DIMENSION

From DWS

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innovation in action

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DWS HELPS NAMPAK REDUCE TESTING EFFORT BY 60%

Established in 1968, Nampak is Africa's largest diversified packaging manufacturer. It employs over 5,600 people and operates from 51 sites across Africa and Europe.

Nampak has a long-established history of investment in Oracle JD Edwards, having first adopted it in 2003, it has undergone a series of major upgrade projects culminating in a move to 9.2 in the summer of 2017.

Following this move to get current, Nampak implemented a strategy for continuous adoption allowing Nampak to remain code-current ever since.

The challenge
Nampak's world-class research and development facility provides technical and development support to its customers, many of which are among the world's largest fast-moving consumer goods companies.

With a range of complex supply chain and manufacturing processes in place, the manual effort required to effectively carry out functional testing had become disruptive to the business.

In addition, accurately documenting these procedures was time consuming; often taking longer to complete than the testing itself.

The solution
After assessing several solutions, Nampak opted to utilize Dimension SwifTest™. Convinced by the intuitive nature of the product, it allows them to develop scripts and reporting and analysis dashboards without the need for specialist programmers.

Customized product training was deployed to help the team harness the benefits right away. This approach allowed Nampak to test business critical processes and customizations from day one.

> **"The automated tests were 60% faster than manual testing and re-usable test scripts made regressive testing easier."**
>
> Karana Govender, Sales & Supply Chain Systems Manager, Nampak

The result
The automation of test scripting and execution has enabled Nampak to reduce overall testing effort by 60%. This saving has unburdened the team, allowing Nampak to refocus energy towards continued improvement and innovation projects.

See how DWS has supported Nampak to achieve its goals and unlock the potential of test automation in the full case study:
https://dws-global.com/resources/

A NEW DECADE OF CHANGE

Seeing in the new year always feels a little different when the calendar ticks over to another decade. The last "twenties" was a period of significant change; socially, politically and technologically. So, as we welcome 2020, we thought we might share some of our predictions for the year ahead.

These include:

○ Continued migration of customers from legacy versions of JDE E1 to 9.2

○ Increased migration of JD Edwards World customers to JDE E1 9.2

○ A massive uptake on Orchestrator and the need to create orchestrations for process automation and efficiencies

○ Increased uptake in automation and roboticization projects to utilize the full capabilities of 9.2

○ A move for customers to shift their JDE workloads to the cloud

○ Even more collaboration/integration between the Oracle and Microsoft cloud platforms

DWS will soon release a version of our JD Edwards script automation tool, Dimension SwiftTest™ for Oracle Cloud Applications. We are excited at the prospect of bringing the joy of test automation to the Oracle Cloud App community in 2020.

Find out more about the trends to look out for in 2020 as well as a look to new releases on the DWS horizon in Barry Burke's full blog: https://dws-global.com/2020-are-you-ready-to-roar/

EVOLVE, INNOVATE AND THRIVE

Change is inevitable. It's not always welcome, sometimes scary, and never without risk. However, change can also represent opportunity. For enterprises across the world, how they react and respond to change can mean the difference between thriving and merely surviving.

It's often said that change doesn't happen overnight. The larger the organization, and the more complex the processes involved, the truer this becomes. The thing is there's nothing wrong with gradual change. It's the very definition of evolution. Businesses need to stop thinking of change as an 'event' and start thinking in terms of an ongoing process.

Embracing change
Patrick Neary, Vice President Global Sales and Marketing at DWS recently presented a deep-dive session discussing the ramifications of Oracle's Continuous Delivery model.

In this session, he shares the insights and experiences of two companies who have upgraded to JDE E1 release 9.2 and are now staying code-current. This includes the strategies they adopted and how they've been able to reduce the business impact of subsequent innovations, resulting in smaller, faster and smarter change event projects.

Discover how you can support your business to evolve, innovate and thrive with JDE E1 in the full webinar session: **https://dws-global.com/resources/**

TO PATCH OR NOT TO PATCH

We are all too familiar with the regular restarts and updates that our laptops and PCs request to patch the Windows Operating System.

Whilst there isn't anyone that actually looks forward to this task, there is no doubt that Microsoft has certainly improved the process in recent years. The process may have its issues, but for a techie, patching Microsoft servers requires just a few button clicks.

Because of its ability to support various platforms and configurations, the picture is more complicated when patching EnterpriseOne (E1) and the underlying technology that supports it. This is due, in large part, to the complexity of the process and the specialist skills needed, and partly due to the evolving nature of JD Edwards.

Some E1 customer sites may not be aware that Oracle release security advisories for E1 and there are important security patches available for Oracle products.

With the increasing tendency to connect E1 to the Internet, and impact of bugs such as 'Meltdown' and 'Spectre', it is perhaps timely to review the current patching available for JD Edwards EnterpriseOne.

Looking ahead to 2020, here are a few suggestions for some New Year patching resolutions to keep in mind as you plan out your approach.

1. If you are not already receiving the email notifications for the Critical Patch Updates, then sign up now

2. Avoid downtime by using an E1 test system to load and test any patches before applying to the production system

3. Have a documented policy that assesses the risks of software vulnerabilities and put a procedure in place to address these critical updates.

Explore the latest JDE E1 patches, underlying technologies, critical fixes and planning approaches in more detail in the full blog: **https://dws-global.com/blog-jde-e1-patches-to-patch-question/**

About DWS

Since 1998, we have been providing development and technical services to organizations looking to customize, integrate, extend, upgrade or support implementations of EnterpriseOne. We also sell EnterpriseOne testing products that leverage our deep domain expertise and help customers run smaller, faster and smarter projects.

DWS serves a global client base using proven methodologies and proprietary DWS Dimension™ tools. Our best-practice approach and eye for detail help us deliver products and services that save time and money and continually drive down your TCO for JD Edwards.

For further information please visit our website, or contact us:

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