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DAL: MVS/VTAM Installation Effort (4/93)

Article Created: 22 April 1993

TOPIC -----

I have some questions regarding the installation effort with DAL for MVS/VTAM. I'm interested in evaluating DAL and would like to know how much time and effort is involved. I plan on using SMPE to install DAL: would this cause a problem? Also please provide a rundown of the installation steps and other related configuration changes (NCP gen, and so on) that would be required.

DISCUSSION -----

SMPE is the facility that IBM uses for the installation of their system software. It simplifies backing out of an installation if something goes wrong. Data Access Language's installation is very straight-forward and consequently is not set up to install under SMPE. Instead, the tape comes with the first file being JCL, which downloads the remainder of the files on the tape to a number of libraries (JCL, LINKLIB, and so forth) as appropriate.

The Installation Guide for the VTAM Server should give you a good idea of the magnitude of the task.

A length-of-time estimate would be difficult because each site's configuration can have an effect on the amount of time it takes to install. A range is from less than a day, to a maximum of three days.

If the product is installed in a site where:

- RACF is the security package
- Only 3270 (no APPC) connections will be made
- There is no problem installing with a high-level dataset name of 'DAL'
- The DBA is free to do the Bind and Grant in a timely manner
- The Systems Programmer takes the 1 1/2 to 2 hours to read the entire install guide before beginning
- The Systems Programmer verifies the install as defined on page 16 of the install guide
- There is someone on the client side familiar with Macintosh and what is required to connect with a 3270 session to the site's MVS system

Then it should take less than a day to install the server and make a connection from the Macintosh. No additional NCP definitions are required if you use 3270 (LU2) sessions off existing controllers, or gateways.

The security product ACF2 requires additional installation work, a SAF rule.

If SNA•ps is used for the connectivity, the connection process is likely to take longer to configure than Avatar or Netway, and so on. However, it is much more powerful, offering the opportunity to do APPC connections as well as 3270 sessions. It is the APPC configuration which can cause additional installation time, as changes may be required to the VTAM tables to define an XID and Log Mode to support LU6.2 connections.

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Keywords: <None>

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 12007