



Ten Thousand Enterprise Developers Standardize on Eclipse Open Source Using Linux

The Problem

One of largest, most well-known software and hardware vendors in the United States faced a daunting task; requiring ten thousand developers to standardize on Eclipse Open Source-based tools using Linux machines. Under new leadership and direction, this Fortune 50 company considered building their own software delivery mechanism but did not have the desire to "own" and further manage it. The organization also required different teams to have unique Eclipse tool stacks, so a 'one-size-fits-all' technology would not work for this company.

This enterprise further required that a delivery mechanism integrate with existing technologies as all developers are issued a company-wide user identification and password. Thus, the new technology would need to authenticate and work with all other systems in their network.

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An additional complication was that internal developers resisted the demands of upper management and did not want to install the newest Eclipse integrated development environment (IDE) for a myriad of reasons. However, the leadership deemed that for the organization to remain competitive for its customers and shareholders, it must adopt the newest Eclipse technologies. The transition therefore needed to be seamless and easy for the development staff.

After heavily researching the marketplace for Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) and software management technologies, this Fortune 50 company decided it needed a tool that is easy to for its developers to use and understand, customizable at a granular level, while also highly scalable and intuitive for future needs. The company decided to use Genuitec's Pulse platform as the mechanism to achieve its goals.

The Resolution

Starting in 2008, the organization began its ALM selection process and tested numerous technologies in a sampling of highly-evolved developer teams to determine which software best suited its needs and goals. Of the numerous teams testing software, it was decided by corporate development teams that Genuitec's Pulse offered the most comprehensive solution to meet their goals.

Pulse was first tested on a virtual machine to see if it was easy to use and understand. With the assistance of the Pulse team, the Fortune 50 developer teams were easily orientated with the Pulse Software and Workspace Center. Different test teams received different "recipes" of Eclipse as would be required if this were a real installation and not a test.

Next, the Fortune 50 developer team needed to know if Pulse could handle a large scale distribution. Pulse allows for the instant creation of Web (or "One-Click") installers, so in a matter of hours, the test team had created installers and sent them to other developers in the organization to test if Pulse could

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successfully install on their desktops. Without issue, Pulse completed this task and the test developers had checked one more item off their list.

Since this company is a software vendor, they needed to test if Genuitec's Pulse could handle shipping their proprietary software internally. Since each test developer in the company now had Pulse installed on their

desktop, the team next sent each member a version of the company software to see if it worked alongside the sanctioned open technologies. Again, without any hiccups, the Pulse platform handled the delivery flawlessly.

Lastly, the Fortune 50 organization would need to know if the deployed software could receive bug fixes, new features and enhancements while deployed on internal desktops. As planned, Pulse was able to "push" changes to desktops so the organization could manage their update cycle.

The company was additionally pleased that Pulse integrated with their existing tools and technologies, and that it authenticated user names and passwords with its internal LDAP servers; this was a major consideration toward cost savings as the company was not interested in purchasing a delivery solution that required the purchase and implementation of multiple new technologies.

The Conclusion

In the end, this public technology company chose to use Genuitec's Pulse for several reasons. First and foremost, it delivered any type of software to their large developer base and segregated certain software projects between teams with permissions and access rights established from the Pulse Software and Workspace Center.

The Pulse platform uses readily-available technologies, so this organization did not have to buy expensive and heavy software installations to utilize a powerful ALM solution. And, after Pulse was installed across the enterprise, they accomplished their goal of moving their developers, stubborn or not, over to the Eclipse Open Source platform so today they remain competitive in the software development and hardware manufacturing business.

Learn more about [Pulse](#) today. Contact Genuitec toll-free at: (+1) 214-224-0461 or info@genuitec.com

Technical Details

The enterprise needed to deploy Eclipse-based IDEs to a virtualized Linux development cluster. In the virtualized setup, Pulse allowed this company to have each virtual machine provide a tailored development experience based on the logged-in developer without any extra software downloads and from a single launch point for end-user ease.

The enterprise had an application available on the Web and also via an Eclipse-based rich client platform (RCP). The application development team wanted to migrate users to the RCP version since it



had better capabilities for navigating and data reporting. Users previously accessed the Web version since there was no way for them to access the RCP easily; and a weekly e-mail report used a hyperlink to the Web portal with the weekly data available. Pulse allowed this company to have a URL in the e-mail that took them directly into a running instance of their RCP with the data automatically displayed. For users who did not have the RCP installed, Pulse would automatically install the RCP then bring up the data.

This is a very large organization, and it wanted to provide different catalogs of software and profiles to users in different regions, as well as assign administrators for those regions. Pulse allowed the company to define different parts of the business unit all hosted from a single server with different administrators assigned to those regions. Not only did regions get tailored catalogs, but the regions were self-sufficient in that they could manage and extend their software and profile catalog as needed.