TIME MACHINE SOFTWARE
Optimizing Production Processes

SmartProduction® For DB2 – Frequently Asked Questions

What makes SmartProduction for DB2 unique?

SmartProduction for DB2, unlike other tuning packages and optimizers, examines and analyzes the job flow and application resource consumption, rather than the system capacity and system performance. This analysis is performed *after* the production flow has been completed, thus preventing analysis overhead during job run-time.

How does SmartProduction for DB2 work?

SmartProduction for DB2 locates logical inefficiencies within your applications, jobs and data sets. The best candidates for improvement are identified in simple, user- friendly reports. Users can then retrieve an analysis of the inefficiencies, including solutions that will deliver immediate, dramatic improvements in production performance without making any modifications to the source code.

How is SmartProduction for DB2 used?

SmartProduction for DB2 requires minimal input by the user. The menu-driven, fill-in-the-blanks **SmartProduction** ISPF interface allows you to easily analyze your applications, in detail, from a number of different perspectives. This results in clear, comprehensive, and easy-to-use batch and online reports. Best of all, you can spend more time solving your performance problems rather than searching for and comparing the relevant information. The Case-Based Reasoning feature provides you with an explanation of each inefficiency, and provides specific solutions. This powerful feature contains an ever-increasing amount of tuning information to help ensure that your production environment is operating at peak performance.

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How does SmartProduction for DB2 improve the performance of the production batch workload?

SmartProduction for DB2 improves the performance of the production batch workload by applying the following four key optimization strategies:

- **Improve DB2 Application Efficiency**
  Many site-developed DB2 applications are not as efficient as they could be. This causes a problem when the degree of inefficiency is significant.

- **Increase DB2 Parallelism**
  Many DB2 applications do not make use of the DB2 parallelism methods, which allow performing concurrent I/O and CPU. Using DB2 parallelism can significantly reduce elapsed time.

- **Improve Efficiency of DB2 Housekeeping**
  Many utility executions are performed in order to back up, restore, copy or reorganize the DB2 database. These utility executions often do not use all performance options available.

- **Eliminate DB2 Contentions**
  Batch tasks are frequently delayed, or even aborted, due to DB2 contention problems. Eliminating (or at least greatly reducing) the occurrences of contentions can significantly reduce elapsed time.

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