



IBMi

# Let's Get to Know Bob

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



# 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.

# How Bob Drives 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

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## 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

# Meet Bob!

The screenshot displays the Visual Studio Code interface. On the left, the Extensions Marketplace is open, showing a list of installed extensions. A red dashed box highlights the 'INSTALLED' section, and a red arrow points from a text box to this section. The text box contains the question: "Where do these extensions come from?". The main area shows the 'Welcome' screen for 'IBM Bob', featuring a cartoon character wearing a blue hard hat and holding a code editor icon. Below the character, it says "Hi, I'm Bob" and "Ask me questions or let me code for you." with a "Documentation" button. The bottom status bar shows the current project as "ibmi-company\_system" and the extension as "Bob - Settings".

EXTENSIONS

Search Extensions in Marketplace

INSTALLED 37

- Db2 for IBM i** 66ms  
Db2 for IBM i tools in VS Code  
halcyontechltd Update
- Vitest**  
A Vite-native testing framework. It's...  
vitest Update
- CL** 187ms  
CLLE language tools  
IBM
- COBOL** 40ms  
IntelliSense, highlighting, snippets, ...  
bitlang
- Code for IBM i** 59ms  
Maintain your RPGLE, CL, COBOL, C...  
halcyontechltd
- Code for IBM i Walkthrou...** 1ms  
Adds walkthroughs for IBM i develo...  
halcyontechltd
- DotENV**  
Support for dotenv file syntax  
mikestead
- Error Lens** 6ms  
Improve highlighting of errors, war...  
usernamehw

RECOMMENDED 0

IBM Bob  
Editing evolved

Start

- New File...
- Open File...
- Open Folder...
- Clone Git Repository...
- Connect to...

Recent

- customer-lookup C:\Users\...
- vscode-ibmi-bob C:\Users\...
- vscode-db2i C:\Users\Sanj...
- vscode-ibmi-bob-dev-docs C...
- bobapi-1.0.1 C:\Users\Sanj...

Walkthroughs

- Get started with I...  
Customize your editor, learn the basics, and start coding
- Get Started on a ...  
Get started on how to set up a new IBM i project
- Development wit...  
Learn about development using the IBM i Project Explorer
- Learn the Funda...
- Get Star... Updated

Hi, I'm Bob

Ask me questions or let me code for you.

Documentation

What's on your mind?

(@ to add context, / for commands, hold shift to drag in files/images)

Agent ibmi-company\_sys... Bob - Settings

# Publish to the Open VSX registry

A screenshot of the Open VSX registry showing a grid of 18 extension cards. Each card displays an icon, the extension name, publisher, version, star rating, and download count. A dashed arrow points from the Open VSX logo to the grid.

<b>Source Orbit</b> IBM 1.4.1 ★★★★★ ↓4.3K	<b>IBM i Testing</b> IBM 1.3.2 ★★★★★ ↓7.2K	<b>Db2 for IBM i</b> halcyontechltd 1.17.0 ★★★★★ ↓25K	<b>Code for IBM i W...</b> halcyontechltd 0.5.0 ★★★★★ ↓10K	<b>Octo TD/OMS</b> remainssoftw... 1.4.32604... ★★★★★ ↓951	<b>ARCAD-IBM i Se...</b> arcadssoftware 1.2.1 ★★★★★ ↓5.4K
<b>Bob Cozzi's CL P...</b> CozziResearch 0.0.58 ★★★★★ ↓6.9K	<b>IBM i</b> <b>IBM i Developm...</b> halcyontechltd 0.3.3 ★★★★★ ↓2.5K	<b>Git Client for IBM i</b> halcyontechltd 0.1.0 ★★★★★ ↓1.6K	<b>IBM i Job Log D...</b> remainssoftware 1.1.1 ★★★★★ ↓254	<b>IBM i Debug</b> IBM 3.0.3 ★★★★★ ↓11K	<b>IBM i Project Ex...</b> IBM 2.12.3 ★★★★★ ↓8K
<b>MDOpen for MD...</b> MidrangeDynamics 0.0.105 ★★★★★ ↓1.8K	<b>Code for IBM i</b> halcyontechltd 2.18.3 ★★★★★ ↓64K	<b>IBMi Languages</b> barrettotte 0.6.25 ★★★★★ ↓21K	<b>IBM Z Open Editor</b> IBM 6.5.0 ★★★★★ ↓34K	<b>i-app</b> i-app 0.0.4 ★★★★★ ↓202	<b>IBM Z Open Deb...</b> IBM 5.6.4 ★★★★★ ↓14K

