



ReleaseTEAM

October 2014



Welcome to our October 2014 Newsletter!

Most companies thought they would have a Continuous Delivery process in place and running by Fall 2014. The problem is there were many things that needed to get done before this was possible.

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Continuous Delivery implies that a Continuous Integration (CI) process was already in place or in the plans. The Development team probably has been Agile for years but the version control methodologies were not consistent between development and test or test and production. It is possible the branching practices were so significant that the last merge near the end of the summer is still underway. Maybe integration testing was the bottleneck or someone decided to skip the automated build process and they just did it the old way. Whatever led to the current slip in releasing the next version is probably going to happen again and again until all the teams are on the same page.

ReleaseTEAM attended the MERGE2014 conference held in San Francisco on Sept 17-19 where we saw Jez Humble speak. He elaborated on a number of the best practices for software development teams and how they can be used by all of us. His book **Continuous Delivery: Reliable Software Releases through Build, Test and Deployment Automation** is a must read for any person wishing to know more about the concepts, processes and best practices shaping the software development world today.

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0321601912>

The book is not a quick read at 442 pages but it has been written in three parts that allow you to move forward at your own pace. If you are in sales, marketing or management you probably are only going to read Chapter 1 and then touch on various topics throughout the rest of the book. If you are more deeply involved in software development you probably will want to read Chapters 1-4 and then pick topics and chapters according to your interests or needs. It was written in 2010 by Jez Humble and David Farley.

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](#)

Give us a call at ReleaseTEAM or send an email to info@releaseteam.com if you want some help moving your team toward the goal of Continuous Delivery. We have a number of consultants available to help with either your technical debt or improving your processes to achieve Continuous Delivery.

ReleaseTEAM's Spotlight



Michael Alessio- Perforce Director, Asia/Pacific & Latin America

As the only North America Perforce Business Partner, ReleaseTEAM was in need of a Channel Partner to assist in getting us started with Perforce, guide us, and help us grow. We flew out to California early last spring and was introduced to Michael as our Channel Partner Manager. We hit it off with Michael right away. He was personable, very knowledgeable, kind, and full of energy. He took us right under his wing and continually does things for us that shows us he truly cares about Perforce, ReleaseTEAM, the clients, and the success of us all working together!

I wondered to myself; who is this man and why is he so well-rounded? Then I did some research and found out Michael has over 25 years of worldwide experience supporting, marketing, and selling software development tools. He has done both sales support (pre and post) and product management on 5 different continents. His colleagues view him as "The" Sales Engineer you would want to help you support and manage complex deals. During the Perforce Business Partner's summit I noticed that all his international partners also look up to him and appreciate his outgoing personality, his honesty, and his willingness to listen and to come up with pleasurable solutions for all.

It has not always been "work hard" for Michael! In 2000 Michael left his job to marry the love of his life and they traveled around the world on public transportation (buses, trains, and boats) for their honeymoon. They spent almost two years traveling, visiting over 50 countries and every continent except for Africa, and writing extensive journals. Upon returning he took a job as a Senior Field Applications Engineer for 16 months, then joined Perforce in 2003.

Apparently the traveling really struck home for Michael. Today he continues to go on voyages (local and internationally) with his wife and 2 children. Michael also enjoys hiking, making his own wine, and volunteering as a Boy Scouts Cub Master. I hope you all get a chance to work with Michael and us (ReleaseTEAM) someday; it will not take you long to see the tremendous amount of value he adds to the Perforce team!



ReleaseTEAM's Partner Spotlight

ReleaseTEAM will be attending the DevOps Enterprise Summit this year. One of our partners, Electric Cloud, is sponsoring the event. We are very excited about what the event has to offer.

Join us for an incredible three day event with the best practitioners from large and complex organizations, across all industry verticals. Line-up to include keynotes from industry luminaries and speakers from well-known enterprises who will share their enterprise DevOps initiatives.

On the third day, the emphasis will be on parallel tracks focused on technology, process and culture. The event is October 21-23 in San Francisco, California. For more information, please go to <http://devopsenterprise.io/>

Enterprise2014

**The Infrastructure for Cloud, Data & Engagement
October 6-10**

The Venetian | Las Vegas, Nevada

Why you should attend Enterprise2014:



Day one offers an understanding of why IT architecture choices enable creation of business value. Marketplace dynamics and discussions of how clients have made IT decisions to deliver superior customer experience and drive business transformation will help attendees discover their path to market leadership.

Day two looks into the future of the data center with expert industry analysts and offers ways for attendees to get there ahead of their competitors. An interactive session with General Managers, development laboratory executives and IBM Fellows will share thoughts on future direction and how IBM is unleashing the labs to help create more client business value. Additional topics explore the strategic implications of today's marketplace on the role of CIOs and the changing nature of the partnerships required between the CIO and the CFO and CMO.

Keep the momentum going by attending the new two day track offered Wednesday and Thursday. These sessions are focused on increasing practical IT leadership skills in critical areas required for creating and implementing a successful IT strategy in which technology delivers competitive differentiation to your business. Upgrade from the Executive Summit to a full week pass to take advantage of these sessions and more.

ReleaseTEAM Conference Recap



ReleaseTEAM at MERGE

ReleaseTEAM was at Perforce MERGE 2014 this year and was a sponsor to an excellent conference! We were happy to finally get the opportunity to meet some of our greatest partners.

Apart from the fantastic networking, Perforce offered up some major announcements. Two big takeaways from MERGE were P4D embracing DVCS, and that Swarm would be free for all Perforce customers.

[Check out the slides for the sessions here.](#)



ReleaseTEAM at Summit

Although ReleaseTEAM did not have a booth at the Atlassian Summit, we were there for all the networking and sessions we could handle. A big topic at the conference was HipChat and news of its redesign for iOS and Android. If you're looking for a new chat system that can integrate with phones, try HipChat, it's free and everyone was talking about it at Summit.

Another piece of big news was the announcement of JIRA Portfolio, a product not that many people know about, but maybe should. It is used for, of course, managing portfolios, and can give you a view across your entire enterprise of schedules and plans.

The main theme of all the keynotes was the implementation of robots throughout JIRA and other tools for advanced automation, something a lot of plugins have tackled before, but now it's official! [Check out this video](#) for a great edit of all the keynotes, it's under 8 minutes!

The Puzzler

The winner of August's puzzler was Winifred M.! Email us at puzzler@releaseteam.com and let us know where to send your \$27 gift card!

Here is last month's question:

ReleaseTEAM is ordering branded water bottles to hand out during these September conferences and summits. The problem is, they can only be delivered one at a time!

If it takes 5 trucks to deliver 5 bottles in 5 hours, **how many trucks will it take to deliver 200 bottles in 200 hours?**

Solution:

We know 5 trucks can deliver 5 bottles in 5 hours, those same trucks can be used to deliver 200 bottles in 200 hours, making the answer **5 trucks**.

Now for this month's puzzler:

In a contest, four treats (a chocolate bar, a gumball, a caramel apple, and a pumpkin) have been placed in four closed boxes (one treat per box). People may guess which treat is in which box. 188 people participate in the contest. When the boxes are opened, it turns out that 66 people have guessed none of the treats correctly, 47 people have guessed one treat correctly, and 39 people have guessed two treats correctly.

How many people will have guessed three correctly? How many will guess four correctly?

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.