

zed TALKS

z/OSMF User Survey Results - Aug-2018 and Feb-2019

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Presented by

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With

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Introduction: Who am I?

A technical person with a creative background.

Science and the arts - Eclectic education and interests.

Chemistry Lab, Research, Libraries, Banking, IT/Office Management,
Tech Support.

Creative solutions to technical problems.

Visualization of RACF Password Symbols paper.

SHARE Speaker: San Antonio & Atlanta '16
 San Jose & Providence '17
 Sacramento '18 & St. Louis '18
 Phoenix '19



What is z/OSMF?

z/OSMF (z/OS Management Facility) provides a web-based interface that allows you to manage various aspects of your z/OS systems through a browser at any time, from any location.

z/OSMF provides you with a **single point of control** for:

- Viewing, defining, and updating policies that affect system behavior
- Monitoring the performance of the systems in your enterprise
- Managing your z/OS software
- Performing problem data management tasks
- Consolidating your z/OS management tools.



Purpose of these surveys:

z/OSMF installation

- ESM environment
- Installation date
- Challenges with install / config / security / etc...

z/OSMF usage

- Is it in use?
- What parts are being used?
- User comments



Surveys results:

Survey 1

Started 8-3-2018

Ended 8-16-2018

Responses: 73

Survey 2

Started 2-13-2019

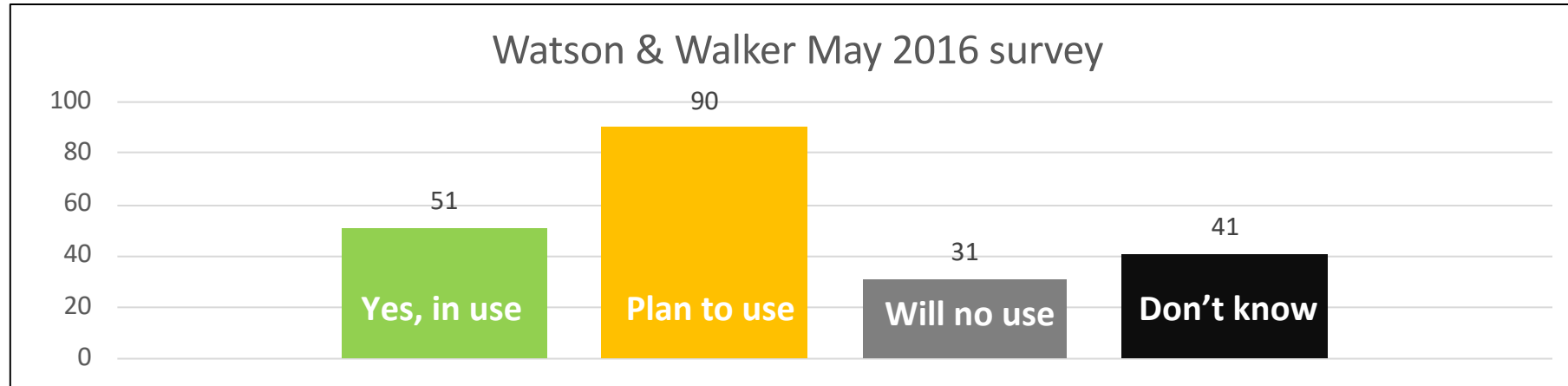
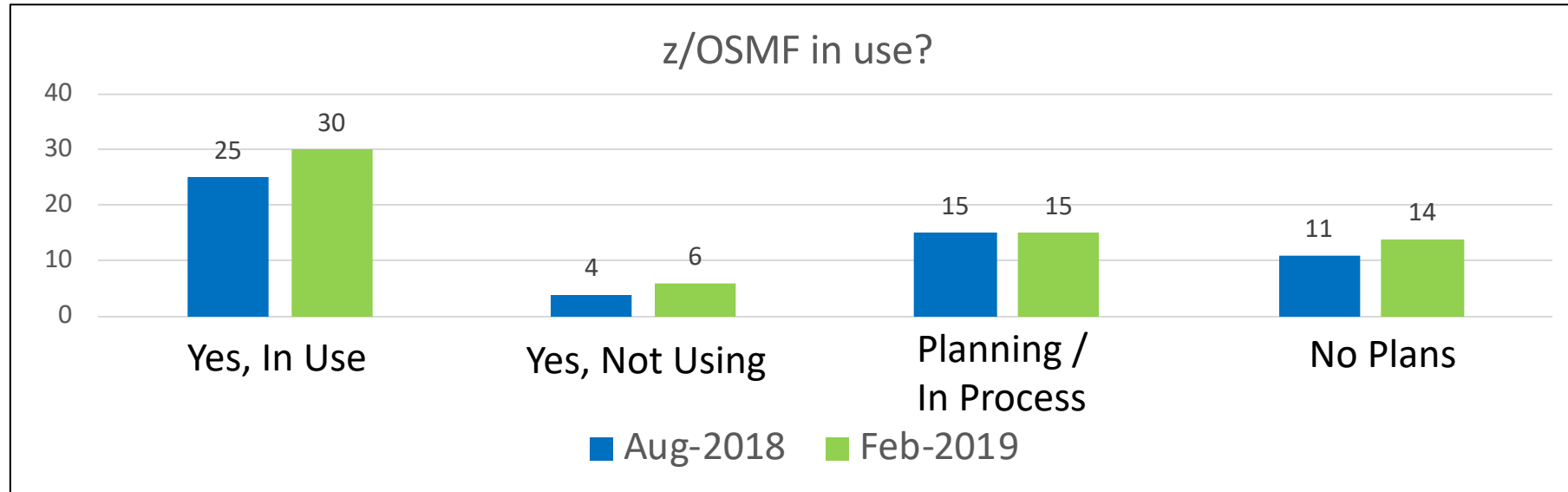
Ended 3-13-2019

