



ReleaseTEAM

January 3rd 2014



Welcome to our January 2014 Newsletter!

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In this month's issue, we will introduce you to the test automation solutions from IBM Rational, shine our spotlight on IBM's Simon Porter, update you on our CRUG meeting, and share several articles from around the web.

IBM Rational test automation solutions: Rational Test Workbench & Rational Test Virtualization Server

What is service virtualization?

Service virtualization is the ability to simulate service components so that you are able to validate the behavior and performance of each of the components and how they interact as part of a composite application.

Is your organization challenged with:

- Dependencies on third party applications and systems delaying your project?
- Wasting money on access fees, licenses and equipment required for testing?
- Wanting to run what-if scenarios during performance testing?

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](#)

Service virtualization helps to address all these issues and more. Create understandable, virtualized services, applications or entire systems without relying on teams of developers for coding. No need to wait until all the components are available and deployed to begin end to end testing. Balance quality and speed delivering high quality applications to take advantage of marketplace opportunities while decreasing risk and lowering your cost of quality.

(Continued on next page)

Service virtualization enables your teams to automate the testing of integrations in complex application environments much earlier in the development lifecycle.

- Don't wait for user interfaces to become available or stabilized before testing - automate testing at the API layer.
- Locate and isolate defects earlier for faster remediation by eliminating software and service dependencies.
- IBM Rational test automation solutions can help you remove your testing bottlenecks and deliver higher quality software faster allowing you to take advantage of marketplace opportunity.
- Rational Test Virtualization Server solution can be used to stub out any systems unsuitable or unavailable for functional, integration and performance testing. Intelligent stubs can be built quickly from the interface definition of the system for a wide variety of protocols, including HTTP, web services, SOA, JMS, TIBCO, IBM® WebSphere® MQ, Oracle and many more. Rational Test Virtualization Server can be used to provide production volume simulations of systems for you or your clients and partners.
- Rational Test Workbench offers a friendly user interface for the code-free definition and execution of automated functional tests for integration, SOA and BPM projects utilizing a variety of web services and messaging technologies. Rich support is offered for many of the SOA platform solutions adopted by larger organizations. Rational Test Workbench includes the functional aspects of simulation enabling users to stub out systems during testing.
- Rational Performance Test Server works with IBM Rational Test Workbench to help simplify the creation of large scale, multi- channel workloads and resolve performance bottlenecks. Whether emulating loads at the integration layer or user scenarios between the application client and servers, Rational Performance Test Server helps you validate application scalability so you can deploy the application into production with confidence.

Call ReleaseTEAM to discuss how we can help you implement & integrate these tools into your environment in 2014.

ReleaseTEAM's Spotlight

Simon Porter - IBM's Vice President, Mid-Market Sales in Europe

As we begin a New Year ReleaseTEAM would like to shine the light on someone who makes a difference outside the IBM Rational product line; someone who works with IBM's entire portfolio of hardware, software and services. We are proud to introduce to you Simon Porter!



Simon Porter

Simon is no stranger to IBM's international sales. He began his IBM career over 28 years ago, back in 1986 as a Client Manager in the commercial and financial services sector in London. From there he spent 8 years as a Sales Manager in London and Paris for Banking and Global Accounts creating and leading sales teams, ensuring his teams continually exceeded their quotas. In 2001 Simon was promoted to the Director of Large Accounts where he was responsible for sales within the PC Division to Large Enterprise accounts in Europe, Middle East & Africa through all channels.

Of course those that exceed all expectations continue to climb the ladder; in 2003 Simon was promoted to Vice President of the Computer Services Industry responsible for developing channel relationships with Global and Major System Integrators in Europe Middle East & Africa. He has spent the last 11 years as a Vice President of various sectors, his current roles is working within Mid-Market Sales in Europe.

When clients and colleagues are asked about Simon typical responses are;

"Simon never fails to amaze the team with his no-nonsense educational approach to the community".

"An amazing man your business should connect with"!

"Simon is an absolute pleasure to be working with."

"Simon is an extremely knowledgeable, thoroughly thoughtful and dedicated Leader".

Please feel free to reach out to Simon directly at:

simon1_porter@uk.ibm.com.