<https://open-vsx.org/>

# IBM i & Open VSX registry

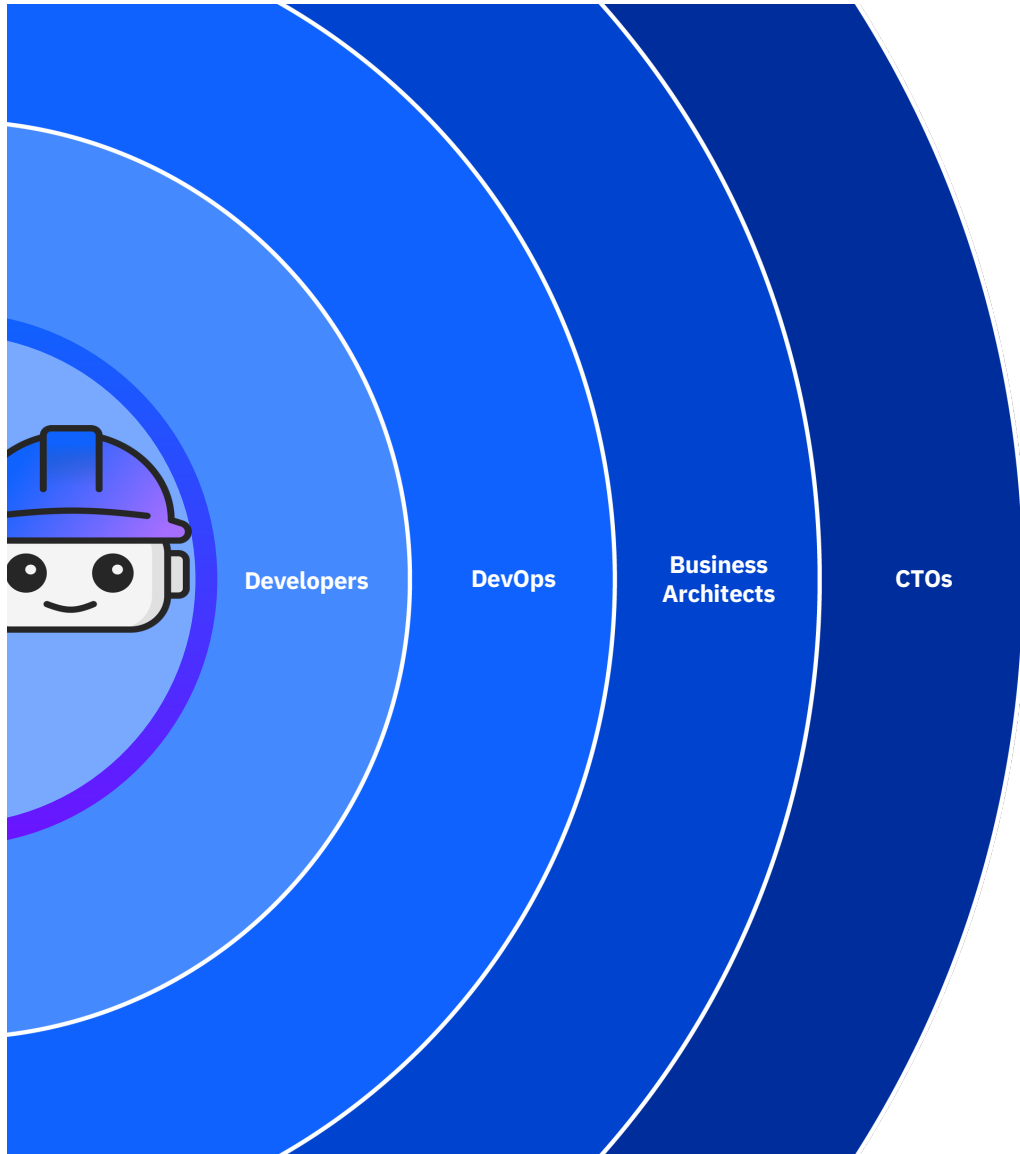
Extensions for VS Code Compatible Editors