Responses: 67

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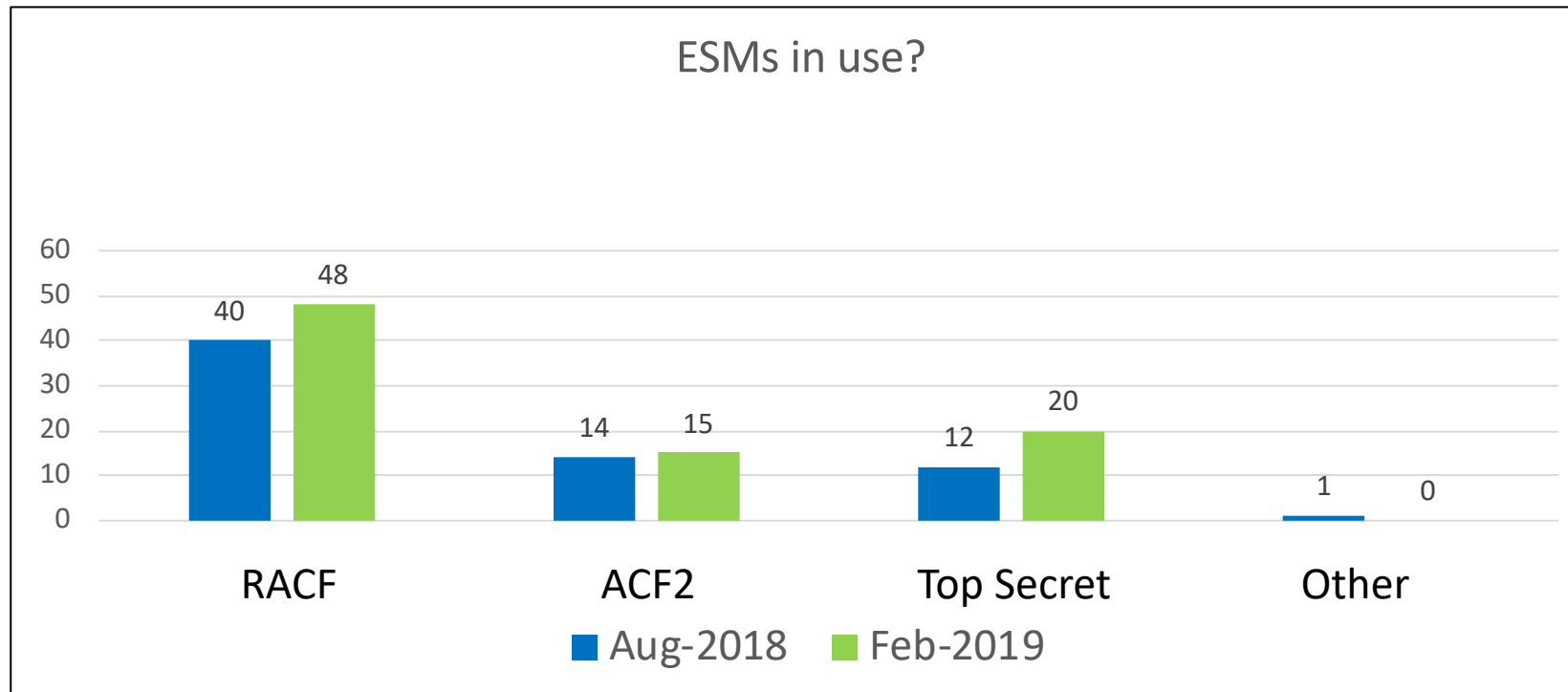
Has z/OSMF been implemented in your shop and is it in use?



Source: <http://watsonwalker.com/z-systems-technology-exploitation-survey-results/>

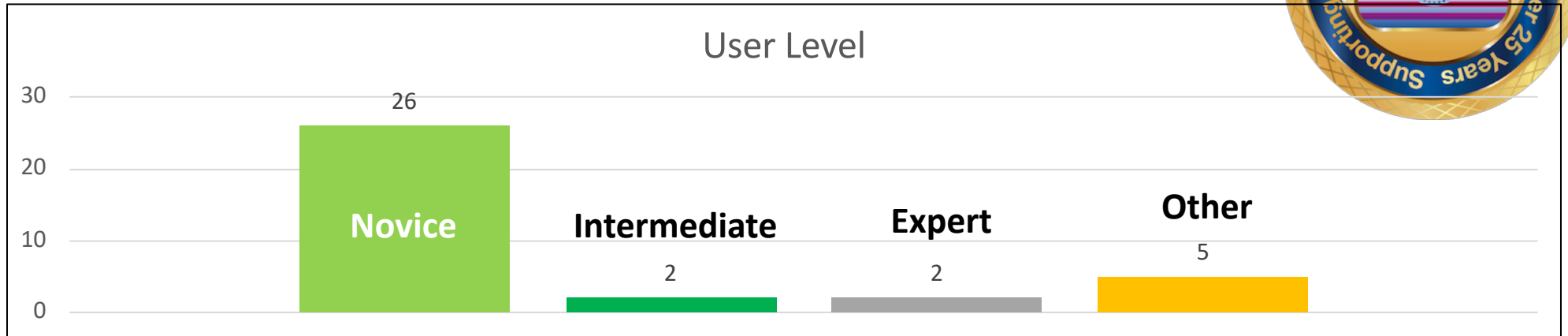


Which ESMs are in use in your environment?

