

eLearning: software solution to optimize training of the delocalized staff

"The brilliant combination of technologies and the well-prepared team enabled the development of an easy-to-use authoring platform."

Nearshore services

Technologies: Linux / Unix, J2EE, Tomcat, Oracle, PostgreSQL



About Beck et all:

Beck et all Services offers highquality IT services and support. We convert the experiences won in practice into pragmatic solutions for our customers within the area of Business Service Management Consulting. We use best of breed methodology and tools. Our consultants have an open ear for the customer, understand their needs and can therefore professionally advise and realize support solutions.

Further info at: www.bea-services.de

About Ropardo S.R.L.:

Ropardo is an IT group with solid turnover and over 50 skilled employees. **Innovation, Quality, On-time Delivery** have been our constant objectives.

Our main expertise is in: software development, implementation of complex software solutions and maintenance of software/IT systems.

We provide the following in various industries: app and system development, business apps – ERP / CRM, web apps and e-business / eCommerce, software reengineering, software testing, maintenance and support.

Further info at: www.ropardo.ro

Challenge

The client was in search of a solution meant to optimize training of the delocalized technical or sales staff in large organizations.

The easy-to-use character of the authoring platform was extremely important for the client, allowing courses to be created in-house, by editors with 2 days authoring training.

Solution by Ropardo

It has two major components: the authoring platform, a collaborative environment for creating eLearning content; the distribution and feedback platform, for administration of courses and learners, by groups and profiles.

Ropardo team was involved in developing the authoring platform. It allows the creation of didactic eLearning content in collaborative environment.

The authoring platform allows the following functionalities:

- roles management: manager, specialist, designer, trainer, translator;
- tasks and notes management: linked to lessons and courses;
- media library: sharing multimedia content lessons and courses:
- administration: use of course templates.

Project Development

An existing application was taken over and the functionality was extended.

The mixed German–Romanian team used the project management software **iManagement** with the purpose to plan and track the project and to report issues and change requests.

Architecture definition based on client requirements was done in a collaborative manner by both parties. The project management and final testing was done by the German partner. The actual development, maintenance and test work were done at Ropardo premises. Ropardo team has also delivered the application deployable archives as well as the installing and maintenance instructions.

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT	Architecture design Implementation Software test
SOFTWARE SERVICES	Software performance tuning
TESTING / QUALITY	Load/Performance testing

LEVEL of SERVICES

Outsourcing to Ropardo:

- Quality custom software development
- End-user satisfaction
- Short time to market
- Quantifiable value
- Guaranteed performance level
- Reduced and controlled costs
- Managed risks
- Good value-for-money
- Flexibility

Contact

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Technologies

The technologies used were RCP, Hibernate, PostgreSQL, MySQL, WebServices and Jasper Reports.

Java technology was used at the client's request, for reasons of portability and platform independence.

We used MySQL/PostgreSQL as database technology. For connection to the database we used JDBC/Hibernate.

The application is **database independent** (can use any existent database from the customer such as Oracle, MySQL, PostgreSQL, MSSQL, DB2).

Our team used **CVS** and **SVN** for code management and collaborative working. For quality assurance we used **JUnit** for unit testing and test cases based on customer acceptance criteria definition (per functionality).

We ran an embedded web browser inside a **Java applet** to provide a rich experience (rich scripting support) due to restrictions on application deployment environment. The browser was based on **Mozilla Gecko engine**.

We exported SCORM compliant courses for Flash and Java (applet) players (both provided by the solution) and PDF representation for offline study.

Results

The eLearning content generated with the authoring platform:

- follows the eLearning standard SCORM;
- is generated according to templates represented scientifically;
- structured courses/lessons;
- can be translated with a minimum of editing effort;
- can be personalized with the institution image;
- includes media (images, audio and video files);
- includes interactive elements (commented schemes);
- includes different types of tests (single answer, multiple answer;
- ordering, correspondence.
- multi-language support following the user profile, without changing/replicating the structure

