Liberate Your Mainframe Data with StreamSets Mainframe Collector

Overview

Many large enterprises continue to rely on mainframes for strategic parts of their operations because of their unmatched throughput, security and resiliency. But getting direct access to valuable mainframe data can be a real challenge, impacting many strategic business initiatives that could benefit from using mainframe data for analytics, insights and reports. Projects may be slowed down and reports out of date as data request submissions back up. Worse yet, the data is often bypassed altogether.

For enterprises looking for an easy, secure, and cost effective way to provide their mainframe data to those who would benefit from it, StreamSets offers Mainframe Collector. StreamSets Mainframe Collector is the easiest and most efficient way to access mainframe data while adhering to your mainframe security framework (no changes necessary). Best of all, data is presented to data consumers in a relational format that can be easily queried with SQL without impacting mainframe performance.

StreamSets helps you unlock more of your core enterprise data than anyone in the market. We make it easy to ingest that data into strategic cloud data platforms such as Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud Platform™, Snowflake, Databricks, HPE Ezmeral. Your mainframe data can be used in more strategic initiatives securely without impacting the performance of your mainframe.

Challenges by Role

Mainframes run some of the most critical functions for many organizations. Maintaining the performance and integrity of operations is priority #1. Mainframe data is usually stored and formatted in files types (VSAM™, QSAM) and databases (IMS, Db2®, Adabas) that are proprietary and require specialized skills to understand. When lines of business need access to the data, there is an extended set of stakeholders who must work in concert to get the data from the mainframe to the data consumers efficiently and securely. It can be complex and is exactly why mainframe data is often bypassed by business teams.

Lines of Business Analyst
The ultimate consumers of the data are working on data driven projects such as identifying ways to increase sales, improve customer interactions, improve operations or margins, spot fraud, report on GRC, etc. These users are well versed in working with data in relational format but not necessarily in common mainframe formats such VSAM files or in a mainframe DBMS such as IMS or Adabas.

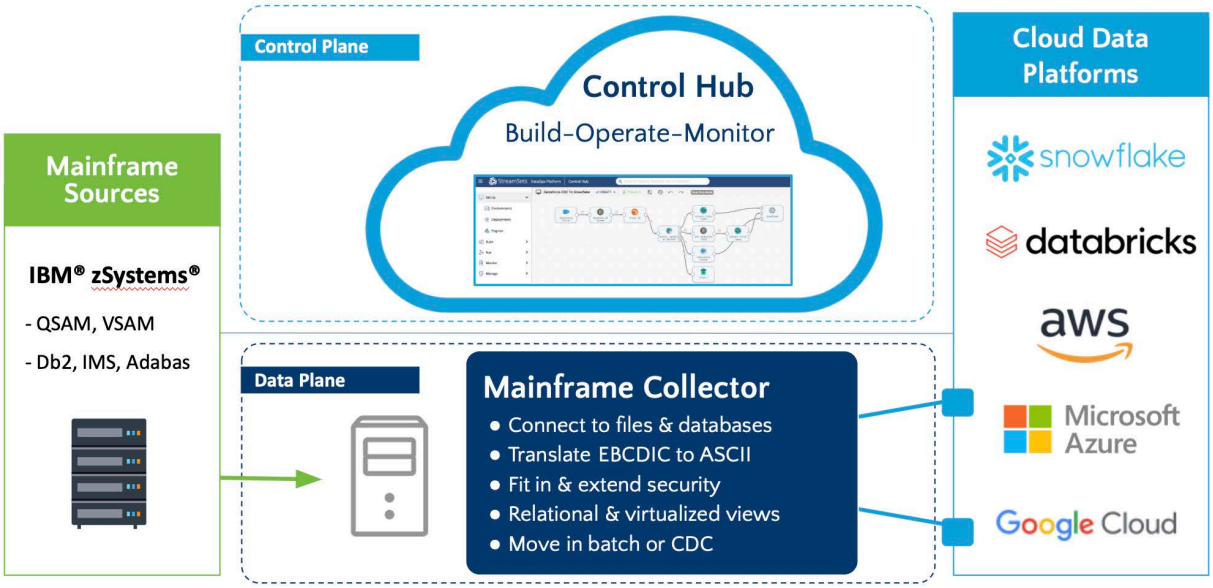
Data Engineers
Data Engineers need to work with the data consumers and identify optimal data sources, determine how it needs to be best formatted for the destination, determine the best mode of delivery (batch or CDC) and then build and monitor pipelines accordingly. They need to do this while adhering to corporate data security and governance standards. Accessing mainframes and learning the proprietary formats can be difficult and time consuming which means many of their requests go to the mainframe operators to sort out.

