Well it's hard to credit that the 8th Rugby Union World Cup is now underway here in England, home of the famous town and school where student William Webb Ellis first broke the rules, picked up the ball and ran with it. The IET line-out is divided across English, Irish, South African and couldn't care less but we still feel a new edition of SpotIIET to celebrate the arrival of this great event is worth a try. So as we now knock on and attempt to tackle some pressing IET topics of the day as well as kicking into touch some common problems and issues, be assured our primary goal will always be to entertain. Now prop yourself somewhere cosy, sit back and await the whistle to blow...

Maintenance GuardIEn SERVICE PACKS 8.5.5 & 8.6.1

In July, IET issued Service Packs for the supported GuardIEn releases of 8.5 (**SP5**) and 8.6 with its first service pack (**SP1**) since launch in March. We always recommend installation of the latest packs as they contain important product enhancements and maintenance.

For a full summary of the changes and fixes included, please see the Release Notes for each service pack available from the IET website here

WebSphere MQ & ca technologies CA Gen transaction Dispatcher

For z/OS users of the MQ series middleware for client/server communications there has always been the ability, within CICS, to utilise the CA Gen Transaction Dispatcher (TDC) to act as a surrogate for all inbound MQ messages - allowing all server load modules to utilise a single MQ queue rather than the default one/load module.

Until recently IET have not formally supported this option but from **8.5 SP5** you can now use the *Select GuardIEn Server* client to define your use of the CICS TDC and the name of the single MQ queue to be used by all the GuardIEn server load modules. Advantages of using the TDC with MQ include enhanced security capability, setting of MQ queue depth thresholds and ensuring a single trigger event processes the entirety of the application queue. It sadly will not improve your line-outs, your tackle completion percentages, nor ensure you win your opening game at a rugby world cup.

Did you know that...

...the Rugby World Cup Final takes place on Saturday 31st October at Twickenham stadium, the home of English rugby, with a seating capacity of 82,000. The GuardIEn change request content screen was recently enhanced in 8.6 SP1 to now allow...
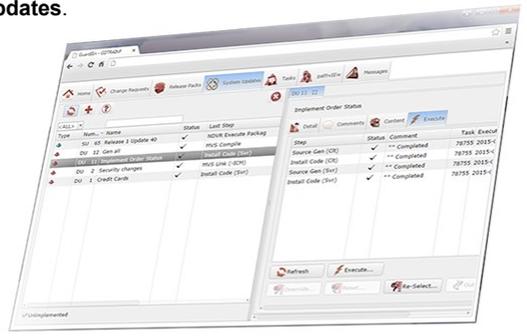
30,000

...deliverables to be displayed within a change request, a significant increase over the previous limit of 10,000, although we'd be a bit concerned if you had to place that many deliverables in one Change Request!

GuardIEn Web CR Enhancements built with rapide
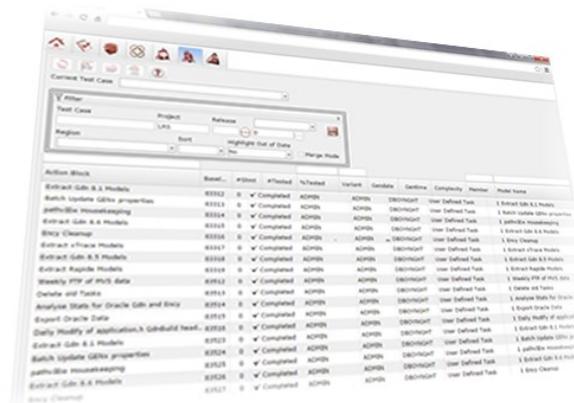
While watching the latest compelling encounter between two closely matched teams in the rugby world cup finals have you suddenly wished you could quickly check up on the progress of your GuardIEn system updates, perhaps submit some new tasks and then maybe assess how your code testing is progressing? And all without access to your usual GuardIEn client? If so then you should know that **WebCR**, the browser interface for GuardIEn built with IET's **Rapide** technology and now **available to ALL** users, was significantly enhanced as part of the recent 8.6 SP1 launch to do just that! WebCR is not just a plain conversion to web, but plays advantage to many of Rapide's line-out of amazing UI features.

Functionality available within WebCR now extends to being able to create, scope, launch and review the progress of **Development Updates**, **Location Updates** and **System Updates**.

Multiple updates can be opened and viewed using Rapide's tab functionality. WebCR also provides access to the **Task Assistant** enabling existing tasks to be reviewed and new tasks created and submitted.

Finally, WebCR offers browser access to the most common **path-vIEw** client functions. The main tab lists the action blocks that meet the filter criteria but you can also sort as well as highlight out of date test instances. The currently active test case is displayed and can be altered via selection from the drop-down list.