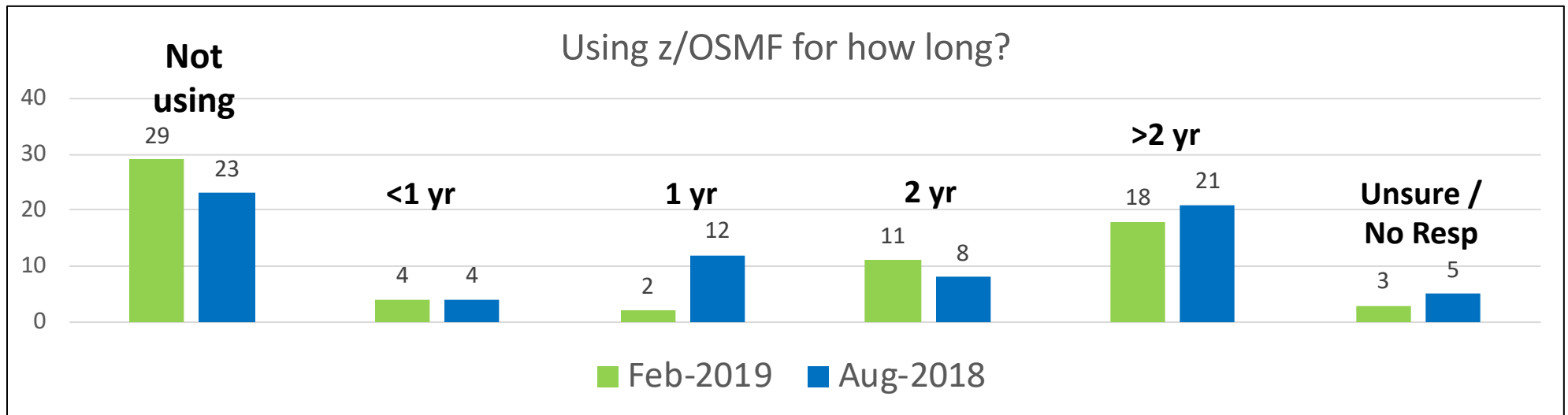




What level of z/OSMF user would you consider yourself?



If you are using z/OSMF, when was it implemented?



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Comments:

“It was a very ugly/hard experience the first time I tried to implement and setup TCPIP using z/OSMF. Since then I never used.”

“Still fighting issues after 3 years.”

“Any time we research a plug-in for any functionality or want to start z/OSMF on other systems we run into numerous security issues.”

“None of these are in use on a consistent basis due to issues using them.”

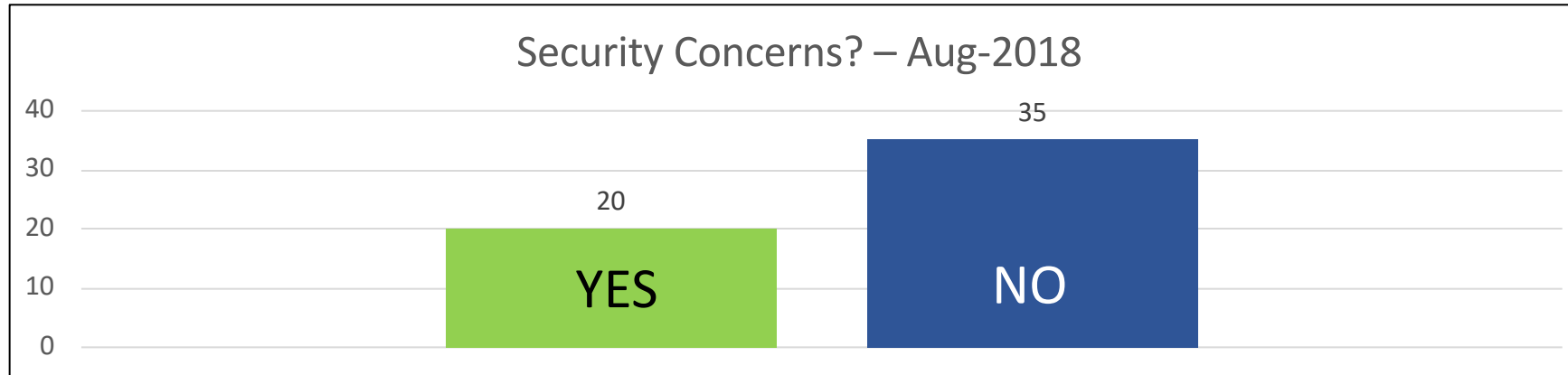
“Plugins are a nightmare.”

