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# IBM Sterling Secure File Transfer

Securely move data  
at the speed and scale  
of your business



# Highlights

- Secures file transfer in and across the cloud
- Enables end-to-end visibility to help you anticipate and mitigate risks
- Provides seamless integration with RESTful APIs
- Manages edge-based file transfers with an intelligent, centralized platform
- Scales to handle current and future demand as volumes grow
- Reduces costs and complexity in deploying a containerized MFT solution

IBM Sterling Secure File Transfer provides a unified file transfer platform to securely share and track mission-critical information movement within your enterprise and across your partner network. It affords you a trusted managed file transfer (MFT) solution on your journey to become an MFT Center of Excellence.

## Why trusted managed file transfer matters

Now more than ever, your business processes are critically dependent on information shared through digital documents and files. In fact, 55% of all systems integration is still done through file transfer<sup>1</sup>. While file transfers are the lifeblood of running a modern business, it often takes a compelling event such as a failed security audit, a lost file or a project that needs more speed and scale than FTP can handle, before most organizations consider adopting a true MFT solution.

Given the limitations of FTP and mounting pressure on file transfer as a key business enabler, every organization is now on an MFT journey.

MFT brings security, reliability, and governance to the movement of files inside and outside your business as demands increase and your business grows and matures. After that first step on your MFT journey (as shown in Figure 1.), you will likely realize that you own several project-based MFT products acquired through departmental purchases, acquisition, or legacy in-house development. The next step is the move to an “operations” MFT model, which focuses on consolidation and modernization of all the point products for better control, delivery, and efficiencies of scale. Finally, as companies advance in their MFT development, they determine an MFT Center of Excellence is required to remove barriers and free the business to grow with a focus on supporting enterprise service level agreements (SLAs) regardless of volumes, interconnectivity, or complexity. This phase is typically driven by a best practices approach to governance, security, scalability, and high-availability requirements, as well as regulatory compliance mandates.

Regardless of where you are on your MFT journey, a new set of change drivers can challenge your current MFT solution.

