H211 Bulk File Transfer (BFX)

for IBM z/OS Operating Systems

Release 1.7

Memo to Users

October 8, 2014

MTU-H211-1.7

Introduction

This Memo to Users contains information for H211, and should be reviewed before beginning the installation process.

BFX for z/OS (H211) Release 1.7 is compatible and interoperable with all other BFX products on other platforms, as well as with previous releases of H211.

H211 is available by download. It is no longer packaged for SMP/E installation.

The following manuals are available for H211:

H211 Bulk File Transfer (BFX) for IBM z/OS Operating Systems Software Reference Manual

H210IPZ NetEx/IP for IBM z/OS Operating Systems Operator Reference Manual

H210IPZ NetEx/IP for IBM z/OS Operating Systems Programming Reference Manual

H210IPZ NetEx/IP for IBM z/OS Operating Systems Messages and Abend Codes Reference Manual

"C" Configuration Manager and NetEx Alternate Path Retry (APR) Software Reference Manual

The manual, along with this Memo to Users can be downloaded from www.netex.com by selecting the 'Support' tab, then navigating to 'Products', then selecting the 'IBM System z/zOS (H21x)' link on the left side of the window, and then clicking on 'Docs' in the 'BFX [H211]' entry for the appropriate version.

Support

For NetEx/IP and associated products, support is available via:

- 24x7 telephone at (800) 854-0359

- http://www.netex.com/support

- email: support@netex.com

Notice to the Customer

Comments about this documentation may be submitted via e-mail to support@netex.com or by visiting our website, http://www.netex.com. Always include the complete title of the document with your comments.

Information on Network Executive Software's general software support policy (e.g., alternate contact methods, support severity level descriptions, and service status definitions) may be found at http://www.netex.com/support/software-support-policy.

Software Modification Policy

Modifications to H211 that are not specifically authorized by NESi are prohibited.

Any unauthorized modifications to H211 may affect its operation and/or obstruct NESi's ability to diagnose problems and provide corrections. Any work resulting from unauthorized modifications shall be paid by the customer at NESi's then-current support rates and may result in the immediate termination of warranty/support coverage.

New Features

Release 1.7

There are no new features in this release. Refer to the Update Summary section on page 7 for a review of maintenance updates contained in this release.

Release 1.6

Remote Hostname Substitution Feature

The Remote Hostname Substitution feature provides an optional mechanism for substituting the remote hostname in BFXTI/BFXTR SEND, RECEIVE and SUBMIT transfers with a replacement hostname that is specified by rules defined in a file. The name of the rules file is specified by the BFXDEF#MAPFN installation parameter. BFXTI and BFXTR will dynamically allocate and reference this file for each file transfer to see if a replacement remote hostname should be used. The policy rules are based on the BFX application ID (or ID mask). Since the MAPFN file is dynamically allocated, no JCL changes are required in BFXTI/BFXTR job streams when using this feature.

Refer to the H211 Software Reference Manual for a description of this feature.

Refer to the Update Summary section on page 7 for a review of other maintenance updates contained in this release.

Echo BFX control statement parameters to BFX job log

Prior to initiating a BFX file transfer, the specified parameters on the SEND, RECEIVE or SUBMIT control statements are echoed to the BFX job log.

Release 1.5

There are no new features contained in this release. It is a maintenance release that incorporates a new distribution packaging format. Refer to the Update Summary section on page 7 for a review of the updates contained in this release.

Release 1.4

HOSTCHK Feature

The HOSTCHK feature provides an optional mechanism that forces the BFXTI side of a BFX connection to verify that the received BFXTR connection is coming from the expected NetEx/IP host. This feature is

enabled by adding a HOSTCHK parameter to the BFXTI SEND or RECEIVE commands. Refer to the BFX Software Reference Manual for a complete description of the HOSTCHK parameter.

Time Stamp and Format

The time stamp option is now set to ON as a default. The format of the time stamp that is displayed in BFX messages has changed to the following format:

yyddd hh:mm:ss.tt LCLBFXnnnI *rest of message*

where 'yyddd' represents the current year (yy) and Julian date (ddd); 'hh:mm:ss.tt' represents the time of day expressed as 'hours:minutes:seconds.tenths'. If you are using any automation software, and are dependent on the specific format of BFX messages, it is possible you may have to adjust your automation software to take this new time stamp format into account.

Setting the default time stamp option to off can be done at installation time by specifying TIME(NO) in the BFXDEF#TIME() and BFXJSD#TIME() installation parameters. Refer to the BFX Software Reference Manual for a description of these installation parameters.

