BKPIFS Suite

Native Direct Backup & Restore to IFS and NAS for IBM i

The Challenge

On IBM i systems, performing disk backups or exporting data to external storage normally requires creating intermediate Save Files (`*SAVF`). This traditional approach introduces three critical bottlenecks:

- **Double disk space consumption (DASD):** Requires free space on expensive internal iSeries disks equal to the entire size of the data being backed up.
- **Operational complexity:** Requires extra scripts (FTP, `CPYTOSTMF`) to move `*SAVF` files to a NAS or network share and delete them afterward.
- **Slow restores:** To recover even a single file from an external backup, the entire archive must be copied back onto the IBM i before extraction.

The Solution

`BKPIFS` completely eliminates the need for intermediate `*SAVF` files. Leveraging native IBM system APIs (`QANESAVA` and `QANERSTA`) with a 64-bit architecture and no file size limits, the suite's commands transfer data **via direct streaming** to any Integrated File System (IFS) path—including **external NAS devices mounted via NFS** (e.g., QNAP/Synology), network shares (QNTC), or removable USB drives.

Key Business Benefits

- **Zero impact on internal DASD:** No temporary disk space consumed on the IBM i during backup operations.
- **Granular recovery (Cross-Restore):** Extract and restore individual objects (`RSTOBJIFS`) directly from a full library backup (`SAVLIBIFS`), including redirection to different libraries for test environments.
- **No proprietary format (Zero Lock-in):** Generated data streams are 100% compatible with the standard IBM i `*SAVF` format. Your backups always remain readable and recoverable using native OS tools.
- **Automation-ready:** Commands mirror standard IBM i syntax (`SAVLIB`, `SAVOBJ`, `SAVCHGOBJ`, `SAV`) and integrate seamlessly into enterprise Job Schedulers or via the built-in interactive menu (`GO BKPIFS`).

Available Editions and Features

Feature / Command	Base Edition (Free)	Pro Edition (Annual Subscription)
Full library backup (`SAVLIBIFS`)	Included (Unlimited)	Included
Full library restore (`RSTLIBIFS`)	—	Included
Single object backup & restore / Cross-Restore (`SAVOBJIFS`, `RSTOBJIFS`)	—	Included
Fast incremental backups (`SAVCHGIFS`)	—	Included
IFS folders and stream files backup & restore (`SAVLNKIFS`, `RSTLNKIFS`)	—	Included
Large file support (> 2 GB / 64-bit) & Save-While-Active (`SAVACT`)	Included	Included
Interactive operational menu (`GO BKPIFS`) & Online Help (`F1`)	Included	Included

Technical Requirements and Activation

- **Platform:** IBM i **V7R2M0** or higher.
- **Installation:** Self-contained in a single library (`BKPIFS`), with zero modifications to the operating system.
- **Licensing:** The `SAVLIBIFS` command is free to use right away. Pro Edition features are unlocked instantly by entering the activation key tied to the machine serial number (`QSRLNBR`).

For commercial inquiries and activation requests:
Abacosoft by M.P. — `info@abacosoft.it`