

MEDIA RELEASE

The End of Disk is Nigh... QSystem Monitor Helps System i Managers Predict the Future

July 11, 2007 – **CCSS**, The monolithic release of this year's QSystem Monitor V12, from IBM System i solution developer CCSS, includes compelling predictive projection functionality that can be applied to virtually all system elements. The new capability gives Managers a valuable, action-critical time frame to stave off the consequences of escalating resource usage including temporary storage, response times and the number of transactions per hour on the system.

Creating a map of expected resource levels is achieved by calculating the rate of historical use. Paul Ratchford, Product Manager for CCSS says, "It's a very useful tool to be able to say, based on our past use history, we will effectively run out of disk on this day in the future unless we implement a clean up. A visual report that can be easily shared and understood can make for a persuasive argument as to forthcoming budget priorities or actionable tasks." For disk predictions, Managers can also choose between views that show daily use in a month period or monthly use in an annual period.

The wide array of system elements this can be applied to can reveal the significance of underlying issues impacting resource. For example, by creating a predictive projection based on Transactions per Hour, Managers will be able to determine that escalations are based on greater throughput of transactions by a static number of users or sustained transaction rates are increasing due to a rapidly growing user base. This information will be important when considering decisions relating to box upgrades, machine workloads or even if the issue is one of CPU or disk.

Managers dealing with the challenges of important groups of jobs, such as the universally problematic QZDASOINIT, can create a valuable guideline of what's in store to accurately reflect how these jobs might perform in the future based on their history. As this group is particularly susceptible to situations that can consume vast amounts of CPU, their impact on users carrying out urgent processing can be immediate and business operations hindered as a result.

Once Managers have generated their guide to growth, real-time thresholds can be put in place to ensure that they are alerted when resources reach a predetermined level so immediate

action can be instigated. This is especially useful if dramatic unforeseen situations interrupt the projection of 'normal' usage.

Aside from system predictive growth, the functionality can also be used for generating valuable business forecasts. Files of data from key business applications, such as order entry files can be used to gauge year end order numbers or similarly, number of customers, revenue estimates or product line sales growth. The predictive graphs can be easily exported in standard picture formats and shared across internal business sectors or posted to the company's Intranet for general purpose use or viewing.

ENDS

Screenshot: Predictive Auxiliary Storage for 2008. Solid blue months show actual usage and faded blue months show predicted usage.

About CCSS

CCSS develops, supports and markets IBM System i performance monitoring and reporting, message management and remote management solutions. An Advanced IBM Business Partner, CCSS develops powerful solutions to support some of the world's most demanding System i environments across many industries including insurance, banking, pharmaceutical and manufacturing. All CCSS solutions are certified IBM ServerProven.

Existing customers that rely on CCSS's feature-rich solutions include leading organisations such as Volvo, Mattel, Newell-Rubbermaid, The Royal Bank of Scotland, Siemens Medical, RWE npower and Waterstone's.

CCSS is headquartered in Gillingham, Kent, UK with key regional headquarters in Raleigh, North Carolina, USA; Bonn, Germany and Makati City, Philippines together with a global agent network spanning Portugal, Brazil, the Netherlands and Sweden.

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