

# DevOps 2020 Top 3 Award: IBM Rational Test Workbench

An ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES® (EMA™) White Paper

By Stephen D. Hendrick

December 2018



IT & DATA MANAGEMENT RESEARCH,  
INDUSTRY ANALYSIS & CONSULTING

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## The DevOps 2020 Research Study

While a narrow majority of enterprises have embraced agile techniques, most enterprises are far from having a mature or comprehensive DevOps solution in place. DevOps is heading in many directions at once, making it difficult for enterprises and vendors alike to know how to define a winning strategy. Issues including shift left, market consolidation, standardization, hybrid solutions, machine learning, DevSecOps, IT governance, and microservices are just some of the challenges DevOps vendors face.

Despite the wide variation in DevOps tool adoption and maturity of DevOps initiatives across enterprises, most enterprises have a DevOps strategy and tactical plans that are intended to improve efficiency, quality, and competitive advantage. Understanding current tool use by enterprises, their needs over the next several years, and the extent to which vendors are aligned and positioned to support these needs are the keys to market success.

EMA fielded the worldwide DevOps 2020 survey online in May 2018. A total of 419 observations were collected. Survey sponsors included:



The DevOps 2020 survey goes beyond conventional surveys by establishing the current state of DevOps, understanding buying behavior over the next two years, revealing DevOps maturity and strategy, and providing a foundation for a survey-driven and analyst-guided competitive vendor analysis. This competitive analysis enables EMA to identify the three leading vendors and vendors who are innovators across eight key DevOps markets. EMA asked additional questions to better understand an enterprise's self-assessment of DevOps maturity, top DevOps objectives, and primary DevOps challenges.



## The DevOps Continuous Testing Platform Market

The DevOps 2020 survey looked at tool categories used across twenty DevOps markets and did a deep dive into eight of these markets to better understand the primary tools in use, functional effectiveness, and customer satisfaction.

DevOps continuous testing platforms were one of the eight markets EMA explored in depth. A brief definition of the continuous testing platform market segment is as follows:

### Continuous Testing Platform (CTP) tools

Continuous testing platforms direct core testing activities including test development, test management, continuous testing, and integration across the pipeline. The platforms also provide analytics and reporting of planned and actual testing activities.

EMA's DevOps 2020 research shows that continuous testing platforms will remain a high-growth market for 2018 and 2019. This reflects how effective CTPs are at addressing the management, automation, integration, quality, and risk profile of modern applications.

## DevOps 2020 Top 3 Product, Innovator Award Types, and Evaluation Criteria

EMA DevOps 2020 Top 3 product and innovation awards are based on rigorous evaluation criteria driven by customer experience. Respondents using tools in one or more of the eight DevOps market segments analyzed were asked to identify and evaluate the primary tool they used. If a primary tool wasn't listed, the respondent provided the name of the tool. Nine categories were used to score each product.

1. Product segment penetration
2. Product design, architecture, and scalability
3. Ease of integration and interoperability with other systems
4. Useful features relative to other competing products
5. Ease of deployment and use
6. Ease of administration
7. Cost relative to capabilities
8. Vendor support, services, and reputation
9. Product satisfaction

Product segment penetration (Category 1) is scored by scaling a product's penetration relative to the penetration of the segment leader using linear weights (0-4) based on five tiers, each with 20 percent ranges. Product penetration is nominally responsible for eleven percent of the overall product score.

Customers scored product capabilities (Categories 2-8) based on product effectiveness. Product satisfaction (Category 9) was scored based on the degree of product satisfaction. Effectiveness and degree of satisfaction are also linear weights (0-4). The score for each product category and satisfaction is the average of the sum of the weighted responses. Product capabilities nominally accounted for 78 percent of the overall product score. Product satisfaction nominally accounted for eleven percent of the overall product score.

The overall product score in a market segment is the scaled sum of the product penetration score, product capability score, and product satisfaction score.

