

IBM Technology Lifecycle Services for IBM Z and IBM LinuxONE

Drive consistency and high availability in your data center

■ Highlights

Planning and deployment services

Installation and configuration

Warranty and support

Proactive support options

Z Evaluation service

Support insights

Project services

Performance optimization

Asset recovery and disposition

Businesses in today's complex hybrid IT environment need services and support to take full advantage of new technologies, across data centers, cloud, and edge, while keeping their existing infrastructure up and running.

Organizations want proactive and predictive capabilities to help predict and prevent unplanned disruption for both their IBM and their 3rd party vendor hardware and software. They need infrastructure services across the product lifecycle to manage day-to-day data center needs and to proactively manage systems' health and interoperability. These hybrid architectures need to be designed and planned to excel, but they must also be executed flawlessly across the product and solution lifecycle with precious few skilled resources available.

IBM Technology Lifecycle Services (TLS) offers infrastructure support and services to plan, deploy, support, optimize and refresh IBM Z® and IBM® LinuxONE technology in your data center.

Planning and Deployment Services

IBM Technology Lifecycle Services (TLS) offers infrastructure services to help clients leverage the unique capabilities of IBM Z and IBM LinuxONE to build the foundation for today's hybrid cloud and enterprise IT data centers.

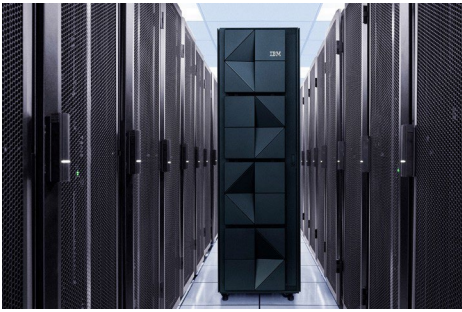
Installation and Configuration

IBM Z and LinuxONE products are installed and configured by IBM experts as part of the warranty. IBM consultants can also help you plan and deploy features and services on the Z platform such as Quantum Safe, AI, and hybrid cloud infrastructure.

Warranty and Support

Building an effective infrastructure is only the first step. Complex IT infrastructure takes a broad spectrum of skills to maintain and optimize.

IBM Technology Lifecycle Services (TLS) provides support and maintenance services to help ensure that our clients' infrastructure run at optimal levels, starting with our base maintenance services. Clients make support decision about IBM LinuxONE with IBM LinuxONE Expert Care at the time of purchase. For IBM Z products, clients will make support decisions when their warranty is coming to an end through the purchase of IBM Hardware and Software Maintenance Services.



With IBM's wide range of available committed service levels, you can specifically select the most suitable response times that best meet the conditions and requirements of your business. When you select faster response times, your calls will be prioritized above other calls already in the queue for faster diagnosis and immediate repair action. Committed services are available upgrades that enhance the level of service for hardware under a warranty or maintenance agreement. ¹

IBM Proactive Support for IBM Z includes premium services for personalized support from a skilled, dedicated IBM specialist as well as providing alerts and recommended actions to help mitigate problems and reduce unplanned downtime and risk by quickly resolving incidents with priority response. Global delivery and easier access to IBM product development and engineering labs further fuel the problem-solving process to help improve system availability, productivity, and recoverability. Our highly skilled, dedicated technical account managers use proprietary diagnostic tools and function as an extension of your IT staff to lower your investment in in-house technical support.

Proactive Support includes enhanced response times as well.

- 30 Minute response times for Severity 1 tickets, 24x7
- 2-hour response times during Prime shift for all other Severities
- 4-hour response times during off shift, for Severity 2 tickets

Clients with IBM Proactive Support for Z experienced a 35% faster time to repair for Severity 1 cases over clients without.² With the increasing complexity of IT environments, the sheer volume of systems and applications within the environment makes it difficult for any IT organization to maintain in-house skills and expertise needed to run and stay optimized across the data center. IBM covers maintenance and support for approximately 22,000³ IBM and other OEM hardware and software products and can help drive consistent results across the data center with an integrated data center support strategy.

