



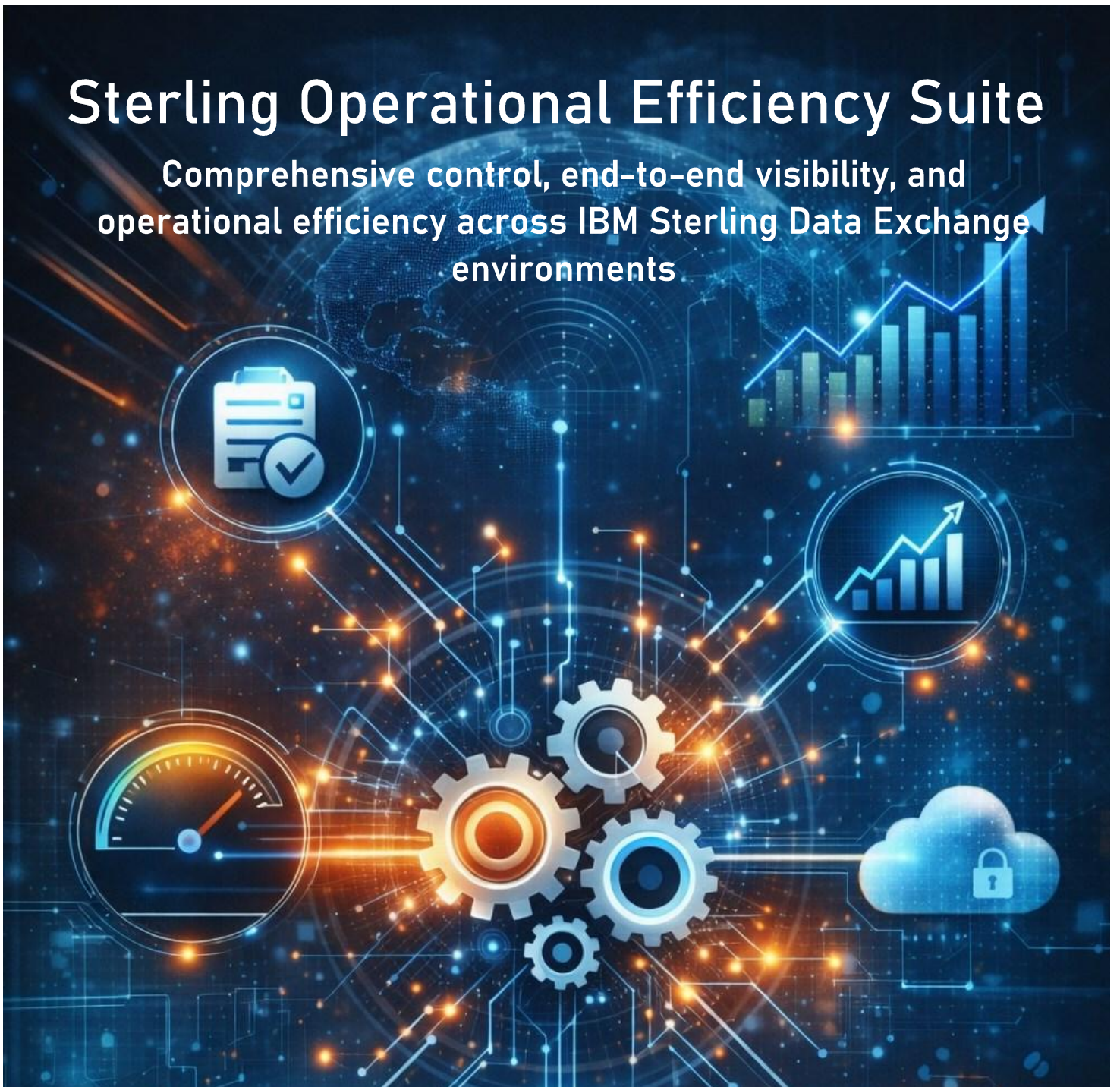
Integration News

T1 2026

Special Report

Sterling Operational Efficiency Suite

Comprehensive control, end-to-end visibility, and operational efficiency across IBM Sterling Data Exchange environments





Executive Summary

This newsletter introduces the Sterling Operational Efficiency Suite — a transformative layer of visibility, control, and automation for IBM Sterling Data Exchange environments. Designed to eliminate blind spots and reduce technical complexity, the suite empowers operational teams to manage data exchange with precision and confidence. By proactively monitoring certificates, streamlining SFTP collection, and enhancing EBICS routing, it shifts operations from reactive troubleshooting to predictive control. The result is faster resolution times, reduced risk in financial communications, and improved audit readiness. For organisations seeking to optimise their Sterling platforms, this suite represents a decisive step towards resilient, transparent, and cost-efficient operations.

1. Introduction.

In environments based on IBM Sterling B2B Integrator, many capabilities are designed from a technical perspective. **Sterling Operational Efficiency Suite** introduces a different approach: focused on real operations, continuous visibility and effective control.

- 100% operational approach, aligned with support, IT and business teams.
- Rapid implementation with no impact on existing flows.
- Ready-to-use solutions with no need for complex development.
- Unified view of processes, integrations and certificates.
- High adoption without the need for specialised training.

2. Solutions



Complete visibility of EBICS flows, control of signatories and restoration of operational routing.



Proactive monitoring of EBICS certificates to prevent disruptions in banking communications.



Centralised control of all certificates across the platform, with early detection of expirations and associated risks.



Simplified management, monitoring and advanced diagnostics of SFTP file retrievals without the need for development.



3. EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack



In EBICS environments based on IBM Sterling B2B Integrator, transaction information and traceability are often highly fragmented.

There is no unified operational layer that provides an end-to-end understanding of what happens in each EBICS transaction.

