RUN A JOB THAT SUBMITS A BATCH CONTAINING MANY JOBS

There may be several reasons why someone would need to create one GECS job that submits a GECS Batch containing 50 or so Jobs. Reasons may include:

1. Dependency issues – a batch of jobs may contain job dependencies to allow the batch to run in a specific sequence. This batch may need to start and before all of the jobs in this batch complete, a new instance of this same batch may need to start again.

2. On Demand jobs – a batch may contain many jobs that only run on demand. It is best not to have jobs waiting in the pending queue that may not need to run very often.

3. Simplify Views – 50 or more jobs displayed in a view may use up a lot of real estate on your computer screen. If you have many jobs within your GECS batches you could have one job pending that submits your batches of many jobs, then when the batch completes your single job can reschedule and only create the many jobs from the batch when it is time for the batch jobs to run.

The GECS command line utility named GECSBATS.EXE can allow you to run one job that submits a batch of 50 jobs. This utility submits a batch in the background via a command line or GECS job.

The GECSBATS command line utility is started with the name of the desired Batch passed on the command line. You must also specify the beginning and ending date range for the jobs to be submitted. Entering values of 00/00/0000 will indicate today.

```
Usage:  gecsbats [/N] batch [/O] begdate enddate @var@=value [-c
installname]
```

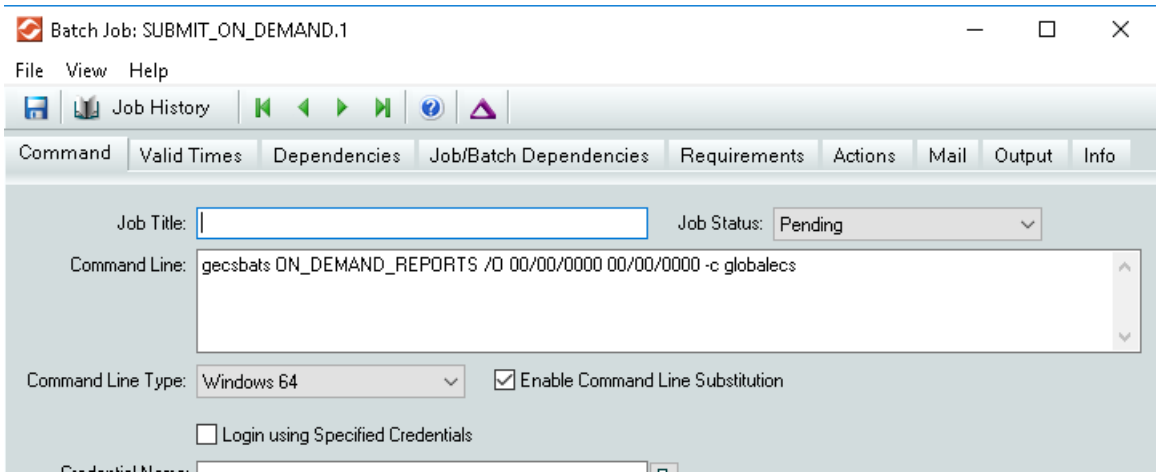
/N	- causes batch to be submitted with a 'new' batch number (optional).
/O	- causes batch to be submitted even if there are pending jobs with the same batch number (optional).
Batch	- which batch to submit.
Begdate	- beginning date to submit (00/00/0000 for today).
Enddate	- ending date to submit (00/00/0000 for today).

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

@var@=value	- change the default value of the specified variable to the value specified. If value includes spaces enclose the whole string in quotes. i.e. "@var@=the value" (optional)
-d begdate	- Optional - Beginning On date to use.
-t begtime	- Optional - Beginning On time to use.
-c instname	- Installation name (optional)
-m reason	- Audit reason (if enabled)
-u username	- User name (optional)
-p password	- Password (optional)

The ability to run GECSBATS.EXE has enormous potential for automating the scheduling of individual batches. Especially since this executable program can be run as standard GECS jobs.

By running GECSBATS.EXE as a job, it is possible to daisy chain batches. Consider creating a batch which has as its last step, an item which will run GECSBATS.EXE passing the name of the next batch to run. In this way, you can create dependent batches.



The optional /O command line option (as displayed above) allows a new instance of the batch to be submitted by using the submitted date and time as part of the new job number key.

The optional /N command line option causes a number to be added to the end of the batch portion of the job number when the batch is submitted. The number will cause the batch to be unique in the system.

For example, if you submit the APPLE batch, the batch portion of the job number would be APPLE0. If you submit it again, the batch portion would be APPLE1.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

The numeric portion can range from 0 to 999. If the batch portion is 17 characters or less in length, the number is added to the end. If the batch portion is longer than 17, the last 3 characters are overwritten by the number.

Normally a batch should not be submitted until the previous submission is complete. This utility allows a batch to be submitted multiple times such that they overlap without the submissions stepping on each other.