

Carsten's Corner: PTFs and New Command Enable Display of IOA Cache Battery Status

[System iNetwork Systems Management Newsletter](#)

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It may have escaped your attention, but some time ago IBM released three PTFs for IBM i OS releases 5.4, 6.1, and 7.1, respectively, providing a convenient method of gathering battery cache information for service purposes. I've added links at the end of this article taking you to the APARs and PTF cover letters associated with the PTFs.

These PTFs add a program named QSMBTTCC to library QSYS. When the program is run, it displays a spooled file containing the battery cache information for the IBM i partition in which the function is run. Once displayed, you have the option of printing the spooled file for documentation purposes.

Only user profiles with *SERVICE special authority, or authorized to the Service Trace function, will be able to run the QSMBTTCC program. The Change Function Usage (CHGFCNUSG) command, with a function ID of QIBM_SERVICE_TRACE, can also be used to change the list of users allowed to perform this operation. Optionally, you can access the IBM Service Trace Function control through IBM i Navigator's Application Administration facility.

Although it's quite simple to execute a CALL command without parameters, such as

CALL QSYS/QSMBTTCC

I often forget the exact name of the program, and the problem is worsened by the lack of online documentation of what specific services are performed by the program as well as other relevant information. For example, the authorization requirements related to the program discussed here can be useful to have readily available.

To help my aging memory, I therefore write CL command interfaces and associated help text panel groups. In this case, I named the CL command Display IOA Cache Battery Status (DSPCCBSTS). This way, if I manage to remember as much as the initial part of the command, all I need to run the QSMBTTCC program is to write DSPCC* on a command line and press Enter to find the command.

Likewise, to look up the details and specifics relating to the DSPCCBSTS command and its CPP, I can simply press function key F1=Help while prompting the command, and I get instant access to the QSMBTTCC program documentation and other associated information, as for example some valuable information on the topic found in an article by IBM's Dawn May, announcing the PTFs and discussing the issues relating to cache batteries and disk management. A link to that article can be found below.

The following source code is needed to create the DSPCCBSTS command:

```
CBX811H -- PNLGRP -- Display IOA Cache Battery Status - Help
CBX811X -- CMD      -- Display IOA Cache Battery Status
```

To create all these objects, follow the instructions in the respective source headers.

You can [download a zip file containing the source code here](#).

Related Articles:

[Dawn May's Article on the IOA Cache Battery PTF support](#)

IBM Documentation:

[IBM PTF SI40403 \(for V5R4Mo\)](#)

[APAR SE44065](#)

[IBM PTF SI40404 \(for V6R1Mo\)](#)

[APAR SE44066](#)

[PTF SI40406 \(for V7R1Mo\)](#)

[APAR SE44068](#)

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