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SOLUTION BRIEF (Boldon James)

Enhancing Microsoft Information Protection (MIP)

Getting value from Microsoft Information Protection

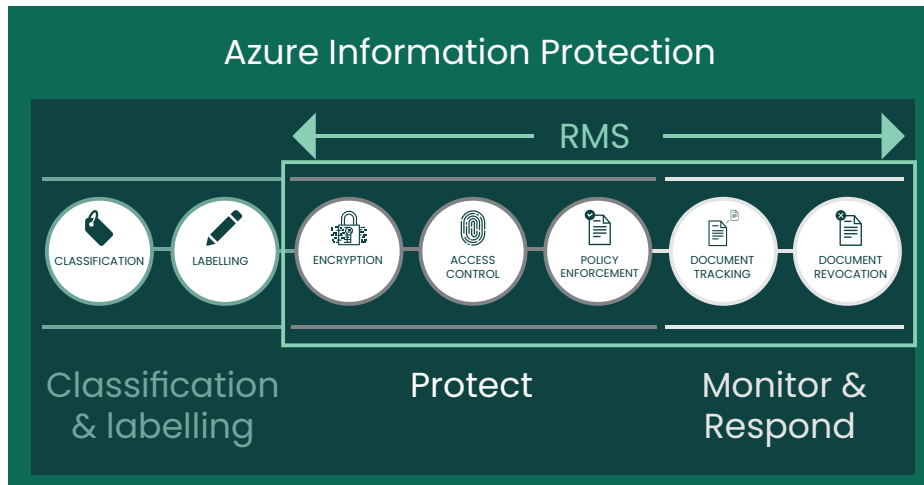
Microsoft Information Protection (MIP) provides a data security infrastructure across Microsoft applications, as part of the MS Azure subscription package. MIP is a cloudbased solution which allows you to classify and label Office files and Outlook emails, which in turn drives Microsoft Azure Rights Management (RMS).

The underlying aim of MIP is to help organisations capitalise on the information protection benefits offered by Azure RMS through its blend of encryption, authentication and usage control. The coupling of information classification and protection has been established as best practice for many years, and as a Microsoft Gold ISV Partner for over 20 years, Boldon James has been at the forefront driving RMS through the Classifier solution – initially with Microsoft’s Active Directory Rights Management (AD RMS), and then more recently with Azure Rights Management.

What Comprises MIP?

MIP encompasses Classification, Labelling and Protection (CLP):

- **Classification**
Data can be classified automatically or by users according to simple security schemes. Classification and labelling information are embedded in the document metadata and defined actions are enforced.
- **Labelling**
Visual and metadata labels record the classification and are embedded within a document.
- **Protection (Rights Management)**
RMS encrypts the document and includes the authentication requirements and a definition of the usage rights to the data (rights management). This ensures only authorised users have access to protected data and they can perform only allowed actions on the data.



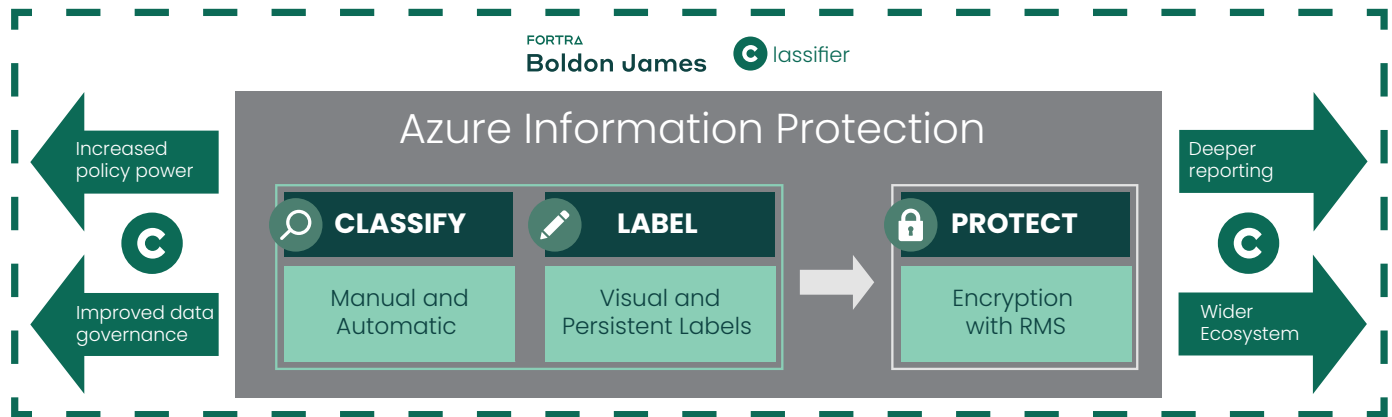
Better Together – Microsoft MIP And Boldon James Classifier

