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Tubes is a feature-rich session management solution that provides a single point of secure and controlled access to applications running on IBM mainframe systems and beyond

Simplified session management
Secure, flexible and user-friendly multi-session management for IBM zSystems

Tubes provides a secure and user-friendly means of single-terminal access to multiple applications (via VTAM and TCP/IP) running on IBM mainframe systems and other platforms. Through its simplified and automated application sign-on process, Tubes provides more flexible access to applications and offers the following additional benefits:

- Improved system accessibility and control through comprehensive user, profile and application security functions

- Increased flexibility in exploiting the power of z/OS through native, web and Eclipse interfaces, with potential for cost savings by using browser access in place of terminal emulation software

- Instant web enablement of any mainframe application accessed through the Tubes browser interface

- Seamless integration with external security products for easier security administration

- Significant reductions in network traffic through compression of inbound and outbound data streams

- Simplified system management and application performance monitoring, also within a Sysplex environment

Session management

Tubes is a leading session management solution that provides users with secure, flexible, user-friendly and responsive access to mainframe, IBM i and UNIX VT220 applications.

From a single sign-on, Tubes provides concurrent multi-session application support. User menus and sub-menus are built dynamically from security profiles defined within Tubes, RACF, ACF2 or equivalent. End users can switch easily between application sessions, with no loss of context, leading to greater efficiency and productivity.

Tubes offers a comprehensive suite of features, including system management; application performance monitoring; online and batch administration; helpdesk support; Sysplex workload balancing; and Sysplex-wide messaging and auditing.

An optional Tubes browser interface provides convenient, 24/7 user access from PCs and mobile devices and avoids the costs of using 3270 terminal emulation software, as well as delivering instant web enablement of any mainframe application, with no development effort.

Tubes
for z/OS

Automated and integrated
signon and security

Improved system
throughput and reduced
network traffic

Self-administration
capabilities

Application performance
monitoring and trend
analysis

Secure Tubes access

Tubes is SAF compliant and seamlessly integrates with external security products such as RACF, ACF2 or equivalent. Access to Tubes can be secured by terminal, passwords and password phrases, or userid. Tubes can also be secured to prevent access from unattended terminals.

Tubes is fully enabled for IBM's multi-factor authentication system for z/OS; this allows additional security to be applied without updating the underlying business applications.

Secure application access and control

User authority and capability can be secured through internal Tubes security or external security products, allowing you to restrict system and application features, functions and commands to specific users.

Access to individual applications can be secured and user menus and sub-menus can be dynamically built, providing users with a restricted list of available applications. Single sign-on can be enabled through the use of passtickets or certificate express logon.

Sysplex support

A single view and administration facilities are available to organizations running multiple Tubes installations across a Sysplex environment. Workload balancing, configuration sharing, Sysplex-wide messaging and auditing, and automatic user reconnection functions are all available.

Tubes administration

The Tubes administration functions enable authorized users to add, update and delete users, profiles and applications. Self-administration functions allow authorized end-users to tailor their own working environment. Batch administration functions are also provided, enabling mass updates to be run as batch jobs.

Data stream compression

The Tubes Network Data Minimizer, 'MISER', compresses both inbound and outbound data streams by transmitting only changes that have been made to the data. This significantly decreases network traffic, which eliminates bottleneck problems and improves system response times.

Automation

The powerful Tubes Panel and Script Language (TPSL) can be used to automate processes such as signon.

Exit points contained within Tubes provide greater flexibility for organizations that require specific event-driven logic and actions to occur.

Application optimization

Tubes allows output from one or more sessions to be collected selectively and displayed on user-defined panels, in effect creating a new application.

Monitoring and reporting

An integrated performance dashboard supports service level improvement by monitoring key metrics such as response times and user activity. Users can view historical trends, perform data extrapolation, compare multiple time slices, set warning thresholds, and trigger exception notifications.

In addition to integrated monitoring, Tubes enables real-time management reporting of application performance and user activity through Splunk, and also supports TIBCO JasperReports and all other leading business intelligence and reporting tools.

Intuitive user interfaces

Tubes can be accessed using web, Eclipse and native 3270 interfaces, all of which are intuitive and easy to use.

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