



# **4 Reasons you Need to Optimize and Automate Your Manage File Transfer Solution NOW**



# Introduction

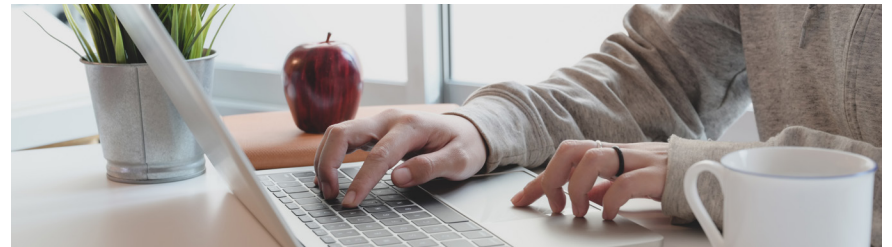
According to Gartner, automation was recognized as one of the **top 10 strategic technology trends** for 2022 and beyond. **Forbes also highlights** that this year has brought about a shift from legacy, project-oriented solutions to more comprehensive, center-of-excellence standards-based offerings that not only address integration challenges but enable the best-in-class features, security, auditability, and visibility that enterprises demand.

**With those revelations, it's no surprise that more and more organizations are engaging technology partners that can streamline and automate processes like file transfer migrations.**

If you've been a part of a manual integration migration driven by your in-house team, you know it can leave the door open for potential errors, lack of standardization, and numerous inaccuracies. This is in addition to the negative impact it can have on a workforce who is already managing their platform at maximum capacity.

Over the last decade, maturity in integration solutions and the evolution of API and standardization has led to several technological and process advancements. Now more than ever before, it's easier to automate what was previously a major challenge—migrating a legacy file transmission solution with minimal impact to your partners.

The ease of automation is certainly an attractive selling point in itself, but let's take a closer look at the key benefits your organization can expect by engaging a right technology partner to employ just the right level of automation:



# 1. Reduce operational costs

If we look at industry benchmarks, a typical migration of a single connection can take anywhere from 4-40 hours, with an average time of 10-12 hours. This time is not just in the form of “setups” but also in locating contact information, notifications, tracking, testing, }and progression through multiple setups. Not to mention the time and energy spent on convincing your lines of business to sponsor those migrations in the first place.

As you can estimate, a manual integration of 1000 connections could easily take months if not years with your internal team. During which time you'll be maintaining two separate applications (legacy and target), and paying for the hardware, connectivity, and maintenance of both systems. The operational cost of such a migration could add up very quickly with no clear end date in sight—with the biggest variable being whether or not you'll have active participation from your engaged partners and lines of business.



## 2. Enhance the security of your environment and mitigate risk

If you have a legacy platform that has been around for more than 5-7 years, chances are that security standards are outdated. Whether it's non-secure protocols like FTP or outdated (or non-existent) encryption standards/ciphers—you may understand the risk, you just may not have time, capacity, or motivation to upgrade the infrastructure to the current standards. That's where automation can help.

Because automation significantly reduces the possibility of human error, you're less likely to incur a potential security breach and effectively reduce the risk of a data leak horror story. How? It allows you to restrict permissible senders and receivers, centrally log data transfers, securely encrypt your data, and more importantly, integrate with data loss prevention products. It's a win-win for those organizations who want to be buttoned up and minimize the chance of a breach.





### 3. Shorten the time it takes to complete a migration

Time is money and as highlighted in the section above, automation can result in cost savings at several levels. However, there are other facets to examine as well. Faster completion of such projects allow you to stay in sync with product releases and remain on the cutting-edge. There's no point in completing a migration to a solution that takes two years only to be outdated and ready for the next migration by the time you're done.

Another advantage of automation is that often your file transfer or integration solution provides many-to-many connectivity between internal applications and external partners. The longer you take, the longer all of these entities have to integrate with both legacy and target solutions. This can result in significant data loss and routing complexities.

In proper conditions, 100% automation from a legacy to a target solution is possible but not very common. In most cases, you can achieve automation in the range of 40-70%, which for a large deployment could result in significant time and cost savings.



## 4. Empowers you to focus on running your business—not migration

When you leverage the right technology partner you can focus on what's really important—managing your business and providing the level of service your partners and customers have come to expect. Having the right migration and configuration strategy in place will not only secure your integration platform but also modernize it and improve visibility, SLA management, QoS, and access controls.

Having the ability to achieve all of that at a much faster pace than manual migration should be a compelling reason to consider automation.



## Ready to take the next step towards automating your file transfer migration?

As a leading IBM Platinum Business Partner, we're experts in large scale migrations and have worked with some of the world's largest organizations to solve their complex business problems.

Whether you manage a homegrown solution or a vendor supported solution with an ecosystem thousands of partners strong, we have the years of experience, skills, and knowledge to ensure your sensitive files and data are transferred with the utmost care and security.

Drop us a line today so we can learn about your business goals and tell you about our 4-step file transfer migration process.

## Want to know more?

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Reach out at [www.coenterprise.com](http://www.coenterprise.com)