Rocket® software | EVA™

Agentic AI for Every Mainframe Professional

How Rocket® EVA.Next™ helps the people who run, secure, optimize, and evolve the mainframe

Contents

3 The mainframe depends on specialized expertise

4 One agentic foundation, many mainframe professionals

5 System programmers

6 Operations teams

7 Security professionals

8 DBAs

9 CICS and IMS professionals

10 Batch and scheduling teams

11 Performance and capacity teams

12 Storage and networking professionals

13 Application developers and application owners

14 New and next-generation mainframe professionals

15 The professional changes. The model does not.

16 One foundation can strengthen the whole mainframe organization

17 About Rocket Software

The mainframe depends on specialized expertise

There is no single “mainframe professional.”

Each team works with different information, asks different questions, and brings specialized expertise to the problem.

That specialization is essential. But it can also make everyday mainframe work harder. Understanding a single issue can require information from multiple systems, tools, logs, teams, and subject-matter experts.

Rocket® EVA.Next™ brings agentic AI into that environment.

Who keeps the mainframe running



System programmers keep critical infrastructure running.



Operations teams monitor, manage, and maintain the platform, and respond when something goes wrong.



Security professionals protect systems and demonstrate compliance.



DBAs and online (CICS and IMS) specialists keep critical services performing.



Batch teams manage complex workloads and dependencies.



Performance and capacity teams make sure resources are available when the business needs them.



Application teams maintain decades of business logic while continually adapting it to new requirements.

One agentic foundation, many mainframe professionals

Rather than requiring the professional to assemble all of the context first, Rocket EVA.Next can bring together relevant real-time mainframe context and orchestrated specialized agents to investigate an objective, surface evidence, recommend next steps, and, where appropriate, connect those insights to governed workflows.

Rocket EVA.Next is designed to support work across system operations, Db2, CICS, batch, security, storage, networking, performance, capacity planning, and other disciplines. It is not defined by one role, product, or workflow.

The value of Rocket EVA.Next changes depending on who is using it.

01
System programmers

02
Operations teams

03
Security professionals

04
DBAs

05
CICS and IMS professionals

06
Batch and scheduling teams

07
Performance and capacity teams

08
Storage and networking professionals

09
Application developers and application owners

10
New and next-generation mainframe professionals

01

System programmers

Understand the environment without manually connecting every dot

System programmers are often the experts everyone turns to when an issue becomes complicated. Their work can cross z/OS, subsystems, configurations, logs, commands, infrastructure dependencies, and years of institutional knowledge.

Rocket EVA.Next can help system programmers investigate complex technical objectives by assembling relevant context and using specialized agentic capabilities to work across domains.

Examples

- Investigate an unexpected system behavior and identify what changed.
- Review console, system, SMF, and subsystem information together.
- Compare current conditions with historical behavior.
- Assess configuration changes before implementation.
- Investigate dependencies that may make a planned change risky.
- Turn a recurring diagnostic process into a repeatable workflow.
- Keep upgrades, fixes, and maintenance current across multiple LPARs.

Example question

"What changed in this LPAR before the issue began, what systems are affected, and what should I investigate next?"

Value

Less time gathering evidence. Faster investigations. Expert knowledge that can be applied more consistently across the team.

02

Operations teams

Move from symptoms to likely cause faster

When production is affected, operations teams rarely receive a neat explanation of what happened. They see alerts, failed jobs, abnormal performance, messages, and user reports. The work begins with investigation.

Rocket EVA.Next can help bring together operational signals from across the environment so teams can understand what changed, determine what is affected, identify where to investigate next, and move toward evidence-supported recommendations.

Examples

- Triage an abend.
- Investigate a production incident across multiple technologies.
- Understand why a workload slowed down.
- Investigate batch workload and job scheduling challenges.
- Conduct recurring health checks.
- Identify whether a similar incident happened before and how it was resolved.
- Maintain and automate run books, and generate repeatable operational reports automatically.
- Investigate DR and backup procedure issues.

Example question

"What is causing this production slowdown, what changed, and have we seen similar behavior before?"

Value

Faster investigation and resolution, fewer manual handoffs, and better operational visibility.

// In a recent customer discussion, recurring health checks and analyzing SMF information were cited as examples of work that can consume hours and may be candidates for automation.

03

Security professionals

Investigate exposure with mainframe context

Mainframe security teams often need to correlate identities, configurations, logs, advisories, access controls, and system information before they can understand the significance of a finding.

The specialized agentic approach in Rocket EVA.Next can examine those different forms of context as part of the same objective. Identities, configuration, logs, and advisories are examples of the information a security capability might examine.

Examples

- Investigate potential vulnerabilities.
- Identify over-privileged or dormant access.
- Look for security-policy or configuration drift.
- Assess exposure associated with a new vulnerability.
- Assemble evidence for an access review.
- Prioritize remediation based on technical and business context.
- Create an auditable path from investigation to approved action.

