

PERFORMANCE NEWS

Issue 2 – Summer 2013

z/VM, Linux and Cloud on System Z Updates



What's new at Velocity Software?

BY BARTON ROBINSON

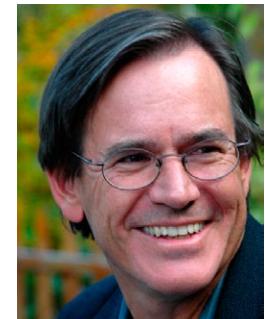
Last quarterly newsletter, enhancements to Version 4 of our Performance Management Suite, zVPS, were discussed, and there were many. Since then, more customers have upgraded, but we are still looking for what it takes to encourage the rest of you. As usual, feature / benefits are always in terms of the four areas of performance management.

Two of our major enhancements are to zVIEW, our “enterprise viewer” which impacts all areas of performance management. One of the new features of zVIEW provides the ability for zVIEW users to select views from any LPAR and show them all on the same browser tab. This allows any user to define one tab with data from all the “interesting” LPARs.

The second new feature is to the CEC list (Enterprise View) in response to those of you having 20 or even 30 LPARs running Linux under z/VM. This feature will use the existing real estate to better display all your LPARs and also provide the ability to click on areas of interest to provide pop up displays for active servers or active virtual machines. Specific areas of enhancement:

Performance Analysis

- zMON 4.1.2 is now available, and has been updated with many new screens and accompanying support.
- Application metrics are being gathered for Java (Websphere) and Oracle to appeal to your application owners and developers.



Capacity Planning

- Using the new cross-enterprise capability, on one screen, monthly charts from all CECs can be displayed on one tab. Please see graph on next page.

Operational Support

- zOPERATOR has been made available, providing a fully interactive and integrated operator console function.
- For those of you that would like onsite assistance in upgrading or setting up zALERT for operations, please make a request – in most cases, we provide this at no charge. Phone support is always available and free of charge.

Chargeback

- We are continuing work on providing an interactive user interface for accounting metrics. For installations

operating their IT as a profit center – and ensuring their users are charged correctly for service provided, there needs to be a method for users to monitor their current charges and resource consumption.

z/VM 6.3 Support

zVPS support for z/VM 6.3 will be available concurrent with General Availability of z/VM 6.3.