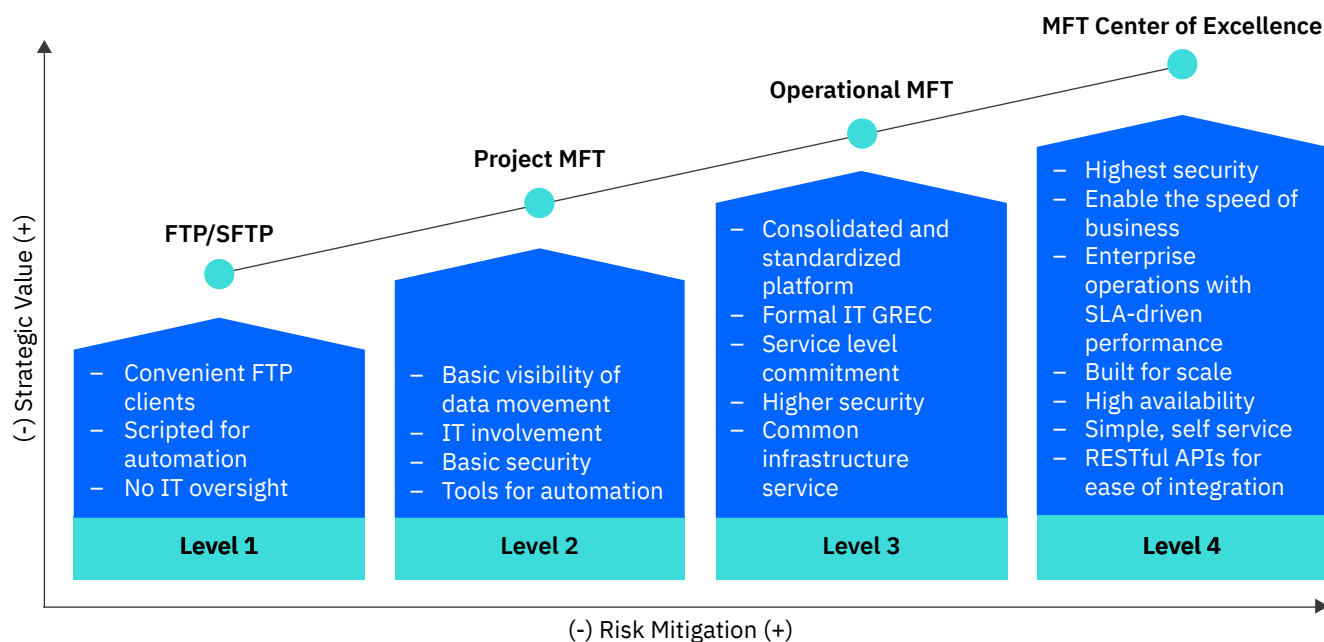


Figure 1. The journey to a Managed File Transfer Center of Excellence



## Data volumes and security demands are driving change

Today's hyper-connected world is driving growth in the size and volume of files being transferred, often straining organizations of all sizes. The ever-growing number of endpoints and devices spread globally adds additional complexity. As the needs of the workforce evolve and business users become more tech savvy, they expect simple and modern interfaces that support their workflows.

These increased demands for file transfer capacities coincide with a need to protect against unprecedented cyber security risks and threats. As tighter security policies and compliance requirements are put in place, pressure grows for better governance over file exchanges.

## Secure: In the cloud or on-premises

Complying with tightening regulations and protecting your intellectual property is just the beginning of your security imperative. You must establish trust with your customers and business partner ecosystems, while removing barriers to modernization. This requires seamlessly linking data movement between your public-cloud, hybrid-cloud, and traditional on-premises environments.

IBM Sterling Secure File Transfer provides containerized deployment options that deliver increased security and greater cost-effectiveness in a hybrid-cloud world. IBM Certified Containers for Secure File Transfer are enterprise-grade, security-rich product editions with integrated common software services for consistent deployment life-cycle management. In addition, IBM Sterling Secure File Transfer Certified Container Edition includes a Red Hat OpenShift entitlement, reducing the costs and complexity associated with deploying a solution leveraging the leading Kubernetes platform.

Secure File Transfer boasts security that helps keep your most sensitive data safe with a never-been-breached proprietary protocol that works wherever you are in your cloud journey. IBM helps you speed up regulatory compliance readiness with cybersecurity standards that are trusted by the world's largest financial institutions. The solution reduces security risks with a zero trust security architecture featuring modern protocols, encryption methods, digital signatures and multi-factor authentication.



## Single point to monitor and mitigate risk

For most IT operations, the reality is their file transfer capabilities are provided across a mix of disparate systems. This multitude of systems presents a tremendous challenge in gaining a centralized view of system health and hampers the ability to meet SLAs.

With Secure File Transfer, you get end-to-end visibility of your data with a centralized dashboard that reliably provides situational awareness, so you can respond more quickly to issues and outages. The solution empowers business continuity strategy with a high-availability, 'always-on' 24x7 architecture. With Secure File Transfer you can finally bridge the gap between disparate MFT solutions with a single system of record, allowing you to proactively mitigate risk, increase operational intelligence, and move toward augmented intelligence.

## Simplify the complex

The expanding exchange of information and reliance on file transfer across business functions and partners are further complicating an already complex situation: more users of varying skill sets, more nodes and connection points, and expanded integration into core business processes.

Secure File Transfer simplifies this complexity without sacrificing capability. The solution allows you to do more with less through automated operations that can improve IT processes while reducing manual interaction and associated failure points. Powerful RESTful API capabilities allow for easy integration to third-party systems, enabling you to meet all your customization needs.

You can also eliminate the hassle of on-boarding and maintaining partner relationships by automating the process and enabling partner self-service. IBM provides an intuitive and approachable user experience for every user across your organization to drive out the complexity and put your MFT operation to work for the business.

