# ERQ

**RACF to the Power of Easy**

# RACF ADMINISTRATION, REPORTING & CUSTOM PROGRAMMING

RACF to the Power of Easy

# Enhanced RACF Management Tool

Data centers around the globe trust the IBM mainframe to process millions of transactions per day. Administrators are also utilizing the IBM Resource Access Control Facility (RACF) to manage access to critical resources and confidential data. While RACF provides a strong foundation for access management, operating RACF requires a certain skillset that often requires specific training.

With a limited number of personnel to manage complex RACF administration, ensuring information is protected from unauthorized disclosure, modification, or destruction – an essential component of data security – becomes even more of a challenge. Yet report generation, auditing, and administration within an organization are paramount to maintaining efficiency, quality control, and robust security.

The answer is a streamlined, efficient RACF tool that provides custom security administration, reporting, and supplementary application writing for RACF.

ERQ: EASY RACF QUERY provides RACF users with a more streamlined and comprehensive approach to commanding their RACF database than the use of a basic RACF alone would allow for.

# Automated RACF Administration

Designed for both experienced and novice RACF users in mind, ERQ has been developed for RACF administrators by RACF administrators themselves with decades of industry experience. Previously, performing RACF administration tasks would be a time-consuming and complex job. Now, with ERQ, users are provided with the resources to accomplish RACF administration tasks quickly, easily and, most importantly, effectively.

For experts who have limited time to manage their RACF, or beginners with no prior RACF knowledge, ERQ is a complete RACF administration tool that will help your organization achieve improved productivity, increase security protocols, and empower administrators to independently manage RACF administration.

ERQ includes all of the online functions necessary to automate the entire security administration process, including many options not found in other third party tools. All ERQ online services are completely customizable to your environment's needs. Users can customize their reports by selecting from the filtering options presented on each report screen. Additionally, ERQ provides all of the tools users need to manage and monitor their security in an easy-to-use package. Users no longer need to memorize, lookup, or store complex RACF commands.

As is customary with ASPG products, world-class technical support is only one phone call away, providing qualified assistance to RACF operators in the event that a security issue arises.

## ERQ WILL ALLOW YOUR ORGANIZATION TO:

✓ Perform security administration easily, efficiently and effectively, without extensive training.

✓ Increase productivity by providing you with easy access to the live and archived RACF database for in-house, custom applications.

✓ Have a streamlined overview of operations, control access, and delegate access roles.

## ? WHO USES ERQ?

Whether a seasoned expert or an enthusiastic beginner, ERQ Programming Services helps users create their own reports by providing a library of sample executable command procedures (CLIST and REXX) which they can build on.

Businesses currently using third-party RACF administration tools can see additional benefits from ERQ by offering a simple, central location for daily RACF organization and maintenance. **In fact, about 75% of cost savings can come from incorporating a RACF tool into an organization's daily operations.**

*"ERQ's seamless integration, straightforward interface, and in-depth analysis make it the tool of choice for RACF administration and reporting."*

# Features & Benefits

| | |
|---|---|
| **COMPLETE SOLUTION** | Improves or replaces existing RACF tools currently in place. |
| **3 TOOLS IN 1** | RACF Administration, Report Generation and Custom Programming, all built in one convenient tool. |
| **CUSTOM SCREENS** | Allows users to customize their reports using the report filters presented to them. |
| **ISPF INTERFACE** | ISPF variables and tables provide front-end for command procedures. |
| **NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED** | Write applications without needing a systems programmer or knowledge of CARLa or COBOL |
| **VALUABLE PROGRAMMING AIDE** | Easily write custom procedures and applications in CLIST and REXX. |
| **CUSTOMIZED APPLICATIONS** | Sample executable applications can be easily modified to fit your environment's needs. |
| **REPORTING INSIGHTS** | Generate robust reports and swap up to four sets of RACF data. |
| **ENHANCE SECURITY AND COMPLIANCE** | Provides a direct interface to IBM's Health Checker for z/OS and a simpler way for the user to select, view, and save these reports. |
| **SIMPLIFIED ID MANAGEMENT** | Easily ALTER, CLONE, DELETE, LIST and/or REPLICATE profiles. |
| **POINT AND CLICK PANELS** | Gives users the ability to simply click on their desired menu selections. |
| **FAST, EASY ACCESS** | RACF information is maintained in a VSAM database for convenient access. |
| **CRYPTOGRAPHY EXPANSION** | Provides certificate reporting for the DIGTCERT, DIGTRING and DIGTNMAP classes at both the User and Resource levels, allowing users to manage digital certificate reporting conveniently using ERQ. |
| **AUTHENTICATION REPORTS** | Multi-factor authentication reports at the User and Resource levels, adding an additional level of safekeeping to the tool's data security capabilities. |
| **NEW REPORTING CAPABILITIES** | New RACF ICB (Inventory Control Block) reports to list option and class settings as well as RACF DB information (stats, counters, templates, etc.) for current and historical data. Also offers reports to identify option/class changes to a user's RACF DB. |
| **DISTRIBUTED IDENTITY REPORTING** | Added at the User and Resource levels, providing users with additional options for auditing and reporting within the z/OS environment. |
| **UPDATED CLASS PROFILE SUMMARY REPORT** | Includes current settings for each class (RACLIST, GENLIST, etc.) providing users with a more detailed report for each class. |
| **PRINT/SAVE COMMANDS** | These commands can direct any form of output to a printer and/or file, allowing for flexible report handling. |
| **COMPATIBILITY WITH NEW Z/OS** | Compatible with all recent releases of z/OS, including z/OS 2.4 |

## How ERQ Works

ERQ is an ISPF-driven solution which enhances RACF's native functionality, particularly its delegation and authorization capabilities. RACF administration is simplified through the tool's ability to quickly and easily manage user ID's, select user delegations, generate complex commands, and run customized reports. ERQ builds all of the necessary commands to carry out a desired function before presenting them to the user for optional editing and simple execution via the RUN command. The output from the command execution is sent back to the user's screen where it can be viewed and kept using the PRNT and/or SAVE commands.

ERQ is a valuable programming aide that retrieves RACF information for REXX and CLIST custom written RACF applications. ERQ provides sample executable applications that users can easily modify to fit their environment's needs. Administrators also have the ability to write individual applications without requiring the assistance of system programmers.

As well as assisting with RACF administration, ERQ also eliminates RACF database clutter and vulnerabilities created from poor RACF administration. Properly maintaining RACF databases improves efficiency and security. Similarly, ERQ's Health Checker provides a direct interface to IBM's Health Checker for z/OS. ERQ's Health Checker presents a simpler way for the user to select, view, and save these reports.

**"I can teach someone to use the functions that I wrote with ERQ in less than ten minutes. If I am out, they can do just about anything using the ERQ panels that I have created."**

# ⊜ASPG
ADVANCED SOFTWARE PRODUCTS GROUP, INC.

## www.aspg.com

## PROUDLY SERVING THE GLOBAL IT COMMUNITY SINCE 1986

IBM Business Partner     Microsoft CERTIFIED Partner     McAfee® SecurityAlliance™

800.662.6090 • 239.649.1548 • aspgsales@aspg.com