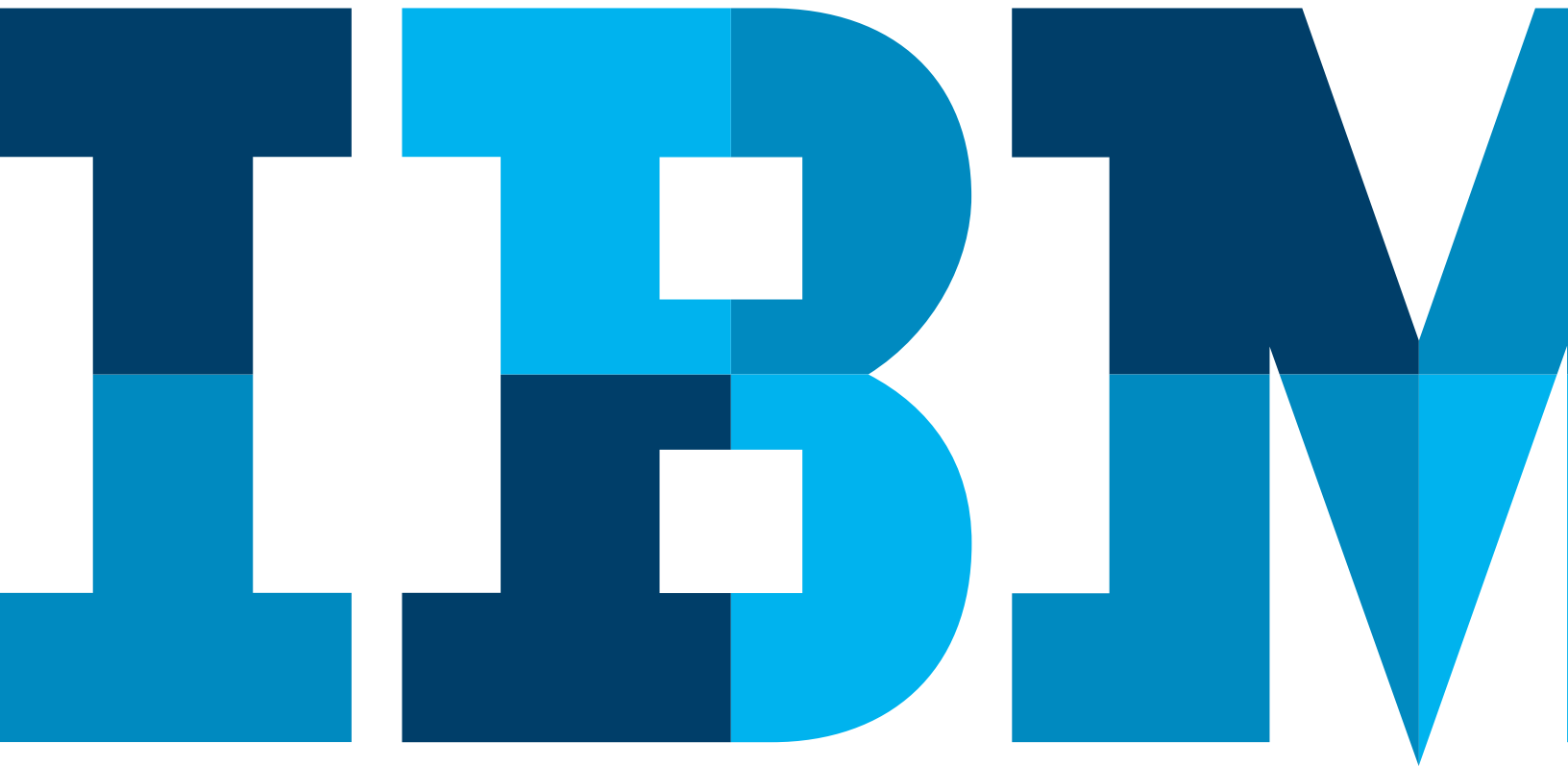# Why System z might be exactly what your business needs

