Scott & Bob talk Db2 for i

Your IBM i runs everything...Bob helps you run faster.

IBM

Db2 for i

IBM

Your IBM i team is under pressure...

Sound familiar?

- Critical systems depend on a shrinking pool of senior talent
- Knowledge is concentrated in tribal knowledge, not in documentation.
- New hires take months to become productive on older code
- Every change request carries business continuity risk
- Modernization pressure is growing and so is the maintenance backlog
- You need to do more with the same team, or a smaller one

This risk isn't just technical...it's operational

"What happens when our senior RPG developer retires?"
Knowledge walks out the door and there's no backup plan.

"How do I justify modernization to leadership?"
The ROI is clear, but the risk of breaking production is paralyzing.

"How do I scale output without scaling headcount?"
Budgets are flat. Backlogs are growing. Something has to give.

Why generic AI creates more risk

AI is promising, but the wrong tool in an IBM i environment can slow teams down and introduce risk.

What most AI tools provide...

- Minimal awareness of IBM i architecture or dependencies
- Developers spend time coaching the tool on basics
- Minimal governance, audit trail, or approval workflow
- Lack of system-level context, increasing defect risk
- Hard-to-measure impact on team velocity or onboarding

What IBM Bob provides..

- ✓ **Deep repository and dependency awareness**
- ✓ **RPG, CL, DDS, SQL, COBOL fluency**
- ✓ **Safe, repeatable modernization patterns**
- ✓ **Built-in governance and auditability**
- ✓ **Human approval gating at every step**

Your team doesn't need another experiment or pilot.
They need a tool that reduces risk from day one.

How Bob Drives Team Productivity & Modernization

Six capabilities that directly impact your team's velocity, quality, and risk profile.

Each capability maps to a measurable outcome with faster delivery, fewer defects, lower risk.

