

# Education Update

2023 TPF Users Group Conference  
April 24-26, Dallas, TX

—

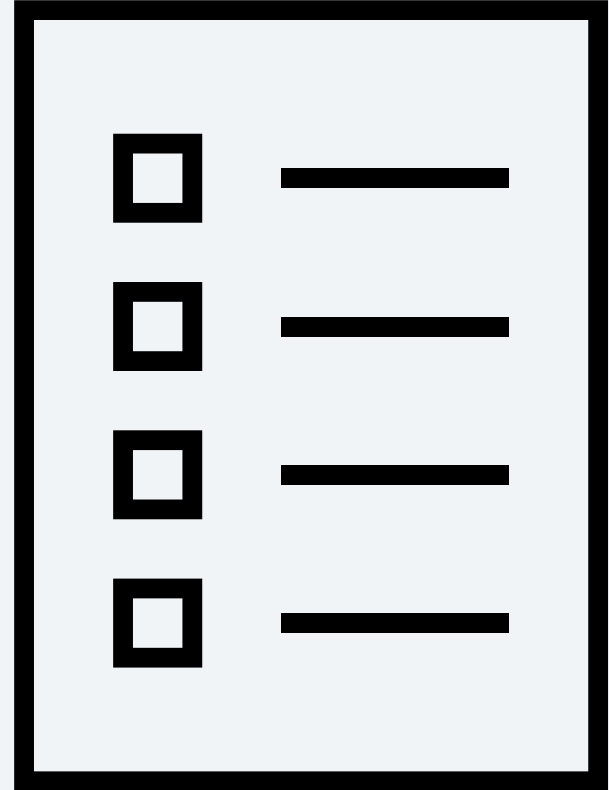
Colette A. Manoni

# Disclaimer

Any reference to future plans are for planning purposes only. IBM reserves the right to change those plans at its discretion. Any reliance on such a disclosure is solely at your own risk. IBM makes no commitment to provide additional information in the future.

# Agenda

Review pain-points and needs,  
what has been delivered,  
and continuing plans ...



# Users



Zach  
*application developer*



Andrew  
*new hire application developer*



Sophie  
*system programmer*

# Available Education Material through IBM Media Center

The screenshot displays two sections of educational content. The first section, titled 'Z/TPF INTERNSHIP', contains four video thumbnails. The second section, titled 'TPF TOOLKIT', contains four video thumbnails. Each thumbnail includes a title, a duration, and the presenter's name.

**Z/TPF INTERNSHIP**

- z/TPF Detailed Summary z/TPF Middleware - DFDL**  
Duration: 01:04:31  
Presenter: John Muller, z/TPF Development  
Title: z/TPF Internship: Introduction to DFDL
- z/TPF Detailed Summary z/TPF Automated Test Framework**  
Duration: 38:45  
Presenter: Jamie Farmer, z/TPF Development  
Title: z/TPF Internship: z/TPF Automated Test Framework
- z/TPF High Speed Connector and Enhanced HTTP Client**  
Duration: 42:02  
Presenter: Jamie Farmer, z/TPF Development  
Title: z/TPF Internship: High Speed Connector
- z/TPF Detailed Summary z/TPF Middleware - IBM MQ**  
Duration: 43:09  
Presenter: John Muller, z/TPF Development  
Title: z/TPF Internship: MQ for z/TPF

**TPF TOOLKIT**

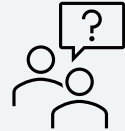
- Customizing Perspectives**  
Duration: 06:57  
Presenter: TPF Toolkit 4.6  
Title: TPF Toolkit: Customizing Perspectives
- Building TPF Projects**  
Duration: 08:59  
Presenter: TPF Toolkit 4.6  
Title: TPF Toolkit: Building TPF Projects
- Creating TPF projects**  
Duration: 07:41  
Presenter: TPF Toolkit 4.6  
Title: TPF Toolkit: Creating TPF Projects
- Resource Markers**  
Duration: 16:56  
Presenter: TPF Toolkit 4.6  
Title: TPF Toolkit: Resource Markers

Material covers many areas of the system at a *basic* level

# Pain Points / Needs

Videos contain good information, but are long (1-2 hours), contain basic information, and are not interactive

*When working on learning activities, need to have a place to ask questions when you run into problems or just have questions*