## IBM Sterling Secure File Transfer Certified Container Edition with OpenShift

With IBM, you get flexibility for your cloud journey. Select an on-premises, cloud, or hybrid-cloud deployment – and choose if, how, and when to deploy via containers – all under one license. Red Hat OpenShift provides you with a market-leading container platform helping to kick-start your cloud journey and avoid vendor lock-in, so you can adapt as your strategy and needs evolve.



# Key capabilities of IBM Sterling Secure File Transfer

Capability	Description
Automate inbound and outbound file transfers across multiple protocols so you can partner with anyone, anywhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Consolidate all internet-based file transfers on a single, scalable, secure and always-on edge gateway</li><li>– Intelligently monitor, administer, route and transform high volumes of inbound and outbound files</li><li>– Secure and cost-effective containers in the hybrid cloud to achieve faster deployment, turn around and consistency</li><li>– Seamless interaction and architected for the future with RESTful APIs</li><li>– Rapid and efficient onboarding of new partners through an onboarding wizard and reusable templates</li></ul>
Handle your most demanding workloads with reliable, point-to-point file transfers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Near real-time integration across applications supporting a full range of enterprise-grade platforms</li><li>– Proven reliability and scalability across the most demanding industries</li><li>– Detailed and accurate logging powers audit trails and reports for all file transfer activity</li><li>– High-speed option accelerates transfer of big data over long distances</li><li>– Built-in automation and checkpoint restart powers efficient 24/7/365 lights-out operation</li><li>– Cloud connectivity bridges the gap between legacy on-premises and future cloud environments</li></ul>
Gain full end-to-end visibility and governance to help you meet your service level agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Simple and powerful SLA management provides notification in time to anticipate and correct problems</li><li>– Easily manage your MFT environment by tracking license usage and upgrading existing or deploying new environments</li><li>– Manage activity across your file transfer infrastructure including the IBM MFT suite, Standard FTP servers, and 3rd party MFT solutions</li><li>– Central configuration management to remotely create, update, and delete configuration objects with security and logging for IBM Sterling Connect:Direct</li><li>– Policy definition and auditing for better compliance</li><li>– Customizable dashboards and workspaces, out-of-the-box</li></ul>
Protect your brand reputation and comply with tightening regulations with an advanced proxy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Session break in the demilitarized zone (DMZ) helps protect internal services against exposure to attacks</li><li>– Secure protocols, encryption methods, digital signatures, and multi-factor identity management tools help reduce security risk</li><li>– Firewall navigation best practices increase perimeter security for your file transfer infrastructure to comply with regulatory policies and pass tougher security audits</li><li>– Dynamic routing minimizes the impact of internal migrations on external partners</li></ul>



# Why IBM?

Your organization's success ultimately depends on the secure flow of critical information. Whether you need to transfer batch transactions to an outsourced payroll provider, exchange EDI files for supply chain processes, or transmit digital video for a new marketing campaign; you need a way to do so reliably, securely, and at scale. You also need to be able to do all of this in any environment – on-premises, hybrid-cloud, or cloud. In a world where resilience can make or break a business, one important difference between point-solution products and an integrated solution like IBM Sterling Secure File Transfer is a central visibility and governance layer that can let you see and control all file movement and mitigate the impact of disruptions.

Whatever your data movement challenge, IBM can help you better connect, communicate, and collaborate with customers, partners, and suppliers. Our Secure File Transfer solution is designed to enable seamless and secure integration of key business processes to help you innovate and differentiate your product or service.



## Explore more

[Read the IDC report: The Business Value of IBM Sterling B2B Integration and Managed File Transfer Solutions](#)

## Reference

1. Vanson Bourne, IBM Supply Chain Data Report, 2019

## For more information

To learn more about IBM Sterling Secure File Transfer capabilities, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit [ibm.com/products/secure-file-transfer](http://ibm.com/products/secure-file-transfer)

## Next steps

[Explore IBM Sterling Secure File Transfer demo](#)



[Schedule a consultation](#)



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