IBM i Roadmap

April 11, 2024

IBM Power Specialists:

Kyle Lanthier (kyle.lanthier@ibm.com)
Jon Pucciarello (jon.pucciarello@ibm.com)

IBM i
continuous innovation
continuous integration

IBM i Business

- 115 Countries
- All industries
- Customers of all sizes

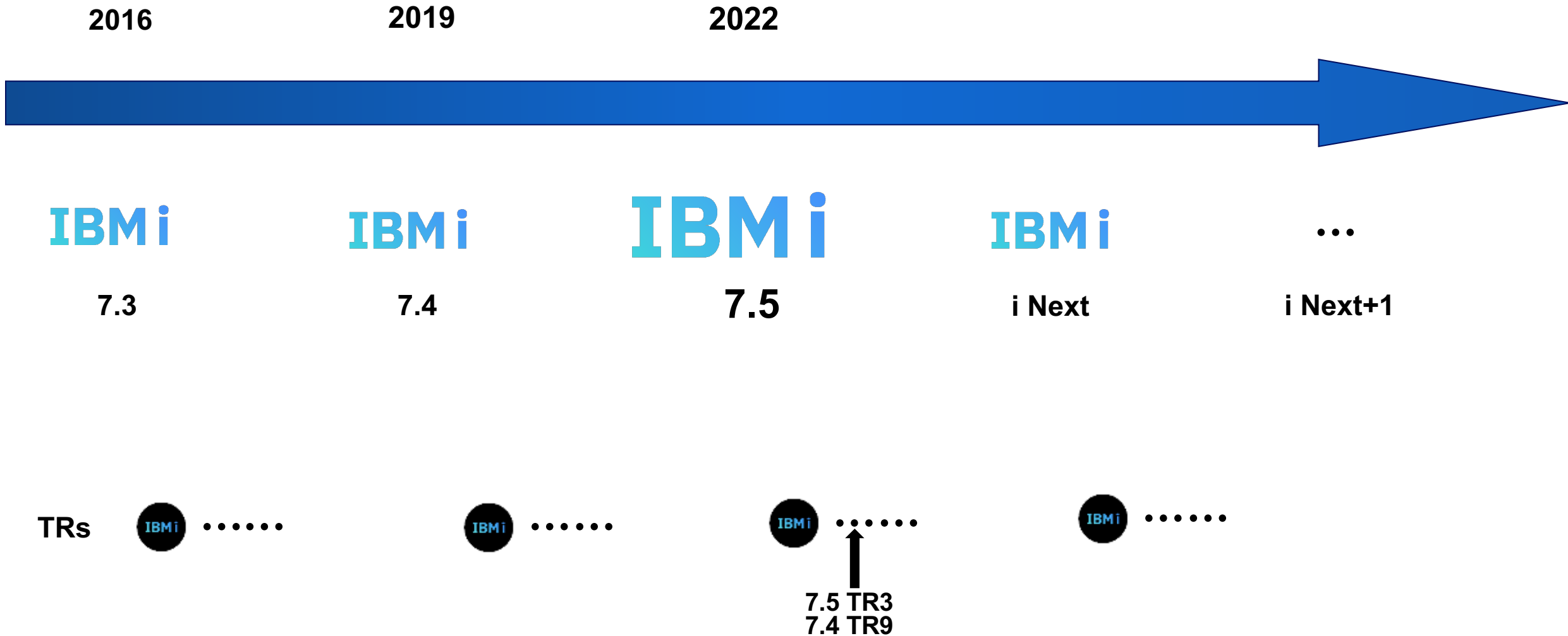- Growing Workloads
- Growing Business
- Growing Commitment

