

## **MAINTENANCE OVERVIEW**

Softek Replicator for z/OS is available for installation in two formats:

1. Tape cartridge
2. Web download

Both product installation formats provide all current PTFs at the time of product shipment or download. However, it is possible that additional maintenance could be released following the shipment or download. Therefore, to ensure the product is brought up to date, following the installation, customers must review and apply all additional maintenance (PTFs and/or PE zaps) which can be found at <http://www.softek.com/en/support/replicator/zos/v3/ptf.html> or <http://www.softek.com/en/support/replicator/zos/v3/pe.html>.

An up to date installation would therefore consist of:

1. Tape or Web download at the most current PTF level and
2. Web download to the very latest PE zap level.

## **DETERMINING THE PRODUCT PTF LEVEL**

If the product was previously installed, you can determine the PTF level of the installed Softek Replicator software in one of the following ways:

- Option U.7 – Replicator Support Utilities, System Change Summary or,
- Option 10 – Display/Modify Installation Security Environment or,
- Message TDM1721I contained within the sysout or the Communications Data Set (COMMDS) from a previous execution of Softek Replicator.

If you are installing the base product from tape or web download, refer to one of the following to identify the PTF level:

- Tape cartridge – refer to the *Software Installation and Release Notes (SIRN)*, which is included with the product tape cartridge. The *SIRN* specifically identifies what the PTF level is for the product tape.
- Web download – within the zipped file, refer to a file named PTF.txt. This file identifies the PTF level of the software.

## **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

PR – Problem Report. A PR is a correction to a problem that may be distributed as part of a PTF or as a PE zap. Not all PRs become PE zaps.

PTF – a collection of PRs. May be considered a “level set”.

PE zap – PTF in Error (in AMASPZAP format) that will be included in a future PTF.

## **MAINTENANCE PACKAGING**

PTFs are released periodically and are cumulative – that is, all previous maintenance is included in the new PTF. This simplifies the maintenance of Softek Replicator in that any PTFs that are skipped are automatically included at a higher-level PTF.

# **SOFTTEK** *Replicator for z/OS*

Simplifying Storage Management

PTFs are supplied in object format for SMP/E or non-SMP/E installations. PTFs are available by web download or tape cartridge. Each PTF contains a #README file, which contains a list of all PRs for the current PTF with a brief description for each. Following the installation of a PTF, please refer to the entry "Applying maintenance between PTFs".

## **FREQUENCY OF MAINTENANCE**

Softek strongly recommends that each PTF and/or PE zap be downloaded as it becomes available. The actual application of the maintenance can be scheduled for a later time that is convenient to the user.

## **APPLYING MAINTENANCE BETWEEN PTFs**

Any maintenance to the current PTF is supplied as a PE zap and is packaged for use with AMASPZAP. The PE zap is identified by a PR number and is available in SMP/E and non-SMP/E formats. PE zaps are typically marked as Highly Pervasive (HIPER) and may include a reference to a Technical Information Bulletin (TIB) at the same time. PE zaps are available on the Softek Replicator for z/OS Technical Support web page only. PE zaps are also available as part of the PTF download package.

Please note that subsequent PE zaps may be created and posted to the Technical Support web page, requiring a new download of the entire PTF/PE zap package or individual download of each PE zap as it is released.

## **NOTIFICATION OF UPDATES**

Softek Replicator for z/OS uses e-mail notifications to inform registered users of Softek Replicator that an update has been made to the web page.

**IMPORTANT:** Softek strongly recommends that all Softek Replicator users register for automatic notification. A Group ID may also be used. This ensures that whenever a new PTF, PE zap or other update occurs, our customers can take appropriate action. If filtering is used within the e-mail system, messages from the softek.com domain need to be allowed.

## **IMPORTANT URLs**

Automatic Notification - <http://www.softek.com/en/support/replicator/zos/register.html>

PTF downloads - <http://www.softek.com/en/support/replicator/zos/v3/ptf.html>

PE zap downloads - <http://www.softek.com/en/support/replicator/zos/pe.html>

Softek Replicator homepage - <http://www.softek.com/en/support/replicator/zos/>

Maintenance Methodology - <http://www.softek.com/en/support/replicator/zos/pm.html>

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The *Softek Replicator for z/OS Installation and Reference Guide* contains this information.