

Application Backup Center (ABC)

Components

Several different components of ABC together provide complete facilities that allow datacentres to successfully implement, use and control application-oriented backup with a minimum of manual effort.

ABC/Analysis - Analyse Existing Data.

Often, it is difficult to tell where to begin when implementing ABARS. Even application users may not be fully aware of all the data sets that constitute an application. ABC uses data from SMS, VTOC's, and other sources, together with the Aggregate Selection Rules, to build a list of data sets that are candidates for ABARS backups.

ABC/Policy - Build Accurate Selection Datasets.

One of the most frustrating aspects of an ABARS implementation is attempting to keep the aggregate selection data sets up-to-date. Potential errors exist every time a data set is created, deleted, or renamed, since these actions may invalidate the contents of the selection data sets. ABC receives control whenever data sets are accessed in order to apply the Aggregate Selection Rules. During ABACKUP processing, ABC rebuilds the selection data sets for the aggregate. With ABC, the selection data sets are always current.

ABC/Log Management - Capture Aggregate Activity Logs.

The activity logs created during an ABARS backup provides the only means of knowing whether the backup was successful, what data is contained in the backup files, and what tapes are used for the backup.

ABC/Log Management automatically receives control at the completion of each ABACKUP and copies these critical files in a compressed format to a central repository so that complete information on every ABACKUP is immediately available.

ABC/ISPF and ABC/Workstation - Log tracking and JCL Generation.

Using either the ISPF or Windows based interface, ABC users have instant access to the completion status of all ABARS backups, including error messages, tape volsers and restore requirements for disk space. Restore JCL can be automatically generated. The facility of a PC-based GUI interface is particularly important for disaster recovery situations, where neither the mainframe nor experienced systems personnel may be available.

ABC/BTP - Bypass Tape Management System Processing.

During a disaster, catalogs and tape management systems may be out of sync. ABC/BTP provides a means of restoring data from ABARS backup tapes even when the tape management system incorrectly indicates the backup tapes are already in use.