Understand

New team members grasp complex legacy systems in hours, not months

Explain

Auto-generated documentation and diagrams preserve institutional knowledge

Refactor

Standardize code structure across your portfolio, consistently and safely

Generate

Accelerate new feature delivery with context-aware RPG code generation

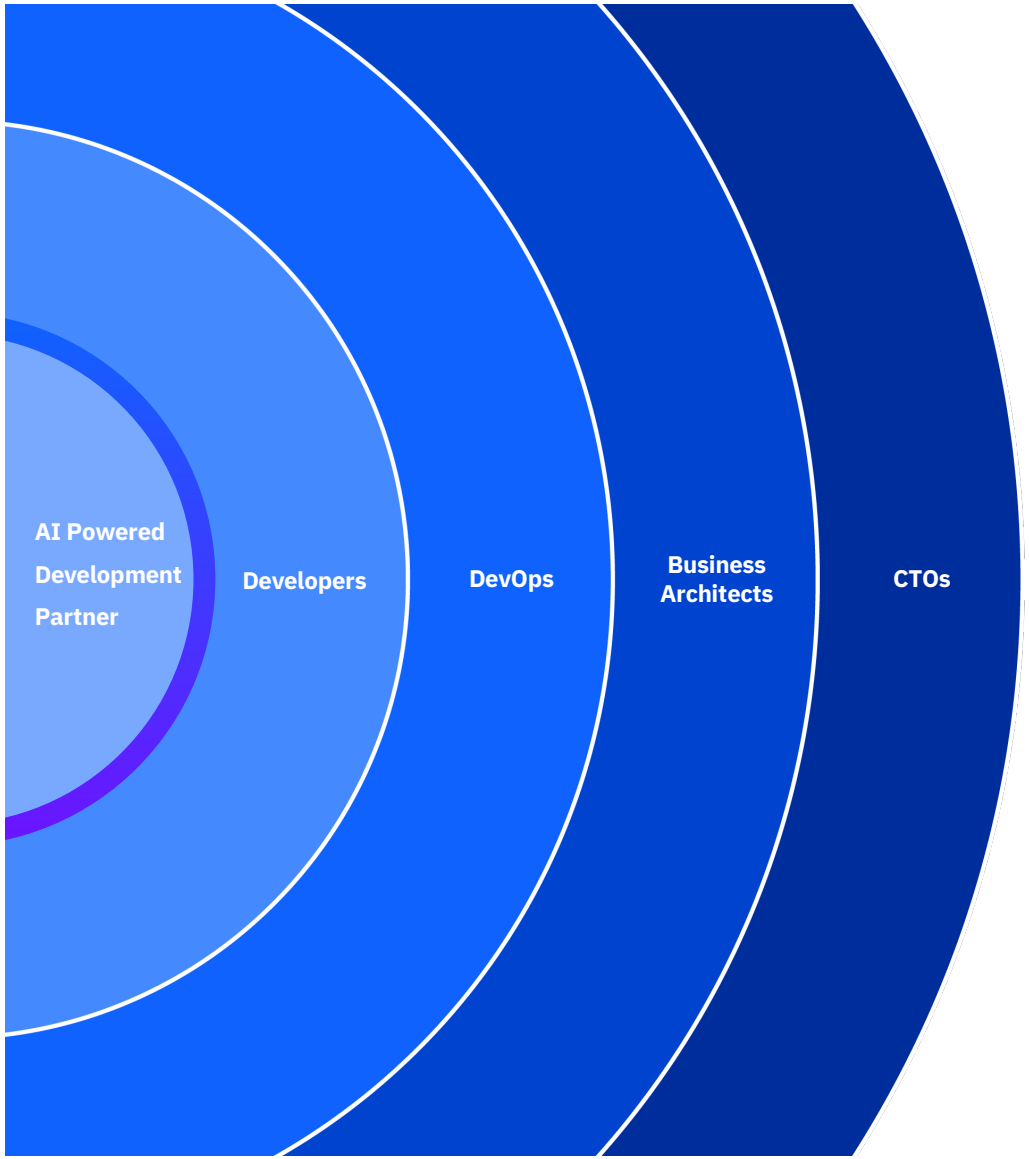
Transform

Execute your modernization roadmap: RPG II/III to ILE RPG, embedded SQL

Monolithic to Modular and Maintainability

Testing

Reduce defect risk with auto-generated unit tests using IBM i frameworks like RPGUNIT



Your Entire IBM i SDLC with IBM Bob at the core

Developers in application development and modernization

Plan, code, debug, compile, document, test, understand

DevOps in adopting modern DevOps processes

Deploy, CI/CD, test, PR reviews, monitor

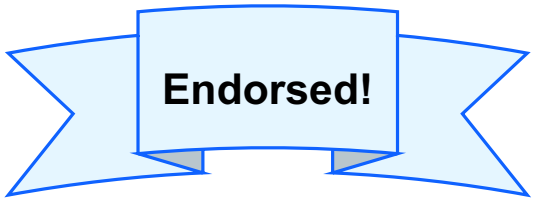
Architects in creating business logic and documentation

Business logic extraction, data driven insights, documentation, system dependencies, compliance gaps

CTOs in enabling faster innovation

Reduced technical debt, faster time to value, higher code quality, improved workforce stability, lower operational risk

What IBM i developers are saying about Bob



Modernizing IBM i Applications

"Bob is an expert in architecting and developing proof of concepts...Modernization project to migrate modules from IBM i and add new capabilities /constraints to the new flow, Bob has been instrumental in understanding the requirements and assisting in the development.

Bob has created comprehensive test cases to ensure all aspects are thoroughly tested before finalizing the development..."

Chandan Mahodi
Senior Software Developer, Programmers.ai

Building and Executing Design

"...Given the exact same prompt. Bob's planning was always had 10-fold more detailed than other AIs. More specifics, more details, and provided a better understanding of the steps through the project from beginning to end."

Bob Richardson,
ERP Support Analyst, Wynne Systems

Documentation and Onboarding

"When we got access to Bob, we started immediately documenting 90,000+ line programs. We started with a bit of skepticism and were pleasantly surprised by the results. Bob was able to list and label all the inputs/outputs and file structures, as well as its uses and important logic...Most importantly, Bob created documentation that we were able to give to brand new developers just starting on their IBM i journey."

Marina Schwenk
Innovative Software Solutions

Reverse Engineering RPG Legacy System

Customer: NI+C, a Japanese enterprise company maintaining mission-critical IBM i systems with RPG programs running for over 10 years without modifications.

Challenge: The company faced serious problems maintaining RPG programs on IBM i (AS400) systems, due to disappearing design documents and aging engineers, creating a "black box" of specifications. With robust code written over a decade ago still running unchanged, the future maintenance of these systems was in jeopardy. Manual reverse engineering to decipher specifications from existing code would require enormous time and effort.

