T-REX
Fact Sheet

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What is T-REX Access Method Services/Extended?

T-REX comes to you from the original Softworks® developers who devised the Mechanic® and later Catalog Solution® over 20 years ago. They applied their collective experience, incorporating modern design methodologies and technology to produce the latest, state-of-the-art catalog management product available today. T-REX can repair any VSAM object (BCS, KSDS, and Variable RRDS) with a broken index within minutes. The product complements and enhances IBM's Access Method Services (IDCAMS) utility and provides additional flexibility through keyword options and new functionality. This dynamic MVS batch facility can multi-task many of its commands and provides full object support. It is faster, smarter and stronger than ever before.

Why is T-REX Access Method Services/Extended necessary?

The ICF catalog environment can be very complex and intimidating. Monitoring and maintaining catalog and VSAM cluster health can be tedious and time consuming. T-REX provides invaluable assistance to those professionals tasked with ensuring that the ICF environment and VSAM clusters perform with consistency, accuracy, and reliability.
- Prevents downtime by ensuring optimal cluster and catalog health at all times
- Improves data availability and reliability by allowing more frequent back-ups
- Automates cluster and catalog recovery and repair in record speed
- ays for itself with just one broken object (catalog, cluster or VVDS)
- Generates easy-to-use Reports

What makes T-REX unique?

T-REX is the FIRST ICF catalog maintenance, repair, and recovery product to:
- Fully support the re-cataloging of multi-volume datasets
- Detect hardware changes and dynamically adjust performance parameters to ensure optimal processing
- Provides two powerful facilities, DRIMPORT and SCRUB, for Disaster Recovery processes
- HSM CDS auditing and reporting
- Identify and repair discrepancies between cataloged tape datasets and your TMC
- Support all of the following TMC's:
- CA1
- Control-T
- RMM
- TLMS
- ZARA

T-REX creates reports that are familiar to all LISTCAT users, but they are enhanced to incorporate selection criteria that affords the user flexibility over IDCAMS LISTCAT. The intelligent selection criteria

Dino-Software

include names, generic names, number of extents, number of volumes, SMS class information, and number of CI and CA splits. The T-REX LISTCAT facility also offers flexible report formatting options.

How can T-REX save me money?

Save Money on Personnel Costs

Catalog maintenance is one of the most difficult and time-consuming jobs in any data center. Its complexity and importance usually dictates that senior level programmers be applied to the task. T-REX enables more junior staff to perform catalog maintenance after hours when systems programmers may not be available. Programmers that might otherwise be assigned to tediously restoring and rebuilding lost catalogs can then be used more productively. T-REX's diagnostic routines will identify catalog anomalies and either automatically fix the problem or generate control cards to correct them. The routines can also be run using ISPF panels or from a Windows or Linux workstation (currently under development). This solution provides a savings of hundreds of man-hours per year that would normally be applied to diagnostic and corrective work.

Additionally, minimizing downtime caused by physical or logical errors in VSAM clusters or ICF catalog structures contributes to greater business continuity and in many cases, may eliminate penalties incurred by failing to meet service level objectives.

T-REX's broad catalog management capabilities eliminate the need to purchase and maintain the many smaller utilities currently required for back-up and disaster recovery needs. Many sites have separate products for reporting, SMF forward recovery, tape management synchronization, backup and restore. This is a real support challenge when incompatibility issues arise during operating system upgrades. Retesting is often required and new maintenance must be applied to each product. With T-REX there is no need to learn and work with different utilities from an assortment of vendors. Consistency in use and syntax ensure precious minutes are not lost when you are trying to get your system back on-line. T-REX has everything needed for catalog maintenance and recovery in one comprehensive product.

Blinding Speed. Recover in Minutes - Not Days!

Manually recovering catalogs and broken VSAM clusters can take days, even with experts on-site. Often transactions that occurred since the last backup are lost. With T-REX, not only can you recover and repair broken catalogs in minutes, but you can forward-recover the last transactions using System Management Facilities (SMF) data. T-REX handles every important catalog management task, including analyze, diagnose, report, backup and repair of ICF cluster (Integrated Catalog Facility) components. Save Time. Save DASD.

T-REX can back up and recover VVDSs eliminating the need to perform costly and time-consuming full-volume restores. You can also use T-REX to dump and rebuild VVDSs to enlarge them or to consolidate extents. Its LISTCAT command can identify overallocated data sets to reduce DASD waste and cut unnecessary expenditure. T-REX gives you the ability to back up multiple BCSs or VVDSs to a single data set or multiple data sets. This simplifies catalog maintenance and management, making it easy to perform mass modification for device conversions, to change volume serial numbers of DASD volumes, and to synchronize alias entries for user catalogs residing on shared DASD.

What are some specifics of T-REX Access Method Services/Extended?

One Command
T-REX is the MVS industry's first tool to not only diagnose and detect catalog problems, but to automatically correct the problem without the need to build control cards. When control cards are built, the user must run extra steps to correct the issues. At DINO we do everything in one step. While the option to create control cards is supported, we don't see the need to cause extra work for the end user. We have built an entire product around this philosophy.

All of the catalog diagnostic procedures within T-REX come delivered with this AUTOFIX capability. With each command, you can execute many catalog diagnostic procedures. When problems are encountered, you have the option of instructing T-REX to automatically correct the problem or generate control cards to be used later. The AUTOFIX option also provides the ability to perform corrective diagnostics in SIMULATE mode. No other product on the market offers these automated facilities.

With one command, you not only can verify that all ALIAS entries for every connected catalog are intact, but you can verify each defined ALIAS for every connected catalog is actually in use. An optional cross-reference report details each ALIAS for every catalog. If ALIAS entries are found to be missing, T-REX can be instructed to automatically correct the problem. Likewise, if any ALIAS entries are not in use, T-REX can automatically remove them. No other product on the market can accomplish all this with one command.

With one command, you can backup every connected user catalog in your shop. You can also backup every VVDS and cluster with the same command. T-REX offers complete flexibility when backing up your VSAM clusters, catalogs and VVDSs. If you want to backup your catalogs to one DDname and your VVDS's to another - no problem. If you want to duplex each of these or write to one hundred files - no problem.

With one command (and without the need for the user to define any temporary work files) you can take a T-REX catalog backup and merge in all SMF updates since the backup. If the backup file happens to be in IDCAMS EXPORT format - no problem. T-REX will read in the EXPORTED file, apply SMF updates and create a new IDCAMS EXPORT format backup.
Capable. Cost Effective.

T-REX requires very little in terms of resources or CPU time and affords huge performance advantages over all other solutions. You save in terms of costs, avoid production disruptions and can be assured of the best possible conditions when you access your files. T-REX gives you the ability to perform comprehensive MVS cluster and catalog maintenance, repair, and recovery in a fraction of the time and with greater reliability and flexibility than with any other tool.