



DEFENSE-READY MFT

Secure, Controlled Data Exchange for Mission-Critical Environments

In mission-critical environments, data must move securely, reliably, and under strict control. From classified information and operational data to engineering files and contractor communications, every transfer must be governed, auditable, and aligned with strict security policies. And all this high-stakes data needs to move across multiple restricted systems and environments.

Enforcing strict access controls based on clearance and need-to-know enforces secure data flow across air-gapped and cross-domain networks. It also supports contractor and supply chain collaboration under strict regulatory controls and maintains continuous visibility and traceability across all data movement, which can be challenging. Without a centralized approach, fragmented tools and manual processes can create gaps in control, visibility, and security.

Where MFT Delivers Value

Modern Managed File Transfer (MFT) provides a centralized, policy-driven approach to secure and control data movement across defense environments. Defense organizations rely on MFT to support secure, controlled data movement across critical operations.

Common Use Cases

- Secure transfer of classified and sensitive mission data across systems and environments
- Exchange of intelligence, operational reports, and situational data
- Coordination with contractors and supply chain partners under strict controls
- Movement of large datasets for simulation, engineering, and weapons system development
- Controlled transfers across network boundaries, including cross-domain and air-gapped environments

These high-volume, always-on data flows require speed, resilience, and security to support innovation and uptime.

Defense-Specific Requirements

Defense environments require a higher level of control and enforcement than most industries.

- **Data Classification & Compartmentalization:** Sensitive data must be handled according to strict classification levels, with tightly restricted access.
- **Cross-Domain Security:** Data must move between environments with different classification levels without exposing protected systems.
- **Zero Trust Enforcement:** Every user, system, and transfer must be verified—no implicit trust is assumed.
- **Mission Assurance & Resilience:** Systems must remain reliable at all times, where disruption can impact operational readiness.

Supported frameworks include: ITAR • CMMC • NIST • internal defense data handling policies

Enabled by:

- Strong encryption for data in transit and at rest
- Granular, role-based access controls
- Comprehensive audit trails and reporting
- Consistent, policy-driven enforcement across all transfers

Real Benefits

- **Maintain strict control** over classified and sensitive data
- **Improve operational efficiency** through automation and standardization
- **Strengthen security posture** across systems, networks, and partners
- **Ensure consistent policy driven governance** across all transfers
- **Support compliance** with stringent defense and regulatory requirements

Where Risk Emerges

Even minor gaps in control can create significant risk in highly sensitive environments:

- Breakdowns at security boundaries between classified environments
- Inconsistent policy enforcement across systems and transfers
- Increased risk from manual processes and misconfigurations
- Limited ability to audit and track sensitive data movement

These gaps impact system reliability, security posture, and operational efficiency.

Key Takeaway

In mission-critical environments, secure file transfer must do more than move data — it must enforce strict control, protect sensitive information, and maintain visibility across every system, network, and partner.

A modern MFT approach ensures data is governed with precision, supporting secure, reliable, and controlled data exchange across even the most complex and restricted environments.

More than 4,000 organizations worldwide already trust Fortra MFT for their secure data exchanges.

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