

Perforce Software Hosts Open Watcom Server in Continued Effort to Support Open Source Development

Alameda, Calif., June 4, 2007 – Perforce Software today announced its plans to host the Open Watcom Server. Open Watcom is an open source suite of cross-platform compilers and tools for the C, C++ and Fortran languages. It consists of the famous Watcom C++ and WATFOR compilers—now open source—and is mainly used for developing embedded, DOS and ncurses software.

"This project, like many open source projects, is developed and run by a loosely knit collaboration of volunteers," explained Peter Chapin, professor, Vermont Technical College and Open Watcom volunteer manager. "Without Perforce's support, both in terms of licensing Perforce SCM and in hosting a server for the project, no doubt, Open Watcom would have fizzled out."

"We have always tried to support open source development in suitable ways," said Christopher Seiwald, president and chief technology officer of Perforce Software. "We issue free Perforce licenses to open source projects and this commitment to host Open Watcom's server is a modest way we can assist the open source community."

Perforce Offers Free Licensing for Open Source Development

For nearly nine years, under an open source license, the Open Watcom Group has used Perforce SCM to version and manage its development.

"Perforce SCM provides extremely fast remote access with intelligent branching and merging," said Kendall Bennett, CEO of SciTech Software, Inc., which formerly hosted the server. "These features are essential to Perforce's ability to effectively manage Open Watcom, a huge geographically dispersed project with a multi-million line code base."

Any organization developing software licensed or distributed exclusively under an open source license is eligible to obtain Perforce licenses for free. Other notable open source projects using Perforce SCM include:

- FreeBSD, an advanced operating system for x86 compatible (including Pentium® and Athlon™), amd64 compatible (including Opteron™, Athlon™64, and EM64T), ARM, IA-64, PC-98 and UltraSPARC® architectures
- National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO), a facility of the National Science Foundation, that designs, builds and operates the world's most sophisticated and advanced radio telescopes
- VTI, the Swedish National Road and Transport Research Institute, an independent, internationally established research institute engaged in the transport sector

- the Persistence of Vision Raytracer (POV-Ray), a ray tracing program available for a variety of computer platforms

About the Perforce SCM System

Perforce, the Fast Software Configuration Management System, is an award-winning tool that versions and manages source code and digital assets for enterprises large and small. Perforce is easy to install, learn and administer; seamlessly handles distributed development; and supports developers across a wide variety of platforms. Perforce ensures development integrity by grouping multi-file updates into atomic changes, enables concurrent development, and intelligently manages multiple software releases using its Inter-File Branching system.

About Perforce Software

Founded in 1995, Perforce Software Inc. develops, markets, and supports Perforce, the Fast Software Configuration Management System. Perforce Software is headquartered in Alameda, California, and sells worldwide. The company has international operations in Europe, Japan, India and Australia. In addition to application software companies, Perforce customers represent a broad range of industries including the game development, electronics, pharmaceutical and financial services markets.

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