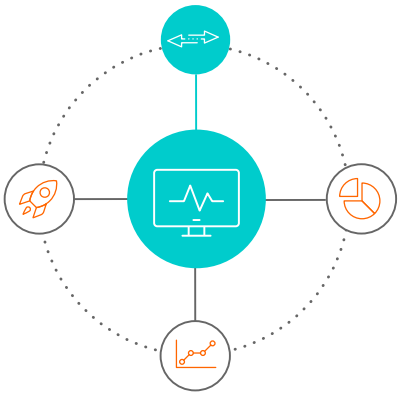
Key Differentiators When Selecting an Observability Solution



Observability enhances the performance of distributed IT systems through better understanding of metrics, logs, and trace data. It provides teams with valuable insights that can help drive the business forward.

Observability also allows teams to identify unexpected signals in the environment, also known as 'unknown unknowns', preventing future issues and bettering system performance.

But when building an observability solution, what are the key solution differentiators you should take into consideration?

1. **Be sure the solution you select offers you choice and flexibility.**
   a. Don't get locked in by vendors. Make sure you're able to stream events, metrics, and traces from any source to any destination, and in any format. Because you data requirements and tooling needs will continue to evolve and you don't want to be restricted to a single vendors solution.
   b. Be able to complement what you already have and onboard, or migrate observability tools to increase efficiency.
   c. Get the ability to receive data once and send it infinitely for reduced complexity and costs.
2. **Be sure you are in the driver's seat to:**
   a. Enforce data policies, standards, and formats across toolsets
   b. Encrypt, mask, or remove sensitive data from in-flight and at-rest data
   c. Take quick and secure cutovers and tool migrations
   d. Replay cold data in real time to any solution for investigations or analysis
   e. Meet regulatory requirements for retention
3. **Be able to observe more data and spend less.**
   a. Streamline your data onboarding and collection to expose data you didn't even know existed
   b. Optimize infrastructure, data ingestion, tool performance, and people hours
   c. Keep in mind, it's not the volume that counts, it's the diversity and quality of the data

How Do You Make a System Observable?
An effective way to make a system observable is to build a highly flexible observability pipeline.

An observability pipeline is a strategic control layer positioned between the various sources of data. It allows data to be shaped on the fly, so users can receive the specific data they need, in any format, from any source, and then route it to any destination. **The result** – better performance and reduced application and infrastructure costs.

Learn more about getting the most out of your observability investment.