A Better Way to Consolidate Workload Automation Tools

Partner with BMC to simplify your next conversion project
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Modern business processes don’t run in silos, so why rely on system-specific workload automation tools to manage them? Many IT leaders fear it is too risky or difficult to convert existing workflows and schedulers to a new solution. In this paper we’ll share a proven method for securely migrating to a single workload automation platform and the benefits of doing so.

Migrating to a single, system-agnostic product lets companies take advantage of additional workload automation capabilities so they can achieve reliable, end-to-end workflow development, scheduling, and execution across today’s modern, multi-cloud and hybrid IT infrastructures.

Manually converting workflows on your own can be challenging and time-consuming, but with BMC’s proven Control-M Conversion methodology, it can be done for you by an experienced, dedicated professional services organization in an automated fashion, which reduces risk, time, and associated costs.

This white paper explores:

• Why managing multiple scheduling solutions is problematic
• The advantages of using a single workload automation platform
• BMC’s proven conversion services
• Control-M’s conversion tools

Executive Summary
Many companies struggle to operate multiple schedulers and workload automation tools. Some of those tools have been in place for years, purchased from vendors that have been acquired, are no longer in business, or that simply aren’t investing in their solutions.

Managing multiple workload automation solutions requires manual integration and builds complexity and support costs into operations. More importantly, it inhibits smooth workflow execution across modern IT infrastructures. Modern workflow execution often requires carefully timed, automatically triggered handoffs between new technologies, applications, and systems of record across on-premises and multi-cloud environments.

Legacy workload automation tools are often unable to help businesses meet digital transformation challenges, and few have built-in capabilities to support modern DevOps, data, and cloud projects.

BMC’s Control-M platform simplifies application and data workflow orchestration on premises or as a service. It makes it easy to build, define, schedule, manage, and monitor production workflows, ensuring visibility, reliability, and improving SLAs.

This helps customers:

- Accelerate new business applications into production
- Scale Dev and Ops collaboration
- Simplify workflows across complex IT environments
- Deliver data-driven outcomes faster
- Take control of file transfer operations

BMC regularly partners with its customers to help them convert their workflows and take full advantage of Control-M’s capabilities. Our Customer Success Consulting Services organization has helped many customers with their migrations, and the Control-M conversion tools give you a proven, effective way to convert workflows from your existing schedulers.

There are many advantages to using a single, platform-agnostic solution for workflow orchestration and execution. The benefits of consolidating are clear. The only real drawback is the effort and risk required to convert workflows from legacy schedulers. You can avoid this by partnering with BMC’s Customer Success Consulting Services team to plan and execute your future conversion project. We eliminate key migration challenges with BMC’s well-proven conversion methodology, automated tools, and skilled industry consultants.
Conversion Approaches & Options

Consolidation projects are part art and part science. Control-M’s automated conversion tools play a critical role in every project. Large-scale manual conversions are not practical because they leave too much room for error, are extremely time consuming and prohibitively expensive. BMC has solved this challenge by combining our tools and service offerings.

Most vendors do not share their tools with you or teach you how to use them should you need to do a future consolidation project.

BMC is different. The conversion and migration tools we use for every consolidation project are built-in Control-M functionality.

With dedicated development and services resources, the Control-M conversion tools and migration processes are continually being improved. The processes for using our conversion tools are well documented and available to all licensed Control-M customers, enabling them to execute their own conversions and migrations. This is not the case for many other vendors’ conversion tools.

BMC Customer Success Consulting Services

For most enterprises, converting workflows to a new platform is rare. For BMC, conversions are an ongoing, full-time job. We have successfully completed consolidation and migration projects for customers of many sizes and in many industries. BMC Customer Success Consulting Services has helped companies transition to the Control-M platform from tools by Broadcom, IBM®/HCL, Allen Systems Group, Cisco® Tidal, Redwood, and others, as well as from platform-based tools like Microsoft Windows Task Scheduler, Cron, Oozie, SAP® R/3®, and PeopleSoft. Future customers benefit from that experience because of the proven processes and best practices that BMC has developed over the years.
BMC’s Migration Methodology

Every consolidation/migration project we do starts with two specific steps:

1. **Perform an Automation Estate Review** – First we collect and review all the workload automation tools in use in the customer’s environment. The review covers the interfaces being used (including homegrown tools), types of automation being run, and identifies other specific customer requirements to understand the company’s current and future automation needs.

