



Image FOCUS ensures, to the extent possible, the maximum availability of a z/OS Sysplex and its Images.

About Image FOCUS 16.0

Image FOCUS is an Integrity Controls Environment (ICE) Application whose primary function is to provide Inspection and Baseline services to users of the z/OS operating system, its subsystems and Parallel Sysplex.

Inspection Services

Inspection Services performs a "Virtual IPL" of each Image beginning with the validation of the IPL Unit Address and LOADPARM, PARMLIB and PROCLIB. Members are checked for syntactical correctness and related datasets for referential integrity and attribute characteristics that would result in a future IPL failure. Subsystem and Sysplex relationships are inspected and/or cross-checked with other Images.

Baseline Services

Baseline Services builds and stores a "Blueprint" of valid, viable configurations. Each contains the content of configuration members and/or files discovered during the "Virtual IPL". Each Baseline is automatically updated at a defined monitoring interval. Continuous updates ensure working configuration copies and provide the basis for configuration change detection.

Image FOCUS 16.0 Product Enhancements

Inspection Message Management

Using a newly provided Image FOCUS Configuration Member, NSEMSG00, users may optionally exercise control over the degree of severity embedded in Image FOCUS Inspection Messages. By default, Inspection Message Severity is automatically determined from Internal Control Tables that are based on published IBM documentation and years of real-world experience and user feedback. This new user controlled feature can be used to optionally override these default findings with those deemed more appropriate for their operational environment.

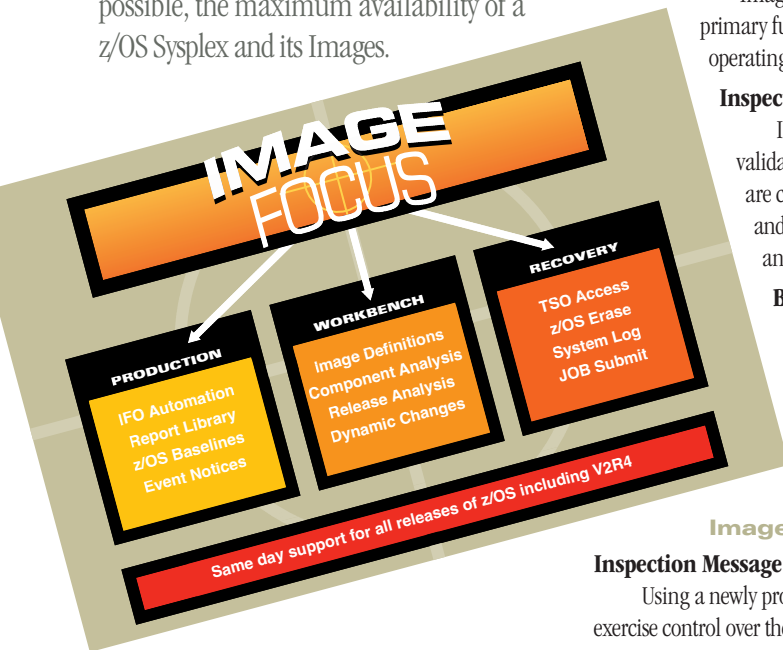
When this optional feature is in use, all affected Inspection Messages - those changed to a greater or lesser severity - are summarized in a new Image FOCUS Audit Report Segment, The Message Filter Report, that discloses the content of NSEMSG00 and its impact on the Image FOCUS Inspection Results.

IPL Start Parameter Determination

IFOBATA and IFOBATS, Image FOCUS Batch Inspection Applications, will now optionally and when used automatically, determine the IPL Start Parameter of their Running System(s). This timesaving feature enhances the productive use of Image FOCUS by allowing a single Image FOCUS Batch Procedure (PROC) to be deployed across the entire sysplex without regard or concern for the actual IPL Start Parameters used by individual Images or subsequent changes to same.

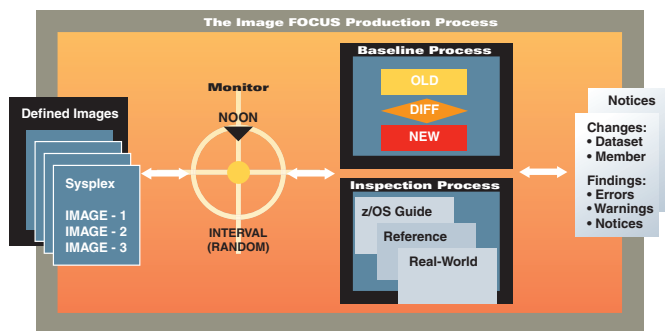
Establishment of The Controls Environment

A summary of Image FOCUS Inspection results, The Sysplex Inspection Audit Log, is now automatically posted to The Control Journals established and maintained by The Control Editor. Image FOCUS and The Control Editor now work together to establish a "Controls Environment" where all system changes, staged or dynamic, and their impact on system state and integrity can be captured, fully disclosed and easily attributed to their originating source. Recent enhancements to The Control Editor leverage these postings into a single point of control interface that allows for the creation of sysplex-wide Compliance Documentation.



