



# **Beyond Compliance:**

# The Case for Smarter, Faster, Simpler Top Secret® Security Administration

A TSSadmin Express™ Whitepaper



Contents: Executive Summary Getting Started & Next Steps Installation Summary Frequently Asked Questions





Traditional Security Administration Comes with a Hidden Price Tag

## **Bottom Line:**

TSSadmin Express™ dramatically reduces the time and effort required for traditional Top Secret® for z/OS administration:

<u>Minutes-long</u> tasks now take **seconds** .

<u>Hours-long</u> tasks now take **minutes**.

<u>Weeks-long</u> projects now take **days**.

<u>Months-long</u> projects now take **weeks**.

TSSadmin Express™ provides essential functionality to help you efficiently search, maintain, report on, and summarize your Top Secret® for z/OS environment—with accuracy, speed, and confidence.

# When Security Administration Labor Costs More Than The Security Technology Itself

Administrators, technical support teams, and auditors each bring a unique lens to managing, maintaining, and evaluating your Top Secret® for z/OS environment. With the right tools, they can efficiently add, update, analyze, and report on large volumes of security data.

Unfortunately, too many organizations still depend on **manual**, **outdated workflows**. These legacy methods can't keep pace with the modern demands of dynamic organizations, continuous application changes, complex OS upgrades, and compliance with ever-evolving regulatory requirements.

In today's "just-in-time" security environment, **accurate and timely provisioning, investigation, and reporting** are not just helpful—they're essential. Yet, in many shops, administrators and support staff are forced to triage and prioritize work unnecessarily, simply because the administrative approach is **slow, manual, and overly complex**.

The result? **Hidden operational costs.** Labor expenses for managing the security environment often exceed the cost of the technology itself—not because the work is hard, but because the tools and workflows are inefficient.

## **The Solution?**

Continue reading to learn about making complex admin tasks faster, simpler, and more efficient using **TSSadmin Express**<sup>™</sup> -- a purpose-built productivity tool designed specifically to enhance and streamline Top Secret® for z/OS.



# **TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup>: A Game Changer**

**TSSadmin Express™ is built to do one thing exceptionally well: maximize productivity.** By streamlining administration, enhancing accuracy, and boosting service levels, it simplifies the complex work of managing Top Secret® for z/OS. Our customers have consistently shown that TSSadmin Express™ strengthens their security posture—not by adding complexity, but by eliminating it. It empowers teams to take greater control of their Top Secret® environment through:

- Simplified, automated workflows
- Smarter data collection, correlation, and interpretation
- Measurable gains in speed and efficiency

# The result? Greater depth of research and insights, better quality, and higher administration throughput.

## **SIMPLIFIES TASKS**

Administrators are empowered to focus on security needs and solutions vs. the distractions caused by unnecessary busywork. Command shortcuts and automated workflows are designed to eliminate the rote command syntax entry and to automate obvious process sequences.

## UTILIZES TSS-SPECIFIC TOOLS

Command functions and documentation made specifically for Top Secret<sup>®</sup>. Requiring no translation, intuitive functions meet the needs specific to TSS administrators.

## STEPS-UP QUERY AND REPORTING

Search, locate and report like never before. Fast online results in formats familiar to your staff. Users, Profiles, Permissions, Attributes, Admin Authority, Certificates and Keyrings are now easily searchable.

## **IMPROVES AUDIT CAPABILITIES**

Responding to auditor requests for information from your Top Secret<sup>®</sup> implementation is a breeze with TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup>. Search/locate, filter, summarize and report most any aspect of your TSS SECFILE contents and change history. Output is often presented in columns that are ready for sorting, analysis or importing to a spreadsheet.

## **BRINGS RISKS TO LIGHT**

Critical risks and anomalies within your TSS implementation jump out through the use of ColorGuard<sup>™</sup>, search and inspection tools, and simplified columnar output.

