CA Fast Unload® for DB2 for z/OS (CA Fast Unload) helps you reduce the time required to unload DB2 data, thus improving the availability of corporate data.

Overview

Data movement can be a time-consuming process and can seriously impact the availability of data. CA Fast Unload is a high-speed utility that uses advanced, concurrent data-processing techniques to unload data from DB2 tables or from copies of DB2 tables at a high speed while maintaining system performance. It provides extensive formatting options that make the output data available in your chosen format for immediate use in other applications or databases.

Business value

CA Fast Unload fast data extraction—combined with flexible control of output—helps reduce the amount of time that database tables are unavailable to applications. The ability to choose selected rows and columns from your database tables eliminates the need to perform full table unloads, saving time and improving data availability.
Features

Mainframe 2.0

CA Fast Unload has adopted key Mainframe 2.0 features that are designed to simplify your use of CA Fast Unload and enable your staff to install, deploy and maintain it more effectively and quickly.

- **CA Mainframe Software Manager™**: CA Mainframe Software Manager (CA MSM) automates CA Fast Unload installation, deployment and maintenance and removes SMP/E complexities.
  - The **Software Acquisition Service** enables you to more easily move product installation packages and maintenance from CA Support Online directly to your mainframe environment and prepare them for installation.
  - The **Software Installation Service** standardizes CA Fast Unload installation, which includes a new, streamlined Electronic Software Delivery (ESD) method that allows CA Fast Unload to be installed using standard utilities. This service also provides standardized SMP/E product installation and maintenance via APARs and PTFs, and simplifies SMP/E processing through an intuitive graphical user interface and an intelligent Installation Wizard.
  - The **Software Deployment Service** enables you to more easily deploy CA Fast Unload in your mainframe environment.
  - **CA MSM Consolidated Software Inventory (CSI)** updates and infrastructure improvements add flexibility to CA MSM processing of CSIs and enable CA MSM to more effectively utilize CPU and system memory.

- **Installation Verification Program (IVP) and Execution Verification Program (EVP)**: As part of qualification for inclusion in the set of mainframe products from CA Technologies released every May, CA Fast Unload has passed stringent tests performed through the IVP and EVP to find and resolve interoperability problems prior to release. These programs are an extension of our ongoing interoperability certification initiative launched in May 2009.

- **Best Practices guide**: This guide provides information on CA Fast Unload installation, initial configuration and deployment to shorten the learning curve for staff who are responsible for the installation and management of this product.
Release r14.5 and r15

- **DB2 10 support**: CA Fast Unload runs in DB2 10 NFM (New Function Mode) with a converted catalog and in DB2 10 CM (Conversion Mode).

- **DB2 10 row and column access control**: DB2 10 row and column access control tolerance is now provided. When CA Fast Unload encounters a table with row-level or column-level access control enabled, and SQL-ACCESS EXTENSION or ONLY is specified, the utility uses SQL-ACCESS ONLY to continue processing.

- **DB2 9 clone support**: DB2 9 cloned objects are now supported.

- **DB2 9 Large Block Interface support**: DB2 9 Large Block Interface (LBI) support is now provided.

- **DB2 9 SKIP LOCKED DATA support**: DB2 9 SKIP LOCKED DATA support is now provided. This option skips rows that are locked at the row level or page level to avoid record lock conflicts and improve concurrency.

- **DB2 9 cultural sort support**: DB2 9 cultural sort support is now provided. This option is used to sort multilingual data properly.

Release r14

- **New data types support**: The DECFLOAT data type is now supported.

- **Universal Tablespace support**: Universal Tablespace (UTS) support is now provided.

- **Override DB2 access paths**: You can now override the default DB2 access path and select a more efficient path for faster processing times.

- **Unload data from inline image copies**: You can now unload data from inline image copies. This removes the need to access the underlying database, which decreases contention on your system. You can also specify the maximum number of out-of-sequence DB2 data pages to save in virtual storage when unloading data from inline image copies. This lets you avoid saving an excessive number of pages in virtual storage, which can negatively affect virtual storage paging rates. When the specified number is reached, any remaining out-of-sequence DB2 data pages are saved in a spill file.

Other key features

CA Fast Unload provides:

- **Increase data availability**: CA Fast Unload provides a range of features that help to reduce database downtime and its impact on database performance.
— **High-speed data unload**: CA Fast Unload can read data using SQL, directly from table space data pages or from copies of table spaces, such as image copies, DSN1COPY or DFSMS concurrent copies. Data pages can also be read directly from DB2 buffer pools to help ensure that the latest version of a data page is always available. Unload performance is enhanced using advanced VSAM I/O, EXCP channel-programming techniques and IBM Media Manager to access data pages. These techniques help reduce data unloading time, with little—if any—effect on system resources.

— **Multitasking features**: CA Fast Unload provides the ability to concurrently unload multiple table spaces, partitions of a table space or multiple tables of a table space in one pass of the data. The concurrent processing capability helps increase the data unloading speed while retaining database availability.

