

# z/OS 3.2 IBM Education Assistant

Solution Name: Hardening Security between z/OS BCPii and HMC/SE

Solution Element(s): 5752SCHWI z/OS BCPii

July 2025



# Agenda

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# Trademarks

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- See url <http://www.ibm.com/legal/copytrade.shtml> for a list of trademarks.
- Additional Trademarks:
  - None.

# Objectives

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- z/OS BCPii allows authorized applications to query, change, and perform procedures against the systems in the Process Control (HMC) Network
- With the addition of **HWIREST** Callable Service, z/OS BCPii increased the number of capabilities available to the user for managing CPCs
- Hardware Management Consoles (HMCs) require a different authorization scheme to be targeted, causing certain functionality to not be exposed previously through z/OS BCPii
- Adding support for JSON Web Tokens (JWTs) through z/OS BCPii allows for increased functionality and security granularity for our clients

# Overview

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- Who (Audience)
  - Users of z/OS BCPii desiring additional functionality provided by Hardware Management Consoles (HMCs) and greater user security granularity.
- What (Solution)
  - JWT usage capability can be configured for `HWIREST` and `HWIREST2` Callable Services
- Wow (Benefit / Value, Need Addressed)
  - Automation capabilities of functionality only available through HMCs are now available to z/OS Users through a REST-like API
  - Hardened security through the permissions being mapped from z/OS Users to HMC Users

# Usage & Invocation (1 of 5)

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`HWIREST(&request, &response);`

`REQUEST_REST_PARM_TYPE request;`

`request.httpMethod`

`request.uri`

`request.targetName`

`request.requestBody`

`request.clientCorrelator`

`request.encoding`

`request.requestTimeout`

`targetName` now supports HMC targets `HMC://hmcname`



`RESPONSE_PARM_TYPE response;`

`response.responseDate`

`response.requestId`

`response.location`

`response.responseBody`

`response.httpStatus`

`response.reasonCode`

# Usage & Invocation (2 of 5)

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`HWIREST2(&request, &response);`

`REQUEST_REST2_PARM_TYPE request;`

`request.httpMethod`

`request.uri`

`request.targetName`

`request.requestBody`

`request.clientCorrelator`

`request.encoding`

`request.requestTimeout`

*`request.eventExitMode`*

*`request.eventExitAddr`*

*`request.eventExitParm`*

`RESPONSE_PARM_TYPE response;`

`response.responseDate`

`response.requestId`

`response.location`

`response.responseBody`

`response.httpStatus`

`response.reasonCode`



`targetName` supports HMC or CPC Targets

*note:* HWIREST2 always uses JWTs so JWTs must be configured

# Usage & Invocation (3 of 5)

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- HMC targets through `HWIREST` will *always* use JWTs
- When targeting CPCs via `HWIREST`, the authentication mode is determined by a FACILITY Class Profile

New FACILITY Class Profile: `HWI.AUTHMODE.HWIREST.<cpcname>.<sysname>`

- APPLDATA Field:
  - `FACILITY` (*or none*)
    - *default* Utilize existing FACILITY Class Profiles for authorization
  - `JWTHYBRID`
    - Utilize JWTs when configured and supported on Local and Remote systems, otherwise fall back to FACILITY Class Profiles
  - `JWT`
    - Exclusively utilize JWTs, fails request when unable to utilize JWT