This leads to a heavy reliance on expert knowledge, resulting in a loss of operational control over critical financial processes and a significant increase in incident resolution times.

EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack is a solution designed to improve the visibility, control and traceability of EBICS transactions in environments based on IBM Sterling B2B Integrator.



3.1. The Problem.

EBICS operations in IBM Sterling are characterised by:

- **Information scattered** across multiple screens and modules.
- **Lack of end-to-end traceability.**
- **Manual correlation** between events and processes.
- **Limited visibility** of signatories.
- Dependence on **expert knowledge.**
- **Slow incident resolution**

Operational teams are forced to work with fragmented information and manually reconstruct the actual status of each transaction.

3.2. Impact on the business (what happens without the solution)

This operating model has a direct impact on efficiency and control:

- **Long operational recovery times.**
- **Difficulty in auditing and resolving incidents.**



- **Risk of human error and incomplete diagnostics.**
- **Lack of effective control over authorisations.**
- **Operational bottlenecks.**
- **Direct impact on SLAs and relationships with banks and partners.**

Overall, the organisation operates with only partial visibility of critical processes, which limits its ability to respond and exercise control.

3.3. The Solution

EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack introduces an operational layer on top of IBM Sterling B2B Integrator that transforms EBICS transaction management into a centralised, traceable and visual model.

The solution provides:

- **Unified and immediate view of the entire transaction.**
- **Full tracking of the lifecycle of each order.**
- **Automatic and visual correlation of events and executions.**
- **Full access to all signatories of each transaction.**
- **Simplified access to information for any user profile.**
- **Rapid diagnosis and agile decision-making.**





3.4. Value proposition

EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack transforms the management of EBICS processes in Sterling, moving from a model with low visibility and high technical dependency to one based on operational control, transparency and governance. It turns EBICS from a “black box” into a fully traceable and auditable environment, where every transaction and routing decision is understandable and manageable.

The solution improves efficiency by enabling anticipation, agile incident resolution and better alignment between technical and business teams, by converting complex data into clear and actionable information. This reduces dependence on experts and standardises EBICS management.

Furthermore, it prepares the organisation to scale in multi-bank and multi-partner environments, increasing resilience and eliminating blind spots. Overall, it turns EBICS into a strategic asset that is fully controlled and aligned with business objectives.

EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack provides structured access to:

- **Order ID.**
- **Relationships between orders.**
- **File name.**
- **Certificates used.**
- **Signatures and signature level.**
- **EBICS users.**
- **Executed workflows.**
- **Mailboxes and routes.**

Turning technical logs into actionable insights for business and support.

3.5. Benefits

Restoration of normal routing via the File Gateway

Reduced operational risk in critical banking and B2B processes



Immediate mitigation of the bug in EBICS VEU scenarios



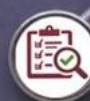
Centralised management of EBICS transactions



Full visibility across multiple signatories



Improved traceability for auditing and compliance



Enhanced support and troubleshooting capabilities



Optimisation of operating costs through reduced incidents and lower reliance on manual analysis





3.6. Business impact (ROI)

EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack transforms EBICS operations into an agile, controlled and efficient model, reducing time, risk and costs from the outset. The combination of visibility, traceability and automation enables a shift from reactive management to a proactive and scalable operation.

Tangible results:

- **60% – 80% reduction** in incident resolution time.
- **30% – 50% reduction** in operational risk in critical processes.
- **40% – 60% decrease** in escalations to IBM support.
- **50% – 70% acceleration** in audit and compliance processes.
- **30% – 50% optimisation** of operational effort (less manual dependency).
- **20% – 40% reduction** in costs associated with incidents and support.

The result is a more efficient, reliable and scalable environment, contributing to greater resilience and a direct reduction in costs associated with incidents, support and operational management.

Transaction Results

Buscar por TRX_ID, estado, usuario, orden, partner... Coinciden: 4 - Página 1 de 1 - 4 filas

| TRX ID | PROCESS STATUS | TRX STATUS | TRX START | TRX END | ORD TYPE | ORD ID | AUTH LEVEL | SIGN STATUS | WORKFLOW ID | PROTOCOL VER | SIGN USER ID | SIGN PARTNER ID |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------|--------|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 76A40499CC56857325BDDA28C52B75BA | SUCCESS | RCVD | 2026-02-12 10:06:45.0 | 2026-02-12 10:06:48.0 | CD1 | A001 | T | SUCCESS | 3289018 | H004 | MYUSERT | MYPARTNER |
| 2510DF0C54CEE92BDDF590F700B6C7D4 | SUCCESS | RCVD | 2026-02-12 10:06:26.0 | 2026-02-12 10:06:29.0 | CCT | A00K | T | SUCCESS | 3289010 | H004 | MYUSERT | MYPARTNER |
| 833C044F1968486C62BE5A570B901D7A | PDNG | RJCT | 2026-02-12 10:04:44.627 | 2026-02-12 10:04:44.874 | HVZ | | | | 3289005 | H004 | | |
| 16DDE4954CBBE73C9B06194DE542B75A | PDNG | RJCT | 2026-02-12 10:03:36.0 | 2026-02-12 10:03:37.0 | CCT | A00J | | | 3288998 | H004 | | |

Anterior Siguiente 1

EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack: An EBICS transaction results dashboard that summarises the final status of each transaction, highlighting successful executions, rejections and key metadata for further analysis.





3.7. Use cases

EBICS corporate payments



Control of critical flows with multiple signatories (VEU) and operational validation.

High-volume payment organisations



Visibility and control across ERP → EBICS → bank flows and signing workflows.

Shared Service Centres (SSC)



Centralised multi-country monitoring and reduction of operational incidents.

