Software vendor evaluation tool

How do you go about evaluating vendor software products when you need to buy something to meet one of your business needs? Good marketing can hide poor functionality so you want to do some due diligence when you purchase software to address mission critical business needs. One way to do an objective evaluation is to look at side by side comparisons of things you deem to be important in your selection criteria. A great way to do this is to use the Software Vendor Evaluation Matrix available at http://www.mde.net/tools/VendorSoftwareEval.xls

Develop a career plan

It’s never too late to step back and take a look at your career, where you have come from, where you are, and especially where you want to be in five years. Career planning is an ongoing process, not an event. If you have never been part of developing a career plan, now is the time to start. You can use the following steps to develop a plan for yourself or for an employee. Step 1 – Take an introspective look. Step 2 – “What do you want to be when you grow up?” and Step 3 – Create a plan. Read this interesting blog post at http://itlever.com/2010/06/04/develop-a-career-plan/

Your IT Decision-Maker's Technology Toolkit

This complimentary kit includes the following six research reports, providing direct insights into how your peers are overcoming challenges on their way to success. "Bare" it or Dare it:The Benefits of Image-based Recovery; Datacenter Downtime: How much does it really Cost?; The CIO's View of Content Monitoring / Filtering; The CIO's View of Security and Cloud Computing; The CIO's View of Enterprise Key Management; False Scarcity: Everything Changes, but Nothing is Lost. Discover the strategies and initiatives that you can implement today to achieve Best-in-Class performance. Aims at Best Practices for Decreased Cost, Improved Processing Power, Better User Experience, and Faster Time-to-Decision. Limited time (till mid Sep 2010) free access it at http://resources.aberdeen.com/toolkit/it-decision-maker.html

Rommana – Integrated lifecycle manager

The success of any project depends on how well the different phases of the lifecycle are managed. Many project managers think that good project management is all that it takes to have a successful project. What if you had an Integrated Lifecycle Management methodology and tool, which maintains tight integration between these six processes? Rommana integrated lifecycle manager supports the following processes: Requirement Management; Test Management; Project Management; Use Case Management; Issue Management; Change and Release Management. This software is available for trial with support and space to store project data for six months. For details visit http://www.rommanasoftware.com/download.php

Guide to Smart SMS Marketing

The general availability of SMS on everything from the most basic handsets to the most feature-rich smart phones makes text messaging the lowest common denominator for information dissemination and for sending out mobile coupons and other incentives driving consumers to bricks-and-mortar retail stores. This white paper, discusses on how SMS can help retailers disseminate calls-to-action quickly and to a wider base of population, driving traffic and increasing revenue. Read this white paper at http://bit.ly/bSjHbs

How to parse and use the world's growing supply of data

We are overflowing with data. Computing power is growing all the time, making number crunching and data processing faster and faster. Then there's the cloud, where an infinite amount of data can be stored and managed. Making sense of all the data is getting more complicated. Here's a look at companies and new technologies that are helping to make the growing supply of data useful. Read the special report with sub stories like Your Computer in 2020 and Your Classroom in 2020 etc at http://bit.ly/9Q7mXY
58 Open Source Replacements for Small Business Software

Many small business owners have never heard of open source software. That's unfortunate because in many ways small businesses are ideal environments for open source applications. Open source offers opportunities for companies to cut their software costs and gives them the freedom to modify the code so that it suits their needs. This article at [http://bit.ly/cIOYs4](http://bit.ly/cIOYs4) lists 58 open source tools that can replace the software you might use at your small business.

Going Live: The Role of Development and Operations in Preparing and Deploying Software Packages

Properly deploying your software application - its binaries and associated configuration - to your Development, Test, Acceptance or Production (DTAP) environments according to your release process is a complex task spanning multiple departments and teams. Unfortunately, in many organisations this critical process is still rather time-consuming and error-prone. This white paper at [http://www.infoq.com/articles/dev-op-xebia](http://www.infoq.com/articles/dev-op-xebia) discusses on how Development, Operations and others can collaborate to prepare a good deployment package. A good package reduces the potential for error and improves clarity whilst still allowing for environment-specific customization.

Data Mining in the Swamp: Taming Unruly Data With Cloud Computing

Business Intelligence is all about making better decisions from the data you have. However, all too often, the data you have is difficult to process by typical BI tools. These failures generally come in two areas: The data is too voluminous to be properly digested by your BI system and the data records are messy, inconsistent and difficult to join together. This whitepaper at [http://www.infoq.com/articles/data-mine-cloud-hadoop](http://www.infoq.com/articles/data-mine-cloud-hadoop) deals with Hadoop that makes the ETL process easier, and bring the size and quality of data under control along with providing low-cost scalability, a reliable and easily expandable file system, and a framework for dramatically increasing the scope and robustness of data mining and data analysis business strategies.

