

MFT Buyers Guide Checklist

Choosing the right Managed File Transfer (MFT) solution is an important investment. Along with improving internal business processes, you're protecting relationships with trading partners and customers to ensure their files are secured and delivered on time and on schedule.

When researching your options for an MFT solution, use this checklist to compare vendors and products.

ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS TO FIND THE BEST SOLUTION FOR YOUR COMPANY		Vendor #2	Vendor #3
Can you administer file transfers centrally (from the browser) without having to install software on individual PCs?	✓		
Can the MFT solution run on a variety of platforms (e.g. Windows, VMware, Linux, IBM i, AIX, etc.) so you have flexibility without compromising functionality?	✓		
Does the MFT solution have role-based administration to allow for separation of duties?	✓		
Can it help guarantee delivery of file transfers with connection retries, auto resume and integrity checks?	✓		
Are all of the popular security standards supported including OpenPGP, AES, SFTP, FTPS, HTTPS and AS2?	✓		
Does it provide the option to use only FIPS 140-2 certified algorithms for encrypting sensitive data?	✓		
Are you able to compress and decompress files using ZIP, GZIP and TAR standards?	✓		
Can it extract data from a database and convert it to popular file formats (CSV, fixed-width, XLS, XML, etc.) for transmission?	✓		
Does the solution allow you to translate/parse files (CSV, fixed-width, XLS, XML, etc.) received directly into a database?	✓		
Does it have configurable error handling (e.g. auto-retry, continue, send email alerts or system messages, etc.)?	✓		
Will the MFT solution produce detailed audit trails of all file-transfer activity as well as support SYSLOG feeds?	✓		
Does it include an integrated scheduler for running transfers at future dates/times with configurable holiday calendars?	✓		
Can it monitor folders for new files and call workflows to process those files?	✓		
Does the MFT solution include integrated key and certificate management tools?	✓		
Can you extend the MFT solution by developing your own custom tasks?	✓		
Does the MFT solution allow users to create ad-hoc file transfers securely?	✓		
Is a DMZ gateway available to allow sensitive files to be kept in the internal network (out of the DMZ) without needing to open inbound ports into that internal network?	✓		
Can you trade with an unlimited number of trading partners for one price?	✓		
Is the learning curve short so you can be productive within hours?	✓		
Can you easily integrate with the web and cloud applications you use every day (e.g. Dropbox, Salesforce, SharePoint, etc.)?	✓		
Can you monitor file transfer metrics and system activity on-the-go from any device, including smartphones and tablets?	✓		