

Smart/QBF

The cure for the batch QMF blues



- **Run QMF batch jobs without surprises**
- **Ensure accurate jobstep completion codes**
- **Prevent SNAFUs in QMF batch production**
- **Improve concurrency**
- **Simplify development, maintenance and trouble shooting**

Overview

QMF batch failures often go undetected. Since the jobstep *appears* to end normally, multi-step jobstreams don't work correctly, nor do production control systems such as OPC/ESA and CA-7. Meanwhile, no one realizes that critical QMF production jobs haven't run.

Smart/QBF (the QMF Batch Facility) reflects SQL and QMF errors at the jobstep level — so people and software know when a failure occurs. This ensures proper execution of downstream jobsteps and allows production control software to work correctly. Later investigation can tell at a glance what went wrong because Smart/QBF writes its diagnostics directly to the JES listing or a message file you define.

Existing QMF queries and procedures run without change because Smart/QBF operates transparently within QMF.

Moreover, Smart/QBF makes it easier to develop and maintain QMF batch applications. For example, you can pass parameters to QMF procedures without ISPF file tailoring and specify error handling without a separate REXX exec or TSO CLIST. Instead, you can code everything instream with the JCL.

Benefits

- Run reliable and well behaved QMF in batch
- Simplify QMF batch development
- Reduce or eliminate resource contention among DB2 applications, QMF procedures and DB2 utilities
- Translate QMF and DB2 codes into meaningful error messages

Smart/QBF Usage

Figures 1 and 2 illustrate the nearly identical JCL used to run QMF and Smart/QBF.

Simply code QBFSTART instead of the ISPSTART command to produce well behaved QMF batch jobs that are more reliable.

Smart/QBF passes *unchanged* any parameter string you specify to your initial QMF procedure. You code parameters as you would enter a QMF RUN command interactively. This eliminates the trial and error specification of unintuitive constructions (such as &&&&VARIABLE) that ISPF file tailoring requires.

```
//QMFBATCH EXEC PGM=IKJEFT01,  
...  
... File allocations required by TSO, ISPF and QMF  
...  
//SYSTSIN DD *  
  ISPSTART PGM(DSQMFE) - <--- Run QMF via ISPSTART command  
  PARM(S=DSN,M=B,I=PRODUCTION_PROC) NEWAPPL(DSQE)  
//
```

Figure 1: Standard QMF batch jobstream

```
//QMFBATCH EXEC PGM=IKJEFT01,  
...  
... File allocations required by TSO, ISPF and QMF  
...  
//SYSTSIN DD *  
  QBFSTART PGM(DSQMFE) - <--- run QMF via QBFSTART frontend  
  PARM(S=DSN,M=B,I=PRODUCTION_PROC) NEWAPPL(DSQE)  
//
```

Figure 2: Revised Smart/QBF jobstream using the QBFSTART frontend

Features

- Full compatibility with the security and authorization mechanisms of DB2 and QMF
- Easy installation without modifications to QMF
- Full compatibility with existing QMF batch applications
- Problem state execution using published external interfaces

Prerequisites

Smart/QBF requires the following software or subsequent releases:

- Any release of QMF whose IBM support is current
- Any release of DB2 whose IBM support is current
- Any release of z/OS or OS/390 whose IBM support is current

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**Run trouble-free
QMF in batch!**

**Call the
QMF batch experts
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