

Converting a ClearCase/ClearQuest Shop to RTC with No Pain and Many Gains

When Jeremy Noble, Manager, Information Systems at ATMC, learned that Island Training was offering free remote test drives of IBM® Rational Team Concert™, he and his team lead quickly signed up. They had been considering converting to the new software, and Noble was happy to put his hands on the product from the convenience of his desk—without the hassle of downloading the software—and under the guidance of a live instructor.

“The test drive was definitely what sold us on moving forward with IBM Rational Team Concert and moving away from the IBM ClearCase®/ClearQuest® concept,” said Noble. “It was a great way to try the product without much investment—both money and time.”

The ATMC team was attracted to the lower costs of RTC vs. CC/CQ licenses as well as the benefits offered by the next-generation software. “With ClearCase and ClearQuest, you needed to have a defect record ahead of doing work,” said Noble. “As soon as you started doing work, you were committed. With RTC, there is much more flexibility to troubleshoot and undo changes.”

With the decision made to convert the seven-person development team to the Jazz platform, ATMC turned to Island Training, a trusted vendor, for support. Not only had the recent RTC test drive been a success, but Island instructors had trained ATMC in ClearCase and ClearQuest in 2005—both positive experiences.

ATMC signed on for a five-day Rational Team Concert jump start package that included installation, configuration, integration and training. “Because of time and resource limitations, it was nice to have a subject matter expert come in to get RTC up and running quickly with little effort from our staff,” said Noble.

The ATMC team was trained immediately following the deployment. “There are quite a few features in RTC we don’t use, and then there are features we use in a particular way because of the type of development we do,” said Noble. “Island Training’s whole process was customized specifically to our environment, how our development process worked, and how we planned to use RTC going forward.”

The Island Training consultant spent his last day of the five-day rollout fielding questions from developers as they began to use the product in their normal day-to-day operation. All told, Noble felt that Island Training left his team in great shape to run with RTC.

Almost a year after the roll-out, he reports: “Transitioning from the legacy system to the Jazz platform was definitely the right move for us. And Island Training was the right vendor. It was obvious we were working with RTC experts.”

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About ATMC

Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation (ATMC), a nonprofit cooperative owned by its members, was chartered in 1955 by a determined group of local people in Brunswick County, NC. They banded together to build their own telephone company when the large telephone companies of the day failed to provide the county with services. Today, ATMC not only offers local telephone service, but also a wide variety of additional services, including: high speed Internet, Cable TV, Wireless, Business Communications, and Security.