Solution: Using IBM Bob's Explain function, the team analyzed complex RPG programs to generate highly accurate detailed design documents. Bob deciphered the complex indicators and deeply nested structures, clearly depicting the logical framework with careful yet simple explanations. The output included visual Mermaid diagrams that made it easy to grasp the overall processing flow at a glance. The "Enhance Prompt" button enabled engineers unfamiliar with AI to easily create high-quality design documents by having AI interpret instructions and provide optimal prompts in Japanese.

"The detailed design document created by Bob was so accurate that it amazed even experienced engineers who had tried other AI tools and felt that they were too limited for practical use."

Languages: RPG, IBM i (AS400), Mermaid

Accurate design docs for 10+ year old code

Captured complex logic in easy-to-follow Mermaid diagrams

Eliminated dependency on aging engineers

Application Modernization

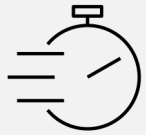
Customer: Jack Henry is a leading financial services and banking technology provider that uses IBM i on IBM® Power® to support its SilverLake core banking platform.

Challenge: As its application portfolio expanded in size and complexity, Jack Henry encountered growing challenges associated with maintaining and evolving a large RPG codebase. Applications had been enhanced over decades with customer-specific variations, while documentation did not always keep pace with ongoing change. Developers often spent significant time reviewing existing logic, comparing program versions, and validating secure coding practices. At the same time, the organization sought to accelerate delivery timelines while continuing to rely on its trusted IBM i environment.

Solution: By participating in the IBM Bob preview program, IBM Bob enabled Jack Henry developers to analyze and understand complex RPG programs more quickly, generate technical documentation automatically, identify differences across program versions, and improve secure coding practices. The solution accelerated modernization efforts by streamlining code analysis, reverse engineering, and code generation workflows while improving overall code quality and system understanding.

"Using IBM Bob, our developers are able to accelerate RPG development workflows, improve code quality, and gain deeper insights into decades of accumulated system knowledge while reducing modernization effort." -Kevin Sligar, Chief Technical Architect, Banking Solutions, Jack Henry

Language: RPG



Improved developer productivity by at least 25%

Improved code quality and security

Reduced modernization effort and strengthened long-term innovation readiness

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Application Modernization

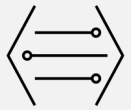
Customer: MEDHOST is a healthcare software provider that delivers mission-critical applications to hospitals across the United States. The organization relies on IBM i on IBM® Power® to support highly reliable, secure, and continuously available systems for patient care.

Challenge: MEDHOST operates in a highly demanding healthcare environment where applications must run continuously and support critical operations. Its IBM i environment contains decades of RPG-based business logic across multiple generations, increasing system complexity over time. Modernizing legacy code was becoming time-consuming, while limited familiarity with older RPG syntax constrained the available developer talent pool. Understanding program dependencies and performing impact analysis required significant effort, introducing risk when making changes.

Solution: By participating in the IBM Bob preview program, Bob enabled MEDHOST developers to analyze and explain complex RPG programs. By combining AI-driven insights with cross-reference data, teams were able to perform impact analysis more confidently and reduce the risk of missed dependencies. Bob accelerated modernization efforts by enabling conversion to free-form RPG, transforming data access to SQL-based approaches, and assisting with code refactoring. Additionally, the solution improved onboarding and knowledge transfer by generating clear documentation and explanations.

"The ability to analyze complex RPG applications and reduce manual coding effort by up to 50% has significantly improved our development productivity while minimizing risk in our mission-critical healthcare systems."- Michael Bowen, Senior Vice President of Technology, MEDHOST

Language: RPG



Reduced manual coding effort by up to 50%

Rapid analysis of complex RPG logic and dependencies

Faster ramp-up for new developers

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The evolution of AI for IBM i development

These aren’t just feature releases.

It's a progression toward AI that truly fits IBM i development.