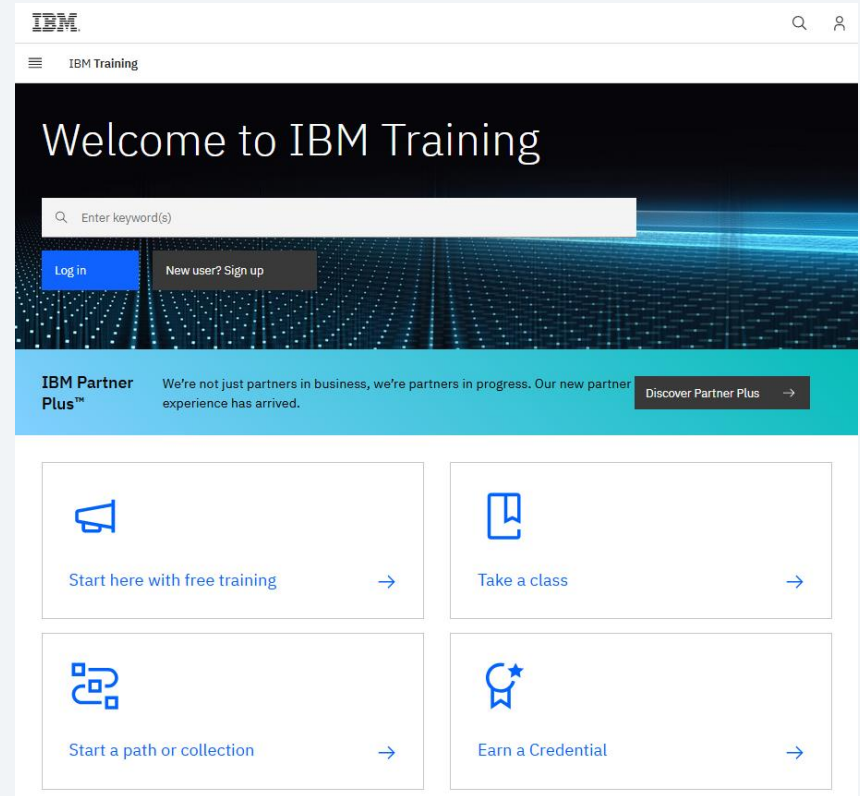


*There is no way to validate or test understanding, and no certificate identifying new skills / knowledge*

# To-Be User Story

A z/TPF user can start their learning journey on **IBM Training website**

- Self-paced courses
- Graphics and short videos used to break down and describe complex, conceptual information
- Contains quizzes to test knowledge
- Link included to IBM Community for questions and feedback
- Certificate for course completion when passing final quiz (80%)



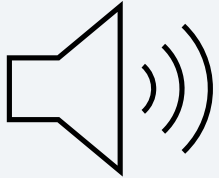
# z/TPF Programming Models (coming soon)

The screenshot shows the course page for 'z/TPF programming models' on the IBM Training website. The page features a dark header with the IBM logo, a 'Go to My Learning' link, and a user profile for 'Cotette Manoni'. Below the header, the course title is displayed along with a brief description: 'This basic-level course is provided for system programmers and application programmers to learn z/TPF programming basics. The course covers basic concepts, process models, system characteristics, and supported...'. A green progress bar indicates 'Complete ALL activities marked to earn course completion'. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main panel. The sidebar contains a 'Start here' section with links to 'Course overview', 'Syllabus', and 'Course instructions', and a 'How to navigate this course' section. The main panel shows a 'Start here' section with links to 'Course overview', 'Syllabus', and 'Course instructions', and a 'How to navigate this course' section. Below this, there is a 'Badge' section with the text 'No badges added for this course' and a link to 'Add/Edit badges for course'. The main panel also features a list of units: 'Unit 1 - Understanding z/TPF', 'Unit 2 - Process model', 'Unit 3 - Programming environment', 'Final assessment', and 'Finish here'.

- First z/TPF course added to **IBM Training website**
- Introductory - provided an overview of the programming models supported on z/TPF



# Pain Points / Needs



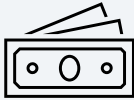
- *Basic* introduction education material is already covered by vendors, in-house training materials, and [z/TPF internship videos](#)
- ***Primary need is the intermediate level information on how the system works***
- Starting place is understanding how work flows through the system – CPU loop basics
- **Understanding how work flows through the system** is of value to the growth of both system programmers and application architects

# Under Development

Course	z/TPF Task Management: Introduction
Target Audience	Systems Programmers Application Programmers
Level	Intermediate
Prerequisites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Basic understanding of operating systems</li><li>2. Some understanding of IBM Z architecture</li><li>3. Basic understanding of z/TPF programming</li></ol>
Learning Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Understand the basics of how the z/TPF system processes and manages work</li><li>2. Define what types of lists are created and how they are used.</li><li>3. Define the types of work the system can manage and how each flows through the system</li></ol>

# z/TPF Task Management: Scenarios

*Intention is to cover all the various CPU lists and how work flows through them given various normal conditions*

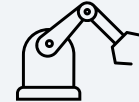


## **Transactional workload**

- Single ECB performing I/O on a single I-stream
- Single ECB performing I/O out of VFA
- Multiple ECBs on a single I-stream
- Multiple ECBs on multiple I-streams
- Etc.

## **Utility workload**

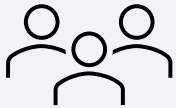
- Multiple utility ECBs using LODIC checks
- Multiple ECBs defined as Low Priority
- Multiple ECBs using macros such as DEFRC and DLAYC
- Time initiated work
- Etc.