To accomplish this, the power of Image FOCUS and its companions – Change Detection and Inspection Server – are grouped into "Views". Each "View" – Production, Workbench and Recovery – is designed to support a focused set of management activities: New Release Analysis, Change Analysis, System Recovery and Image/ Sysplex Inspection. Each enables the Image FOCUS user to quickly gain a full understanding of the complete z/OS configuration.





The Image FOCUS Inspection Server

The Image FOCUS Inspection Server is built from a collection of z/OS operating system, JES2/3, VTAM, TCP/IP and CICS configuration rules researched and/or developed, through an ongoing process, by NewEra from available IBM documentation and real-world experiences. The resulting proprietary “Rule Sets”, which include a full understanding of the configuration syntax, the IPL search order process and configuration component relationships serves as the standard against which each z/OS configuration is compared. Discovered nonconformities are reported at three levels of severity – Errors, Warnings and Notices.

Errors	Next IPL will fail
Warnings	Next IPL may fail
Notices	Will not result in an IPL failure

Image FOCUS can redirect the Inspection Server to evaluate Running, Developing, Backup/Recovery, and Future z/OS system configurations. For example, the Image FOCUS function New Release Analysis will isolate areas in your Running System’s operating system or subsystem configurations that will need to change in order to become functional when moving to a Future release of z/OS.

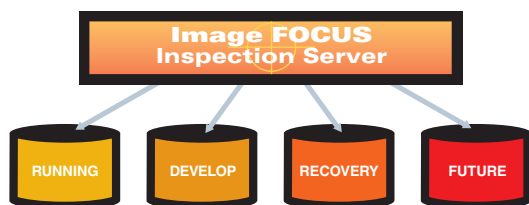


Image FOCUS Change Detection

With each inspection cycle, Image FOCUS rediscovers the prevailing components that comprise the configuration. In addition to inspecting each



component, Image FOCUS PACKAGES the discovered set and stores it as a baseline copy. With each successive cycle, the newly discovered baseline is compared with the last to identify and report any discovered changes.

Image FOCUS Subsystem Inspectors

When running inline during an Image Inspection, the Subsystem Inspectors (JES2/3, VTAM, TCP/IP and CICS) leverage and extend the base functions of the z/OS Core Inspectors. Subsystem Inspection findings are added to the Image FOCUS Inspection Log, while discovered components are stored with the configuration Baseline.

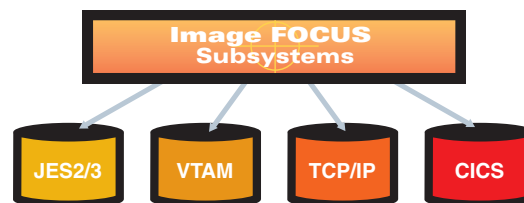
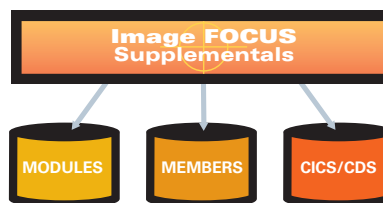


Image FOCUS Supplemental Inspectors

The Image FOCUS Supplemental Inspectors complement and add depth to the z/OS Core and Subsystem Inspectors. Their primary directive is to extend the scope of inspection and blueprinting beyond Prevailing components. The logical grouping of datasets, The Control List, which controls the Supplementals during execution, can be automatically determined and or user-defined.



“...I wish we had our own z/OS sandbox; a place where we could build and test future systems and train the new guys and gals on how to configure and support z/OS- a sandbox where we could teach them what it’s really about. But in our shop, system availability is everything and we just didn’t have the resources to set things up the way we wanted. Image FOCUS solved all of that for us. With its “Virtual IPL” capabilities, today we can execute a virtual start of z/OS anytime we like without impacting our business systems. This has made testing changes a whole lot easier and reduced the number of IPL failures. Staff new to z/OS is learning quicker, just like the old days.”