

# EMC Catalog Solution for z/OS



Meet your continuing business requirements by simplifying and accelerating recovery through catalog management

## The Big Picture

- Online Catalog maintenance
- Multiple backup and recovery methods
- Automated diagnostics and repair
- Comprehensive management of catalog updates
- Flexible reporting features

## Business Challenge

The ICF Catalog provides access to information using programs and applications running on your z/OS machines.

Catalogs can fail in several ways, causing inability to access part of the data or even a complete system halt. If the ICF Catalog breaks, business users will not have access to their data and will not be able to run their business. Therefore it is critical that catalogs are maintained on a regular basis. Regular and proactive management significantly reduces the risk of catalog-related outages. Furthermore, it is important to make sure your catalogs are being backed up in case of disaster and the need to recover. This recovery must be quick and easy.

## Ensure the health of your catalogs in five key areas: backup and recovery, diagnostics, maintenance, reporting, and SMF management

EMC® Catalog Solution®, a comprehensive facility for z/OS, allows you to easily manage and maintain your catalog environment by dynamically addressing the complex low-level details of catalog backup and recovery, maintenance, and repair. As the industry's premier catalog management tool, Catalog Solution provides users the ability to perform comprehensive management of the catalog environment in a fraction of the time and with greater reliability and flexibility than with any other option available.

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## Reliable catalog recovery

While routine backup of healthy catalogs is necessary for maintenance and management, recovering broken catalogs is critical for business continuance.

Catalog Solution takes an automated, “no nonsense” approach to simplifying your catalog backup procedures, allowing you to back up multiple catalogs to a single data set using familiar conventions. When the backup is executed, your entire catalog environment, including newly added catalogs, is dynamically included, thus automating your catalog backup process and eliminating the concern of missing a catalog during the backup process. Additionally, Catalog Solution has extended backup capabilities for VVDS processing using a single command.

The SMF data can be used to recover datasets with backup tools without the need to obtain a separate list of datasets to be recovered.

Users can dump and rebuild VVDSs, as well as provide forward recovery capabilities for VVDSs using SMF data. This eliminates the need to perform a costly and time-consuming full volume(s) restore that back-levels data when VVDS problems occur. As part of Catalog Solution’s unique VVDS capabilities, users are also able to consolidate extents or enlarge the VVDS using the DUMP and REBUILD process.

Catalog Solution includes user catalog aliases with catalog backups. These aliases can be restored independently for user catalogs attached to multiple master catalogs.

## Expediting catalog maintenance

Proactive maintenance of system catalogs is essential to providing around-the-clock operations. Catalog Solution improves system programmer productivity by expediting day-to-day catalog maintenance procedures. Catalog maintenance activities that used to take up to several hours because of necessary manual intervention can now be completed within minutes.

Catalog Solution provides easy-to-use diagnostics and repair facilities. These facilities help prevent minor problems from becoming major disasters. Problems in catalog structure and synchronization can be identified and corrected easily, before they affect system availability. For example, the DIAGNOSE command can check data structure, index integrity, and BCS/VVDS/VTOC synchronization. When appropriate, the DIAGNOSE command can generate the control cards to fix the errors it detects.

Catalog Solution also allows users to dump a catalog and reload it (reorganized) into a new, empty catalog. The catalog can be on a different volume or even on a different device type.

## No downtime

Catalog maintenance operations can be performed without the need to schedule catalog downtime. This enables the customer to have continuous business operations and, if required, repair catalog problems during normal production time.

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## Flexible reporting features

The flexible reporting features of Catalog Solution allow users to generate customized reports based only on selected entries-in a fraction of the time required by LISTCAT processing. You can select entries by name or by an entry's attributes and characteristics. The extensive capabilities of the SCAN function have established Catalog Solution as an excellent tool that is in direct alignment with an ongoing performance tuning effort. By eliminating the use of obsolete or inefficient VSAM parameters, Catalog Solutions extends the return on your investment.

## Comprehensive management of catalog updates

Catalog Solution provides a comprehensive facility for extracting and managing SMF data related to your catalog environment. Data needed for recovery is automatically logged, so if disaster strikes, information needed to recover is readily available, without reliance on catalog availability.

## Catalog Solution summary

Catalog Solution provides essential facilities in five key areas for managing the ICF catalog environment and VSAM datasets: maintenance, diagnostics, reporting, backup and recovery, and SMF management. By automating many manual tasks associated with catalog maintenance, Catalog Solution helps increase staff productivity as well as data reliability because of the ability to perform backups with greater ease. Day-to-day catalog management is vastly simplified as Catalog Solution provides a single point of control for all repair, recovery, and maintenance activities. Combining the strategies of these proactive and reactive features, Catalog Solution ensures a bulletproof catalog environment.

## Supported platforms

- z/OS

## EMC Mainframe Productivity family

EMC Catalog Solution is part of EMC's Mainframe Productivity family that is recognized by information technology professionals all over the world as the standard setter in obtaining optimum performance from MVS based systems. Our family of data management products provides a crucial resource that can help you meet today's challenges of:

- Reducing system costs by extending the life of business-critical applications
- Ensuring data availability
- Eliminating the need for manual tuning
- Rapidly pinpointing and isolating performance bottlenecks

## Take the Next Step

To discover how EMC Catalog Solution and other offerings in EMC's Mainframe Productivity family can meet your mainframe-based business challenges, contact your local EMC sales representative or authorized value-added reseller, call us at 1-866-464-7381, or visit our website at [www.EMC.com](http://www.EMC.com).



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