“tried to implement basic functions but never got it to work.”

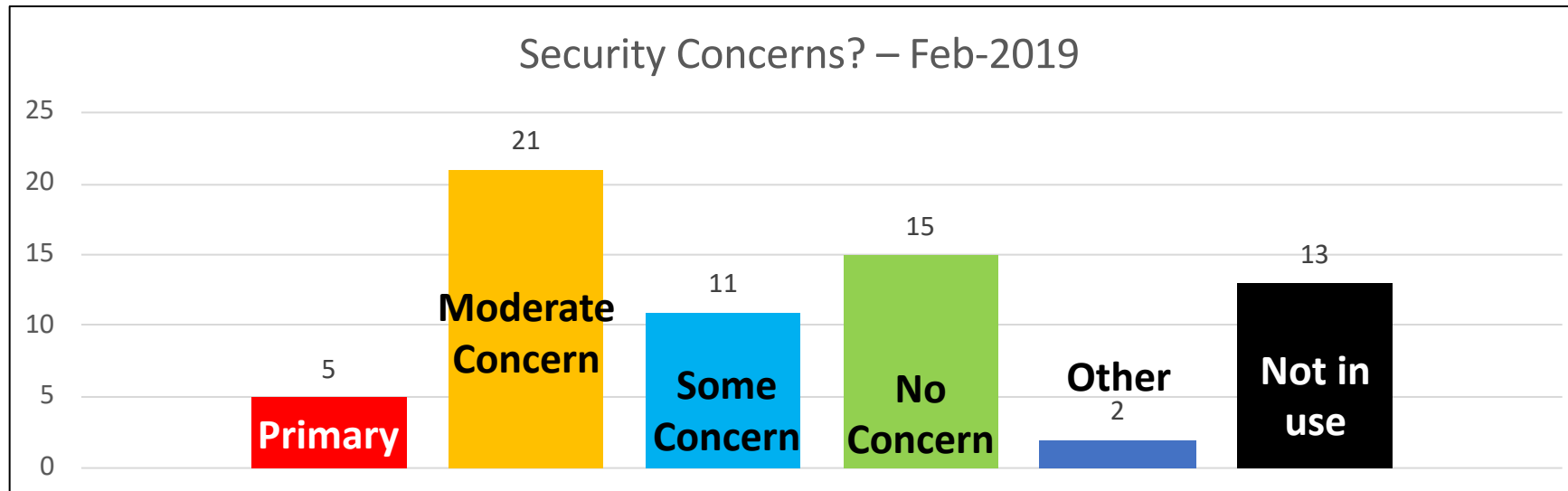
“Leave the toys to the boys.”



Are you concerned about security issues surrounding z/OSMF?



How concerned are you about security issues surrounding z/OSMF?





Are you concerned about security issues surrounding z/OSMF?

Comments:

"**Security issues** have kept it from being deployed in our shop."

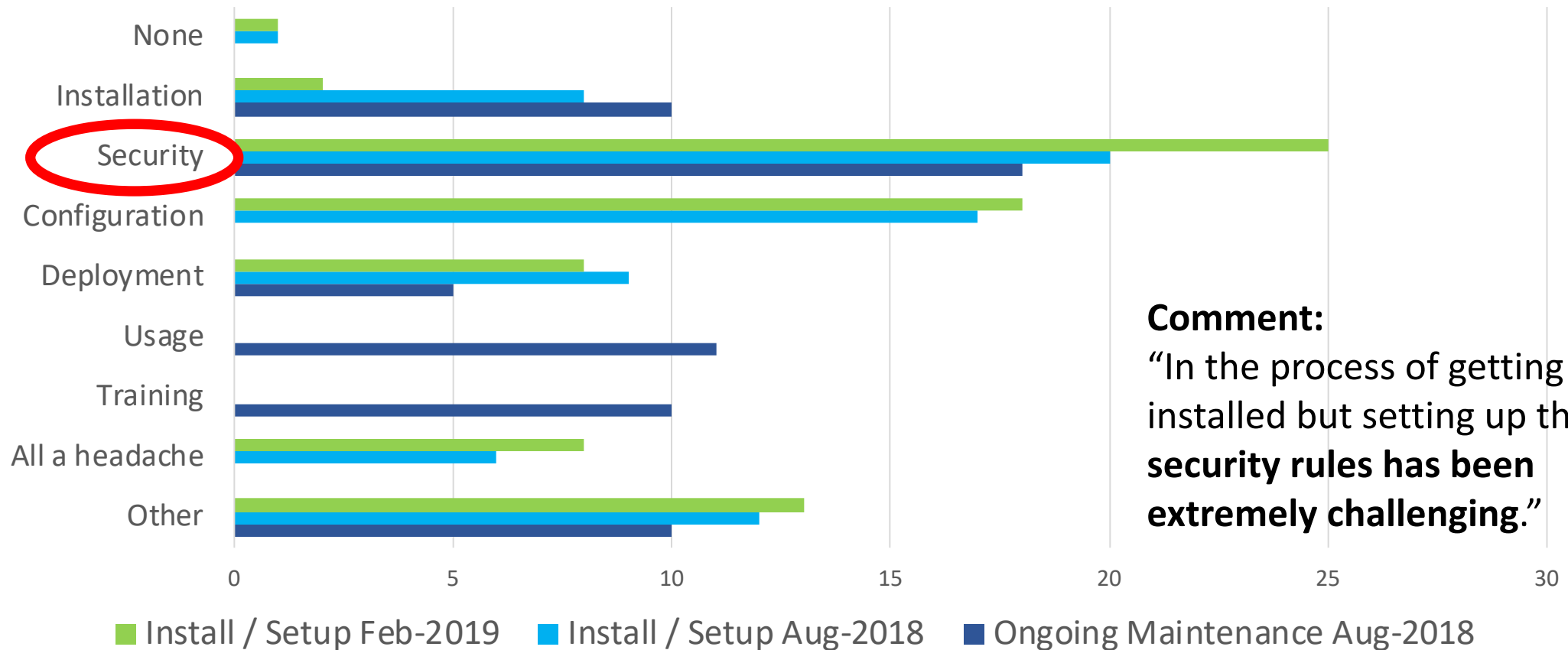
"Since **security is a separate group** getting the appropriate paperwork submitted requesting their setup made it a **long and tedious install**. "