Cloud

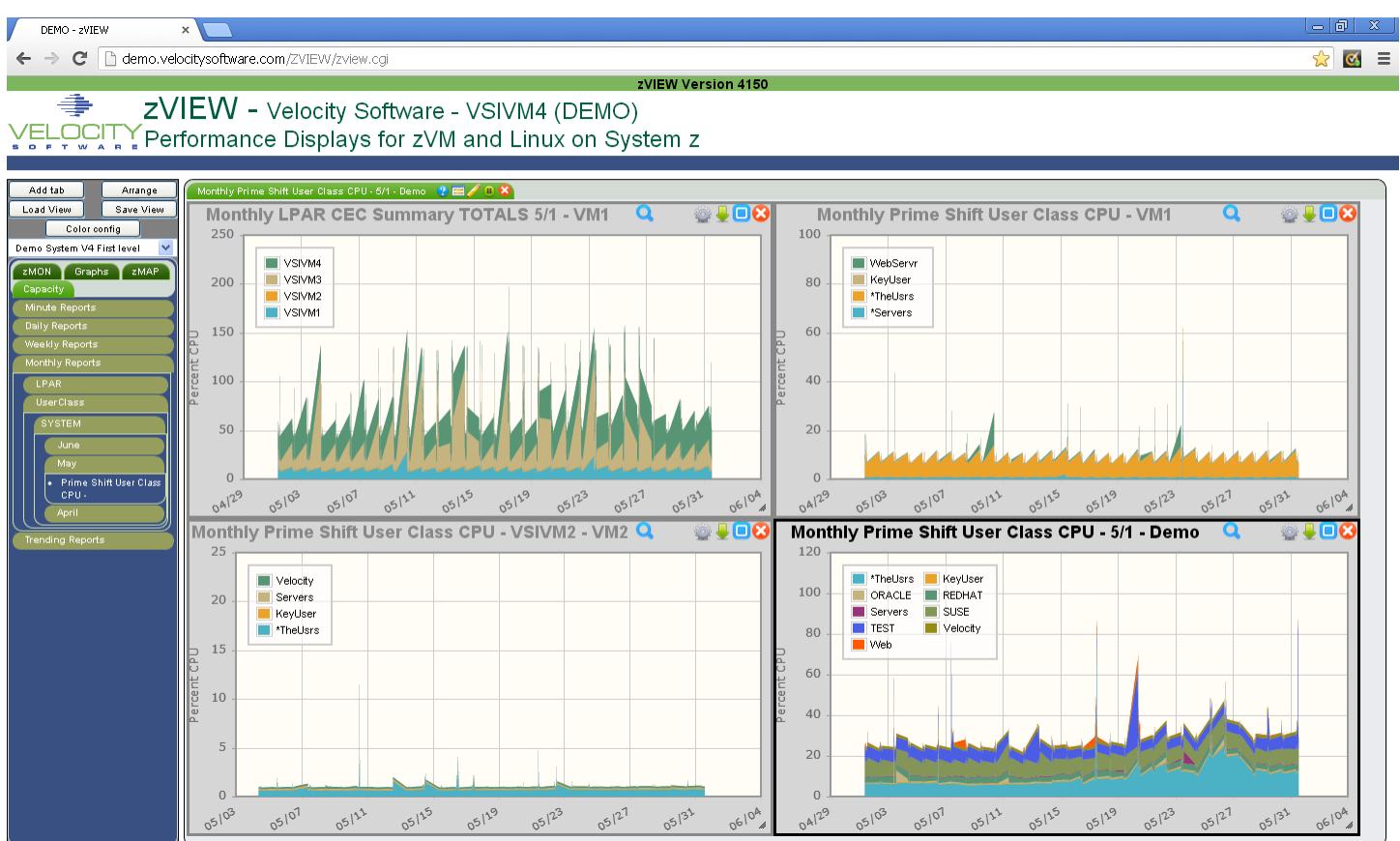
Velocity Software has been developing “Cloud Enablement” for z/VM way before “cloud” was a recognized buzz word. Our intent for zPRO was a full browser interface to z/VM management. That work continues with major changes to the interface, reflecting customer feedback. With IBM’s recent announcement of their purchase of CSL and their WAVE product, we appreciate IBM being interested in expanding the number of customers that perceive z/VM as the ultimate cloud platform. We will continue to invest in zPRO and happily provide a no-charge trial

of zPRO, including installation assistance to ensure a positive experience.

The z/VM Workshop

The VM Workshop was created 30 years ago to provide an inexpensive opportunity to network with your peers and get education from the best via a not for profit organization. After 10 years, this workshop was resurrected and has been extremely well accepted. The workshop this year was held in Indianapolis and had the largest audience focused on Linux and z/VM of any conference worldwide. This is a huge opportunity for those of you that want education, and even if your company is not willing to make large investments in your education, I highly suggest attending the VM Workshop. At \$100 per person, with dormitory rooms available at very low cost, 3 days of education is the best deal you will find anywhere. (And somehow they make that \$100 include your food!) See Rick’s article in this edition of our newsletter for more details.

BARTON ROBINSON IS THE CTO OF VELOCITY SOFTWARE.



The VM Workshop

BY RICK TROTH

Imagine a hundred systems programmers without “adult supervision”. The VM Workshop began at the University of Waterloo in Ontario in the late 1970s, long before we called it z/VM. Many great contributions to VM/CMS, and to computing in general came from Waterloo, but that's a different story. For two decades, with one or two exceptions, the VM Workshop met at university campuses.

The workshop is more one-on-one and “hands on” than other conferences and brings less hype. It's the real deal. (Even though the main area of interest is ... [ahem] ... virtual.)

z/VM is the best performing system of its kind. But it doesn't happen automatically. At the workshop, performance is a big topic and we learn from each other.

At the start of this century, there was a burst of increased interest in virtualization. That, along with the Linux port to S/390 architecture, led to tremendous technical development and accompanying business growth. The VM Workshop was resumed as the “VM and Linux Workshop”.

The workshop is where Linux people (who may be new to System z or new to z/VM) and traditional VMers (who may be new to Linux) come together. It is a fantastic opportunity for meeting, learning, and sharing ideas.

