BMC AMI Pointer Checker for IMS

Maximize data integrity, availability, and performance for IBM® IMS™ databases

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

BMC AMI Pointer Checker for IMS maximizes data integrity and availability for IBM IMS databases by identifying internal database problems. It improves application availability and performance by proactively monitoring database space utilization.

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Finding pointer errors is challenging and resource-intensive, particularly now that fewer experienced IMS DBAs are managing increasing amounts of data. Your organization depends on the accuracy and completeness of its data. But procedural, software, and hardware errors can threaten the integrity of your databases. When these errors occur, you must detect, analyze, and correct the corrupted data as quickly as possible. Because your IMS databases must be available 24x7, you don’t have much time to validate database integrity. You must balance data integrity requirements with wise usage of available resources.

BMC SOLUTION

BMC AMI Pointer Checker for IMS validates, analyzes, and repairs IMS databases quickly and efficiently. When you run the Hash Checking technique concurrently with the image copy or the recovery, the I/O operations to the database data sets are performed only once, saving CPU resources and elapsed time. You can run the Hash Checking technique at the same time you copy or recover the database, with little increase in the elapsed time required for just the image copy or the recovery. If BMC AMI Pointer Checker for IMS discovers a pointer error, you can use the Full Checking technique to generate intensive diagnostic information about the problem. If necessary, you can use the Database Zap utility to repair the problem interactively. In addition, BMC AMI Pointer Checker for IMS gathers space usage and database statistics during the pointer checking process so you don’t need to run a separate step to get this important information. It can notify you when statistics deviate from established thresholds, thus automatically monitoring the condition of the database.

KEY FEATURES

• Validates pointers (using either full or hash checking) concurrently with backup and recovery processes
• Proactively monitors database space utilization
• Provides interactive charts and tables that display current state and historical information about jobs, databases, database partitions, data sets, and segments

KEY BENEFITS

• Ensures data integrity
• Provides utilities for diagnosing and repairing structural problems in IMS databases
• Improves availability by validating pointers concurrently with image copy and recovery tasks
PRODUCT DETAILS

Improve availability while using resources efficiently:
BMC AMI Pointer Checker for IMS improves availability by:

• Verifying pointers during image copy or recovery using less CPU time and fewer EXCPs than IBM IMS High Performance Pointer Checker
• Reducing EXCPs and elapsed time by using alternative access methods and parallel processing
• Offloading eligible processing to the zIIP
• Running concurrently with image copy or recovery processes performed by BMC AMI Backup and Recovery for IMS

Ensure data integrity: BMC AMI Pointer Checker for IMS helps you protect critical IMS data by:

• Validating the database from an image copy, verifying that the image copy is readable and the database is free of pointer errors
• Incorporating threshold monitoring to warn of potential problem areas before they affect data availability
• Verifying pointers each time an image copy or recovery is performed

Analyze and repair databases: BMC AMI Pointer Checker for IMS diagnoses and fixes database structural problems by:

• Collecting database statistics and information about space usage and comparing them to thresholds you set to provide alerts allowing you to repair broken databases, verify data content, or learn the internal structure of IMS DL/I databases with the online Database Zap utility
• Enabling you to create hard copies of database blocks in DUMP, DL/I, or EXTENDED DL/I format with the DL/I Block Dump utility
• Analyzing the effectiveness of the HDAM randomizing parameters currently defined for a database and the effect of changes to those parameters with the HDAM Randomizer Analysis utility.

The BMC DBA Toolkit for IMS, included with BMC AMI Pointer Checker for IMS, provides a single interface to all the IMS databases in your enterprise. With each BMC reorganization utility execution, information about what maintenance has been performed (and when) on a database is automatically recorded and accumulated into monthly and yearly reports so you can analyze trends. Interactive charts and tables display current state and historical information about jobs, databases, database partitions, data sets, and segments. A Disassembly function ensures that the source code for IMS control blocks is available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
To learn more, please visit bmc.com/ims

About BMC
From core to cloud to edge, BMC delivers the software and services that enable over 10,000 global customers, including 84% of the Forbes Global 100, to thrive in their ongoing evolution to an Autonomous Digital Enterprise.

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