

Spectrum Software, Inc



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spectrum Announces Valuable New Features with its Latest SpectrumSCM 2.3 Release

*Adds CR integrator tool (with auto-merge), Directory differencing tool,
and Eclipse workspace synchronizer*

Atlanta – January 16th, 2006: Atlanta based Spectrum Software, Inc., a systems designer and developer of software productivity tools, announced today the availability of the latest **SpectrumSCM 2.3** release of its flagship enterprise Source Configuration Management product. This current release contains several major new features such as the CR integrator feature that is unique to SpectrumSCM. This feature assists in automatically merging Change Requests and source changes across branches. Further, this release includes a directory differencing tool to compare the contents of any two directories and all of their files, and the capability to resolve those differences easily. Due to popular request, Spectrum Software has extended the existing SpectrumSCM 2-way and 3-way diff/merge editors to be used as general purpose diff/merge tools anywhere across the enterprise. The addition of the work-space synchronization feature to the Eclipse IDE will enable Eclipse users to quickly and easily detect changes and synchronize the contents of their Eclipse project workspaces with the SCM repository.

The SpectrumSCM[®] product is seen as a very attractive alternative to many of the existing market leading competitors. SpectrumSCM has been acknowledged to be one of the most economical, full-featured enterprise SCM tool that **offers the best combination of value and functionality**. SpectrumSCM provides **High-end CM capability at the price of a competitor's single function tool**.

SpectrumSCM is a flexible, process based system that can be used to manage the entire project lifecycle. SpectrumSCM provides comprehensive source configuration and management for any 'e-Asset' from origination through delivery, maintenance, and support. SpectrumSCM[®] is the first truly integrated, platform independent, full-featured (*Version Control, Issue/Defect Tracking, Change Management, Process Management/Control, Workflow, Release Management, Parallel Development*) source configuration management system in the market place that provides full CM functionality with one fully integrated SCM system.

SpectrumSCM Version 2.3 feature list.

- **CR Integrator:** This significantly powerful feature assists in automatically merging Change Requests and source changes across branches.

The CR Integrator is designed to help automate the process of merging or recommoning changes from one generic (branch) to another. The need to automate the merging of files and Change Requests across branches/Generics is a direct result of the use of branching patterns to resolve complicated SCM problems. For instance, in the sandbox pattern, a developer or team of developers perform their work relative to a sandbox generic, isolated from the main production line. Later, when that work has been completed, the work is merged into the mainline branch. Some merge-items can be automatically completed, leading to huge productivity gains. For items that require manual intervention, the user will be walked through the necessary steps to resolve any merge conflicts. This in turn not only gives the user productivity gains, but also ensures the stability of the product. Overall this new feature significantly improves merge action confidence, while greatly increasing user productivity. This

feature eliminates many of the error prone steps that are typical in performing branching and merging operations as part of parallel development activity.

- **Workspace Diff tools:** This includes a full recursive directory differencing capability, and the ability to use the SpectrumSCM 2-way and 3-way diff/merge tools as general purpose tools for comparing any text source file across the enterprise network (LAN, WAN, internet, dial-up etc).

The SpectrumSCM Workspace Difference tool-set allows the user to compare entire directory structures side by side and also allows users to open up 2-way and 3-way merge tools against either those files or any other files in the file system. The directory difference tool can be used to compare directory structures by file **Date, Size or CRC** value.

The workspace difference tool-set also includes direct access to the SpectrumSCM 2-way and 3-way difference editors which can be now used as general purpose Diff/Merge tools across the enterprise to compare any two text source files. This has full editing capabilities as well as the graphical displays of the differences and right-click easy resolution of those. Extending this tool for wider use, facilitates increased user productivity and efficiency in dealing with Branching and Merging situations.

- **Add Filters to the Change Request Work-Breakdown Structures screen**

The Change Request Work-Breakdown Structures screen in SpectrumSCM is currently used by the Project Manager or Team Leader as part of their task management. The Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) feature in SpectrumSCM is used for defining parent-child and peer-to-peer relationships among change requests. This is particularly useful in situations where a single task needs to be split across several users or a set of features (issues) that need to go into a release as a single unit. The relationships are enforced during the release formation stage.

Users can now create SQL like queries for CRs and assign them to filters. This allows users to quickly zero in on just the CRs that they want to see. What's exciting about this feature is that the filters are reusable on several different screens within the tool. This capability is unique in that users can use this feature to control the visual content of the user interface outside of standard report output. This can be very important to program managers and project leads who need to sort through all of the change requests in the system and their dependencies in order to visualize the overall state of their projects.

- **Eclipse Enhancements**

Eclipse Merge - - supports offline work and allows individual files to be merged into the repository. Also allows "force-load" or patch, which allows the repository version to simply be overlaid with the file-system version of the particular file.

Eclipse Workspace Synchronizer - Spectrum Software has now extended the availability of the full workspace synchronization feature, already available in the SpectrumSCM main GUI, to the Eclipse IDE. Specifically it includes full source operations including merge and overlay (force-load/patch).

The Workspace Synchronizer allows a user to quickly and easily identify the files in his/her local workspace that are not currently synchronized with the SpectrumSCM repository. The feature makes it very easy for an Eclipse user to work while disconnected from the SpectrumSCM repository. This is perfect for commuters or others that need to be productive while away from the office. The Workspace Synchronizer also allows the Eclipse user to quickly and easily identify work that needs to be downloaded into their workspace or merged with the repository. This will also enable enterprises to provide effective life-cycle management for any work undertaken by external resources like contractors, outside vendors, and any other third-party providers in any given project.

By being able to quickly and easily identify synchronization differences, some extended features of Eclipse such as re-factoring can also be resolved.

▪ **Additional Enhancements include:**

- Add Filtering by release to the assign/modify screen
- Added the ability to accept virtual directory locations for web installs
- Enhancements to the main UI Workspace Synchronizer including support of the patch pattern (force-load or overlay option).
- Enhance Change Request Attribute Management to allow arbitrary ordering and sorting.
- Visual Studio Integration enhancements to better support Open From Source Control particularly with web-projects.
- Increased password verification options, requiring mixed-case, numbers and /or symbols.

Availability

SpectrumSCM, is available directly from Spectrum Software, Inc. For pricing, demos and sales information, please contact Spectrum sales representative (email: sales@spectrumscm.com) at 770-448-8662 (North America).

About Spectrum

Spectrum Software, Inc. is a 15 year old, proven software systems design and services firm providing cost-effective, efficient and quality software products and services to large and small businesses. Spectrum Software has three divisions: *Software Services*, which focuses on outsourcing and leading software development projects for clients; *Spectrum Multimedia*, which creates multimedia-based software products for children; and the *Software Products* division, which engineers software tools and products. For more information on Spectrum Software and SpectrumSCM™, check out the company's Web site at www.spectrumscm.com or call 770.448.8662.