## **ENERGIZES TSS PROJECTS**

Comprehensive on-the-fly research and automated generation of TSS commands help facilitate mass maintenance tasks, large-scale assessments, and secure/verified implementation of new resources.

## **RECONCILES & TRACKS**

Identify differences between ACIDs, ROLES, SECFILEs. Or better: Verify they are in sync as intended. Compare today's SECFILE with a snapshot from a previous period.



#1 reason given for \*not\* having TSSadmin Express™

Voice or Text: +1.816.781.8334

## **IMPROVES SERVICE LEVELS**

In short: tasks are completed more quickly. Daily tasks are simplified and blazing fast through:

- 1) elimination of bulky command syntax
- 2) bringing life and reusability to otherwise static output
- 3) automating many rote/repetitive workflows
- 4) producing instant/online results for most functions

## LEVERAGES SMART DISTRIBUTION

Results from your research or admin work can be instantly transferred to an email inbox or saved for future reference.

## UTILIZES PROVEN TECHNOLOGY

TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> has been satisfying Top Secret<sup>®</sup> for z/OS customers since 2006.

## DIRECT ACCESS TO DEVELOPERS

Got an issue or suggestion? We respond with clear communication and you will usually communicate directly with a developer on every support ticket -- someone who knows the operation and capabilities of both TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> and Top Secret<sup>®</sup>.

info@tssadmin.com

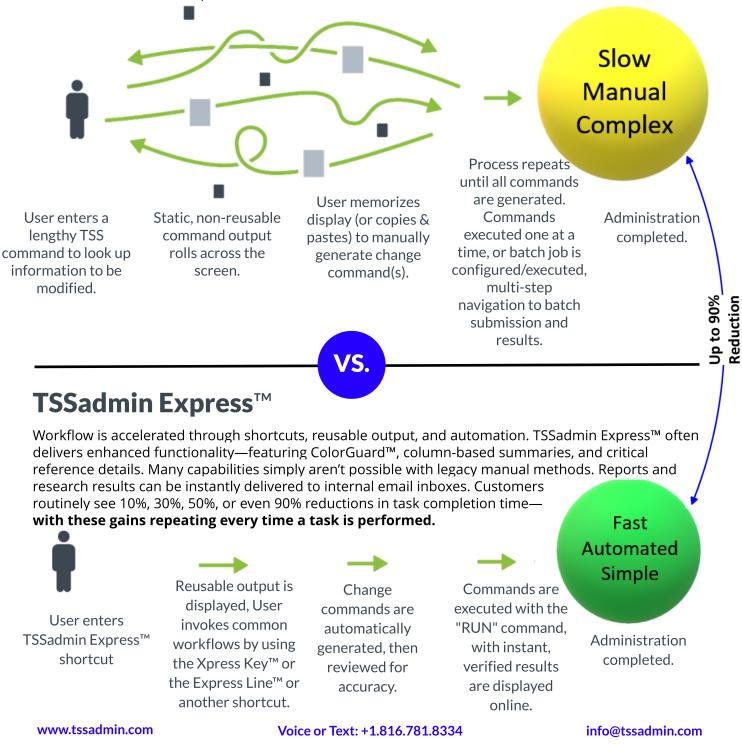
www.tssadmin.com



# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

# **Typical Admin Process**

Administrators are often stuck using outdated, manual processes—navigating across multiple screens, running batch jobs, or relying on limited in-house tools. The resulting output is often difficult to interpret and time-consuming to work with. Tasks like ad-hoc searches, reporting, display, and mass maintenance are cumbersome at best. In many cases, there's no built-in functionality to assist with even basic tasks—let alone complex workflows.





# **GETTING STARTED**

# **Next Steps**

## Want to see TSSadmin Express™ in action?

Schedule a live demo with your administrators, tech support, and auditors—we'll walk you through the most commonly used features.

Need more confidence before subscribing? We offer a **complimentary trial** so you can fully test the software in your own environment. You'll have **complete access to all features**, plus **full technical support and training** along the way.

