

IBM Sterling Connect:Direct

Optimize performance and manage growth without adding IT resources

Highlights

- Improve productivity
 - Simplify data movement activities
 - Gain unprecedented scalability
 - Count on reliable file delivery
 - Ensure security and compliance
 - Remove infrastructure barriers
 - Move files with confidence
 - Certified Container Support
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The demands are growing daily

Organizations have never seen a greater need for reliable and secure file transfer. Digitalization is fueling growth in data at unprecedented rates. Managed file transfer (MFT) provides the near real-time integration necessary for applications as diverse as distribution of insurance claim records, synchronization of central and disaster-recovery sites, secure transfer of check image files, and consolidation of credit card transactions. Secure file movement must also ensure data delivery to the intended destination within the right time window, so the receiving application can process and act upon it consistently avoiding delays to your critical business processes. The problem is, many existing file transfer “solutions” built on FTP do not have the necessary mechanisms to ensure consistent management, monitoring, and security of your critical data flows.

IBM Sterling Connect:Direct is the leading solution for secure, point-to-point file transfers. It has been optimized for high-volume, assured delivery of data within and between enterprises, and provides script-based automation, scheduling and alert notifications for 24x7 unattended operations. A key component of the IBM’s MFT solution, Connect:Direct, which allows organizations to automate the exchange of data between mission-critical applications regardless of platform. Unlike FTP implementations, Connect:Direct is designed from the ground up specifically for enterprise-class file transfer. It eliminates the need for manual intervention in data delivery, improving the productivity of your people and the reliability of your business processes.

Gain unprecedented scalability

Event-based architecture enables high volumes and large files – with no product-defined limits on quantity or file sizes. Scalability ensures that you can handle peak demand and keep pace as your business volumes grow, whether you operate mainframes, mid-range, or distributed servers.

Count on reliable file delivery

An acid test for any file transfer system is how it responds when there is a failure. Connect:Direct, which also supports various clustering technologies and IBM Sysplex on the mainframe, provides built-in automation and checkpoint restart to ensure lights-out operations. Detailed logging is included to track data movement within and across enterprises.

Move files with confidence

The proprietary and secure Connect:Direct protocol has never been breached. Cutting-edge encryption and extensive logging help customers satisfy regulatory and industry requirements within their file transfer operations, including compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley, FIPS-140-2, Payment Card Industry (PCI) and healthcare (HIPAA) requirements. Today, IBM is the world's most trusted collaboration partner and the leader in secure file transfer.

Certified Container Support

Sterling Connect:Direct also has options for certified containers in the hybrid cloud which deliver increased security and greater cost-effectiveness. IBM Certified Containers for Sterling Connect:Direct are enterprise-grade, secure product editions with integrated common software services for consistent deployment life-cycle management including easy install and configure options, management of upgrades and roll-back, scalability, and security.

IBM Sterling Connect:Direct Specifications

Capability	Description
Automation and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports 24x7 unattended operations • Schedules jobs on a one-time, recurring, or continuous basis • Assigns and manages file transfer workload • Event-driven alert notification • Process language builds scripts to provide integration with back-end systems • REST APIs allow extensibility and programmatic access by other applications
Assured file delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports automatic checkpoint restart • Automatic recovery from network interruptions • Automated file watching and transfer triggers minimize manual interaction • Programmable alert notifications for success/failure
Security and compliance	<p><i>IBM Sterling Connect:Direct</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interfaces with operating system security for user authentication • Provides a complete audit trail of data movement through extensive statistics logs • Client and server authentication • Strong encryption leveraging X.509 certificates • Data encryption (SSL/TLS) • Certificate Revocation List (CRL) checking • FIPS 140-2 and Common Criteria certification <p><i>IBM Sterling Secure Proxy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced perimeter security using enterprise access management infrastructure authentication and SSL session breaks • Follows security best practices with no inbound ports opened in the firewall and never storing data in the DMZ <p><i>IBM Sterling Control Center</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced governance, visibility, and reporting capabilities across the IBM MFT portfolio • Centralized configuration for Connect:Direct minimizes administrative overhead
Multiple platform support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating systems support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • z/OS • UNIX and Linux • Windows • i5/OS (OS/400) • HP NonStop • OpenVMS

Why IBM?

Your organization's success ultimately depends on the reliable, secure, governed flow of critical information. IBM Sterling Connect:Direct provides battle-tested security that keeps your most sensitive data safe with a *never-been-breached* proprietary protocol that works wherever you are in your cloud journey.

Lessen your dependency on unreliable File Transfer Protocol (FTP) transfers. Connect:Direct is optimized for high-volume delivery of files within your organization and among your partners. The solution ensures more reliable movement of files, from batch integration and movement of large images or catalogs, to synchronization with remote locations.

- **Reliable file delivery** - provides automated scheduling, checkpoint restart and automatic recovery to help ensure predictable, assured delivery of files.
- **Secure file transfer** - help keep customer information private and supports regulatory compliance measures.
- **High performance** - can handle your most demanding workloads, from high volumes of small files to multi-gigabyte files.
- **Certified container support** - supports hybrid cloud deployment via certified containers which ensures easy and consistent deployment life-cycle management.

For more information

To learn more about **IBM Sterling Connect:Direct**, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit the following <http://ibm.biz/connect-direct>

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