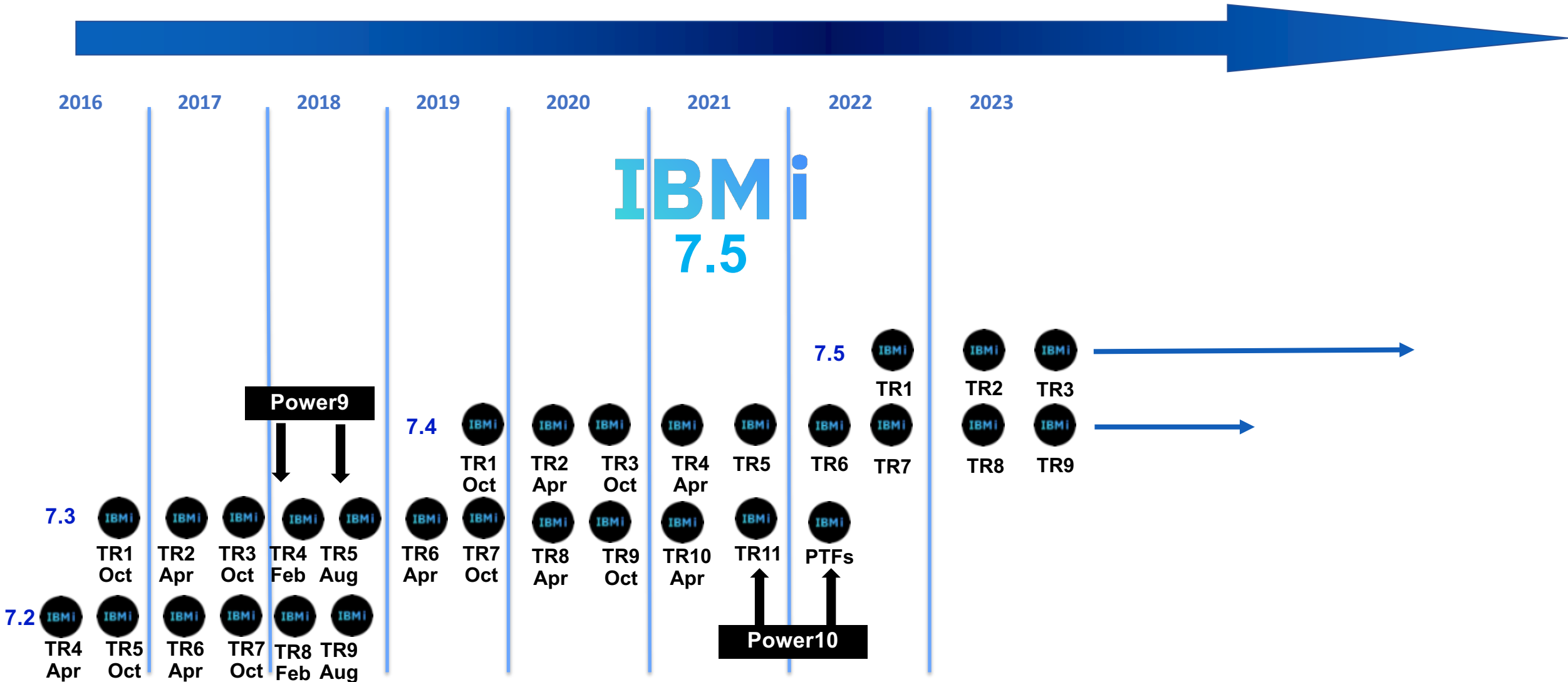Industry **Trends**

IBM i Roadmap & Strategy Foundation

2016   **2019**   **2022**

IBM i   **IBM i**   **IBM i**   **IBM i**   **...**

7.3   7.4   **7.5**   i Next   i Next+1

TRs   IBMi ......   IBMi ......   IBMi ......   IBMi ......

