



Case: RAY

Consistent software development with OpenMethod

RAY IN BRIEF

The task of Raha-automaattiyhdistys (Finland's Slot Machine Association), generally referred to as RAY, is to raise funds through gaming operations to support the work of voluntary health and welfare organisations. For this purpose, the Association has the exclusive right in Finland to operate slot machines and casino table games, as well as to run a casino.

SOLUTION'S CUSTOMER BENEFITS

- Helps to make consistent IT decisions irrespective of business units
- Helps to define tender specifications
- Unifies software development methods
- Makes the developers' work easier and faster
- Supports communication within the organisation and among various interest groups
- User interface available in the local language
- Enables the organisation to concentrate on its core business
- Facilitates easy maintenance of applications
- Expert support and training offered

In order to streamline its business and IT operations and to create a common decision making scheme for all business areas, RAY has restructured its organisation. To support these changes, RAY acquired OpenMethod, a software development method covering the entire development cycle of the software and available in the Finnish language. OpenMethod offers professional requirements management for more efficient tenders and precise evaluations of system development needs, tailored to the business in question.

Previously, IT purchases were independently agreed on by RAY's individual business units. This posed challenges to company-wide system integration. RAY's IT department does not build new systems itself. Instead, it develops existing systems, specifies requirements and invites tenders for projects. Following a tender, the application is typically developed by an external IT supplier, who is usually in charge of the system's maintenance as well. It was crucial to establish good communication between the business unit and the IT department, in order to ensure the consistency of the requirements defined in development schedules and tenders.

Providing a clear background for agreements, OpenMethod facilitates seamless cooperation between the company and its suppliers. It creates a user-friendly framework for developing the system on the basis of actual business needs. The resulting unified documentation makes communication between the various interest groups considerably easier.

Business-driven development

The practical and cost-efficient OpenMethod software development method supplied by Digia enabled RAY to unify its operations throughout the different stages of business development, software engineering and acquisition processes. Unified operations in turn guarantee efficient working.

"OpenMethod offers excellent guidelines. Its tools are easy to use and support the work in a very hands-on way. We can concentrate on our core business and rest assured that the maintenance, support and training required by this method is always at our disposal and professionally executed", states Design Manager Jouko Lahdensuu of RAY.

Product Manager Juha Jääskinen of Digia adds: "It's exciting to see the branded OpenMethod operating models enhance business efficiency and save software development costs. We continuously improve the method on the basis of customer feedback and project experience in order to provide our customers in every case with the best available practices the market has to offer."

TECHNOLOGY USED IN THE SOLUTION

- OpenMethod software development method
- Eclipse Process Framework Composer (EPFC)
- Rational Method Composer (RMC)
- Rational support (RequisitePro, Rose, SoDA, RSM)
- Navigable HTML user interface

Leading Finnish software development method

OpenMethod provides guidelines and enhanced efficiency for the business-oriented development of systems and processes, based on best practices and comprehensive project experience. It acts as a framework for different interest groups and unifies operating methods in different phases of software development. The method is equally intended for organisations implementing their own information system projects and organisations outsourcing such projects.

Outsourcing software development enables enterprises to concentrate on their core business. OpenMethod is technology independent and can easily be integrated into the company's existing tools. The all-round service package covers project implementation and system maintenance, featuring a wide range of guidelines, document templates, checklists and examples.

In addition to the method itself, the OpenMethod package contains training, mentoring and project management services. The comprehensive scope of the service ensures a smooth rollout and usage of the method.

Digia cooperates with various IT suppliers in order to guarantee the development method's seamless integration with multiple system environments. Feedback from our customers is one of the cornerstones of our product development – we respond quickly to suggestions in accordance with the service agreement. OpenMethod is used by hundreds of Finnish companies and forms part of the certified quality management system of Digia's Finance and Services unit (ISO 9001:2000).

DIGIA IN BRIEF

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