Again for 2013, Velocity Software sponsored the VM and Linux Workshop.

Some topics from the 2013 workshop included:

- Hands-on labs for z/VM and for Linux on z
- z/VM 6.2 SSI Installation and Configuration
- Installing and Configuring Linux on z/VM (SuSE, Red Hat, even Gentoo)



- Linux Storage Measurement
- Business Case for Linux on System z
- Intro to REXX for Shell Scripters
- Configuration and Use of z/VM Dirmaint and SAPI
- Options for Backing Up and Restoring z/VM and Linux Guests
- Securing your zVM System
- Sharing File-systems and Cloning with zPRO
- Securing zVWS web with zSSL
- The z/VM Intra Network Data Ensemble
- The "Virtualization Cookbook"
- Linux on System z experiences at Citi and Nationwide
- Product updates from Velocity, IBM, Red Hat, and others

Linux on z/VM is a natural fit. But there are always questions from both newcomers and old hands. The workshop is where questions are asked and answers are found.

If you're serious about virtualization, you need to know about this conference. If you're running z/VM or "Linux on z" (or both), you should seriously consider attending. There's nothing to join, no membership requirements, and it's the best value around for your conference and education dollar.

For more information, including venue details, transportation info, and registration, visit

<http://www.vmworkshop.org/>

Let's see you in 2014!

RICK TROTH IS A SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER AT VELOCITY SOFTWARE.

Velocity Software meets Gen-X

BY DERIC ABEL

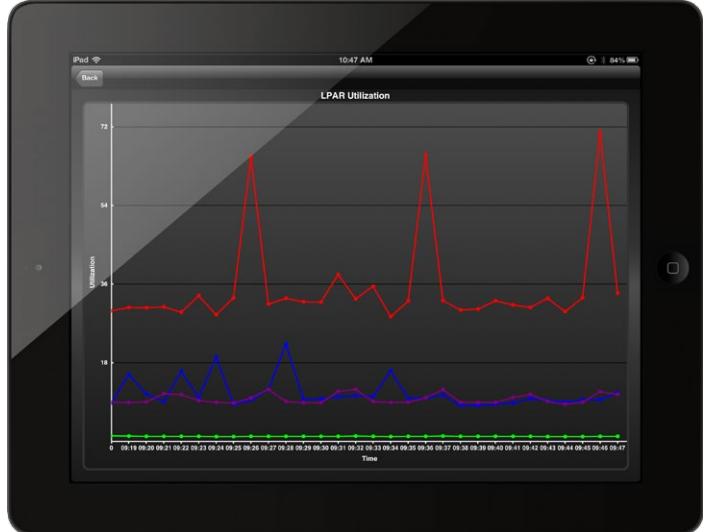
My name is Deric Abel and I am the “new guy” at Velocity Software. When I was 16 years old, I started my first job in IT as an intern at a medical clinic, and I was first exposed to Linux when my friends and I installed Linux for a senior project in High School. Then, 18 months later I took my first job as a Linux admin for a local oil and gas company, and I have now been working with Linux in a professional role for almost 12 years. My early experience with Linux was primarily on x86 hardware, but in 2008 I accepted a position with America First Credit Union as their first z/Linux administrator.

I had never seen a mainframe prior to accepting this job and was rather unsure of the environment. One of the first questions I asked was "Why are we running this on the mainframe?" Back then I thought I could do everything that we were doing for much less money on Intel hardware.

As I grew wiser, I learned to love the platform and decided that I never wanted to work on any other platform again; I was amazed both by the virtualization technology, and the mainframe community.

