

racPack

RACF Mainframe Security

The SEA RAC/PACK is a family of products designed to help manage the IBM Security Server (RACF mainframe) more efficiently; thereby enabling the security professional to work more productively. RAC/PACK is comprised of three separate products. RA/2 for RACF Administration Auditing and Reporting; RA/7 for reporting on RACF security violations, and RA/8 for automating the process of handling RAC/8 connect profiles.

ra2

RACF Administration

RA/2 is an administrative, reporting and auditing facility designed to enhance IBM's RACF security system.

ra7

The RACF Report Writer

RA/7 is the Security Server (RACF) Reporting System for event reporting.

ra8

RA/8 - The RACF Auto Link - Manage RACF Connect Profiles

RA/8 automates the labor intensive process to manage RACF connect profiles.

ra2

ra2 is an administrative, reporting and auditing facility designed to enhance IBM's RACF security system. A data center can expand proficiency by utilizing ra2 to make complex and comprehensive inquiries in a shorter period of time than competitive products. It is easy to use for all administrative tasks including auditing, cross-referencing and reporting of your RACF security system. ra2 can also be used for making mass changes/additions to the RACF database, and ra2 uses only standard RACF commands and facilities.

ra2002 - AN INDEPENDENT, SUBCOMPONENT OF ra2

Provides centralized and decentralized administration from the live RACF database. Allows users to retrieve and maintain Group, User Dataset or General resources-related RACF from the "live" RACF database. There is no off-load required to obtain the information requested. An authorized user can view and change the RACF profiles accordingly. ra2002 generates the necessary RACF commands to perform any profile changes. Updates to RACF can be viewed instantly. ra2002 is a no-cost optional component of ra2..

RA/2 HIGHLIGHTS:

Interface with IBM's IRRDBU00 File

Maintains data integrity by standardizing with IBM.

Automatic Command Generation

Delete, change, clone, remove, transfer, merge both online and in batch.

SMF Reporting

Analyze RACF SMF data online, or in batch, to identify all violations, warnings and errors for specified events.

Help Desk Password Support

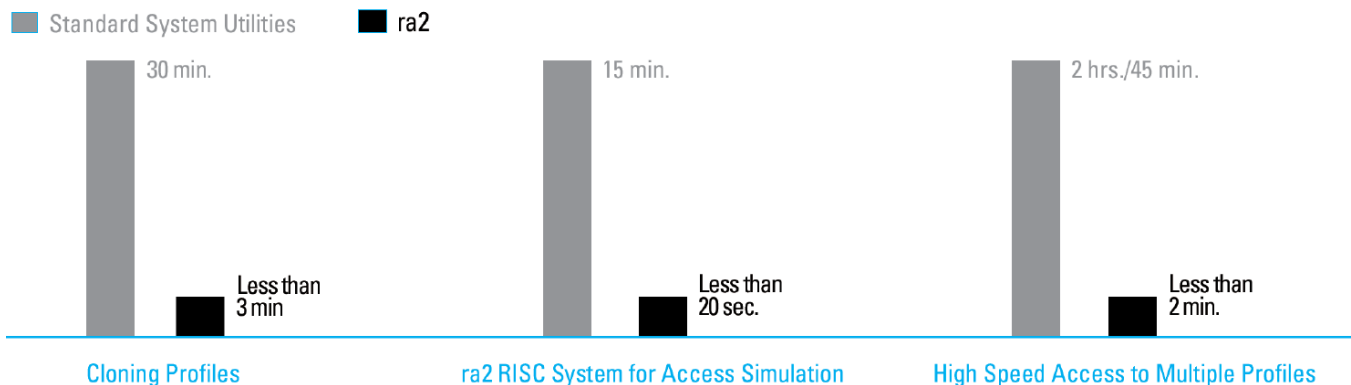
Authorized users can RESUME or REVOKE without the Group Special or System Special Attribute.

Decentralization

Scope of authority protection through decentralized RACF administration.

Pop-Up Menus

Perform RACF actions quickly within a pop-up menu.



The ra2 Cloning Feature reduces the manual intense work for the administrator by 90%

Allows the administrator to access resources to identify and rectify problems utilizing access simulation.

The ra2 Cloning Feature reduces the manual intense work for the administrator by 90%

ra7

THE RACF REPORTING SYSTEM

ra7 is designed to provide users with a tool that easily and quickly retrieves information on existing and new Open Edition RACF EVENT codes.