IT Operations (L2 / L3)



Rapid diagnosis of EBICS failures without manual log analysis.

EBICS Transaction Monitor

Search by Status, User, Order, Partner... Results: 8 - Página 1 de 1 - 8 filas

Show Columns: ORDER_ID ORDER_STATUS TRX_STATUS TIME_START TIME_END FILENAME PARENT_ORDER HOST USER PARTNER ORDER ORDER_TYPE FILE_FORMAT RETURN_CODE EBICS_VER AUTH_LEVEL SIGN_STATUS MIN_SIGNERS MAX_SIGNERS SIGS_DONE WORKFLOW_ID AUTH_KEY ENCR_KEY SIGN_KEY SIG_FILENAME FINAL_MAILBOX_PATH INITIAL_MAILBOX_PATH FILE_SIZE

| ORDER_ID | ORDER_STATUS | TRX_STATUS | TIME_START | TIME_END | FILENAME | PARENT_ORDER | ORDER | EBICS_VER | AUTH_LEVEL | SIGN_STATUS | WORKFLOW_ID |
|----------|--------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| A00V | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:55:51.0 | 2026-03-13 09:55:52.711 | | A00P | HVE | H004 | E | SUCCESS | 3432159 |
| | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:55:20.0 | 2026-03-13 09:55:24.094 | | | HVZ | H004 | | | 3432154 |
| A00U | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:55:01.0 | 2026-03-13 09:55:02.969 | | A00P | HVE | H004 | A | INVLD | 3432148 |
| | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:54:20.0 | 2026-03-13 09:54:25.067 | | | HVZ | H004 | | | 3432139 |
| A00P | RCVD | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:53:41.0 | 2026-03-13 09:53:43.0 | MYBANK_pain.001.001.03_R_D20260313_H105344_59E8982CAD9934FADC6209F05E3D9F86.DAT | | CCT | H004 | T | SUCCESS | 3432126 |
| A00T | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:52:50.0 | 2026-03-13 09:52:52.318 | | A000 | HVE | H004 | E | SUCCESS | 3432122 |
| | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:51:00.0 | 2026-03-13 09:51:04.554 | | | HVZ | H004 | | | 3432114 |
| A000 | RCVD | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:48:30.0 | 2026-03-13 09:48:34.0 | MYBANK_pain.001.001.03_R_D20260313_H104836_86D1A6DCA021E4DCCDF40EEC40ED4A07.DAT | | CCT | H004 | T | SUCCESS | 3432095 |

EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack: An EBICS certificate monitor that displays the status, validity and expiry dates of bank and partner certificates, enabling the rapid identification of operational risks and renewal requirements.





3.8. Differential value

The IBM Sterling B2B Integrator environment is a robust platform for B2B communications and EBICS processes, offering high security, control and reliability in critical environments. However, it is geared towards technical operations rather than user experience or the efficient use of information.

On the other hand, developing in-house tools entails risks: ongoing maintenance, dependence on specific knowledge, lack of scalability and isolated solutions without a global view.

EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack addresses this gap: a professional, scalable solution specifically designed for Sterling, which enhances operations, auditing and control while avoiding the costs and risks of ad hoc developments.

| Aspect | IBM Sterling B2B Integrator | In-house Solution | EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Information visibility | ⚠️ Fragmented across multiple screens | ⚠️ Partial and development-dependent | ✓ Unified, clear and accessible |
| End-to-end traceability | ⚠️ Limited and not visual | ⚠️ Complex to implement | ✓ Complete and visual |
| Event correlation | ⚠️ Manual | ✗ Error-prone | ✓ Automatic and contextual |
| Operations lifecycle | ✗ Not available | ⚠️ Difficult to build | ✓ Full representation |
| Signatory management | ⚠️ Partial information | ⚠️ Complex | ✓ Full visibility |
| Ease of use | ⚠️ Requires experience | ⚠️ Variable | ✓ Intuitive and business-oriented |
| Analysis time | ⚠️ High | ⚠️ Unstable | ✓ Fast and immediate |
| Maintenance | ✓ Covered by IBM | ✗ High ongoing cost | ✓ Included and evolving |
| Scalability | ✓ High | ⚠️ Limited | ✓ High and controlled |
| Operational risk | ⚠️ Medium | ✗ High | ✓ Low |
| Time-to-value | ⚠️ Slow | ✗ Long development | ✓ Immediate |





EBICS Transaction Monitor

Search by Status, User, Order, Partner...

Results: 9 Página 1 de 1 - 9 filas

Columns Dark

Show Columns

Show All Hide All

- ORDER_ID
- ORDER_STATUS
- TRX_STATUS
- TIME_START
- TIME_END
- FILENAME
- PARENT_ORDER
- HOST
- USER
- PARTNER
- ORDER
- ORDER_TYPE
- FILE_FORMAT
- RETURN_CODE
- EBICS_VER
- AUTH_LEVEL
- SIGN_STATUS
- MIN_SIGNERS
- MAX_SIGNERS
- SIGS_DONE
- WORKFLOW_ID
- AUTH_KEY
- ENCR_KEY
- SIGN_KEY
- SIG_FILENAME
- FINAL_MAILBOX_PATH
- INITIAL_MAILBOX_PATH
- FILE_SIZE