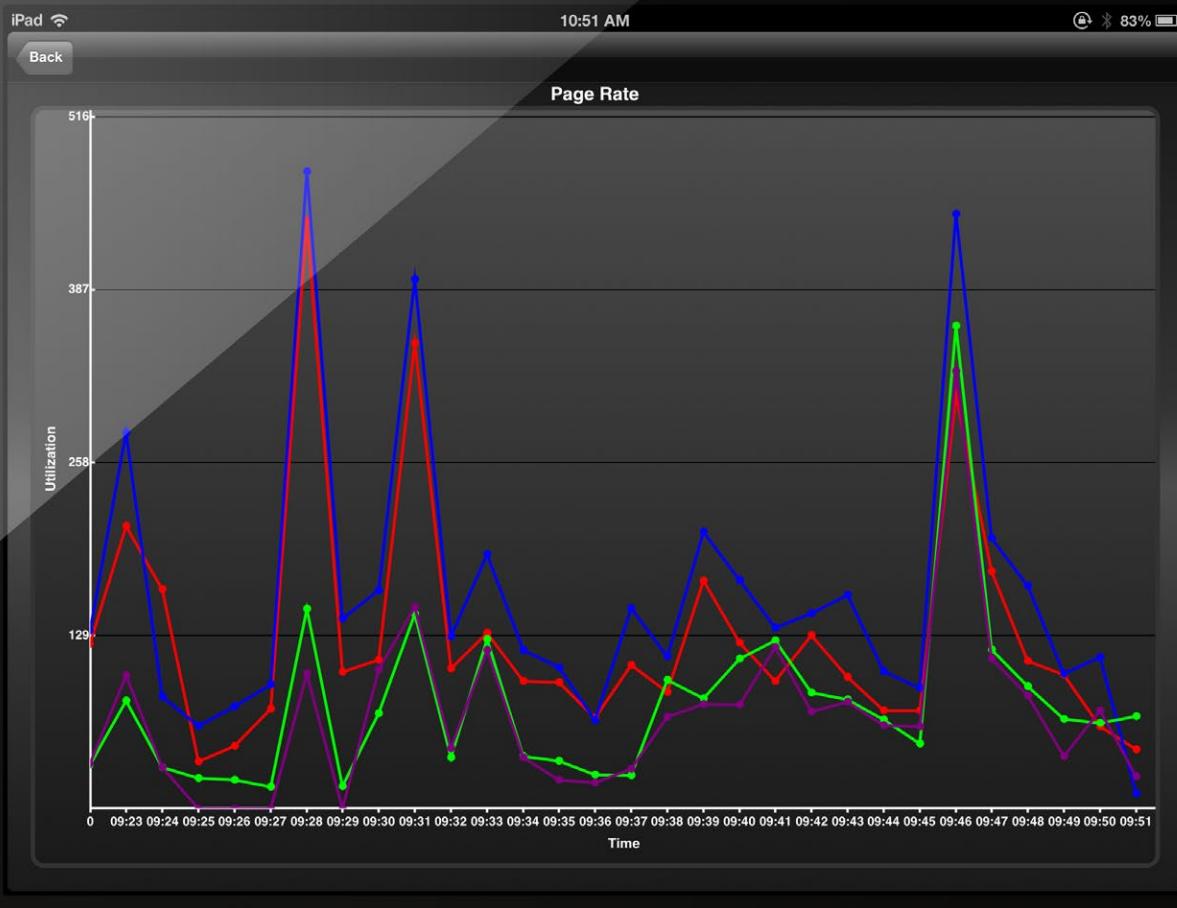
Prior to working on the mainframe, I had never considered the total cost of ownership of a server purchase. When I reviewed the TCO of a mainframe with z/VM, I could see why many companies worldwide chose to run their IT on mainframes and will continue to do so.

In spring of 2009, I was introduced to zNextgen, a project within the SHARE organization that is centered on the new generation of mainframe professionals; and



unlike a few years ago when there was a huge lack of young mainframers, this new generation is growing significantly in many geo's.

I first attended SHARE in Denver in August 2009 and was quickly recruited as a Project Officer with zNextgen, and later a Deputy Project Manager. My involvement in SHARE and zNextgen helped me quickly make friends



in the community and expand my professional network. The SHARE community is a big reason why I love the mainframe industry and why I continue to choose a mainframe career.

From Fall 2010 to Spring 2013, I returned to college to finish my degree I had started ten years earlier. While working at AFCU, I built custom interactive charts that used data collected by zVPS, the Velocity Performance Suite. My manager was happy with the results because he could use these charts in his reports to senior management, and I was happy using them to simplify my capacity planning tasks. In my final semester I had to complete an iOS app as the final project, and I thought the charts that I had been creating would make a great native app for the iPad. I spent the last weeks of school writing a proof of concept app that would be

the beginnings of bringing zView, Velocity's graphical interface, to the iPad.