IET's **VerifIEr** quality assurance, performance and standards checking tool has constantly been enhanced since its launch with GuardIEn 7.7 and now provides over 160 standard checks to prevent errors, identify performance issues and ensure your coding standards are maintained.

Into Touch

The latest issues/checks to be 'kicked into touch' from 8.5 SP5 onwards include ensuring that repeating group views do not have a cardinality of 1 (as this can cause issues in some target CA Gen platforms at runtime) and identifying that all visible fields and controls have a tab sequence defined. Other checks are always in development so if you have an issue that you feel could be prevented or identified using VerifIEr then please let us know.

Give it a Try

To allow customers who perhaps haven't had the opportunity to check out the potential of VerifIEr at their sites, it is now possible from 8.5 SP5, to run all the standard checks in '**trial mode**'. This reports the extent of issues that exist but does not identify the specific Action Blocks that have failed each check by name – trial mode is primarily designed to show you the power of VerifIEr to intercept and report on problems before they become too costly. So Happy Verifying!

Forward Pass

Beyond this, if you're interested to then take a more detailed look at what VerifIEr can do to help you in your day to day development work drop us an email or contact us at IET HQ.

A customer writes…

Howzit Guru?

Hope all is well and that you are enjoying the excitement of the soccer world cup. I've watched a few games and still can't understand why they're allowed to pick up the ball and run with it. Also the goal seems really high, there is no net and, fully weird, all the coaches seem to have substituted the keepers so it's no wonder the scorelines are so high! Anyway, don't you hate it when you have to manually manage the generated web services? We're finding it an increasing challenge to manually generate and install our CA Gen custom web service applications having grown so used to GuardIEn's automated deployment for our client/server applications. It would be great if something similar could be done for our web apps. Is there any way you can help us hey? Ag! I hope so.

Dankie Baie

Heyneck Minor

Dear Heyneck,

Thank you for your message and, yes, I too am similarly confused as my understanding has always been that the soccer world cup takes place in December. But be at peace for, as Tom Stoppard once wrote, '*every exit is an entry somewhere else*' so may I calm your frustration with the news that from **8.5 SP5** GuardIEn supports, via a Windows CSE, the automation of custom web service generation and installation/assembly - so you no longer have to manually run this part of the deployment process.

Now chop wood, carry water...Guru

SPOTip

From 8.5 SP5, **pathvIEw** now supports logging of execution data from action blocks that have **NOT** been invoked from a procedure step (i.e. invoked from user written code) or where the procedure step has not been enabled for pathvIEw processing. Previously all action blocks had to be invoked from a procedure step that had been post-processed to enable pathvIEw support so this is no longer a requirement.

Some may have read the recent CA Gen communities forum threads related to ongoing issues with web generation/web view support for the latest web browsers (e.g. Explorer 11 etc.) and so it is worth emphasising that **Rapide** already supports **all** Javascript enabled browsers, including the latest browser releases from Microsoft (Explorer 11 and Edge for Windows 10).

To achieve this the Rapide runtime is developed in Java as a portable, cross platform implementation that supports desktop, browser and mobile applications. This provides consistency in behaviour for the application across all platforms. For browser platforms this runtime is deployed as a JavaScript library downloaded once and then cached on the browser, occurring automatically when connecting to the application server for the first time.

NOT SURE COMPLETELY? WHY NOT ASK…

twiety

GenGenIE: Hi all. We have lots of GuardIEn deliverables that no longer have any models connected to 'em. Iz there an ez way of removing them all? Deleting them manually here would take ages!

Rapidksy: Yep GG. U should use the GD14 'Delete Orphan Deliverables' background routine. Simple as that **#IETHousekeeping?**

GenGenIE: Cool Rk! Any tips on using it tho bro?

Rapidksy: Sure thang GiGi. To avoid problems when removing deliverables contained within completed SUs or within CR content but also have versions that r in version states that are normally protected (e.g. Production), set the project property 'DELVDEL' (delete used deliverables) to the value 'IGNORESTATUS'. This will ensure ur orphans r deleted without these protection issues. BTW I am not your bro.

GenGenIE: Excellent news Rk and, yo, sorry sis!

WildThIEng: Hey GuardIEn dudes I didn't know you could now show the SQL for an action block CRUD statement generated in Java and C# - thanks: that is really gr8888888888!

> I told you we should have run those VerifIEr checks on the Welsh team

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Oh my goodness, have we really come to the end of another SpotlIET already!? We hope you enjoyed it and maybe found something useful. The next edition will be out just as we're hanging out the IET stockings in readiness for Christmas 2015. Ho Ho Ho!

The IETS

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