Search interface for VS Code compatible editors showing search results for "ibmi".

Search input: "ibmi" | All Categories | 64 Results | Sort by Date ↓

Extension Name	Author	Version	Rating	Downloads
IBM i FileSystem	halcyontechltd	1.0.1	★★★★★	↓278
IBM CPLEX OPL	vlkong	1.2.0	★★★★★	↓136
Code for IBM i	halcyontechltd	3.0.7	★★★★★	↓80K
MDOpen for MD...	MidrangeDynamics	0.0.110	★★★★★	↓3.2K
Bob Cozzi's IBM ...	CozziResearch	1.12.35	★★★★★	↓26K
COBOL	bitlang	26.5.28	★★★★★	↓39K
Bob Cozzi's CL P...	CozziResearch	1.0.12	★★★★★	↓13K
Object Builder fo...	andreas-prouza	1.2.9	★★★★★	↓31K
IBM Db2 for z/O...	IBM	2.2.6	★★★★★	↓11K
IBM z/TPF Devel...	IBM	1.0.1	★★★★★	↓446

<https://open-vsx.org/?search=%22ibmi%22&sortBy=timestamp&sortOrder=desc>



## 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

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“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

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“...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.”

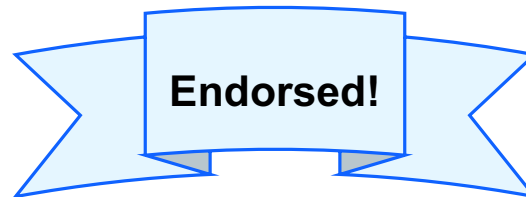
**Bob Richardson,**  
*ERP Support Analyst, Wynne Systems*

## Documentation and Onboarding

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“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*



# 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*

- Expect a steady stream of AI features and innovations

# 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>

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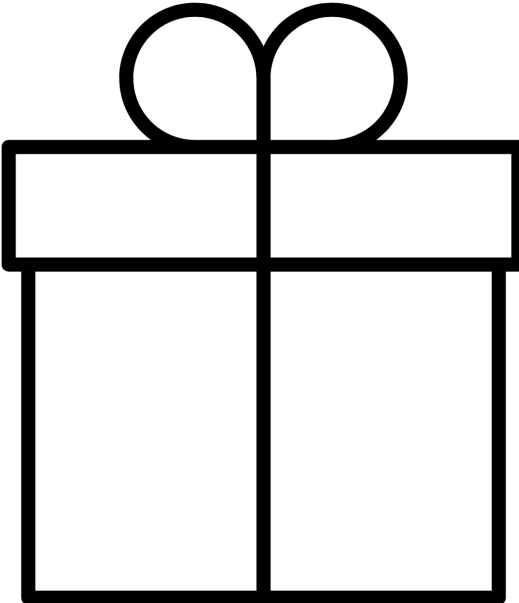
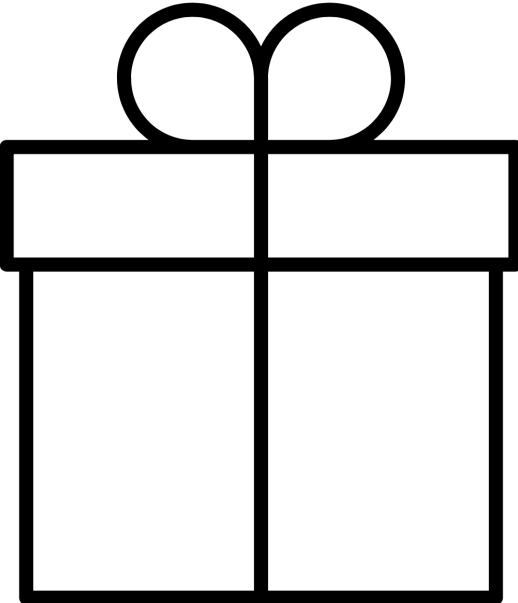
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<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/announcements/offers-premium-package-ordering-option-bob-2026-05-21>

