JCL2

ON the Job

- FIX SOME JCL AND GET THAT PROGRAM RUNNING!
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FIX SOME JCL AND GET THAT PROGRAM RUNNING!

The Challenge

Let's try to fix a simple problem in some JCL.

The code you'll be investigating is supposed to combine the contents of a few files; but as you'll find out, something is missing.

There are clues in the output that will help, and when you're done, the job will run successfully without any errors.

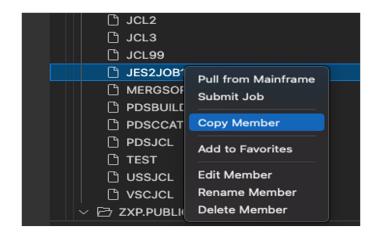
Before You Begin

You should have VSCode fully installed and configured before you begin.

Investment

Steps	Duration
9	45 minutes

1 COPY JES2JOB1



Look in **ZXP.PUBLIC.JCL** for a member called **JES2JOB1**.

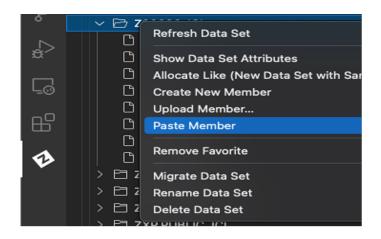
This is the JCL you will be working with for this challenge.

Right-click on it and select "Copy".

2 MAKE IT YOUR OWN

Locate your own *Zxxxxx.JCL data set, right-click on it, and select "Paste".

This will, aof course, put a new copy of the **JES2JOB1** member into your JCL data set, so you can edit it.



When pasting, you will be prompted to enter a name. Usually, you just want to enter the same name as the source - which is exactly what you should do here.

3 OPEN IT UP!

Click on the JES2JOB1 member (in your own JCL data set, not the ZXP one) and review the code.

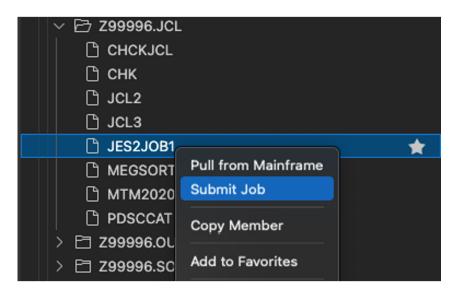
```
//JES2JOB1 JOB
//COMBINE EXEC PGM=IRXJCL,PARM='COMBINE'
//SYSEXEC DD DSN=ZXP.PUBLIC.EXEC,DISP=SHR
//SYSTSPRT DD DSN=&SYSUID..OUTPUT(GUITAR),DISP=SHR
//SYSTSIN DD DUMMY
//NICKNAME DD DSN=ZXP.PUBLIC.SOURCE(NICKNAME),DISP=SHR
//BRAND DD DSN=ZXP.PUBLIC.SOURCE(BRAND),DISP=SHR
```

It looks like it will be running the IRXJCL program with a 'COMBINE' parameter.

It will be doing something in your **OUTPUT** data set, and will also be using two members from the **ZXP.PUBLIC.SOURCE** data set.

4 RUN THAT CODE

Right-click on on your JES2JOB1 JCL member and select "Submit Job".



Notice the Job Name that pops up in the lower right corner of your screen. It should start with "JOB", followed by 5 digits.

5 CHECK THE OUTPUT



In the VSCode left-side navigation area, go to the JOBS section and find the job you just submitted, which matches the job name that popped up in the previous Step.

You may need to reload the JOBS view to find it.

You will notice that it shows a completion code **CC 0008**. That is a "condition code", and "8" means that there was definitely an error.

(We told you something was missing!)