IBM Bob

Understand & modernize

- Instantly explain complex RPG and CL
- Visualize dependencies and business logic
- Convert old RPG to new RPG safely
- Generate unit tests before making changes
- Modernize without breaking production

IBM Bob Premium Package for i

Unified & Optimized

- Connect directly to your IBM I, read / write / test / compile from Bob
- Unified developer workflow, no copy-paste
- Specialized skills & workflows for real IBM i development patterns
- Better results, fewer tokens, optimized for IBM i development
- Integrated User Experience

Future Innovations

End-to-end SDLC orchestration

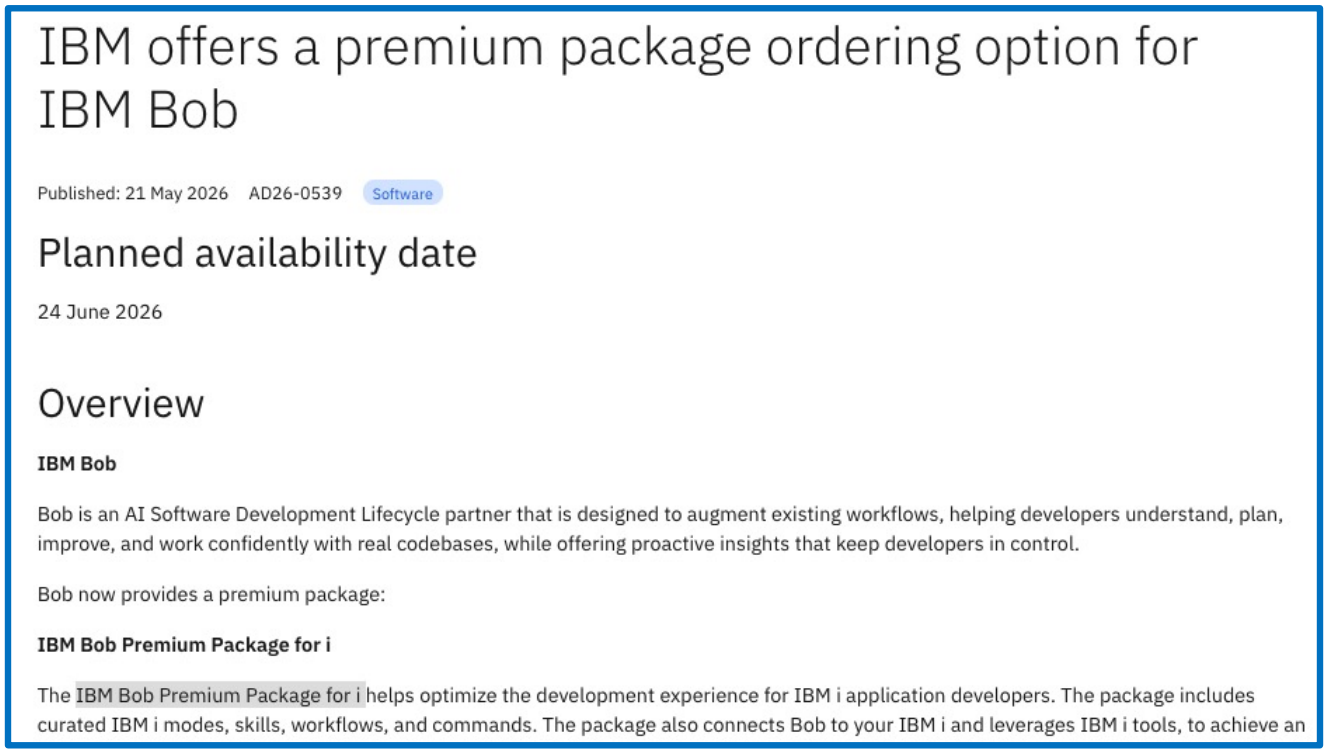
- DevOps integration including deploy, monitor, and CI/CD
- Expect a steady stream of AI features and innovations

Tailored experience, optimized outcome, unified workflow with Premium Package for i

Tailored experience for IBM i developers	Better results, fewer tokens	Unified developer workflow
IBM i Developer Mode* *Transforming Bob into an expert IBM i native developer with deep integration into the application technology and system*	**Curated skills** *Specialized IBM i skills that cover understand, explain, refactor, generate, transform, test, compile, and data management*	**Native IBM i connection** *Direct native IBM i connection via SSH, enabling Bob to perform native actions on the IBM i, including read/write/compile/run SQL/test code*
IBM i Database Mode* *Equips Bob to enable IBM i development team to analyze, optimize, and troubleshoot queries and provide deep knowledge on SQL and legacy DDS*	**High value workflows** *Taking on complex modernization activities in a step by step manner, determining what direction to go based on existing state. Ie, transforming from old RPG to Modern RPG, extracting business rules from a monolithic program, converting from DDS to DDL*	**Slash commands** *Mode-specific commands that are focused on specific tasks*

**Final mode naming & structure is subject to change*

IBM Bob Premium Package for i



IBM offers a premium package ordering option for IBM Bob

Published: 21 May 2026 AD26-0539 Software

Planned availability date

24 June 2026

Overview

IBM Bob

Bob is an AI Software Development Lifecycle partner that is designed to augment existing workflows, helping developers understand, plan, improve, and work confidently with real codebases, while offering proactive insights that keep developers in control.

