

CCIDRPT1- A Hidden Gem

One of the lesser known artifacts buried within the Endeavor product documentation is information on a report program with the potential to provide tremendous value to Endeavor administrators, users, and even managers. It is the Change Control Identifier (CCID) report CCIDRPT1. This report does not appear on the standard Endeavor user menu and is not a CONRPT. Instead it is a sample API program included with the Endeavor software.

CCIDRPT1 is written in COBOL and has been shipped with Endeavor at least as far back as R3.9. It reads control information entered by the user (such as inventory location, map options, search options etc.), examines the Master Control File as well as base and delta files, and captures every CCID used by the selected elements at each and every VV.LL. For sites that rely on CCIDs, this report can provide a wealth of information for project, defect, and production support change tracking as well as impact analysis.

To produce this report, you will need to compile and link the source into your Endeavor AUTHLIB and modify the sample JCL to suit your installation. The source and required copybooks are located in your installation source library iprfx.igual.SOURCE. Sample JCL can be found in your installation JCL library iprfx.igual.JCL (BC1JRAPI).

See the Endeavor API Guide - Appendix A for more information.

New R12 Endeavor Symbolic Simplifies Processor Coding

Endeavor R12 introduces the &C1SYSID symbolic which will contain the "system id of the current system the processor is running on". This addition to the list of reserved symbolics will simplify the method Endeavor Administrators use

to determine z/OS system image from within Endeavor processors. Administrators will find &C1SYSID useful when coding processors which have LPAR restrictions, such as DB2 binds, CICS new copies, and Endeavor package executions.

If you have empowered Endeavor to perform DB2 plan binds, you have probably already dealt with the issue of identifying the system ID. DB2 plan binds must execute on the same z/OS image as the DB2 subsystem. Prior to the introduction of this symbolic, administrators were challenged in developing a processor to ensure successful binds. One solution was to write an interface program to obtain the system id and pass a return code upon which to base further processing. Those who chose not to bother were left fielding calls from confused users struggling to understand odd Endeavor execution problems.

The introduction of this new 8-character symbolic should encourage further automation by diminishing the need for complicated processor coding. Processor steps can now be invoked simply by using IF-THEN-ELSE or EXEC-IF logic based on &C1SYSID values. This opens up the possibility of introducing new processor steps that could result in overall administrative timesavings. Such steps can range from producing meaningful informational messages associated with executing on an inappropriate z/OS system image to actually performing more complex system-specific functions.

See the Endeavor R12 Extended Processors Guide for more information.

Security Matters: WARN

If you are using Endeavor's External Security Interface (ESI) to control access to Endeavor menus and functions, take a moment to review the WARN parameter settings in your security table (typically named BC1TNEQU). The WARN parameter is intended for temporary testing of

security permissions. When set to YES, security violations are logged but no action is taken to restrict user access. While beneficial when setting up new Endeavor implementations or transitioning to ESI, it should only be used for a limited timeframe. Failing to reset the option to NO creates software vulnerabilities ranging from source code exposure to the possibility of a software breach.

The WARN parameter can be found in both the ESIDFLTS section of the BC1TNEQU table and in the NAMEQU format statements. If coded in the ESIDFLTS section, it applies to all Endeavor functions. YES grants full administrator authority to the general user community!

Setting WARN=YES in a NAMEQU format statement allows you to focus testing on specific resources such as the new security control point CONCURRENT_ACT_PROC introduced in R12. While similar software exposures exist if WARN is inadvertently left at YES, they are limited in scope to the resource(s) associated with the individual NAMEQU security control points.

Testing and monitoring access using the WARN=YES parameter setting can be a handy

tool. Just be sure it is set back to NO prior to final implementation.

RSH News

Coming this FALL! CA-Endevor Software Change Manager **End User Training**. This class provides detailed training for users seeking to gain a solid understanding of the CA-Endevor Software Change Manager tool and all of its functions associated with their role in the software change management life cycle. The course is scheduled for **September 23-24** in the Boston, Massachusetts's area. See our website for details and registration form.

For those of you who where unable to attend CA-World 2008, you can still obtain copies of our presentations from our website. Here is a list of the presentations available.

- Endeavor & Remote DB2 Binds
- CA World 2008 Conference Review
- CA World 2008 CARE Conference Review

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