ReleaseTEAM

April 2014

The First Newsletter of Spring is finally here – April 2014!

Quick Links

ReleaseTEAM Website

IBM Rational Website

Colorado Rational Users Group

ReleaseTEAM's Rational Users Group Page

IBM Technotes

To see the latest IBM Rational TechNotes

CLICK HERE

The buzz for the last year has been DevOps and all the major software development tool companies are doing their best to be part of this sweeping trend. IBM announced it acquired UrbanCode in a press release on April 23rd last year.   Since that acquisition it has been hard to not hear DevOps mentioned by every sales person, marketing geek or industry pundit associated to Big Blue. There is good reason.

Big trends do not come along that often and when they do it is always good to do your research to find out what is going on under the covers. Agile, Lean and Iterative development concepts created a buzz and gained momentum a number of years ago.   More recently Continuous Integration did the same.

DevOps is the most recent term to be coined and there are many different definitions, explanations or stories of what it means depending on what vendor you are speaking with.   Spend some time on the IBM website to come up to speed on UrbanCode Release and UrbanCode Deploy and call ReleaseTEAM if your team needs help with integrating these tools into your dev tool stack.   The concepts of 'Faster to build / Faster to market' are not hard to understand.   The DevOps solutions from IBM offer an enterprise capability for continuous software delivery that enables organizations to seize market opportunities, respond more rapidly to client feedback, and balance speed, cost, quality and risk. By applying lean, and agile principals across the software delivery lifecycle, DevOps helps organizations deliver a differentiated and engaging client experience, achieve quicker time to value and gain increased capacity to innovate.

Check out page 4 of this newsletter for a whitepaper from IBM

ReleaseTEAM's Spotlight

Ben Stout- Certified IT Specialist, IBM / Rational

This month ReleaseTEAM would like to honor someone who is very passionate about his job, is a pleasure to work with, and is truly driven by the success of his clients; please meet Ben Stout.

Ben Stout

Ben is well known as being the DOORs "go to guy" throughout IBM and the Rational Business Partners when it comes to DOORs technical expertise. When IBM acquired Telelogic back in 2008 they were fortunate enough to have Ben join the team. Ben had taken an International Internship with Telelogic in 2007 right after he graduated from Appalachian State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Information Systems. During his 1st year he worked as a global trainee in Texas and in the United Kingdom.

About the same time IBM bought Telelogic, Ben moved over to Systems Engineering and then became a Certified IT Specialist. The certification is an intense process that takes roughly 6 months to complete and requires 3 to 5 years of experience. Only a true expert receives this title within IBM and Ben is most certainly a subject matter expert. We have had the pleasure of working with Ben on several occasions and he is, without a doubt, one of the top DOORs gurus.

Ben currently supports an IBM inside sales team of about 120 people across North America. His days are never dull and involve internal enablements, answering Same-Time messages and emails for the inside team, assisting Business Partners who are in a pinch, and helping IBM field reps as needed (i.e. virtual high level demos and traveling to client's sites).

In his spare time Ben loves spending time with his family and participating in a variety of outdoor activities (surfing, snowboarding, hiking, swimming, and camping).

Ben is part of Vinita Tandon's team. We enjoy working with such a wide range of outstanding IBM technical resources. Please feel free to reach out to us here at ReleaseTEAM if you have any questions or need any help!

PERFORCE

Perforce Signs ReleaseTEAM as Its First U.S. Sales Partner

ReleaseTEAM Enlists Perforce's Enterprise Version Management and Collaboration Solutions to Help Organizations Optimize Software Development Lifecycles

ALAMEDA, CA--(Marketwired - Mar 25, 2014) - Perforce Software today announced its partnership with DevOps and Software Configuration Management (SCM) consulting company ReleaseTEAM. With more companies focused on developing higher-quality software faster, version management and collaboration solutions have become a key competitive advantage. This partnership will add new tools to ReleaseTEAM's portfolio of commercial SCM solutions and open more U.S. sales channels for Perforce.

Research shows that a majority of software organizations across industries are moving to Continuous Delivery practices. The automated systems that are central to Continuous Delivery increase the need for having a highly scalable version management system in place -- one that can support large file sizes, increased transaction volumes and multi-site teams. It also requires a best-of-breed approach that can create an additional need for the expertise offered by leading consultants like ReleaseTEAM.

"We've noticed the advances Perforce has made in SCM over the years and watched the company become the versioning engine behind some of the most innovative companies in the world," said Shawn Doyle, CEO of ReleaseTEAM. "As consultants, we're trusted to stay on top of industry trends and offer our customers the best technology available for their needs. Bringing Perforce into our portfolio has helped deepen our expertise in Continuous Delivery, which our customers are asking about more than ever before."

ReleaseTEAM is the leading DevOps and SCM consulting firm in the United States. The company employs a wide range of specialized engineers and tools administrators with in depth knowledge and competitive insights on all aspects of software lifecycle management.

"With their stellar reputation as trusted advisors to federal agencies and others looking to migrate from legacy systems to solutions better suited to their current and future needs, we couldn't think of a better partner to work with than ReleaseTEAM," said Christopher Seiwald, CEO of Perforce. "Our industry has seen a lot of change recently and we're looking forward to working with ReleaseTEAM to help organizations take advantage of new practices like Continuous Delivery."

ReleaseTEAM has joined Perforce's global network of sales partners across Europe, Middle East, Africa, Asia Pacific and India, which serves customers in more than 100 countries worldwide.

IBM Worldwide Event: Systems and Software Engineering Symposium

- April 09, 2014, 08:30 AM to 07:00 PM (Central Standard Time)
- The Stonegate 2401 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, Illinois United States

Please join us for our upcoming Rational Systems Symposium.

Learn how IBM Rational® is helping to lead the innovation agenda in product and systems development. Industry experts will discuss applying system engineering best practices with measurable benefits, and provide customer examples.

Register today.

Innovate 2014 Infographic

Innovate is just a few months away, so make sure you register. In the meantime, take a look at what Innovate 2014 has to offer in this infographic.

The ABCs of continuous release and deploy in a DevOps Approach

IT teams are rapidly adopting DevOps as market trends push for quicker response time. While fully adopting DevOps may take time, implementing the practices described in this paper will help reduce risks, speed time to market, and keep up with business demands and market trends.

Link to White Paper

If you prefer to read a book about this topic try 'The Phoenix Project', a Novel about the IT, DevOps and helping your business win.

Link to book

The Puzzler

The winner of March's puzzler was Kristin C.! Congratulations and enjoy your gift card! Here is last month's question:

Shawn is leaving for Malta for the Perforce Business Partner Summit. He leaves Denver for a layover in London, and it takes the plane 10 hours to get there. London is 5 hours ahead of Denver. If the trip to London to Malta takes 3 hours, and Malta is 1 hour ahead of London, what time would they have to leave Denver to get to Malta at 9:00 AM on the following day?

Solution: You would have to leave Denver at 2:00pm the previous day to get to Malta at 9:00am.

Now for this month's puzzler, you get two!:

1. Paul is 20 years old in 1980, but only 15 years old in 1985. How is this possible?
2. A man gave one son 10 cents and another son was given 15 cents. What time is it?

Send us in your answers and we will randomly pick a winner from all the correct answers to win a $27 ReleaseTEAM gift card. If you'd like to send us puzzlers of your own, feel free to do so!

Send your answers to info@releaseteam.com.