

StarTool FDM

A Comprehensive Tool For Your Data Center

Today's z/OS data centers operate under competitive business pressures and challenging budget limitations. "Do more with less" represents a standard management expectation rather than a temporary austerity program. Serena® StarTool® FDM puts today's IT on the road to really doing more with less with a wide and unique set of data management capabilities.

Serena StarTool FDM provides a unified data management workbench for z/OS that can be employed across the entire data center. With StarTool FDM, users can edit and manage PDS, PDSE, sequential, DB2, IMS, and VSAM data – as well as their file characteristics – with one comprehensive tool. StarTool FDM simplifies complex data and file management tasks. The need for multiple tools, batch utilities, and maintenance-intensive custom routines is eliminated. Application and systems programmers, operations specialists, production control, and any staff who use ISPF quickly become more productive.

StarTool FDM Key Capabilities

Working With Data

Serena StarTool FDM provides all the file editing flexibility one would expect in the z/OS environment. But file editing is only one facet of FDM's value.

With Serena StarTool FDM, users can easily customize views of data set, member, and file lists. The key to its flexibility is the FDM member list – the set of members or datasets which are of interest to a programmer. FDM combines data from multiple sources, including the systems catalog and VTOC, to provide more than fifteen types of information about the status and characteristics of data sets or members. Programmers can add or remove entries from the member list, merge in entries from another member list, and otherwise isolate the data of interest.

BENEFITS

- Simplifies files management tasks
- Increase productivity using one unified tool for all data types
- Accelerate problem resolution when production files must be updated
- Recreate application logic quickly and improve recovery time for PDS-related problems
- Eliminates the need for homegrown file and data routines

Additionally, StarTool FDM includes many facilities needed for working with load modules or program objects. As an example, FDM displays the link-edit date of load modules in a member list, and provides unique commands to describe the history and other information about a load module.

Further aiding productivity, StarTool FDM member lists can be named and saved for recall in a later session. This is a valuable productivity contribution for multi-day research projects, to identify one use case.

Serena StarTool FDM offers one-step solutions to the most common problems that applications and systems programmers face when working with all partitioned datasets (PDS). FDM can expand PDS directory blocks and space allocations “on-the-fly,” restore deleted or previously edited PDS members, verify and fix physical and logical errors in members (if necessary, altering the DSCB), and rename data sets, even if the data set is locked by an ENQ (data set enqueue).

The StarTool FDM IMS and DB2 options also browse or edit IMS databases and DB2 tables with an easy-to-use, ISPF-oriented user interface. The IMS option even edits non-keyed segments.

Advanced Functionality Even Outside ISPF

With Serena StarTool FDM's standard Batch Facility, large data and file management jobs can be run under TSO native line mode in batch, rather than interactively through ISPF. The Batch Facility allows users to use standard Serena StarTool FDM commands and sub-commands as input to a batch processing job. With Serena StarTool FDM, large one-time jobs and repetitive jobs can be run more efficiently from saved JCL and control streams.

This uses TSO in batch (IKJEFT01) rather than ISPF, removing the need for manual intervention in complicated repetitive processes. Most FDM commands are available in both ISPF and in TSO line mode.

The standard Started Task Facility in Serena StarTool FDM provides a unique method for accessing and altering data sets, and their contents, without the availability of VTAM, TSO, or JES. Using MVS's subsystem interface, this ability for systems programmers to communicate through a z/OS console to perform line mode commands makes it feasible to make changes that can recover an otherwise unusable z/OS system and prevent the need for an IPL.

Load Module Expertise

FDM's extensive load module management facilities allow users perform complex tasks in a single step. With Serena StarTool FDM,

FEATURES

- Quick, powerful, one-step commands
- Comprehensive VSAM editing
- Edit and manage DB2 and IMS databases
- Format data with COBOL, PL/1 and BAL copybooks
- Restore deleted members and recover lost source code immediately
- Supports bulk file processing in batch mode
- Batch or TSO/ISPF support

users can interrogate a single module or selected subset of modules to assist in identifying properties, such as COBOL compile attributes and IDR DATA. The load module data can then be used to generate JCL to re-link a module, or disassemble modules for which the source code cannot be located.

Systems programmers can also use this data to generate SMP/E control statements, assign member aliases, or alter load module attributes without re-linking modules. FDM can display all types of data associated with a load module, search for a load module by name, attributes or contents, and process selected modules with a wide variety of built-in tools.

One use case is tracking down missing link-edit JCL, which may be a time-consuming and frustrating chore. Serena StarTool FDM simplifies this often tedious task by providing tools to recreate link edit JCL and control cards using only the load module itself as input.

The FDM MAP subcommand reveals the structure of any member or group of members giving a list CSECTS. This gives immediate insight into the makeup of a load module and its subroutines. Identifying programs which use an obsolete version of a subroutine is a typical use case for the MAP or HISTORY subcommand capabilities.

Putting Serena StarTool FDM To Work For You

Talk to your Serena representative today about a demonstration or trial installation at your site to see how Serena StarTool FDM can improve your productivity.



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Serena Software provides Orchestrated application development and release management solutions to the Global 2000. Our 2,500 active enterprise customers, including a majority of the Fortune 100, have made Serena the largest independent Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) vendor and the only one that orchestrates DevOps, the processes that bring together application development and operations. Headquartered in Silicon Valley, Serena is a portfolio company of HGGC, a leading middle market private equity firm.

Integration with ChangeMan ZMF

Seamless integration with Serena ChangeMan ZMF quickly and accurately identifies the latest application code changes and listings.

This speeds up the process of solving application availability problems associated with outages or poor application performance.

This integration allows you to view the change history to see why a change was made, who made the change, and when it was made, and it capitalizes on the change management investment your organization has made with Serena ChangeMan ZMF.