| ORDER_ID | ORDER_STATUS | TRX_STATUS | TIME_START | TIME_END | PARENT_ORDER | ORDER | ORDER_TYPE | WORKFLOW_ID | AUTH_KEY | ENCR_KEY | SIGN_KEY |
|----------|--------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------|------------|-------------|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A000 | RCVD | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:58:42.0 | 2026-03-13 09:58:45.0 | | CCU | T | 3432188 | B2B-Authentication-5043466798483394740 | B2B-Encryption-589418735667748357 | Signing-2737056740145195438 |
| A00V | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:55:51.0 | 2026-03-13 09:55:52.711 | A00P | HVE | S | 3432159 | B2B-Authentication-7809546857229670234 | B2B-Encryption-7815313855987383836 | Signing-4699817324167003000 |
| | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:55:20.0 | 2026-03-13 09:55:24.094 | | HVZ | S | 3432154 | B2B-Authentication-7809546857229670234 | B2B-Encryption-7815313855987383836 | Signing-4699817324167003000 |
| A00U | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:55:01.0 | 2026-03-13 09:55:02.969 | A00P | HVE | S | 3432148 | B2B-Authentication-5549047223032071746 | B2B-Encryption-8359884961774421246 | Signing-2167175533334196490 |
| | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:54:20.0 | 2026-03-13 09:54:25.067 | | HVZ | S | 3432139 | B2B-Authentication-5549047223032071746 | B2B-Encryption-8359884961774421246 | Signing-2167175533334196490 |
| A00P | RCVD | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:53:41.0 | 2026-03-13 09:53:43.0 | | CCT | T | 3432126 | B2B-Authentication-5043466798483394740 | B2B-Encryption-589418735667748357 | Signing-2737056740145195438 |
| A00T | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:52:50.0 | 2026-03-13 09:52:52.318 | A000 | HVE | S | 3432122 | B2B-Authentication-7809546857229670234 | B2B-Encryption-7815313855987383836 | Signing-4699817324167003000 |
| | | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:51:00.0 | 2026-03-13 09:51:04.554 | | HVZ | S | 3432114 | B2B-Authentication-7809546857229670234 | B2B-Encryption-7815313855987383836 | Signing-4699817324167003000 |
| A000 | RCVD | RCVD | 2026-03-13 09:48:30.0 | 2026-03-13 09:48:34.0 | | CCT | T | 3432095 | B2B-Authentication-5043466798483394740 | B2B-Encryption-589418735667748357 | Signing-2737056740145195438 |

◀ Previous Next ▶

1

EBICS Visibility & Routing Pack: A detailed view of the EBICS transaction flow, showing each transaction along with its status, processing times and key metadata to facilitate tracking and monitoring of the entire process.



4. EBICS Server Certificate Monitor



In EBICS environments running on IBM Sterling B2B Integrator, certificate management is often fragmented, manual and heavily reliant on expert knowledge.

There is no native operational layer that allows for end-to-end management of the certificate lifecycle. This creates a critical risk, which often goes unnoticed, within financial operations.

EBICS Server Certificate Monitor provides centralised visibility and proactive control over all EBICS certificates on IBM Sterling EBICS Server, enabling you to **anticipate expiries, prevent disruptions and ensure operational continuity in critical financial communications.**



4.1. The Problem.

The certificates used in EBICS connections (banks, partners, users):

- **They are deployed across multiple configurations and systems.**
- **They are generated automatically**, with unidentifiable names and no clear link to partners.
- **They are difficult to monitor, with only partial visibility.**
- **They lack proactive monitoring and centralised governance.**

Operational teams rely on:

- **Regular manual checks.**
- **In-house knowledge of specific configurations.**
- **Reactive troubleshooting when an incident occurs.**



4.2. Impact on the business (what happens without the solution)

This operating model leads to recurring, high-impact incidents:

- **Undetected time-outs that interrupt EBICS communications.**
- **Blocked payments in critical financial processes.**
- **Long incident resolution times** (between 2 and 8 hours).
- **Involvement of multiple teams** (L2, L3, Security, Business).
- **Heavy reliance on Sterling specialists.**

Between **30% and 40%** of critical EBICS incidents are related to certificates.

4.3. The solution

EBICS Server Certificate Monitor adds an operational layer to IBM Sterling, transforming certificate management into a controlled, visual and proactive process.

The solution provides:

- **Safer, disruption-free operations, avoiding interruptions in banking communications.**
- **Centralised control and visibility of all EBICS certificates, with key information for each certificate, including expiry dates.**
- **Automatic mapping between certificates and partners.**
- **Automatic identification of expiry risks.**
- **Full usage context (who, where, and for what purpose).**
- **Continuous monitoring with proactive alerts.**
- **Reduced operational risk in financial integrations.**

4.4. Key Skills

- Unified EBICS certificate dashboard.
- Expiry tracking with automatic alerts.
- Centralised management across banks and partners.
- Elimination of manual checks.
- Operational visibility for IT, Operations and Security.
- Enables monitoring of:
 - Bank certificates.
 - Partner certificates.
 - EBICS user certificates.



Certificates are no longer a blind spot but become a **fully controlled asset**.

4.5. Information available

EBICS Server Certificate Monitor displays key information for each EBICS certificate:

- Bank or partner organization.
- EBICS user.
- Key type (Signature, Authentication, Encryption).
- Certificate name.
- Valid from date.
- Expiry date.
- Current status.
- Days remaining until expiry.

4.6. Measurable Impact

Organisations that implement the solution achieve:





- **Up to 70% fewer certificate-related incidents.**
- **Over 60% reduction in mean time to resolution (MTTR).**
- **Virtually no more outages due to expiry.**
- **Over 50% reduction in manual operational effort.**

4.7. Benefits





4.8. Use cases

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>EBICS corporate payments</p>  <p>Ensures uninterrupted banking communications without any certificate-related disruptions.</p> | <p>Large Corporations</p>  <p>Centralised control across multiple banks, regions and</p> | <p>Security and Compliance</p>  <p>Full visibility and support for audits in regulated environments.</p> | <p>IT Operations (L2 / L3)</p>  <p>Faster diagnosis, fewer escalations and greater operational efficiency.</p> |
|---|--|---|--|

4.9. Why not just use IBM or scripts?

IBM Sterling (standard capabilities):

- Certificate information is fragmented.
- No operational lifecycle dashboard.
- Expiry control relies on manual processes.
- Troubleshooting requires a high level of technical expertise.

