



5 Ways Commercially Supported OSS for IBM Z Brings Value to Enterprises

As businesses look to optimize operational performance for business resiliency and modernize how they manage and capitalize on data, it's clear that open-source software (OSS) has become a primary tool in the development of mission-critical software.

When modernizing the mainframe, you'll start to add external components or applications. This makes it crucial to not only adopt modern development practices, but also a platform-agnostic DevOps tool chain. OSS provides an abstraction layer to the underlying platform. By operating a common set of software components on Linux, Unix, Windows, and IBM Z®, your teams, platforms, and applications can be federated, which reduces the need to build or buy specialty software or expertise.

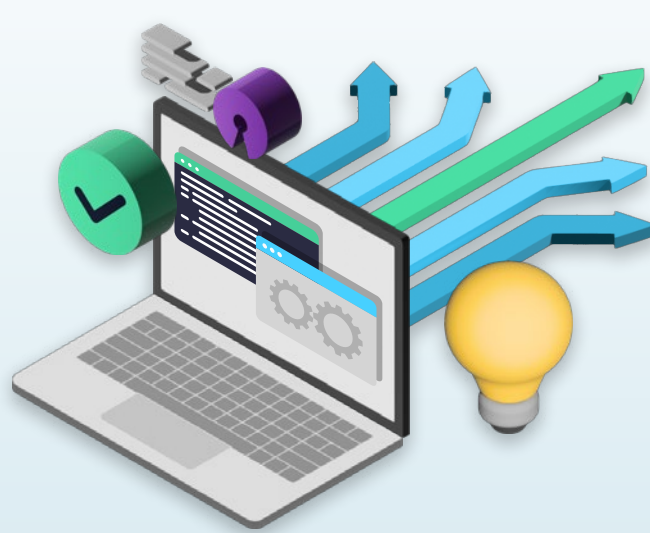
But how exactly can enterprises best standardize and manage the open-source tool chain across different development teams, platforms, and applications—particularly when IBM Z is part of the equation?

Here are five ways commercially supported OSS for IBM Z brings value:

1 Readiness

Shorten your path to realizing your modernization/hybrid strategy

Do-it-yourself porting and encoding conversions of open source to IBM Z takes specialized expertise, testing, and time. With software services uniquely suited to the mainframe, you'll get curated software ready to run natively on z/OS and require fewer internal resources to manage ongoing maintenance. It's often faster to deploy, and offers a more predictable lifecycle.



2 Talent

Hire to complement teams, not platforms

Today's innovators expect to leverage modern languages and tools without having to be an expert on a given hardware platform. Offering OSS on IBM Z not only lures and keeps innovative technologists, but also opens up the underlying infrastructure so that IT teams can connect across technologies and easily interact with the mainframe.

3 Velocity

Build new applications faster, cheaper, and closer to the data

The two biggest advantages to running OSS natively on z/OS are the ability to build modern DevOps pipelines on the platform where the application is built and tested and that modern languages and scripting can be leveraged to directly access mainframe data and processes with less latency and friction.



4 Security

Open IBM Z to Innovators without exposing it to security risks

Do-it-yourself open source is rife with security risks—especially when mixing and matching open-source products developed by different communities. With commercially supported OSS, you retain control over security, compliance, privacy, and resiliency for mission-critical workloads on the mainframe.

5 Support

Save the remediation and ongoing maintenance for the experts

Real-time support will help you quickly address issues—whether they involve security and compliance, integration, or skills gaps—as they come up. For example, if there is a z/OS-specific issue with a particular piece of open source, a vendor that offers porting expertise would be able to handle the required change, reducing the need to develop custom code.



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