

Announcing V2R3.0 – What's New

Flexible VSAM Data Base Option

This new option allows you to continue to use the DR Manager BDAM data base or convert an existing DR Manager BDAM data base to use the new VSAM data base option. The new VSAM option is the preferred method for most customers and any new installation. All existing installations should consider converting to this new file structure as soon as possible for faster DB reporting.

Benefit: The new VSAM file structure provides improved performance so that time is saved when working with DR Manager.

Enhanced Tape Recovery

Prior to this release, when DR Manager would recover data from a backup copy on tape, it may have required that a tape-to-tape copy take place before recovery could begin. With this new enhancement, a tape-to-tape copy is no longer required. In addition, stacked backups are supported. In those situations where the backup DSN is the same, a JCL skeleton will be generated for updates to the catalog and tape management system.

Benefit: This enhancement allows you to focus on the job at hand: recovery of your critical application data within the SLAs mandated, thereby saving you time, resources and money.

Enhanced Reporting Options in SUNRPT

The success of a DR test or recovery situation can be ensured with the improvements made in the reporting options of DR Manager. All of the SUNRPT enhancements listed below can be printed or viewed via the ISPF or Visual Edition interfaces:

- The ability to report on multiple applications in a single execution rather than separate executions
- The ability to list all critical files within the DR Manager data base
- The addition of SMS information related to data class, management class and storage class
- Allow for multiple outcodes where multiple data centers or alternate site definitions are involved
- Support for out-of-area codes has been expanded to eight (8) bytes

Benefit: The improved reporting will save time and effort, ensuring that your critical files are properly backed up and therefore, recoverable.

Addition of VSAM "SPHERE" Record Support

VSAM Sphere records logically group all parts of a VSAM cluster to a single entity. While a cluster name may logically group the data and index components of a VSAM file, it does not include alternate path names or index names – the SPHERE record accomplishes this.

DR Manager has been enhanced to support this record. Therefore, if your in-house backup product supports the VSAM Sphere record, DR Manager will include the SPHERE keyword in the restore statements of the recovery JCL.

Benefit: By ensuring that all portions of the VSAM files are included in the backup and recovery process, the additional work of rebuilding the alternate paths and indices related to a VSAM file is removed and not accidentally left out of the recovery process, saving valuable time.

SOFTEK *DR Manager*

Simplifying Storage Management

Improved Security and Accessibility to the DR Manager Data Base

Because BC/DR is important to everyone's business, it is vital that access to the information contained in the DR Manager data base be available to a wide variety of people in the enterprise. Improvements to the security portion of DR Manager make it easier for multiple areas of the enterprise to access the data, while still protecting it. DR Administrators can now grant or deny access to records in the data base via any SAF compliant security product using General Resource Profiles in order to provide staff outside the BC/DR group with information about their applications.

Benefit: Application staff can now take a more proactive role in the BC/DR process since they can now review and verify backup and restore scenarios, and ensure that critical files are accounted for.

Ensure Pertinent Data is Processed With New Include Option

The Include option allows you to include files, via masking or fully qualified names, to ensure that pertinent data is processed in the backup cycle – and more importantly, as part of the recovery process. Included files will be reported via the ISPF interface, Visual Edition and reports.

Benefit: Customers now have more control over file tracking within the application and its cycle, making it easier to identify and track these files.

Enhanced DR Manager ISPF Interface For Excludes

Occasionally, there may be a need to exclude jobs or data sets from DR Manager tracking. The DR Manager ISPF interface has been enhanced to allow specification of jobs and/or data sets to be excluded from tracking.

Benefit: The enhancement replaces the function of user exits SUNJBXUX and SUNDSXUX making it easier to work with the product.

Easier Additional Backup Selection Rules

The following Backup Selection Rules have been added to DR Manager.

BSR_CYCE = YES	SELECT ONLY BACKUPS BEFORE CYCLE-END
BSR_CYCS = YES	SELECT ONLY BACKUPS AFTER CYCLE START
BSR_DISK = NO	ALLOW DISK BACKUPS WITH NO TAPE BACKUPS
BSR_MOD = NO	ALLOW BACKUPS WITH MODIFIED STATUS
BSR_OUTC = YES	SELECT ONLY BACKUPS MATCHING ON OUTCODES

Benefit: These new rules replace the customized backup selection previously performed in user exit SUNHSTUX making it easier to set the backup rules desired.

Enhanced Mass Deletes of Application, Jobs and Data Sets

There may, at times, be a requirement to delete a large application(s), job(s) or data set(s) which can interfere with autotracking processing. The mass delete command can now be used to delete the primary record(s) while deferring the pointer updates until the next SUNDBASE RECYCLE is run. It is supported in the ISPF interface and the SUNDBB batch utility.

Benefit: Improves the performance of large deletes and avoids possible data base contention problems with autotracking.

Improved Tracking of modified JCL skeletons

The JCL skeletons used for backup and recovery of data are provided with DR Manager. If these skeletons are modified for use within the customer environment, the original skeleton may overlay the modified JCL.

DR Manager will now track user modifications to skeleton JCL thus making the process easier to use and identify those changes.

Benefit: The time and effort needed to recreate backup or restore JCL is removed with this enhancement.

Flexible User Specified Message Suppression and Message Class

Two new parameters have been defined to specify what Backup Certification messages will be displayed on the SYSLOG and what SYSOUT class that will be used for SUNERR messages. Messages are now grouped as informational, warning and errors. All Backup Certification messages will be written to the dynamically allocated SUNERR file. Specifying the SYSOUT class for SUNERR messages add flexibility to SUNBAC message handling.

Benefit: By limiting what messages are issued to the SYSLOG, time is saved in the review of error messages related to the certification/verification process.

Improved Reporting and Documentation

Every effort is made to keep DR Manager's documentation and reporting simple – however there are times when it can be confusing – especially when the unexpected is seen. The DR Manager staff works very hard to provide you, our customers, with the best available documentation and reporting. With that in mind, the following enhancements have been made to our reports and documentation:

- Interface or user exit documentation for SUNATHUX and SUNJBXUX has been updated and simplified. The SUNATHUX (authorized exit) function has been integrated into the product as previously discussed in the "Improved security..." section of this document. The SUNJBXUX and SUNDXUX exits have been replaced and their function is now provided in the product.
- Improved reporting and documentation related to backup status. Users can now query why a specific backup was selected. Backup selections can be modeled using different rules.
- Improved reporting and documentation regarding Online/Batch Queue Builds and Recovery Queue Builds. The new three (3) optional reports from queue build are the Detail History report that will show the backup history of every data set processed by RQB at the time of execution, a Input Parameters report that will show all of the input parameters from the Queue Descriptor Record or new QDRINPUT file, and an Application User Doc that can also optionally be printed.
- Support of mass deletes from the DR Manager data base – with recommendations about how this can be accomplished while avoiding performance issues plus the general care and maintenance of the data base.

Benefit: Understanding how DR Manager works makes it easier to use. Using the new optional reports created by Restore Queue Builder users can more accurately diagnose anomalous situations that may occur. Situations may include problems with backup selection, tape management code interfaces, JCL generation, etc., which occurred at the time RQB was executed since all of the information used to make those decisions are frozen in time in these reports. The printing of application level user doc allows installations to also have their user doc available in a location other than the data base for use at an alternate site.

Many other enhancements to Softek DR Manager have been made to the product. Please refer to the Summary of Changes section within each manual.