Energy Company Generates Bright Idea

ThruPut Manager® *saves company $200,000.*

The Challenge

Southern Company, the most admired electric and gas utility in America[1], had decided to retire their old VM system. This made good sense from an economic and strategic point of view. However the users had some concern

Under their VM setup, users could easily submit jobs to run a report in the z/OS environment and receive the results in their desktop email. They had to specify either a destination or a predefined "route print" statement. Easy to do and universally accepted, this facility was used by everyone from the CEO to the clerks in one of their divisions. Small accounting reports were effortlessly routed around the system and users were easily added or dropped as needed.

> *"The thing that struck me was that we were facing this huge conversion effort by our users and clients, and John was able to render a solution in under an hour. That was really impressive from a project point of view."*
>
> Joe Allen,
> VM-Retirement Project Manager

Solution without ThruPut Manager

Users would have to learn to convert their existing JCL to direct the output to a special writer and they would have to remember to do this for all new jobs as well. The cost was conservatively estimated to be $330 per user, for a direct total cost of $200,000. Time lost to errors, missed opportunities and reports gone astray were acknowledged but not estimated.

Solution with ThruPut Manager

As John Fleming, a Staff Information Systems Analyst, pondered the problem, it occurred to him that ThruPut Manager would provide the solution. He set up a rule to recognize jobs submitted by the former VM users. With another simple rule he dynamically changed the Sysout parameters for those jobs to provide the submitter's email address and direct the Sysout dataset to a writer capable of generating email. The result? Users didn't have to change anything. According to John it took 15 minutes to come up with the idea and another 30 minutes to implement and test it. Ingenious and simple.

Unexpected Benefits

According to Joe Allen, VM-Retirement Project Manager at Southern Company, this has been so successful that another division of the company has since become heavy users of the report delivery facility. If it hadn't been for the ThruPut Manager solution, the learning curve would have been such that they never could have stepped up to the opportunity.

This is one simple example of ThruPut Manager's powerful ability to change JCL on the fly. To learn more about what ThruPut Manager can do for you, contact MVS Solutions Inc. as below. Visit our website at www.mvssol.com.

[1] According to Fortune magazine's latest annual survey.
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