Rational. software

KfW Bankengruppe invests in a unified development platform using IBM Rational Developer for System z software.

Overview

- ***Challenge***
  With most of its 200 software designers developing within Java front-end and PL/I back-end environments, KfW Bankengruppe was suffering from low productivity and high development costs.
- ***Solution***
  Deploying IBM Rational Developer for System z software, the bank was able to integrate the Java and PL/I environments.
- ***Key Benefits***
  KfW Bankengruppe simplified its development environment, thereby improving productivity, reducing costs and enhancing product quality.

Key Components

Software

- *IBM Rational Developer for System z*

Hardware

- *IBM System z*

A federal banking group in Germany, KfW Bankengruppe supports endeavors that benefit business, society and ecology. The bank invests in environmentally friendly projects and housing development; it also supports midsize companies in Germany and investment abroad. With approximately 3,750 employees and a balance sheet total of €341 billion, KfW Bankengruppe is one of the 10 largest banks in Germany.

Developing in different worlds

KfW Bankengruppe employs 200 software designers who create and refine the organization's business applications. Most development occurs within the Java™ and PL/I environments, which was becoming problematic because many designers were using the IBM Rational® Application Developer tool to work in the front-end Java environment, but then they were using Time Sharing Option/Interactive System Productivity Facility (TSO/ISPF) on the back end in the PL/I environment.

To support two-tracked integrated development and debugging, KfW Bankengruppe needed to implement an integrated design platform. And it knew that doing so could simplify its design processes and raise productivity.

Bringing worlds together

In the course of introducing a new decentralized source administration system, KfW Bankengruppe chose IBM Rational Developer for System z software in combination with the IBM System z™ Debug Tool. To incorporate the software seamlessly into the bank's design process, individual plug-ins were created, which could integrate into KfW Bankengruppe's new source administration.

A unified development platform for designers who use Java and PL/I technology, Rational Developer for System z provides the bank with a PL/I development environment that bridges the local software configuration management (SCM) environment and the System z target run-time environment. Additionally, the System z Debug Tool allows users to conduct uncomplicated debugging from front end to back end with one user interface. With Rational Developer for System z interacting with KfW Bankengruppe's new source administration, designers get a modern design environment to help ensure and improve the efficiency, quality and productivity of software development. At the same time, the software can help decrease maintenance costs through tooling unification.

Reaping the rewards of integration

By deploying Rational Developer for System z, KfW Bankengruppe has established a platform for its designers that includes an integrated syntax check. This enables the bank's developers to work within the Java and PL/I environments. Using the System z Debug Tool, designers can perform uncomplicated debugging with just one tool. The results of the IBM solution are significant, including higher efficiency, improved quality and enhanced developer productivity—all welcomed improvements for KfW Bankengruppe.

For more information

To learn more about IBM Rational Developer for System z software, contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

ibm.com/software/awdtools/rdz

IBM Corporation
Software Group
Route 100
Somers, NY 10589
U.S.A.

Produced in the United States of America
September 2008

RAC14031-USEN-00