The time stamp option can also be turned on or off at execution time by specifying the TIME or NOTIME runtime parameters on the SEND or RECEIVE commands. NESi recommends always running with time stamps enabled.

Release Level Display

All BFX components (BFXJS, BFXTI, and BFXTR) now display the release level when that component is started. For example:

11104 11:40:41.44 LCLBFX004I BFXJS H211 Release 1.7.0 started.

Installation Procedure Changes

H211 Release 1.7 does not use SMP/E for installation. Instead, it is distributed as a downloadable package that includes a scripted batch job and sets of distribution libraries, all packaged together in TSO TRANSMIT format.

Upgrade Options

H211 Release 1.7 is available as a no-charge upgrade to existing H211 licensed customers. H211 is licensed on a per-LPAR basis.

Installation

Installation Notes

1. H211 is available as a downloadable distribution. Download instructions can be obtained by contacting support@netex.com.

2. H211 Release 1.7 is not distributed in SMP/E format. Instead, it is distributed as a downloadable package that includes a scripted batch job and sets of distribution libraries, all packaged together in TSO TRANSMIT format.

3. Follow the installation instructions in the *H211 Bulk File Transfer (BFX) for IBM z/OS Operating Systems Software Reference Manual* to complete the installation.

4. Check if there are any H211 updates by going to www.netex.com, then clicking on the 'Support' tab, then navigating to 'Products', then selecting the 'IBM System z/OS (H21x)' link on the left side of the window, and then clicking on 'Updates' in the 'BFX [H211]' entry for the appropriate version. If there are any, download them and follow their installation instructions.

5. After Step 3 of the installation (TSO RECEIVE the distribution file), the resulting 'high-level-qualifier.DFILE' dataset will contain two members:

   BFXINIT

   BFX0107 (name of the Distribution Package)

6. The H211 installation scripted job (BFXINST) has been customized with the following installation options:

   BLOCK(8192)

   BUSYMAX(300)

   TIMEOUT(1800)

   DISCMAX(30)

   MSGLVL(8)

   MODE(CHAR)

   CLOSE(NO)

   MAPFN()

Update Summary

Release 1.7

Updates in this release include:

- All updates that were distributed in H211 Release 1.6
- Ticket #6215: Fix S0C4 abend when BFXJSTAT is started
- Ticket #6216: do not issue 'no map' message when remote host mapping table is not present
- Ticket #6237: After first successful connect to bfxjstat, subsequent connect attempts were not successful due to wrong host name in nrb

Release 1.6

Updates in this release include:

- All updates that were distributed in H211 Release 1.5
- Ticket #5968: Add remote hostname substitution table; echo BFX control statement parameters to BFX job log

Release 1.5

Updates in this release include:

- All updates that were distributed in H211 Release 1.4
- Ticket #5081: Incorrect error message was issued for NRBSTAT 901 errors
- Ticket #5241: S0C4 abend when using CLOSE parameter on file transfers
- Ticket #5333: Integrated new distribution package format
- Ticket #5363: When receiving a file, and CLOSE parameter is used, treat lost end message as successful file transfer
- Ticket #5669: Integrate special H211 modules
- Ticket #5717: Define product and release number in common location for JS, TI, and TR to use in startup messages
- Ticket #5736: Added documentation for NOHOSTCH parameter to manual

Release 1.4

Updates in this release include:

- All updates that were distributed in H211 Release 1.3.1
- Ticket #0718: BFXJS messages are retained in console buffers and must be manually deleted. This update changes the BFXJS messages to use descriptor code 5 rather than descriptor code 3.
- Ticket #0722: Add Release level message at BFXJS, BFXTI, and BFXTR startup.
- Ticket #0724: Add HOSTCHK parameter to BFXTI.

- Ticket #0776: Time stamps are displayed incorrectly in messages when BFX transfer elapses past midnight.
- Ticket #3288: S0C4 abend in BFXPRM when NTXID is last parameter on SEND or RECEIVE command. .
- Ticket #3729: Incorrect results – BFXTI ends with condition code 0 after sending a very small data file, but the file was never received due to confirm message getting lost on the network.
- Ticket #3895: Invalid BFX header when sending large records (> 9999 bytes) between Unisys and IBM.
- Ticket #4103: NRBSTAT 1 not handled correctly, which resulted in messages being issued by BFXJS that NetEx/IP was down, when in fact it really wasn't down.

Known Problems

None.