

## ASG-PRO/JCL®

Modernize JCL Management with DevOps

Digital transformation is driving complexity across hybrid IT environments. Increasing efficiency, standardization and IT modernization to manage this complexity demands powerful, yet easy-to-use automation tools. The IBM Z mainframe is often a critical platform in enterprise hybrid IT infrastructures, and it relies on job control language (JCL) to run applications. JCL, however, is notoriously challenging to manage.

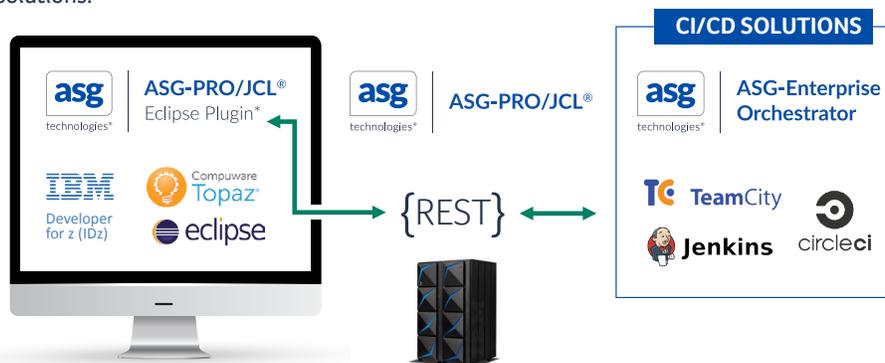
ASG-PRO/JCL is designed to help engineers operate a streamlined production JCL environment on IBM Z, particularly in organizations running parallel sysplex IBM Z environments. ASG-PRO/JCL increases throughput and reduces costs by creating an error-free, standardized and optimized ecosystem.

ASG-PRO/JCL automates JCL error detection, standards enforcement and routine changes required by a software development life cycle. The powerful REXX APIs also facilitate both detailed analysis of JCL and changes needed to standardize, convert or clean libraries.

### MODERNIZE JCL MANAGEMENT WITH DEVOPS

With ASG-PRO/JCL, developers can use the traditional ISPF interface, or integrated development interfaces (IDE) like Eclipse, BMC Compuware Topaz® and IBM IDz. These IDEs streamline engineering by integrating JCL management tasks with mainframe application development workflows into a modern DevOps interface. Developers can avoid context-switching to a 3270 greenscreen, thereby reducing the time and cost of maintaining well-formed production JCL.

In addition, RESTful web services strengthen DevOps toolchain automation by providing an API for integration with best-of-breed continuous integration/continuous delivery (CI/CD) solutions.



JCL Management in the DevOps Toolchain

### PREVENT ERRORS WITH COMPLETE JCL VALIDATION

It is critical that production JCL used to run batch processing remains error-free. Preventable errors not only waste valuable time, but also waste critical resources. Tight budgets are always a concern, and that is the reason it is important to accurately manage JCL assets.

ASG-PRO/JCL processes the entire JCL job stream. It simulates what the z/OS operating system would do by expanding called PROCs and INCLUDEs, resolving backward references, substituting symbolic variables and applying overrides.

### MAIN FEATURES

- Use traditional ISPF or an Eclipse IDE through BMC Compuware Topaz and IBM IDz
- Use a REST API to integrate with CI/CD solutions and automate JCL scans in a DevOps toolchain
- Detect syntax and run-time JCL errors, including Db2 and IMS, by interfacing with z/OS to simulate execution of JCL
- Validates JCL across multiple LPARs
- Check JCL in the test environment against the production environment
- Enforce site-specific standards for improved compliance
- Reformat JCL statements according to specifications
- Interface with library management, tape management, change control, schedulers and other data center software products

This ensures the complete JCL workflow is ready for validation. During this job stream process, each JCL step is evaluated for correctness according to z/OS rules.

Syntax validation locates invalid parameters and format errors. Run-time validation identifies missing datasets, PDS members not found and other resources that are required for a successful job run. ASG-PRO/JCL also validates SMS parameters, reads ACS routines and checks for invalid or missing IMS and Db2 database parameters. By detecting inconsistencies before execution, it ensures an error-free production run.

## MAXIMIZE FLEXIBILITY AND AUTOMATE STANDARDS ENFORCEMENT

ASG-PRO/JCL's JCL Manipulation Processor (JMP) is an integrated facility that enables users to analyze member content, complete job streams or entire JCL libraries. Every element of a job stream is available for analysis, validation for standards compliance and application of change rules. The JMP facility allows the user to customize ASG-PRO/JCL to address site-specific requirements.

Implementing JCL standards for naming conventions and dataset allocations, ASG-PRO/JCL structures JCL statements and validates site-specific parameters to provide tangible performance and productivity benefits. ASG-PRO/JCL facilitates the automation of JCL standards enforcement across the entire JCL life cycle and performs conversions with the least amount of manual intervention. Standards violations, such as space allocations falling outside an acceptable range, can be detected, and JCL can then be brought into compliance automatically.

## SUPPORT DATA CENTER PROJECTS WITH INTELLIGENT JCL CHANGE

ASG-PRO/JCL provides a comprehensive means of making global or selective changes to an entire production environment, including JCL libraries, PROCLIBs, JCLLIBs and control card libraries. This is especially useful when standardizing dataset naming conventions, which could be the case due to a data center consolidation project. The combination of JCL-specific intelligence and JMP routines enable the user to automate complex change projects, such as conversions, consolidations and new naming conventions. Automatic changes may be made globally or conditionally based on rules, including calculations.

## AUTOMATE JCL REFORMATTING FOR IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY

ASG-PRO/JCL automatically reformats JCL and control statement members, as well as reorders statements and parameters according to format specifications. These changes address the overall look-and-feel of JCL statements across an application and throughout an entire data center. JCL should be easy to maintain for next-gen IT professionals, as well as seasoned professionals. Consistency throughout any IT operation will enhance productivity and efficiency.

ASG-PRO/JCL will ensure your data center achieves and operates a production JCL environment that is error-free, standardized and optimized.

## BENEFITS

- Eliminate costly re-running of production jobs, reducing costs
- Meet service level agreements more reliably increasing customer satisfaction and revenue
- Enforce site standards for easier maintenance and reliability
- Reduce backlog and production turnover, increasing throughput and value delivered by the system
- Reduce the elapsed time of the JCL maintenance cycle, increasing capacity for developers to add more value to the business
- Include JCL management in your DevOps toolchain, reducing the time and cost of maintaining well-formed production JCL

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

### Mainframe Requirements

- z/OS (2.1 or later)
- ISPF for the supported z/OS release

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