

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed for auditors (and auditees) who want to identify vulnerabilities in a RACF-protected z/OS mainframe and bring the system into compliance with legally mandated security requirements. Much more than just a simple "how to audit" class, this fast-paced and technically rich course will arm you with an extensive list of RACF implementation holes and precise instructions on how to find them. It is packed with descriptions of common exposures we have uncovered while reviewing nearly one hundred implementations of RACF. By the end of this course, you will have a solid understanding of RACF, familiarity with implementation "best practices", and comprehensive knowledge of the tools and techniques for evaluating the current state of RACF protection. Even an experienced auditor or administrator will leave with a long list of additional RACF control options to review.

**DURATION**

3 Days

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND**

- **IT Auditors** seeking to perform more effective audits
- **RACF Managers & Administrators** who want to find and fix control concerns before the auditors arrive
- **Outsource Contract Managers** who want to ensure their service provider is properly protecting their assets

**WHAT YOU WILL LEARN**

- Understanding RACF's components, functions, and access granting logic
- Checking RACF SETROPTS configuration options
- Using RACF commands to gather information
- Limiting powerful access authorities like OPERATIONS
- Verifying critical resources are properly protected
- Ensuring security-sensitive access events are fully logged and properly reported
- Evaluating security administration authorities
- Generating and interpreting RACF reports like DSMON

**PREREQUISITES**

Familiarity with the mainframe, RACF, and using TSO

**INSTRUCTOR - ROBERT S. HANSEL**

Mr. Hansel has worked with RACF since 1986 as an administrator, auditor, consultant, and trainer. He is a prominent speaker on RACF audit and technical topics at conferences and user groups throughout the U.S.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

1. RACF Concepts
  - a. Introduction to RACF
  - b. Profiles & relationships
2. Users
  - a. Identification & authentication
  - b. Password composition & options
  - c. User profile contents & segments
  - d. RACF commands and reports for users
3. Groups
  - a. Concepts, hierarchy, & functions
  - b. Group profile contents & segments
  - c. RACF commands and reports for groups
4. Resource Protection
  - a. Concepts
  - b. Resource profiles - generic & discrete
  - c. OPERATIONS & privileged access authorities
  - d. Access permissions & authorization process
5. Datasets
  - a. Dataset basics & protection
  - b. Dataset profiles & contents
  - c. PROTECTALL & TAPEDSN control options
  - d. RACF commands and reports for datasets
6. General Resources
  - a. Resource types, names & protection
  - b. General Resource profiles & contents
  - c. RACF commands and reports for resources
7. JES-related Controls
  - a. Started Task identification
  - b. Batch job controls (e.g., SURROGAT)
8. DASD Storage Administration
  - a. STGADMIN FACILITY profiles
  - b. DASDVOL profiles
9. System Product Controls
  - a. Unix System Services (USS) - BPX profiles
  - b. TSO-related class profiles & permissions
  - c. CICS - transaction & command protection
10. Logging & Reporting
  - a. SETROPTS & profile monitoring options
  - b. Reporting tools
11. Administrative Authorities
  - a. System & Group level SPECIAL & AUDITOR
  - b. Group connect authorities
  - c. Class authorization and FIELD profiles
  - d. Policies, standards, and staffing
12. RACF Configuration
  - a. Exits & customization
  - b. Database backup and maintenance
13. RACF Audit Plan, Process, & Tools

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To register for public courses, arrange for in-house training, or find out more about how RSH Consulting can help you better secure your system, call us at 617-969-9050, email us at [info@rshconsulting.com](mailto:info@rshconsulting.com), or visit our web site at [www.rshconsulting.com](http://www.rshconsulting.com).

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