

CCSS NEWS AND UPDATES

Pro-Active Systems Management Solutions for the iSeries

APRIL 2006

ISSUE 16

COMPANY NEWS



New feature in CCSS's QMessage Monitor enhances BRMS restricted state backups

Support staff can remotely respond to system messages via mobile phone

CCSS announces a new feature in QMessage Monitor (QMM) that enhances the automatic backup functionality of IBM's BRMS (Backup & Recovery Media Services). The new feature further expands the QMM functionality that enables operators to bring down a remote i5 system machine into restricted state, monitor the remote iSeries, run procedures and then bring the remote system back up.

"This feature is important to any user who can answer yes to the following three questions," explained Paul Ratchford, Product Manager at CCSS. "1) Do you use BRMS to perform your backups? 2) Do you run BRMS in restricted state mode? 3) Would you like to be able to run, and monitor, BRMS commands running in restricted state mode?" [Click here for full details](#)

TECHNICAL TIP



Implementing TCP Monitoring By Paul Ratchford

Our regular Technical Tips expert, Kurt Thomas, is currently on holiday so I have called upon Paul Ratchford for some assistance with April's Technical Tip to explain below how users can monitor TCP listeners on the iSeries.

These listeners are the key tasks that enable requests from outside sources to run on the iSeries. We use TCP listeners to run our own products. The TCP servers listen for requests from other iSeries and/or PCs, then start the appropriate jobs. A key application that relies heavily on TCP listeners is MQSeries.

Please see below a step-by-step guide to implementing the monitoring of TCP listeners and active TCP jobs for CCSS products within [QSystem Monitor](#).

Identifying the required commands

There are two commands that can be used for monitoring purposes:

MONTCPLSN - Check the number of TCP Listeners

This command is used to update a user text item to indicate whether TCP servers (or listeners) are running as expected. For instance, you could use the command to check that the FTP server is running, or perhaps MQSeries server jobs.

MONTPCNN - Get the number of TCP jobs active

This command is used to update a user data item to indicate the number of TCP jobs of a particular type

that are running. For instance, you can use this command to set up a user bar that shows the number of TELNET jobs running on the system, or the number of line printer daemon jobs.

Configuring the MONTCPLSN command

Determine which system the definition is to run on

From the QSM main menu select option 6: User Bars/Text Definition, and then option 2: Text Definitions. If you want to add an entry for the same bar on all systems you can select *ALL for the system name.

Defining the Text Header

Having selected F6 to add, you are now presented with the text header screen. Once descriptive details have been entered, press the enter key to define the command that is to be used.

Defining the Text Command

You are now presented with a screen where you must enter the command itself. As we are going to monitor the CCSS TCP listeners we will use the MONTCPLSN command and then use F4 to prompt it. For this example use the special values of *QMM and *QMSM for the from/to port. There are 41 special values to select from or you can enter specific port numbers.

We are expecting there will be a minimum of 2 listeners for the range of ports entered and these would be the MMTCPVSR and MONTCPVSR jobs.

We now need to define the text values associated with this command, so press enter.

Defining the Text Values

You are now presented with a screen where you must enter the text values associated with this command.

See the source for program MONTCPLSNC in file MONSRC for an explanation of the status codes used by this program.

Note you must also associate a colour with the text value being returned together with an alarm condition. Once all values have been entered press enter, and repeat, until you return to the menu. The text definition job will now be submitted to run in the MSM subsystem on the selected system.

Configuring the MONTPCNN command

Determine which system the bar is to run on

From the QSM main menu select option 6: User Bars/Text Definition, and then option 1: User Data Bars.

You are presented with a screen that shows you each of the systems in your configuration, together with an entry for *ALL. If you want to add an entry for the same bar on all systems select a '2' against the *ALL entry, otherwise select a '2' against the system you wish to add an entry for.

Defining the Bar Header

You are now presented with a screen of existing definitions. Select F6 and define the header record for the bar.

The 2 important fields on this screen are the bar number and the 3-character short description, as these must match those that you enter on the command definition in the next screen. Once entered, press F8 to define the command that is to be used.

Defining the Bar Command

You are now presented with a screen where you must enter the command. As we are going to monitor the number of active TCP jobs we will enter the MONTPCNN command and prompt it. Again use the special values of *QMM and *QMSM for the port numbers. Remember to use the 3-character short description from the last step.

Press enter, and repeat, until you return to the menu. The user bar job will now be submitted to run in the MSM subsystem on the selected system.

If you would like any additional technical assistance please contact us at support@ccsseurope.co.uk and we will be happy to assist you.

SHOW BUSINESS

IBM System i Spring Technical Conference
May 7-12 - Orlando, FL
CCSS Booth 10

We will be attending the upcoming **IBM System i Spring Technical Conference**.

If you are struggling with Sarbanes? Serious about Systems Availability? Desperate to tackle those Event Management issues? Stop by our booth at the forthcoming Technical Conference and talk to the experts. Our team will be on hand to help resolve all the iSeries issues that are holding back system productivity from routine daily operations to new security protocols and audit compliance agendas.

To make advance appointments for demonstrations, please send an email with your preferred time and contact details to: **us.sales@ccssltd.com**



As an existing customer of CCSS, you will continue to receive our regular email newsletter. If you would prefer not to receive future copies, please send us an email to **news@ccssltd.com** with the word **UNSUBSCRIBE** in the subject heading.

<http://www.ccssltd.com>

© 2006. All Rights Reserved.