Colorado Rational User Group – Q1 2014 Meeting



Date: February 27, 2014
Time: 6:00-9:00pm (MDT)
Location: DoubleTree by Hilton
83 E 120th Ave
Thornton, Colorado

Speaker: TBD
Topic: TBD

To register call/email Sarah at:
303-242-8412
ssmith@releaseteam.com

DevOps: 5 Signs Enterprises Need to Unite the Dev and Ops Camps

DevOps methodology unites software development (Dev) and production and operations (Ops) into a single, integrated and continuous process. While Dev focuses on innovation and speed, the mandate to Ops is about stability, control and predictability.

[DevOps](#) is catching on among more agile IT groups and now, based on survey data from [CA Technologies](#), DevOps is not only a way to produce better software faster but also to drive revenue. The relationship between Dev and Ops could often be characterized as a "church and state" situation, where each side often blames the other for shortcomings. However, DevOps stresses communication, collaboration and integration between software developers and IT pros. It is an [Agile](#)-related practice that is a response to the interdependence of software development and IT operations. It aims to help organizations rapidly produce software products and services, and benefits companies with frequent releases.

Left to themselves, Dev and Ops struggle to talk to each other, much less collaborate. This eWEEK slide show, with perspective from CA, offers five signs enterprises may need to bring development and operations together with DevOps.

[Click here for the eWEEK slideshow.](#)

IBM gets fast file transfers with Aspera acquisition

Continuing to bulk up on its cloud software portfolio, IBM is acquiring Aspera, a company with an Emmy-award-winning, high-speed bulk data transfer protocol.

IBM said it will use the technology to help customers more effortlessly copy their data to IBM cloud services, building on the company's purchase of the SoftLayer cloud service in June.

The Emeryville, California-based Aspera created its technology, dubbed "fasp," to transfer large files across a public network more quickly than the speeds typically achieved through basic TCP (transmission control protocol).

IBM claims fasp can cut the time required to send a 24GB file around the globe from 26 hours to less than a minute. Aspera also has software for encrypting files before they are sent over a network, for secure transmission.

[Click here for the entire article.](#)

Top 10 open source stories in 2013

Check out this top ten list of open source stories for 2013, courtesy of OpenSource.com. In it you'll find an interview with Google's Chris DePalsd, ProjectLibre gaining dominance over Microsoft Project, and how to create an ebook the open source way, among many other interesting open source stories.

[Click here for the articles.](#)

IBM Reveals 5 Smart Technology Trends for Next 5 Years

When technology pioneer Alan Kay said “the best way to predict the future is to invent it,” he might as well have been talking about IBM, whose innovations include Silicon Germanium chips, relational databases and most recently, Watson.

That’s why, when IBM company comes out with its annual 5 in 5—five predictions for the next five years—people take notice. This year, perhaps not surprisingly given IBM’s commitment to cognitive computing, the company is focusing on smart technologies.

Historically, engineering has been about finding the “right” solution, which is usually defined as the most efficient option for the greatest number of people. So the things we use aren’t designed for us, but rather for some theoretical average. IBM sees that changing as our technology learns how to treat us as individuals rather than statistics.

[Click here to read the list](#)

The Puzzler

The winner of December’s puzzler was Randy A.! Congratulations and enjoy your gift card! Here is last month’s question:

*“...only sell stamps in 10 cent denominations, starting at 10¢ and going to 100¢ (\$1). To save money, **which 4 stamps can be combined to make any of the other possible increments of 10, assuming you can only use each type of stamp once**(e.g. you can’t have 3 30-cent stamps to make 90 cents).”*

Solution: The combination of four stamps that you need is 10, 20, 40, and 80.

Now for this month’s puzzler:

ReleaseTEAM is hiring a new salesperson, and the three new candidates are equal in quality and ability. To pick which one stands out above the others, CEO Shawn decides to put them in a little test. The three potential employees are blindfolded and sat in a circle, so any one of them can see the other two, once the blindfolds are removed. Placed on their heads is a hat, either red or blue in color, which they cannot see. They are told to raise their hand if they see a blue hat on either of the other players, and to say their own hat color out loud once they know it, first one to guess correctly gets the job. After taking off the blindfolds, they all raise their hands at the same time, and then shortly thereafter, one of them guesses blue and is correct. **How did that person know their hat was blue?**

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.