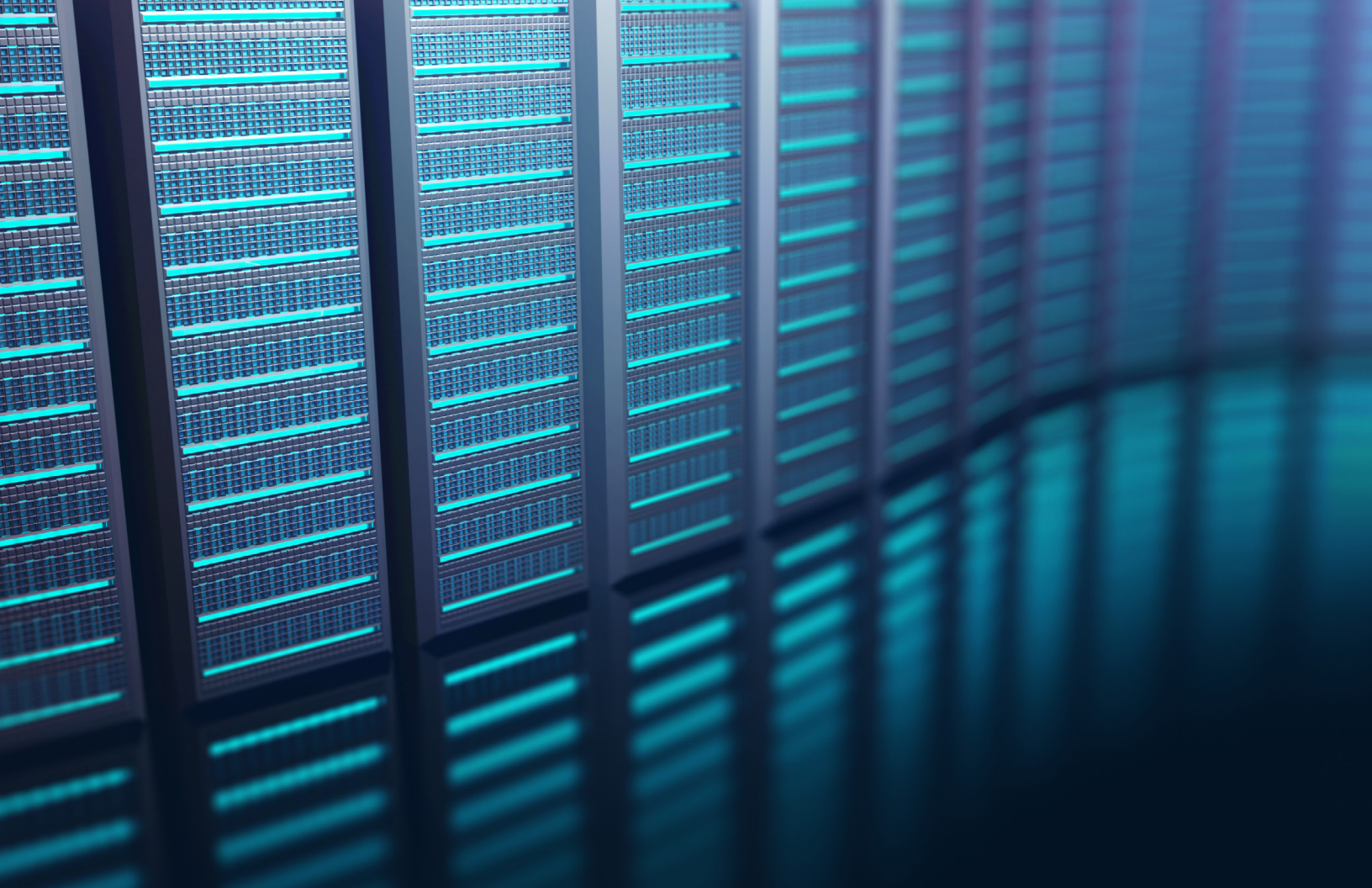




SOLUTION BRIEF • CA MAINFRAME RESOURCE INTELLIGENCE



CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence

Can I have a simple report to show our stakeholders how our mainframe is actually reducing opex and driving digital transformation?

In medicine, an MRI scan can quickly reveal hidden ailments and allow clinicians to offer actionable insight to get a patient on a path to recovery. Imagine if you had an MRI for your entire mainframe environment and operational processes.

