IBM – CICS Workshop



L02 - CICS-Security Request Recording

Lab Version V0.1

October, 2022

Overview

Security request recording (SRR) can be used to help you diagnose CICS® security issues.

What sort of issues can security request recording help you solve?

Many security problems are straightforward to solve. The ICH408I messages give details of the user ID, RACF® profile, RACF class, and the required access. Associated DFHXS1111 and DFHXS1117 message help identify the user so that the problem can be identified and if necessary access granted.

Some problems are more difficult to solve. Often these problems occur as a result of a help desk problem that the system programmer needs to investigate. These problems might include various complexities:

- The application that is being investigated might traverse multiple regions, multiple LPARs, or even multiple sysplexes.
- There might not be any messages that are associated with the reason that causes a security failure.
- The application might grant access to something when it mustn't.

Lab Scenario

In our scenario, you are a system programmer and need to configure SEC=YES for all your CICS regions. But the application does not work after the change and you can't check some CICS resources, either. Then, you turn on the security request recording function and check the RACF classes and profiles caused the errors and issue correct RACF commands to make the application work.

Lab Requirements

Please note that there are often several ways to perform functions in and for CICS. This lab exercise will present one of the ways. If you are familiar with CICS, you will notice that some of the statements are general, and not necessarily true for every situation.

This lab uses the PCOMM and CICS Explorer. If you are not familiar with these, please contact one of the lab instructors for assistance.

The following are other assumptions made in this lab exercise.

- CICS TS V6.1: This lab exercise only works in CICS V6.1. You have your own z/OS image you can change all resources in four CICS regions.
- Login: A TSO userid is available with the appropriate password provided, and you will also use the same TSO userid with the z/OS Explorer.
- The **CICS Explorer:** In the lab environment we have installed the CICS Explorer to configure CICS resources and the security request recording function.

Lab Step Overview

Part 1: Try the CICS bank sample application (hereafter CBSA) in 4 CICS regions

Logon to the CICS61T1 and run the transaction OMEN. Then, try to browse customer number with "1" and display the account "1" in menus. Make sure no problems happen there.

Part 2: Change the SIT parameters of all CICS regions and restart them

Set "SEC=YES" on all CICS regions.

Part 3: Try again the CBSA and check errors

Try to browse the customer number, "1" in the customer inquiry menu and see the application making errors.

Part 4: Configure the Journal for the CICS Security Request Recording (SRR)

Create the journal model to create the DFHSECR journal.

Part 5: Turn on the SRR for the ODCS transaction in all CICS regions

In the region view of CICS Explorer, turn on the SRR log for ODCS transaction in all four CICS regions.

Part 6: Check the SRR result and issue RACF commands to resolve ODCS errors

Check the SRR CSV file and create a RACF command to resolve the ODCS transaction error.

Part 7: Summary

This is a recap of the steps performed in this lab exercise and answers for quizzes.

Part 0: Check the CICS Explorer Connection to CICS

In this part of the lab exercise you will configure the connection between the CICS Explorer running on your workstation to CICS running on z/OS.

Start the CICS Explorer

1. From the **desktop**, **double-click** the **CICS Explorer** icon to start the Explorer if it is not already running.

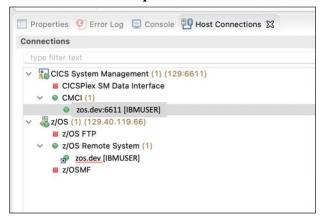


____2. When you start the Explorer, if you are prompted for a workspace, click the **OK** button to select the default.

Verify that you have an FTP connection to z/OS in your CICS Explorer

_____3. If you have not already created connections to the z/OS host system, check the connection as in the screen shot. Both the **Remote System Explorer** and **CMCI** connections should be started and active.

IP: zos.dev / CMCI port: 6611 / User: IBMUSER / Password: sys1



Part 1: Try the CICS bank sample application (hereafter CBSA) in 4 CICS regions

In this part of the lab exercise you will try the CICS bank sample application.

Try the CICS Bank Sample Application

- ____1. Open a session in the PCOMM, and type "L CICS61T1" to logon.
- ____2. Clear the screen and type "OMEN" to start the main screen.

```
BNK1MA
Select an option. Then press Enter.
Action . . . .
                     Display/Delete/Update CUSTOMER information
                 1.
                  2.
                     Display/Delete ACCOUNT information
                      Create CUSTOMER
                 З.
                 4.
                      Create ACCOUNT
                 5.
                     Update ACCOUNT
                      Credit/Debit funds to an ACCOUNT
                 6.
                      Transfer funds
                  7.
                     Look up Accounts with Customer Number
F3=Exit
          F12=Cancel
```

_____3. Try to display the customer number 1 and the account number 1. Also, you can create customer and account numbers as you want to test the CICS Bank Sample Application. (CBSA)

