CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

CICS Region Consolidation Realizes Savings

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CICS Provides Critical Data Infrastructure

The Customer Information Control System (CICS) is an interactive transaction processing system from IBM which has been used at CNS since the early 1970's. The CICSpex at CNS provides critical transaction processing services to certain universities and state agencies in Florida and many departments at the University of Florida. These services provide online access to the critical data infrastructure required to keep these universities and agencies running.

Increased Usage Required More Regions

Years ago, the original CICS "region" (CICSPRD1) was built primarily to support the UF Menu System, UF Administrative Applications, and the UF Student Record System. At that time, mainframe technology was such that for optimum utilization of resources, it was best to split a single CICS region into multiple CICS regions. So, as the CICS load increased, more regions were built. Until recently, there were eight (8) production CICS regions in use at CNS.

CICS Region Consolidation Saves CPU Consumption

Today, with the current technology and much faster CPUs, and with the majority of the UF Administrative CICS load moved into PeopleSoft, it makes sense to re-consolidate multiple CICS regions into fewer regions.

The goal of the CICS region consolidation project is to reduce CPU consumption in production CICS. This will help in the support of our next peak CICS usage load, scheduled for the January 2005 start-of-term student load. In addition, we should realize savings in CPU consumption in CICS, and a reduction in storage requirements.

Changes Will Be Transparent

These changes are mostly transparent to end users and our CICS development groups, making this change prudent and timely.

To learn more about CICS at CNS, go to http://cics.ufl.edu.

Your Comments are Welcome

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