7.5 TR3
7.4 TR9

IBM i Release Roadmap – Announcement Dates

IBM i
continuous innovation
continuous integration

IBM i 7.5

2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023

Power9

Power10

7.5

TR1 | **TR2** | **TR3**

7.4
TR1 Oct | TR2 Apr | TR3 Oct | TR4 Apr | TR5 | TR6 | TR7 | TR8 | TR9

7.3
TR1 Oct | TR2 Apr | TR3 Oct | TR4 Feb | TR5 Aug | TR6 Apr | TR7 Oct | TR8 Apr | TR9 Oct | TR10 Apr | TR11 | PTFs

7.2
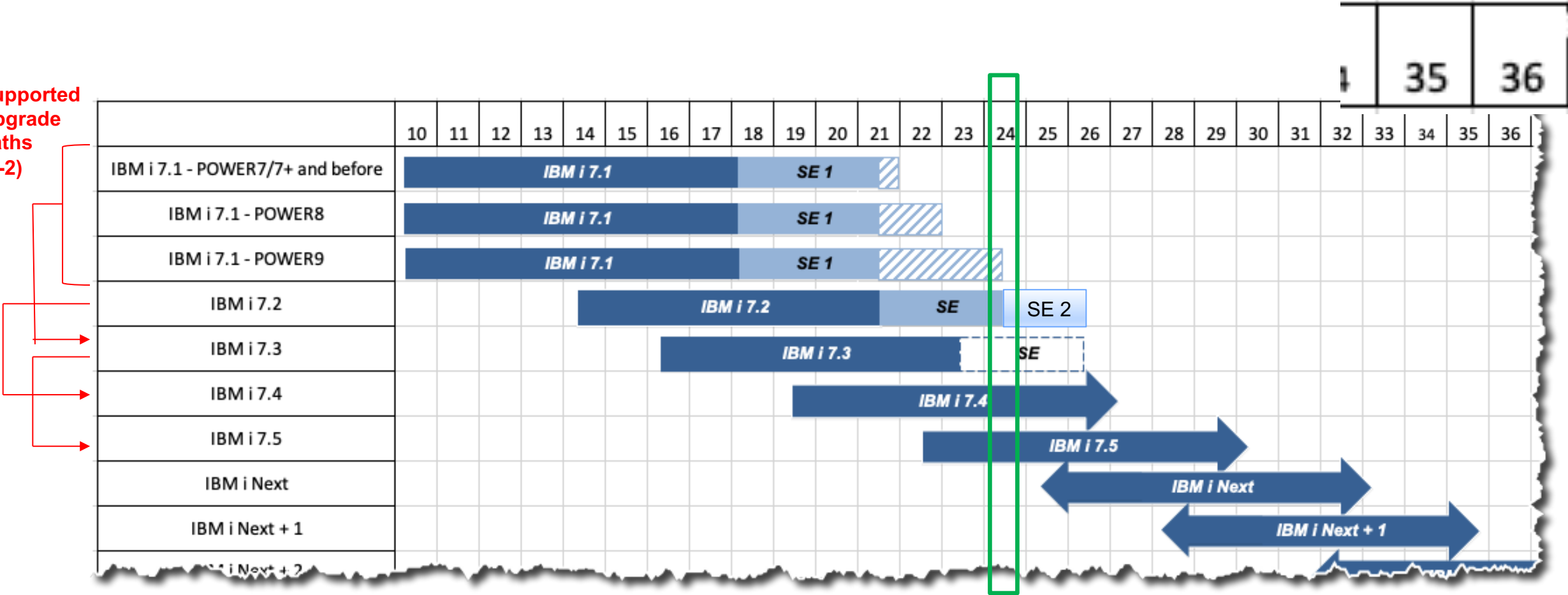TR4 Apr | TR5 Oct | TR6 Apr | TR7 Oct | TR8 Feb | TR9 Aug

** All statements regarding IBM's future direction and intent are subject to change or withdrawal without notice and represent goals and objectives only.
** Arrows indicate "ongoing status and do not imply any specific dates.

IBM i Support Roadmap

** All statements regarding IBM's future direction and intent are subject to change or withdrawal without notice and represent goals and objectives only.
** Arrows indicate "ongoing status" and do not imply any specific dates.

