

codeBeamer

CodeBeamer is a highly scalable collaborative software development platform that provides complete application lifecycle management. It integrates individuals into teams and teams into enterprises for the purpose of collaborating, knowledge sharing and working effectively from diverse locations.



"CodeBeamer has proven to be an Enterprise-level Project Lifecycle Management solution. Intland's customer support is very responsive and quick to entertain any suggestions RT Logic may have for improvement and enhancement. RT Logic made an excellent choice when partnering with Intland"

- James Sullivan, Development Engineer.

RT LOGIC Customer Success Story

Started in 1997 by seven entrepreneurial engineers, RT Logic has grown to 120 employees and become an industry leader in providing innovative products for the space industry. With this steady and exciting growth over the past 10 years, RT Logic has faced many challenges. From material and defect tracking to effective source code management and document control, RT Logic has faced its challenges head-on, always seeking a straightforward, extensible, and scalable solution.

In 2004, with 70 employees, RT Logic faced a turning point in its business model. Too large to be considered a small company, and too small to be called a large company, RT Logic needed an affordable enterprise-wide solution to provide sufficient management of its real and intellectual property, and not get in the way of its agile systems development lifecycle.

Having CVS and Bugzilla in house, RT Logic initially searched for a source code management tool with an integrated defect tracker. We evaluated GForge, the open-source branch of SourceForge Enterprise. While using it for delivering a couple of projects, we found its features behind the curve of current technologies. The application was also cumbersome to install. At the time, GForge only supported CVS, and RT Logic was in the process of migrating to Subversion for source code management.

We also considered Trac as an integrated solution. Installation of this tool was much easier, often distributed as a package on our Linux servers. The Wiki-based page editing was a definite advantage. However, throughout our evaluation process, our list of requirements grew. Effective document control had become a priority, as well as searchability for all project artifacts and rolebased project permissions. As an example, an engineer might be the project lead on one project, but a team member on another, and project permissions should reflect this.

By Autumn of 2005, RT Logic had decided to consider proprietary solutions. During this time, RT Logic added the requirement for ISO 9000 Certification support. We first considered VA Solutions SourceForge Enterprise, due to our in-house, open source orientation. This was followed by an evaluation of Rational ClearCase. Both products are very good at what they do. Each provides excellent in-house installation and setup support.

However, three factors ultimately determined the outcome. The first was customization. While capable, each product would require dedicated man-hours to support the kind of per-project customization that RT Logic required. The dedicated manhours was the second factor. Due to RT Logic's agile work environment, full-time application administration is unwieldy. Finally, both products carry a hefty sticker price. Considering all three factors, RT Logic chose to continue searching.

RT Logic discovered Intland's CodeBeamer collaborative development platform through the Jolt Awards and Software Development Magazine. Upon downloading an evaluation version, CodeBeamer stole the show with its ease of installation, integration with both Subversion and CVS (among others), highly customizable Trackers, and rolebased permissions.

Installation of CodeBeamer was as simple as executing a binary file on a Linux machine and specifying the installation directory, mail host, and port number on which to run. By following the directions in the Administration Guide, we were able to immediately configure CodeBeamer to use our existing LDAP implementation, thus giving all of our users immediate access.



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Customization of the application was just as straightforward. Using the built-in Trackers as a guide, we have defined our own trackers, allowing us to schedule test equipment for calibration, follow-ups for customer support, and sales opportunities. After setting up several template projects, we are able to quickly create new projects with customized roles, permissions, and documentation structure.

The Wiki-based pages allow each project manager to define the information presented on each project page. The role-based access allows each project manager to decide who may commit, edit documents, or close Tracker Items.

We have extended CodeBeamer by programming around the Java API provided by Intland. From a daily script to remind engineers to update trackers, to a project generator using the above templates, CodeBeamer has become a one-stop shop for each of RT Logic's projects.

We have termed our CodeBeamer our Project Portals. It is the Project Portal that allows a new engineer to quickly come up to speed on all aspects of a particular project, from proposals and requirements, to the bill of materials and delivery. RT Logic currently has 108 active projects within CodeBeamer.

In February 2007, RT Logic underwent its yearly ISO 9000 audit for continued certification. Each of the auditors had very