6 THE JOB DETECTIVE

Look through the output that the failed job created.

```
≡ JES2JOB1.JOB08770.JESYSMSG ×
      ICH70001I Z99996 LAST ACCESS AT 02:01:48 ON MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2021
       IEFA111I JES2JOB1 IS USING THE FOLLOWING JOB RELATED SETTINGS:
               SWA=ABOVE, TIOT SIZE=32K, DSENQSHR=DISALLOW, GDGBIAS=JOB
       IEF236I ALLOC. FOR JES2JOB1 COMBINE
       IGD103I SMS ALLOCATED TO DDNAME SYSEXEC
       IGD103I SMS ALLOCATED TO DDNAME SYSTSPRT
       IEF237I DMY ALLOCATED TO SYSTSIN
       IGD103I SMS ALLOCATED TO DDNAME NICKNAME
       IGD103I SMS ALLOCATED TO DDNAME BRAND
      TRX0555E
      IRX0670E EXECIO error while trying to GET or PUT a record.
      IEF142I JES2JOB1 COMBINE - STEP WAS EXECUTED - COND CODE 0008
       IGD104I Z99996.SOURCE
                                                          RETAINED, DDNAME=SYSEXEC
      IGD104I Z99996.0UTPUT
                                                          RETAINED. DDNAME=SYSTSPRT
      IGD104I Z99996.INPUT
                                                          RETAINED, DDNAME=NICKNAME
      IGD104I Z99996.INPUT
                                                          RETAINED, DDNAME=BRAND
       IEF373I STEP/COMBINE /START 2021235.0217
      IEF032I STEP/COMBINE /STOP 2021235.0217
              CPU: 0 HR 00 MIN 00.01 SEC
                                                 SRB:
                                                          0 HR 00 MIN 00.00 SEC
              VIRT: 72K SYS: 244K EXT:
                                                 464K SYS: 11440K
              ATB- REAL:
                                          24K SLOTS:
                                                                          ØK
                   VIRT- ALLOC:
                                    12M SHRD:
      IEF375I JOB/JES2JOB1/START 2021235.0217
       IEF033I J0B/JES2J0B1/ST0P 2021235.0217
                      0 HR 00 MIN 00.01 SEC
                                                          0 HR 00 MIN 00.00 SEC
```

You may not be able to make sense of much of this, but one line in the **JESYSMSG** section gives a very clear clue about why the program didn't run correctly.

"HOW DO I KNOW WHAT INPUT A PROGRAM NEEDS?"

JCL is often used to run programs on z/0S, and part of running a program is providing that program the files that it needs to run successfully.

The last few lines of the JCL you are working on here are called "DD Statements". **DD** stands for Data Definition, and these statements specify the name of the file being defined, as well as its location (a specific dataset), and how it should be handled (shared, exclusive, existing, new, and so on).

In this case, the program is looking for a third piece of input that was not there in the JCL you were given. You can copy/paste the second DD statement, and then alter it to match what the program is looking for, based on what you discovered in the failing program's output from Step 5.

7 MAKE THE NECESSARY UPDATE

Edit your copy of JES2JOB1 and try to fix the problem.

There is one missing line of code which you need to add.

You can use the **BRAND** DD Statement as a reference for the line you need to create, but there are two parts of that line that you will need to change to make the job work correctly.

```
//JES2JOB1 JOB
//COMBINE EXEC PGM=IRXJCL,PARM='COMBINE'
//SYSEXEC DD DSN=ZXP.PUBLIC.EXEC,DISP=SHR
//SYSTSPRT DD DSN=&SYSUID..OUTPUT(GUITAR),DISP=SHR
//SYSTSIN DD DUMMY
//NICKNAME DD DSN=ZXP.PUBLIC.SOURCE(NICKNAME),DISP=SHR
//BRAND DD DSN=ZXP.PUBLIC.SOURCE(BRAND),DISP=SHR
,DISP=SHR
```

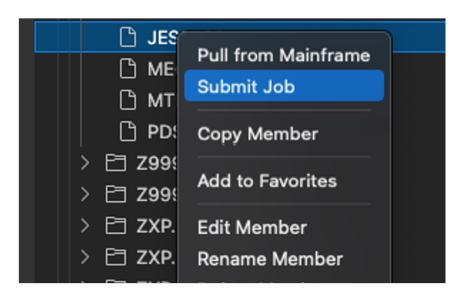
If you want an additional clue, look in the ZXP.PUBLIC.SOURCE dataset to see what other files in there might be helpful for this program.

And remember, spacing matters! Make sure those columns line up.

8 SAVE AND SUBMIT

Make sure to Save a dataset or member whenever you have made changes.

If you don't, and try to submit it again, it will just keep submitting the old version without your updates.



Once you have saved your changes, right-click and select "Submit Job", again noting the number that pops up so you can easily find it in the JOBS section.

9 CHECK FOR THE CORRECT OUTPUT



When corrected, the job should produce output in your OUTPUT data set called JES2JOB1, similar to what you see above.

Look through the output and hopefully you got a completion code of ** CC 0000**, indicating no more problems.

If not, review Step 7, and make sure you are saving and submitting the correct copy of the JCL.

If you got "CC 0000", open up ZXP.PUBLIC.JCL and submit the CHKJCL2 validation job.

Nice job - let's recap	Next up
Congratulations on fixing your first JCL program. A z/OS Sysprog will spend a lot of time hunting down bugs in code. Sometimes the error is just a misunderstanding between what the programmer meant to do, and how it actually got executed by the system. Other times, it's just a simple slip of the finger that turned an M into an N, or put an extra space between two fields. We've all been there, and will go there again!	You've got data sets, you've got jobs. Why not go wild and try some more Unix System Services? You've done USS1, try out USS2 and you'll be ready to handle even more mainframe tasks.