What IBM i Delivers

- Major Releases
  - Db2: Temporal (7.3), Db2 Mirror (7.4), Boolean & 10 x Max size (7.5)
  - Security: Authority Collection – Users (7.3) Objects (7.4), Encryption & Audit (7.5)
    - Inspect the authority users have to data and software
    - Identify any exposures
    - Prove those exposures are locked down
  - Power family support
  - Customer requests which require pervasive changes

- Off-Release – Technology Refreshes and other mechanisms
  - Application Development Languages & Tools
    - RPG Free Format and "make RPG 'normal'" additions to the language
    - RDi, Merlin, VS Code, Python, Java, Node.js, Git, Jenkins …
  - Graphical Management and Access
    - ACS (Access Client Solutions) – Java based
    - Navigator – Browser-based
  - New Power, I/O & Virtualization capabilities
  - Customer requests which can be delivered quickly

IBM i 7.5 TR3, IBM i 7.4 TR9 – Announce 10/10/2023

IBM i Operating System

- Security
  - Multiple domain names and multiple IP addresses in DCM
- Data compression expanded to include save and restore for tape, including virtual tape

Db2 for i

- Support for many REST capabilities
- SQL Commands extended beyond the database
  - Now includes procedures and functions
- Db2 for i Services can capture deep detail for SQL Statements in Plan Cache
- IBM i Services includes new services for exploring journals and system values
- SYSTOOLS function adds more capabilities for system administrators

HA/DR

- PowerHA
  - Simple user defined tracking
  - Enhanced visibility to status of job at the time of failure
  - Simplified resubmission of jobs active at the time of failure
- Db2 Mirror
  - Health Center GUI improved allows easier gathering information
  - Updates for using mirrored data queues and resynchronization

Hardware Features for IBM i

- Exploitation of selected offerings from IBM Power

Application Modernization and Open Source

- IWS
  - Monitoring for null field values in request and response payloads
- VS Code
  - An open source alternative for application development has added enhancements to the IBM i interfaces and new extensions to work with Db2 for i
- Rational Development Studio – RPG Specific
  - DCL-ENUM definition group for qualified named constants
  - %LEFT and %RIGHT new string built-in functions
- Rational Developer for i
  - New templates added to RDi for iDoc templates
    - Spacing of header and footer lines

System Management

- Navigator for i
  - Table filter improvements across much of the product
  - Directly edit the DNS configuration root servers
  - Improvements to the UI specifically for IFS views
  - Remote print queues added to Printing support
  - Enhancements to Work Management capabilities
  - Security views and capabilities expanded
- ACS
  - Enhancements to RUNSQL Scripts, SQL DML Statement generation and extensions to support IFS
  - Open source package management allows password protected SSH keys

IBM i Technology Updates Wiki

Enhancement Landing Pages

IBM i 7.5	TR3 - TR2 - TR1 - Base Enhancements
IBM i 7.4	TR9 - TR8 - TR7 - TR6 - TR5 - TR4 - TR3 - TR2 - TR1 - Base Enhancements
IBM i 7.3	TR13 - TR12 - TR11 - TR10 - TR9 - TR8 - TR7 - TR6 - TR5 - TR4 -TR3 - TR2 -TR1 - Base Enhancements
IBM i 7.2	TR9 - TR8 - TR7 - TR6 - TR5 - TR4 - TR3 - TR2 - TR1 - Base Enhancements

IBM i Memo to Users (MTU) updates

IBM i - Technical Articles

Db2 for i SQL Tutor

IBM i Technology Updates - by IBM i product or subject matter

Access Client Solutions

Application Modernization

Backup Recovery and Media Services (BRMS)

Db2 for i (Database)

