

PopUp Mainframe FastTrack Option



In the IBM Mainframe community, studies reveal an overwhelming reliance on the platform to support critical business systems – including a strong desire to leverage the latest z/OS and IFL processors.

However, recent market research data* also highlights that mainframe change is hard to do efficiently.

- Nearly all respondents experienced challenges in dev and test when using the mainframe
- Nearly 9 out of 10 have concerns over the availability of mainframe environments
- Nearly a third require 4 or more teams to get mainframe deliveries done
- 8 out of 10 think that staffing and tooling limitations are hindering the business

In short, **delivery bottlenecks are hampering business.**

When Mainframe Change Needs to Change

That's where PopUp Mainframe and the FastTrack Option can help.

An instantly available mainframe environment to accelerate urgent development and testing activities, PopUp Mainframe is functionally equivalent to z/OS, and runs under Linux on Z, LinuxOne, or x86 servers running in the cloud or data centre.

A FastTrack to Flexible, Fast Mainframe Delivery

Imagine being able to turn back time and restore a previous version of your instantly available PopUp environment in seconds...

PopUp Mainframe FastTrack offers a guaranteed way to reset to the last working version of your PopUp environment, no matter how badly it's broken.

With FastTrack, you can take a snapshot of your entire PopUp, anytime, then rollback your environment to one of your previous snapshots, on-demand. Current changes are not lost either, so you can jump back and forth between snapshots and the latest changes, without worrying about losing work.

The FastTrack Export feature enables rapid, predictable replication of approved z/OS environments.

FastTrack - supporting your strategic goals

FastTrack delivers against strategic objectives of **Speed of Delivery, Operational Flexibility, Cost Containment and Risk Management**

- Automatic sharing and resetting of environments across teams reduces effort and accelerates throughput
- Rapidly available, pre-configured environments enable more resources to support peak project activities across AppDev, QA, Systems Admin, DBA, and SysProg functions
- Harnessing incumbent platforms and switching off unused environments yields cost efficiencies and protects production MIPS
- Sharing data and delegating access stays within data compliance policy

Easy and Efficient

The PopUp Mainframe FastTrack facility includes a range of simple commands for export, branching, and reset, plus a dedicated user interface (below) for a simple, centralised administration.

FastTrack

PopUp System Status
Hostname: popup237 | IP: 10.10.1.237 | z/OS version: 02.05.00 | FastTrack version: 1.0.16-tmp
z/OS status: Mounted Branch | Last IPL: 2026-02-04 22:00:15 | Storage Used / Available: 155 GB / 435 GB
Running

PopUp Controls
▶ Start PopUp | ■ Stop PopUp

Create Snapshot
Snapshot Name:
Comment:
Create Snapshot

Branches & Snapshots Overview

Branch Name	Snapshot Count	Unique Data
001	3	86.4M
002	0	60.0M
003	0	532M
004	0	248M
005	0	201M

Each duplicated instance uses advanced compression techniques to limit storage and latency. As a general guide, FastTrack will compress to around 15% of original size, and 12% of transfer time. Note, duplication under the IFL (Linux Z) is significantly faster thanks to the underlying environment.

* - 2025 PopUp Mainframe Market Survey, conducted by Vanson Bourne. For more information, see www.popup-mainframe.com

