Why DevOps modernization is critical

Mainframe application development using traditional methods and tools is no longer sustainable. Mainframe application development is not going away, but engineers that can do it the old way are going away fast. The cost of maintaining different DevOps tool stacks for the mainframe and other platforms is too high, both in terms of dollar amounts and the ability to deliver features fast enough in an increasingly competitive market.

Challenge

A Rocket Software customer struggled with staffing and costs associated with their mainframe-only legacy solution (Broadcom Endevor) for application development on z/OS®. Several years earlier, the distributed side of their engineering operations had successfully moved to modern DevOps tools and practices.

The customer identified three goals to achieve with Rocket® Open AppDev for Z:

- Eliminate their mainframe-only legacy development tools
- Empower next-gen engineers with familiar tools for developing z/OS
- Provide USS administrators the missing tools like Bash and sudo that are standard on distributed flavors of Unix

Solution

Rocket Open AppDev for Z provides z/OS ports of over 20 well-known modern open-source languages, packages, and tools commonly used in DevOps. These are packaged into a secure delivery and maintenance solution that keeps customers safe, supported, and compliant.

Open AppDev for Z also plugs the tools gap for Unix administrators that need to administer Unix System Services, which is increasingly the platform on which mainframe modernization solutions are delivered.

Results

With Rocket Open AppDev for Z, the customer is opening their mainframe to integrate modern application components, build new applications faster, and empower next-gen developers. The customer now has proper open-source support to meet compliance requirements from a single vendor that can ensure their products are reliably secure.

The future won’t wait—modernize today.

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