



Skill Resource leverages on industry-standard methodology : Rational Unified Process (RUP)

To consistently deliver high-quality software systems, Skill Resource is using the Rational Software Development Platform for automated functional and performance testing, process management and change and configuration management. "Our goal was to improve the quality of our software applications by implementing standardized software development process supported by best-of-breed tools. With Rational Unified Process methodologies that we have implemented, we have been very successful in doing that cost-effectively, to rapidly validate new functionality is working as required; and to verify that nothing else has been broken along the way," Chief Impresario notes.

Applying a Proven Development Process

Rational Unified Process, or RUP, has supported Skill Resource compliance and testing efforts, while enabling the entire team to leverage a proven methodology throughout development. "With RUP, we implemented a testing methodology that enables us to do more focused testing, and get the most beneficial results possible," says Chief Impresario. "At the same time, implementing RUP has allowed us to standardize our overall development process in concert with our project management methodology. We are better able to manage our efforts and run our projects more efficiently. As a result, we have improved quality of our software, reduced re-work, and shortened our time-to-market."

Ensuring Quality and Compliance

Solution Impresario adds, "We have two groups of interns. One group performs manual tests, and a second group of interns with more Java experience writes and executes automated scripts." The products in the Rational Software Development Platform have helped to promote a common understanding throughout the Skill Resource development team. "With a common methodology and common platform, everyone is speaking the same language. As a result we all have a better idea where the project stands, throughout the project lifecycle," he notes.

Flexibility, Quality, Productivity and Customer Satisfaction

For Skill Resource, a key benefit of adopting Rational solutions and processes is a more flexible workforce. Chief Impresario explains, "When we started look at software methodologies, we knew we had a good team in place, but they were assigned to smoke stacked areas. We wanted our staff to be more fluid. We were very dependent on the people and we wanted to move toward being more dependent on the processes. With the Rational Software Development Platform everyone – including the business and team -- executes a project based on a common language and road map. We have much more flexibility in moving staff from project to project. Also, the business team are in constant communication throughout the project life cycle, enabling us to be successful more consistently and allowing the corporation to make necessary changes in a timelier manner."

For Solution Impresario leveraging testing tools within an established process framework was a significant advantage. "We implemented the tools around solid processes which reduced our risk. The quality of our software has improved; and we have improved time-to-market of our project delivery with less re-work," he explains.

Chief Impresario adds, "The Rational Software Development Platform provides the structure, the stability, the benefits that we were looking for to improve our software development process life cycle. We are more productive because all team members understand each step in the project life cycle and why it is important to the project's ultimate success. As an organization, we are more professional in our approach to delivering projects which has resulted in improved customer satisfaction."