



Press Release

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“Goodbye” to legacy applications:

A magic wand to turn your frumpy software into a glamorous app?

Being stuck with ages-old software is a constant headache for businesses. It’s clunky, old fashioned, expensive to run and never quite works like it should. Now a team of developers from across Europe think they have the answer...

The ARTIST project proposes a software modernization approach using Model Driven Engineering techniques to automate the engineering of legacy applications to and from platform -dependent models, allowing a cheap and rapid alternative to redeveloping applications by hand.

Like poor Cinderella, legacy applications watch by as their modern counterparts whizz through the internet, scaling up and down with demand and hosted from sleek and swanky datacenters. Not cut out for cloud computing they limp on, carrying out the same old menial tasks as ever, with less and less attention paid to updates and development. They know sooner or later they will be gone.

But now, like a fairy godmother, the ARTIST project proposes a set of methods and tools which, like the flick of a wand, reverse-engineer legacy apps to a meta-model version and then forward-engineer them to the desired platform. In doing so, the application can take advantage of the latest technology, such as cloud computing, smartphones and security features. Consequently, ARTIST’s objective is to assess, plan, design, implement and validate the automated evolution of legacy software to SaaS and the Cloud Computing delivery model.

The European Commission is backing the team composed of specialists from industry and academia who are applying their experience in software development and cutting edge technologies like cloud computing to build a solution to modernize legacy applications.

Project coordinator, Clara Pezuela, from IT consultant Atos said:

“ARTIST is an exciting ground-breaking project applying the latest scientific achievements from multiple fields to an urgent and critical business problem faced by many European businesses. The project is committed to breaking down barriers to the cloud and revitalizing the thousands of legacy software applications sub-optimally in use today.”

It’s still early days, but the project has got off to a good start. If the slipper fits it will transform the way businesses view software and vitalize the SaaS market by reducing the risk, time and cost of migrating legacy software and lowering the barriers for service companies wanting to take advantage of the latest Cloud Computing and SaaS-based technologies and business models whilst balancing software continuity with optimal performance and cost. So yes, Cinderella, you shall go to the ball!

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