IT and business leaders in digital enterprises are challenged with balancing the need to drive digital transformation initiatives with managing costs and SLAs. CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence is a SaaS-based offering whose assessments are designed to quickly reveal hidden costs and operational gaps and offer best-practice recommendations to impact all aspects of IT delivery with the least disruption and risk.

Executive Summary

Challenge

The mainframe remains the most mission-essential platform powering the world's largest organizations. Leaders in mainframe operations are challenged with balancing the need to drive digital transformation initiatives with managing costs and SLAs. Unfortunately, mainframe IT leaders face the heavy burden of conveying the facts and mainframe's value. With dwindling resources and talent, as well as constant pressure to keep the lights on, proving this value is a highly time-consuming process requiring deep platform and pricing expertise.

Opportunity

The skill and time scarcity outlined above call for four key capabilities: data, automation, speed and insight. CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence addresses these capabilities. CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence is a SaaS-based assessment offering that:

- Automates scanning and collection of disparate mainframe telemetry data (hardware, software, health checks, capacity and specialty engine optimization, and, in the future, security, systems and performance tuning)
 - Assesses and visualizes potential savings and optimization scenarios based on CA analysis and best practices
 - Delivers reports and actionable recommendations in days, not months
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Benefits

The biggest benefit of CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence is that it arms the head of mainframe operations with insights and data about current performance versus desired in simple, elegant and summarized output that he or she can take to the manager or stakeholder responsible for overall IT operations and service delivery. Put simply, CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence allows heads of mainframe to answer simple questions like:

- Will we pass the next audit?
- Can we fulfill 60 percent MIPS growth without incurring a capacity penalty?
- How do I quickly see the hardware and software deployed in my mainframe environment?

Time to insight is another benefit. Today, it takes a lengthy consulting engagement or proof of concept versus what CA Mainframe Resource intelligence offers: days to insight. Last, CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence is an easy-to-use SaaS data analytics offering that encourages and drives continuous performance improvements by constantly providing reports and benchmarks for capacity, software and hardware utilization, as well as process KPIs.

SECTION 1

Mainframe Environments Are Complex, and Obtaining Simple KPIs on Performance Is Difficult

We hear you (and your peers): The role of a leader in this space can be a tricky balancing act. Heads of mainframe operations essentially face the classic challenges across IT management—demand for cost reduction, the need to deliver more with less and the challenge of managing skills evolution, all in an ever more dynamic and volatile budgetary landscape with fast-paced technological changes that impact the entire organization. You also face the burden and organizational perception that the mainframe platform, not to mention its software, is expensive and leverages a platform that is not agile or fast. The ironic reality is that while demands for greater capacity and transaction volume keep growing, mainframes can be the most cost-efficient solution. Stakeholders who may have embraced a cloud-first mentality keep asking for a justification for continued investment. And they want to see results and positive impact to IT KPIs across all aspects of security, process and systems management—such as audit compliance, increased velocity and decreased mean time to resolution (MTTR), to name a few.

Unfortunately, building a business case quickly can be challenging when it comes to mainframe environments—especially if you lack key data and insights about your environment.

Data silos and availability

Mainframe environments have been in production running nonstop for more than 30 years. These are complex environments with hundreds of software tools and complex hardware configurations, with each domain—security access, database management, operational and automation data—handled separately and in unique ways. The biggest challenge for even the most seasoned mainframe administrator is understanding the current environment.

- The data format is different across multiple domains (economics, process, systems, security).
- Each tool has its own data collection with its own “health check” that provides information (at start-up, and potentially periodically/end) about configuration, detected issues or potential single points of failure.
- Most data collection for discovery such as SMF 70, 72 or JCL records is manual or through homegrown utilities and can require substantial effort to gather.
- In addition, configuration data is collected manually through questionnaires—relying again on tribal or historic knowledge—which is error-prone, inconsistent and not repeatable.

Loss of skills and burdens of “keeping the lights on”

It is well understood that mainframe shops are facing a huge challenge with skill attrition as the most experienced mainframe workforce retires. While organizations have made significant strides in onboarding the next generation of IT professionals, there is still risk from loss of institutional knowledge, as well as the unique business and operational characteristics implemented over 30-plus years. In addition, the teams are already operating lean—essentially just “keeping lights on.” There is little time to conduct thoughtful analysis on performance or future capacity needs.

