

What are the potential differences between IBM Web Facing & IBM HATS Tool?

IBM Web Facing TOOL

IBM Web Facing tool converts 5250 screens to JSP files and HTML using DDS source. This tool accurately interprets DDS constructs from DDS source to generate equivalent Web UI constructs. Initial conversion of 5250 application is quick and easy in this tool. Customization is also easy for iSeries developers. It requires again conversion when source is modified. Hot links can be added without involvement of any programming. The host application can selectively execute a different code path for the web while maintaining original path when running in native mode. This tool can be integrated with automation tools for customization. In the advanced edition, the portal support is available.

To perform system operations with web facing user must use iSeries Navigator and/or Client Access tool since no DDS is available to those functions.

IBM HATS TOOL

On the contrary, IBM HATS tool converts 5250 screens dynamically at run-time without DDS source. Moreover, Installation of default HATS conversion is quick and easy. Actually, HATS uniquely identify the 5250 screens using HATS toolkit. In case if source is modified then the application must be converted again. Alike Web Facing tool, in HATS hot links can also be added without doing any programming. HATS also provide portal support.

Since HATS is a stand alone product that can be used to reface both 5250 and 3270 applications. If a customer wanted to use the same tool to work on iSeries applications and zSeries applications, HATS would be a better choice.

What is WebFacing Deployment tool with HATS technology (WDHT)? Why we need this tool?

Actually, WebFacing customers need HATS functionality for screens that no longer have DDS source, and HATS customers want to avoid purchasing additional Online Transaction Processing (OLTP) capability, which WebFacing does not require.

*A blend of both Web Facing and HATS product is **WebFacing Deployment Tool with HATS Technology (WDHT)**. This product brings HATS technology to WebFacing, without the interactive processing requirements. This means that HATS technology can be invoked to render screens that have not been converted into permanent Web artifacts through WebFacing.*

WDHT enables WebFacing applications to seamlessly integrate system screens and non-WebFaced application screens. When a WebFacing application encounters a non-WebFaced screen at runtime, WDHT uses HATS technology to transform the 5250 data stream to HTML, preserving the WebFacing look-and-feel.

WebSphere Development Studio Client for iSeries Version 6.0.1 includes the WebFacing-to-HATS technology function, however it is limited to no more than two concurrent users (for run time deployment i.e to support more than two users WDHT purchase is required).

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