



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

IBM i Menu Management

Increase user productivity, reduce complexity

As organizations grow, managing menus and administering user access to business applications can become complex and time consuming. CENTRAL® Menu 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 fast and simple access to all of your IBM i business applications through a common interface
- Raise user productivity levels and minimize the need for training
- Easily manage complex setups involving multiple systems, business applications, divisions or locations
- Devolve administration to non-technical personnel and reduce IT workload
- Increase system availability and batch throughput

Enhance security and deliver system-wide control

CENTRAL® Menu 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 menus, command lines and function keys and apply any authorization changes instantly
- Increase security by locking terminals if there is no user activity for an extended period of time
- Specify the times during which menu items can be accessed
- Create individual profiles and group profiles, for simple administration
- Appoint departmental administrators to manage access to menu items under their authority, without the need for technical assistance
- Apply temporary stops to menu items, so that access can be locked:
 - 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 manner once a menu item becomes available again
- Limit application downtime by switching users from an off-line system to another system, even in a mirrored environment



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 through a single signon to a consolidated menu that lists the submenus and options they are authorized to access, regardless of the system that they reside on.

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

For even quicker navigation, fastpath facilities allow users to bypass the main menu and switch between individual applications with ease.

The use of group jobs allows users to suspend an option, switch to a different submenu or option via a separate group job and then return to a previous group job option, finding it in exactly the same state that it was left in. This, coupled with the fastpath function provides significant productivity gains and a richer end-user experience.

Administrator facilities for improved service and security

CENTRAL® Menu allows administrators to:

- Set menu item stops
- Sign off an unattended terminal, perhaps at the end of the day
- Temporarily bar access to menus and options

Improve management control with environments and divisions

Multiple environments/divisions 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/divisions and access limited to those items only. Access is therefore totally controlled and secure, yet simple to administer.

Flexibility through customizations

CENTRAL® Menu offers increased administrative flexibility through the use of option, submenu, and function key customizations for users, groups or divisions.

Customizations can be used to restrict or provide additional menu and option access, change the option attributes that are used for specific users, and so on.

Advanced networking

All CENTRAL® Menu definitions, such as division-level administrators, user profiles, menu options, submenus, option groups and function key groups, can be centralized on one machine and distributed to other machines in the network, saving time and administrative effort.

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

Audit compliance

In order to decrease the burden of IT regulatory compliance, CENTRAL® Menu provides comprehensive auditing capability over its major definition files.

Once enabled, the auditing function will update CENTRAL® Menu's audit files whenever an audited item is changed or deleted, a new item is added in an audited division, or a new division or system is added.

CENTRAL® Menu audit reports will state the old and new data values along with the date and time of the transaction, the administrator identity and the CENTRAL® Menu program used.

In addition, CENTRAL® Menu offers an enhanced Assignment History file to provide definitive information on what a user's access capability was for a given date and time period. Conversely, information on which users have access to a specific option within a given date and time period can also be obtained.

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