## DevOps Top 3 Award

An EMA Top 3 Award identifies a product as one of the top three leaders in its market segment. Top 3 Award identification is based on three factors:

- A product must have a DevOps 2020 market penetration of three percent or more in its market segment.
- A product's overall DevOps 2020 score must be in the top ten percent of its market segment.
- A product's overall DevOps 2020 score must be one of the three top scores in its market segment.



## DevOps Innovator Product Leadership Award

An EMA Innovator Product Leadership Award is given to products in a market segment that demonstrate a combination of product penetration, feature effectiveness, and product satisfaction. The Innovator Product Leadership Award identification is based on three factors:

- A product must have a DevOps 2020 survey penetration rate of one percent or more in its market segment.
- A product's overall DevOps 2020 score must be in the top ten percent of its market segment.
- A product is not a DevOps 2020 Top 3 Award winner in its market segment.

## DevOps Innovator Product Excellence Award

An EMA Innovator Product Excellence Award is assigned to products in a market segment that demonstrate high levels of feature effectiveness and/or product satisfaction. The Innovator Product Excellence Award identification is based on four factors:

- A product must have a DevOps 2020 survey penetration rate of one percent or more in its market segment.
- A product must have two or more average feature/satisfaction category scores of 3.0 or higher (0-4 scale), or a product must have one or more average feature/satisfaction category scores of 3.5 or higher (0-4 scale) in its market segment.
- A product's overall DevOps 2020 score must be in the top fifteen percent of its market segment.
- A product is not a DevOps 2020 Top 3 Award winner in its market segment.



## IBM Rational Test Workbench: A Top 3 Product in Continuous Testing Platforms

IBM Rational Test Workbench is a continuous testing platform that forms part of IBM's comprehensive DevOps offering.

Fundamentally, IBM Rational Test Workbench enables API testing, functional UI testing, performance testing, and service virtualization across the broadest set of technologies ranging from modern mobile interfaces through middleware, mainframes, and legacy technologies. It helps teams automate and run tests as quickly as possible and as often as possible to discover errors at the earliest opportunity to reduce risk to the business and when they are less costly to fix.

With IBM Rational Test Workbench, project teams don't need to wait for everything to be available to start testing. Instead, they can create virtual components and start testing as quickly as possible.

The strength of IBM's solution is its ability to test the quality of the current state of an application or service across the broadest set of technologies within hybrid and multi-cloud ecosystems. The IBM Rational Test Workbench also brings the assessment of quality into the complete end-to-end DevOps lifecycle.

IBM Rational Test Workbench helps development teams deliver reliable software as quickly as possible by enabling continuous testing through the design, architecture, code, deployment, and release of applications. IBM Rational Test Workbench also forms part of IBM's overall DevOps offering and makes continuous testing available to operations teams who identify and resolve problems as quickly as possible, and to the site's reliability engineers who analyze bottlenecks and defects and optimize the delivery of change.



IBM thinks quality is an essential part of every project, and the IBM Rational Test Workbench integrates with a variety of open-source and non-IBM tools to ensure testing can be included naturally into the complete DevOps lifecycle. It is a fully-integrated authoring environment that provides a consistent user experience across a variety of test roles, activities, and domains.

The opportunities offered by digital transformation mean businesses demand fast delivery of reliable software. Hybrid multi-cloud technologies open new sources of data for organizations to create competitive advantage. However, hybrid multi-cloud technology requires a lot of software change, which is why it is essential for project teams to use a test automation solution to ensure the quality of any deliverable.

When organizations get the quality right, digital transformation across hybrid multi-cloud environments can deliver amazing results. Whether that is using IBM's solution to develop technology to help fight malaria in Africa, or helping established enterprises integrate new supply chains, or even developing the world's first cognitive assistant in space, quality is essential.

While many enterprises still have massive investments in traditional applications and multi-cloud ecosystems, they all want digital transformation. The IBM Rational Test Workbench is a worthy winner of the EMA DevOps award.

