RUNSTATS Rescue™ for Db2 z/OS

Quickly resets to a good access path

One of the core tasks of the cost-based Db2 Optimizer, is to guarantee that a query is assigned "the cheapest" access path.

However, "the cheapest" path may not necessarily be "the best" path. Sometimes, poor or unstable query performance is inadvertently created – as can be the case with Dynamic SQL - due to the selection of an inefficient access path. This can lead to problems.

This can happen when, under time-contraints, code has not been thoroughly tested before introduction, or an unintended RUNSTATS/ REBIND has taken place at the wrong time.

RUNSTATS Rescue is a cost-effective life saver for the DBA. When the reason for a sudden degradation is obvious, RUNSTATS Rescue provides an easy-to-use method to quickly reset to a prior access path by using statistics which have been "rescued" from the catalog extract – instead of the bad RUNSTATS statistics in the current access path.

How does this works as an example for dynamic SQL. With only *5 easy steps*:

1. The offending SQL is cut and pasted into SPUFI.
2. The SQL is EXPLAINed (noting the PLAN_TABLE creator and QUERYNO used)
3. A prior Db2 catalog statistic can be selected automatically.
4. Control cards are automatically built to extract and reset all statistics of all objects used – including unused indexes.
5. The RUNSTATS Rescue job is SUBmitted.

RUNSTATS Rescue buys much-needed time in the case of emergencies when every minute counts. After everything has been reset and the crisis has been averted, there is usually plenty of time to discover and analyze the root cause of the "bad" access path and resolve.

RUNSTATS Rescue is delivered as a cost-effective stand-alone Tool, or as an optional component of **Bind ImpactExpert™ for Db2 z/OS** (aka BIX) – a separate product with additional functionality for Access Path Monitoring and Control.

Complementing the strategy of maintaining catalog integrity is a Pocket Tool: **Statistics HealthCheck™ for Db2 z/OS**, which automatically checks (freeware version) and corrects (fee-based version) the catalog statistics.

Complements IBM-PLAN MANAGEMENT where it does not work (any changed object e.g. views and dynamic SQL)

Saves statistics and RECOVERS back to them using a simple, guided semi-automatic process

Helps to automate a rescue process

Works for both dynamic and static SQL

Cost-effective and time-saving

Buys much-needed time during critical events

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