— **Online unload**: During data unloading, CA Fast Unload allows applications to remain in a read-only mode to help maintain data integrity of the unloaded file or a read-write mode for full table access by other applications. You can additionally use BP-LOOKUP to unload pages from the buffer pools to get the very latest pages, even in a data-sharing system. These features allow you to control the sharing of the database with other applications during the unload process.

— **Partition independence**: CA Fast Unload provides the ability to unload data from selected partitions of the table space. This renders the other partitions available for other applications, thereby increasing data availability.

— **Customize output**: Database load utilities and reporting tools often require different input formats. CA Fast Unload exports data into the required load format during the unload process, eliminating the need for additional parsing and processing.

— **Multiple filtering capabilities**: CA Fast Unload unloads rows or partitions based on any valid SQL SELECT statement, allowing you to unload just what you need. By specifying sampling criteria or the exact row count, you can limit the amount of data that is unloaded. Multiple SELECT statements are processed in one pass even when a row satisfies more than one SELECT statement. Any of the SELECT statements can have an ORDER BY clause so you can obtain multiple result sets, each containing the requested rows in the order specified. Flexible data-filtering capabilities help to eliminate the need to unload unwanted data, thereby saving time and resource costs.
— **Supports range of SELECT statements:** CA Fast Unload supports several SELECT statement clauses that are not supported by DB2. This extensive choice of SQL SELECT syntax provides the ability to unload data by partition, specify separate output data sets for each SELECT statement, arrange unloaded rows and columns in any order and use current date clauses and date expressions in row processing. This extensive data-manipulation capability eliminates the need for additional parsing and makes the unloaded data immediately available for use.

— **Multiple output formats:** CA Fast Unload provides the ability to unload data in various output formats, including Load, Fixed, Variable, DSNTIAUL, External and Comma-Delimited formats. In addition, CA Fast Unload provides the option to generate load control cards to support DB2 Load or a CA Fast Load for DB2 for z/OS (CA Fast Load) format. CA Fast Unload can generate the DDL for the base and/or output tables. These features eliminate the need to perform additional tasks that would be needed to prepare the data for loading.

— **Maximize DBA productivity:** CA Fast Unload provides various features that help simplify the efforts involved in formatting the unloaded data so it can be easily loaded back into the target environment.

— **Convert data types:** During the data-unloading process, CA Fast Unload allows you to convert data types and perform field-length conversions. Multiple data-type conversions are supported, including conversion to SMALLINT, INTEGER, BIGINT and DECIMAL. In addition to allowing data stored in Unicode to be unloaded, CA Fast Unload supports the optional translation of unloaded data to other character sets (CCSIDS)—a built-in data conversion feature that eliminates the need for manual conversion.

— **Unload data from old table versions:** By reading the table’s source DDL, CA Fast Unload can unload data from an image copy that no longer matches the current table definition. This feature enables you to recover data from a dropped table.

— **OBID changes:** CA Fast Unload lets you change the OBID in the unloaded data so that it can be directly loaded into another table. This allows you to easily load the data into a different table to recover data from dropped tables or maintain test tables.

— **Large object support:** CA Fast Unload supports spanned records, which enables unloading of the entire row, including LOB objects of any size.
— SHRLEVEL keyword parameters: The MULTI-LOCKING parameter can be used with the SHRLEVEL REFERENCE keyword. MULTI-LOCKING provides one point of consistency for unloaded data. CA Fast Unload locks the selected DB2 tables as close to the same point in time as allowed by the availability of required resources. CA Fast Unload indicates the time that the multi-locking sequence begins and when it is completed, both to the nearest thousandth of a second. After the selected tables are locked, the individual CA Fast Unload subtasks, one for each table space, are dispatched, with as many being dispatched at the same time as address space resources will permit.

- **Integration with other products from CA Technologies:** CA Fast Unload is designed to work in concert with other CA Database Management solutions for DB2 for z/OS, including CA RC/Query® for DB2 for z/OS, CA RC/Migrator™ for DB2 for z/OS, CA RC/Extract™ for DB2 for z/OS and CA Recovery Analyzer™ for DB2 for z/OS. The tight integration across the products helps simplify database administration efforts and improve DBA productivity.

### Delivery approach

CA Services provides a portfolio of mainframe services delivered through CA Technologies internal staff and a network of established partners chosen to help you achieve a successful deployment and get the desired business results as quickly as possible. Our standard service offerings are designed to speed deployment and accelerate the learning curve for your staff. CA Technologies field-proven mainframe best practices and training help you lower risk, improve use/adoption and ultimately align the product configuration to your business requirements.

### Benefits

CA Fast Unload is a high-speed utility that uses advanced, concurrent data-processing techniques to unload data while maintaining system performance. It provides extensive formatting options that make the output data available for immediate use in other applications or databases. The ability to choose selected rows and columns from your database tables eliminates the need to perform full table unloads, saving time and improving data availability.
The CA Technologies advantage

CA Technologies has 30 years of recognized expertise in robust, reliable, scalable, and secure enterprise-class IT management software. CA Fast Unload for DB2 for z/OS is a key component of the Mainframe 2.0 initiative from CA Technologies to change the way the mainframe is managed forever by helping you maximize the value of our mainframe products and by providing a simplified experience and innovative solutions that deliver value quickly and flexibly.