

Podcast: Work Smarter with IBM Rational DOORS Next Generation

1. How does poor requirements management factor into project failure?
 - a. If you don't define the requirements for your project correctly, no matter how well the rest of your project goes, you've probably built the wrong thing!
2. How would you characterize managing requirements with conventional office and productivity tools?
 - a. Managing requirements with traditional desktop office tools is like opening a bottle with a hammer, you get access to what's inside, but at what "cost".
 - b. Seriously though, documents and spreadsheets can be used, but the effort of synchronizing versions and managing rework can cause headaches and issues with collaboration.
3. DOORS has been the most used requirements management tool across industries for many years. Does DOORS Next Generation replace traditional DOORS?
 - a. DOORS Next Generation is designed for collaboration and provides a single platform for managing requirements so your teams can work more effectively across, disciplines, time zones and supply chains. It can be used stand alone for new customers or in an interoperation mode with DOORS 9.x for existing clients. As we develop Rational DOORS Next Generation we plan to continue to invest in IBM Rational DOORS 9 and provide additional DOORS 9 releases.
4. Is DOORS Next Generation is just as heavy to use?
 - a. DOORS Next Generation is a fully functional web based requirement solution built using many years of experience from the same team that brought the traditional DOORS desktop application. We have also have a team of usability experts and web developers making sure that DNG is easy to pick up and use for the web generation.
5. Does DOORS Next Generation also have the range of integrations that DOORS has?
 - a. Because DOORS Next Generation is built on the Jazz platform it uses the Open Services for Lifecycle Collaboration (or OSLC) as an

integration framework. This allows us to build a set of loosely coupled integrations from requirements, to test, architecture and design, change and configuration management, reporting and so on.

6. Is DOORS Next Generation a new product with no previous success track?
 - a. DOORS Next Generation is built on the Rational Jazz platform and has been sold in the market for several years as the Rational Requirements Composer product. DNG and RRC co-existed for a while and now the two products have been converged under the DOORS Next Generation name to take advantage of the DOORS Family name.
7. To what extent can IBM Rational DOORS Next Generation reduce development costs?
 - a. DOORS Next Generation can help reduce development costs in three ways:
 - i. Increasing collaboration between all stakeholders
 - ii. Consistency – all stakeholders are using a “common source of truth”
 - iii. Traceability – linking stakeholder needs to system requirements and so on allows impact of change to be understood very quickly and allows teams to respond with an informed decision.
8. Can time to market be accelerated with IBM Rational DOORS Next Generation?
 - a. DOORS Next Generation can help reduce time to market by reducing the need for rework. Users and stakeholders can always see the latest information and can make better decisions through improved collaboration.
9. How should multi-user editing be managed?
 - a. DOORS Next Generation supports multiple users editing the same document simultaneously due to its support for automated locking of individual paragraphs within specifications.
10. Can requirements specifications be annotated with IBM Rational DOORS Next Generation?
 - a. Like and good requirements management solution, DOORS Next Generation supports the annotation of requirements with additional information which we call “attributes”. These attributes can store

things like comments, priority, risk and so on to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the process being applied.

11. How can Rational DOORS Next Generation help a project team respond to an audit request?

- a. DOORS Next Generation supports audit requests in three ways:
 - i. Firstly: DNG allows end-to-end traceability, this allows an organization to show how they have applied a “systematic engineering” process from concept-to-component. How each requirement is linked to upstream and downstream requirements and ideas
 - ii. Secondly: DNG supports history for all the artifacts, recording who changed what and when, and optionally, by using attributes or linked work items, why something has been changed.
 - iii. Thirdly: DNG can link to related work items and test plans, not only showing how requirements have been met. But also how validation and verification has been done.

12. Is it possible to assess the impact of change before it happens?

- a. Using traceability as a guide, it is possible to follow the cascade of links to do impact analysis, to see the effect of any change before it is made.

13. Can alternative perspectives on data be accommodated with Rational DOORS NG?

- a. DOORS Next Generation can not only manage textual requirements in requirements specification format, but can support non-textual requirements such as use case diagrams, UI mock-ups and storyboards.

14. What should our audience know about migrating from productivity tools?

- a. When migrating from desktop publishing tools such as documents and spreadsheets, you will be able to see your requirements in context, with attributes to extend the value. Importing from documents can also automatically differentiate between headings, requirements and background text and images.

15. Does Rational DOORS NG integrate with third party development lifecycle tools?

- a. DOORS Next Generation can integrate with popular third party tools using the Open Services for Lifecycle Collaboration (or OSLC) and we have several integrations available off the shelf.
16. Is IBM Rational DOORS NG difficult to implement?
- a. DOORS Next Generation is easy to install, it comes with built in templates and can alternatively also be hosted as Software as a Service
17. What purchasing options are available for IBM Rational DOORS NG?
- a. DOORS Next Generation is available with authorized user, floating licenses as perpetual or term based licenses. Customers can also take benefit of Rational's Token based licenses for additional flexibility.
18. How much training is required to get up and running?
- a. DOORS Next Generation is relatively simple to get up and running with, we have also created an on demand self service training environment called the Learning Circle on our developerWorks community.
19. Is it expensive to shift to a dedicated requirements management tool like DOORS Next Generation compared to sticking with conventional office productivity management tools?
- a. When you consider the total cost of ownership for DOORS Next Generation compared with documents and spreadsheets, you must consider not only the cost of rework caused by stakeholders using out of date versions and missed requirements or changes. One must also consider the risks of total catastrophic project failure caused by miscommunication. The benefits that include reduced development cost, faster time to market and reduced cost of quality hugely outweighs the cost of the solution.
20. Why should IBM be selected for requirements management?
- a. IBM Rational's Requirements Management solutions have been consistently been marked as market leaders by industry analysts. The DOORS Family of products has been in the market place for over twenty years. DOORS Next Generation implements all we've learnt packaged in a new web based solution.
21. Would you like to add anything to our discussion before we wrap up for today?

- a. I would strongly recommend the audience should read the white paper shared on the page banner to learn the top 5 benefits of using requirements management tools and save time & money with effective requirements management.

22. Where can our audience get more information about IBM and requirements management?

- a. For more information they can visit our webpage ibm.biz/doorsnextgen.