STORAGETEK   ExPR Differences

Technical Support Engineering

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What is New in ExPR Release 5.0?

- Introduction of a web-based browser interface.

  ExPR PC graphical reports and the Nearline, VSM, and Device monitor
  applications are now available for display throughout your network with the
  introduction of a web-based browser interface.

- Integration of the MONTAPE/MONREPT Tools.

  The SE Tool known as MONTAPE/MONREPT is now available as a separately
  licensed ExPR utility.

- Support for the Fujitsu MSP operating system

  ExPR will now operate on the Fujitsu version of MVS – MSP. When running on MSP ExPR is
  unable to collect data transferred values from SMF 21 record. It is also not possible to collect
  RMF type 73/74 data for device/CU connectivity and channel path performance.

- Collection of CSC MVS and open system mount activity

  ExPR previously ignored mount activity involving CSC, open systems and HSC/VTCS/LS
  servers. This was due to non-standard setting of fields within HSC SMF records. ExPR will now
  fully support and record activity for CSC MVS client systems, including – LSM, VSM and
  manual drive activity. Open system mounts will also be recorded. The only information that
  ExPR is unable to collect is data transferred values for the open system mounts.

- Automatic creation of an "ALL" Hosts consolidated view.

  ExPR now creates and dynamically maintains a consolidated view that includes
  all hosts that are defined to the ExPR configuration.

- Automatic creation of an ACS level device group.

  ExPR now creates a device group comprising all devices attached to each ACS
  complex. This includes all devices attached to all LSMs. These device groups
  have a name of - "ACS-nnn ". The nnn is the ACS identifier.

- Collection of RTD bytes transferred.

  The special RTD-Gnnn device groups, which were introduced in 4.1, have been
  extended to collect data transferred values. This is effectively the amount of
  data read or written of migrate, recall and reclaim operations.

- 75-day trial usage period.

  The ExPR license checking and expiration control routines have been modified
  to include a 75-day trial/demonstration period, without the need for a product
  license. This will permit existing users to migrate without waiting for the new
  license from StorageTek SMD. It will also allow new users a product evaluation
  period.

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- Usage of new measurements of storage.

  Previously, ExPR has used the traditional computing measurements for kilobytes, megabytes, gigabytes and terabytes. These quantities were based upon powers of 2: 1,024 / 1,048,576 / 1,073,741,824 / 1,099,511,662,800 respectively. In recent years these values have been re-designated as - kibibytes, mebibytes, gibibytes and tebibytes. New values have been assigned to the old names. These are based upon powers of 10 - 1,000 / 1,000,000 / 1,000,000,000 / 1,000,000,000,000. ExPR now uses these new values for all measurements of data capacity and bandwidth. This is in line with other industry-wide and StorageTek products and practices.

- Inclusion of the StorageTek mainframe HTTP server component.

  This has been included in the ExPR SMP/E packaging to support the new web GUI browser interface. Unlike IBM's HTTP server, it does not require MVS OpenEdition as a prerequisite.

- User-selectable time for Auto-Reorganization.

  Auto-Reorg can now be run at a predetermined time other than midnight. This is defined in the PC-based Host Configurator application.

- Removal of management class limit for VSM Monitor.

  ExPR was previously limited to five management classes. The full 25 classes supported by VSM are now supported by ExPR.

- Support for VTCS v6.

  Up to four VTV copies are now possible when extracting MVC/VTV information from the CDS, and VTV media size of 800MB is now supported.

- Support for VSM4 Hardware.

  ExPR reports now support up to 16 RTDs and 256 VTVs attached to a single VTSS.

- Support for T9840C Device.

  ExPR now recognizes the StorageTek T9840C as a unique device type.

- Removal of the MERGESYS Function.

  MERGESYS functionality has been replaced by the Consolidated View feature and MERGESYS has thus been removed from ExPR.

- User-defined weekly and monthly periods for reporting.

  ExPR can now collect monthly database summary records. Previously record collection was limited to hourly, daily, and weekly records. Additionally, you can now specify the day of the week to begin weekly collection, and specify the duration of a month (calendar, four-week, etc.) for collection purposes.

- PC Rules Manager supports definition of global rules.

  The Rules Manager will allow rules to apply to an ACS, all LSMs, or all VTSSs.
  Previously, rules were per-LSM/VTSS.

- Extensions to the TAPECAT features.

  The TAPECAT GUI feature, introduced in ExPR 4.1, has been modified to include
  MVC status flag support, MVC and VTV management class support, and date
  selection on a LT/LE/EQ/GE/NE basis.

  MVC volume details displays now list all MVCs and their attributes in the primary window as the
  "Special MVS Report".

  TAPECAT now supports more secondary datasets per volume during the TMS
  extraction process. This has been increased to 1901 datasets (previously it was 191).

  Generally, TAPECAT has improved RAS and error handling.