

## See Important DB2 Catalog Data Without Writing SQL

- Improve Developer Productivity with faster information
- See DB2 Object information and relationships to other DB2 objects without writing SQL to access the DB2 Catalog
- Reduce development and problem resolution time

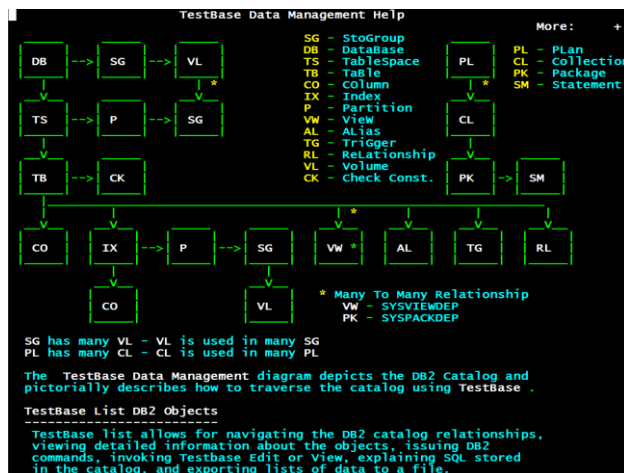
## Business Challenges

As companies strive to increase revenue and improve customer service it becomes increasingly important to create or modify DB2 applications as quickly as possible. Seeing the existing DB2 objects is often the first step.

### DB2 Questions answered by the DB2 catalog

The meta data stored in the DB2 catalog about its objects and relationships is invaluable when considering a change to DB2 objects, trying to resolve SQL locking, or other DB2 issues. Questions like “what programs could be affected by changing a table?” We are getting lock contention on a specific table between 2 jobs identified by [SoftBase’s Deadlock Advisor](#), “what are the determinants of lock contention for this table and these DB2 plans?” I’m loading test data, “what other tables need to be loaded before I can load the table I need data in?”

Writing SQL to traverse the DB2 catalog requires knowledge of the catalog and the relationships between the various catalog tables. Without this knowledge a great deal of time can be spent building and modifying SQL until the correct results are obtained. Learning the DB2 Catalog is not an easy task. The following is a diagram of the DB2 Catalog used by DB2 Catalog Guide:



### Modeled after the IBM ISPF Dataset List Utility

DB2 Catalog Guide is modeled after the IBM dataset list utility of ISPF-option 3.4. It allows application developers to see object relationships and definitions using a familiar environment.

```

TestBase List DB2 Objects
Option ==>
DB2 Subsystem ==> DBCG
DB2 Location: DBCGLOC

Commands:
S - Select      L - List      DI - Display
X - Expand     V - View      ST - Start
/ - List Commands E - Edit      SP - Stop

Cmd  object  Name (Use wildcard * with L - List command)
---  ---
/    B      TDGF610.TABL

Object Types:
SG - Storage Group  CK - Check Constraint  RL - Relationship
DB - Database       IX - Index             PL - Plan
TS - Table Space    VW - View              CL - Collection
P - Partition       CO - Column            PK - Package
TB - Table          AL - Alias             TG - Trigger
SM - Statement

** Note - object Types can be used as commands to see the objects of that type
that are related. For example, use command TS on a database to see
all the tablespaces in the database - TS DB DSNDB06
    
```

DB2 Catalog Guide provides a drill down capability to show the relationships between DB2 objects as well as a selection capability to see object details.

The “/” can be used to view a list of commands which are available for use on a particular object or jump directly to a related object.

```

TestBase List DB2 Objects
Option ==>
DB2 Subsystem ==> DBCG

Commands:
S - Sele
X - Expa
/ - List

Cmd  object  Command
---  ---
/    B      SG Storage Group
          DB Database
          TS TableSpace
          P Partition
          TB Table
          CO Column
          AL Alias
          TG Trigger
          RL Relationship
          SM Statement
          PL Plan
          CL Collection
          X Expand
          S Select
          V View
          E Edit
          DI Display
          ST Start
          SP Stop
          VL Volume
          SQ View SQL

** Note -
Select a Hi-lited choice and press ENTER to process command.
    
```

If Testbase DB2 Edit is installed, tables listed can be viewed or edited from here.

SoftBase’s DB2 Catalog Guide makes answering questions about the DB2 environment easy without user written SQL.

### No DB2 Catalog Contention

No locks are taken on the DB2 Catalog. All catalog SQL is static SQL WITH UR isolation level. This makes it safe

for all developers and other less experienced users.

The S command shows the data in the DB2 catalog about the object:

```
TestBase DB2 Table Lines 1 of 62
Command ==>
DB2 Location: DBCGLOC
DB2 Object : TDGF610.TABL
DB2 Subsystem ==> DBCG
Scroll ==> PAGE
Export
Explode
Commands: Find
NAME . . . . . TABL
CREATOR . . . . . TDGF610
TYPE . . . . . I
DBNAME . . . . . TDGF6100
TSNAME . . . . . TDGF10
DBID . . . . . +00271
OBID . . . . . +00003
COLCOUNT . . . . . +00022
EDPROC . . . . .
VALPROC . . . . .
CLUSTERTYPE . . . . .
CLUSTERRID . . . . . +0000000000
CARD . . . . . -0000000001
NPAGES . . . . . +0000000002
PCTPAGES . . . . . -00001
IBMREQD . . . . . I
REMARKS . . . . . DGF1TABL
PARENTS . . . . . +00000
CHILDREN . . . . . +00005
KEYCOLUMNS . . . . . +00002
RECLENGTH . . . . . +00886
STATUS . . . . . X
KEYORID . . . . . +00004
LABEL . . . . .
CHECKFLAG . . . . .
CHECKRID . . . . .
AUDITING . . . . .
CREATEDBY . . . . . CSBJ
LOCATION . . . . .
TBCREATOR . . . . .
TBNAME . . . . .
CREATEDTS . . . . . 2016-04-22-16.42.25.130974
ALTEREDTS . . . . . 2016-04-22-16.42.25.130974
DATACAPTURE . . . . .
RBA1 . . . . . . Ic
```

Data like RBA1 can be exploded to see the hex representation. Most data on panels can be exported to a physical sequential file and Find is supported on most panels to find and display the next occurrence of a character string.



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