

The new VIOS performance advisor tool part util

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I updated my lab VIOS to the latest fix pack (**V2.2.2.1**) this week and thought I'd try the new VIOS **part** command. This new command is an improved version of the existing **vios_advisor** tool. The major difference between the two is the fact that the new tool is now included with VIOS code and will be updated via new VIOS fix packs. The following link has some information on using the command:

<http://pic.dhe.ibm.com/infocenter/powersys/v3r1m5/index.jsp?topic=/p7hcg/part.htm>

This new tool *“Provides performance reports with suggestions for making configurational changes to the environment, and helps to identify areas for further investigation. The reports are based on the key performance metrics of various partition resources that are collected from the Virtual I/O Server (VIOS) environment.”* Just like the old VIOS advisor.

I ran the tool for 10 minutes on my idle VIOS, just to see how the new XML report looked.

```
$ whoami
```

```
padmin
```

```
$ ioslevel
```

2. 2.2.1

\$ part -?

usage: part {-i INTERVAL | -f FILENAME} [-t LEVEL] [--help|-?]

-i <minutes> interval can range between 10-60

-f <file> any nmon recording

-t <level> 1 - Basic logging, 2 - Detailed logging

-? usage message

\$ part -i 10

part: Reports are successfully generated in vioslab2_130118_11_26_49.tar

When the command finished, I found the following tar file in padmin's home directory. The tar file contained a number of files but the most interesting files were the **XML** and **nmon** files.

\$ ls -ltr

total 1352

drwxrwxr-- 2 padmin staff 256 Aug 07 2010 config

drwxr-xr-x 3 padmin staff 256 Aug 11 2010 tivoli

drwxr-xr-x 2 538804364 staff 256 Oct 08 16:29 mnt

-rwxr-xr-x 1 padmin staff 3141 Jan 16 15:05 ck_sum.bff

drwxr-x--- 2 padmin staff 32768 Jan 16 15:10 update

-rw-r--r-- 1 root staff 409139 Jan 16 15:56 install.log

-rw-r--r-- 1 root staff 3828 Jan 18 11:26 ioscli.log

-rw-r--r-- 1 padmin staff 204800 Jan 18 11:37 vioslab2_130118_11_26_49.tar

\$ tar -tvf vioslab2_130118_11_26_49.tar

drwxr-xr-x 10 1 0 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/

drwxr-xr-x 10 1 0 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/images/

-r--r--r-- 10 1 902 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/images/Warning_icon.png

-r--r--r-- 10 1 125 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/images/bg.png

-r--r--r-- 10 1 614 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/images/close.jpg

-r--r--r-- 10 1 1336 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/images/correct.png

-r--r--r-- 10 1 316 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/images/headerLogo.png

-r--r--r-- 10 1 1241 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/images/investigate.png

-r--r--r-- 10 1 853 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/images/readonly.png

-r--r--r-- 10 1 1019 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/images/red-error.png

```
-r--r--r-- 10 1 5692 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/popup.js

-r--r--r-- 10 1 2869 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/style.css

-r--r--r-- 10 1 16869 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/vios_advisor.xsl

-rw-r--r-- 10 1 21158 Jan 18 11:37:07 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/vios_advisor_report.xml

-rw-r--r-- 10 1 136969 Jan 18 11:36:57 2013 ./vioslab2_130118_11_26_49/vioslab2_130118_1126.nmon
```

I then scp'ed the tar file to my laptop, extracted it and opened the **vios_advisor_report.xml** file. This is what the report looked like:

```
<a '="" href="https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/mydeveloperworks/blogs/cgaix/resource/BLOGS_
UPLOADED_IMAGES/part1.JPG" target="_blank">
```

```
<a '="" href="https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/mydeveloperworks/blogs/cgaix/resource/BLOGS_
UPLOADED_IMAGES/part2.JPG" target="_blank">
```

```
<a '="" href="https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/mydeveloperworks/blogs/cgaix/resource/BLOGS_
UPLOADED_IMAGES/part3.JPG" target="_blank">
```

```
<a '="" href="https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/mydeveloperworks/blogs/cgaix/resource/BLOGS_
UPLOADED_IMAGES/part4.JPG" target="_blank">
```

I was also able to open the **nmon** file using the **nmon analyser** tool. It produced typical **nmon** performance graphs as you'd expect.

```
<a '="" href="https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/mydeveloperworks/blogs/cgaix/resource/BLOGS_UPLOADED_IMAGES/part_nmon.JPG" target="_blank">
```

So, not only does the new **part** tool run the VIOS advisor it **also captures nmon** performance data at the same time.

This is rather impressive and a great move by IBM. The original VIOS advisor tool was free and of course not officially supported by IBM (although the development team were very responsive to requests from users of the tool). The new tool is fully supported by the IBM team and as a result will only get better and better as time goes by. I'm not a fan of the new command name, **part** (good luck trying to google it!), I still prefer **vios_advisor** but hey, what's in a name, right?

I look forward to seeing what comes next!

http://pic.dhe.ibm.com/infocenter/powersys/v3r1m5/index.jsp?topic=/p7hb1/iphb1_vios_perf_adv.htm

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