Scripts / in-house solutions:

- Limited scalability and maintainability.
- No unified data model or lifecycle view.
- High dependency on specific individuals.
- Partial coverage and lack of operational robustness.

EBICS Server Certificate Monitor:

- Centralised, production-ready operational dashboard.
- Integrated lifecycle management.
- Designed for operations, not just configuration.
- Demonstrable reduction in incidents and operational effort.

As a result, organisations operate reactively, identifying issues only after they have already impacted the service.

EBICS Server Certificate Monitor shifts this paradigm by introducing a proactive, centralised model focused on operational continuity.





The following comparison clearly illustrates this difference:

| Key skills | IBM Sterling B2B Integrator | In-house solution | EBICS Server Certificate Monitor |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Certificate ↔ Partner relationship | ✗ Not available | ⚠ Difficult to develop | ✓ Automatic |
| Clear identification of certificates | ✗ Technical terms | ⚠ Mid-term | ✓ Clear and straightforward |
| Expiry control | ⚠ Manual / scattered | ⚠ Subject to further development | ✓ Centralised and visible |
| Signature type | ✗ Not easily accessible | ⚠ Limited | ✓ Visible directly |
| Global visibility | ✗ Fragmented | ⚠ Mid-term | ✓ Unified |
| Proactive management | ✗ Reactivate | ⚠ Limited | ✓ Proactive |
| Implementation time | — | ✗ High (months) | ✓ Immediate |
| Maintenance | ✓ Low | ✗ High | ✓ Evolution included |
| Operational risk | ⚠ Medium | ✗ High | ✓ Low |

Without a dedicated operational layer, certificate management in EBICS remains a **recurring and invisible risk**.

EBICS Server Certificate Monitor eliminates this risk by providing:

- **Visibility**
- **Control**
- **Foresight**

Transforming a fragile process into a governed and predictable operation.

EBICS Server Certificates Monitor
Shows BANK and PARTNER certificates. Legend pills filter by status (multi-select).

USERE

Bank Partner

BANK
14 Total certs: 6 OK, 0 Expiring, 8 Expired

PARTNER
61 Total: 37 OK, 0 Expiring, 24 Expired

Partner Click a header to sort (STATUS sorts by days).

| PARTNER | USER | KEY_TYPE | CERT_NAME | VALID_FROM | VALID_TO | STATUS |
|--------------|---------|----------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| PARTNERBUENO | USERE | S | Signing-1363687374886588232 | 2020-11-11 19:19:44.0 | 2030-11-09 19:19:44.0 | OK (1702d) |
| PARTNERBUENO | USERE | A | Dark-Authentication-4154689028191188155 | 2022-05-10 12:15:52.0 | 2025-02-27 11:15:52.0 | EXPIRED (-379d) |
| PARTNERBUENO | USERE | E | Dark-Encryption-7571476608634164651 | 2022-05-10 12:15:26.0 | 2025-02-27 11:15:26.0 | EXPIRED (-379d) |
| MYPARTNER | MYUSERE | S | Signing-4699817324167003000 | 2025-08-06 12:10:54.0 | 2035-08-04 12:10:54.0 | OK (3431d) |
| MYPARTNER | MYUSERE | A | B2B-Authentication-7809546857229670234 | 2025-08-06 11:59:51.0 | 2028-05-02 11:59:51.0 | OK (789d) |
| MYPARTNER | MYUSERE | E | B2B-Encryption-7815313855987383836 | 2025-08-06 11:59:51.0 | 2028-05-02 11:59:51.0 | OK (789d) |

EBICS Server Certificate Monitor: Full control over the EBICS certificate lifecycle: early risk detection, visibility by partner, and elimination of operational blind spots.



5. Sterling Certificate Guardian



Digital certificate management is a critical component in any secure B2B information exchange environment. In platforms such as IBM Sterling B2B Integrator, where multiple connections, partners and communication channels coexist, the volume of certificates can grow rapidly and become a significant operational challenge.

Ensuring that all certificates remain valid and are properly managed is essential to maintain communication continuity, prevent incidents and ensure compliance with security standards. However, as environments evolve and increase in complexity, manual monitoring becomes inefficient, raising the risk of errors, unplanned disruptions, and increased operational workload for platform administrators.

Sterling Certificate Guardian is a dynamic dashboard designed to provide centralised visibility and control over all certificates within IBM Sterling, enabling organisations to anticipate expirations, prevent incidents and strengthen security across B2B communications.



5.1. The Problem.

In environments based on IBM Sterling B2B Integrator, the configuration and management of file collection processes via SFTP are often characterised by limited visibility, leading to several structural issues:

- **Fragmented certificate information** across different levels (system, trusted, CA).
- **Difficulty identifying expired or soon-to-expire certificates.**
- **Dependence on manual reviews** and non-standardised processes.
- High risk of **disruptions to secure communications.**

5.2. Business Impact (what happens without the solution)

The impact is immediate:

- **Disruptions:** Connectivity failures with partners.
- **Non-compliance:** Contractual and regulatory risk.



- **Operational overload:** Increased workload for IT teams.
- **Lack of control:** Difficulty planning certificate renewals.

In sensitive environments, this not only affects systems, but also represents a **direct operational and reputational risk to the business.**

5.3. The solution

Sterling Certificate Guardian provides:

- **Centralised, comprehensive and real-time visibility:** All certificates in a single location, regardless of their nature:
 - Trusted certificates.
 - System certificates.
 - Private CA certificates.
- **Expiration alerts:** Identifies certificates that are close to expiry or already expired.
- **Automatic calculation** of remaining days until expiry.
- **Classification by criticality** and usage context.
- **Advanced search and filtering across multiple dimensions** (name, owner, dates, type).
- **Prevention of incidents** affecting secure communications.
- **Scalability:** Operates efficiently in large and complex environments.

