



Highlights

- Helps IT gain control over file transfer activity
 - Supports compliance with security and governance policies
 - Reduces IT costs to support business user file transfers
 - Facilitates integration with enterprise applications
 - Helps minimize IT support in deployment, administration and use
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IBM QuickFile

Helping IT solve the person-to-person file transfer dilemma

Gaining control over file transfer activity

Today, business users need to share large files quickly and securely, both inside and outside their organizations. File transfers are a primary way to share data, but expanding content and growing file sizes carry challenges such as email limitations, physical media delivery and the security risks of using consumer-based cloud services or FTP.

To reduce the effect on staff and email servers—and better safeguard transferred data—IT often tries to control person-to-person file transfer activity. But niche or consumer-grade services require data to leave the safety of the firewall, and most on-premises alternatives treat personal file transfers as isolated cases. Neither option is ideal for IT organizations that want to apply managed file transfer best practices to person-to-person file transfers.



Related offerings

- IBM Sterling Managed File Transfer
 - IBM Sterling Control Center
 - IBM Sterling Secure Proxy
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Facilitating compliance with security and governance policies

IBM QuickFile™ software brings the strengths of managed file transfer to business users. With easy-to-use self-service capabilities, QuickFile software enables business users to transfer files rapidly while allowing IT organizations to apply managed file transfer best practices of governance, security and process reliability to their use.

IBM considers person-to-person (aptly named person-centric) file transfers as another managed file transfer use case. As a result, you can use IBM Sterling Control Center to monitor person-to-person file transfer activity and establish the appropriate audit and service level agreements just as you do for traditional system-to-system (system-centric) and business-to-business (community-centric) transfers.

Hosting QuickFile software inside your firewall can help protect your data and network from potential security risks—and optionally deploying IBM Sterling Secure Proxy adds an extra layer of network security and authentication. Additionally, because QuickFile software is delivered as a “hardened” software appliance, it can help protect both the underlying data and executable code. Unlike consumer-grade services, your data never leaves the safety of your firewall until it is downloaded, helping eliminate questions of legal ownership based on where it resides.

To help ensure process reliability, QuickFile self-service capabilities give business users more control over the file transfers they initiate. In addition to having visibility over a transfer, users can resume a transfer if it is interrupted, or they can pause a transfer themselves and resume from that point. This gives them the flexibility to manage their own file transfer dependent processes without IT involvement.

Reducing IT costs to support business user file transfers

Because QuickFile software helps eliminate software-imposed restrictions on the size of files that business users can send, users no longer have to turn to consumer-grade services or rely on IT to stand up an FTP server for their use. Your organization can also reduce the costs to scale email servers as business users become less dependent on email to transfer files. You can virtually eliminate the costs to use a parcel service to ship physical media, and business users can stop using and paying for consumer-grade services. Meanwhile, your business users can take ownership of their file transfer activity, which helps minimize their dependency on you and frees you to focus on other priorities.

Facilitating integration with enterprise applications

An ongoing challenge for most IT organizations is how to integrate new applications into their existing infrastructure and accommodate future growth. QuickFile software is designed to support architectural agility now and in the future with Representational State Transfer (REST) application programming interfaces (APIs) for easy integration with other applications.

For example, to help eliminate redundant security infrastructures, you can integrate QuickFile software with Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) or Active Directory. Another example is integration with IBM FileNet® software using the enterprise Content Management Interoperability Services (CMIS) standard interface. This integration allows a company to archive files that flow through QuickFile software so the company can leverage the enterprise content management capabilities of FileNet software. The benefit to IT is the flexibility to leverage multiple integration standards to extend use throughout the enterprise, plus out-of-box integration with many applications already in use.

Reducing IT support to deploy, administer and use

From an IT perspective, you want to know how easy a new software application is to deploy, use and administer. QuickFile software provides different deployment options depending on the extent of organizational personal file transfer activity. IT can work with individual business units and departments to determine the optimal deployment strategy based on performance requirements or your company’s desire to present different brands to different constituents.

QuickFile software is delivered as Open Virtual Appliance (OVA) software, which helps simplify installation. You can quickly deploy the product for use in your VMware environment and turn administration over to a business owner. This helps reduce the active support IT has to provide while still allowing you to apply and maintain necessary governance policies. In addition, the browser-based interface for users makes the rollout simple, without the support and maintenance headaches of first having to install client software.

QuickFile capabilities at a glance

Capability	Description
Deployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered as OVA software • Runs as a software image in a VMware environment • Can be deployed on premises or in a private cloud • Can apply company branding, logos and colors to each deployment
Simplicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business users can self-register. • Business users can transfer files without IT involvement. • Browser support includes Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari and Google Chrome.
Flexibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no software limitations on the size of files that can be transferred. • IBM Sterling Control Center can be used for monitoring and governance. • Pause/resume enables users to self-manage disruptions to file transfers. • Single or multiple files can be embedded in the same transfer request. • Multiple recipients can be designated in the same request. • File size controls allow IT to establish limits, if desired.
Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBM Sterling Secure Proxy can be optionally deployed for session breaks and authentication. • Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) and Transport Layer Security (TLS) provide encryption of data in flight. • At-rest encryption exists within the software appliance storage repository (Advanced Encryption Standard [AES] 256). • Integration with LDAP or Active Directory leverages existing security policies and authentication. • Event logging provides a comprehensive audit trail of file transfer activities. • Policy-driven administration helps enforce password policy, limits on usage, strength and expirations. • The application is delivered as a “hardened” software appliance to help prevent access to files and the underlying code.
Extensibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REST APIs are provided for integration to other applications. • CMIS provides standards support for integration to content management.

Why IBM?

IBM QuickFile software allows IT to solve the person-to-person file transfer dilemma by applying managed file transfer best practices and removing the obstacles business users encounter in transferring large files. In addition, QuickFile software helps reduce the costs of supporting person-to-person file transfer activity.

For more information

To learn more about IBM QuickFile software, contact your IBM sales representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit: ibm.com/quickfile



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Produced in the United States of America
November 2012

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