



## THE RACF AUTO-LINK

Automates and speeds-up the handling of RACF connect profiles and RACF Functional groups.

ra8 manages the RACF profile relationships between user(s) and functional groups by using standard RACF resources. All information required by ra8 is stored in the RACF database to ensure full data integrity.

## BENEFITS

### Extend The Power of Your RACF Security Server

- Maintain integrity and enhance security
- Eliminate the possibility of human error
- Add automation to RACF profile management
- Maximize the administrator's time by giving them the tool to help them perform time-consuming tasks in a fraction of the time usually required

A major time-consuming task is to identify and assign (connect) the access authority to all the resources for a user (e.g., when you have hired a new employee or an employee changes job activities (functions) within the organization). ra8 will significantly decrease time required to complete this task.

RACF does not provide a mechanism to automate the process of removing or connecting RACF users to and from functional groups. Functional groups and RACF user-ID's share common characteristics in terms of accessing/using resources. However, these characteristics cannot be reflected by the IBM RACF product as through a common 'layer' of information.

### Major changes that occur in a RACF installation normally are:

- New User-ID's have to be established due to new-hires
- User-ID's have to be deleted when people leave
- Functions performed by users in a company may change normally every 6-12 months as new or additional responsibilities are assigned, hence changes to RACF functional groups are imminent. These time-consuming tasks can be automated using ra8.

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## IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY

### Automate User Connects and Removes

Using ra8 for connecting or disconnecting users from resources is no longer a time-consuming and labor intensive process. The administrator or decentralized administrator no longer has to manually find where to connect or disconnect a user. With ra8 the administrator can browse all of the existing models of a particular user by typing in the user's ID, view what is behind the models, and which group or groups the user is connected to. If a user has to be reassigned to another department, the administrator can delete that user's model(s) and reassign the user to a new model by using other models available to the administrator.

## MAINTAIN INTEGRITY AND ENHANCE SECURITY

Another great benefit of using ra8 is that it will help maintain integrity and enhance security. For example, if a user is being reassigned within the company, the user will be removed from these present functional groups and be connected to new functional groups. If the process is done manually, there is always the possibility of removing the user completely from the system. The users could still have access to resources that should not be available to them, thereby causing security exposure. With ra8 these errors will never occur. ra8 interrogates the RACF database identifying all of the functional groups the particular user is connected to and will properly remove the user from the system in a fraction of the time it would take to do it manually.

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