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DAL for VTAM: Documentation for Writing SMF Exit

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TOPIC -----

We're testing DAL for VTAM and want to write our own SMF Exit -- however, we're looking for documentation on how to program our own Exit. (The only information we have is from the ReadMe file on the installation tape.) We don't need to know how to program an SMF Exit. We need more detail about the fields and values from DAL than what is specified in the ReadMe file.

For example, we noticed a field called "db2time" -- what time is this? Is it an accumulated value? Are there explanations about the fields and values coming from the DAL (VTAM) server in the DAL documentation? If there is, where can we find them?

DISCUSSION -----

The SMF exit refers to an IBM product, SMF (System Management Facility). SMF tracks resource usage under MVS and reports on it with a number of report formats.

DAL supports the collection of the standard items of data that people usually want to report. The ReadMe on the installation tape specifies the fields that will be returned (and the order in which they occur), if you wish to write your own exit to request the data. DAL does NOT give any information on how to write such an exit. It requires an Assembler programmer who is familiar with SMF -- at the very least.

There isn't any written documentation about the use of the exit other than the ReadMe file on the Installation Tape. The DAL SMF exit is called at each user's logon and logoff. The "times" will be zero at logon, and total amounts at logoff.

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