

IBM i Modernization Engine for Lifecycle Integration

Highlights

- Spin up IBM i dev environments quickly and take them down when done
 - Automate the conversion of fixed-format RPG to Free Form RPG
 - Utilize a Visual Studio Code-like interface to build new IBM i apps
 - Implement CI/CD for new IBM i app development
 - Provides web browser-based IBM i dev tools running in an OpenShift container
 - Reduce the learning curve for new developers with Git and Jenkins integration for IBM i app development
 - Integrated impact analysis, giving developers code understanding at their fingertips
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Automate modernization and streamline new IBM i app development

In today's IBM i ecosystem, clients are being challenged to use hybrid cloud to adopt DevOps and CI/CD processes, and to incorporate new technologies such as IoT and AI. These challenges have made modernization of business-critical applications a mandatory step into the future for IBM i clients. Such modernized applications offer the "best of both worlds": they combine proven business logic and the power, reliability, and security of IBM i together with emerging new technologies.

At the same time, IBM and the industry are touting containers as one of the key technologies for the future of application development. IBM i Modernization Engine for Lifecycle Integration, or "Merlin" for short, is a set of containerized applications that act as guides, or patterns, to help IBM i app developers take on the task of moving into a DevOps, modular, services-oriented world.

Many IBM i clients already have hybrid cloud as part of their IT strategy for their business. In a hybrid cloud environment, clients use a combination of on-prem compute infrastructure and one or more clouds. Additionally, many IBM i clients expect that containers will be part of their hybrid cloud and new application development strategy. IBM i Modernization Engine for Lifecycle Integration is a set of container-based tools which help guide and accelerate the modernization and development of "next-gen" IBM i applications.

Powered by ARCAD technology for IBM i, the Merlin platform helps software developers to:

- Realize the value of hybrid cloud and multi-platform DevOps implementation for IBM i
- Expose native IBM i functions as RESTful interfaces and manage enterprise message technologies
- Automate and optimize an intelligent build and accelerated CI/CD cycle
- Bridge the talent gap with a browser-based IDE and CodeReady workspaces

Shift IBM i application development to the cloud

Spin up a cloud-based IBM i development environment in seconds, readily equipped with industry-standard tools Git and Jenkins. Speed up the onboarding of new developers on IBM i with modern tools and a Visual Studio-like IDE within a container environment. Achieve an enterprise-wide CI/CD pipeline spanning all development platforms; IBM i, Linux and Windows, both on-prem and hybrid cloud.

Code understanding and impact analysis

Empower your developers with IBM i impact analysis and application intelligence built in.

Secure deployment of IBM i applications and infrastructure

Accelerate the provisioning of test and production environments using next-generation deployment technology. Modulate consumption with rapid spin up, provisioning and tear down of development environments on demand.

Automate an intelligent build

Automate a "smart" dependency build for IBM i, with optimized recompilation of only those components impacted by a code change.

Transform legacy RPG code to modern Free Form

Automate the conversion of fixed-format RPG code to modern Free Form RPG, on-the-fly, as an integral part of your DevOps process. Make RPG easy to understand for a new generation of developers. Bring both experienced IBM i professionals and new developers to the platform together under a shared language and industry-standard set of tools.