IBM Z Hardware and z/OS Evaluation Service is a suite of remote assessments designed to ensure optimal performance and minimize system outages in complex IBM Z environments. The Z Hardware Evaluation involves a comprehensive analysis of IBM Z hardware by Subject Matter Experts, covering four critical subsystems, power and cooling, processor and memory, I/O, and hardware management and support element, to proactively identify potential problems. The z/OS[®] Evaluation provides a detailed review of the z/OS environment following software maintenance installation, leveraging IBM z/OS Workload Interaction Navigator to identify potential issues before they impact operations. Both evaluations aim to catch subtle anomalies missed by traditional tools, ensuring business continuity and cost efficiency. The evaluations offer invaluable insights for strategic decision-making, such as planning support coverage extensions, scheduling maintenance, and budgeting for hardware upgrades.

IBM Support Insights is included in IBM warranties and maintenance contracts, and is a security-rich digital service that provides a holistic view of clients' hybrid IT infrastructure and can help improve IT uptime and address vulnerabilities. By continually monitoring hybrid IT assets, analytics-driven insights provide asset management, lifecycle management, support trends, and preventive maintenance recommendations with automated notifications for risk and exposures.

You can count on IBM Technology Lifecycle Services to keep your mission-critical systems running smoothly 24x7

IBM Z Alert and Resolve takes Support Insights to the next level, making it easier to take the next step on appropriate fix data by providing access to ServiceLink. In addition, Support Line (SoftwareXcel in US) opens the door to engage with IBM Technical Support Engineers, who not only have critical skills to assist in problem determination but will also provide Q&A and how to support, with 2-hour response times, 9x5.

IBM Remote Assistance for IBM Z can be a valuable solution for providing fast and efficient technical support options, real-time remote assistance, proactive monitoring and management, and online technical resources designed to help IBM Z users quickly and easily resolve technical issues.

IBM LinuxONE Expert Care

Managing and protecting your investment in IBM LinuxONE and consistently maintaining high availability for mission-critical workloads can be challenging. IBM LinuxONE Expert Care allows clients to provide more predictable maintenance costs and facilitates reduced deployment and operating risks. With IBM as your single source of support, from reporting to resolution, you can dramatically optimize system availability, reduce costs, and unburden your staff to focus on other competencies and business priorities.

IBM Accelerated Value Program

When you need managed support across your enterprise, IBM Accelerated Value Program, provides cross-platform incident management for your hardware and software portfolio. Clients benefit from a single point of contact in IBM and are provided support for enterprise-wide account orchestration. That contact will not only manage cases and escalations across the supported infrastructure, but they will also proactively look for ways to improve your overall IT environment.

IBM Project Services for Infrastructure

Additional premium services are available to help you with your day-to-day data center requirements. IBM Project Services for Infrastructure delivers services for short-term hardware projects to install and update systems including installation, migration and configuration, and performance tuning to keep systems at optimal performance. Services are available for special events such as relocation, physical inventory inspection and even data center operations reviews. Education services for skills transfer can help clients who need to keep skills current in their IT staff. You have the flexibility to work with IBM TLS to supplement your staff in labor and skills for most short-term data center projects.

IBM Asset Recovery and Disposition

When it is time to retire assets, IBM offers asset recovery and disposition services today in the US and in Canada. TLS (jointly with GARS) can help clients prepare, remove and ship assets in a secure way, and then recycle or resell in compliance with local regulations.

Conclusion

Managing and protecting your infrastructure investment and consistently maintaining high availability for mission-critical workloads can be challenging. TLS can help you plan and deploy the functionality you need from your IBM Z, and provide a simplified approach to support for IBM Z and beyond in your data center.

Why IBM Technology Lifecycle Services?

IBM Technology Lifecycle Services (TLS) leverage AI and automation capabilities to offer streamlined support services to IBM clients through various channels, including chat, email, phone and the web. Integrating AI and automation into our customer support service tools and operations allow us to quickly deliver resolutions and mitigate downtime to accommodate client's maintenance support needs and help to improve operational resiliency. IBM Technology Lifecycle Services helps keep your mission-critical systems running smoothly.

For more information

To learn more about support and services for IBM Z and LinuxONE, please contact your IBM representative or Business Partner, reach out directly to an [IBM TLS Expert](#) or visit ibm.com/services/systems-support.

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IBM Corporation
New Orchard Road
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Produced in the
United States of America
April 2025

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1. *In the unlikely event that service-level commitments aren't met, we issue your organization a service credit*
2. *This is based on internal EPM IBM data for rolling past 12 months*
3. *As of November 2023, IBM Technology Lifecycle Services actively supports 22,698 distinct machine types or models (IBM Systems Support and Multivendor).*