Bob now provides a premium package:

IBM Bob Premium Package for i

The IBM Bob Premium Package for i helps optimize the development experience for IBM i application developers. The package includes curated IBM i modes, skills, workflows, and commands. The package also connects Bob to your IBM i and leverages IBM i tools, to achieve an

https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/announcements/offers-premium-package-ordering-option-bob-2026-05-21

Bob SaaS Plans at-a-Glance (GA Q1)

Base Bob SaaS Plans:

Self Service Plan that individuals will sign up for on the marketplace for qty one user.

Free Trial	Pro	Pro+	Ultra
$0 for 30 Days Includes 40 Bobcoins (1)	$20 per month (Individual Subscription) Includes 40 Bobcoins(1) Additional consumption bills @ $0.50 per Bobcoin Java / DevSecOps / IBMi Premium package can be added on	$60 per month (Individual Subscription) Includes 160 Bobcoins (1) Additional consumption bills @ $0.50 per Bobcoin Java / DevSecOps / IBM i premium package can be added on	$200 per month (Individual Subscription) Includes 500 Bobcoins (1) Additional consumption bills @ $0.50 per Bobcoin Java / DevSecOps / IBM i premium package can be added on

(1) One Bobcoin = $0.50 USD = 400,000 code tokens

Enterprise SaaS Plan that Sellers will sell.

Enterprise (SaaS)
$20/user/month (no max) $20 per (optional) premium add-on user Additional consumption $500 /1000 Bobcoins/annual Adds features like detailed usage reporting, individual & team quota mgmt., SSO integration, etc.

For Pre-GA Pricing for Clients, recommend assuming $1200 US per year per developer. This is enough for the Bob User Fee for all developers, some Premium Package Users, and shared pools of usage support.

Examples:
10 developers: budget $12K Annual Subscription
200 developers: budget $240K Annual Subscription

* Parts are in US USD pricing. Other currency prices will be in IBM Quoting upon GA.

Premium Add-Ons (2Q/3Q)

IBM Bob Premium Package for Java Modernization

$20 per month/user access + consumption @ plan rate

- Re-platform legacy JEE application to Liberty
- Framework modernization from legacy UI stacks

IBM Bob Premium Package for DevSecOps

$20 per month/user access + consumption @ plan rate

- Intent-driven ops model
- Proactive security & compliance
- Platform engineering convergence
- Integrations with secure pipelines

IBM Bob Premium Package for i

$20 per month/user access + consumption @ plan rate

- Enhanced modernization workflows for RPG, COBOL
- Enable on-system development
- Customized prompts & commands
- Exploit IBM i RAG

IBM Bob Premium Package for Z (GA Q2)

- Mainframe application modernization delivered through a hybrid deployment model, with flexible SaaS (Q2) and on-premises deployment (Q3) options

The Next Era of IBM i development starts now

Your team doesn't need another AI experiment. They need a tool that delivers ROI quickly.

Preserve critical business logic

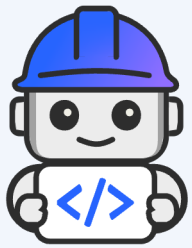
Scale senior knowledge across teams

Help new developers ramp faster

Reduce risk in change cycles

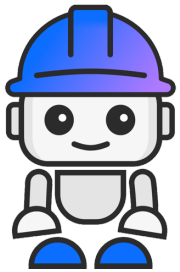
Shift from maintenance to modernization and innovation

