

What's New with Rational Quality Manager v1.0.1

[MUSIC]

IBM Podcast

MATHENY: Welcome to this IBM Podcast. I'm Angelique Matheny. Here to talk about what's new in Rational Quality Manager and Rational Team Concert is Brian Bryson, Solutions Marketing Manager Engineer for Rational Quality Management; and, Bernie Coyne, Go to Marketing Manager, Rational Team Concert.

Today Brian and Bernie will discuss new capabilities in these two Jazz platform based offerings, including an enhanced defect integration between Rational Quality Management and Rational Team Concert. We'll learn about the collaboration and automation benefits that these two new capabilities will deliver to your development and quality assurance teams. Hi, Brian. Hi, Bernie. Welcome to the podcast. Thanks for joining us.

COYNE: Thank you very much.

BRYSON: Hi, Angelique.

MATHENY: So, Brian, why don't we start with you? Tell us a little about Rational Quality Manager. What's new in

the latest release?

BRYSON: Sure. Well, first of all, thanks for the opportunity to come and discuss this, all of our latest enhancements. I thought before I would jump into the latest and greatest, we'd just sort of do a little bit of a level set, because I'm not sure everybody's familiar with both of these offerings.

So, we'll start with Rational Team Concert. Rational Team Concert's our collaborative development environment that integrates source control, and work items, and build capabilities to sort of improve software quality and accelerate delivery. So it's really the central hub for communications on the development side of the software development house.

Quality Manager is our hub for business driven software quality that provides quality assurance teams with a means to track all aspects of their quality assurance efforts. So effectively, these two platforms are control centers for the development team and the QA team. And in the same way that teams need to collaborate to be effective, these two environments need to collaborate to be effective.

So what we thought what we'd do today is just talk about the latest in what's going on with these two environments and

sort of what's new for each of them, and talk a little bit about how they work together as well. So I'll start with Quality Manager stuff, and then we'll hand off to Bernie, who is our Team Concert expert.

So the latest and greatest in Quality Manager -- and it's Version 1.0.1 that I'm talking about here today -- the biggest news is multiple project support in Quality Manager.

This is a feature based on user feedback where the desire was for quality teams to have a means to segregate their project data into specific silos.

So it's quite often that a quality team is testing more than one application or group of applications, if you will, at a time. And they want to keep that data separate for reporting purposes and tracking purposes, just to keep them in clean silos. And you could do that before with Quality Manager, but you had to work a little bit.

Now what we've done is we've introduced multiple project support, which lets you tag everything as associated to a specific project and work in a project domain so that when you're working on Project 1, you only see the data for that project. And it gives you a very good way to segregate your data and report on it.

Being a 1.0.1 release, it's a relatively minor release in

that there's not a ton of new features. There's always, you know, with every release there's some regular maintenance, but there's been some very good performance tuning in Quality Manager 1.0.1.

We've had this project for about, oh, I guess we're coming up on a year now of public release. And we've started to accumulate some customers that have put significant amounts of data into the product. And so a lot of our performance tuning is around sort of manipulation of large volumes of data, large data of test cases, large volumes of test scripts, large volumes of execution records.

And we've really enhanced our ability to manage large...and display large lists of test cases. So for teams with the thousands of test cases in the tool, you're going to see an accelerated display whenever you're querying over those large volumes of data.

And then there's two architectural changes that I wanted to bring up before I hand it off to Bernie that we've implemented in this release. One is one that's going to provide a future benefit.

What we've done is we've laid the architectural foundation for an enhanced integration to Telelogic's requirements tool, DOORS. So users of Quality Manager will be familiar

with the embedded requirements management capability that's in the tool, might also be familiar with the integration to Rational RequisitePro, our own Rational requirements management tool.

But we wanted to expand upon that and make it possible for other tools to integrate. And while the integration isn't completed at this point, we've built all the foundation necessary to enable users of Rational Quality Manager to integrate to Telelogic's DOORS, which is another professional requirements management tool, and have traceability from requirements to test through to defects. So you'll see that integration in a subsequent release. We've really, we've put all the foundation in place for that.

And then probably even a more significant architectural change is that to facilitate collaboration between QA teams and dev teams we've strengthened our integration with Team Concert. And what we've done is we've adopted the Team Concert platform, so effectively these two tools are now working off of the same server architecture.

Now, what does that mean? You know, on the surface when you're using Quality Manager, it all quite frankly looks the same, but it does offer us some new benefits. There's some new floating license capability that was previously in Team

Concert but that we've now been able to incorporate for Quality Manager. So there's some more flexibility for Quality Manager to meet the needs of your business and how you do testing.

There is support for SQL Server, so we've added a new database back-end capability that we didn't have previously thanks to this new architecture. And then, finally, there's a tighter work item and defect integration so that both Quality Manager and Team Concert have defect management capabilities, but what's new in this 1.0.1 release is the ability for Quality Manager to enter defects right directly in to the Team Concert server.

So that means a direct link from quality assurance into development, so the developers get immediate notification of issues that have been found in testing. And that really helps to tighten the collaboration between QA teams and development teams.