"Any time we research a plug-in for any functionality or want to start z/OSMF on other systems we run into numerous **security issues**."



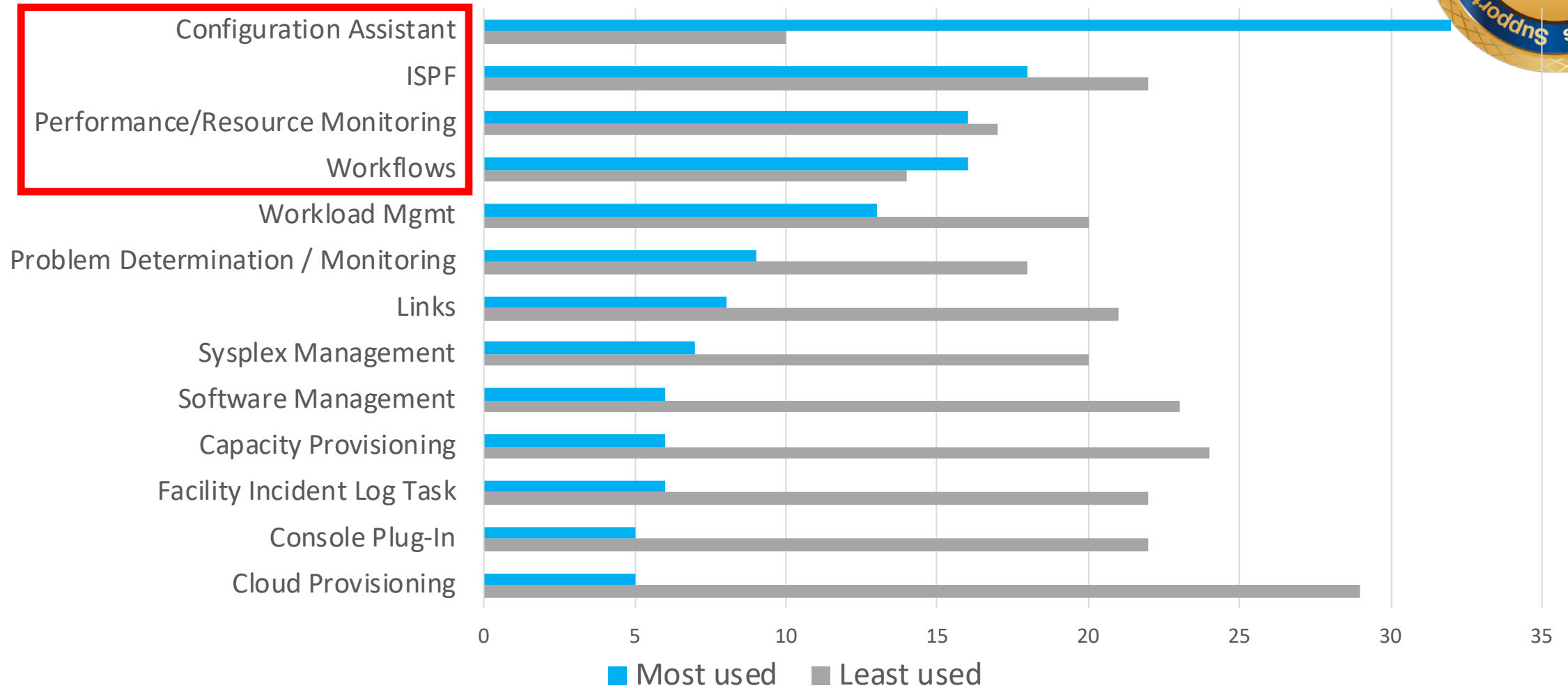
What were the biggest challenges or concerns with its installation, setup, configuration and ongoing maintenance?

