SCC and IBM UrbanCode

Accelerate your Business with SCC

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What is DevOps

DevOps is an increasingly common approach to agile software development that developers and operations teams use to build, test, deploy and monitor applications with speed, quality and control.

DevOps is relevant to any kind of software project regardless of architecture, platform or purpose. Common use cases include: cloud-native and mobile applications, application integration, and modernization and multicloud management.

Rapidly releasing new digital products and services to market is critical to staying competitive. Agile development teams use build management, deployment automation and release management solutions like IBM UrbanCode® to accelerate and optimize software delivery.

UrbanCode can enable continuous delivery for any combination of on-premises, cloud and mainframe applications by eliminating manual, error-prone processes.

Maintain control of complex releases, and release software faster, without sacrificing quality — with UrbanCode.

What is UrbanCode?

Why IBM UrbanCode? Deliver better software, faster.

UrbanCode Deploy (UCD) is an application release automation solution that combines robust visibility, traceability, and auditing capabilities. It enables clients to orchestrate and automate the deployment of applications, middleware configuration, and database changes into development, test, and production environments. UCD integrate with build and test tools to automatically deploy, test, and promote new builds to enable Continuous Delivery of software.

- Seamlessly deploy applications to distributed data centers, cloud, and virtualized environments as often as needed — either on demand or on a schedule.

- Automate manual tasks — reducing them from days to minutes — to accelerate time to market, reduce cost, and cut deployment errors by up to 90%.

- Deliver higher-quality application releases with increased compliance through end-to-end transparency, auditability and reduced time to feedback.

- Simplify the deployment of multichannel apps to all environments, whether on-premises or in the cloud (public or private), with consistency and repeatability.

Only IBM's UrbanCode Deploy can deploy a range of application types, including traditional, containers, and hybrid (a blend of containers and traditional components) to any platform, including bare metal, VMs, public cloud, private cloud, IBM I, IBM z, and Kubernetes, while integrating with hundreds of other technologies present in client environments.

- IBM UrbanCode Deploy (UCD) to deploy any application anywhere with repeatable governance and speed. Available as on-prem install and certified containers.

- IBM UrbanCode Velocity (UCV) to leverage value stream management and data for a new advantage that will help make it possible to speed products to the market faster than ever before. Available as certified containers.

- IBM Rational Test Automation Server (RTAS) to accelerate end-to-end testing of multichannel, interconnected applications with new features for service virtualization, performance, and UI testing. Available as certified containers.

Business Drivers and Why IBM

Business pressures demand faster time to market. Enterprises are rapidly adopting containers, Kubernetes, and microservices to modernize their applications to gain speed, and reduce cost and complexity. But we recognize that Application Modernization is a journey, and that existing estates of business-critical applications will not all become microservices overnight. Orchestrating deployment of multiple application types (traditional, containers, and hybrid) across multiple platform (VMs, public and private cloud, etc.), using a proliferation of technologies and tools is proving prohibitively costly, time-consuming, and risky.

Only IBM offers a certified Cloud Pak that provides the RedHat OpenShift platform and cloud-native tools and services, but also, the DevOps tooling required to deploy, govern and test any application anywhere, regardless of where the client is on the journey to modernization. DevOps4Cloud Paks also provides insights into how to find and crush bottlenecks in the delivery process for faster time to market.

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Contact: **Steve Mecklenburgh**
E: Steve.Mecklenburgh@scc.com
T: 07976 013994
W: scc.com

UrbanCode Deploy:

UrbanCode Deploy automates application deployments of many artifacts and integrates with many CI tools. It is the one deployment automation/orchestration tool for an enterprise. With UrbanCode Deploy you can deploy any application anywhere: to distributed platforms, z/OS, private and public clouds, and container platforms Kubernetes and OpenShift. Run UrbanCode Deploy itself in a container on IBM Cloud Private or Public or OpenShift for easy use and administration, using a Helm Operator.

- Ability to deploy Apps and configurations to WAS and JBOSS, VMs, Red Hat OpenShift and IBM z

- Orchestration of Jenkins, UrbanCode Deploy and Tekton pipelines for complex deployments

- Automated, consistent deployments and rollbacks of applications

- Deploy to MQ, API Connect, DataPower

- Speed deployments using Aspera for data transfer

- Automated provisioning, updating, and de-provisioning of cloud environments

- Self-service: ability to grant different teams the rights to "push the go button" for different applications and environments

- Incremental updates: ability to deploy only the changed components or missing incremental (patch) versions and roll back if needed

- Auditable governance with approvals, quality gates, and granular security roles and permissions.