While your trial is underway, we'll provide a formal proposal and Master Services Agreement for your procurement team to review. Once approved, your access to the software continues seamlessly through the duration of your subscription.

## 1. LIVE DEMONSTRATION

We'll show you the basic features so you can see the look and feel of the product. If we are informed of your specific goals, we can tailor the demonstration to show you the features most beneficial important to you.

## 2. TRY IT ON YOUR SYSTEM

Next, test drive TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> on *your* system. Installation is simple: We supply you with QuickStart Guides so you can learn the basics first and then master the more powerful functions that perform advanced workflows. We are here to help you along the way.

# Schedule Live Demo

here:

https://demo.tssadmin.com



# Register for Trial here:

https://trial.tssadmin.com

## **3. SUBSCRIBE**

Finally, accept the proposal and the Master Services Agreement to activate your subscription. Since your trial is a full installation, you'll already have everything you need to continue being productive without interruption!



# **Safe, Simple Installation**

**TSSadmin Express™ is easy to deploy and security-friendly.** It requires **no APF authorization**, **doesn't modify existing programs** or **exits**, and **needs no servers**. It runs as a standalone tool within your TSO session or any batch job you configure.

Best of all, it fully respects all TSS administrative authority—you're not granted new authority, just empowered to perform your authorized tasks **faster**, **simpler**, **and with greater accuracy**.

## **1. DOWNLOAD SOFTWARE**

After a quick registration on the www.tssadmin.com website, you simply download the Full Install Package, Installation and User Guide, and QuickStart Training Guides. Also, register the CPU serial number(s) where you'll be running the software and we'll send you License Keys.

## Downloads

#### Downloads

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Full Install Package         5.0         March 21. 2025         [download]           Description:         This file contains all software components to perform either a complete ISSadmin Express <sup>™</sup> installation, or to upgrade your software.           MNPORTANT: This download includes all software and sample UL.         INSTRUCTIONS: Refer to the <i>Installation Instructions</i> section in the <i>Installation and User Guide</i> for detailed instructions for how to download and	ZIP files can be opened, and then individual files can be saved a     Documentation files are in .pdf format and can be opened on y     TSSadmin Express Software cannot be opened on your desktop	to your local hard drive our local computer		to your mainframe using the specific instructions foun
Description: This file contains all software components to perform either a complete ISSadmin Express <sup>™</sup> Installation: or to upgrade your software. IMPORTANT: This download includes all software and sample JCL. INSTRUCTIONS: Refer to the <i>Installation Instructions</i> section in the <i>Installation and User Guide</i> for detailed instructions for how to download and	Available Files	Level	Date	
This file contains all software components to perform either a complete <u>TSSadmin Express<sup>ee</sup> installation</u> , or to upgrade yo <u>ur</u> software. IMPORTANT: This download includes all software and sample JCL. INSTRUCTIONS: Refer to the <i>Installation Instructions</i> section in the <i>Installation and User Guide</i> for detailed instructions for how to download and	Full Install Package	5.0	March 21, 2025	[download]
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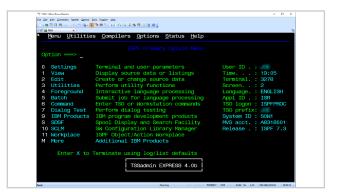
## 2. UPLOAD/INSTALL

Next, upload the installation files to your mainframe with your FTP client. Follow steps to configure installation JCL and site-specific control options. Step-by-step instructions are in the *Installation and User Guide* that you have downloaded. It's easy! Install processing takes only 15 minutes, but gathering and configuring site-specific information will extend this time.

# 

## **3. READY TO USE!**

After installation, users you've authorized may now invoke TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> from their ISPF Primary Option menu. All functions are now accessible to the user (subject, of course, to the TSS authority you've granted to them).





# **Frequently Asked Questions**

We've compiled some of the more common questions that we hear from new customers considering a subscription of TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> to improve their Top Secret<sup>®</sup> for z/OS security administrator productivity.

