**IBM System z**
**Introduction**
**July, 2008**

# z/VM Evaluation Edition

## Frequently Asked Questions

Worldwide

ZSQ03022-USEN-00

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# Description and capabilities of the z/VM Evaluation Edition

**Question:**

What is the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

The z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is a trial version of z/VM 5.3 that is intended to provide all IBM System z10 customers with the opportunity to evaluate z/VM. It can be used to allow new z/VM customers to familiarize themselves with z/VM virtualization technology on the System z10. The z/VM Evaluation Edition can also be used to evaluate proofs-of-concept, effectiveness, performance, robustness, and other capabilities of z/VM.

**Question:**

Is the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition a full-function version of z/VM? For example, does it include all the features and functions of z/VM V5.3?

**Answer:**

The z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition contains the IBM DirMaint and Performance Toolkit for VM optional features, as well as ICKDSF and EREP. All the z/VM V5.3 features and functions are available except for RSCS and the RACF Security Server features, HCD/HCM, and OSA/SF. These features cannot be ordered for the z/VM Evaluation Edition.

**Question:**

Can I use the z/VM Evaluation Edition for production?

**Answer:**

No. The Evaluation Edition is not intended for production and configuration limits only facilitate a “trial” execution environment. There are no facilities to apply service to the Evaluation Edition.

**Question:**

Will the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition work with other IBM Middleware?

**Answer:**

Yes. In order to use IBM Middleware products, you must order them through the normal IBM ordering process.

**Question:**

Will the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition work with other solutions provided by Independent Software Vendors (ISVs)?

**Answer:**

Software support for z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is something to be determined by each ISV. z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is primarily intended to help System z10 users familiarize themselves with the base technology available in z/VM. There may be some software products that require a more complete set of features available with the standard z/VM V5.3 product.

**Question:**

Can I install Linux as a guest of the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

Yes. Linux for System z is not provided with the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition. In order to operate Linux as a guest of z/VM, Linux must be obtained from a Linux distributor partner. For specific function

and for the most current information on Linux distributions, refer to:

**ibm.com**/systems/z/os/linux/dist.html

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**Question:**

Can I operate the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition on Integrated Facility for Linux (IFL) processors?

**Answer:**

Yes. The Evaluation Edition is supported on both general-purpose (CP) and IFL processors.

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**Question:**

What skills does the customer need in order to use the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

Minimal skills are needed to bring up the Evaluation Edition in a logical partition. The intent of the Evaluation Edition is for customers to start learning how to use z/VM. Some technical skill may be required or need to be developed in order to exploit the z/VM environment to its full extent.

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**Question:**

Can I use the HMC systems management support with the Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

Yes. This environment is preconfigured to use the HMC systems management support and does not require any additional setup.

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**Question:**

Where can I get more documentation of the capabilities of z/VM?

**Answer:**

IBM publishes the z/VM documentation in an information center using the IBM Eclipse Help System framework. Publishing in an information center is in addition to z/VM product documentation published in BookManager and PDF format and available through the z/VM Collection at:

http://www.**ibm.com**/shop/publications/order/

and via the z/VM Internet Library at: http://www.**ibm.com**/vm/library/

Information centers provide a new mechanism for delivering product documentation. Advantages of information centers are:

- Content is indexed by Google and other internet search engines to help locate information more easily
- Custom searches can be created that include only the information you need for a particular task or job role.

The z/VM V5.3 Information Center is available at:
http://publib.boulder.**ibm.com**/infocenter/zvm/v5r3/index.jsp

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**Question:**

Where can I get more information of the capabilities of z/VM?

**Answer:**

For the most current information on z/VM, refer to the z/VM Web site at: http://www.**ibm.com**/vm

# Terms and conditions

**Question:**

What is the cost of the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

The z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is available at no charge.

**Question:**

Is the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition available to all customers?

**Answer:**

Yes. However, the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition operates only on an IBM System z10.

**Question:**

Is z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition a no-charge upgrade from z/VM 5.2?

**Answer:**

There is no charge for the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition. However, the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is not intended for existing z/VM customers. If you upgrade to z/VM V5.3 through the normal IBM ordering process, the standard z/VM terms and conditions apply, and there is no need to use the Evaluation Edition.

