



## OpCon and IBM i

Automate and integrate Power Systems across the enterprise from a single point-of-control with OpCon

### Ready for Digital Business

IBM i is often described as a legacy system. In fact, it has strongly embedded virtualization, a technology independent layer and an open philosophy that includes ZEND, PHP, Node.JS, GIT and Python to name a few. In addition, IBM i has enviable reliability and a total cost of ownership that is lower than any other server/database combination. IBM i has continually evolved and embraced new technologies just like SMA Solutions, and both OpCon and IBM i have a strong and successful history. IBM i with OpCon is a perfect combination and should be at the heart of the business.

### IBM i and OpCon

If businesses are using IBM i, then adding OpCon brings several new dimensions such as world-class automation, robotic process automation (RPA), integration with all systems and a single point-of-control. SMA Solutions has a mature and robust agent for IBM i that tightly integrates with OpCon. The agent

supports advanced local automation solutions as well as full message management, dynamic variables, multi-step job scripting, operator replay and much more. The IBM i agent sends events back to the OpCon server and monitors all jobs. All this means is that a lights-out operation is easy with OpCon.

### Robotic Process Automation

RPA is the ability to automate human actions. OpCon for IBM i includes an Operator Replay capability that is widely used to record and playback actions. Manual activities, such as entering orders or triggering day-end processing from a menu, can be automated easily in OpCon just as if the operator had executed it. With real-time adaptation using variables, the IBM i agent for OpCon imitates manual tasks which can be embedded in any OpCon workflow.

CHALLENGE	SOLUTION	BENEFITS
In-house developed routines handling FTP and payments became unstable and costly	OpCon manages all workflows and processes all FTP and payment activity	Development is no longer involved and errors that used to take at least half a day to recover no longer occur
A time-based IBM i nightly schedule delayed online processing in remote locations	OpCon event-driven workflows now replace the time-based schedules including IPL and backups	The OpCon workflow's time is significantly less than the original schedule, which allows the online day to start on time
Integrating IBM i, Windows, SQL and VMWare tasks was a manual process	OpCon workflows integrate tasks across all applications and servers	Manual intervention is no longer required. Skills now center around OpCon with workflow visualization

## Multiply the Power of the Data Center

Beyond the cross-platform centralized solution, the power of OpCon is extended into many different operating systems with tools that are adapted to their unique capabilities. By integrating the workflows and dependencies together in a single, universal GUI, OpCon can manage even the most complex IT environments from a single point-of-control.

## Conversion Framework

SMA Solutions has been in business for nearly four decades and has converted many different schedulers and automation tools during that time. Our automation experts have robust, efficient and highly automated techniques that enable us to assimilate all tasks with zero downtime and zero risk to the business. Converting to OpCon under our well-practiced framework will provide greater visibility and immediate benefits with a single point-of-control.

## Operational Advantages

- Monitoring with recovery action
- Watch for jobs stuck with MSGW
- View logs from OpCon
- Operator action and logging
- Passwords encrypted
- Dynamic handling of multiple environments
- Easily rerun jobs with different parameters

## IBM i Agent Features

- Message management
- Spool file management
- Multi-step job scripting
- Operator replay (RPA)
- Job capture and tracking
- Automated report scanning
- File transfer automation
- Restricted mode automation