In the world of Enterprise data protection and data classification, the requirement for flexible solutions combining best-of-breed functionality with sophisticated policy support is viewed as critical. Most organisations initially adopt a heavily simplified classification policy, but shortly after implementation of a classification solution they find it necessary to expand and adapt that policy as their maturity and experience in the use of data classification grows, and they meet new business and regulatory challenges. This evolution continues as the business expands, to accommodate new business processes, organisational structures, and as they incorporate new IT and data governance solutions. This is why it is critical for any data classification solution to support not just the initial project requirements, but the future requirements of the business. Often organisations will not fully understand what their future needs will be, hence why it is important for the selected data classification solution to be able to adjust and evolve with the business – rather than become a hindrance to change.

Enhancing The MIP Ecosystem

Ecosystem Type	Boldon James Compatibility
<p>RMS ecosystem</p> <p>A well-established ecosystem delivering the Protect part of MIP’s Classify-Label-Protect</p>	<p>Boldon James Classifier is a long-standing participant in the RMS ecosystem of Azure IP – facilitating and simplifying the use of RMS and linking classification to the assignment of rights. However, Classifier does not restrict customers to a single protective technology and offers choice as to the most appropriate solution, including support for a mix of protective technologies</p>
<p>Labelling ecosystem</p> <p>A new and embryonic ecosystem based on a metadata framework for classification labelling – the Label portion of MIP’s Classify-Label-Protect</p>	<p>Boldon James Classifier is already a participant in the new MIP Labelling ecosystem – giving customers new options and flexibility when constructing a classification solution</p>

The partnership of Classifier and MIP offers the benefit of MIP’s integration with Azure protection applications and opens up a huge range of enhanced functionality to allow your data protection landscape to evolve and grow. Augmenting Microsoft MIP with Boldon James Classifier is a simple migration that will not disrupt your current MIP classification structure, but adds functionality, and the ability to customise the user experience and classification scheme with a powerful, best-of-breed solution.



Classifier Drives Increased Classification Functionality

Classifier’s metadata agility enables it to participate fully in the MIP Labelling ecosystem in order to:

- Support mixed-ability labelling solutions where not all endpoints/users need the same level of classification sophistication
- Support use of MIP label-aware products, for example, MS Cloud App Security

When working with MIP, Classifier can continue to apply its own sophisticated metadata whilst at the same time adding an MIP label that might contain a subset of the information held in a full Classifier label.

Even if your initial classification scheme is straightforward enough to be held within the MIP labelling metadata, you can still take advantage of Classifier’s advanced policy engine to give you highly granular control over the use of your information labelling and marking.

Enabling A Powerful Ecosystem Of Security Partners

As well as adding direct functionality to classification and labelling, incorporating Classifier into your MIP ecosystem enables interoperability with a powerful range of additional security solutions. With as little as a single click the intuitive Classifier interface can drive market leading security applications in data loss prevention, data governance and encryption. The addition of Classifier allows you to apply classification across a larger range of file types, and from within non-Microsoft applications such as CAD and IBM Notes. Classifier even supports a wider range of Microsoft applications than MIP, including MS Project and Visio.

Increasing Visibility Of User Actions

Adding Boldon James Classifier empowers administrators with an extensive reporting module, enabling you to drill down into how and where your classifications are being applied. Classifier comes with a range of common report templates, simplifying analysis to help you to understand where rules could be appended or automated. Classifier’s reporting dashboard is ideal for communicating trends and usage regularly to senior management. Classifier also directly integrates with third party analytics tools such as Loglogic and Splunk.

Classifier's Power Enhances MIP

Boldon James Classifier is fully compatible and interoperable with MIP, adding significant value to MIP, meaning that organisations can incorporate elements of MIP if they wish, but then enhance that functionality with Classifier. This approach by combining the best of a mass-market product in MIP, incorporating Azure RMS, and best-of-breed classification in Boldon James Classifier provides organisations with significant added value; advanced classification policy, coverage for the widest range of Microsoft and non-Microsoft applications and access to an extended technology ecosystem being just a few examples.

Taking a joint approach to Enterprise Information Protection with enhanced data classification at the core enables complex policy issues and integration requirements to be tackled together to deliver maximum value for your business – ensuring you can meet the classification challenges you've identified today plus those that will be coming round the corner.

More Information

For more information about how you can transform Microsoft Information Protection (MIP) using Boldon James Classifier, please [contact us](#)

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