**Question:**

Does this z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition stop running after some period of time?

**Answer:**

No. However, the terms and conditions of the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition license agreement limit the trial period to 90 days.

**Question:**

Will the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition be upgraded to the next release of z/VM?

**Answer:**

IBM will periodically evaluate the requirements for future releases of z/VM to be made available for evaluation purposes.

**Question:**

To continue using z/VM, will the customer have to pay for the current release of z/VM after running the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition on their system?

**Answer:**

Yes. Upon conclusion of using the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition, normal z/VM ordering procedures and term and conditions associated with z/VM will apply.

**Question:**

Does the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition include support?

**Answer:**

No. Since the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is not intended for production use, the traditional IBM support structure is not available nor is there any way to apply service. z/VM V5.3 service available with Recommended Service Update (RSU) 0801 level is included in the Evaluation Edition. However, IBM may consider a future DVD-RAM upgrade to include additional service as appropriate. .In addition, questions may be submitted by sending a note to zvmdemo@us.ibm.com

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**Question:**

How can I tell if I am running the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition versus a production level of z/VM V5.3?

**Answer:**

The initial release of the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition will display an “0881” when issuing a CP QUERY CPLEVEL. The CP QUERY CPLEVEL response from a production level of z/VM 5.3 with the same RSU applied would be 0801.

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**Question:**

Can Subscription and Support (S&S) be purchased for the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

No. There is no-charge for z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition and is not intended for production. The code on the DVD cannot be serviced using the traditional service processes for z/VM.

# Distribution, installation, and configuration

**Question:**

What type of distribution media are available for the Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

The z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is available as an electronic download as well as on DVD-Random Access Memory (DVD-RAM) media.

**Question:**

How do I get the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition DVD?

**Answer:**

The DVD is an electronic DVD-RAM download image available from the IBM Web Membership (IWM) Web site at:
**ibm.com**/services/forms/preLogin.do?lang=en_US&source=zvmeval

You must review the *z/VM V5R3 Evaluation Edition License Information* document and agree to the terms and conditions before downloading. Once downloaded, it can be burned to a DVD-RAM. The Readme file and *Installation Guide* are also available from this Web site.

IBM also plans to distribute the physical DVD-RAM medium with the *z/VM V5R3 Evaluation Edition License Information* document at trade shows, conferences, and other events.

**Question:**

Are there any other requirements needed for the download of the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

In order to download the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition, the HMC and the Support Element (SE) on the System z10 must be at level 2.10.0 or later.

**Question:**

Where do I load the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

The z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is loaded and executed from the DVD drive in the Hardware Management Console (HMC) of the System z10.

**Question:**

Can, I install the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition to minidisks?

**Answer:**

No. It can only be loaded from DVD-RAM.

**Question:**

Can I use my existing DASD devices for anything when running the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

Yes. In order to run any significant guest virtual machine workloads, external disks are required for z/VM paging and spooling, as well as for minidisks to store guest data.

**Question:**

After installing and configuring my system, can I save my configuration changes?

**Answer:**

Yes. The DVD-RAM contains a RAMdisk that holds data required to operate z/VM. A DVD-RAM is used to enable updates made to this RAMdisk to be saved so that they are available the next time the system is IPLed.

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**Question:**

Where does z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition execute?

**Answer:**

The z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is executed in an LPAR.

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**Question:**

What is the memory requirement for the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition?

**Answer:**

The z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition requires a minimum 3 GB of memory in an LPAR to operate.

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**Question:**

What happens to my z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition when my system goes down?

**Answer:**

The DVD must be reloaded and operation of z/VM V5.3 can begin again. Any changes that have not been saved to the DVD-RAM will not be preserved.

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**Question:**

If a customer upgrades their machine will the z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition transfer to the new model?

**Answer:**

Yes. You will have to reload the DVD from the HMC if you make a disruptive upgrade to a new model of the System z10. The z/VM V5.3 Evaluation Edition is not dependent on any particular model of the System z10.

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