Are CIOs MANIC About the Mainframe?

What CIOs Think

- 89% of CIOs believe a single major mainframe outage would cost their organization over $1M.
- 67% say a major mainframe outage would cost their organization between $10 - $20M.
- 26% of CIOs believe vendor consolidation is more important than advancing their IP.
- 81% agree that the mainframe is running more new and different workloads compared to five years ago.
- 81% now consider mainframe application code to be Intellectual Property.
- 89% of CIOs believe the mainframe will continue to be a key business asset over the next decade.
- 88% see the mainframe as a strategic platform that will enable innovation within their organizations.
- 78% believe Application Advancement is the most important area for investment in the mainframe.

What CIOs Do

- 46% of CIOs only believe the convergence of new technologies is driving the need for web/mobile/distributed development teams to better understand the mainframe.
- 78% say their development teams are organized into technology silos.
- 68% continue to invest in platforms whose costs are higher.

And performance is critical

- 67% of CIOs don't take into account low marginal costs when assessing the mainframe against other technologies.
- 20% believe the mainframe is a strategic platform that will enable innovation within their organizations.

The Mainframe Skills Shortage

- 4 in 10 still do not have a plan to address mainframe brain drain.
- 78% of CIOs see the mainframe as a strategic platform that will enable innovation within their organizations.
- 68% say their development teams are organized into technology silos.
- 20% believe the mainframe is a strategic platform that will enable innovation within their organizations.

Tools

- A more vibrant and business-relevant mainframe won’t be delivered by settling for “good enough” tools. Modern developers need state-of-the-art tooling that removes the esoteric nature of the mainframe and makes development just about syntax.

Processes

- CIOs believe that mainframe and non-mainframe teams have to work together in a more unified way to maximize productivity and control costs. Yet, most development teams are organized into technology silos, significantly reducing the opportunity to collaborate and understand just how much their work impacts mainframe performance.

For more information, read the CIO white paper.

Source: “The New World of Mainframes” CIO Survey

While CIOs clearly hold the mainframe in high esteem, their actions don’t align with their perceptions. It’s time for IT leaders with the talk and make the necessary investments to advance their mainframe if this requires CIOs to transform three fundamental things:

- A more vibrant and business-relevant mainframe won’t be delivered by settling for “good enough” tools. Modern developers need state-of-the-art tooling that removes the esoteric nature of the mainframe and makes development just about syntax.

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