**Bob Gifts!**




# IBM Bob Premium Package for i

Tailored experience for IBM i developers	Better results, fewer tokens	Unified developer workflow
<p><b>IBM i Developer Mode*</b></p> <p><i>Transforming Bob into an expert IBM i native developer with deep integration into the application technology and system</i></p>	<p><b>Curated skills</b></p> <p><i>Specialized IBM i skills that cover understand, explain, refactor, generate, transform, test, compile, and data management</i></p>	<p><b>Native IBM i connection</b></p> <p><i>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</i></p>
<p><b>IBM i Database Mode*</b></p> <p><i>Equips Bob to enable IBM i development team to analyze, optimize, and troubleshoot queries and provide deep knowledge on SQL and legacy DDS</i></p>	<p><b>High value workflows</b></p> <p><i>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</i></p>	<p><b>Slash commands</b></p> <p><i>Mode-specific commands that are focused on specific tasks</i></p>

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

# Redefining Bob's Persona

 tell me about your current mode

**Current Mode: IBM i Database Expert**

I'm currently configured as **Bob**, an IBM i database expert with specialized focus on:

**Core Expertise**

- **Db2 for i** - IBM i's integrated relational database
- **SQL** - Query optimization, stored procedures, user-defined functions
- **IBM i Operating Environment** - AS/400, iSeries, System i platforms
- **Legacy Systems** - DDS (Data Description Specifications), physical/logical files
- **System Integration** - QSYS file system, IFS (Integrated File System)



**Spec**

I have


1. ...ies, joins, CRUD
2. ...ions



Ask ... conversion, schema



Build ... commands


Modes  







- Agent
- Plan
- Ask
- IBM i Database** ✓
- IBM i Developer



Show All Commands   P

Find in Files   F

Go to File  P

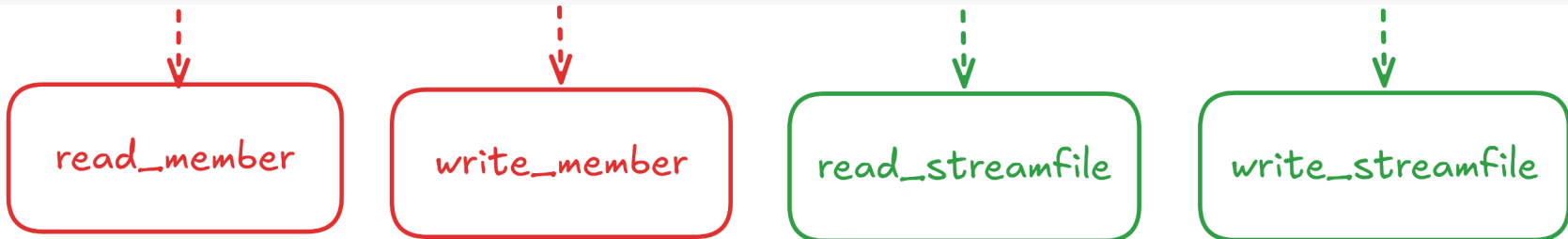
Tasks      

Filter (e.g. text, !excludeText, text1,text2)