Something we’ve heard from many of our customers was put well by a lead systems programmer at a midsize bank: *“We have not conducted an assessment for five years. We are flying blind, but management does want to see our utilization.”*

The resulting challenge—inability to communicate value in business terms

Simply put, mainframe leaders lack the tools, time and data to gather meaningful insight to take to their leadership. They are drowning in data and can't figure out where to start or select the right initiatives for fast time-to-value. Unfortunately, the platform itself doesn't magically reveal what software or hardware is deployed and how well those are configured or operating. And the alternative approaches of hiring consultants or conducting vendor product proof-of-concepts is time-consuming and costly.

SECTION 2

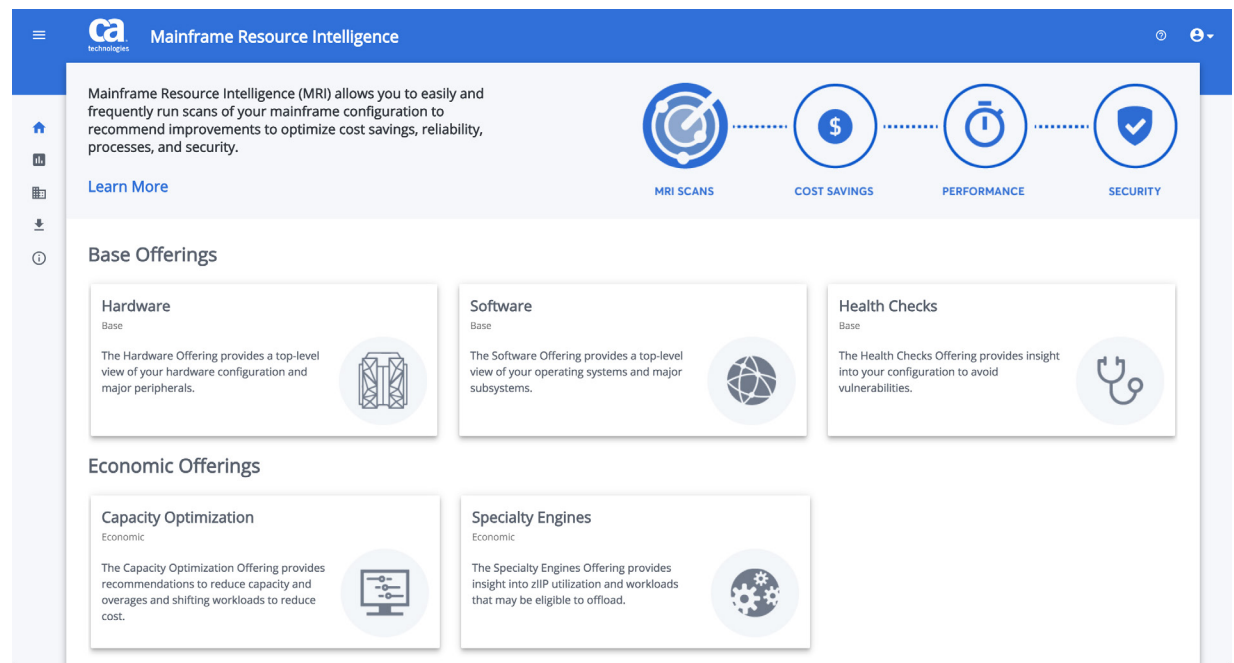
Introducing CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence: Embrace the Benefits of SaaS, Automation and Data Analytics

CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence is an offering that leverages SaaS delivery, automation and data analytics with assessments that can generate recommendations and reports that help you maximize the return from your mainframe environment.

It is scheduled for general availability on June 29, 2018. Here are the key components and benefits.

CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence portal. This is where end users such as systems programmers, mainframe leaders and IT stakeholders, as well as CA technical personnel on your account, will upload data and gain access to various assessments and reports. It's an easy-to-use portal with simple navigation designed for novices and experts alike.

FIGURE A.
CA Mainframe
Resource
Intelligence—Portal
Main Page



Data collection and scanning.

