

# Balancing Performance and Cost for IBM z Systems with zGuard and zWorkload Reporter

## Customer Overview

- One of the largest insurance companies in Germany
- Over 13k employees

As one of the biggest insurance companies in Germany it is necessary to deliver the services in time and that customer data is secure. Due to the company's fiscal responsibility, reducing risks to a minimum is of the utmost importance.

## Customer Challenges

Customer was experiencing rising MLC (Monthly License Charges) and instituted a manual process to manually manage the actual MSU usage of individual workloads. These manual efforts were time consuming, error-prone and ultimately unsuccessful. Customer was unable to effectively analyze their consumption and were unable to optimize their MSU costs. Furthermore, they were unable to effectively report on their MSU consumption which hindered their ability to lower their MLC costs.

## Requirement

The customer wanted an automated solution that could be adaptable to their specific needs given the ever-changing workload requirements. Additionally, they wanted a lower Defined Capacity when the working day started. The customer wanted to use a dynamically changing Defined Capacity during the lunch time hours along with all the different scenarios required to avoid unnecessary peaks and to reduce MLC cost.

## Solution

zWorkload Reporter was initially used to report, analyze and understand workload requirements and to formulate an optimization plan. zGuard was then introduced and implemented on site to automate specific dynamic changes to the Defined Capacity to support customer's key requirements. Today both solutions are continuously and proactively monitoring, reporting and adapting to ensure customer goals are maintained as new environment changes and requirements arise.

## CASE STUDY



*"With zGuard we have succeeded in avoiding new costs, because it monitors our systems and controls them according to our business objectives."*

- IT manager  
German insurance  
company

## zSolutions Value

zGuard automatically & dynamically adjusts the Defined Capacity level, ensuring quality of service, while lowering MLC cost. zWorkload Reporter offers a user-friendly and in-depth cloud web reporting service to track activity and quickly identify opportunities for improvement. The combination of automation and detailed activity monitoring, frees up precious time for your mainframe experts to focus on other high value-added activities. In addition, our expert services offered by SVA Software Inc. and our certified partners ensure WLM settings are always optimized.

## Summary

Before using the solutions offered by SVA Software, Inc. The IT insurance staff experienced rising MLC and higher MSU costs due to the manual management of their workloads. They had no opportunity to optimize their MSU costs and to analyze their MSU consumption. After implementing zWorkload Reporter and zGuard, the customer was able to be proactive in analyzing, reporting and optimizing resulting in a significant reduction in the MLC costs.



*“zWorkload Reporter allows us to analyze data in a very dynamic and flexible way.”*

*- IT manager German automobile company*

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