With the beginning of a new year and the completed college degree, I felt it was time for a change and accepted a position with Velocity Software. I am currently developing the iPad app for commercial use and will be working on different and exciting projects, as well as support services for Velocity Software.

DERIC ABEL IS A JUNIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER
AT VELOCITY SOFTWARE.

zOPERATOR

BY TIM KESSLER

Tired of having that message you were looking for on the operator console scroll off before you finished reading it? Having the operators miss an important message among the clutter of other messages? Or using Programmable Operator or another console automation product and looking for a more up to date solution?

If so, then zOPERATOR is what you are looking for!

zOPERATOR is now available to all zVPS users. As part of the zMON product, this is a no cost additional component. Installation is easy and in a matter of minutes, your operator console could look like the one on the bottom of this page.

With zOPERATOR's easy online configuration, messages can be colored, highlighted, suppressed, held, sent to another user, sent to zSERVE to be

included in ESAOPER log, run a command or REXX EXEC, log message to a file, email the message and/or trigger an SNMP trap. Using these actions, operations can be automated and problems can be prevented or automatically detected sooner for quicker resolution.

In addition to the standard page forward and backward capabilities for viewing the console, zOPERATOR searches can be done on strings with multiple conditions or by a specific date and/or time.

```
Screen: ZOPER      Velocity Software - VSIVM4      ESAMON 4.1.11 05/30 11:57
1 of 1                           OPERATOR Console          2096 44B42

11:55:07 OPERATOR GRAF L0006 DISCONNECT TIMK      USERS = 154 FORCED BY SYSTEM
09:46:10 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
09:56:11 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
10:00:00 OPERATOR HCPMXE6224I Event recording is pending because there are no users connected to *MONITOR for this type of data.
10:00:00 OPERATOR HCPMXE6224I Sample recording is pending because there are no users connected to *MONITOR for this type of data.
10:01:06 DIRMINT DVHRLY3887I Hourly processing completed; 0 log
10:01:06 DIRMINT DVHRLY3887I files processed, 1 log files remaining.
10:01:10 ZALERT S11520RA RUNNING CRAZY
10:06:10 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
10:16:10 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
10:16:41 OPERATOR GRAF L0007 LOGON AS ZMAP      USERS = 154 BY DSADEV FROM
192.168.5.225
10:26:11 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
10:46:11 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
10:56:11 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
11:00:00 OPERATOR HCPMXE6224I Event recording is pending because there are no users connected to *MONITOR for this type of data.
11:00:00 OPERATOR HCPMXE6224I Sample recording is pending because there are no users connected to *MONITOR for this type of data.
11:01:07 DIRMINT DVHRLY3887I Hourly processing completed; 0 log
11:01:07 DIRMINT DVHRLY3887I files processed, 1 log files remaining.
11:06:10 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
11:07:53 OPERATOR GRAF L000D RECONNECT DSADEV    USERS = 154 FROM 192.168.5.2
25
11:16:11 ZALERT SLES10 RUNNING CRAZY
11:16:11 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
11:26:11 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
11:33:52 OPERATOR GRAF L0007 LOGOFF AS ZMAP     USERS = 153
11:34:01 OPERATOR GRAF L000D DISCONNECT DSADEV   USERS = 153
11:36:11 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
11:46:10 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
11:50:42 OPERATOR GRAF L0007 LOGON AS ZVPS      USERS = 154 BY TIMK FROM
75.103.4.82
11:55:07 OPERATOR GRAF L0006 DISCONNECT TIMK      USERS = 154 FORCED BY SYSTEM
11:56:11 ZALERT SUSELNXZ RUNNING CRAZY
PF1=Help      2=            3=Quit        4=Del Hold   5=All           6=PFKEY Off
PF7=Backward  8=            9=Loc Back   10=          11=             12=Retrieve
====>
```

