

Re: Feasibility of using Ada in new development

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Ada/comp.lang.ada/2004-08/0612.html>

From: Ludovic Brenta (ludovic.brenta_at_insalien.org)

Date: 08/28/04

Date: Sat, 28 Aug 2004 20:37:27 +0200

(Dan McLeran) writes:

> *If you read my post again, you'll see that I am contrasting GPS to
> .Net, Eclipse, and Borland tools. The point I am trying to make is
> that ACT is charging a fortune for a toolset that falls far short of
> what other vendors are charging.*

Ada Core is not charging for the toolset; they are charging for the support. You don't have to pay a dime to Ada Core if you don't want to. The license cost for GPS (or for the entire toolchain for that matter) is zero. If you feel you don't need support, or if you are willing to do your own support, you can use GPS at no cost.

Also, if you work for a university and use GPS to teach or do research, Ada Core will support you at no cost.

If you use Debian as your development platform, you will get a minimal amount of support, for free, from yours truly.

> *IMO, the GPS and GtkAda tools are not in the same league as .Net,
> Eclipse, JBuilder, others.*

Indeed, they are not in the same league. Ada Core's customers use the toolset for safety-critical, mission-critical, multi-year, multi-developer, multi-million-dollar, multi-million-lines-of-code projects. If your project is large enough, and if the stakes are high enough, you don't mind paying \$15k/year to Ada Core (just to put things into perspective, your 5 supported software engineers will cost you roughly \$500k/year).

By contrast, .Net, Eclipse, JBuilder are mass-marketed to an audience of "coders", not "software engineers", to paraphrase Jeffrey Carter. I would also be curious what prices Microsoft, IBM and Borland charge for support contracts (as opposed to licenses) for .Net, Eclipse and JBuilder respectively.

--

Ludovic Brenta.