From an architectural perspective, the solution is designed for **rapid and non-intrusive deployment**, integrating with existing components without impacting operations or requiring changes to business workflows.





5.4. Benefits



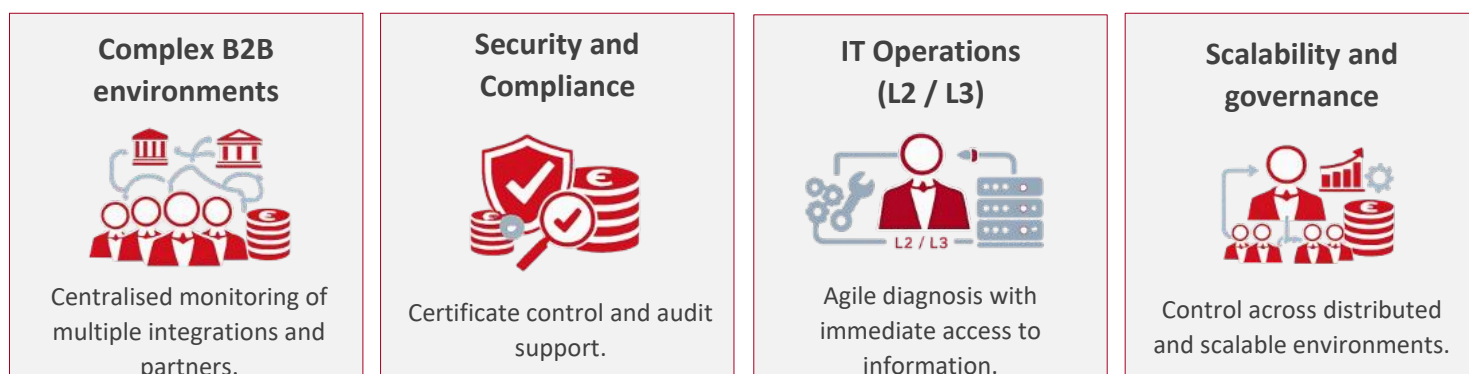
5.5. Value proposition

Sterling Certificate Guardian transforms certificate management within IBM Sterling B2B Integrator by delivering visibility, control and proactive management capabilities across complex B2B environments.

The solution replaces manual and fragmented processes with a centralised and proactive management model, reducing operational risks, improving communication continuity and minimising dependency on specialist knowledge.

In addition, it strengthens governance and compliance, enabling organisations to operate with greater efficiency, security and operational maturity.

5.6. Use cases





5.7. Business Impact

Sterling Certificate Guardian directly impacts the stability, continuity and security of B2B communications, eliminating one of the main operational failure points: the lack of visibility and control over digital certificates.

In organisations without a specialised solution:

- Up to **35% – 45%** of secure communications incidents are related to expired or poorly managed certificates.
- Identification and analysis of these issues can consume between **2 and 6 hours** of manual work per incident.
- Interruptions can directly affect critical business processes, partners and operational SLAs.

With **Sterling Certificate Guardian**:

- **Up to 80% reduction in the time required to identify critical** or soon-to-expire certificates.
- **70% – 90% reduction in incidents** related to certificate expirations.
- **Near-total elimination of unexpected disruptions** caused by unmanaged certificates.
- **Over 60% reduction in manual effort** for monitoring, review and control tasks.
- **Significant improvement in security and governance** within the IBM Sterling B2B Integrator environment.

The impact goes beyond technical operations:

- **Greater business continuity and resilience.**
- **Reduced costs associated** with incidents and resolution times.
- **Increased trust** in the Sterling platform.

Sterling Certificate Guardian
Shows TRUSTED, CA (private), and SYSTEM certificates. Expiry is computed in-browser (real-time friendly).

Search by Owner, Name, Dates...

OK Expiring ≤ 30d Expired

All Trusted CA System

TRUSTED
100 Total 58 OK 0 Expiring 42 Expired

CA (PRIVATE)
19 Total 16 OK 0 Expiring 3 Expired

SYSTEM
25 Total 4 OK 0 Expiring 21 Expired

TRUSTED Certificates Click a column header to sort.

| OWNER | NAME | UPLOADED ▲ | VALID FROM | VALID TO | SERIAL | STATUS |
|-------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| admin | EBICS_C_ENCR | 2022-05-05 13:18:59.855 | 2022-05-05 13:16:01.0 | 2025-02-22 12:16:01.0 | 2323423 | EXPIRED (-384d) |
| admin | EBICS_C_AUTH | 2022-05-05 13:19:19.939 | 2022-05-05 13:15:39.0 | 2025-02-22 12:15:39.0 | 5234252 | EXPIRED (-384d) |
| admin | EBICS_C_SIGN | 2022-05-05 13:23:09.872 | 2020-11-11 19:54:13.0 | 2030-11-09 19:54:13.0 | 17797296238739132290 | OK (1702d) |
| admin | EBICS_S_AUTH | 2022-05-05 13:28:41.216 | 2022-05-05 13:26:59.0 | 2025-02-22 12:26:59.0 | 2332523 | EXPIRED (-384d) |
| admin | EBICS_S_ENCR | 2022-05-05 13:29:01.626 | 2022-05-05 13:27:24.0 | 2025-02-22 12:27:24.0 | 36454532 | EXPIRED (-384d) |
| admin | Signing-17797296238739132290 | 2022-05-05 13:32:54.081 | 2020-11-11 19:54:13.0 | 2030-11-09 19:54:13.0 | 17797296238739132290 | OK (1702d) |

Centralised certificate view in Sterling Certificate Guardian, with classification by type (Trusted, CA and System), visual status indicators, and immediate detection of expired or soon-to-expire certificates. The solution provides real-time visibility, streamlines operational management and reduces the risk of disruptions in B2B communications.



