



June 2009



## A message from Jeanine Cotter, Vice President, Systems Services

To our clients around the globe: thank you for over 10 years of IBM GDPS® success! Your loyalty and honest feedback help us to constantly evolve the GDPS solution to support your business and help you proactively manage continuous availability and disaster recovery.

Establishing a high availability and disaster recovery solution is a vital part of overall optimization planning for a resilient business. As organizations rely more on their systems and the services they support, our clients are increasingly recognizing this critical synergy. While some industries are more focused on availability than others, it really comes down to the *value your infrastructure provides to your business*.

In these challenging economic times, we're helping many clients reap the efficiencies and cost-savings potential of consolidation projects. As data centers are consolidated, many realize significant savings, yet the risk of outages increase as more resources are consolidated into fewer locations. *This makes it even more important to ensure that operations remain secure, scalable and stable regardless of planned or unplanned events.* That's where our continuous availability and disaster recovery solutions, GDPS for System z and GDOC for distributed systems play such an integral role.

For those of you who have an integrated plan, we applaud you. For those who seek tighter linkage into overall optimization and enterprise level availability projects, we're here to help. I hope you enjoy this update on the latest GDPS news. Please provide us with your feedback! (gdps@us.ibm.com)



## Celebrating 10 years of GDPS success

Thanks to our loyal clients and continued innovation, GDPS celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November, 2008!

We now have more than 500 implementations in 37 countries across numerous industries. We offer many GDPS solutions to meet varying levels of IBM System z® clients' continuous availability/disaster recovery (CA/DR) requirements and to help manage data availability regulations. Visit [ibm.com/servers/eserver/zseries/gdps](http://ibm.com/servers/eserver/zseries/gdps) to see a comprehensive list of the versatile solutions we can provide.

Our success has also helped our GDPS clients succeed in meeting their CA/DR requirements:

*"The banking business is all about protecting assets and minimizing risk. Now that we have done that with our IT infrastructure, we have a much stronger business. Our customers may never know what we have done—and that is OK. But with these new IBM products in place, it is business as usual for us—all the time."*

- Fernando Fons, Systems Engineering Manager, Bancaja, Spain

*"Today, if we had an outage, employees could continue their work without even knowing where their system is actually running from. The transition to backup systems is completely transparent to end users, which helps them maintain productivity."*

- Nicolas Vassas, z/OS Systems Programmer, AOK Bavaria, Germany

*"What GDPS brings to the table is the automation necessary to allow us to recover within a two-hour timeframe. It automates a lot of manual processes, and with automation you get speed. It also detects conditions that might cause the recovery to fail. With our new GDPS system, once we make the decision to do a site takeover, we simply tell the system, and the system completes the recovery automatically."*

- Malcolm Sanderson, senior technical architect, Bank of Montreal, Canada

## IBM announces the release of GDPS Version 3.6

IBM lives up to its reputation of providing ongoing value to you by annually enhancing the GDPS solution. Each year's GDPS release includes new functionality that enables us to maintain our leadership role in providing you with quality CA/DR solutions. The latest release (v3.6) is no exception, providing additional functionality aimed at improving productivity and performance. Here's a summary of key new enhancements that were made available on March 31, 2009:

- Reduced Impact Copy virtually eliminates impacts to GDPS/PPRC production workloads when establishing new or re-synchronizing mirrored storage. As synchronization is complete, a zero recovery point objective (RPO) is automatically established.
- Distributed Cluster Management (DCM) support for GDPS/Global Mirror provides a System z and distributed server DR solution (adding to already available DCM for GDPS/PPRC and GDPS/XRC).



- GDPS/PPRC Multiplatform Resiliency extensions for logical subsystem (LSS) sharing between IBM z/VM® logical partitions (LPARs) helps provide more *flexibility and efficient use of storage*, letting you share your storage across multiple z/VM partitions.

Other GDPS v3.6 feature highlights:

- Remote Pair IBM FlashCopy® helps *further protect against disk outage* by letting you implement FlashCopy in conjunction with GDPS/PPRC HyperSwap® Manager.
- New GDPS health checks *help ensure GDPS best practices are followed*.
- Query services help *integrate GDPS status into client-developed automation*.
- z/VM disk sharing for more than four systems *helps provide scalability and flexibility* for configurations with more than four IBM z/VM LPARs.
- GDPS/PPRC multiplatform resiliency extensions to support two GDPS controlling systems *helps further reduce single points of failure* by providing alternate controlling system redundancy

Additionally, the GDPS v3.6 announcement previewed and made statements of direction for a number of additional functions to be made available in the future, such as alternate subchannel set support, GDPS/PPRC timer support extensions and GDPS/MGM Incremental Resynchronization enhancement.



### GDPS Customer Design Council adds value across the globe

Six years ago, IBM—along with GDPS clients from around the world—met to form the first GDPS Design

Council. Since then, about 35 GDPS clients and their IBM representatives have met regularly to provide feedback on the GDPS development roadmap, identify new requirements, validate design assumptions and share how they are utilizing GDPS to provide their businesses with a highly available infrastructure. The GDPS Design Council has identified many new requirements which IBM has acted upon, helping GDPS grow to an end-to-end enterprise availability solution. At this year's three-day, face-to-face meeting at the IBM GDPS test center in Montpellier, France, the council will discuss new requirements and future designs.

### GDPS delivers end-to-end enterprise-level availability

GDPS delivers enterprise-level infrastructure availability, which means that clients using the GDPS Distributed Cluster Management (DCM) capability can manage both continuous availability and disaster recovery across System z and distributed systems from GDPS. This capability helps protect data, avoid disruptions and manage CA/DR for multiple vendor environments (IBM z/OS, AIX®, SUN Solaris, HP-UX, Linux, VMWare and Microsoft® Windows®). Our GDPS and GDOC implementation services include the delivery and implementation of technology that helps:

- Manage planned and unplanned outages across multiple operating systems platforms from a central point of control within GDPS.
- Simplify management of complex operating environments, monitoring and reporting on events that can affect recovery and business continuity regulation compliance.

### GDPS customer training planned for 2009

The following five-day education classes are planned for 2009. These sessions are available for IBM customers that have implemented GDPS, and are lab intensive to help your people learn how to operate your GDPS solution.

GDPS solution	Class location	Start date
GDPS/PPRC	Montpellier, FR	June 15
GDPS/PPRC	Montpellier, FR	Sept. 14
GDPS/PPRC	Asia Pac - TBD	Sept. 25
GDPS/XRC	Wash DC - US	Oct. 26
GDPS/Global Mirror	Montpellier, FR	Nov. 16

To enroll, go to [www.ibm.com](http://www.ibm.com) and search on “GDPS training.”

There are many more exciting developments underway for GDPS. If you have any questions or comments, please send an e-mail to [GDPS@us.ibm.com](mailto:GDPS@us.ibm.com)

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