Mainframe Operators
Mainframe operators are focused on system reliability, availability and efficiency. Data and access requests need to be carefully reviewed in conjunction with the data security and governance team. Inefficient data extraction processes and new software installations on the mainframe can easily increase mainframe MIPS consumption and thus increase overall operational costs. The mainframe operator is constantly tasked with the tough decision of giving access to the mainframe data while ensuring efficient and reliable operations.

Information Security Professionals
Security professionals are responsible for creating security policies and ensuring they're followed. Security around mainframes, the applications and the data, are often the most rigorous because of the criticality of the mainframe to business operations. Approaches that are new or customized add complexity and risk.

Solution

StreamSets Mainframe Collector provides the most efficient and secure approach to liberate mainframe data for cloud-based data analytics. Our approach uses a Windows server next to the mainframe that performs the governance and



data processing operations off of the mainframe. When data is needed from files, a lightweight listener is installed to track data and only pass what is necessary. Best of all, the solution adapts to and extends the existing data security framework. The data made available to the data engineers and consumers is presented in a relational format, easy to understand, and can be queried with SQL.

The Mainframe Collector enables mainframe operators and security professionals to focus on their core initiatives. Data engineers and analysts can now include mainframe data through the appropriate permissions for analytics. Data is liberated, and organizations can make more confident evidence-based decisions.

StreamSets Benefits

- Adapts to and extends existing mainframe security frameworks with no changes required
- Fast and easy installation and setup in hours vs. weeks
- Easy and intuitive data access presented in relational format and queried with SQL
- Reliable delivery to modern data platforms including Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud Platform™, Snowflake, Databricks, HPE Ezmeral
- Delivered at a lower cost and with less effort than alternative solutions

Impact

Using StreamSets, IT organizations are able to keep up and stay on top of the data access requests. Lines of business data consumers can pursue their data & analytics initiatives at scale and speed. Mainframe operators and data security professionals can focus on operational uptime and broader security programs. Budgets are not broken.

Want to know more about how StreamSets can help liberate data from your mainframe?

Contact a representative today.

Use Cases

Business Analytics
Optimize sales and pricing
Inspect customer behavior
Improve operations (optimize equipment & production)
Supply chain optimization (purchase, build, distribute, support, return)

Improving Service
Provide direct access to transactions and historic records
Citizen and Government

Reporting GRC and ESG
Know your customer (KYC)
Consumption of resources (carbon footprint)

About StreamSets

At StreamSets, a Software AG company, our mission is to ensure data engineering teams thrive in today's world of constant change. We do this by embedding the DataOps philosophy of "continuous data for the connected enterprise" into the StreamSets DataOps Platform. StreamSets empowers data engineers to build, run, monitor, and manage smart data pipelines for the modern data ecosystem.

StreamSets is the only data integration platform that provides a single design experience for all design patterns for 10x greater developer productivity; smart data pipelines that are resilient to change for 80% less breakages; and a single pane of glass for observing and monitoring all pipelines to eliminate blind spots and control gaps. With StreamSets, you can deliver continuous data for the modern data ecosystem and hybrid integration in a world of constant change. **For more information, visit streamsets.com**