5.8. Differentiating Value

IBM Sterling B2B Integrator enables certificate visibility, but only at **an individual level and without expiry alerts**, making it difficult to manage environments with large numbers of certificates and to plan changes proactively.

Sterling Certificate Guardian centralises all information, displaying certificates by type (Trusted, CA and System) and highlighting those nearing expiration, enabling planning and ensuring operational continuity even in complex environments.

Attempting to replicate this functionality through in-house scripting requires skilled professionals and continuous maintenance, and does not guarantee the scalability or security provided by a specialised software solution. Our solution delivers **maturity, reliability and proven efficiency**.

The following table provides a clear comparative overview of functionalities, limitations and advantages between IBM Sterling B2B Integrator, in-house script-based solutions, and **Sterling Certificate Guardian**.

| Aspect | IBM Sterling B2B Integrator | In-house Solution (scripts) | Sterling Certificate Guardian |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Visualisation | ⚠️ – One by one | ⚠️ Manual and partial | ✅ Centralised by type |
| Expiration detection | ❌ < Not automatic | ⚠️ Partial and risky | ✅ Proactive alerts |
| Scalability | ⚠️ Limited | ❌ Poor scalability | ✅ High, large environments |
| Continuity | ⚠️ Dependent on the admin team | ⚠️ Risk of omissions | ✅ Anticipated planning |
| Maintenance | ⚠️ Generalist | ❌ High workload and outdated | ✅ Specialised and supported |
| Security | ⚠️ No preventive alerts | ⚠️ Vulnerable if it fails | ✅ Robust and reliable |
| Operational efficiency | ⚠️ Manual | ⚠️ Script-dependent | ✅ Saves time and reduces errors |
| Planning | ❌ Hard to anticipate | ⚠️ Limited | ✅ Scheduled renewals |
| Risk | ⚠️ High if omitted | ⚠️ Elevated | ✅ Minimises failures and outages |
| Maturity | ⚠️ Generalist | ❌ Not professional | ✅ Proven B2B software |



6. SFTP Feed Tool



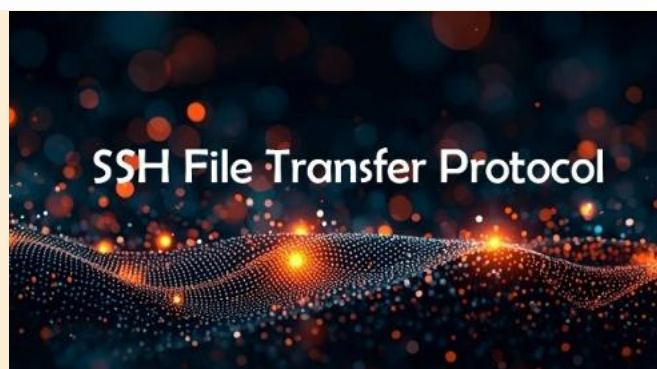
In today's B2B integration environments, the management of SFTP exchanges increasingly requires greater agility, traceability and operational control. However, many organisations continue to rely on complex technical configurations and inefficient operating models, particularly on critical platforms such as IBM Sterling B2B Integrator.

As the number of feeds, partners and exchange processes grows, it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain control, quickly identify incidents and ensure sustainable administration. Operations end up relying on specialist knowledge, multiple configuration points and processes that are difficult to monitor in a unified manner.

This situation not only impacts the technical area, but also the business's responsiveness, resolution times and overall efficiency.

The need to simplify, centralise and provide real visibility over SFTP flows becomes a key factor in improving governance and reducing operational cost.

SFTP Feed Tool simplifies and speeds up the configuration, control and monitoring of SFTP data collections in IBM Sterling B2B Integrator, enabling you to operate more efficiently, reduce errors and improve control over your integrations.



6.1. The Problem.

In IBM Sterling B2B Integrator-based environments, the configuration and management of file retrieval via SFTP typically involves:

- **Transfers distributed across multiple interdependent technical components** (partners, routes, processes and related elements).
- **Fragmented and non-intuitive management.**
- **Difficulty in understanding the end-to-end flow.**
- **Low end-to-end traceability.**
- **Dependence on technical profiles.**
- **Slow incident diagnosis.**



6.2. Business Impact (what happens without the solution)

This leads to a direct impact on operations:

- Increased **operational complexity**.
- Longer **resolution times**.
- Higher risk of **human error**.
- Lack of true **process visibility**.
- **Higher operational costs**.
- **Limited agility** in the face of changes or new integrations.

In environments with multiple feeds and partners, this complexity becomes an **operational bottleneck, limiting efficiency and increasing the risk of incidents**.

6.3. The Solution

SFTP Feed Tool is an application designed to provide an **intuitive, structured and operations-oriented approach**.

Through a simplified interface, users can:

- Configure new file retrievals quickly and in a guided manner.
- Enable or disable processes according to operational needs.
- Reuse existing configurations to accelerate deployments.

The tool also incorporates a **real-time monitoring system**, which enables users to **visualise the status of feeds and detect incidents immediately**.

One of its key differentiators is the capability for detailed phase-based process analysis:

- Begin.
- Get.
- Delete.

This, together with workflow-level detail, enables precise identification of where an error occurs, significantly reducing diagnosis time.

In addition, the solution provides execution metrics that facilitate performance tracking and continuous process optimisation.