Today it's common for companies to use disparate utilities and manual or emailed data transfers, and to rely on deep domain expertise to collect mainframe data. One global service provider noted that it took four to six weeks of travel and paper questionnaires to collect data of newly onboarding mainframe clients into a managed service environment. CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence employs a simple Discovery Toolkit that collects all relevant mainframe data in one simple CSV file. The scan essentially crawls and discovers your hardware, software and configuration data from your mainframe environment in a single step, and the end user can upload the file into the CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence portal.

Assessments. CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence offers both automated and expert-driven best practices in the form of assessments, accessible via the portal. These assessments essentially capture the current state—hardware configuration, software installed and state-of-health checks or specialty engine usage.

FIGURE B. Discovery Toolkit

Download and Install the MRI Toolkit

Download MRI Toolkit (zip)

After you have downloaded the MRI Toolkit file, follow these steps to install it:

1 On your PC

Extract the following files from the CA-MRI-Toolkit.zip file:

- CA.MRI.LOAD.xml - The CA MRI LOAD library in xmit format
- CA.MRI.CNTL.xml - The CA MRI CNTL library in xmit format
- CA MRI Toolkit pdf - The documentation for the CA MRI Toolkit

On your Mainframe

FIGURE C.
Hardware Base
Assessment

ca technologies

Mainframe Resource Intelligence

Hardware

< Back

MF04/PLEXC1

MF01/PLEXC1

Hardware

Summary

Configuration

Peripherals

Other

CPC Name:

MF04

PLEXes:

1

TAPE:

488

EKM:

Yes

Manufacturer:

IBM

LPARs:

6

DASD:

1085

HyperPAV:

No

Type:

3906

CTC:

894

HyperPAV BASE:

No

Model:

608

GDPS:

No

Processors:

6

MIDAWs HARDWARE:

Yes

Memory:

72G

MIDAWs SOFTWARE:

Yes

MIPS/MSUs:

4229,444/184,615

zHPF HARDWARE:

Yes

zHPF SOFTWARE:

Yes

Processors

Configuration

Peripherals

Other

Total: 6

CPU

Serial

zIIP

zAAP

WLM

01

0C3C78

No

No

No

02

0C3C78

No

No

No

03

0C3C78

No

No

No

04

0C3C78

No

No

No

05

0C3C78

Yes

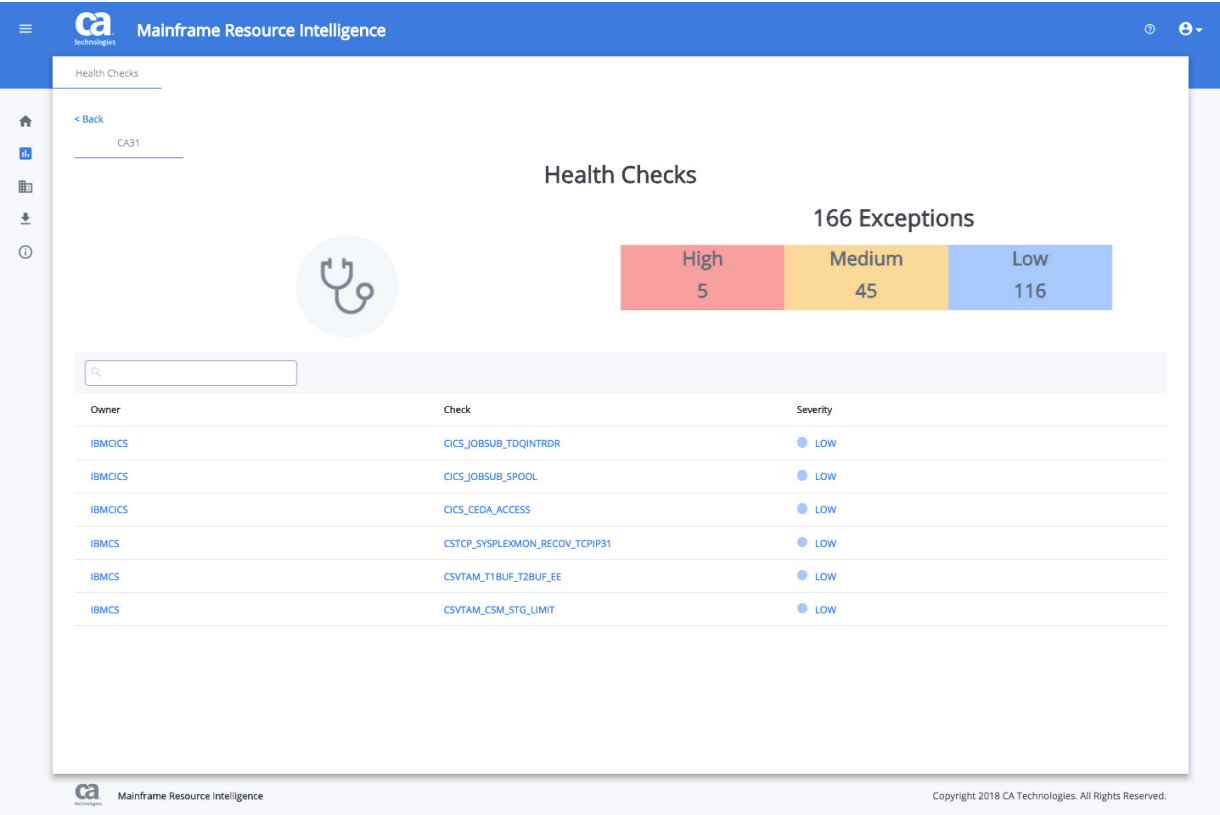
No

No

"We are already running hot in terms of capacity as our organization grew rapidly with acquisitions. We don't have the people who can perform accurate capacity forecasts and assessments any longer. CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence solves that."

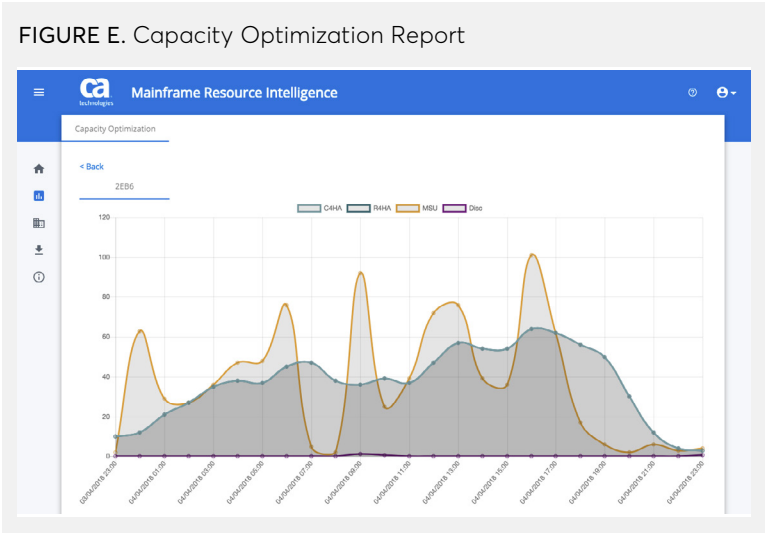
Head of mainframe
Biosciences company

FIGURE D.
Health Check
Assessment



Reports. Typical mainframe consulting engagements or product evaluations take months. CA delivers both machine-generated and expert-assisted reporting in days. Your mainframe operates at the speed of today's business; timely insight is key. Perhaps you need to show capacity optimization at an operational review with IT stakeholders, or you simply need ongoing benchmarks to continually optimize your organization's operations.

FIGURE E. Capacity Optimization Report



"This shows how to optimize. That's one way you might convince executives to spend some money."

Head of mainframe

Healthcare company

SECTION 3

You Can't Improve What You Can't Measure—Start With an Assessment Today

In medicine, an MRI report points the patient to a better health outcome. CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence is all about understanding and delivering the better business outcome. For years, the mainframe IT community lacked the time and business language to articulate the benefits of their efforts, operations and incremental mainframe investments. CA Mainframe Resource Intelligence offers that insight, along with CA and industry best practices, to not only continuously optimize and reduce costs, but also to assess customer and business benefits of transformation on the mainframe.

For more information, please visit ca.com/mri

Connect with CA Technologies



CA Technologies (NASDAQ: CA) creates software that fuels transformation for companies and enables them to seize the opportunities of the application economy. Software is at the heart of every business, in every industry. From planning to development to management and security, CA is working with companies worldwide to change the way we live, transact and communicate—across mobile, private and public cloud, distributed and mainframe environments. Learn more at ca.com.



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