Challenges / concerns – Setup / maintenance





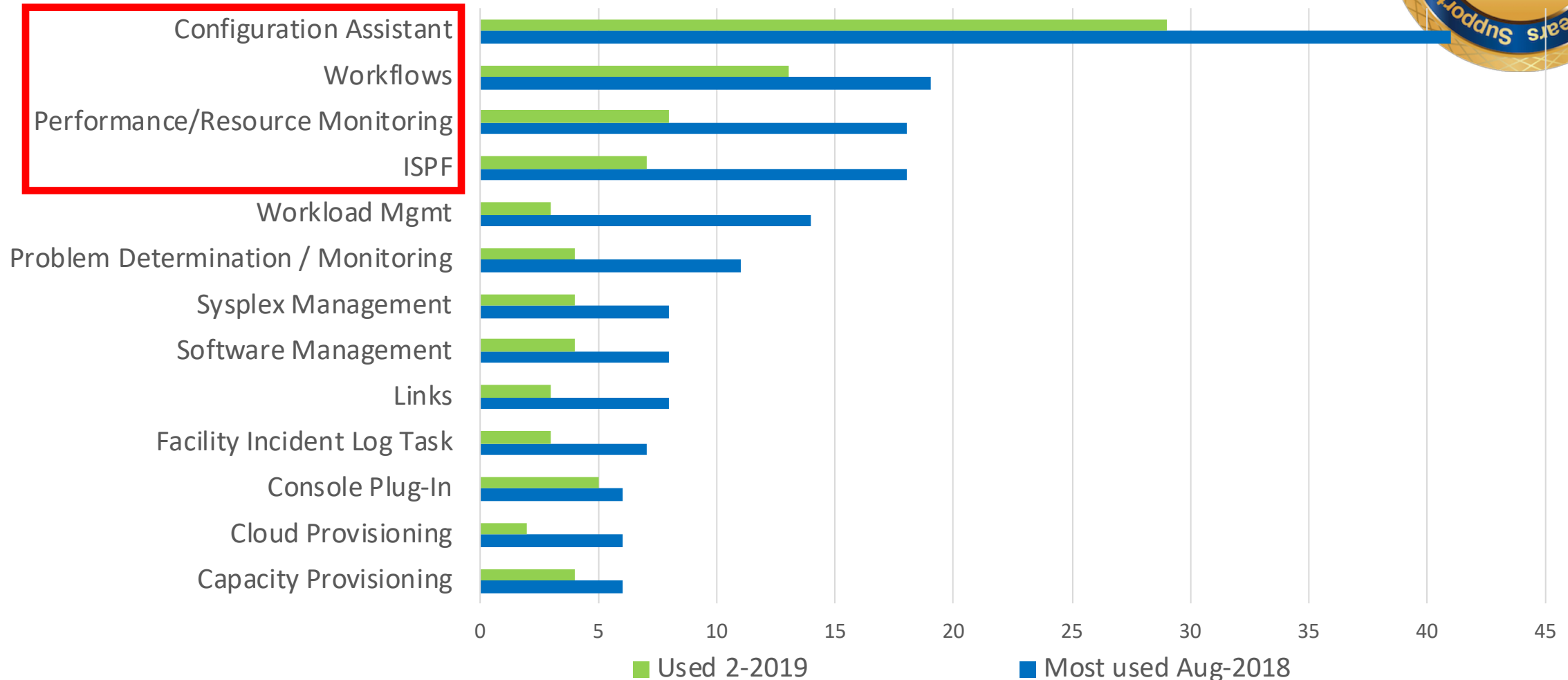
Which of these areas of z/OSMF do you use the most / least? (Aug-'18)



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Which of these areas of z/OSMF do you use?





Which of these areas of z/OSMF do you use?

Configuration Assistant is being used for AT-TLS implementation, Policy Agent (PAGENT).

Comments:

“We had never implemented AT-TLS (or IP-Sec) although we needed to do so. **The Config Assistant is wonderful for getting that done** ONCE you UNDERSTAND how to use it.”

“The network team finds **configuration assistance a useful tool.** “

“Main motivation: Access to the Configuration Assistant (AT-TLS implementation) “