Screen: ZOPER Velocity Software							ESAMON 4.1.11 07/29 08:52
1 of 1 REDISPLAY 07/07/13 OPERATOR Console							2096 34B42
07:30:39	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0007	DISCONNECT	DXTDEV	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
07:31:36	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0003	DISCONNECT	DXTDEV	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
					Monday July 08 2013	--	
10:06:44	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0006	DISCONNECT	TROTHR	USERS = 55	FORCED BY SYSTEM
					Tuesday July 09 2013	--	
06:51:44	OPERATOR	USER	DSC	LOGOFF AS	RMHTIME	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
					Wednesday July 10 2013	--	
12:26:44	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0008	DISCONNECT	TIMK	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
					Thursday July 11 2013	--	
12:51:12	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0003	DISCONNECT	TROTHR	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
					Friday July 12 2013	--	
14:37:08	OPERATOR	GRAF	L000A	DISCONNECT	BARTON	USERS = 54	FORCED BY SYSTEM
14:52:08	OPERATOR	USER	DSC	LOGOFF AS	BARTON	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
22:27:08	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0007	DISCONNECT	DXTDEV	USERS = 54	FORCED BY SYSTEM
22:42:08	OPERATOR	USER	DSC	LOGOFF AS	DXTDEV	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
					Saturday July 13 2013	--	
12:12:50	OPERATOR	USER	DSC	LOGOFF AS	ZWEBLOG	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
					Sunday July 14 2013	--	
					Monday July 15 2013	--	
					Tuesday July 16 2013	--	
10:52:19	OPERATOR	USER	DSC	LOGOFF AS	ZWEBLOG	USERS = 54	FORCED BY SYSTEM
08:02:12	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0009	DISCONNECT	BDRMAP	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
					Thursday July 18 2013	--	
					Friday July 19 2013	--	
					Saturday July 20 2013	--	
					Sunday July 21 2013	--	
					Monday July 22 2013	--	
13:43:58	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0005	DISCONNECT	RVDHEIJ	USERS = 55	FORCED BY SYSTEM
07:26:18	OPERATOR	USER	DSC	LOGOFF AS	SMTP	USERS = 54	FORCED BY SYSTEM
					Wednesday July 24 2013	--	
09:45:21	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0003	DISCONNECT	TROTHR	USERS = 55	FORCED BY SYSTEM
10:52:18	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0008	DISCONNECT	TROTHR	USERS = 54	FORCED BY SYSTEM
11:07:18	OPERATOR	USER	DSC	LOGOFF AS	TROTHR	USERS = 53	FORCED BY SYSTEM
06:24:33	OPERATOR	GRAF	L0005	DISCONNECT	TIMK	USERS = 56	FORCED BY SYSTEM
06:39:33	OPERATOR	USER	DSC	LOGOFF AS	TIMK	USERS = 55	FORCED BY SYSTEM
PF1=Help	2=	3=Return	4=	5=All			6=PFKEY Off
PF7=Backward	8=Forward	9=Loc Back	10=Loc Fwd	11=			12=Retrieve
====>	all /forced by system/ & /disconnect/						

If you need to check a specific date and time for a specific problem, zOPERATOR can position you at the point without the need of wading through multiple pages of messages. Daily log files are kept for a user specified number of days for long term searching and audit capabilities.

The screen above shows the output of an ALL command to search for messages containing FORCED BY SYSTEM and does not contain DISCONNECT.

Multiple people can monitor the operator's console activity with zOPERATOR's remote access through either a DIALed terminal or another CMS user.

Don't miss any more important messages, automate your operations and remove the messages cluttering your operator's console. Download zOPER now at: <http://www.velocitysoftware.com/customer/Ftpv4.cgi>

TIM KESSLER IS A SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER
AT VELOCITY SOFTWARE.

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2013 System Z Events and Conferences

Looking to improve your System Z knowledge and skills in 2013? Here are some of the System Z events we will be attending in the upcoming months. Check our next newsletters and social media sites for updates.

Events North America:

21 - 25 October: zTech
The Hilton, Orlando, FL

4 - 8 November: CMG
La Jolla, CA

12 - 15 November: SUSECon
Disney's Coronado Springs Resort,
Lake Buena Vista, FL

9 - 14 March 2014: SHARE
Anaheim Marriott, Anaheim, CA

Events EMEA:

30 September - 2 October: 7th European IBM / GSE TU for z/VSE, z/VM and Linux for System z
Hotel Le Royal Méridien, Hamburg, Germany

4-5 November: Annual GSE UK Conference
Whittlebury Hall, UK

Imprint

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