



Lifting Software Development to the Cloud

Combining IBM's Rational Software Development tool and SoftLayer expertise, Jeskell was able to help a startup federal weapons contractor gain cloud computing's flexibility, scalability, and cost-efficiency for its software development activities.

The Challenge

As a small federal contractor, the client was looking for a cost-effective way to bring IBM Rational into their IT environment. IBM Rational is a software development and testing solution that helps development teams deploy, configure, and update applications. This also includes integrated quality assurance to guarantee that the software development cycle goes smoothly.

The client turned to IBM for assistance to get IBM Rational up and running on their in-house physical servers. Once IBM got the client's request, they turned to the Jeskell team to lead the project. Given our specialty skills as implementers of IBM Rational tools, we were capable of quickly and efficiently making the solution operational on the client's system.

As a new company dealing with constant organizational changes, the contractor was also looking to deploy and operate IBM Rational from a cloud-based environment for greater agility, growth management and lower costs. That's when SoftLayer came into the picture. SoftLayer, provides uncompromising performance for the most demanding workloads, all while delivering total flexibility and excellent cost efficiency. With SoftLayer, clients avoid tying up scarce capital with dedicated servers in their own data centers, yet still benefit from the total flexibility and predictability of SoftLayer's hardware assets in the cloud.

With the help of the Jeskell account team, we began to form a migration path that would bring IBM Rational and SoftLayer together.

The Solution

The SoftLayer cloud suite was the ideal cloud service model to unlock even greater value from IBM Rational technology. For this US Military client in particular, SoftLayer presented a few strategic advantages, including:

- Self-provisioning and faster deployment time
- Enhanced scalability to manage unpredictable workloads
- Lower upfront cost, helping the client allocate financial resources to other needs

The SoftLayer offering was compelling from a strategic and cost standpoint, but the client still had questions about its performance and throughput capability. In short order, Jeskell's engineering team assembled a benchmark routine to show the client how IBM Rational would truly perform in the SoftLayer cloud. Performance results were outstanding; the client was delighted, and immediately began the migration effort to SoftLayer with Jeskell assistance.

The Outcome

In accordance with IBM best practices (adapted from IBM Rational engineers), we were able to quickly migrate IBM Rational from the physical environment to the SoftLayer cloud. The entire process was drama-free, as Jeskell engineers were hands-on and attentive to all the client's requirements.

At the end of the day, our client was fully deployed with their desired IBM Rational tool suite in the SoftLayer environment. They were ideally positioned to benefit from all the compelling advantages this solution offers: fast startup, improved flexibility and productivity, and dramatically lower TCO.



Want to learn more about IBM SoftLayer? Take the first step toward cloud enlightenment by contacting one of our Jeskell consultants today!

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