Unify the tech stack across departments



Acquire Bob here →

Thank you



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Use Case Directory

Base Bob — **Premium Package for i at GA1** — **Future**

		Native IBM i connection	Skills	Agentic Workflow	DocSearch with IBM i Documentation
Understand & Explain	✅	+	+		**Enhancement across all use cases**
Explain	✅	+	+		
Refactor	✅	+	+	+	
Generate	✅	+	+		
Transform	✅	+	+	+	
Testing	✅	+	+	+	
Compile		+	+		
Business Logic Extraction & Documentation	✅	+		+	
Database Design		+			
SQL Optimization		+		+	
Data Management		+	+		
DDL/DML Operations		+			
Performance Tuning		+			
Database Administration		+			

RAG with IBM i Documentation

Additional skills and workflows

Impact Analysis

Further DevOps work

+ represents the use case that each feature will impact

Application Modernization

Customer: Carreras Grupo Logistico is a leading logistics provider operating in a complex supply chain environment where IT systems must support large-scale operations with high reliability. The organization relies on IBM i to power mission-critical applications and workloads that manage logistics, coordination, and operational workflows.

Challenge: Their application portfolio has evolved over time, resulting in increasingly complex legacy codebases that developers must maintain and modernize while continuing to deliver new capabilities. The organization needed to improve developer productivity and accelerate modernization without disrupting its stable IBM i environment or introducing operational risk. At the same time, Carreras wanted to explore how emerging AI technologies could enhance development workflows, reduce the time required to analyze and update applications, and support faster innovation as business demands increased.

Solution: Carreras is participating in a pilot program for IBM Bob, an AI-powered development tool designed for IBM i environments. By integrating AI-assisted capabilities into its development workflows, the team can modernize applications while maintaining system stability. With IBM Bob, developers can automatically explain complex program logic, generate documentation from existing code, and assist with refactoring across multiple applications.

Languages: RPG

Accelerated developer productivity and efficiency

Faster and lower-risk application modernization

Improved knowledge transfer and team scalability

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Application Modernization

Customer: M.R. Williams is a family-owned convenience store distributor headquartered in Henderson, North Carolina. The company serves retailers across North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and Georgia. They emphasize a “people first” philosophy, focusing on innovative programs, proprietary technology, and hands-on field support.

Challenge: Following a recent cybersecurity incident, M.R. Williams began accelerating its modernization strategy for IBM i. The company initiated several projects to enhance internal systems, including improvements to accounting workflows, new mobile capabilities for operational teams, and updated interfaces for internal applications.

Solution: As a next step in the journey to modernize their RPG-based applications, M.R. Williams participated in a preview of IBM Bob. The IT team at M.R. Williams was able to get started quickly and saw immediate gains in productivity. M.R. Williams plans to continue using Bob to accelerate their modernization journey.

“With just 20 minutes and the help of the tool, I was able to investigate a report, trace the field logic, understand the calculation, and document the issue. What had taken a senior developer six hours the day before, I was able to accomplish 18X faster.”-
Jasmine Kaczmarek, Vice President of Technology

Languages: RPG

18X
Faster RPG analysis and documentation

Accelerates
Modernization of mission-critical IBM i applications

Maintained
Uninterrupted operations during ransomware incident

Application Modernization

Customer: Heartland Co-op is a farmer-owned agricultural cooperative headquarted in West Des Moines, Iowa, with operations in more than 70 communities across the state. Established when three cooperatives merged under the Heartland name in 1987, the organization has grown substantially over the decades. Heartland Co-op offers a broad spectrum of products and services designed to serve its farmer-members and regional agricultural businesses.

Challenge: Their core business systems were built on IBM i, a platform trusted for reliability and deep integration across finance, grain accounting, logistics, and agronomy. The organization needed to modernize operations and introduce real-time IoT visibility without abandoning IBM i, retraining its developers on an entirely new platform, or increasing operational risk. Their development team sought ways to better understand older RPG logic, refactor application more efficiently, and onboard new developers faster all while maintaining production stability.

Solution: As Heartland continued expanding its IoT footprint, the team joined the preview program for IBM Bob, an AI-powered development partner designed specifically for IBM i modernization. By integrating Bob into its development workflow, Heartland enhances its ability to modernize confidently without destabilizing trusted systems. Developers can quickly understand interdependencies between IoT telemetry modules, grain accounting systems, and operational dashboards.

Languages: RPG

Accelerates
IBM i modernization without disrupting trusted operations

AI-assisted
Understanding of complex RPG applications and IoT integrations

Faster
Developer onboarding and productivity gains across grain and agronomy systems