Belisama

July Newsletter

Greetings all,

I trust that you are keeping well and were able to take advantage of some the recent **Think** sessions? Also don't forget that TechXchange is coming soon, and while I appreciate it may be difficult to get everyone to Las Vegas this year, we are hoping to be able to offer local events as well. I will keep you updated as details come to hand.

A few updates to share:

- It is again time of the year when I remind everyone of the IBM Champion programme. I still find it disappointing that there isn't a greater representation from Partners and Customers in ASEANZK, I trust that we can change it this year!

   IBM Champions demonstrate practical expertise in IBM technologies while providing extraordinary support and advocacy in IBM digital and local communities.

   The IBM Champions programme recognises these innovative thought leaders in the technical community and rewards their contributions by amplifying their voice and increasing their sphere of influence. IBM Champions are enthusiasts and advocates: IT professionals, business leaders, developers, executives, and educators who support and mentor others to help them get the most out of IBM software, solutions, and services.

   Please contact me if you are interested in participating.
- The agenda for TechXchange in September in Las Vegas is now available – with some 70 of the over 1000 sessions related to Power.
- I have been doing some ansible testing for a few customers and found a neat new feature (or perhaps I am just slow!) – the AIX reboot module allows you to run a test command once the system has come back up (eh *whoami* etc..)
   Link
- Have a sizing / planning exercise – don't forget Nigel's *rperf* script to get a rough rperf figure for your LPAR, see Technote below.

Quick bites

Power Systems Down A Bit, But Holding Steady In Q2
The IT Jungle reported on 24 July that "Considering that we are over a year into the Power10 entry and mid-range server upgrade cycle, and almost two years into the Power10 high-end cycle, the fact that the Power Systems server business is only down a few points in the second quarter is, well, normal, where things have a natural ebb and flow and the business is not just in a kind of 45 degree decline like we saw a decade ago."
Link

Ansible 2.l5.2 is now available for testing
AIX 7.3.1.1 is required and remember that these are not official IBM packages and not supported by IBM - or even fully tested yet (that is our job!).
See A Klyachkin's post: Link

Why should I standardise my operating system?
E Hendricks wrote a useful blog starting with the problems of version and distribution sprawl and all the problems that it introduces, then looks at the benefits / tools available on RHEL.
Link

In case you missed ….

- **ASEANZK Power (AIX,i,Linux) July meetup**
In case you missed the last meetup on Fortra's Robot Monitor for IBM i system performance and application status monitoring, the sessions are now available:
  Meetup Link
  IBM Community Link
For details of the meetup:
Link

Coming soon

- **ASEANZK September Power meetup**
The next session will be held around the end of September, and we hope to bring you updates on PowerVC and an introduction to IBM Cloud Management Console. We will keep you posted with details.

Redbooks and Redpapers

- **IBM Storage Virtualize, IBM Storage FlashSystem, and IBM SAN Volume Controller Security Feature Checklist** , 04 July 2023, Blueprint.
Link

IBM alerts and notices

AIX alerts:

- **AIX is vulnerable to a denial of service due to libxml2**

  Vulnerabilities in libxml2 could allow a remote attacker to cause a denial of service (CVE-2023-29469 and CVE-2023-28484). AIX uses libxml2 as part of its XML parsing functions.

  Vulnerability Details

  > CVEID: CVE-2023-29469 - GNOME libxml2 is vulnerable to a denial of service, caused by a double free flaw in the xmlDictComputeFastKey function due to hashing empty strings are not null-terminated. By persuading a victim to open a specially crafted XML content, a remote attacker could exploit this vulnerability to cause a denial of service condition.
  >
  > CVEID: CVE-2023-28484 - GNOME libxml2 is vulnerable to a denial of service, caused by a NULL pointer dereference flaw in the xmlSchemaFixupComplexType function. By persuading a victim to open a specially crafted XML content, a remote attacker could exploit this vulnerability to cause a denial of service condition.

  Affected Products and Versions

Affected Product(s)	Version(s)
AIX	7.2
AIX	7.3
VIOS	3.1

  [Link](#)

AIX updates and planning:

- **IPreventative Service Planning: AIX Service Pack 7300-00-04-2320**

  Service Packs contain important fixes delivered between Technology Level.
  [Link](#)

AIX technotes:

- **Upgrading to VIOS 3.1**

  Lots of information to hep you make the move to VIOS 3.1 quickly and accurately including hits and tips.
  [Link](#)

- **Get a rPerf performance rating for your AIX LPAR**

  Run this script of your AIX server to calculate an estimated rPerf rating for that particular Logical Partition (LPAR) also called virtual machine (VM). The estimate is based on the number CPUs and Machine-Type-Model (MTM) calculated from the official documented rPerf ratings.
  [Link](#)

- **AIX ulimit and maxuproc**
  Why does "ulimit -a" now show the value of maxuproc for "processes (per user)" when it used to show unlimited?
  [Link](#)

Spectrum Scale updates and planning:
- **IBM Spectrum Scale Software Version Recommendation Preventive Service Planning**
  IBM Spectrum Scale Software Version Recommendation.
  [Link](#)

Thanks again for your time,
Keep safe,