A Methodology Geared Specifically to Enterprise Application Integration

The Right Approach - a sure fire way of developing and implementing DataMirror Constellar Hub Interfaces

A methodology developed by DataMirror Constellar Hub developers for DataMirror Constellar Hub development projects. The Right Approach aims to have you asking and answering, the right questions at the right time. The methodology treats enterprise application integration as an application development project in its own right, not just an add-on to system maintenance. Use The Right Approach to maximise your return on investment in DataMirror Constellar Hub, through successful quality interface development.

Key Features

- Treats Enterprise Application Integration as an application development project in its own right.
- Encompasses the whole project life cycle.
- Key deliverables that align with each phase of the project.
- Designed to ensure all the right questions are answered, even if you didn’t know to ask them.
- Custom built macros for rapid population of pre-formatted content.
- Explanatory Notes and Example documents for each template.
- Reverse/forward engineering of design documents with DataMirror Constellar Hub.

Eucalypt Software Partners has been assisting organisations with the implementation and use of DataMirror Constellar Hub since 1996. In that time, we have provided consulting and software development resources to many customers to achieve their desired outcome in a variety of differing projects.

Along the way, Eucalypt Software Partners has developed tools and practices to both assist us in doing our job better, and to help our customers realise the achievement of return on investment as soon as possible. The distillation and collation of our best practices has lead to the development of The Right Approach - a methodology for successful interface development.

The Right Approach is geared specifically to Hub development and encompasses the whole project life cycle, from project definition, through planning, interface development, testing and production. Key deliverables align with each phase of your project.

“Through implementing The Right Approach, users can remove the uncertainty often associated with the implementation of a new tool and achieve a result of the highest quality sooner” according to Martin Flanagan, Director of Consulting and Support for Eucalypt Software Partners.

The Right Approach contains a series of examples, document templates and reference material structured in terms of a typical Hub development project.

Key deliverables include:
- Pre-install Checklist
- Hub Project Definition and Naming Standards
- Interface Dataflow Analysis
- Project Database Definition
- Project Interfaces Design
- Project Library Specification
- Unit Test Plan and Reports
- Project Interfaces Deployment

Do it Your Way

We at Eucalypt Software Partners recognise that every project is different. For this reason, the methodology has been developed to be customisable. Through a series of document templates we attempt to ask all questions relevant to a particular phase, removing any need for you to discover them yourself.

The Right Approach integrates easily with broader project plans. Pick and choose the elements of the methodology you need to meet your specific requirements.

With deliverables that align easily with common application development phases, project managers can use The Right Approach to better estimate the effort required to complete a successful quality development.

Whatever the structure of your project team, The Right Approach provides the communication backbone essential for effective quality processes within your project. The methodology will provide you with an effective and efficient means of communicating relevant information to all members of your team, whether they are business system owners, technical experts, management or specialist contractors.
Maximise Productivity

Built on Microsoft Office technology, the TRA templates contain comprehensive, pre-formatted sections to record the analysis, design and deployment aspects of any Constellar Hub integration project.

Through the TRA menu system, The Right Approach document templates have controls for changing the document’s logo, global font style and header information, as well as the ability to insert design components that contain pre-formatted sections for easy completion.

The templates come with a set of examples and explanatory notes that are also accessible via the TRA menu to provide a guidance on the content of the document being produced.

Reverse and Forward Engineering

To ease the job of progressing from the design phase into actual development, the TRAverse engine can be used to automatically populate a Constellar Repository with all of the databases, entities, attributes, interfaces, transactions, mappings and library metadata defined in the documentation. This facility completely removes the need to re-key information and bypasses the creation of the integration components, a manual task usually performed using the Constellar Metadata Manager.

Conversely, after coding changes have been made to any components, the metadata in a Constellar Repository can then be reverse engineered back into TRA documentation. This could be used to initially document a set of Constellar Hub interfaces or to achieve synchronization at the end of a maintenance cycle.

The Right Approach In Action

Patricia Alner, Associate Director, Queensland University of Technology - “SMARTA was the first data warehousing project at QUT to be undertaken by a business area within the University. We invited Eucalypt Software Partners to be part of our development team and acquired The Right Approach, which we followed as part of our project methodology for completing our significantly complex project.”

Pat Player, Applications Manager, University of Technology Sydney - “At the point of time of purchasing TRA, UTS was after a methodology which would help analyst/programmers ask the right questions of their users and themselves, when developing interfaces. TRA is a simple-to-follow approach to specifying, testing and implementing interfaces.”

Damian Hawkins, Data Analyst, University of Western Sydney - “TRA has benefited UWS by providing us a strong link between a structured documentation set and the constructs of Constellar Hub. The tool is helpful in that it provides pre-built sections that parallel the configuration options and settings that are used in the Hub.”

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