REXX for CICS/ESA

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- **Disclaimer**

  This discussion is about REXX for CICS/ESA, a set of products that IBM has announced an early customer program for, but has not announced for general availability.

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  CICS/ESA, IBM, MVS/ESA, OfficeVision, OS/2

- **Two products**

- **REXX language support for CICS/ESA**

  - **Native CICS application environment**

  - **Run-time facility**

- **And More**

What were design goals for REXX/CICS

- **Focus on Productivity**

- **Common REXX (across CICS platforms)**

- **Production REXX (suitable for use in a production environment)**

- **Distributed REXX (Client/Server enabled)**

- **CICS REXX (REXX language under CICS with CICS interfaces)**

- **Integration Platform (REXX is natural application integration platform)**

- **REXX prototype to IBM PP**

    - **From Assembler & REXX to PL/X & REXX for portability**

- **FROM TSO/E REXX base to direct use of REXX kernel**

Why Now

- **Growing popularity of REXX**

- **Growing emphasis on productivity**

- **Additional REXX implementations**

- **Product requirements**

- **Need for Application Integration platform**

- **Need for Common, Production REXX**

- **Need for high-level Client/Server support**

Highlights

- **Full REXX 3.48 language support under CICS**

- **Dynamic EXEC CICS command level support**

- **REXX interface to CEDA, CEMT**

- **DB2 Interface (SQL statements & DB2 commands)**

- **CICS native text editor for REXX execs and data**

- **High-level VSAM-based REXX file system (RFS)**

- **Execs may also be run from MVS Partitioned Datasets**

- **High-level Panel I/O facility**

- **Support for REXX Subcommands written in REXX**

- **Pseudo-conversational support**

- **System and user profile exec support**

- **Shared execs in storage (via EXECLOAD & EXECDROP)**

- **High-level Client/Server interfaces**

Need for REXX/CICS

- **As a tool to streamline support staff activities**
  - **CICS Systems Programers and Administrators**
  - **DB2 Analysts**
  - **CICS and DB2 testers, other support staff**

- **More productive CICS application development**
  - **Native CICS development (simpler)**
  - **Enjoy the strengths of REXX under CICS**

- **More flexible, powerful product customization & extension (macros)**

- **Quick prototyping and procedural language functions**

- **Preserve REXX investments in migrations**

- **Needed for products with REXX requirements**

- **As a script language to automate/streamline development sequences**

- **Help enable enterprise-wide Client/Server computing**

- **Better enable CICS end-user computing**

- **CICS Application Integration**

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REXX/CICS Basic Environment Support

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- **Invoking REXX execs**

- **Where execs run**

REXX File System (RFS) Features

- Hierarchical Directory structure (like OS/2, AIX)

- VSAM RRDS based

- No need to register most new users

- No need to register individual EXECs

- Import/Export to MVS Partitioned Datasets

- Management functions for members (COPY, DELETE, RENAME)

- FLST file directory interface utility

- An EXECIO-like I/O utility (RFS)

- Maximum records per member is approx. 2**32 minus 2

- Maximum VSAM datasets in a RFS filepool is 511

- Number of filepools is only limited by DASD

REXX/CICS Summary

- **REXX/CICS is more than just support for another language**

- **REXX/CICS introduces significant new capability**

- **REXX/CICS provides new approaches to CICS computing**

- **REXX is a good integration platform**

- **REXX is useful for serious programming**

- **REXX is a natural for Client/Server computing**

- **REXX is in step with current trends**

- **REXX + CICS = Greater Productivity**

- **?????**

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