- Clear visibility: what is deployed where and who changed what

- Integrated with middleware, provisioning and service virtualization.

UrbanCode Velocity

UrbanCode Velocity orchestrates continuous delivery across the software value stream. It helps you visualize, orchestrate and optimize your continuous delivery value stream. Development teams, release managers and transformation executives now have one tool to consolidate data and drive action across many agile, continuous integration and continuous delivery systems. UrbanCode Velocity is designed for companies that are looking to move beyond automation to drive culture change and fully realize the benefits of their DevOps transformation investments

- Team/application level Value Streams showing the flow of ideas to value

- Enterprise level insights to assess who is delivering how quickly

- Pipelines of pipelines to orchestrate across Jenkins, UrbanCode Deploy, Ansible Tower and Tekton

- Lightweight Release Planning to orchestrate release plans across multiple applications

- Easy audit reports: provide change records for each production update, including what changed and why.

Rational Test Automation Server

Test Automation helps to accelerate end-to-end testing of multichannel, interconnected applications with new features for service virtualization, performance, and UI testing. An integral part of the DevOps solution space, Rational Test Automation Server and Rational Test Workbench offerings enable continuous testing and faster software delivery across the enterprise.

- Scale your Testing on the Cloud or remote On Prem machines with native Docker, Kubernetes and IBM Red Hat OpenShift support

- Execute API, Functional and Performance Tests on a single platform

- View unified test results that'll help you take informed business decisions

- Integrate with popular DevOps tools like Jenkins, UrbanCode Deploy to get more value from your DevOps pipelines

Common Pain Points

- Risks related to Continuous Delivery

- Slow time to market

- Hard to create audit reports

- Errors related manual application deployments

- Too many tools used for deployments – need to consolidate on one CI/CD process

- No way to deploy easily to IBMz with standard tools

- Unsure how to improve speed or quality – no visibility into bottlenecks

- Poor product quality

- Unable to scale up test execution or run it easily on Cloud environmentsWhat and How to Sell

Customer Benefits

- Improved time to market

- Development and testing shifts left and accelerates

- Reduced number of defects in production

- Reduced testing downtime due to environment unavailability

- Better quality systems = better reputation with customers

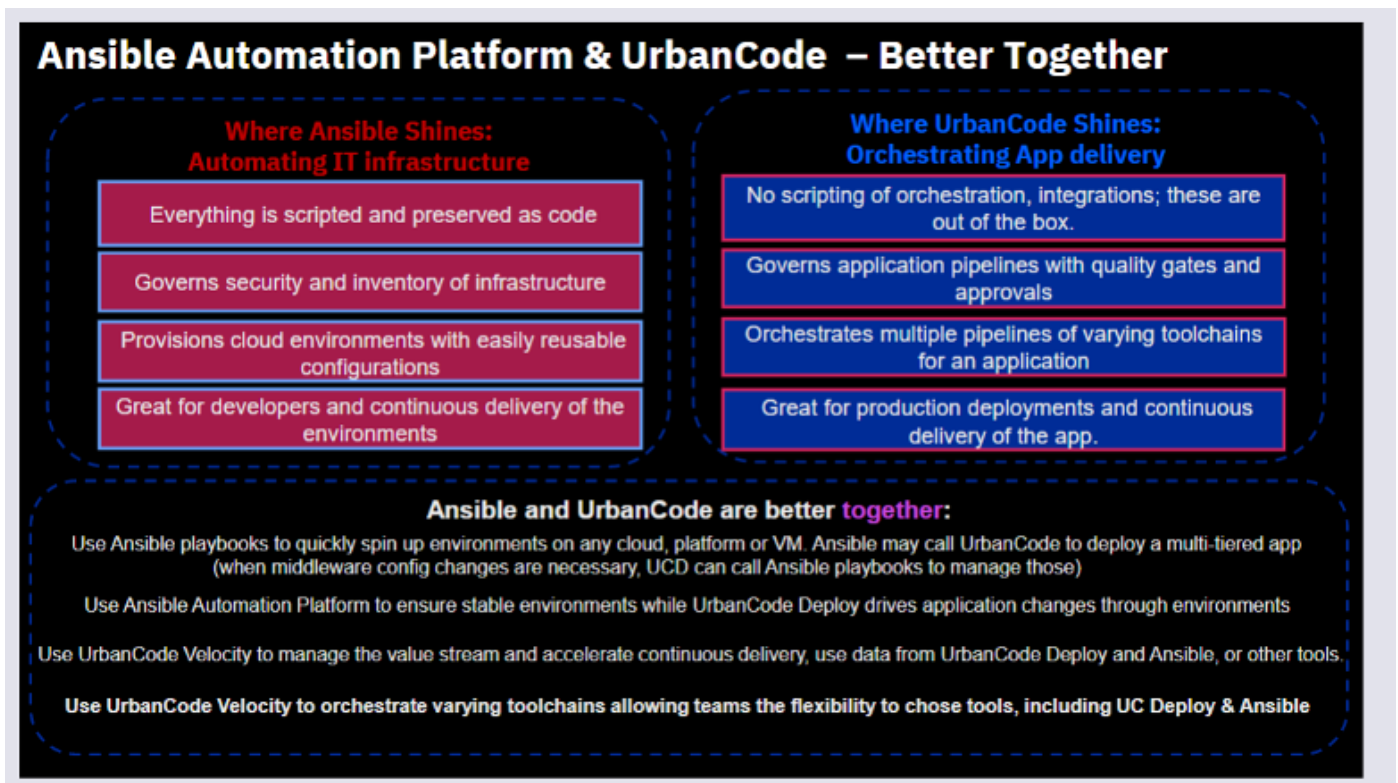- Cloud Performance testing provides high ROI for a low TCO