# Bob's Workspaces

Select a workspace to start a new Task

- 📁 New task in Bob stuff  
/Users/scottforstie/Bob stuff
- 📁 Library List  
TOYSTORE3, SYSTOOLS, QTEMP
- 📁 Home Directory  
/home/SCOTTFF



# Bob's IBM i Toolset

## IBM i Tools Summary

### Database

Execute/validate SQL, find SQL examples, search IBM i docs

### Files

**QSYS:** Search/read/write members in libraries

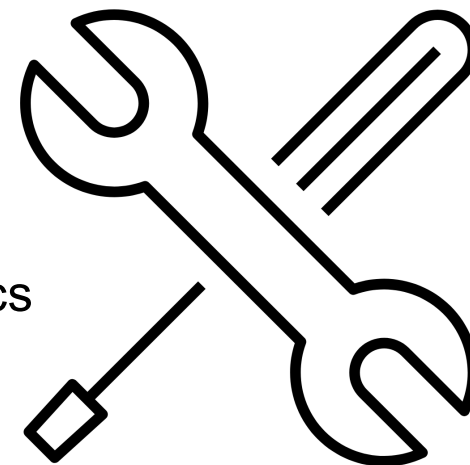
**IFS:** Search/read/write stream files

### Commands

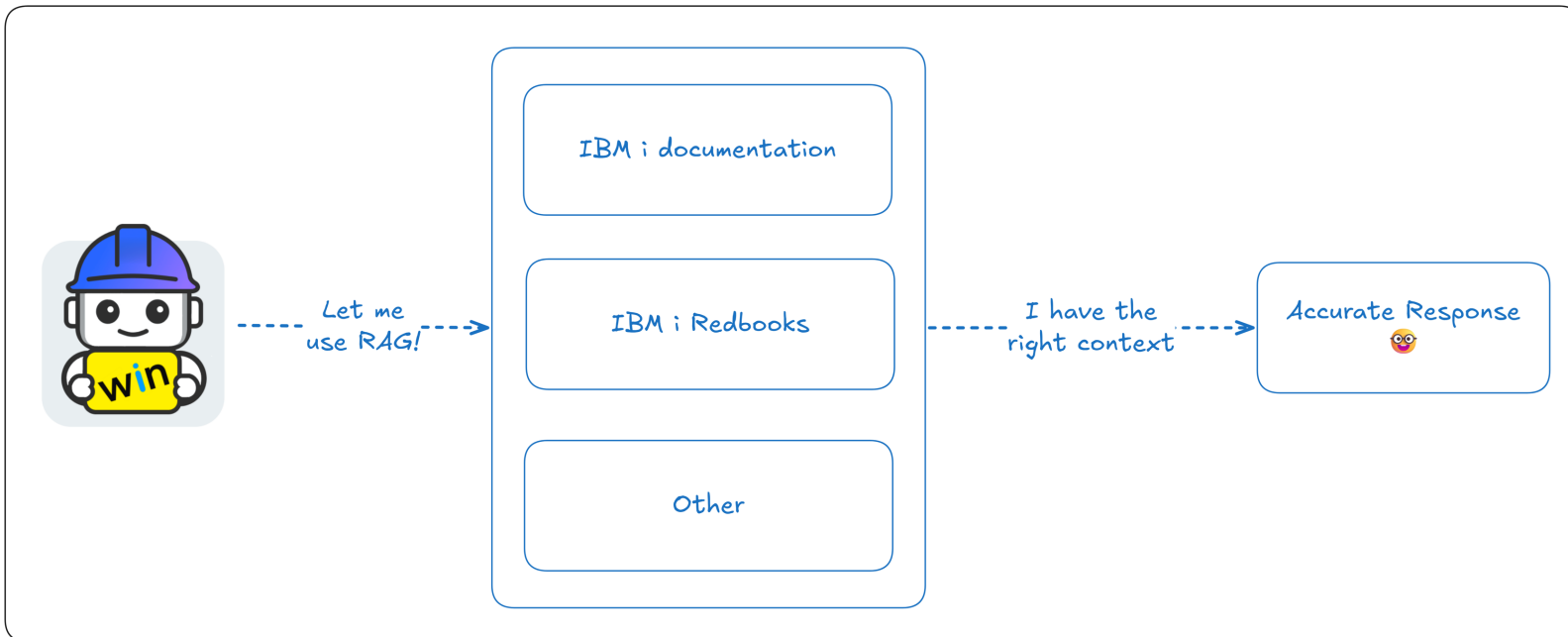
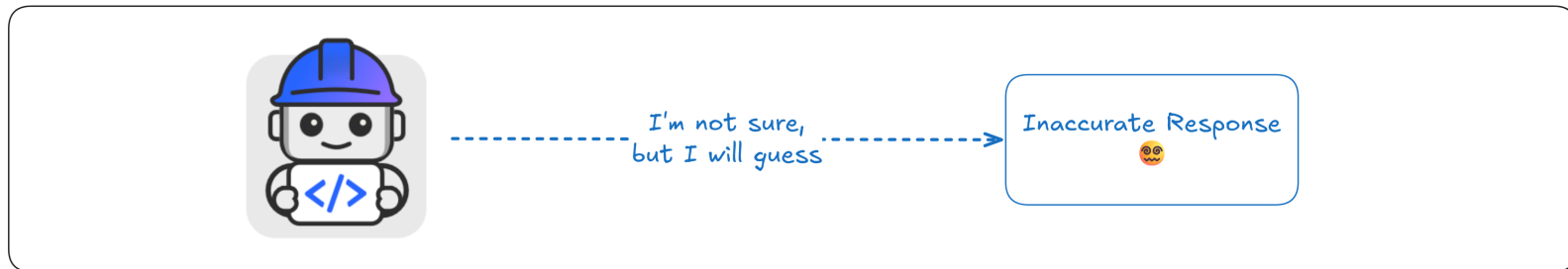
Run CL commands, PASE shell commands, compile code, fetch CL docs