UNDERSTANDING RA7

ra7 is the RACF Security Server Reporting System for event reporting. It is a full replacement of the IBM RACFRW. An installation can use ra7 to report on Active or Off loaded SMF files. SMF data is usually very voluminous and it may not be of interest to the user in its entirety. Time and resources such as disk space can be reduced by simply using the ra7 unique selection criteria, to extract only the SMF information of interest to a specific user or site. It is structured to provide the user with multilevel information for summary and detailed reports with a wide selection of filters available on all fields. ra7 provides a single detailed report for each event code and its associated statistics. This allows users to have vital information always at their fingertips.

BENEFITS

Extend The Power of Your RACF Security Server

- Produce reporting on event codes in a timely manner
- Reduce time consuming administrative tasks
- Improve productivity of your Security Server Administrative

PERSONNEL

Extend The Power of Your RACF Security Server

- Monitor "access violation" and enhance security
- Reduce resource utilization to a minimum
- Rectify "access problems" on the fly
- Create comprehensive reporting using a wide range of filtering criteria on all fields for each report
- Generate more than 60 different reports

PRE-DEFINED REPORTS

With ra7 the administrator can generate more than sixty (60) event code reports and can use a wide range of filtering

criteria on all fields to select specific information. ra7 also provides detailed statistics for each event code and overall total statistics for all events.

FORWARD-LOG RECOVERY

The ra7 Forward-Log Recovery is used as a safety feature for situations where the RACF database becomes corrupted or data is lost due to a DASD crash and is unrecoverable even with the secondary RACF database. ra7 will easily recreate all of the commands issued using SMF records.

RESOLVE ACCESS PROBLEMS ON "The Fly"

ra7 is more than just a reporting system on event codes. With ra7 the user will be able to rectify problems immediately. If a problem such as an access violation occurs, ra7 will allow the user to make the necessary changes to the Security Server database and correct the problem immediately. Through the ra7 online panel the user can display a detailed picture on current access information for dataset and general resources. The user can instantly view who caused the events. If the user needs to change access information, all that he is required to do is type over the fields he wants to change, and make the change on the fly. The profiles can be re-displayed to have the assurance that the change was made as the user requested.

REDUCE RESOURCE UTILIZATION WITH ra7

Before ra7 was brought into the environment of a licensed user in the banking industry, 800,000 SMF records had to be off-loaded to disk every day. This caused excessive use of valuable resources, such as disk space, I/O and time.

Once ra7 was brought in, the resource utilization requirements decreased by more than 90%. The user no longer needed to offload the entire SMF file. By using the ra7 filtering criteria, they were able to extract only specific SMF information required by the user. ra7 gave the user the ability to reduce resource utilization dramatically and also have a tool available to create comprehensive reports in an efficient and timely manner.



THE RACF AUTO-LINK

Automates and speeds-up the handling of RACF connect profiles and RACF Functional groups.

ra8 manages the RACF profile relationships between user(s) and functional groups by using standard RACF resources. All information required by ra8 is stored in the RACF database to ensure full data integrity.

BENEFITS

Extend The Power of Your RACF Security Server

- Maintain integrity and enhance security
- Eliminate the possibility of human error
- Add automation to RACF profile management
- Maximize the administrator's time by giving them the tool to help them perform time-consuming tasks in a fraction of the time usually required

A major time-consuming task is to identify and to assign (connect) the access authority to all the resources for a user (e.g., when you have hired a new employee or an employee changes job activities (functions) within the organization.) ra8 will significantly decrease time required to complete this task.

RACF does not provide a mechanism to automate the process of removing or connecting RACF users to and from functional groups. Functional groups and RACF user-ID's share common characteristics in terms of accessing/using resources. However, these characteristics cannot be reflected by the IBM RACF product as through a common 'layer' of information.

IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY

Automate User Connects and Removes

Using ra8 for connecting or disconnecting users from resources is no longer a time consuming and labor intensive process. With ra8 the administrator can browse all of the existing models of a particular user by typing in the user's I.D., view what is behind the models, and which group or groups the user is connected to. If a user has to be reassigned to another department, the administrator can delete that user's model(s) and reassign the user to a new model by using other models available to the administrator.

MAINTAIN INTEGRITY AND ENHANCE SECURITY

Another great benefit of using ra8 is that it will help maintain integrity and enhance security. For example, if a user is being reassigned within the company, the user will be removed from these present functional groups and be reconnected to new functional groups. If the process is done manually, there is always the possibility of removing the user completely from the system. The users could still have access to resources that should not be available to them, thereby causing security exposure. With ra8 these errors will never occur. ra8 interrogates the RACF database identifying all of the functional groups the particular user is connected to and will properly remove the user from the system in a fraction of the time it would take to do it manually.

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