Example question

"Are any of our mainframe applications exposed to this vulnerability, and if so, what should we prioritize?"

Value

Move from "Is this relevant to us?" toward evidence-supported remediation faster.

// A customer used Rocket EVA.Next to investigate whether applications associated with newly identified PHP vulnerabilities were running in its mainframe environment, and identified two relevant applications for follow-up.

04

DBAs

Investigate database behavior in the context of the larger system

A Db2 problem is not always only a Db2 problem. Performance can depend on workload, applications, system resources, online (CICS and IMS) activity, configuration, and other infrastructure.

Rocket EVA.Next can use specialized capabilities across domains rather than forcing the DBA to investigate each area independently.

Examples

- Investigate abnormal Db2 performance.
- Investigate lock contention between batch and online workloads.
- Correlate database behavior with broader system conditions.
- Optimize SQL and buffer pool performance.
- Assess the potential impact of configuration changes.
- Support compliance auditing and PII reporting for regulators.
- Help less-experienced team members investigate unfamiliar behavior.
- Harden security without locking out batch or online workloads.

Example question

"Why did Db2 response time increase during this window, and what else was happening in the environment?"

Value

A broader view of database issues without requiring the DBA to manually assemble every piece of context.

05

CICS and IMS professionals

Connect transaction behavior to the systems around it

Rocket EVA is positioned for troubleshooting complex issues that span CICS, IMS, and Db2, identifying problems, explaining likely root causes, and recommending next steps.

CICS

CICS specialists may spend significant time determining whether a performance or availability issue originates in CICS, an application, Db2, network activity, infrastructure, or something else.

Examples

- Investigate transaction slowdowns.
- Find out why performance degraded after applying maintenance or a version upgrade.
- Investigate SOS conditions and storage or memory leaks.
- Troubleshoot new CICS web and HTTP workloads.

IMS

IMS teams balance legacy complexity with always-on demands as experienced administrators retire.

Examples

- Resolve incidents by correlating transactions, databases, logs, dumps, and abends.
- Pinpoint IMS DB/TM bottlenecks, lock contention, and CPU/MSU cost.
- Preserve scarce IMS expertise and pass it to the next generation.
- Manage recovery, online reorganizations, and multi-LPAR availability.
- Protect IMS Connect and audit without slowing transactions.

Example question

"Why did transaction response times change after the upgrade, what else changed at the same time, and where should we investigate next?"

Value

Faster cross-domain troubleshooting with less swivel-chair investigation, and specialized IMS knowledge built into everyday workflows.

06

Batch and scheduling teams

Understand failures, dependencies, and recovery options

Batch environments can involve thousands of jobs and complicated dependencies. When something fails, identifying the failed step may be easy. Understanding the impact and determining the best recovery path can be much harder.

The Rocket EVA.Next vision for batch-oriented agentic work includes examining job history, dependencies, failures, and restart options.

Examples

- Investigate failed jobs.
- Trace upstream and downstream dependencies.
- Determine which business processes may be affected.
- Investigate lock contention between batch and online workloads.
- Review previous occurrences of similar failures.
- Assess restart and recovery options.
- Identify workload pressure before critical processing windows.
- Improve run book procedures and automation to meet the batch window.

Example question

"Why did this job fail, what depends on it, and what is the safest recovery path?"

Value

Move from identifying a failure to understanding its operational significance and recovery options.

07

Performance and capacity teams

Understand resource behavior before it becomes a business problem

Performance teams rarely need another isolated metric. They need the context that explains why the metric changed and what is likely to happen next.

Rocket EVA.Next can support analysis across workload, CPU, zIIP, subsystem behavior, and other system signals. Because unmonitored workload peaks can trigger costly MSU spikes and raise MLC software charges, capacity management has evolved from operational planning into continuous cost optimization.

Examples

- Analyze CPU and zIIP consumption.
- Identify the workload driving an unexpected resource or MSU spike.
- Investigate changes in application or subsystem performance.
- Examine capacity-on-demand decisions.
- Analyze historical patterns before major business events.
- Turn capacity planning into cost optimization with more contextual analysis.

Example question

"What is driving the CPU increase, which workloads are responsible, and is this likely to continue through our peak period?"

Value

More context behind performance data and faster movement from observation to recommendation.

// A customer raised the scenario of understanding which jobs were running and how much CPU they were consuming before making a capacity-on-demand decision.

08

Storage and networking professionals

Investigate infrastructure as part of the whole environment

Storage and network conditions do not exist independently from applications and workloads. When something changes, specialists often need input from several teams before determining whether infrastructure is actually the cause.