Key Differentiators:

UrbanCode Deploy:

- Known to scale at enterprise level

- Deploys natively to z/OS

- Includes hundreds of integrations out of the box

- Deploys hybrid, traditional and microservices applications

Rational Test Automation:

- Support for widest range of testing technologies and protocols

- Market leading support for testing of MQ, WebSphere Application Server, IBM Integration Bus, Z (IMS and CICS)

- IBM support for MQ does not require the use of proxy queues for recording traffic, CA and HP use queues which are time consuming to repeatedly configure

- Unique ability to synchronize with middleware servers (such as WAS and IIB, above). This allows testers to import architectural representations and begin integration testing and building virtual services much sooner than the competition

- Automatically generated tester friendly test descriptions of recorded system interactions.

- The Starter Editions allow customers to experiment with the tools and provide matching offers to Light weight and OSS products.

Ansible Automation Platform & UrbanCode – Better Together

Where Ansible Shines:
Automating IT infrastructure

Everything is scripted and preserved as code

Governs security and inventory of infrastructure

Provisions cloud environments with easily reusable configurations

Great for developers and continuous delivery of the environments

Where UrbanCode Shines:
Orchestrating App delivery

No scripting of orchestration, integrations; these are out of the box.

Governs application pipelines with quality gates and approvals

Orchestrates multiple pipelines of varying toolchains for an application

Great for production deployments and continuous delivery of the app.

Ansible and UrbanCode are better together:

Use Ansible playbooks to quickly spin up environments on any cloud, platform or VM. Ansible may call UrbanCode to deploy a multi-tiered app (when middleware config changes are necessary, UCD can call Ansible playbooks to manage those)

Use Ansible Automation Platform to ensure stable environments while UrbanCode Deploy drives application changes through environments

Use UrbanCode Velocity to manage the value stream and accelerate continuous delivery, use data from UrbanCode Deploy and Ansible, or other tools.

Use UrbanCode Velocity to orchestrate varying toolchains allowing teams the flexibility to chose tools, including UC Deploy & Ansible

Why SCC?

SCC has partnered with IBM for almost 40 years; SCC bridges the gap between business needs and technology to deliver world-class solutions. We know IBM inside out, from its technology to its people and vision, and whatever we do together delivers the strongest, most agile solution.

Maturity in the market means SCC is regularly building complex offerings and programs. With a specialist dedicated IBM team, we are able to offer that extra support needed when helping our customers plan, integrate and manage their projects.

Call and engage with SCC now to accelerate your business.

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