## IBM Rational Test Workbench DevOps 2020 Scores

Every named continuous testing platform vendor/product in the DevOps 2020 survey was rated by its customers and scored by EMA. Every product was scored in four ways: product penetration, feature effectiveness, satisfaction, and an overall score based on the prior three scores. These four scores are percentile-ranked scores relative to the highest score in each category across all named products in the market who have a one percent penetration rate or higher.

IBM's Rational Test Workbench has an overall score of 100, meaning that across the criteria EMA evaluated, Rational Test Workbench was the highest scoring product in the CTP market. Overall scores of 95 or more were rare across DevOps 2020 Top 3 Award winners, further reflecting the overall excellence of IBM's Rational Test Workbench in product penetration, feature effectiveness, and customer satisfaction.

IBM's Rational Test Workbench earned a product penetration score of 100, which means it was used more by large enterprises in the sample than any other continuous testing platform. This is a highly significant finding and a testimony to IBM's continuing investment over the years to building RTW capabilities to keep the product relevant for modern application development.

IBM's Rational Test Workbench earned a product feature score of 94. RTW scored highly on design, architecture, useful features, and administration. The only area where RTW customers raised concern was related to cost, which was also common across most products in this market.

Customer satisfaction scores ranged between 37 and 100 across CTP products. Because IBM's Rational Test Workbench earned a customer satisfaction score of 90, this provides perspective on the ability of IBM to listen to their customers and ensure that their needs are being consistently met over many years.



## IBM Rational Test Workbench

### Continuous Testing Platforms



## Conclusion

When reviewing the products and vendors that won a Top 3 Award, it is important to keep in mind that the data driving this competitive analysis was sourced from enterprises with 2,500 employees or more, and the mean company size across all 419 respondents was 13,800. This certainly helps large, established vendors who have a material DevOps presence. That presence would likely be reflected in the product penetration score, but product penetration nominally accounted for no more than eleven percent of the overall product score. This allowed products with high-performing capabilities that met the minimum three percent penetration rate to be in the running for Top 3 or Innovator Awards.

The DevOps 2020 tool category usage data shows continuous testing platforms as a significant growth market in 2018 and 2019. This means that IBM's Rational Test Workbench should see strong growth in additional seats across its installed base of customers, as well as new revenue from new accounts interested in IBM hybrid cloud strategy and services.

Each of the vendors/products that EMA identifies as a Top 3 or Innovator is worthy of serious consideration in its respective DevOps segment. An EMA Innovator Award for product leadership identifies a product with capabilities on par with Top 3 Award winners, but lacks the penetration of these Top 3 leaders. An EMA Innovator Award for product excellence showcases products with specific features with scores on par or exceeding those of the Top 3 leaders.

For the complete list of EMA DevOps 2020 Top 3 and Innovator Award winners, see: <http://www.enterprisemanagement.com/research/asset.php/3638/EMA-Research-Findings:-DevOps-2020-Top3-and-Innovator-Award-Announcement>.

## About Enterprise Management Associates, Inc.

Founded in 1996, Enterprise Management Associates (EMA) is a leading industry analyst firm that provides deep insight across the full spectrum of IT and data management technologies. EMA analysts leverage a unique combination of practical experience, insight into industry best practices, and in-depth knowledge of current and planned vendor solutions to help EMA's clients achieve their goals. Learn more about EMA research, analysis, and consulting services for enterprise line of business users, IT professionals, and IT vendors at [www.enterprisemanagement.com](http://www.enterprisemanagement.com) or [blog.enterprisemanagement.com](http://blog.enterprisemanagement.com). You can also follow EMA on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), or [LinkedIn](#).

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### Corporate Headquarters:

1995 North 57th Court, Suite 120  
Boulder, CO 80301  
Phone: +1 303.543.9500  
Fax: +1 303.543.7687  
[www.enterprisemanagement.com](http://www.enterprisemanagement.com)

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