IBM

Do you wonder who uses mainframe computers? If you use an ATM, buy airline tickets, purchase insurance, shop online or go to a doctor's office, *you do.*

The mainframe has evolved to the IBM® System z® platform. Organizations of all shapes and sizes are gaining competitive advantage today with System z, including:

- 49 of the world's top 50 banks, including banks in Chile, China, the Philippines, Poland and Taiwan
- 9 of the top 10 global life and health insurance leaders, including companies in Slovenia and South Korea
- 24 of the top 25 US retailers

- Government agencies from around the world, including agencies in Brazil, Malaysia and Poland
- Health services providers and hospitals, including providers in Austria, Germany and Taiwan
- Energy companies from around the world, including Brazilian and Eastern European companies

These organizations all benefit from the extensive security, reliability, scalability, manageability and 99.9 percent uptime that System z is famous for. They reap these critical benefits, and they do it with impressive cost savings.

Continue reading to learn *why System z might be exactly what your business needs*.

Spend less on mission-critical work

Do you know how much of your IT budget is spent on non-critical work? With its tested ability to scale linearly, System z utilization rates approach 100 percent with no performance degradation. Multiple systems are managed as one infrastructure with fewer components, fewer physical servers and fewer people. Advanced workload management capabilities automatically assign high-priority work from multiple applications in your system resources. Capacity-on-demand automatically turns components on and off based on current needs, handling spikes efficiently. You pay only for what you use. Many IBM customers run more than 60 percent of their mission-critical work on System z yet use less than 20 percent of their IT budget. Are you getting your money's worth?

Mission critical isn't just 9 - 5

Every day, the pace of business increases, and data volumes grow. The concept of 24x7x365 is now essential. The systems that support your mission-critical applications are only as strong as their weakest link. If just one part fails, your business stops and customers are left hanging. Unlike offerings "integrated" by packaging and limited testing, System z is designed and built to be a single, holistic solution. It is the result of years of continual innovation and client-driven enhancements to everything from System z at the bottom of the stack to the software that runs so many of the world's businesses. The integrated System z solution offers layers of built-in fault tolerance for hardware, firmware, middleware and operating systems—with the goal of eliminating single points of failure. With platform-level redundancy, System z is designed to handle failures while maintaining access for your customers. Components can be repaired, maintenance installed and products migrated with minimal effect to your business. No application rewrites, no moving of data. High availability of a single component is great, but even better are the long-running operations that many System z clients achieve with applications that are up nearly 100% of the time, for years at a time. The System z commitment to system-wide integrity leaves no weak link, just a design for achieving true 24x7x365 availability.

Sometimes it's good to *not* be in the news

You've seen the headlines: "Customer data is compromised." "Websites are down." Fallout can be costly. Just like availability, security is only as strong as the weakest link. System z provides a security-rich, high-integrity environment that enables you to confidently put mission-critical work on System z, knowing that data is protected with system-wide security features that are nearly impossible to hack. Multiple applications run on the same server, isolated and protected from each other, with all the efficiencies of managing a single system–the ultimate cloud environment. System z is designed and built to give you the peace of mind to sleep at night.

Weather the storms

In distributed solutions, support for disaster recovery means more physical servers, more people and more money. System z provides tested failover and recovery capabilities without requiring idle capacity. Disaster recovery capabilities are integrated into the entire system and can be tested and verified, allowing for automatic recovery in minutes, not days. System z helps ensure that you are truly prepared for worst-case scenarios.

Focus on your business rather than on the technology that runs it

System z deep, system-level integration helps avoid failures, supports 24x7x365 business demands and protects mission-critical data–all with the cost-effectiveness you need to stay ahead of your competition. If your business depends on keeping your client data secure, on continuous operations and on keeping costs under control, then contact your IBM representative to find out how System z can bring a competitive advantage to your business.

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