# Proposed Offerings



- IBM Training
  - **Free** – only requires an IBM ID to logon
  - IBM Training - <https://www.ibm.com/training/>
  - z/TPF Programming Models (*Coming soon!*)
  - z/TPF Task Management Introduction (*Under development*)
  - *Continue to work with clients to define what is next*



- Individual client meeting with Lab SMEs
  - **Paid engagement**
  - Go through course material live with ability to ask questions
  - Deeper dive into client specific questions

# Pain Points / Needs

No easy way to gain hands-on experience with new features of z/TPF

- *IBM-provided starter kits and drivers puts the onus for necessary environment setup on the user.*
- *Matching up tool versions, test systems, build procedures can be difficult and time-consuming*



# To-Be User Story

A z/TPF user can continue their learning journey on **IBM Z Xplore Learning Platform**

- Provides access to interactive activities called *Challenges*
- Includes discussion forum for asking questions / getting help
- Tracks completion progress

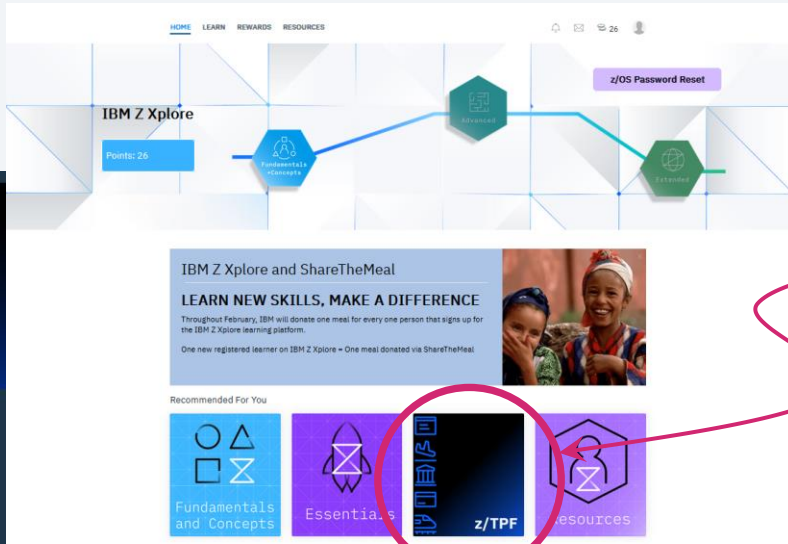


**IBM Z Xplore**

Developing enterprise computing and coding skills in more than 3,500 schools in over 130 countries

 [Get started](#)

# Delivered: z/TPF Learning Platform



## IBM Z Xplore

Developing enterprise computing and coding skills in more than 3,500 schools in over 130 countries



Get started

## z/TPF Channel

- *Challenges* specific to z/TPF
- Focus on new technology and how to use it
- User codes, builds, and runs programs on a real z/TPF test system

# Delivered: z/TPF Learning Platform

- Available challenges
  - DFDL
  - Business Events
  - REST
  - z/TPF Automated Test Framework
- *Challenges to be added periodically during the year*

The screenshot displays the z/TPF Learning Platform interface. At the top, there are navigation links for HOME, LEARN, REWARDS, and RESOURCES. The main content area is titled "z/TPF Learning Platform" and includes a "Back to Learn" link. Below this, there are tabs for "Available", "Pending Approval", and "Completed". A large banner for "z/TPF" says "Welcome to the z/TPF Learning Platform" and shows "Getting Started" progress at 0%. A section for "Unlockable Challenges" lists four challenges: "Introduction to DFDL", "Intro to Business Events : Signal Events", "REST Provider Support", and "z/TPF Automated Test Framework". Each challenge card shows "Activities" progress at 0%. On the right side, there is a "LEADERBOARD" section with "MY RANKING" and "TOP TEN" tabs, and an "ACHIEVEMENTS" section showing the current level as "Insider" and progress towards the "Fundamentals Achiever" level.



# We want sponsor users!

Our development cycle is driven by your feedback.

We are looking for sponsor users to assist in defining the scope of the content for the self-paced course, as well as the follow-on courses that make up a learning path or collection. Personas requested include:

- Application Developers
- Systems Programmers
- z/TPF SMEs

Monthly Sponsor User calls are set up monthly starting in May 2023.

Would also like to hear any ideas for additional programming challenges for the hands-on system.

Contact: **Colette Manoni** [cmast@us.ibm.com](mailto:cmast@us.ibm.com)

# Resources

z/TPF Media Channel:

[https://mediacenter.ibm.com/channel/z\\_TPF/192490123](https://mediacenter.ibm.com/channel/z_TPF/192490123)

IBM Training:

<https://www.ibm.com/training/>

IBM Z Xplore

[https://ibmzxplore.influitive.com/users/sign\\_in](https://ibmzxplore.influitive.com/users/sign_in)

z/TPF Channel in IBM Z Xplore

<https://ibmzxplore.influitive.com/join/ztpf>

# Thank you

© Copyright IBM Corporation 2022. All rights reserved. The information contained in these materials is provided for informational purposes only, and is provided AS IS without warranty of any kind, express or implied. Any statement of direction represents IBM's current intent, is subject to change or withdrawal, and represent only goals and objectives. IBM, the IBM logo, and ibm.com are trademarks of IBM Corp., registered in many jurisdictions worldwide. Other product and service names might be trademarks of IBM or other companies. A current list of IBM trademarks is available at [Copyright and trademark information](#).

