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## Carsten's Corner - New Command to List PTF Groups

[System iNetwork Systems Management Newsletter](#)

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Since the introduction of Group PTFs, it has become a little easier for system administrators to monitor and work with IBM i's current PTF status. The Work with PTF Groups (WRKPTFGRP) command lists all currently installed or registered group PTFs, including the cumulative PTF (CUM) package, showing the current level and status as well as the PTF group's text description.

The WRKPTFGRP list panel's function key F6 also lets you print a group PTF list with your job's current spooled output. If you manage more than one system and want to compare group PTF levels or need to keep an online inventory of your current group PTF level, you are, however, in for a challenge because there's no output file option for the WRKPTFGRP command. To cover that missing angle, I decided to write a List PTF Groups (LSTPTFGRP) command.

In a recent article, I presented [Work with Command Security \(WRKCMDSEC\)](#), and for that command, I had to include an output file option. So for the output file part of the equation, I had the necessary building blocks. To obtain the group PTF information, a quick search in the IBM Information Center's API section turned up the List PTF Groups (QpzListPtfGroups) API, which delivers the current system's group PTF information to a user space.

Retrieving content from a user space is also a familiar and trivial challenge, and the code necessary to perform such a task has been included in a number of the utilities I've presented earlier in this column. To create an output file containing all currently registered group PTFs and their respective status for a given system, therefore, becomes simply a matter of combining the available pieces of code as well as creating a command definition for the LSTPTFGRP command. Here's the outcome of the latter effort:

```

                                List PTF Groups (LSTPTFGRP)

Type choices, press Enter.

Output file . . . . . Name
Library . . . . . *LIBL Name, *LIBL, *CURLIB
Replace or add records . . . . . *ADD *ADD, *REPLACE
  
```

You simply specify the file to receive the group PTF list and whether the list records should be added to the existing file records if the file already exists, or existing records, if any, should be replaced by the new records. If you specify the special value \*LIBL for the library name, and the specified file name is not found in the library list, a new file is created in the job's current library. If no current library has been set for the job, the library QGPL is used.

The following sources are involved in creating the LSTPTFGRP command:

```
CBX802  -- RPGLE  -- List PTF Groups - CPP
CBX802H -- PNLGRP -- List PTF Groups - Help
CBX802X -- CMD    -- List PTF Groups

CBX802M -- CLP     -- List PTF Groups - Build command
```

### [Download the LSTPTFGRP Command Source code.](#)

To create all these objects, compile and run CBX802M, following the instructions in the source header. As always, you'll also find compilation instructions in the respective source headers. For the LSTPTFGRP command processing program CBX802 to compile, you'll need to [download and copy a SQLCLI\\_H member created by Scott Klement](#) to a QRPGLSRC source file in your job's library list. Below, I've provided a link to a zip file containing the correct version of the SQLCLI\_H copy member.

Related articles and material:

[Carsten's Corner - New Command - Work with Command Security \(WRKCMDSEC\)](#)

[SQLCLI\\_H copy member](#)

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