



Tech Info Library

DAL for MVS: Why use VTAM or TSO

Article Created: 29 June 1992

* RESTRICTED: Apple Internal and Support Providers Only *
Not For General Public Release

TOPIC -----

What are the reasons for installing a MVS/VTAM DAL server or a MVS/TSO DAL server?

DISCUSSION -----

TSO Server

The DAL TSO Server is a single-threaded server. Each TSO user has a copy of the server running in his TSO address space. Each DAL user must have a TSO ID, and must be able to access TSO, at least in native mode, to be able to run the server.

Some sites have insisted on running the server under ISPF under TSO. (ISPF is the feature of TSO which presents the terminal in formatted, full-screen mode rather than single-line command mode.) It's possible to run DAL under ISPF, but the overhead is even greater and ISPF can be more sensitive to the server, sometimes resulting in less consistent server stability. Running under ISPF should be discouraged.

The overhead of TSO itself is significant. When you multiply 602K (at a minimum) used by each server times the number of users active, it can result in quite a burden on an MVS environment.

If the environment can stand the overhead, there is an advantage to each user acting alone. They can't harm each other regardless of what they do, short of putting their server in a loop. This could affect the entire system, but isn't an easy thing to do. The TSO server has been available since March 1990 and is quite popular with many sites as it is a very stable environment.

VTAM Server

The VTAM server is a single server which allows multiple users to access it at one time. This server runs as a batch job (or a started task), and therefore doesn't have the overhead of TSO. It also offers a single job

for the systems programmers to track and evaluate resource usage. The server comes with a monitor program to allow the systems programmer or DBA to keep an eye on the server and the users.

The server is limited in the number of concurrent users supported, by the size of the region in which it is running. However, it is very easy to have multiple servers running when there are a larger number of concurrent users. The VTAM server also supports APPC connections, which is much faster than the 3270 connections.

Copyright 1992, Apple Computer, Inc.

Keywords: <None>

=====

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 10395