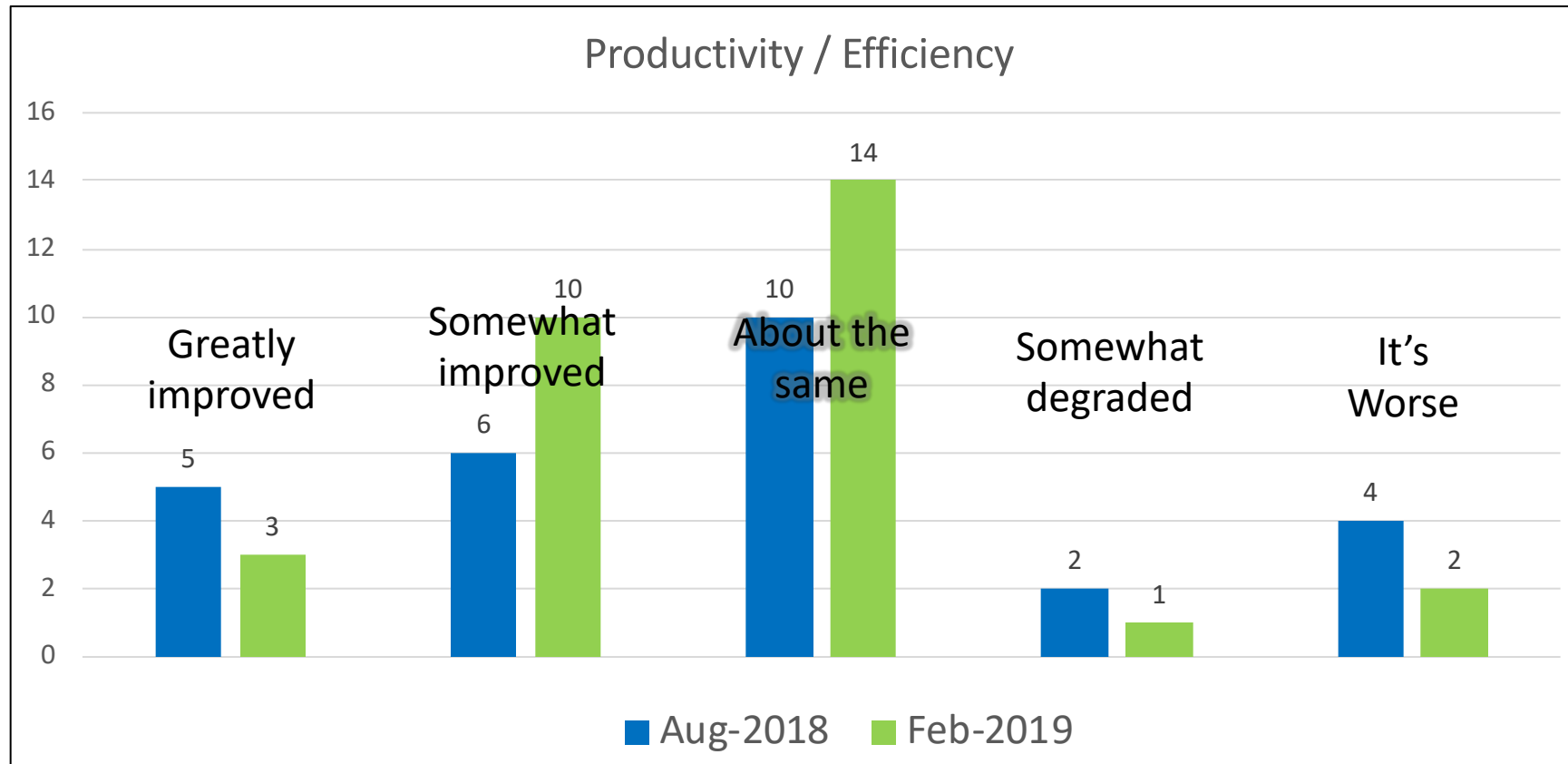
“Minimal use for Policy Agent in production, development and test. Used in test and development for vendor install workflows and one user written workflow for z/OS RSU maintenance.”

“For Config Assist, great!!!”

“It’s great for creating and managing the Policy Agent configurations.”



Using z/OSMF, has your productivity and efficiency improved compared to before you were using it?





Using z/OSMF, has your productivity and efficiency improved compared to before you were using it?

Comments:

"Just started using and appears that going forward it **should improve our process.**"

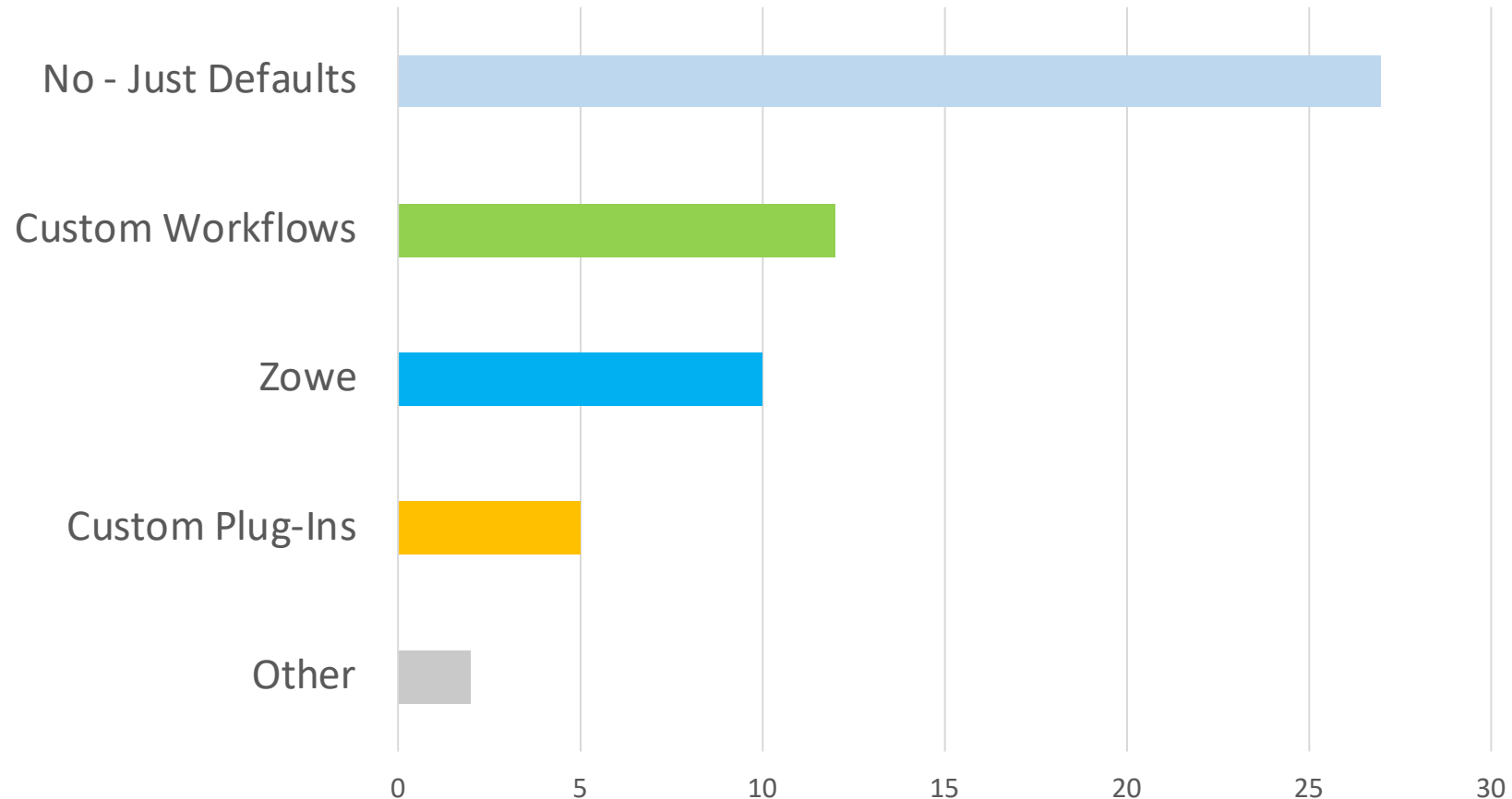
"Not much productivity enhancement for experiences Systems Programmers. The Workflow becomes self-documenting for work that is done and **that is a help.**"