Part 2: Change the SIT parameters of all CICS regions and restart them

10 ma	CICS61A1, CICS61A2, CICS61F1)
1.	From the PCOMM, logon TSO. L TSO TSO User: IBMUSER / password: SYS1
2.	In CICS.CICS61.SYSIN, update all SIT members which have the same names as CICS regions. SEC=YES
3.	Restart CICS regions in SDSF:
	=S;DA;PRE CICS61* /S STO61 /S STA61

The STO61 procedure will cancel four CICS regions and the STA61 procedure will start four

CICS regions. (CICS61T1, CICS61A1, CICS61A2, CICS61F1)

Part 3: Try again the CBSA and check errors

In this part of the lab exercise, we will try the CBSA application again and see an application error and you can't see the journal resource by using CEMT command. \

Retry the CBSA

____1. In the CICS61T1, run **OMEN**, select **menu 1**, put **1** into the **customer number** field, and check the application error message as follows:

```
Provide a CUSTOMER number. Then press Enter.

CUSTOMER NUMBER 1

Sort Code
Customer Number
Customer Name
Customer Address

Customer D.O.B. / /
Credit Score
CS Review Date / /

DFHAC2206 21:06:11 CICS61T1 Transaction ODCS failed with abend AZI6. Updates to local recoverable resources backed out. DFHAC2261 System 61A2 sent message (sense code 0824089E). 'DFHAC2206 21:06:11 CICS61A2 Transaction ODCS failed with abend HBNK. Updates to local recoverable resources backed out.'.
```

Now, you have an error after setting SEC=YES for CICS regions. You need to find out a security issue and run RACF commands to resolve this problem. Please forward to the next step.

Part 4: Configure the Journal for the CICS Security Request Recording (SRR)

The CICS Security Request Recording (CSRR) writes the logs to the journal, DFHSECR. We will configure a journal model to create a DASD only log stream for this journal.

Define a logstream model in the z/OS logger

__1. Create a logstream model for the journal model, **DFHSECR**.

CICS.CICS61.JCL(DFHSECR)

```
//DFHILGSR JOB CLASS=A,MSGCLASS=X,NOTIFY=&SYSUID,REGION=0M
//DFHILG6 EXEC PGM=IXCMIAPU
//SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=*
//SYSIN DD *
DATA TYPE(LOGR) REPORT(YES)
/* User journals */
DEFINE LOGSTREAM NAME(####.STREAM.@@@@)
MODEL(YES)
DASDONLY(YES)
MAXBUFSIZE(64000)
AUTODELETE(YES)
RETPD(1)
/*
```

Quiz 1: What values should replace ##### and @@@@@ in the above JCL?

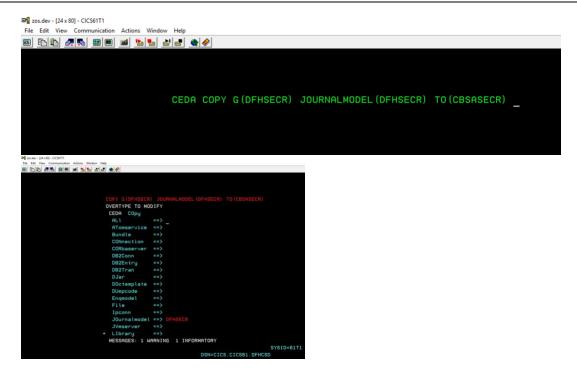
If you don't know the answer, please check it at the last page of this document.

• Be careful! Do not use the "NAME" for @@@@@ as the journal name in the step 2.

Define a journal model in CICS

_____2. In any CICS region, define a new journal model, **DFHSECR** and add it to the CICS group list.

CEDA COPY G(DFHSECR) JOURNALMODEL(DFHSECR) TO(CBSASECR)



CEDA ADD G(CBSASECR) LIST(61LIST)



____3. Restart all CICS regions to install the DFHSECR to all CICS regions.

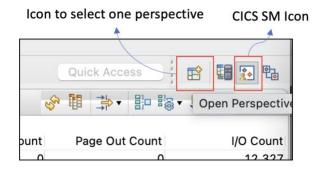
/S STO61 /S STA61

Part 5: Turn on the SRR for the ODCS transaction in all CICS regions

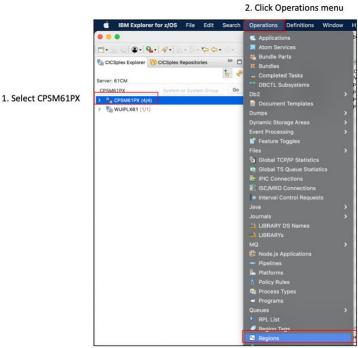
Now it's time to resolve the ODCS transaction errors. You will define the SRR for ODCS transactions in all CICS regions because the ODCS transaction are routed to one of CICS region and connected to one FOR region.

