C++ Modernization

From Monolith Monorepo to Scalable Cloud Microservices

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- 1. Overview of C++@Coveo
- 2. Switch from monolith on-premises app to multiple microservices with "every day" deployment

Agenda

- 3. Build automation
- 4. Package manager
- 5. Examples
- 6. Questions

1. Overview of C++@Coveo

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A little bit of context

- 2000 : First lines of code
- 2002 2012 : On-premises (Windows monolith application)
- 2012 2014 : Cloud version 1 (Windows monolith application)
- 2014 today : Cloud version 2 (Linux "microservices")

C++ Source Code at Coveo

Project	File Count	Blank Lines	Comment Lines	Header Lines ⁽¹⁾	Source (.cpp) Lines ⁽¹⁾
Basic Lib	1 587	54 809	130 366	79 367	298 940
Comm. Lib	1 026	39 210	99 137	48 971	120 343
Subtotal	2 613	94 019	229 503	128 338	419 283
Common Lib	640	12 946	30 284	15 884	38 009
Pipeline	220	7 176	13 254	6 608	24 176
Converters	446	14 749	36 304	24 776	70 307
Index	1 340	64 965	111 874	73 689	271 992
Subtotal	2 646	99 836	191 716	120 957	404 484
Total	5 259	193 855	421 219	249 295	823 767
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Utility code. Like what is found in the stl, boost, tbb, curl, ...

Lot of legacy code. A significant part of it could be replaced with the stl, boost, ...

Main code.
This contains what we sell to our clients.

Depends on legacy utility code.
Contains older code that is not well adapted to modern computers.

2. Switch from monolith on-premises app to microservices with "every day" deployment

Phase 1

- Multiplatform (Windows only → Windows & Linux)
 - Use msbuild even in Linux with mono
 - msbuild calls cmake commands on Linux
- Multiple repositories (step 1)
 - Extract basic classes and some big logical entities
- Dockerization
 - Create a docker for each microservices but in the same repo
- All services were deployed at the same time

Phase 2

- Tests must be reliable
- Use a real cross-platform build automation
 - CMake was selected for Windows and Linux



- Use a package manager
 - vcpkg was selected
- Multi repos (step 2)
 - Create a repository for each microservices
- Trunk based development ... when it's possible
 - Each services can be deploy anytime

3. Build automation CMake

CMake >= 3

- Pros
 - CTest, CPackage
 - Supports an extensive list of compilers









- Cons
 - The scripting language

4. Package manager

Vcpkg

- Pros
 - CMake integration
 - Large number of packages available
 - Maintained by Microsoft
- Cons
 - Relatively new

5. Examples

Examples

- Arm64
 - In 2 weeks all C++ is running (including Unit tests)
- Fix vulnerability in openssl 3
 - All instances (~3000) are updated 48h after fix available
- New OS version
 - Upgrading to a new Ubuntu LTS is now about a few weeks
 - including the time to build with the new compiler version

6. Questions?