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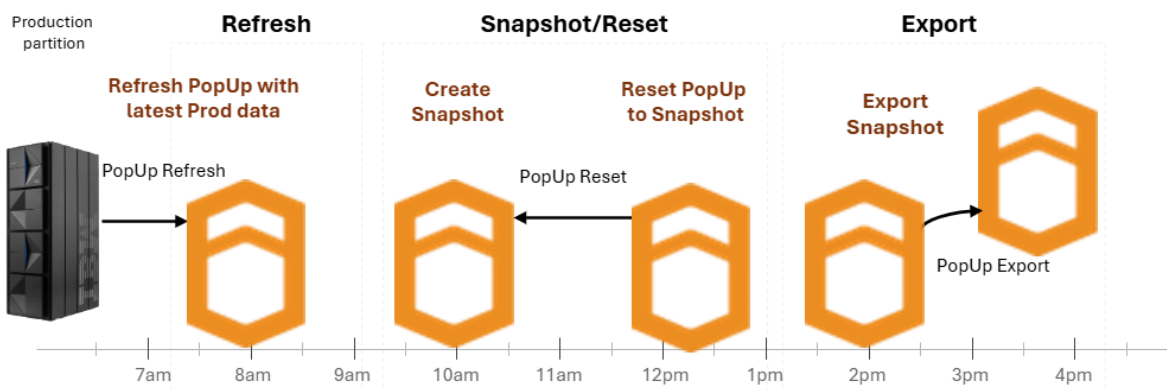
www.popup-mainframe.com

PopUp Mainframe FastTrack Option



Technical Overview

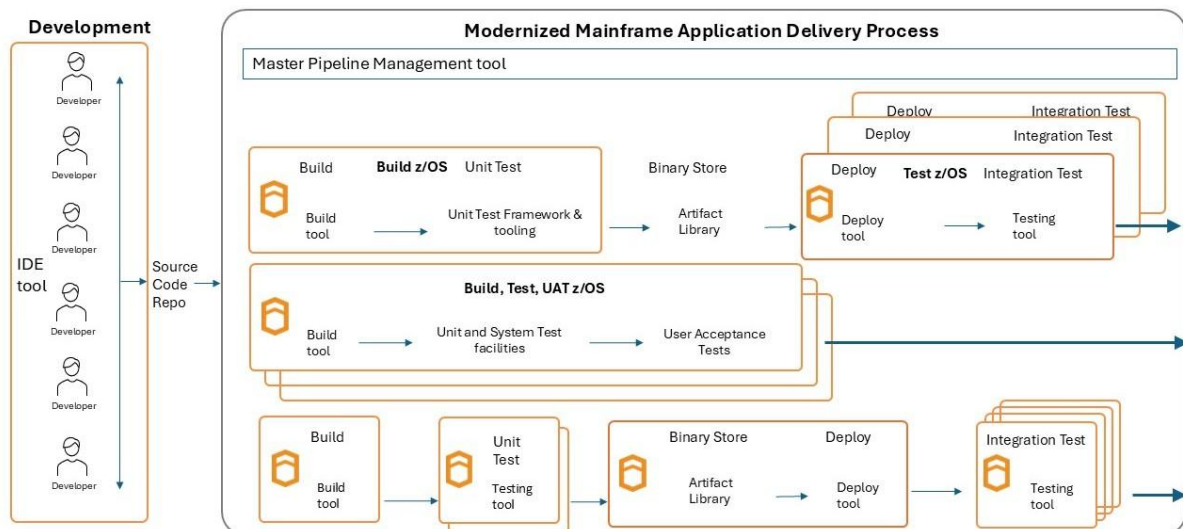
The PopUp Mainframe FastTrack Option saves a continuous history of data and configuration changes to enable self-service snapshot, restore, and export of PopUp instances to other staff or environments. Share and revert to baseline configurations flexibly and simply. Time saved in avoiding rework and configurations is a huge potential productivity benefit for many typical mainframe delivery scenarios.



Accelerating DevOps, Systems Administrator, and SysProg Tasks

The PopUp Mainframe FastTrack Option offers a ground-breaking capability to accelerate the necessary activities to provide virtual mainframe environments, whenever needed, running the right versions of the right software, to as many staff who need it.

Whether you are testing a new subsystem release, rolling out compliance changes across several application versions, testing behaviour across different operating systems, or looking to backout an error found in UAT, FastTrack enables an almost instant switch to a complete, ready-made virtual environment to accelerate the task at hand in a consistent, scalable manner.



By enabling replication and resetting of pre-configured environments, FastTrack enables consistency, flexibility and resource efficiency across all life cycle stages, across DevOps and administrative activities. Watch our short video [here](#).