TestBase™

SoftBase®
A Fresche Solutions Brand

Db2 Slice

Centralize Db2 Test Beds

- **Eliminate Excessive Db2 Test Beds and Costly CICS Test Regions**
- **Test Together as a Team Without Affecting Each Other's Results**
- **Application Developers Load and Re-Load Their Own Test Data – No DBAs Required!**

Business Challenges

Db2 for z/OS customers prefer using subsets of their production data when testing new Db2 programs or enhancements to existing applications. Many of these customers own third-party test data extraction products for this purpose. However, DBAs, application developers, and quality assurance personnel discover they are still facing several testing challenges:

- Building and synchronizing multiple Db2 test beds takes DBAs a great deal of time and effort
- Excessive CICS test regions waste costly resources and cause expensive, painful CPU upgrades
- Painful single-threaded testing procedures still slow everyone down – people often fight to use test data
- Developers, end-users, and quality assurance personnel still cannot retrieve their own test data
- Application programs cannot be retested at later dates to determine when problems really began

Announcing SoftBase Db2 Slice

TestBase Db2 Slice is a patented technology that dramatically improves the functionality and value of existing Db2 data extraction solutions. Db2 Slice adds the following capabilities to Db2 application testing practices:

- Eliminate replicated Db2 application test beds and replace them with one shared testing database that DBAs can easily manage and maintain
- Reduce excessive CICS testing regions to free valuable CPU resources, prevent CPU upgrades and dramatically speed up all Db2 application testing
- Provide complete testing concurrency – all testing personnel can load, refresh, and utilize test data at the same time
- Simplify test data extraction so users can get their own test data whenever they desire – no DBA required!
- Provide historical testing capabilities for Db2 application programs

Eliminate Unnecessary Db2 Test Beds

Once multiple Db2 test environments are constructed, DBA's face an ever-increasing workload to ensure all application test beds are identical and continue to remain that way. Test bed synchronization procedures for both applications and DBA staff are time consuming, tedious and error prone.

TestBase Db2 Slice from SoftBase eliminates this problem by enabling all Db2 testing to be performed within one centralized Db2 for z/OS test environment. Centralized testing, especially during the Unit Testing process where developers run frequent Db2 program tests at the same time, allows DBAs to efficiently maintain as few Db2 for z/OS databases and VSAM/QSAM legacy data files as possible.

Also, developers and quality assurance personnel no longer must wait for new Db2 test beds to be constructed when new testing requirements arise … they can begin testing new applications immediately within the Db2 Slice shared test bed.
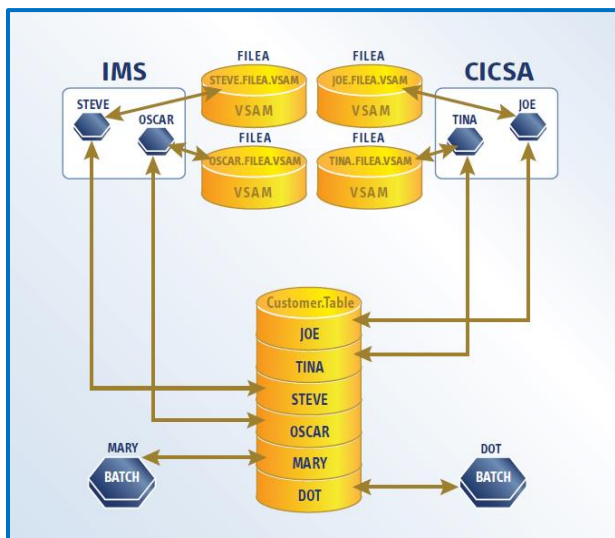
Reduce Excessive CICS Test Regions

Every new CICS test region requires a good deal of work and significant CPU cycles and machine resources to run. Also, CPUs hosting many CICS test regions and dedicated to Db2 for z/OS application testing purposes have less resources to get that job done. Db2 Slice enables multiple teams of developers working on CICS applications to test together at the same time from one shared Db2 database. CICS Db2 application testers can now load and refresh test data and run tests simultaneously without affecting each other's results.

Db2 Slice also allows CICS Db2 application developers to automatically use their own copy of QSAM or VSAM legacy files when running their tests without having to make any CICS configuration changes.

For Information: Call: 800.669.7076 | E-mail: sbsales@freschesolutions.com **| Visit:** www.softbase.com

TestBase™

Db2 Slice

Complete Testing Concurrency

Another common problem customers experience is having to wait to get access to test data in shared test beds. Only one person can run tests at a time and test data often gets corrupted very quickly. Also, when the test bed must be refreshed, all testers must wait until that process is finished. Db2 Slice allows everyone to work together – independently and without affecting each other's test results. When all testers can load and refresh test data and test at the same time, new Db2 applications and *enhancements are completed dramatically faster*.

Simplify Test Data Load

Db2 Slice maintains an inventory of test slice versions that can be reloaded or combined with other slice versions at any time. It can also manage most physical database structure changes that occur over time. Old Db2 application tests can still be run even though the new application test beds are physically different. Db2 Slice will transparently perform any necessary data conversions to ensure that all tests still run properly regardless of changing test bed conditions. Heretofore, programmers had to write costly conversion programs to make use of old test data. Developers and QA personnel can run a batch job to load or refresh their test data without having to learn or understand the complex RI model.

Provide Historical Testing Capabilities

Many customers discover that their application test beds frequently change over time – both in data content and in Db2 object physical structures. Development teams often desire to rerun tests from work done several days or weeks ago – and cannot do so without requesting DBAs to build dedicated Db2 application test beds.

Db2 Slice effortlessly resolves both issues. Application developers and QA Personnel can build libraries of test data and retain these for unlimited time frames. If production problems do develop after new Db2 applications or enhancements are implemented, testing personnel can go back in time to determine where these problems started.

Db2 Slice can also manage most physical database structure changes that occur over time. Old Db2 application tests can still be run even though the application test beds are physically different. Db2 Slice will transparently perform any necessary data conversions to ensure that all tests still run properly regardless of changing test bed conditions.

Leverage Your Investment in Db2

Db2 Slice enables Db2 customers to receive optimal value from their already purchased third-party test data extraction and sub-setting solutions. Following are direct benefits and savings of deploying Db2 Slice from SoftBase with your existing test data extraction software solution:

• Improve DBA productivity by eliminating maintenance of replicated Db2 application test beds
• Defer or prevent costly CPU upgrades by reducing the number of CICS test regions consuming CPU resources
• Speed up all application testing by freeing up testing resources being used by excessive CICS testing regions
• Deliver key Db2 for z/OS applications and enhancements faster and better by dramatically reducing test times and increasing overall application quality
• Free Db2 resources by using fewer databases, tablespaces, tables, indexes, views, packages plans, etc.

S

SoftBase®
A Fresche Solutions Brand