

# BMC Extended Terminal Assist Plus for IMS™

Add or modify IBM® IMS™ terminals quickly and easily while reducing costs

## PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

BMC Extended Terminal Assist Plus (ETA™) for IMS eliminates the need for an IBM Extended Terminal Option (ETO) license, reducing mainframe monthly license charge (MLC) software costs for IBM software. ETA eliminates the need to write user exits, and it provides quick and simple system modifications through an easy-to-use interface. You can add or modify terminals quickly and easily, freeing your time for more meaningful tasks.

## BUSINESS CHALLENGE

IBM provides the ETO product at an additional cost. ETO allows terminals, printers, and LTERMs to be created dynamically, reducing IMS downtime and cutting waste of computing resources associated with IMSGENs. However, ETO presents some limitations and challenges. For example, the ETO default dynamic terminals and other elements require additional configuration before they will meet the needs of most environments. To configure ETO terminals and peripherals, you must create or modify descriptors and write user exits in assembler language. Assembler skills are dwindling, and writing user exits can introduce risk.

## BMC SOLUTION

BMC ETA provides the ability to dynamically deactivate, reactivate, load, reload, and check the status of exits in an IMS control region without an IMS outage. It eliminates the need to manually code and maintain user exits. ETA can replace ETO, saving on those license costs. The ETA online interface and dynamic change capabilities allow you to customize IMS systems more quickly, eliminate IMS restarts for system customization changes, and provide a central repository for customization information. ETA provides the ability to dynamically activate, deactivate, reload, or check the status of user exits and improves security.

## KEY FEATURES

- Provides multiple table lookups and error checking during data entry
- Automatically terminates conversations during SIGNOFF
- Eliminates IMS restarts for implementing needed system customization changes
- Enables system administrators to secure IMS commands by keyword
- Allows RACF sign-on to be performed with ETA AUTOSIGNON to provide a secure logon

## KEY BENEFITS

- Saves system support time by eliminating the need to code and maintain exits
- Enhances availability and flexibility for the most complex environments
- Improves integrity by providing error checking during data entry
- Reduces MLC costs



Customize IMS systems more quickly.



Eliminate IMS restarts for system customization changes.



Provide a central repository for customization information.

## PRODUCT DETAILS

**Instant implementation:** ETO requires an IMS restart to implement any exit changes or descriptors, which means choosing between delaying users' requests until the next scheduled restart or taking IMS down and losing availability. With ETA, changes to the system are immediate.

**Intuitive online interface:** The ETA online interface checks for errors during data entry, offers extensive online help and gives value prompts for many data entry fields. Benefits include:

- Ability to activate options and select correct values without extensive research
- Executions of IMS customizations properly the first time, every time
- Elimination of additional customization changes and IMS restarts that would otherwise be required to correct errors found during IMS terminal checking

**Flexible, easy customization for complex environments:**

The TSS table lookup facility allows you to quickly implement system-wide changes as well as changes that apply to groups of nodes, LTERMs and/or users. Any ETA session can be used to review, change, or add information to TSS tables on any IMS system at your facility. Additionally, TSS can be used to store system customization information.

**Continuous IMS availability:** ETA can eliminate the IMS restarts otherwise required to implement needed system customization changes. If ETA is used to perform system customizations for all of your IMS systems, all changes are made online and all changes are completely dynamic. If the user exits and descriptors have already been created to perform some of your IMS system customizations, ETA provides features that allow you to implement changes to them without performing restarts.

**Command Security by Keyword:** This feature allows you to specify which users have authority to use specific keywords or groups of keywords for IMS commands. Standard IMS security facilities allow users to issue all variants of the START command, or none. With the Command Security feature, you can provide personnel with only the command authority they need, without the risk of accidental use of commands they don't need.

**Secure logon:** During application change windows, often a new release of the application will be moved into production, but the application development team would like to validate that everything is working before opening up the floodgates to the general users. The secure logon would allow only a select few users to logon during this validation period. Once the new release has been verified, the secure logon feature could be released.

**Automatically exit conversations during SIGNOFF:** This feature removes any residual messages from a conversation that might be queued up to an LTERM. It is particularly valuable when shift workers take over a terminal from someone else.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more, please visit [bmc.com/ims](https://bmc.com/ims).

## About BMC

BMC delivers software, services, and expertise to help more than 10,000 customers, including 92% of the Forbes Global 100, meet escalating digital demands and maximize IT innovation. From mainframe to mobile to multi-cloud and beyond, our solutions empower enterprises of every size and industry to run and reinvent their businesses with efficiency, security, and momentum for the future.

**BMC – Run and Reinvent**

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