AND REPORTING

- User-defined messages, SMF records, emails, logs to multiple locations
- Automatically identify ENQueue holders when allocations fail
- Provide audit and debug trails for dataset creation, OPEN, rename, or other functions

LANGUAGE FEATURES

- Simple self-documenting IF-THEN-ELSE structure
- Filter lists, INCLUDE tables, called PROCedures, user variables
- Easy-to-use logic TRACE facility
- Command-based REFRESH and STATUS
- Automatic syntax checking
- No rules compilation required
- Automatically trigger JOBS, STCs, or REXX extensions