Overview

Country: Hong Kong, China
Industry: Offshore Software Development

Customer Profile
Headquartered in Los Angeles, with offices in Hong Kong and Shanghai, KBQuest provides offshore software development to leading US, Chinese and Japanese companies. The company specializes in corporate portals, financial services, healthcare, education, and logistics.

Situation
In the absence of a unified repository for all project data, the lack of effective collaboration between analysts, project managers and developers located in geographically dispersed offices led to issues of transparency and quality control.

Solution
Adopting Microsoft's Visual Studio Team System 2008, a set of software development, collaboration, metrics, and reporting tools to enable a collaborative and transparent development cycle.

Benefits
- Enhanced Collaboration
- Improved Software Quality
- Optimal Developer Productivity
- Better Visibility
- Easy Compliance with Standards

"Visual Studio and .net framework empowers our development team to focus on enhancing business logics instead of drilling into low level coding, helping us build powerful applications with less effort."

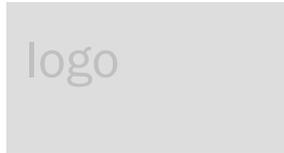Eric Moy, Managing Director, KBQuest

Situation

KBQuest is a global IT service provider, specializing in high quality offshore software development to leading US, Chinese and Japanese companies. The company has extensive experience in developing and supporting software applications in a wide spectrum of business areas, including Corporate Portal, Healthcare, Education, Financial Services and Warehousing.

KBQuest's development team members, comprising architects, developers, testers, database professionals, and project managers, work in offices located in the US, Hong Kong and China. One of the primary challenges for project managers in the Hong Kong office involved managing the entire offshore application development process while maintaining project transparency among teams situated in geographically dispersed offices.

Moreover, in the absence of a comprehensive testing environment, it became cumbersome to conduct comprehensive code review for all projects, leading to issues of quality assurance and client satisfaction.

"Armed with standalone tools to manage the application lifecycle and the task of consolidating critical information scattered in different locations, the development team had to regularly face challenges in working together effectively," said Eric Moy, Managing Director, KBQuest.

Microsoft
Visual

KBQuest Group Inc.
Optimal Project Management Environment Facilitates Collab
on Application Lifecycles

PIX

> "Visual Studio Team System provides superior tools to deliver a successful project, helping us win customer trust and solidify our reputation, leading to more potential customers and incremental business opportunities."

-Eric Moy, Managing Director, KBQuest Inc.

Screenshot or

diagram

Solution

KBQuest adopted the Microsoft Visual Studio Team System (VSTS), fostering enhanced collaboration and improved software quality. Setting up a testing environment that can simulate the real deployment environment made it possible to verify that the software developed can adequately fulfil customer needs.

Benefits

At the core of VSTS is Visual Studio Team System 2008 Team Foundation Server, which provides a unified repository for all project data and artefacts, along with the tools to define, enforce, and automate desired processes.

"Visual Studio Team System provides superior tools to deliver a successful project, helping us win customer trust and solidify our reputation, leading to more potential customers and incremental business opportunities."

-Eric Moy

Increased Collaboration

Members of the development team, including architects, developers, testers and project managers, can work together more effectively using such key VSTS capabilities as Work Item Tracking, Pre-Built Reports, Version Control Tools and Automated Tests.

Improved Software Quality

Continuous-integration builds and automated testing enable integration issues to be identified immediately, ensuring that valuable testing time is not lost. Prior to checking in code, developers can use the integrated code analysis and profiling tools in Team Suite to easily detect potential security and performance problems.

Better Visibility

By consolidating all project data in one central location with the help of VSTS,, everyone has real-time visibility into project status, empowering them to spend less time finding information and more time executing on it. A Web-based portal provides access to information for remote workers and project stakeholders outside of the development team.

Enhanced Developer Productivity

With VSTS, all projects use source-code control and work-item tracking, facilitating reuse of source codes and speeding up the development process. In addition, by using such key VSTS features as static analysis and code profile, developers can identify problems in advance, resulting in significant time savings.

Microsoft Visual

The Microsoft .NET Framework is an integral Windows® component that supports building and running the next generation of applications and XML Web services. For more information, go to: msdn.microsoft.com/netframework/

Microsoft Visual Studio .NET is the rapid application development (RAD) tool for building next-generation Web applications and XML Web services. Visual Studio .NET includes a single integrated development environment with RAD features for building Web applications and middle-tier business logic, and RAD XML designers for working with data. For