



SpringSource Acquires Covalent Technologies

Overview and Frequently Asked Questions

Overview

SpringSource, the company behind the industry leading Spring Portfolio of open source software for building and deploying mission-critical enterprise applications, has acquired enterprise open source leader Covalent Technologies.

The acquisition brings together two open source leaders to address widespread demand for a simplified application infrastructure based on the Spring Portfolio and Apache projects such as the Apache Tomcat Application Server, one of the most popular open source technologies in the world today.

Both SpringSource and Covalent have an exceptional track record of dedication and innovation in the open source community and also have outstanding technical teams. Covalent's technical team has leading roles in the ASF and on several important ASF projects and the SpringSource developers lead development for the Spring Portfolio.

There is a major, tectonic shift happening in the application infrastructure market today. Enterprises are increasingly choosing a combination of Spring and Tomcat and other open source solutions which are extremely powerful, yet far more lightweight, modular and cost effective than bloated and complex legacy Java platforms.

With the addition of Covalent, SpringSource will offer a single source for products and services to rapidly develop, test, deploy and run enterprise applications using the Spring Portfolio and ASF projects, including Apache Tomcat, Apache HTTP, among others.

Covalent has an outstanding reputation and track record both within the open source community and among the hundreds of top organizations that rely on them for Apache project support.

The SpringSource and Covalent combination is poised to lead the industry's rapid migration to simpler, more flexible application platforms.

Frequently Asked Questions

What products/services does Covalent currently offer and support?

Covalent Technologies is the leading provider of [support](#) and [services](#) for several important Apache Software Foundation (ASF) projects, including the [Apache Tomcat J2SE Application Server](#) and [Apache HTTP](#), the world's leading Web server.

In addition to full commercial support, Covalent offers enterprise subscriptions for [Covalent Enterprise Ready Server](#), [Hyperic HQ monitoring](#), and [Terracotta Java clustering](#). Covalent is dedicated to helping maximize the benefits of Apache projects and offers extensive [professional services](#) to lend its expertise to a wide variety of training, configuration and implementation projects.

How does Covalent fit into SpringSource's overall software strategy?

There is a major tectonic shift happening in the market where Spring and Apache Tomcat are at the center of this shift. Enterprise customers are increasingly looking for alternatives to the legacy JEE solutions and for a far simpler application middleware infrastructure.

The Spring Portfolio and Tomcat are two of the most popular solutions for creating and deploying today's enterprise applications. Tomcat is the world's leading application server and the Spring Portfolio of technologies is now the dominant platform for developing and running Enterprise Java applications. Two thirds of enterprises run Tomcat. Spring, with more than four million downloads, has also been adopted by over 60% of enterprises and a survey at a recent Spring conference found that 93% of organizations using Spring also use Tomcat.

Organizations worldwide are leveraging Spring/Tomcat as a highly modular and scaleable technology stack to develop, deploy and run enterprise Java applications. Organizations using Spring/Tomcat are creating more powerful and flexible enterprise Java applications via highly efficient development and test cycles with a much lower total cost of ownership.

With Spring, the dominate Java development framework, and Apache Tomcat the top application server, it makes tremendous sense for one organization (SpringSource) to provide support for the solution.

How does the acquisition benefit current Covalent customers and partners?

SpringSource plans to invest in and grow the Covalent solutions as well as our joint offerings. Covalent Enterprise Ready Server will continue to be fully supported. The combined company will be able to leverage the extensive global support resources of SpringSource as well as the deep technical talent across both organizations.

How will enterprise support be provided?

Covalent customers and prospective customers will still be able to obtain support in the same manner as before. SpringSource has a global support infrastructure that consists of best in class support technologies along with a global team of support personnel that is highly responsive to support questions. With key project committers on staff, SpringSource provides the most responsive and deeply technical third level support available for its open source projects.

Should Covalent customers continue to call Covalent customer support?

Yes, Covalent will remain a business division of SpringSource. Covalent customers should continue to use existing Covalent contacts for support, professional services, and sales to address immediate and ongoing needs.

Should Covalent customers continue to contact their Covalent sales representatives?

Yes. Covalent will continue to operate as a business division of SpringSource thereby customers should rely on existing relationships.

Will services, training and other educational programs on Apache technologies continue?

Yes. For a period of time, Covalent services, training and education will operate as before. In the future, Covalent's educational offerings will be incorporated into the SpringSource services, training and educational offerings.

What does the acquisition mean for developers?

SpringSource is now even more capable of addressing developer needs across the Spring Portfolio and Apache technologies. Both companies provide exceptional developer support through our developers who are key committers on their respective open source projects.

Will Covalent continue to be a major supporter of the Apache Software Foundation?

SpringSource is committed to continuing and furthering Covalent's investment and relationship with the Apache Software Foundation (ASF) community and all the projects that it supports.

What will happen to the Covalent brand and its employees?

The Covalent brand will continue to exist as a business division of SpringSource. All full time employees have been retained, with Covalent's Walnut Creek, CA headquarter employees moving to the SpringSource San Mateo headquarters location. Mark Brewer, Covalent CEO, joins the SpringSource management team as Vice President and General Manager of the Covalent division.

For more information on the SpringSource acquisition of Covalent please visit:

www.springsource.com/web/guest/covalent

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