QinetiQ

QinetiQ implements the Micro Focus® toolset to streamline software development projects and improve ROI of existing applications.

Overview

QinetiQ is a leading international provider of technology-based services and solutions to the defense, security and related markets. QinetiQ works with government organizations, predominantly in the UK and US, including defense departments, intelligence services and security agencies.

Challenge

As QinetiQ's software development business has grown over the years, the organization found it increasingly difficult to fully exploit the fast-growing library of software created by its numerous development teams. Different project teams were using different tools, repositories and approaches, meaning the coordination and collection of developed applications had become a complex and time-consuming process. QinetiQ recognized the need for a more integrated, consistent and methodical approach for its software delivery projects and chose to implement ALM solutions as part of an ongoing transformation of software delivery into a managed, efficient and predictable business process.

Prior to adopting Micro Focus products, QinetiQ used a wide range of different development tools. But with limited budgets on each project, some had to forego ALM tools altogether or use open source alternatives. This meant that each new project would incur a significant setup cost as teams configured these tools on local hardware and needed to establish their own backup and archive solutions. New projects would often use a different set of tools from previous ones, introducing a significant amount of relearning.

Solution

QinetiQ developed a strategy to ensure the reliable delivery of its software solutions to customers. The main aspects of this strategy were to provide secure storage of software intellectual property, retrievable baselines, problem reporting, change requests management, test management and traceability via an ALM toolset available on corporate networks and key divisional networks.

"Of all the major Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) providers, we were most impressed by Micro Focus's ability to focus on our business needs."

DR CARL TAYLOR
IT Director
QinetiQ

QinetiQ

At a Glance

■ **Industry**

Computer Services

■ **Location**

United Kingdom

■ **Challenge**

The organization needed a more integrated, consistent and methodical approach for its software delivery projects.

■ **Solution**

Use Micro Focus solutions to streamline software development projects.

■ **Results**

+ Improved compliance with CMMI
+ Centralized storage of new applications ensures full utilization of software intellectual property
+ Introduced a holistic and consistent approach to all software development projects
+ Significantly improved the delivery of all software projects—to spec, on time, and on budget

QinetiQ chose a number of testing and ALM solutions from Micro Focus to build the software development toolset. These products include Micro Focus StarTeam®, for complete software change and configuration management (SCCM) and Micro Focus CaliberRM™ for software requirements management. CaliberRM increases visibility, collaboration and knowledge-sharing across the organization to help ensure clearly defined and tightly managed software projects. QinetiQ is also using the company's software testing tools, Micro Focus Silk Test™ for automated functional and regression testing and Micro Focus Silk Central™ Test Manager for test management.

Results

QinetiQ's implementation of the ALM solutions and the more holistic approach to software delivery has improved the overall productivity of its development teams and reduced project start-up costs significantly. Furthermore, the implementations have also yielded significant efficiency and productivity gains during the initial phase of software delivery transformation projects. These efficiencies not only improve compliance with the CMMI standard, but also strengthen QinetiQ's overall competitiveness by enhancing its ability to meet requirements consistently, on time and to budget.

By providing a standard solution across QinetiQ's networks, the software development tools ensure that good working practices are followed on all projects. When staff transfer from one project to another, the same consistent working practices can be adopted, saving on the effort needed to learn new tools and techniques.

Prior to using Micro Focus's ALM solutions, maintaining the regular change requests, problem reports and tasks that are commonplace during software development was often a laborious and manual process. With change management now built into the development toolset, this is no longer the case.

CaliberRM is particularly useful on projects where requirements are complex or subject to regular changes. The baselining functionality allows teams to work to an agreed set of requirements, ensuring that any changes are agreed with the customer and new requirements developed prior to a new baseline being created.

Looking to the future, QinetiQ intends to use Micro Focus's ALM and testing tools across all of its software development projects. With these new-found efficiencies in the business, QinetiQ now has a competitive advantage when undertaking systems or software engineering projects.

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