Rocket EVA.Next is designed to extend across storage and networking in addition to operations, security, Db2, CICS, batch, performance, and capacity.

Examples

- Prevent out-of-space conditions by investigating unusual storage growth or utilization.
- Manage dataset lifecycle and growth by understanding which workloads are adding to infrastructure pressure.
- Catch DFSMS configuration drift in SMS constructs, ACS routines, and utilities such as DFSMSdss, DFSMShsm, and ICKDSF.
- Keep TCP/IP stacks, firewalls, and TLS cryptographic protocols current without service interruptions, in line with zero trust.
- Tune mixed workloads by watching CTC communications, buffer sizes, and TCP/IP profile parameters against SLAs.
- Correlate network behavior with an application slowdown, and assess dependencies before infrastructure changes.

Example question

"Storage consumption increased significantly this week. What changed, which workloads are responsible, and where should we investigate?"

09

Application developers and application owners

Understand what surrounds the code before making a change

For application teams, the hard part is often not the code itself. It is understanding dependencies, runtime behavior, configurations, business impact, and all the other systems that could be affected by a change.

The broader Rocket EVA platform story includes helping application teams understand dependencies, assess change impact, manage configurations, and support modernization initiatives.

Examples

- Understand an unfamiliar application or component.
- Map dependencies before making a change.
- Investigate how application behavior relates to infrastructure.
- Assess the performance and capacity implications of a change before deployment.
- Diagnose production problems without waiting for multiple specialist teams.
- Connect development workflows with systems such as GitHub, Jira, or approved enterprise processes where integrated.

Example question

"What depends on this component, what are the performance and capacity implications of changing it, and what should we validate before production?"

Value

Give application teams more context while preserving appropriate specialist and governance controls.

10

New and next-generation mainframe professionals

Make decades of expertise easier to access

Perhaps the most important “persona” is not defined by technical domain at all. It is the person who has not spent 20 years working on the mainframe.

As experienced professionals retire, organizations are not simply replacing headcount. They are trying to transfer decades of troubleshooting instincts, system knowledge, dependencies, and operational practices. Rocket EVA frames this as a knowledge-continuity challenge.

Rocket EVA.Next can make specialized analysis more accessible through natural-language interaction, while helping newer professionals understand the evidence behind recommendations.

Example questions

Example question

“Explain what this message means and show me the information I should investigate.”

Example question

“Walk me through why you reached that conclusion.”

Example question

“Have we encountered this problem before, and how did the team address it?”

Value

Help newer professionals become productive faster while making scarce institutional knowledge easier to share.

The professional changes. The model does not.

Across these roles, the pattern remains consistent.

01

Start with an objective.

Rocket EVA.Next gathers the relevant context.

02

Orchestrate specialized expertise.

The appropriate capabilities investigate different parts of the problem, including work that crosses multiple technical domains.

03

Show the evidence.

Professionals can understand the signals and context behind the recommendation.

04

Recommend what comes next.

Instead of stopping at information retrieval, Rocket EVA.Next helps move toward an evidence-supported next step.

05

Connect insight to governed action.

Where supported and authorized, recommendations can connect to enterprise workflows with defined permissions, human approvals, and auditability. Rocket EVA.Next is designed to work with established controls such as RACF, TSS, and ACF2 while keeping mainframe analysis on-premises.

One foundation can strengthen the whole mainframe organization

The real opportunity is not to give every mainframe professional another specialized tool. It is to give the organization an agentic AI foundation that can work across specializations while respecting the expertise, security boundaries, and processes already in place.

A system programmer can investigate a system change.

A DBA can investigate Db2 performance.

A security analyst can shorten the time it takes to examine exposure.

An operator can troubleshoot an incident.

A capacity planner can understand rising CPU.

An application owner can assess the impact of a change.

A new team member can understand an unfamiliar system.

When the objective crosses those boundaries

And when the objective crosses those boundaries, as real mainframe problems frequently do, Rocket EVA.Next can coordinate relevant context and specialized capabilities rather than leaving the professional to stitch the investigation together manually.

That is the value of agentic AI for every mainframe professional: not replacing specialized expertise, but helping more people put that expertise to work, faster.

What could your team accomplish with Rocket EVA.Next?

Request a demo

About Rocket Software

Rocket Software is a global technology leader in modernization and a partner of choice that empowers the world's leading businesses on their modernization journeys, spanning core systems to the cloud. Trusted by over 12,500 customers and 750 partners, and with more than 3,200 global employees, Rocket Software enables customers to maximize their data, applications, and infrastructure to deliver critical services that power our modern world. Rocket Software is a privately held U.S. corporation headquartered in the Boston area with centers of excellence strategically located throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. Rocket Software is a portfolio company of Bain Capital Private Equity. Follow Rocket Software on LinkedIn and X or visit www.RocketSoftware.com.

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