*note:* User is always required to have READ access to `HWI.APPLNAME.HWISERV`



# Usage & Invocation (4 of 5)

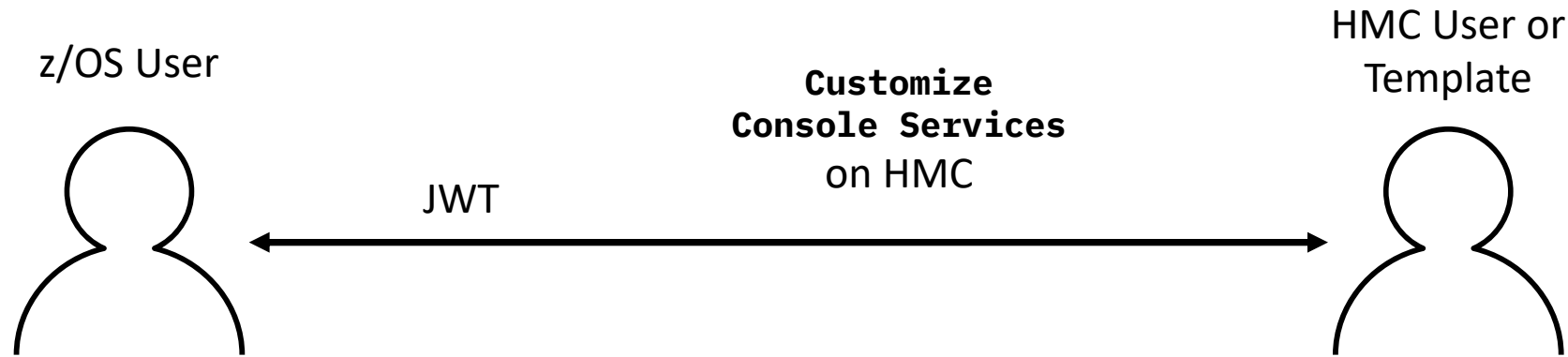
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- F HWIBCPII,REFRESH,RESTAUTH
  - Modify Command for changes to authorization mode following BCPii startup
- D BCPII,RESTAUTH
  - Display the currently configured authorization mode

# Usage & Invocation (5 of 5)

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- JWT Mappings are configured by an admin to correlate a z/OS User with an HMC User or Template.



- z/OS BCPii obtains a signed JWT on behalf of the user and sends it along with the **HWIREST** or **HWIREST2** request where the SE / HMC correlates the JWT to a specific HMC User or Template and creates a session
- HMC Users or Templates offer a greater level of permission granularity

# Interactions & Dependencies

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- Software Dependencies
  - None.
- Hardware Dependencies
  - IBM z17 System is required for JWT Authorizations.
  - IBM Crypto Express Card is required for JWT Authorizations.
- Exploiters
  - None.

# Upgrade & Coexistence Considerations

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- To exploit this solution, all systems in the Plex must be at the new z/OS level: No
- No toleration/coexistence APARs/PTFs.

# Installation & Configuration

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- Available on z/OS 3.1 with OA65929
- Available in z/OS 3.2 Base

*only necessary to use JWT:*

- Generate a BCPii Authorization Certificate in a Security Product
- Export and Upload of the BCPii Authorization Certificate to the targeting or managing HMC
- Configuration of a JWT Mapping for the User associated with the BCPii Started Task on the targeting or managing HMC
  - Additionally, any z/OS Users issuing JWT HWIREST or HWIREST2 request will need a mapping defined on the targeting or managing HMC

# Summary

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- New JWT Mappings allow for more granular permissions checking for z/OS Users targeting both SEs and HMCs
- `HWIREST` and `HWIREST2` along with JWTs can allow for more z/OS BCPii capabilities through HMC Targeting
- `HWI.AUTHMODE.HWIREST.<cpcname>.<sysname>` can be configured to change the authentication mode used for `HWIREST` requests targeting SEs
  - `JWTHYBRID` can be leveraged to enable the added capabilities of JWTs while still utilizing Facility Class Profiles when JWTs aren't supported or configured
  - `HWI.AUTHMODE.HWIREST.*.*` can be used to cover all systems

# Appendix

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## Publications

- **z/OS MVS Programming: Callable Services for High-Level Languages**
  - Complete z/OS BCPii documentation
- **z/OS MVS System Messages, Volume 6 (GOS – IEA)**
  - z/OS BCPii (HWI) message documentation
- **z/OS MVS System Codes**
  - z/OS BCPii abend '042'x documentation
- **z/OS MVS System Commands**
  - z/OS BCPii MVS Commands
- **Hardware Management Console Web Services API**
  - Firmware Publication for REST APIs

Additional samples for z/OS BCPii are provided via GitHub

- <https://github.com/IBM/zOS-BCPii>