

DSO - DASD Space Optimizer

WHY DEFRAG?

In spite of huge DASD capacities and virtual disk arrays, allocation problems occur over and over again, mainly with larger datasets. The results are:

- production interruptions due to unnecessary job abends = shortened production windows and possible impact to onlines.
- additional manual actions by Computer Operations
- increased DASD space = more opportunity for poor space utilization = increased costs

HOW DOES A COMPANY USUALLY DEFRAG?

In most cases IF it is done, DFSMSdss will be used. It is run mostly over the weekend if the production environment permits it and reserves will not be an issue. Since these times are very rare, this is often not sufficient enough to keep the fragmentation rate low over a long-term period.

THE SOLUTION - DSO DASD Space Optimizer

DSO will keep the fragmentation-index *permanently at an optimized level* and keep the defrag transparent in the production environment. The storage administrator will define within DSO the volumes that are to be optimized using selection criteria that eliminate maintenance. The highest fragmentation is usually evident where many activities (like create, extend and delete of datasets) take place. Typically the work, test and batch production volumes are hit the most. With DSO, you can set different thresholds for different groups of volumes.

HOW DOES DSO FUNCTION?

DSO runs as a started task which constantly observes the fragmentation of the user defined volumes. According to the user given time interval, DSO selects the volumes with the 'best candidates' (where the defined thresholds have been reached) for the defragmentation. DSO keeps the fragmentation rate low – user defined amount of track relocation for each volume process but in recurrent intervals.

In DSO the user defines:

- volumes, pools or storage groups
- what time intervals
- how much and how often should be optimized

DSO executes the defrag automatically, quickly, permanently, securely and nearly unnoticed. The fragmentation index is kept on a consistent optimized level, the utilization of the volumes increases considerably, production is safer and additional costs will be saved!

Via the functions 'Maxmove' and 'Maxpass' the workload - hence the duration - of the defrag job will be limited and optimized. Consequently, it is guaranteed that NO production relevant delays will occur because 'Maxmove' limits the number of tracks to be moved, 'Maxpass' divides this amount into optimization intervals and after each optimization the volume will be released.

ADVANTAGES OF DSO

- DSO sets new standards in optimizing DASD management via automated functionality
- DSO permanently guarantees an optimal fragmentation rate
- DSO represents state-of-the-art technology, based upon IBM standard utilities
- DSO is reliable – once installed it runs in the background
- DSO is flexible - individual parameters can be adjusted and dynamically applied at any time
- DSO is effective - user defined actions: DEFrag, CONSOLIDATE, RELEASE and COMPRESS
- DSO is safe - fully automated - requires no manual actions/operations
- DSO is thorough – masks guarantee that no volumes will be missed/overlooked
- With DSO every storage and system specialist is able to design his own optimization profile!



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