

# Launch Express for ISPF

## A complete solution and methodology for ISPF application management



- **Reduce LOGON CPU and elapsed times by as much as 90%**
- **Dramatically simplify maintenance of LOGON JCL, execs and CLISTs**
- **Standardize on a single, simple LOGON procedure for all users**
- **Access multiple DB2 subsystems without re-LOGON or returning to TSO READY**
- **Achieve granular and effective security at the dataset level**
- **Dynamically specify task and step libraries within ISPF**

### Simplify, optimize and extend ISPF

*Launch Express for ISPF* is a set of TSO command processors, native ISPF commands, powerful REXX functions and ready to use facilities that comprise a complete solution and methodology for ISPF application management. Launch Express lets you dynamically establish the environment required to run *any* ISPF application – even those that issue LINK, LOAD and ATTACH macros and suffer S806 abends. Launch Express replaces ad hoc facilities with optimized assembler language functions with full vendor support.

*Launchlets*<sup>SM</sup> are small REXX execs or TSO CLISTs that encapsulate the code to invoke an application from anywhere within ISPF. Launch Express provides launchlets for popular ISPF applications like DB2I, SDSF and RACF and a set of best-of-breed components to develop your own launchlets, tools and ISPF applications.

With Launch Express, you no longer need to revise and retest multiple LOGON procedures, EXECs and CLISTs (and risk overlooking something) every time you add, change or delete an ISPF application. Dialog datasets are allocated only while an ISPF application is active so there are no superfluous dataset ENQs

to interfere with library maintenance. Launch Express also lets you compress a PDS without having to LOGOFF users.

Launch Express promotes granular and effective security because users are authorized to access *only* what they need and use. Your organization can control access to ISPF applications and datasets with a security product like RACF rather than the coarse (and often misleading) security provided by LOGON allocations.

Launch Express dramatically reduces the overhead of fetching dialog objects performed innumerable times each day by placing application datasets *first* in their ISPF library concatenations. TASKLIB (a component of Launch Express described in its own flyer) lets you reconfigure task and STEPLIB concatenations, while ISPF is active, to dynamically change the program search order within a logical screen or the entire TSO session. The system searches the task library concatenation early – before STEPLIB, LPA and LINKLIST to further speed retrieval.

Launch Express installs and deploys seamlessly. It requires no programming – just customizing. Aside from better response time, Launch Express is completely transparent to users.

## Benefits

- Add function and improve productivity while *reducing* overhead
- Eliminate multiple LOGON procedures and repetitive LOGON / LOGOFF sequences
- Eliminate the need to pre-allocate DB2 and QMF libraries *prior* to invoking ISPF
- Remove all those datasets from your LOGON JCL, execs and CLISTS
- Eliminate merged libraries with hundreds or even thousands of members
- LOGON soon after disaster recovery, once a minimum set of datasets are restored
- Reduce the maintenance burden on systems programmers and dialog developers

## Features

- Enhance ISPF Options 3.4 and 3.14 with powerful search extensions
- Compress one or more partitioned datasets *while* they are being edited
- Concatenate and deconcatenate datasets with a single command
- Replace line mode help with scrollable, full screen help
- Create and view news items on a group, department and company wide basis
- Discover all Launch Express, ISPF and User Defined commands from a single point which provides command help, syntax and execution capabilities
- Create, maintain and run launchlets via an ISPF dialog

## Prerequisites

Launch Express is easily installed without an IPL and runs with all supported releases of z/OS, OS/390 and TSO/ISPF.

Launch Express is compatible with all z/OS software installation methods like ServerPac, CBPDO and SystemPac.

## A Launchlet Example

The figure below illustrates a launchlet that can run DB2 Interactive against *multiple* DB2 subsystems in a single ISPF session.

```
/* REXX */
arg db2ssn                                (1)
If LXDB2S(db2ssn) \= 0 then return 8       (2)
Address ISPEXEC "VGET (db2h1q db21ibs) SHARED" (3)

address TSO "LXLAUNCH",                    (4)
"  PANEL(DSNEPRI)",
"  NEWAPPL(DSNE)",
"  HLQ("db2h1q")",                          (5)
"  CLIST(SDSNCLST)",
"  LLIB("db21ibs)",                          (6)
"  MLIB(SDSNSPFM)",
"  PLIB(SDSNPFPE SDSNSPFP)",
"  SLIB(SDSNSPFS)",
"  TLIB(SDSNSPFT)",
"  LIBDEF",
""

Return 0
```

- (1) Receive the DB2 subsystem name as a parameter
- (2) Invoke LXDB2S to place DB2 subsystem information into ISPF SHARED pool variables
- (3) Retrieve the subsystem values set by LXDB2S
- (4) Invoke *any* ISPF application with the TSO command processor *LXLAUNCH*
- (5) Pass the high level qualifiers of the DB2 subsystem datasets
- (6) Identify the SDSNEXIT and SDSNLOAD libraries for the specified DB2 subsystem

**Launch Express –  
don't run ISPF without it!**

**Contact the ISPF experts at  
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