Announcing ROPES Version 15
June 25, 2009

We are pleased to announce a new version of ROPES. ROPES Version 15 is now available to order for any new installation or trial. An upgrade kit is planned to allow all existing accounts running ROPES V10 or higher to migrate from your current release to Version 15. The upgrade kit will be available by July 2009. Migration from earlier versions of ROPES is supported, but requires a more complex process, which is outlined in the Conversion Guidelines manual for ROPES Version 15.

There are a number of new features being introduced. Here is a brief description of these features. Full descriptions and instructions for use are included in the new ROPES V15 product manuals, which can be downloaded from the ROPES Technical Support Download page.

All prior fixes have been applied

All fixes that were introduced in ROPES Version 14.0 PTFs or fixes have been applied as part of the Version 15.0 base release.

Business Logic for ROPES System Status is released.

A new Business Logic module is released to support ROSS display information in ROPES and user application programs. The System Status display module R51SSTAT has been split into a Presentation module (R51SSTAT) and a Business Logic module (ROPEBLSS). The Business Logic module returns the data required to produce the ROSS display in a COMMAREA, mapped by the copy book ROPEBLCM, available in assembler. This enhancement is designed to assist clients who wish to integrate ROPES control information into the facilities available in their own SOA implementations

A Business Transaction Services module for ROPES Report Status List is released.

A new Business Transaction Services module has been released to support RORL display information in ROPES and user application programs. The new CICS BTS-enabled business logic module ROPECNRL uses BTS Process Containers to permit the transfer of data from ROPES to your user application without regard for the CICS imposed 32K COMMAREA size limitation. This enhancement is designed to assist clients who wish to integrate ROPES control information into the facilities available in their own SOA implementations

The ROPES Web Interface is released.

The ROPES Web Interface is a basic working example of how ROPES might be presented to the end-user through

a Web Browser interface. It can be used as is or tailored to accommodate your installation's needs or preferences. A sample security exit is also provided. It is expected that your installation will modify this exit to meet your own security requirements.

The current implementation does not permit an end user to edit or alter any ROPES information. This is planned for a future release. However, you should note that unless otherwise restricted, the end user can view any report contents in the system.

The ROPES Web Interface uses the ROPES Business Logic and Business Transaction Services Container Services modules previously released, and one new module of each type that is being released concurrent with the introduction of the interface (see above). We have released this version of the web interface in source code as well as object code format so that you may use the programs as examples of how this can be done, and it does not require you to directly interface with the internal ROPES controls or require you to process the ROPES data sets directly.

Diagnostic Capabilities Have Been Added to ROPEWAKE (transaction R#WU).

Additional output diagnostics are available for the R#WU transaction (program ROPEWAKE). This diagnostic information is activated by a control record placed in the ROPEPRM data set. You can select up to five reports and five printers to trigger the additional diagnostics, which are written to the ROPES Message Log Queue.

Product Concurrency

This version of ROPES becomes current as July 1, 2009. Support for ROPES Version 13 continues until September 30, 2009. Support for ROPES Version 14 continues until September 30, 2010. Support for all versions prior to Version 13 has already been discontinued, but we will be glad to assist you in upgrading to a supported release, and we will make every effort to assist you in keeping your older release running while you upgrade.