2. **Create a Rough Order of Magnitude statement** – Next, we take the collected information and analyze it to create a Rough Order of Magnitude Statement that presents a baseline migration timeframe and cost model.

All consolidation projects are customized to the customer’s environment, current automation tool sets, and automation needs. A project plan is always created and mutually agreed on before BMC begins the migration.

There are two base types of consolidation projects:

- **Advisory Consolidation/Migration** – This is for customers that only need expert coaching and support because they have the resources to execute their own validation and testing tasks. We provide advisory services that are designed to enable and empower customers to execute the majority of critical tasks. The advisory-level service includes BMC-supported planning, architecting, product installation, and preliminary migration activities, plus onsite support at strategic times during the remainder of the project for a subset of the current automation estate.

- **Comprehensive Consolidation/Migration** – This is BMC’s most used service offering. Our industry experts lead all primary project phases and supply resources to execute the majority of the project tasks shifting the heavy lifting of the project to the Services team. Key activities of the service include:
  - Solution design workshops
  - Product installation and configuration
  - Environment migration
  - Schedule and execution validation
  - Parallel testing
  - Production transition and go-live support
  - Comprehensive knowledge transfer
A statement of work is created after the Automation Estate Review and Rough Order of Magnitude Statement are developed. The statement of work outlines the project scope, services to be performed, licensing terms, and other terms and conditions needed as part of the project engagement with BMC.

After the statement of work is agreed to and signed, a project plan is created. As part of the engagement, the BMC team executes the tasks associated with the project plan and is monitored closely to ensure there are no material impacts to the project scope.

Change requests will be reviewed by both BMC and the customer to understand any issues the change may create and any project timeline changes required to accommodate the change after approval by both parties. BMC’s experts use the Control-M conversion tools to execute the migration.

BMC’s approach and resources are time-tested. As noted, many customers work with BMC to transition from other vendors’ schedulers to Control-M. The Control-M conversion methodology along with our expert industry consultants with both the legacy product as well as the Control-M product help:

- Prevent unnecessary risk to our customer’s environment
- Shorten the conversion timeline caused by delays associated with manual conversions
- Customers benefit from the increased automation available by consolidating disparate tools into a single, end-to-end platform.
How BMC’s Control-M Conversion Tools Work

As previously mentioned, customers can use the Control-M conversion tools to do their own workflow conversions anytime. By guiding users through a comprehensive conversion process with predefined conversion rules, the tools provide a straightforward method for converting workflows into Control-M.

Plus, companies can use our conversion tools to automatically find Cron and Windows Task Scheduler workloads in their IT landscape.

Control-M Conversion Tool has an intuitive interface that guides users through every step of the conversion process, including discovery, inputting scheduling definitions, calendars and files, and obtaining, evaluating, and converting third-party scheduler data, outputting conversions into an XML file and Control-M keyword statements for both z/OS and distributed conversions, and inputting the data into Control-M. Most steps are automated, and safeguards are built in throughout.

The Control-M conversion tools work with almost every commonly used scheduler/workload automation solution, including these listed below:

- Broadcom Workload Automation DE
- Broadcom Workload Automation AE (Autosys)
- Broadcom Unicenter WLM (TNG)
- Broadcom Jobtrac
- Broadcom CA7
- Broadcom ESP
- Broadcom Automic (UC4)
- Broadcom Dollar Universe
- Broadcom AppWorx
- Cisco® Tidal Enterprise Scheduler
- IBM® Tivoli® Workload Scheduler (TWS)
- Hitachi Job Management Partner 1 (JP1)
- Redwood CPS
- ASG Zeke
- ASG Zena
- Cron
- Microsoft Windows Task Scheduler
- IBM® Sterling™ Connect: Direct
- Oozie (for Hadoop)
- SAP®

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Conclusion

Modern operations require workflow execution across multiple clouds, which in turn creates the need for organizations to simplify and scale their data pipelines. The Control-M platform addresses these needs, and BMC makes it possible, convenient, and safe for organizations to bring their existing workflows into the automated, highly reliable Control-M execution environment with the BMC Customer Success Consulting Services and Control-M conversion tools.

Migrating multiple schedulers and solutions into a single, integrated environment can be complex. BMC understands that and for years has invested in people, processes, and tools to make migrations as safe and seamless as possible. Download the Control-M Conversion Tools datasheet to learn more and visit the Control-M website to learn about how the Control-M platform enables advanced workflow orchestration capabilities and connectivity to any application, any data source, and all your critical systems of record and engagement.

For additional information on BMC Customer Success Consulting Services

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