IBM Db2 Mirror for i

IBM Cloud Storage Solutions for i

General IBM i Operating System

Hardware and Firmware (including Technology Refresh PTF Group content)

http://bit.ly/IBMi_Technology_Updates

IBM i Services, ACS, Navigator, Ansible

- IBM i Services
  - SQL-based "APIs" (service calls)
  - Get information from IBM i which was once only available via commands/APIs
  - Perform operations on IBM i from "anywhere" with SQL
- Ansible
  - IBM i playbooks are being used by larger clients and service providers
  - Key technology for automation
- Navigator
  - GUI into IBM i management & visualization
  - Best tool for managing multiple IBM i partitions/machines
  - Browser-based - "Lightest" UI – available from anywhere
  - Performance, Security & more
- Access Client Solutions
  - GUI into IBM i management & visualization
  - Java-based with integrated tools which are not available via command line
  - Use of IBM i Services and example/templates for IBM i Services

Key Recent IBM i Security Features

- Authority Collection (7.3 & 7.4)
  - Inspect the authority users have to data and software
  - Identify any exposures
  - Prove those exposures are locked down

- Strongest possible password hashing (7.5)
  - SHA2/3 encryption for Password hashing
  - New Password Level (QPWDLVL) system value (4)
    - Password Based Key Derivation Function 2 (PBKDF2) with SHA2-512

- Security by Default (7.5)
  - Memo to Users includes dozens of security updates
    - Default *PUBLIC authority more restrictive on created objects
    - Special authority requirements added to some interfaces

- Default *PUBLIC Authority on System Supplied Objects (7.5)
  - *PUBLIC authority changed from *CHANGE or *ALL to *USE for 100s of shipped objects
  - Use Memo to Users list of object to make changes on prior releases

IBM Power Operating System Purchasing Models

	Ownership	Subscription	as a Service (aaS)
IBM i	Non-expiring license	Subscriptions – New in 2022, expanded in 2023, expanding further in 2024	PowerVS
AIX	Non-expiring license	Subscriptions - 2021	PowerVS
Linux	N/A	Subscription & Support (1yr, 3yr)	PowerVS

IBM plans to shift the IBM i portfolio to subscription term licensing 8/29/2023

1. Withdraw the ability to order non-expiring P05 & P10 tier licenses effective 5/7/2024.
2. Statements of Direction (SoD) IBM intends to offer IBM i customers a lower priced subscription term option to convert from an IBM i non-expiring license which has associated active Software Maintenance to an IBM i subscription term license.

Refer to IBM i Transformation FAQ (on IBM i License Topics): this document will continually be updated

IBM i Collaborative Strategy – Involve the Community

COMMON

Large Users Group (LUG)

COMMON Europe

IBM i Club (Japan)

RFEs (Now IBM Ideas)

ISV Advisory Council

ISV Interlocked Development

https://ibm-power-systems.ideas.ibm.com/

Customer Briefings & Planning Sessions

Face-to-Face and Virtual

Rochester and Montpellier

https://www.fortra.com/resources/guides/ibm-i-marketplace-survey-results

https://www.fortra.com/resources/videos/2024-ibm-i-marketplace-survey-results-revealed

13

IBM i Guided Tours

From fixed RPG to free form with Merlin Transformer
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Mar 20, 2024 (UTC-05:00) Carmelita Ruvalcaba

What is PowerSC and how does it interact with IBM i?
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Apr 10, 2024 (UTC-05:00) Carmelita Ruvalcaba

Subscription
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | May 8, 2024 (UTC-05:00) Carmelita Ruvalcaba

Navigating the IBM i ISV Ecosystem
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Jun 26, 2024 (UTC-05:00) Carmelita Ruvalcaba

- Every Wednesday, 9:00 am Central US Time
- Registration link: register here
  - Topics subject to change with notification
- Replays available
  - https://ibm.box.com/v/IBM-i-Guided-Tours-2024-REPLAY

Thank you

IBM i Product Manager:

Dan Sundt (dan_sundt@us.ibm.com)