Scrum in 6 Pages: An Essential Reference Guide

Scrum is a management framework for incremental product development using one or more cross-functional, self-organizing teams of about seven people each. Scrum provides a structure of roles, meetings, rules, and artifacts. Teams are responsible for creating and adapting their processes within this framework. Scrum uses fixed-length iterations, called Sprints, which are typically two weeks or 30 days long. Scrum teams attempt to build a potentially shippable (properly tested) product increment every iteration. This 6 page guide at [http://www.infoq.com/vendorcontent/show.action?vcr=1103](http://www.infoq.com/vendorcontent/show.action?vcr=1103) provides a great blueprint starter for reference for all things Scrum.

Google App Engine and the Google Data APIs

This 57 minutes presentation at [http://www.infoq.com/presentations/mano-marks-google-appengine](http://www.infoq.com/presentations/mano-marks-google-appengine) introduces the Google App Engine (a toolset used internally to develop Google applications) and shows how to build scalable systems where the developer worries about the code, and Google worries about the servers. It also includes an overview of Google App Engine and a quick introduction to the Google Data APIs. The developer’s guide at [http://code.google.com/appengine/docs/](http://code.google.com/appengine/docs/) contains everything you need to know to build scalable web applications using Google technology. One can develop Google App Engine application in Java / Python environments:

Jesus Saves

Jesus and Satan have a discussion as to who is the better programmer. This goes on for a few hours until they come to an agreement to hold a contest, with God as the judge.

They sit themselves at their computers and begin. They type furiously, lines of code streaming up the screen, for several hours straight. Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes, taking out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over.

God asks Satan to show what he has come up with. Satan is visibly upset, and cries, "I have nothing. I lost
it all when the power went out. "Very well, then," says God, "let us see if Jesus fared any better." Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers. Satan is astonished. He stutters, "B-b-but how? I lost everything, yet Jesus' program is intact. How did he do it?"

God smiled all-knowingly, "Jesus Saves."

ICT News Headlines & Briefs

- IDC India has predicted that the India data centre services market will touch nearly Rs 10,000 crore by 2011-end, representing a compounded annual growth rate of 22.7 per cent over the two-year period 2009-11.
- India may drag US to WTO over visa fee hike plan According to CII, the US move could cost Indian exporters $300-$500 million.
- Nearly 20 months after his arrest, founder and ex-chairman of Satyam Computer Services Ltd, Mr B Ramalinga Raju was granted bail. With Mr Raju's bail, all 10 accused in the case are now out on bail.
- “Encryption policy may hit doing business in India” says Data Security Council of India (DSCI), a unit of Nasscom.
- NIIT hopes to enhance the employability of engineering graduates through its newly launched GNIT programme for engineers which may cost Rs. one lakh.
- SatNav Technologies, a Global Positioning System-based navigation products company, has launched a free ‘Store Locator’ service and detailed maps of 810 cities in India.
- Intel acquires McAfee.
- BSNL gets nod to buy gear from Chinese vendors
- Telcos in race to sponsor cricket matches in India
- Starting January 2012 your fixed-line phone number could become a 10-digit number just as in the mobile segment.
- Symantec has ranked India at the number two position, next only to the US, in spam origination.
- Shendra industrial area near Aurangabad will be converted into a ‘smart city’ by a consortium of 30 Japanese companies which has committed an investment of $10 million for converting 400 hectares into a green, high-tech city, with low carbon footprint.
- Glodyne Technoserve will add around 500 employees to its existing 3000 on rolls this year anticipating growth in its infrastructure management services.
- Korean technology major Samsung has started conducting WiMax-based trials for Reliance Industries-backed Infotel which had bagged pan-India broadband spectrum.
- A new style of architecture, called ‘deconstructive concept’, will be adopted in the construction of the Common Facility Centre (CFC) building at the upcoming Cyberpark in Kozhikode.
- Bharti Airtel bags cricket sponsorship rights. With India expected to play at least 51 matches between September 2010 and March 2013, Airtel will shell out around Rs 170 crore.
- The Finance Act, 1981 inserted Section 10A to the Income-Tax Act, 1961 to provide benefits to newly established undertakings in free trade zones, software technology parks (STPs), etc.
- The penetration of PCs in affluent and middle-income urban households has doubled in the last three years to 38% from 19%, indicating that 28 million households in urban India now have a PC.
- Over 72 per cent of India's IT infrastructure companies will adopt cloud computing in a big way over the next two to three years, according to a study by Ernst & Young.
- Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has sought access to the monitoring systems in a bid to track online deals and information about suspected tax violators.
- Global downturn as well as the fall from grace of financial giants has spurred Indian corporates including several non-finance companies to increasingly hire chief risk officers (CROs).
- Tally unveils ERP solution
- Absolute Software Technologies has launched a free SMS site called net2mobiles.com that lets registered users to send free SMSes and the senders may get a chance to earn up to Re 1 for each SMS depending on the advertisements the site gets that particular day.
- Kolkata police ties up with Infosys to tackle cyber crimes
- Alarm bells ringing for India's ITES
- Tata DoCoMO has launched the ‘Pay per site’ service at Rs. 10/m/site and an option for a combo pack at just Rs 25/ month.
- HP, Microsoft to offer ‘Infrastructure to Application’ solutions for small units.
- Windows 7 migration: ‘Cos will face shortage of professionals’.
- Aircel to invest $5 b in 2G, 3G services.
- Enforcement Directorate takes over 4,000 acres belonging to Ramalinga Raju.
- Ericsson to roll out optical fibre cable access technology in phases
Top IT cos in fray for Aadhaar's mega tender of value 2000-2500 cr.
e-waste disposal facility must for IT firms in Bangalore.
BlackBerry users can continue to use all the services available on the device with the Government agreeing to test the solutions offered by Research In Motion (RIM) to enable lawful interception of data by security agencies.
IT sector in Vizag all set to fly, but yet to take off.
EC Media launches e-book reader Wink XTS, a multi-functional e-reader that supports up to 15 Indian languages.

