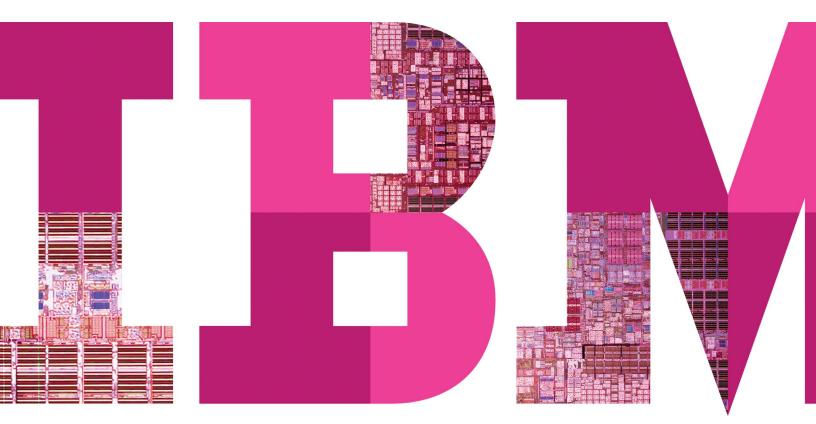# Power innovation with IBM Rational software

*Rational application development tools for
IBM Power Systems solutions*

Do more with less to save resources for innovation

Tough economic times have taught businesses that they can do more with less and make the most of their existing investments. While the economy is bouncing back, organizations are holding on to these lessons, seeking ways to make the most of what they have — both in assets and people — so they can spend more time and money on innovation.

To get the optimal value from their investments, many organizations have been taking a closer look at their IT infrastructures, which can offer many optimization opportunities. The IBM Power Systems™ solution was designed to do just that. Composed of hardware, software and operating systems meant to work together, this comprehensive infrastructure is designed to offer:

- Virtualization without limits.
- Dynamic energy optimization.
- Management with automation.
- Workload balancing systems.
- Resiliency without downtime.
- Integrated value.

Specifically, IBM Rational® solutions for Power Systems servers — part of the IBM Power Systems Software™ suite — provide organizations with new, cost-effective and practical optimization and modernization opportunities that free resources for innovation. These Rational solutions support development on IBM AIX®, IBM i and Linux® operating systems and can help:

- Improve system utilization by optimizing the application infrastructure.
- Boost productivity and accelerate innovation with modern skills.
- Enhance organizational agility by bridging development silos.
- Increase flexibility by integrating application portfolios.

IBM Rational solutions for Power Systems servers help organizations find ways to leverage existing assets more effectively, rather than rebuilding or replacing investments. They help you plot a clear, executable course toward reduced costs, improved productivity and agility and to concentrate modernization efforts on applications strategically aligned with the organization's business objectives.

Figure 1: POWER7 systems combined with IBM Rational solutions — which optimize the value of application, people, team and infrastructure investments — help deliver superior performance optimized for transactional and throughput workloads.

Improve system utilization by optimizing your infrastructure

The latest compilers from IBM are designed to maximize application performance on Power Systems servers, including IBM POWER7™ technology. They help you take better advantage of your current infrastructure investments to improve your efficiency by:

- Optimizing your application suite for your specific Power Systems server, helping to dramatically lower your solution's total cost of ownership (TCO).
- Exploiting hardware advancements on IBM POWER® technology.
- Lowering the barrier for porting applications to IBM Power Systems platforms.
- Improving developer productivity.

"Once the team realized the power of [the] Rational Developer for Power Systems Software application and [its] ease of use, all our developers have moved to it, and our company is finding between 10 and 20 percent productivity improvements. … My advice: try it. You will never go back."

—Bruce "Hoss" Collins, manager of systems administration, AAA Cooper Transportation

Boost productivity and accelerate innovation using modern tools

If you want to improve productivity and attract new talent to your development teams, the IBM Rational Developer for Power Systems Software application can help. It provides modern, visual tools that can bridge the skills gap with a modular, GUI-integrated development environment that is familiar to recent graduates. It is designed to work with C/C++, COBOL and RPG compilers from IBM. Using the Rational solutions, IBM clients have improved developer productivity by 20 percent or more and in turn have decreased their solutions' TCO as much as 30 percent and freed up key resources to spend more time on high value innovation.

Enhance organizational agility by bridging development silos

There are common development processes that can increase the efficiency and effectiveness of developers responsible for application maintenance and modernization projects. However, distributed development teams working in heterogeneous development environments might struggle to adopt such processes. You can deploy the IBM Rational Team Concert™ for Power Systems Software application to start standardizing your development processes and tools across disparate IT teams, regardless of their skills, programming language or technology platform. It helps teams:

- Improve agility, communication and collaboration to facilitate innovation.
- Detect and accelerate resolution of defects earlier in the development process when they're less resource-intensive to fix.
- Transform software development to be more automated, transparent and predictable to streamline complexities and speed time to market.

Rational solutions for Power Systems environments in the real world: a success story

Oxford International Inc. (Oxford) is a leading IBM Business Partner and solutions provider for organizations that leverage IBM POWER processor–based servers. To improve its time to market, the company needed better communication and project visibility. It wanted to increase agility to improve software development, management and control across its cross-platform distributed development teams. By implementing the Rational solutions for Power Systems suite on its own IBM Power servers, the company accelerated application time to market and improved quality and team productivity 20–30 percent throughout the development process. "Rational truly hits the mark of the most demanding business and IT department," says Steve Norton, president at Oxford.

Increase flexibility by integrating your application portfolio

To address rapidly changing business needs, development teams need applications to be flexible and adaptable so they do more without requiring rewriting or rehosting. And to stay competitive, teams need to be able to extend these applications to support Web and Web 2.0 capabilities. IBM Rational Host Access Transformation Services software provides a low-risk and low-cost approach to Web- and service-enabling your existing green-screen applications. Using Rational solutions to modernize and streamline older applications can improve employee productivity, and Web-enabling existing applications can dramatically increase their accessibility and value to employees, partners, suppliers and customers.

For more information

To learn more about Rational solutions for Power Systems servers, please contact your IBM sales representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

ibm.com/software/rational/modernization

IBM Software