Turn on the SRR in the CICS Explorer for a CEMT transaction

__1. Open the CICS Explorer and select the CICS SM perspective.

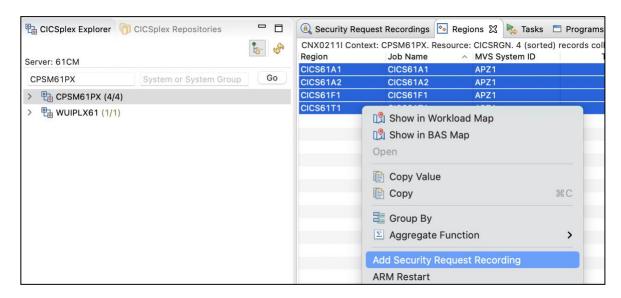


__1. Click "Regions" after selecting the CPSM61PX context and the Operations Menu.

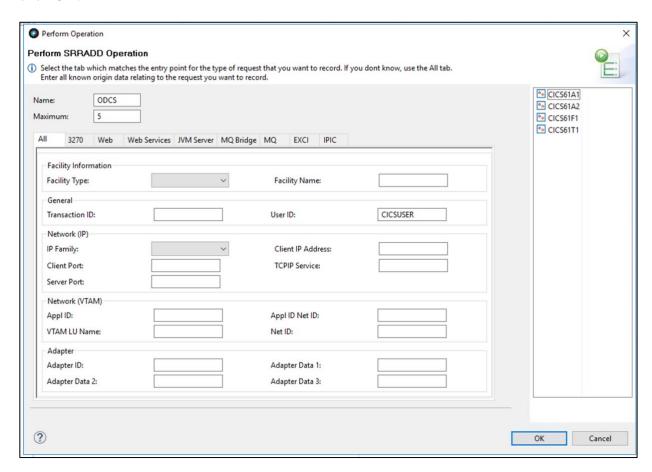


3. Click Regions

____2. Open a SRR session with right clicking after selecting all CICS regions.



_____3. Put **ODCS** in the Name field, **5** in Maximum field and **CICSUSER** in the "User ID" field. Then click OK.

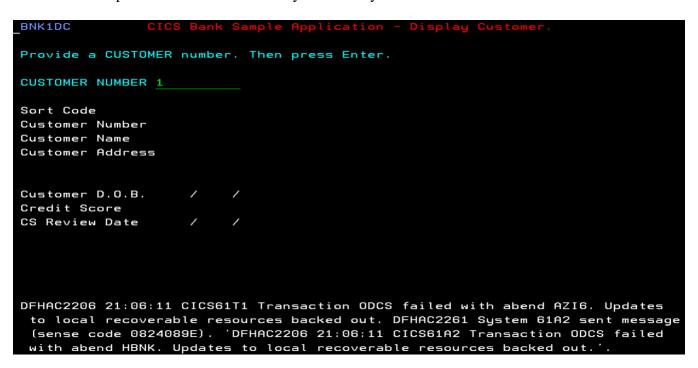


__4. Select the **Security Request Recording** menu in the **Operations** menu.

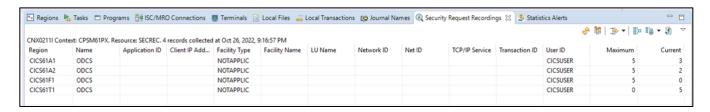


Now you can see the four new records being activated for the user ID, CICSUSER.

- ____5. Test the inquiry process of customer number again with OMEN transaction. OMEN → Select menu 1 → Put 1 in the customer number field.
 - * Use capital letters for "OMEN" if you have any "omen" lower case errors in AORs.



_6. Check "Current" field is not 0 values in the **Security Request Recording** menu.



Part 6: Get the SRR report and issue RACF commands to resolve ODCS errors

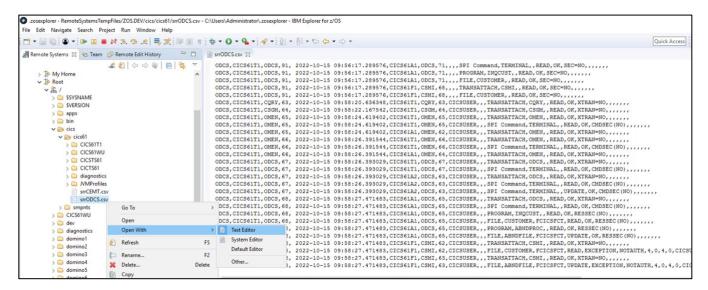
In this part of the exercise, you will check the SRR report and get information to compose RACF commands to resolve the security error of ODCS transaction.