"If ZERT can provide the information we think it can, **use of z/OSMF will increase** as we use it to monitor network traffic and encryption methods."

"Specifically in the area of AT-TLS set up and implementation."



Is your organization using or planning to use customized functionality of z/OSMF to take advantage of its full scope of capabilities? (Feb-2019)



Workflow-Driven Installation



IBM z/OS Management Facility

Welcome edjx

- Welcome
- Notifications
- Workflow Editor
- Workflows**
- Cloud Provisioning
- Configuration
- Consoles
- Jobs and Resources
- Links
- Performance
- Problem Determination
- Software
- Sysplex
- z/OS Classic Interfaces
- z/OSMF Administration
- z/OSMF Settings

Refresh

Welcome x Workflows x

Workflows > EJES V5R9 Installation

EJES V5R9 Installation

Description: (E)JES V5R9 Installation Workflow

Owner: edjxadm

System: PHXHQ.MVS60

Is Callable: Cannot be called by another workflow

Contains Parallel: No

Percent complete: 0%

Steps complete: 0 of 104

Status: In Progress

Access (Learn More): Public

Workflow Steps

Actions

No filter applied

State Filter	No. Filter	Title Filter	CalledWorkflow Filter	Automated Filter	Owner Filter	Skill Category Filter	Assignees Filter	Feedback status Filter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Progress	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 1. (E)JES Installation Overview						noFeedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ready	1.1	Plan Your Configuration		No	edjxadm		edjxadm	noFeedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ready	1.2	Hardware Requirements		No	edjxadm		edjxadm	noFeedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ready	1.3	Software Requirements		No	edjxadm		edjxadm	noFeedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ready	1.4	Security Requirements		No	edjxadm		edjxadm	incomplete
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ready	1.5	How to Read the Syntax Diagrams		No	edjxadm		edjxadm	noFeedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ready	1.6	Installation Paths		No	edjxadm		edjxadm	noFeedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ready	1.7	Customizing JCL Samples		No	edjxadm		edjxadm	noFeedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ready	1.8	Checklist and Overview of Major Installation Steps		No	edjxadm		edjxadm	noFeedback
<input type="checkbox"/> In Progress	2	Chapter 2. Download and Process the Compressed Archive						noFeedback
<input type="checkbox"/> In Progress	3	Chapter 3. Perform Tasks for Traditional Installation Path						noFeedback
<input type="checkbox"/> In Progress	4	Chapter 4. Perform Tasks for CSM Installation Path						noFeedback
<input type="checkbox"/> In Progress	5	Chapter 5. Perform Tasks for ZMF Installation Path						noFeedback

Total: 122 Selected: 9

Return to Workflows Refresh

[Go here and watch the presentation on z/OSMF Workflow-Driven Installation](#)



Questions from survey respondents:

“Is it possible to simplify the Security setup?”

“How can we know for certain that z/OSMF is secure? What are the elements that help us understand this? Can the documentation be updated to help us understand the required HFS/ZFS files that are needed and their access levels?”

“Do we need to implement this on all systems, and if so should the security be the same on all systems?”

“How do we allow users [to] separate their authority and workflows from system level users[‘], tasks and workflows?”



Suggestions from survey respondents:

“Why is it so complex? There's too much to know for all areas involved. Nobody has a good handle on how it all interacts. We need **more simplification when it comes to installation and enablement of plug-ins.**”

“**CA Top Secret** security customization was difficult. It would be good if IBM could consult and weigh in with CA about Top Secret actions necessary (and not necessary) for security definitions.”

“I am interested in the **Capacity Provisioning** stuff, but don't really understand it much. **Perhaps a session at SHARE would be helpful.**”



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