### Skills

SQL, DDS, CL, performance tuning, security, journaling, and more



# Bob understands IBM i!



# Bob SaaS – Plans at-a-Glance

## 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 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$20 per month (Individual Subscription) Includes 40 Bobcoins <sup>(1)</sup> Additional consumption bills @ \$0.50 per Bobcoin Java / DevSecOps / IBMi Premium package can be added on	\$60 per month (Individual Subscription) Includes 160 Bobcoins <sup>(1)</sup> 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 <sup>(1)</sup> Additional consumption bills @ \$0.50 per Bobcoin Java / DevSecOps / IBM i premium package can be added on

<sup>(1)</sup> One Bobcoin = \$0.50 USD = 400,000 code tokens

Enterprise SaaS Plan that Sellers will sell.

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

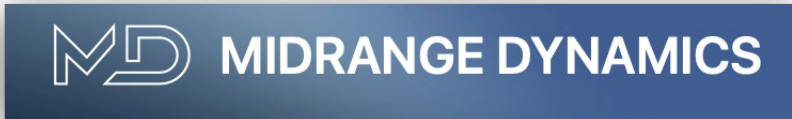
### IBM Bob Premium Package for Z (GA Q2)

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

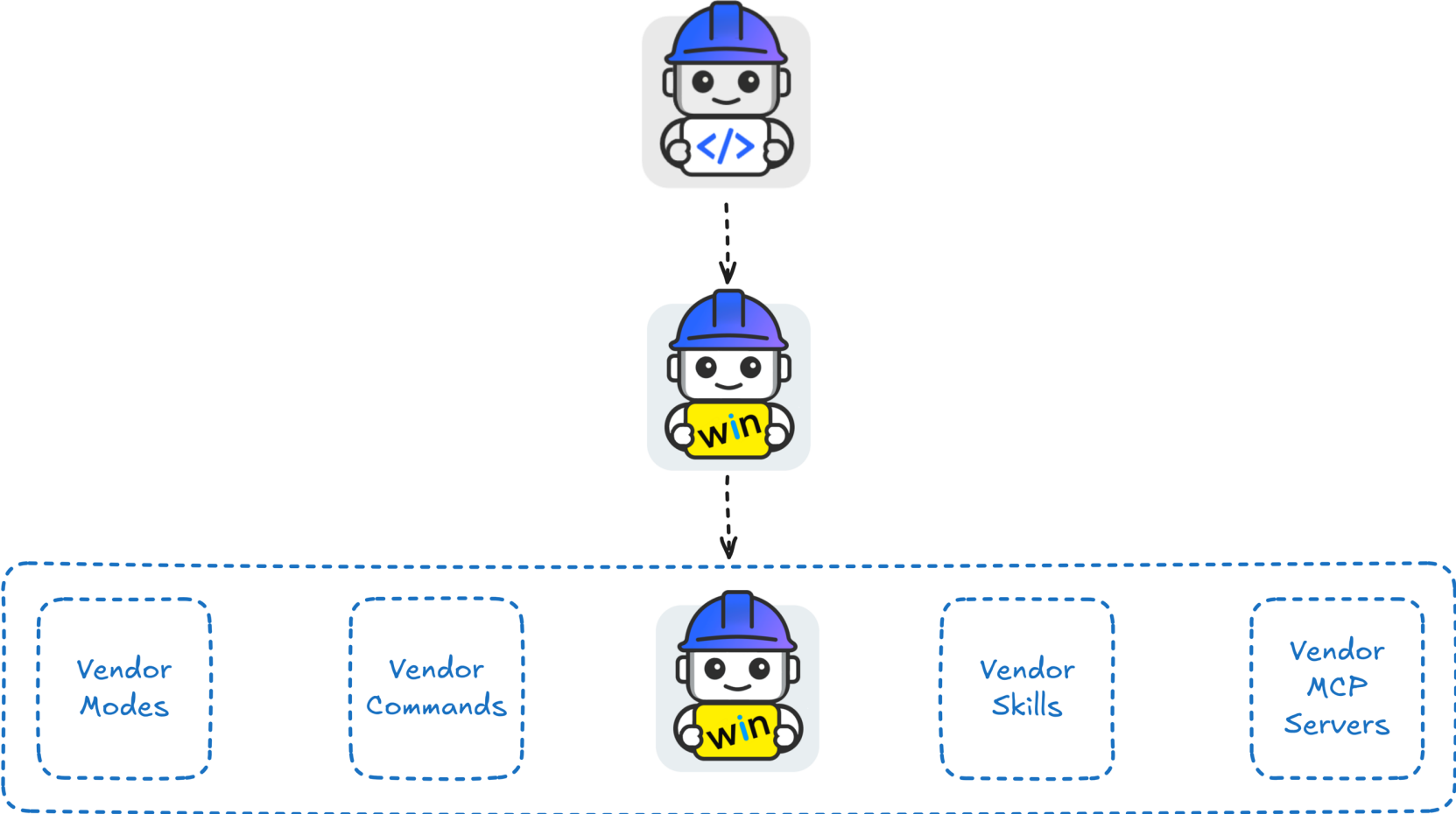
# ISVs and Bob



Many ISVs have already integrated / extended IBM Bob



# The vision



# 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



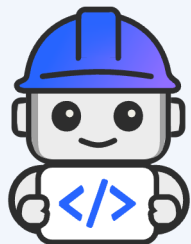
Reduce risk in change cycles



Shift from maintenance to modernization and innovation



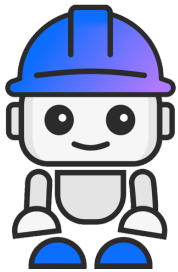
Unify the tech stack across departments



Acquire Bob here →



# Thank you



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Not all offerings are available in every country in which IBM operates.

It is the user's responsibility to evaluate and verify the operation of any other products or programs with IBM products and programs.

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