Run the batch job to generate a CSV file and view it in the VS Code

____1. From the TSO, run the batch JCL to extract the SRR logs and write to a CSV file.

CICS.CICS61.JCL(DFHSRRPO)

```
//DFHSRRPO JOB CLASS=A, MSGCLASS=X, NOTIFY=&SYSUID, REGION=OM
// SET CSV='/cics/cics61/srrODCS.csv'
// SET LOGSTRM=DFHSECR.STREAM.NAME
// SET HLQ= IBMUSER.GM02.CTS61BT.CICS
//***********************
//* Ensure that CSV file is deleted without nonzero RC
//***********************
//CREATE EXEC PGM=IEFBR14
//CSV DD PATHOPTS=(ORDWR,OCREAT),
//
            PATHMODE = (SIRUSR, SIWUSR),
            PATHDISP=(KEEP, KEEP), PATH='&CSV'
//DELETE EXEC PGM=IEFBR14, COND=EVEN
//CSV
     DD PATHDISP=(DELETE, DELETE), PATH='&CSV'
//************************
//* Convert logstream to CSV file
//********************
      EXEC PGM=DFHSRR, REGION=4M
//STEPLIB DD DISP=SHR, DSN=&HLQ..SDFHLINK
//DFHSECR DD DSNAME=&LOGSTRM., DCB=BLKSIZE=32760,
//
            SUBSYS= (LOGR, DFHLGCNV)
//DFHCSV DD PATHOPTS=(OWRONLY,OCREAT),
//
           PATHMODE = (SIRUSR, SIWUSR),
//
            PATHDISP=(KEEP, DELETE), FILEDATA=TEXT,
            RECFM=VB, LRECL=1024, BLKSIZE=32760,
//
//
            PATH='&CSV'
//SUMMARY DD SYSOUT=*
//RECORD DD SYSOUT=*
//SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=*
//SYSOUT
        DD SYSOUT=*
//SYSUDUMP DD SYSOUT=*
//SORTWK01 DD UNIT=SYSDA, SPACE=(CYL, (4))
//SORTWK02 DD UNIT=SYSDA, SPACE=(CYL, (4))
//SORTWK03 DD UNIT=SYSDA, SPACE=(CYL, (4))
//SORTWK04 DD UNIT=SYSDA, SPACE=(CYL, (4))
         DD *
//SYSIN
```



_____3. Check exception records with the **profile** and **class** information and use them for manipulating RACF commands to resolve the transaction abend.

Change @@@@@@@@@ and ####### to the RACF resource names and issue the following 3 RACF commands in =6 menu.

1st RACF command RDEFINE @@@@@@@@@@@(CBSAFILE) UACC(NONE) ADDMEM(ABNDFILE, ACCOUNT, ACCTCUST, CUSTOMER, PROCTRAN, REJTRAN) NOTIFY(IBMUSER) 2nd RACF command PERMIT CBSAFILE CLASS(@@@@@@@@@) ID(CICSUSER) ACCESS(UPDATE)

3rd RACF command

SETROPTS RACLIST(#######) REFRESH

Check the link to find out file class names for group definition and refresh: https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/cics-ts/6.1?topic=reference-summary-racf-classes-cics-resources

Quiz 2: What values are for @@@@@@@@@ and #######? The answers are in the end of this document.

Test the customer inquiry process

____4. Test the inquiry process of customer number again with OMEN transaction. OMEN → Select menu 1 → Put 1 in the customer number field.

Don't use lower character for the "**OMEN**" transaction. Please use capital letters for all transactions. It's because the application abend couldn't change the UCTran attribute back to normal for your terminal.

```
BNK1DC CICS Bank Sample Application - Display Customer.

Provide a CUSTOMER number. Then press Enter.

CUSTOMER NUMBER 0000000001

Sort Code 987654
Customer Number 0000000001

Customer Name Dr Zsa G Higins
Customer Address 74 Joshua Mews, Portsmouth test

Customer D.O.B. 22 / 02 / 1941

Credit Score 516

CS Review Date 01 / 10 / 2022

Customer lookup successful. (PF5> to Delete. (PF10> to Update. F3=Exit F12=Cancel
```

Now you can see the information of customer number, 1!

Part 7: Summary

Congratulations, you have resolved security errors by using the Security Request Recording function in CICS V6.1.

In this lab you performed the following steps:

- Configure the Security Request Recording function in CICS V6.1.
- Activate the recording for a transaction or for a user.
- Generate the CSV report and view it in the CSV extension of VS Code.
- Find out RACF resources to manipulate commands.
- Resolve the security issues!

Answers of Quizzes

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Quiz 1: What values should replace ##### and @@@@@ in the above JCL?

(####.STREAM.@@@@@) **→** (DFHSECR.STREAM.MODEL)

Quiz 2: What values are for @@@@@@@@@ and #######?

@@@@@@@ > HCICSFCT, ####### > FCICSFCT