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Update for Eccox Application Environment Management for Parallel Testing (Eccox APT) v1.8

How can DevOps practices help you increase innovation speed and business agility on the mainframe?

PRESS RELEASE MAR/2021

Eccox APT solution offers numerous benefits and support for companies looking to implement a DevOps Pipeline in Mainframe Environments, aiming to speed up their products' delivery more quickly and obtain better quality in tests of their applications.

To minimize problems arising from conflicts during the execution of the tests, especially when the databases are in constant maintenance, the companies appeal to the serialization of tests due to the lack of technology in managing the test environment. The serialization impacts the project's delivery speed. It generates backlogs and a lot of dependence among the teams involved until it reaches the test, costing time and money, not to mention the rate to obtain a return on a product launched to market.

Eccox APT automates infrastructure preparation processes for testing, enables the reprocessing of a given test, enables creating and executing isolated scenarios by containerizing applications by managing Containers (Test Tracks) using DB2®, VSAM, and Sequential bases, both in Batch and Online (CICS® or IMS/DC®), and MQ® Queues on the IBM z Mainframe Platform. Choosing the system components to be isolated allows the user to obtain their exclusive Test Track with cloned components and masses of tests that meet their specific needs. Documenting and transforming the tests into assets and re-run them at any time, with reduced cost. In this way, all plans and test cases are stored in the repository and available for audits and consultations or even serving as a live model for testing new systems or programs.

"We brought the whole mainframe to a WEB APP, where the user himself creates his test containers in a simple and fast way without depending on any other area and, in seconds, he can already run his real test on z/OS, with a lot of productivity increase and time savings."

(Maurício da Costa e Silva, Eccox CEO).

Amid digital transformations, clients have adopted or are adopting Agile Methods and DevOps Practices, searching the market for tools that add value to the daily lives of users, especially those that adapt to their processes, reduce rework, and generate more agility in the delivery of the software to the final customer.

When we talk about tests in Mainframe Environment, one of the biggest challenges is the conflict that the tests generate, mainly due to the difficulty in developing parallelism in the tests. For Provisioning the Test Environment, companies rely on several areas (Squads) to set up, and provision test environments, which can be a barrier to delivering applications to the end

customer, mainly since these activities are often performed manually and with well SLA extensive for completion.

With Eccox APT technology, we support customers in adopting agile approaches and methods and optimize software testing processes in Mainframe Environment, aiming to improve collaboration across the company. Eccox APT solution supports Continuous Testing on the DevOps Mainframe. This all brings a great opportunity to optimize the long lead times of projects, accelerate Time To Market (TTM), and promote a cultural transformation within organizations because SLAs are extremely low; in many cases, they reach SLA zero.

"APT has provided us with visible benefits to our projects. We can run the tests with the Manager in a controlled environment and automated tests that are very important for the project. We are having a positive experience with the use of the test containers so far. With time and more experience, we will work more quickly using the tracks."

(Eccox APT user)

The main news in this update of the Eccox APT:

- ❖ During the test Containers in the Mainframe environment, Eccox APT uses a proprietary identity known as Unique Identifier. During the execution of the tests, APT switches to the test container utilizing this feature. In this new release, a new process has been developed that allows users to obtain the content of the information defined for the test. Also, it avoids the conflict in the construction of new Containers with the same Unique Identifier.
- ❖ Functionality that allows the use of predefined clone transactions.
 - Possibility for Eccox APT to use a pool of transactions registered with CICS.
- ❖ Remodeling of the entire ISPF interface:
 - The Eccox APT ISPF interface has been redone. The objective was to facilitate the day-to-day use of the tool manager with a more intuitive interface.
- ❖ In the Configuration Setup, we carried out the interface screens' remodeling, allowing solution administrators greater agility and ease of use and making them more intuitive.
- ❖ As of this new release, Eccox APT is compatible with the Apache Tomcat Application Server.



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New Features of Eccox APT:

ECCOX APT DB2 LAYOUT MODIFIER FRAMEWORK

It allows you to clone a table, change its layout through, for example, SQL ALTER TABLE commands, and use this modified version in programs that use that table and are in the same changes package, allowing you to generate clones that, in addition to having changes in your code in relation to the Production version, also use a DB2 table with a different layout than the one existing in the environment, without any interference in the other modules that use the same DB2 table.

ECCOX APT FEATURE FOR IBM DEBUG TOOLS FOR Z/OS

It allows the simultaneous use of the Eccox APT and IBM® Debug Tool for z/OS® solutions, allowing a program clone's debugging as if it were the original program.

ECCOX APT CONTAINERIZATION FOR MQ®

Enables users of the Eccox APT solution to use MQ queues and messages, contemplating the following scenario:

- Cloning all messages from a given MQ queue in the Mainframe Environment, under CICS and IMS: the queue name will be used as the Unique Identifier. All messages in that queue would be redirected to a cloned transaction.

Contact

To learn more about the product, use our contact channels:

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ABOUT ECCOX

With more than 25 years of experience in the global software market, Eccox delivers results to clients in the financial market, industry, government, data centers, among others. Its portfolio of solutions and services allows reducing the consumption of MIPS/MSUs and increasing the availability of IT resources. In line with global trends, Eccox effectively seeks to continuously improve processes, quality and operational efficiency for its customers.



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