



IBM i Menu Management

Increase user productivity, reduce complexity

CENTRAL® Access provides a consistent, easy-to-use menu interface to all of your IBM i applications and controls user access simply and securely

As organizations grow, managing menus and administering user access to business applications can become complex and time consuming. CENTRAL® Access simplifies the process, so you can:

- Achieve greater levels of security and control over system access, with less administrative effort
- Improve the user experience by providing faster access through a common interface and simpler navigation between applications
- Raise user productivity levels and minimize the need for training
- Devolve administration to non-technical personnel and reduce IT workload
- Increase system availability and batch throughput

Enhance security and deliver system-wide control

CENTRAL® Access offers control, security and centralized menu management capabilities across one or more IBM i servers:

- Simplify menu generation for all users from a single point of control
- Control which users, or groups of users, can access specific applications, command lines and function keys and apply any authorization changes instantly
- Increase security by locking terminals if there is no user activity on a specific application for an extended period of time
- Specify the times during which the system, individual applications and menu items can be accessed by particular users
- Create individual profiles and group profiles, for simple administration
- Appoint departmental administrators to manage access to applications under their authority, without the need for technical assistance
- Apply temporary stops to applications, so that applications can be locked dynamically:
 - in the event of abnormal termination
 - while software cutovers are being performed
 - while an associated batch job is active, for example during a backup or overnight update
- Bring users back onto the system in a controlled way once an application becomes available again



Improve management
and control of your
interactive users

Increase security levels
without additional
administrative effort

Increase system
availability and user
productivity



End-user facilities for increased productivity and convenience

Users save time by signing on once only to a single, consolidated menu that lists the applications and items they are authorized to.

By providing a consistent, seamless interface to all applications, whether bespoke, CASE generated or vendor supplied and regardless of location, CENTRAL® Access makes navigating between applications faster and easier.

For even quicker navigation, fast path facilities allow users to bypass the main menu and switch between individual applications.

Full online help is available throughout the product and user-defined help for applications and items can also be accessed, all of which reduces the need for training and support.

Administrator facilities for improved service and security

From the operations console, administrators can link to every user's terminal and immediately take any action necessary, including:

- Setting application stops
- Forcing a user out of a menu item
- Running operating system commands at the user's terminal
- Signing off an unattended terminal, perhaps at the end of the day
- Temporarily barring a menu item or application from use, or limiting the number of concurrent users

Administrators can save configuration time by setting up standardized batch submissions that can be reused, rather than creating every batch job from scratch.

To assist management supervision and reporting, comprehensive logging facilities are provided by CENTRAL® Access. All application activity can be monitored with ease, using an online application activity bar chart.

Improve management control with CENTRAL® Access environments

Multiple environments can be created on each of your IBM i servers for interactive areas such as development, test and production.

Individual users, groups of users and job functions can be matched to specific items within separate environments and access limited to those items only. Access to each environment and to sensitive applications is therefore totally controlled and secure, yet simple to administer.

Application programming interfaces are provided to enable swift integration with change control tools. Any authorization changes made in the change control system can then be automatically applied in CENTRAL® Access, to reduce administrative effort.

Advanced networking

All CENTRAL® Access definitions, such as menu management and user profiles, can be centralized on one machine and distributed automatically to other machines in the network, saving administrative effort. Changes to definitions can be made and effected immediately.

Local CENTRAL® Access administrators can be created to maintain profiles and applications, and control authorization for other users.

Application changes and upgrades can be put into production on the central machine and distributed immediately into the production environment on other machines in the network, removing the burden of applying the same changes manually on different systems.

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