



USDA Customer Success Story

USDA/NRCS uses Codebeamer to support collaboration among its dispersed development teams



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Frank Geter, National Modeling Specialist and Olaf David, Ph.D., Research Scientist at United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Services have evaluated a number of different collaborative software platforms, including document collaboration only tools, before selecting Codebeamer as its system for collaborative software development.

Olaf David, research scientist at NRCS led the effort and identified the following critical requirements. The solution must be able to support decentralized, network dispersed, team oriented code development and project management. It must facilitate web-based team communication, issue tracking, user access permissions, collaborative code and document management and leverage existing version control systems. Additional business requirements include easy installation and low ongoing maintenance as well as a licensing model that supports USDA's business practice. Codebeamer was awarded the purchase contract after a competitive RFQ process. Other serious products considered were SourceForge, and COLLABNET.

At NRCS, we had 250 developers dispersed geographically beyond just Fort Collins. Then once we started to work on the Object Modeling System, our developers expanded across, Fort Collins, Fort Worth, Washington DC, Portland and even in Germany. We knew we needed a robust collaborative software development system

Frank Geter, National Modeling Specialist

Ultimately Codebeamer was chosen

It was by far the easiest product to install

- Codebeamer was the only solution that had the ability to integrate with USDA's version control system, Subversion
- It required no professional consulting services to keep it operational and
- Codebeamer was the only collaborative software solution in its class that offered a floating license model necessary to support USDA's need to allow up to 250 developers access when they need it

At USDA/NRCS, we have standardize our modeling efforts using a Netbeans based Modeling Platform (Object Modeling System). We chose Netbeans, Codebeamer, and Subversion because it is the only fully integrated collaboration solution that could effectively facilitate our development and deployment of simulation models in order to support modeling projects, such as the water supply forecasting project in the U.S.

Since Codebeamer was awarded the RFQ in August of 2004, we have been quite happy with both the support we have received from Codebeamer, as well as all of Codebeamer's functionalities including project management, source code management, document management, project forums, issue tracking, wiki, source code statistics, version control integration, and integration with USDA's authentication / authorization infrastructure. Codebeamer currently hosts 291 projects.

Olaf David, Ph.D., Research Scientist

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Codebeamer X is an integrated Engineering Lifecycle Management (ELM) platform for life sciences companies with regulatory process & compliance support.

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