## HOW DOES LICENSING WORK?

We license TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> with an Annual Subscription and pricing is based on the number of concurrent administrators who will be using it, regardless of size and number of CPUs. We offer substantial discounting for licensing multiple users and multi-year subscriptions. Government-site discounts also apply.

### **IS TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> NEW?**

TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> is a mature product. First introduced in 2006, we utilize proven technology and are currently on version 5. We have an exceptional customer satisfaction record.

# WHAT IF WE ALREADY HAVE IAM SOFTWARE?

Many of our customers use IAM software to perform much of the simple and pre-defined daily user provisioning. While TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> can help with many IAM functions, these customers use it to help do the heavy lifting that's required for configuring, troubleshooting, researching, reporting, and maintaining their Top Secret<sup>®</sup> for z/OS implementation. Much of the functionality is unique and separate from the capabilities of IAM applications.

## WHY NOT DEVELOP IN-HOUSE?

Our customers often do develop special needs tools in-house -- but TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> frees them from the majority of that effort. At no additional cost to you, we perform constant development to add new features, keep up with maintenance and documentation, and provide training materials and personal training assistance.

# ISN'T THE 3270 "GREEN SCREEN" OBSOLETE?

TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> makes use of advanced features including color, highlighting and interactive content throughout. Its primary focus is on productivity, so we have kept this technology directly on the mainframe. This enables the use of ultra efficient cross-memory services and avoids dependencies and latency inherent to data unnecessarily traversing through middleware and networks. Our customers agree that it doesn't require a pretty browser for the productivity to be phenomenal!



## IS TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> CA/BROADCOM SOFTWARE?

No. Access Solutions, Inc. participates with Broadcom's **Technology Partner Program**, but this software is offered through ASI directly as a complement to work alongside your Top Secret® for z/OS implementation.

# WE ARE A SMALL SHOP. WHAT'S THE VALUE?

Regardless of implementation size, all Top Secret® for z/OS sites have similar administration needs. Our subscription pricing model scales from small shops to large. Small shops need and use the same features and benefits. In many cases administrators in smaller shops are not dedicated to working full-time with security, so simplicity and productivity is critical.

## HOW DO I LEARN HOW TO USE TSSadmin Express™?

We offer complimentary QuickStart Training Guides that you can follow at your own pace to learn the basic and more advanced functions of TEX. The basic query functions -- ones that you'll use most often -- are intuitive and you'll be productive right away with them. Keep the Desktop Reference Guide nearby as a reminder to use and explore other functions.

As always, we are here to answer any questions and help in any way we can, including instructor-led training for those who want or need it!



# **About Access Solutions, Inc.**

As the logo states, ASI helps transform your Broadcom Top Secret® z/OS technology investment into productivity. We focus exclusively on TSSadmin Express<sup>™</sup> and related services for improving productivity with administration, technical support and auditing of your Top Secret<sup>®</sup> for z/OS implementation.

Founded in 1994, Access Solutions, Inc. is a US based small business.

# **Questions? Need more information?**

Meet to Discuss: https://www.tssadmin.com/schedule
Schedule Live Demo: https://demo.tssadmin.com
Trial Registration: https://trial.tssadmin.com
Product Overview Video: https://www.tssadmin.com/doforyou
This Document: https://www.tssadmin.com/whitepaper/
GSA Contract: <u>47QTCA21D002W</u> (Instant procurement at https://gsaadvantage.gov)

## **Satisfied Users**

We have a satisfied client base and we scored a near perfect performance rating through the Dun & Bradstreet Open Ratings survey, where 100% of our customers participating in the survey provided positive responses.

## **Our Customers**

Our customers include organizations from the following industries:

- Banking
- Financial/Investments
- Government
- Insurance
- Manufacturing / Retail

We honor the privacy request of our customers and do not reveal details of these organizations without their express permission.

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