Announcements

- For CSI Calendar of Events, pl. visit http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/calendar-august10
- To get the conf. proceedings of IFIP Networking 2010: International Conference on Networking hosted by IIT Madras and CSI during 10-14, May 2010, pl. contact Mr. S. Ramasamy at syypsys@md5.vsnl.net.in
- To join CSI as a member, pl. visit http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/membership
- If you are interested in talking on your area of competence at CSI chapters, pl. register as a distinguished speaker at http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/email

Call For Papers

- NCMAN-2010: National Conference on Mobile and Ad Hoc Networks. 29-30, Oct 2010 at Coimbatore. Last date: 4th Oct 2010. Contact: Dr. A. Rathinavelu at ncmam@drmcet.ac.in or starvee@drmcet.ac.in
- NCTCA-10: National Conference on Theoretical Computer Science and Applications. 25-26, Nov 2010 at Chennai. Last date: 15th Oct 2010. Contact: Ms. M. Sandhya at nctca201@gmail.com

IT Events

- Workshop on “Future Wireless Technologies - 3G and Beyond" on 4th Sep 2010 at CSI Education Directorate, Chennai. Contact: admn.officer@csi-india.org
- The 3rd Tamil Nadu Student Convention. 17-18, Sep 2010 at Trichy. Contact : Dr. S A Sahaaya Arul Mary, samjessi@gmail.com or Mr. S Ramasamy, syypsys@md5.vsnl.net.in

InfoQuiz–2010-09-01

1. ------ is claimed to be the first Indian origin web browser
3. Identify the company whose tagline is "make.believe"
4. Bill Gates was the wealthiest overall from 1995 to 2009, excluding the year ------
5. ------ will be the first living person to be featured in the Amar Chitra Katha series in its history of around 40 years, which mostly focuses on popular Indian myths and legends.

Email your answers by 12th Sep 2010 to csi.infoquiz@gmail.com with subject “infoquiz-2010-09-01”.

Please provide your full address and contact phone nos. after the answers. The first person to answer correctly and one randomly selected lucky winner will be awarded Rs. 500/= each by SRA Systems (www.srasys.com). Answers along with the winner info will be published in the next issue.

Answers & Winners of InfoQuiz-2010-08-16

- Infosys, MobileMe, Samsung, Foxconn Technology Group, Wipro
- Mr. S.Krishnamorthy from Chennai is the first one to answer correctly and Ms. S. Ramadevi from Bangalore is the lucky winner. They will receive a cheque for Rs. 500/= from SRA Systems shortly.

About the newsletter

CSI-eNewsletter is a compilation of information from different sources which would be of interest to ICT professionals, academicians and students and published on 1st and 16th of every month. While adequate care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of links provided, we do not accept any liability. You are welcome to share interesting information and provide feedback, by emailing us at hrmohan.csi@gmail.com

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