From an architectural perspective, the tool is designed to integrate naturally with IBM Sterling B2B Integrator, without the need for complex developments or impact on existing flows.

Overall, **SFTP Feed Tool** transforms a traditionally technical and costly process into an **agile capability** that provides:

- **Centralised configuration** in a single point.
- **Removal of the complex partner-based model**.
- Phased transmission visibility (**detailed control**).
- **Full end-to-end monitoring**.
- **Simplified access** for business and operations.
- **Fast and accurate diagnosis**.



6.5. Value Proposition

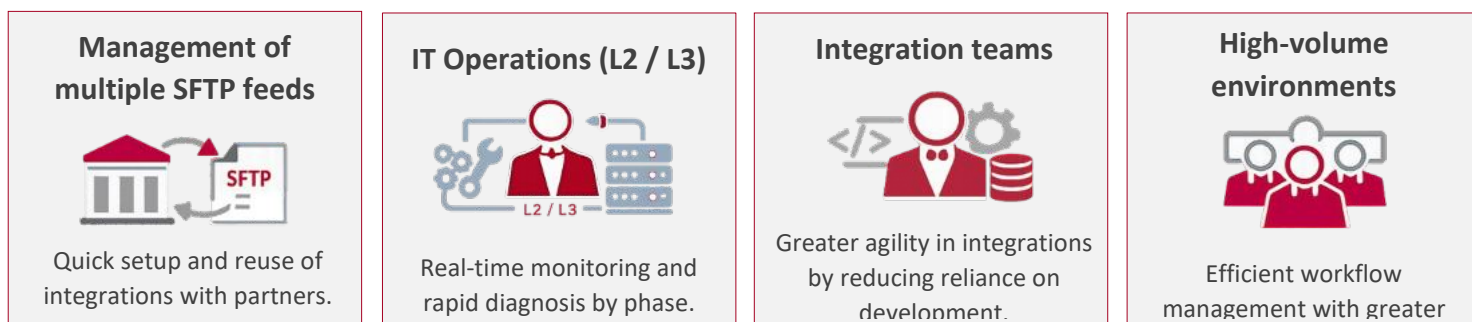
SFTP Feed Tool radically simplifies the management of SFTP integrations within IBM Sterling B2B Integrator, replacing a complex, highly technical model with a centralised, standardised and operations-oriented approach.

It enables feed management to move from technical teams to operational profiles, reducing dependency, errors and response times.

In addition, it provides greater consistency across configurations and establishes a scalable foundation for environments with a high volume of integrations.

Ultimately, the tool transforms SFTP management into a **more agile, governed and business-aligned process**, freeing up technical resources and improving the overall efficiency of the platform.

6.6. Use Cases



6.7. Business Impact

In traditional models, SFTP operations are characterised by high technical complexity and strong dependence on specialist profiles:

- **The configuration of a new feed can take between 4 and 16 hours**, depending on the complexity of the flow and the team's level of expertise.
- **Incident analysis and resolution may require between 1 and 3 days** in non-optimised environments, due to the need for manual review across multiple components.
- **Configuration errors generate rework cycles that can increase operational effort by an additional 20%–35%.**
- **The lack of end-to-end visibility complicates diagnosis** and extends service recovery times.

With **SFTP Feed Tool**, this model evolves into a more efficient and controlled operational approach:

- **50%–70% reduction in configuration times**, moving from hours to minutes in most standard use cases.
- **60%–80% decrease in configuration errors**, thanks to process standardisation and centralisation.
- **Reduction in incident diagnosis time of up to 40%–60%**, through phase-based visibility (Begin / Get / Delete).



- **Significant reduction in dependence on specialist technical profiles**, shifting operations towards functional teams.
- **Overall operational cost optimisation of between 25%–40%**, by reducing rework, incidents and support effort.

Overall, the solution not only improves process efficiency, but also introduces a more predictable, controlled and scalable operating model, aligned with the demands of critical integration environments.

6.8. Differentiating Value

The management of SFTP file retrievals within IBM Sterling B2B Integrator is primarily focused on technical configuration, which introduces complexity and dependence on specialist profiles.

SFTP Feed Tool's ability to combine simplicity, monitoring and detailed diagnosis makes it a distinctive solution compared with traditional approaches or costly bespoke developments.

| Aspect | IBM Sterling (standard) | In-house Solution (scripts) | SFTP Feed Tool |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| Configuration model | ⚠️ Complex (partners + multiple objects) | ❌ Fragmented, non-standardised | ✅ Centralised and simplified |
| Process visibility | ⚠️ Partial, not always End-to-End | ❌ Limited or non-existent | ✅ Complete and phased (End-to-End) |
| Ease of use | ⚠️ Designed for technical profiles | ❌ Developer-dependent | ✅ Accessible and operational |
| Traceability | ⚠️ Dispersed | ❌ Limited or manual | ✅ Clear, structured, and detailed |
| Incident management | ⚠️ Slow, requires technical analysis | ❌ Reactive and unreliable | ✅ Fast and accurate |
| Scalability | ⚠️ High but complex to manage | ❌ Limited and difficult to maintain | ✅ High and controlled |
| Maintenance | ⚠️ Requires specialised knowledge | ❌ High cost and internal dependency | ✅ Controlled and sustainable evolution |
| Operational risk | ⚠️ Medium (due to complexity) | ❌ High (errors, lack of control) | ✅ Low |
| Time-to-market | ⚠️ Medium | ❌ Variable and unpredictable | ✅ Fast |
| Governance | ⚠️ Technical | ❌ Non-existent or weak | ✅ Structured |
| Customer experience | ⚠️ Solid technological foundation | ❌ Ad-hoc solutions | ✅ Proven and validated in large organisations |



Communication

If you need more information about our solutions, please feel free to contact us.

We will be happy to answer your questions.

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