



zCOST CCP-Tool– Frequently Asked Questions
IBM z/OS Capacity & Cost Planning Optimization



zCOST CCP-Tool FAQs

Question	Answer
Q1) Could we use the CCP-Tool solution to perform the zSeries Mainframe CPC sizing activity?	CCP-Tool analyzes historical SMF data (Type 70 & 89) and determines the global characteristics of the CPC (E.g. LPAR, MSU, Etc.) and summarizes MSU resource usage accordingly. As with all zSeries Server sizing activities, the CCP-Tool results should then be used in conjunction with the IBM zPCR sizing tool.
Q2) Could we use CCP-Tool for a particular application sizing activity?	CCP-Tool analyzes historical SMF data (Type 70 & 89) and determines global MSU resource and associated core z/OS MLC product (E.g. DB2, IMS, CIC, MQSeries, et al) usage accordingly. Thus changes in the usage profiles of these resources are possible, but an end-to-end view of a discrete application is not possible with CCP-Tool.
Q3) Is CCP-Tool easy to install?	CCP-Tool is a standard SMP/E install and is achieved very quickly with very few z/OS definitions.
Q4) Is CCP-Tool is easy to use?	CCP-Tool provides a GUI interface initiated by any standard Internet Browser (E.g. Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari, et al). Because CCP-Tool provides information about IBM zSeries resources, the user is expected to understand Processor Resource/System Manager (PR/SM) usage.
Q5) How quick or responsive is the CCP-Tool application?	The CCP-Tool architecture incorporates extensive use of optimized ASM code and data transfer over IP to the GUI display is also minimized and optimized, thus CCP-Tool is a responsive application.
Q6) What type of pricing mechanisms are available for the CCP-Tool solution?	CCP-Tool can be purchased as a perpetual license with an annual renewable support contract or optionally via a monthly lease/rental agreement. CCP-Tool can also be purchased via SaaS (Software as a Service) methodologies, where the customer can outsource some or all of their capacity planning processing.
Q7) We don't necessarily have the Capacity Planning or VWLC Software Asset Management (SAM) skills in-house, so could we use CCP-Tool to complement or supplement our own in-house Capacity Planning & SAM skill set? Optionally is it possible for us to completely outsource this Capacity Planning and Financial Management process to your company?	CCP-Tool can be easily deployed via a SaaS (Software as a Service) methodology and has a tiered hierarchy of several service packages. The entry level Classic package provides 8 days consultant expertise combined with complimentary usage of the CCP-Tool product; delivering an Annual 3 Year Capacity Plan and associated Financial Plan, supplemented by Quarterly trending reports, detailing actual versus projected usage and associated Financial report. The next level Expert package increases consultant expertise to 16 days, while additional days can be purchased for both Classic and Expert packages, as and if required. An optional Outsourcing package performed by zCost Management or one of their partners, in-house as opposed to at the customer location, can be individually tailored to customer requirements, as and when required.
Q8) How much z/OS resource does the CCP-Tool solution use?	The primary data source for CCP-Tool is SMF Type 70 & 89 data, which the customer will already be collecting. A HFS data store is used to maintain CCP-Tool data, which is then transferred to the GUI client using standard IP services. Thus CCP-Tool z/OS resource (E.g. CPU, Memory, DASD, et al) usage is minimal.
Q9) We don't have the time to learn yet another product & implement yet another reporting process to manage our z/OS environment & associated software costs!	CCP-Tool is easy-to-use & easy-to-install, providing familiar SCRT type reports for both the z/OS technician & the Software Asset Manager alike. CCP-Tool reports can be dynamically generated via an easy to use GUI, while these reports simplify the Capacity Planning and Software Asset management processes, reconciling hardware usage and associated VWLC software cost considerations.

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Question

Answer

Q10) Why should my organization deploy the CCP-Tool solution; what are the short-term & long-term benefits?

The primary objective of CCP-Tool is to deliver a common-sense long-term view of primary zSeries resources, integrating actual and projected hardware and associated z/OS software usage, but most importantly, from a Financial Management perspective. Therefore CCP-Tool simplifies the Capacity Planning discipline, while reconciling the associated Financial Management of software costs. As a minimum, CCP-Tool provides an independent audit of existing zSeries Capacity Planning processes.

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