



Technology 432: mPire Portlet Maker

mPire is a computer software system based heavily on open source software that is used to generate user interfaces for web based applications that follow a Java JSR 168 Portlet user interface standard – the newest and most prevalent UI standard in the Java world. The application supports a best of breed Java architecture and selection of prevalent third party tools. The system is unique in its way of using model driven development (MDD) to allow users to generate the interfaces without having to write significant amounts of code.

mPire supports several new technology trends:

- Web 2.0 - mPire is adding collaboration, content management, customizability, and usability to web based interfaces.
- Open Source - mPire is built using a large number of open source tools, including Liferay, Hibernate, Spring, MySQL, and others.
- Model Driven Development - mPire uses abstraction logic to capture user requirements, and then code generators turn the logic into Java code. As new technologies and standards are developed, the code generators can adjust for them and all of the code can be regenerated and updated.

Cost

The company is looking for funding to enhance the product, develop interfaces to major competitors – Websphers, Vignette – and finalize a pricing and licensing model in India and the United States.

Development Status

The technology is currently operational and a prototype has been used to generate a website for an Indian customer. Approximately 6-7 people have invested over 30,000 hours in building the solution. By June of 2008, an additional 40,000 hours will be completed. Several companies have agreed to use the product on a pilot basis, and provide feedback. The system is sold with both as an enterprise commercial license for \$5K/ year, as well as a free license (but not open source) with entry level capabilities.

IP Status

No patents or IP protection have been sought. The system uses a considerable number of open source tools within it, and this carries with it some risk that improper licensing could jeopardize the ownership of the source code.

Partner Opportunities

Business partners, licensing partners, service partners.

Innovator

Mr. Ahmen Hansan, TransIT mPower Labs (P) Ltd.

Additional information contact Earle Hager, IC² Institute Global Commercialization Group at 512-475-7789, 512-431-3940 or ehager@ic2.utexas.edu.

