



# ReleaseTEAM

January 2016



Welcome to our January 2016 Newsletter!

## Inside This Issue

- [Welcome](#)
- [ReleaseTEAM Spotlight](#)
- [8 Tips for Effective Branch Management](#)
- [How the Services team uses GitHub](#)
- [GitLab 8.3.1 Released](#)
- [7 things 2016 has in store for the future of DevOps and IT](#)
- [The Puzzler](#)

Happy 2016 to all from ReleaseTEAM!

This year looks to bring a lot of fun, new, and exciting things our way. We are challenging the market place and partnering with the best vendors in the DevOps Space. We hope to see all of you this year and wish success in all your endeavors.

Read on to see news and announcements from our partners.

## Quick Links

- [ReleaseTEAM Website](#)
- [IBM Rational Website](#)
- [Colorado Rational Users Group](#)
- [ReleaseTEAM's Rational Users Group Page](#)

## Save the Date InterConnect 2016

The Premier Cloud & Mobile Conference

February 21 – 25, 2016

MGM Grand & Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas



## IBM Technotes



## IBM InterConnect 2016

IBM's annual conference is coming up soon and you still have time to get an early bird rate.

[Click here to register.](#)

To see the latest IBM Rational TechNotes

[CLICK HERE](#)

## ReleaseTEAM's Spotlight



### Joyce Kim - Perforce Inside Sales/Renewals Sales Representative

For our 1st Spotlight in 2016, I would like to introduce to you Joyce Kim! She has been a key player in helping ReleaseTEAM get up to speed on both the software sales and renewals. She is very knowledgeable and a key player within the inside sales team at Perforce. Besides her wisdom, Joyce is always so cheerful and upbeat on the phone, which makes her the perfect candidate to speak with for every prospect, client, and Business Partner. If by some small chance she does not know an answer off the top of her head, she quickly researches, finds the answer, and promptly gives you a response.

Joyce has held this position for 5 ½ years now at Perforce (a SME for sure)! Besides supporting Perforce's Business Partners, she also provides key operational support for their entire Sales department. Additionally, Joyce owns and manages several key in-house accounts; providing forecasting, revenue growth numbers, customer service, and maintains an organized customer database.

Prior to her start at Perforce, Joyce spent a year as a Lead than a Manager at a coffee shop. She also spent a year volunteering as a Team Leader for a Social Services organization and 1 ½ years volunteering as a weekly companion to a resident suffering from Alzheimer's disease at the Chaparral House. Joyce earned her Bachelor of Arts degree, Sociology, at the University of California (San Diego).

Causes Joyce cares about:

- Civil Rights and Social Action
- Education
- Environment
- Human Rights
- Poverty Alleviation
- Social Services

In her spare time, she enjoys makeup artistry social justice, reading, movies, and fashion. Joyce is truly a delight to work with and I hope not only that I get to continue to work closely with her, but also hope all of my clients and prospects get the opportunity to also work closely with her!

Thank you Joyce for doing all that you do, with a smile on your face 100% of the time!

## 8 Tips for Effective Branch Management

Branching is what makes version management so important to developers. It allows teams to work in parallel, to experiment and to ensure the right features are released at the right time. Good branch management is key to effective development. Bad branching will cause risk and rework. Here are eight tips to help you develop a coherent, effective branching strategy.

1. **Keep Things Simple:** Ideally everyone would use a single main branch (or trunk) with no branches, but that's not often possible. Keep your branching model simple with branches lasting only as long as necessary.
2. **Have Well-Defined Policies:** Each branch should have a single policy for who can make changes, when CI builds happen, what tests to run, etc.
3. **Give Branches an Owner:** Appoint a single owner for each branch to resolve any ambiguities in the policy.

[Check out the rest of the tips by clicking here.](#)

---

## How the Services team uses GitHub

If you're writing code, a repository is an obvious place to manage your work. But what about when the team's primary deliverable is not software? At GitHub, the Professional Services team helps customers get set up with GitHub Enterprise and trains people how to use Git and GitHub. We use GitHub extensively to efficiently and transparently communicate, schedule and prioritize. We hope how we use GitHub will help your team use the platform for more than just code.

### **Services team repository as our main interface for interaction.**

Most teams at GitHub have a team repository with a README.md file that introduces the team and explains the team's main responsibilities. Our Services team's repository shows our offerings and introduces the members of our team. Check out the rest of the tips by clicking here.

[Click here to read the full GitHub article by Matt Duff.](#)

## GitLab 8.3.1 Released

GitLab has released version 8.3.1 for GitLab Community Edition (CE) and Enterprise Edition (EE).

It includes the following fixes:

CE/EE: Fix Error 500 when global milestones have slashes (#2182)

CE/EE: Fix Error 500 when doing a search in dashboard before visiting any project (#2110)

CE/EE: Fix LDAP identity and user retrieval when special characters are used (#2176)

CE/EE: Move Sidekiq-cron configuration to gitlab.yml (#2087, #78)

CE/EE: Prevent a possible XSS attack in reference filters (#2209)

EE: "Group Statistics" renamed to "Contribution Analytics" (#96)

[Haven't used GitLab or want to learn more about it? Click here!](#)

---

## 7 things 2016 has in store for the future of DevOps and IT

With only a couple weeks left in 2015 it's time to start looking ahead to what next year has in store. Let's be honest—most of us have already mentally checked out for the holidays anyway, so it's already 2016 for all intents and purposes. I spoke with a handful of industry experts to get some thoughts on what we have to look forward to in 2016.

Let's just jump right in:

1. Log Management will play a larger role

According to Christian Beedgen, CTO of Sumo Logic, log management will emerge as the most underrated opportunity for IT. "Thinking about log data may seem too far in the weeds for most tech industry professionals. However, using analytics to monitor, manage and gather insights from logs will be the only near-perfect way to make sense of the increasingly complex and cloud-based architectures." Log management isn't exactly new or cutting edge, but Beedgen believes that 2016 will see more vendors trying to move into the log management space, and more organizations trying to use log management to make sense of their big data mess.

[Click here to read the full article by devops.com's Tony Bradley.](#)

## The Puzzler

Now for this month's **REGULAR** puzzler:

As someone who works in IT, I have seen a lot of different computer problems. One day I get a call that a user can only input his password while he is standing up. This has been happening to about half of the users who have tried on his computer. Sitting down, the passwords won't work, but if you type the password while standing up, you can login just fine. Obviously I try this for myself and sure enough, this ridiculous premise is seemingly happening to me.

**Can you explain how a password would work while standing up and not while sitting down?**

Here is last month's question:

**How many people are sitting at the holiday dinner table?**

**Solution:**

It is seven people total.

The winner of November's puzzler was **Julia S.!** Email us at [puzzler@releaseteam.com](mailto:puzzler@releaseteam.com) and let us know where to send your \$27 gift card

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 [puzzler@releaseteam.com](mailto:puzzler@releaseteam.com).