So those are kind of the main updates. And I thought that that was kind of a good transition point to talk a little bit about what's new in Team Concert. So, Bernie, tell me what's the latest and greatest.

COYNE: Hey, thanks, Brian. Thanks for inviting me to be part of these exciting developments with Rational Quality

Manager. And as you suggested, I'd like to share some exciting news, too, regarding Rational Team Concert.

So in...Rational Team Concert had a new release at the end of February this year, release 1.0.1.1. And with this release we added a new client from Microsoft Visual Studio.

We also introduced Mainsoft Document Collaboration for Rational Jazz, and we added the translation support for 13 languages.

And what I'd like to do now is talk a little bit more about the Visual Studio and Mainsoft Document Collaboration products. So, as I mentioned, Team Concert now has a client for Visual Studio, and this enables you to work directly within your Microsoft environment. So developers can manage their FCM, their bills and their work items all from within Visual Studio, and we support both 2005 and 2008 versions.

And with this new client, it really helps collaboration across teams, whether they're doing Java or .NET development since they can both see or share each other's work items and the artifacts that they might work on together.

And the Jazz Team Server provides this nice central repository across both of these environments, one solution for all teams. And as Brian mentioned earlier, SQL Server is now a supported database for Jazz, so that helps in the

Microsoft environment as well.

And what this also brings is the option to use RTC instead of Microsoft Team Foundation Server as the central repository. And one final note, I want to mention that the Visual Studio client is included at no additional charge as part of the Rational Team Concert product.

And now let's talk about the exciting document collaboration. So just a bit of background first. Microsoft Sharepoint and Lotus Quickr document libraries are really popular products out there used by business. It's estimated that over 65 percent of businesses are using one of these products.

And the employees in those companies are using them to manage documents like Word documents, Excel, PowerPoint, or any document type really. And these document libraries provide sharing and versioning and workflow through an incredibly easy-to-use Web interface.

So you may ask, so why does Team Concert want to integrate with these document libraries? Well, software development teams need document collaboration capabilities, because they really help bring new developers up to speed quickly so that they can share the best practices and development policies that might be stored in documents.

And of course development teams need to work really closely with business stakeholders to ensure that they meet the business requirements -- the application they're developing meets those business requirements -- and they need to quickly gain security and legal approvals from these stakeholders. And of course, it helps keep sales and marketing teams in the loop.

However, software development tools and document collaboration solutions are usually quite disconnected. And so developers lose a lot of time searching for documents related to their work items, and governance is spotty or inconsistent at best.

And also, business stakeholders feel kind of excluded from the software development activities because they don't use development tools. What business stakeholders do use are tools like Microsoft Office and either Microsoft Sharepoint or Lotus Quickr team sites.

So to enable these two groups to collaborate together, we've introduced a new product called Mainsoft Document Collaboration for Rational Jazz. I know it's a mouthful, but that describes in a brief set of words what it is.

And this product is a connector that joins Rational Team

Concert with Microsoft Sharepoint or Lotus Quickr document libraries. It allows the development teams to have full access to these document libraries right from within Rational Team Concert.

Team members are able to filter these document libraries so they can only see the sets or subsets of documents they need to. They can subscribe to RSS document feeds, and of course they can modify documents or create new ones. And again, all from within the RTC environment.

And document approvals requested by stakeholders can be included as part of the Rational Team Concert work item workflow process. And finally, project business stakeholders are kept in the loop because they can get automatic notification of document reviews and approvals in either Microsoft Outlook or Lotus Notes, whichever they're using. So Mainsoft Document Collaboration of Rational Jazz is available as an option for Rational Team Concert today.

And finally, I want to point you to [//jazz.net](http://jazz.net). This is our Jazz Web site where you can learn more about Rational Quality Manager, Rational Team Concert, or the Visual Studio new client and the Mainsoft Document Collaboration.

So in wrapping up here, I want to say that the net result of all these advancements we've talked about in both Quality

Manager and Team Concert is that by tightening the integration between these two platforms we're bridging the gap between quality assurance and development teams.

And of course, the more teams collaborate, the more effectively they can work together to accelerate the delivery of really high-quality applications. So thank you for listening today, and I'll turn this back over to Angelique.

MATHENY: Bernie, this was very informative. Thanks to you and to Brian for taking time out to discuss what's new in Rational Quality Manager and Rational Team Concert. We really appreciate it.

BRYSON: Glad to be here.

COYNE: Yes, me, too. Thank you.

MATHENY: That was Rational's Brian Bryson, Solutions Marketing Engineer, Rational Quality Management; and Bernie Coyne, Go to Marketing Manager, Rational Team Concert.

And as Bernie and Brian mentioned, jazz.net is the great way to get started, so check out that site there. And if you're interested in more podcasts like this one, check out the Rational Talks to You podcast page at www.ibm.com/software/rational/podcasts. This has been an

IBM Rational Podcast. I'm Angelique Matheny. Thanks for listening. Keep tuning in as Rational Talks to You.

IBM Podcast.

[MUSIC] [END OF SEGMENT]